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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 8, 2000/Phalgun 18, 1921 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME TO HON. SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TANZANIA

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Pius Msekwa, Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, who is on a visit to India as our honoured guest.

He arrived Delhi on Monday, 6 March 2000. He is now seated in the Special Box. We wish him a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through him we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, the Prime Minister, the Parliament and the friendly people of the United Republic of Tanzania.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): Sir, when will you set a specific date and time for the discussion?

MR. SPEAKER: We have a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee at 3 p.m. today. We will discuss the issue there and allot time also.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please mention it after the Question Hour.

Shri Yerrannaidu, what is your submission? Is it on the same subject?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, it is a very important issue. I have received information that a

Minister in Andhra Pradesh was killed by naxalites. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a question which relates to that State.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: I appeal to all the hon. Members to allow me to speak for two minutes. It is an issue of urgent public importance. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is Question Hour. I appeal to the Members to wait till Zero Hour to raise the issues they want to.

Q. No. 181, Shri Moinul Hassan.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Question Hour should be suspended...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, you should hear him.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Scindia, if I have to listen to everybody, how can I conduct the Question Hour? We have not had the Question Hour for the last 13 days.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You please listen to him and give your ruling afterwards if you must

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, what is your submission?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, we have given notices. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 181.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, democracy has been murdered in Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, a Minister has been killed by the naxalites. We have given notice...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, I have received two notices about the Bihar issue and I have disallowed the two notices.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why is it so?

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Sir, the House is being adjourned for the last so many days. We have requested you that the Gujarat issue should be withdrawn or it should be discussed under Rule 184. No decision has been taken in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise this issue, later on. It is question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please raise it after the 'Question Hour'

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we have given notices for suspension of 'Question Hour' ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Okay, let the hon. Prime Minister reply.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a sorry state of affair that the proceedings of the House have been stalled. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You are attending the House after so many days...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are disturbing the hon'ble Prime Minister also, it is not right.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is a friendly interruption. Actually such disturbances should not be created. Any important matter can be discussed in the House and the Ruling Party is ever ready to hold the debate. Difference of opinion if any regarding the nature of discussion should be sorted out according to the rules of procedure...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Why is the Ruling Party afraid...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Shri Thomas, what is this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, incidently a motion regarding the controversial issue was admitted under Rule 193 and the discussion was also started ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: But it is not right.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Why can you not vote?... (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): One man Party!...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): Please have the patience to listen to him...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are so many instances where the discussion was started under Rule 193 but later on converted under Rule 184. I and my Party do not have any objection in this regard. You please take this Motion under 194 and allow the discussion on it. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why not under rule 184?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, the Prime Minister has said it, but what is your decision...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Prime Minister has said that the Government has no objection to discuss the matter even under Rule 184. According to the sense of the House, the Chair also has no objection to discuss the matter under Rule 184.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: What is your decision?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): You should give a ruling.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, we would like a very clear ruling as to under what Rule the matter will be discussed and that ruling has to come from the Chair. Therefore, if you could give a ruling...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Prime Minister has said that the Government has no objection to discuss the matter even under Rule 184. In this situation, as per the sense of the House, we can discuss the matter even under Rule 184. There is no problem.

Would the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs like to say anything about Bihar?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Democracy has been murdered in Bihar. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: First you please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, horse trading is going on in Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, what do they want to know about it after ten days? ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is very difficult to run the House in this way.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, I have to bring a very important incident to the notice of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, these people have been thoroughly exposed. They have been stalling the proceedings of the House all these days. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs would like to say something on this.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Governor of Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and not others.

This is not discussion. This is only a submission.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, initially Cabinet Minister was send there by the Prime Minister...(*Interruptions*) we have also given the notice...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that I am listening to his submission only.

...(*interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed any discussion on the Bihar issue. I am only listening to his submission.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: We have also given the notice...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether the Question Hour will not take place. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Thomas, please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I have allowed you to make submission. Please understand that this is not a discussion. So, please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, since you have given the notice of Adjournment Motion on Bihar issue, I have allowed you to make a submission. Now, please take your seat.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Assembly elections were held in Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, please take your seat first.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Governor of Bihar has violated the set tradition in Bihar. Majority was in favour of RJD but the Governor did not pay any heed to the majority and showed disrespect by ignoring majority and got administered the oath of Chief Ministership to the leader of the minority party who was in the Prime Minister's cabinet. They are short of majority. The information regarding the support of Congress Party was sent to the Governor and he also received the same in time but even then the leader of minority Party was invited to form the Government and the oath was administered...(Interruptions) today rules are being violated in Bihar. People are agitating on this issue. Horse trading is going on there. Many Ministers are...

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to make a submission only. This is not a discussion.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please tell us the decision taken on their proposal.(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Yerrannaidu, what is your submission?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Hon. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, Andhra Pradesh Minister for Panchayati Raj was killed.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please allow him to make his submission.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the cooperation you are extending to the Chair? What is this? For the last 13 days you have been disturbing the House like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Yerrannaidu, what is your submission?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Hon. Speaker, Sir(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, Bihar issue is a very serious matter. We have given notice for suspension of Question Hour. The decision taken by the Governor of Bihar was unconstitutional and undemocratic.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I am on my legs; please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, this is not proper. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, you give your ruling on it.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not even allowing me to speak.

...(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What is your ruling, Sir?...(*Interruptions*) You must allow discussion under Rule 184.

MR. SPEAKER: You have given your notice. I have already said that two notices had been given but they have been disallowed. Today, we have a B.A.C. meeting. There we will discuss this matter and work out as to how to discuss it, and when to discuss it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: When?

MR. SPEAKER: This I have already stated in the beginning also.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not even hearing me also! What is this?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri K. Yerrannaidu. What is your submission?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Hon Speaker, Sir, I regret to bring to the notice of this august House that yesterday...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to make your submission on the same subject?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, not on the same subject but on a different subject. It is a most important subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that this is 'Question Hour'.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, in the recent days, there is a growing menace of extremism in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chennai and Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER: After 'Question Hour' you can raise this issue.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, yesterday night, the Panchayati Raj Minister of Andhra Pradesh and three policemen were killed by the Naxalites.

Recently, one Minister was killed in Madhya Pradesh. Some Naxalites were arrested by the Maharashtra Police.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, you can raise this matter after the Question Hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: This is a very important issue and the Government of India should react on this.

There is no security for the people's representatives. How can we function in this country?...(*Interruptions*) The State Government is taking more steps. The hon. Home Minister has appreciated the action taken by the State Government to control Naxalism.

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise this after Question Hour please.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: The Government of India should respond on this. A Minister was killed in Madhya Pradesh. ...(*Interruptions*) The Government should respond. The hon. Prime Minister is here. ...(*Interruptions*) One Minister in Madhya Pradesh has been killed.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, please understand the procedure. You can raise this after Question Hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, I am appealing through you to the Prime Minister...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If everybody wants to speak like this, then, it is impossible.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, Ministers were killed by Naxalites; people's representatives were killed by the Naxalites. Why are we meeting in this august House? There is no security. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, I want to associate myself with it.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy, please take your seat.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, there is no controversy in this.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand. This is not Zero Hour.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I associate with Shri Yerrannaidu. This is a serious matter. We also express our great sorrow in their passing away.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Ara): The Constitution should be protected...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Shri Pramod Mahajan, if you will heed, I will speak for a minute.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with Shri Yerrannaidu more particularly because a senior Minister was killed in a dastardly fashion. I condemn this murder. We as a Party associate ourselves and I as an individual associate myself with the sentiment expressed by Shri Yerrannaidu on this question. Whatever the ideological justification, we should not ...*(Interruptions)* Since I come from Andhra Pradesh, I found it important to associate myself.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): A Minister in Madhya Pradesh was also killed in the same fashion. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Already twenty minutes are over. Please understand.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: It is a very regrettable incident and I do not know what the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been doing. At any rate, this is a very-very bad thing.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): We also associate ourselves with what Shri Yerrannaidu has said...*(Interruptions)* We also associate ourselves with the concern expressed by Shri Yerrannaidu...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is going to reply. I have allowed the Minister. Please understand.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be taken up after the Question Hour. These are so many questions relating to the public interest. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. Please take your seats. The Minister is going to reply. You are not hearing anything.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, the issue raised by hon. Members Shri Yerrannaidu, Shri Jaipal Reddy and others is a serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Money is being sent to Bihar for horse trading.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? The Minister is replying. Please sit down and hear what he says. Please understand.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Bihar issue is very important. It cannot be ignored like this...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: About Bihar, I have categorically said. Please understand.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): They did not let the House run during the last days also. Now they are raising the issue of Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I will go by the alphabetical order. I will first go to Andhra Pradesh and then go to Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is going to reply on Bihar also. Please understand. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, the ruling has to be given by you and not by him. The ruling on the Adjournment Motion notice has to be given by you.

MR. SPEAKER: If this is the attitude, it is very difficult for me to run the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Scindia, is it that you want clarifications on everything in the Question Hour itself? Is this the correct time for getting clarifications? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: All I am saying is that on the notice for Adjournment Motion the ruling has to be given by you. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, an issue has been raised about the unfortunate killing of *...(Interruptions)* After finishing 'A', I will come to 'B'! Let me talk about Andhra Pradesh first. That is also an important issue; and then I will talk about Bihar. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: A Minister has been killed in Assam also, please speak about that also. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Democracy is being murdered here also. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, please sit down.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, it is an unfortunate incident. Most of us knew Shri Madhav Reddy personally. He was the Home Minister a year back. Unfortunately, in this naxalite violence, even one of the Ministers in Madhya Pradesh Government was killed. A Minister in the Assam Government was also killed. So, really it is becoming a very big problem where even the Ministers are not safe in their own States.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Democracy has been killed in Bihar!

MR. SPEAKER: What is this running commentary?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Democracy is being murdered in this House also.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Naturally, it has to be a joint responsibility of the Centre and different States to face this problem. This is not a problem of 'A' political party or 'B' political party. There are different political parties ruling different States. They are also trying their level best to control this problem. But this problem does not exist only in one State. This naxalite violence exists in so many States; and many times, people who create problem go from one State to another. At the national

level, a Coordination Committee has already been formed by the Home Minister. *...(Interruptions)*

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Jalore): Sir, where is the Home Minister? He should come here and inform the House. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete. I allowed him.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I agree with Shri Buta Singh. The hon. Home Minister is busy in the other House. Question Hour is going on there. After the Question Hour, I will request him to come to this House. *...(Interruptions)*

SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Sir, where is the Home Minister? Shri Pramod Mahajan is not the Home Minister. The Home Minister should come here and inform the House. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: You are not hearing Shri Buta Singh. I am telling you that the Home Minister is in the other House for the Question Hour. After the Question Hour, I will request him to come to this House and make some submission on this subject.

[Translation]

So far as Bihar is concerned, the office of the Governor of Bihar is a constitutional one. He has applied his own reasons and prudence in taking the decision after elections. It has no concern with the Central Government...*(Interruptions)* Sir, on 10th the confidence Motion will decide the issue finally...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we can take up Question Hour Q. No. 181, Shri Moinul Hassan.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Democracy has been murdered in Bihar *...(Interruptions)*

MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE (Sheohar):*

11.24 hrs.

At this stage Mohammad Anwarul Haque and some other hon'ble members came and stood on the floor near the Table

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)***

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

** Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. This is not good.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We are going to discuss the Bihar issue also.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak from your seats and not from here.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please do not let them make the Lok Sabha as Bihar Legislative Assembly.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Why do you not hear the ground of the admissibility of the Motion and then give the ruling so that the House could be conducted in a proper manner?... (Interruptions) I am only addressing the Speaker and not you. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It has been already stated and the Government has also replied. We are going to discuss the matter. Today, we have the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Is this the way to stall the proceedings of the House? Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir the Motion is before you and not before Shri Pramod Mahajan. The Motion is before you and the notice is before you. You please hear us and give the ruling. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee went on a fast for one day when the UP Governor. ... (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Fake Currency

[English]

*161. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Crime Branch of the Delhi Police arrested some persons at the Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station of Delhi with fake currency notes in the denomination of Rs. 5, Rs. 100 and Rs. 500, amounting to Rs. 1.84 lakhs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any diary or other items were also seized from the arrested persons;

(c) the country from which these fake notes were brought in the country for which these were meant;

(d) whether the I.S.I. or foreign countries or any foreign power is behind this racket;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government against the arrested persons and concrete steps taken to check the fake currency racket?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Delhi Police recovered on 11th February, 2000 fake currency notes amounting to Rs. 1.84 Lakhs in the denominations of Rs. 500/- and Rs. 100/- from a resident of Delhi at Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station of Delhi. The other items recovered from his possession were on mobile phone; Rs. 200/- in cash; a gold chain; a gold ring; a wrist watch; and a two-wheeler. No diary, however, was recovered from his possession.

(c) to (e) On interrogation, the accused person disclosed that he had received the fake currency from another resident of Delhi. The Police team which was deputed to visit the latter's residence for questioning found that he had already vacated the rented premises and was absconding. The investigation conducted so far has not established any linkage between the accused and any foreign country or agency.

(f) (i) An FIR was registered at Hazrat Nizamuddin Police Station on the date of seizure of fake currency notes and arrest.

(ii) The measures taken by the Government to detect and prevent circulation of fake currency in the country include:

- (i) Printing of currency notes with additional security features;
- (ii) Issue of press releases from time to time by the Reserve Bank of India to educate the public to distinguish between genuine and fake currency notes;
- (iii) Creation of a Special Unit under the Central Bureau of Investigation for exclusive investigation of cases of counterfeit currency;
- (iv) Alerting the forward troops of the Border Security Force to be more vigilant so as to ensure that fake currency notes are not smuggled into the country; and
- (v) Setting up of a Committee by the Ministry of Finance for examining cases of counterfeit currency and recommend remedial measures that should be taken by the note printing presses from time to time.

Status of Hindi

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kya Hindi Bhi Khestriya Bhasha Hai" appearing in the 'Hindustan' dated February 3, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the National Council for Educational Research and Training has accorded the status of regional language to Rajbhasha Hindi while English has been recognised as a link language which is the only language for original book writing;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to find out the reasons for neglecting the Rajbhasha by Government institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The NCERT has prepared a "Discussion Document" with regard to the school curriculum. According to the information supplied by the Council, certain suggestions received in respect of language teaching have been placed for consideration in the Document. The Document is being discussed at various levels and even the Council has not taken any view at this stage.

After the National Curriculum Framework has been given a final shape by the NCERT, it will be seen by the Government. As per the National Education Policy, the Government of India policy has been to use Hindi and other Indian languages for imparting primary and secondary level education. Government does not envisage any change in this basic policy.

Police Brutality

*163. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints were received against Delhi Police about their brutality, torture, misbehaviour, wrong filing of cases, during the last three years, year-wise;

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

(c) the steps taken to improve the image of Police?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The number of such complaints received by Delhi Police during last three years, year-wise, is indicated in the Statement-I attached. The action taken against those found delinquent is indicated in the Statement-II attached.

(c) The measures taken by Delhi Police to improve its image include:

(i) deterrent action in all cases where police officials are found involved in malpractices, misbehaviour, etc.;

(ii) the training syllabi both for initial training and refresher courses have been designed to inculcate amongst the police trainees the sense of community service and respect of law. In addition, Special Courses on Human Rights are conducted;

- (iii) the members of the Force are frequently briefed by senior officers during Sampark Sabhas about the need to behave politely and courteously with the members of the public;
- (iv) the facility to ring up telephone number 3319922 has been provided in order to enable the members of the public to speedily lodge their complaints against any harassment by police officials; and
- (v) the facility of P.O. Box No. 171 was introduced in July, 1999 to enable the members of public to send their complaints against any criminal or about corrupt behaviour of police personnel.

Statement I*Number of Complaints of Brutality, Torture, Misbehaviour and Wrong Filing of Cases Received during the last three years*

Year	Number of Complaints Received	Number of Complaints Inquired into	Number of Complaints in which Allegations were no Substantiated	Number of Complaints in which Allegations were Substantiated	Number of Complaints Under Process
1997					
Brutality	—	—	—	—	—
Torture	11	11	9	2	—
Misbehaviour	45	45	36	9	—
Wrong Filing of Cases	36	36	29	7	—
1998					
Brutality	—	—	—	—	—
Torture	15	15	12	3	—
Misbehaviour	74	74	69	5	—
Wrong Filing of Cases	64	64	55	9	—
1999					
Brutality	1	1	—	1	—
Torture	93	93	87	6	—
Misbehaviour	89	86	74	12	3
Wrong Filing of Cases	80	79	72	7	1

Statement II*Action taken against accused Police Officials*

Sl.No.	Action Taken	Number of Police Officials		
		1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Warning	01	—	01
2.	Advisory Memorandum	—	01	—

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Displeasure	01	—	—
4.	Transfer to non-sensitive Assignment	07	16	11
5.	Censure	11	03	02
6.	Major Punishment awarded	03	—	—
7.	Show Cause Notice (Under Process)	02	01	08
8.	Departmental Enquiry (Under Process)	—	08	20
9.	Included in Doubtful Integrity List	—	—	08
10.	Criminal case Registered	01	—	02

Arms Scandal

*164. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn the news-item captioned "Govt. turns blind eye to arms racket" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated February 12, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether cases of issuing weapon licences to criminals in Maharashtra have been brought to the notice of the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the officials responsible for issuing licences to criminals; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to stop such practice?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Complaints regarding indiscriminate issue of arms licences by the licensing authority in the State of Nagaland have been received in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) and (d) Licensing authorities in Nagaland have issued arms licences to certain persons not belonging to Nagaland. Some are suspected to have obtained the licences fraudulently.

(e) and (f) Government of India drew the attention of the State Government to this matter. The Government of Nagaland consequently has ordered an enquiry into the matter. Pending this enquiry, Government of India has advised the Govt. of Nagaland on 2.2.2000 not to issue licences having all India validity.

New Curriculum In Schools

*165. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote moral and cultural values in education;

(b) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training has submitted a draft for approval to the Government and is also working out a new curriculum for the schools in the country to review the existing school curriculum, and also to contain certain common core components with particular emphasis on the value and moral education;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereon and the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Education in human values has been an important component of school education and it will continue to be so.

Following the National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) had brought out the "National Curriculum for Elementary and Secondary Education - A Framework". Character building and inculcation of values, preservation of cultural heritage and strengthening of national identity and unity were incorporated under the areas of 'curricular concerns'. The National Policy on Education was updated in 1992, and the Programme of Action, 1992 required the NCERT to modify its curriculum framework. As a part of the 9th Plan the NCERT had been given the task of revising the curriculum of school education. Following these policy directives and as a part of an ongoing process, the NCERT has recently prepared a "Discussion Document" on the "National Curriculum Framework for School Education" and released it in January, 2000 for public debate.

The "Discussion Document" has re-emphasised the strengthening of Value Education at school level. In this context, the Parliamentary Standing Committee constituted for value based education has also suggested in its report that truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence be incorporated as the foundation stone for value-based education in educational programmes.

The document is being discussed and debated at national and state levels. The NCERT is an autonomous academic body. After receiving feedback on the "Discussion Document", NCERT will release the Curriculum Framework as a model, to all State Governments. Government is in favour of further strengthening value-based education in school system. After NCERT submits its final recommendations, Government will give its approval.

Border Dispute

*166. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are boundary disputes amongst Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of boundary disputes involving other States;

(d) the steps taken so far to solve this problem; and

(e) to what extent these problems have been solved?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka relates to the claim of Maharashtra for transfer of Marathi speaking areas in Karnataka to Maharashtra and the claim of Karnataka for transfer of Kannada speaking areas in Maharashtra to Karnataka. The dispute between Orissa and Andhra Pradesh relates to the claim of Andhra Pradesh over 63 villages of Orissa.

(c) According to available information, the State of Orissa has also boundary disputes with Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal involving 15 villages. There is also a boundary dispute between Karnataka and Kerala over the Taluk of Kasaragod. Further, there is a boundary dispute between Punjab and Haryana relating to the transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and transfer of some Hindi speaking areas from Punjab to Haryana.

There are also disputes between private parties of border areas of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and Haryana and Uttar Pradesh affected by the adoption of fixed boundary principle in the Bihar-Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1968 and the Haryana-Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1979.

(d) and (e) The Central Government had constituted the Mahajan Commission in October, 1966 to resolve the Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala boundary dispute. The Government of Kerala did not participate in the enquiry. While the Government of Karnataka insisted on the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission in toto, the Government of Maharashtra did not accept the recommendations. The dispute, therefore continues to exist.

Three Commission have so far been appointed to determine the areas of Punjab which would go to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh. However, the dispute remains unresolved.

With a view to resolving the boundary disputes between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, the Bihar-Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1968 was enacted based on the recommendations of the Trivedi Commission.

In order to resolve the Haryana-Uttar Pradesh boundary dispute, the Chief Ministers of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh had agreed that the dispute between the two States be arbitrated upon by then Home Minister, Shri Uma Shankar Dixit. The Dixit Award, given in February, 1975, forms the basis of the Haryana-Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1979.

The Government of Orissa has not asked for Central intervention at present.

The Central Government would like the concerned State Governments to sort out their differences amicably through discussion and mutual accommodation.

Fertilizer Policy

*167. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether the Fertilizer Association of India has called for a stable and conducive fertilizer policy for meeting the full needs of growing population at the acceptable nutritional level;

(b) if so, whether the absence of such a policy has resulted into zero investment in this sector;

(c) whether the Government propose to have a long term stable fertilizer policy;

(d) whether the excise and custom spectrum across the board from feed stock to building blocks and raw material is also proposed to be unified therein;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which a decision in respect of the fertilizer policy is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (f) A long-term fertilizer policy based on the objective of a gradual and phased movement towards a deregulated regime for all fertilizers after taking into account fiscal capacity of the Government on the one hand and the objective of making fertilizer available in adequate quantity to the farmers at a reasonable price to meet the food requirement of the growing population on the other is in the process of formulation. This will, *inter-alia*, take into account the recommendations of the High Powered Committee on Fertilizer Pricing Policy known as Hanumantha Rao Committee, views of the Fertilizer Association of India, and a wide spectrum of feedback from other informed sources/agencies. It may, however, be pointed out that due to the favourable existing policy regime for fertilizers, investment and production capacity in the sector has risen from 0.85 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen and 0.64 lakh tonnes of Phosphate in 1951-52 to 110.71 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen and 36.49 lakh tonnes of Phosphate as on 1.11.99. The fertilizer policy followed by the Government has successfully achieved maximum possible degree of self-sufficiency in the production of nitrogenous fertilizers and

an increasingly comfortable level in the production of phosphatic fertilizers where dependence on imported fertilizer has been gradually reduced. The country has no known reserves of Potash and has to follow a policy of import to meet the requirement. The level of customs tariff and the rate of excise duty on fertilizers and their intermediate goods and the raw materials/inputs depend *inter alia* on the prevailing international prices, domestic demand and supply position, domestic prices and competitive strength of domestic manufacturers. It is, therefore, not possible to incorporate a pre-determined tax structure (customs and central excise) for the long term fertilizer policy which would, however, aim at having judicious balance between the need for providing adequate protection and growth impulses to the domestic industry and making it competitive and efficient.

Sanitary Condition in Metro Cities

*168. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has expressed its serious concern over the insanitary conditions in the metropolitan cities in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute a committee group to suggest measures to check highly insanitary conditions and disposal of solid wastes; and

(c) if so, the time by which the committee is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court expressed serious concern over the insanitary conditions in the metropolitan cities during the course of hearing of the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 888/96 filed by Ms. Almitra H. Patel against the Union of India, all State Governments and others regarding the deteriorating state of solid waste management in the country.

(b) and (c) In pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court dated 16.1.98, the Government had constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of the Commissioner, Calcutta Municipal Corporation to look into various aspects of solid waste management in Class-I cities in the country and to recommend measures for improving the situation. The Committee in its report dated 25.3.99 had recommended several measures including the constitution of a Technology Mission by the Government for improving solid waste management practices within five years. As per directions of the Supreme Court, the Committee's report was considered

by the Government and it was decided to constitute a Technology Advisory Group under the chairmanship of the Adviser, Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) in the Ministry of Urban Development and consisting of representatives from Ministries of Agriculture, Environment & Forest, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Finance, Planning Commission, Central Pollution Control Board, State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh, Municipal Corporations of Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Mumbai, Surat, etc. The Technology Advisory Group has been constituted on 18.8.99 for a period of five years with the objectives of collecting information on various proven technologies, provide technical assistance to urban local bodies, set benchmark on solid waste management for local bodies, channelise and make optimum use of funds earmarked for Solid Waste Management projects, develop IEC (Information, Education & Communication) material for awareness programmes, human resource development and capacity building.

Further to this, the Supreme Court in its Order dated 15.2.2000 which specifically relates to Delhi has directed the concerned agencies/Ministries to *inter alia* identify suitable land-fill sites and sites for locating compost plants, ensure protection of public lands, improve sanitation in existing slums, ensure proper sanitation in all public places and appoint Executive Magistrates to try offences relating to littering and causing nuisance in public places.

Marketing of Indian Education

*169. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to market the Indian education as a "brand" in the booming international education market;

(b) if so, the special features and characteristics thereof;

(c) the steps taken in this direction and the modes and technologies proposed to be adopted for the purpose;

(d) whether additional seats in different courses are proposed to be created while globalising admissions so as to duly protect the interests of the Indian students; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) The phenomenon of increasing student mobility across national boundaries offers India an unique opportunity of making known and marketing its distinct brand of education abroad.

Keeping in view the comparative advantages enjoyed by the Indian educational system, its huge technological and management manpower resources, the excellence of some of its institutions, it is proposed to allow Indian Educational Institutions (IEIs) to set up their campuses abroad. Guidelines in this regard have already been issued by the UGC in respect of deemed universities. Dissemination of information regarding Indian educational institutions of repute abroad using both print, audio-visual media and IT setting up of study centres partner/affiliate institutions etc. would be the strategy. Simultaneously more seats in India for full fee-paying foreign students in IEIs could be created. This would be over and above the number available for meeting domestic needs.

Taken in tandem, the above strategies would enrich educational institutions in India culturally and would also promote global competitiveness. It would also provide avenues for curricula updating. Since educational institutions would be competing with each other in enrolling foreign students, given the financial incentives, this would also in the course of things, promote the internal and external efficiency in our institutions.

Naxalite Activities

*170. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
DR. RAJESHWARAMMA VUKKALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a spurt in Naxalite violence has occurred recently in various States like Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of violence and depredations caused by naxalite and militant outfits like People War Group since September, 1999;

(d) whether any policy concerning development programmes in States to deal with naxalite problem is under consideration;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have launched a joint strategy to curb the naxalite menace; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have witnessed some increase in left wing extremist violence, recently. As per available reports PWG activists killed 23 persons, largely policemen, in a landmine blast on Narainpur Kutul Road/Narainpur P.S. Bastar District MP. Similarly, there have been some violent incidents of late in Andhra Pradesh as well. Since September 1999 as per available reports, there have been 334 incidents in Andhra Pradesh, 235 incident in Bihar, 42 in Madhya Pradesh and 21 and 7 in Maharashtra and Orissa respectively.

(d) and (e) In the various meetings conveyed by the Central Government to review the action taken by the concerned States to curb left wing extremist activities, States were requested to prepare Integrated Action Plans, encompassing the development as well as security aspects of the problem for the affected areas. The Action Plans received from Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa were recommended to the Planning Commission. The States have also been revised to take vigorous follow-up action.

(f) and (g) Government has set up a Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the States affected by left wing extremism, as its members, to review the steps taken to check the left wing extremist activities, monitor the plan of action in respect of each State and to make recommendations, both on development and security aspects of the problem.

The Coordination Centre has had several meetings, deliberating threadbare on all connected sensitive and relevant issues. Several important decisions such as providing financial support for combating left wing extremist activities, construction/improvement of identified critical roads, preparation of plans for development of affected areas to tackle the problem in a holistic manner, sharing of intelligence inputs on constant basis, providing help of Para Military Forces on need basis, etc., have also been taken and effectively followed-up.

Literacy Survey

*171. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

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

(a) whether any literacy survey has been carried out in the country in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of the findings of the survey; and

(c) the details of the action plan to eradicate illiteracy in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) have updated the literacy data upto December, 1997 in their 53rd Round. The main findings as compared to 1991 census data are as follows:

<i>Literacy Rates</i>		
	(In percentage)	
	Census 1991	NSSO 1997
All Persons	52.2	62.00
Male	64.1	73.00
Female	39.3	50.00
Urban	73.1	80.00
Rural	44.7	56.00

(c) The National Literacy Mission (NLM) aims to attain a sustainable threshold level of 75% literacy by 2005. In order to make adult education a greater success, the Government has taken some new initiatives recently and those include integration of the phases of Total Literacy and Post Literacy, delegation of powers to State Literacy Mission Authorities, enlarging the scope of Continuing Education, strengthening of Jan Shikshan Sansthan and allowing them to operate in rural areas, revitalizing of State Resource Centres for preparation of better teaching learning materials and improved quality of training.

[Translation]

Drug Policy and Price Controlling Mechanism

*172. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to evaluate the effectiveness of drug policy and

price controlling mechanism so as to check improper profit earned by the drug manufacturing companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith implementation and the lacunae in the drug policy and price controlling system; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of life saving drugs and make them available at cheaper prices?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) In March, 1999 the Government had constituted a Drug Price Control Review Committee (DPCRC) to review the current drug price control mechanism and to suggest alternate models, with a view to reducing the rigours of price control, where they had become counter-productive. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government.

(c) The Drug Policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring abundant availability of drugs at reasonable prices.

[English]

Kidnapping of Children

*173. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item regarding the kidnapping of children appearing in "Danik Jagran" dated December 18, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the Delhi Police have followed the directions given by Delhi High Court in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reason therefor;

(e) the time by which the date is likely to be provided to CBI by Delhi Police;

(f) whether the Government have formulated/propose to formulate any policy to reduce the cases of kidnappings particularly of children in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Delhi High Court had directed Delhi Police to (i) furnish to CBI the details of cases in which minor girls were kidnaped in Delhi during the last 10 years (1989-1999); (ii) place before the Court the study made by Delhi Police on street children and beggars; and (iii) furnish a report as to whether begging by crippled children is part of an organised crime. Whereas the first two directions have been complied with by Delhi Police, the time given by the Hon'ble Court for submitting a report on the crippled children has been extended upto July, 2000.

(f) to (h) The prevention of crime of all forms, including kidnappings, by law enforcing agencies is a continuing exercise. It is the endeavour of the Central Government to modernise State Police Forces in order to enable them to function more effectively.

[Translation]

Ban on Private Practice

*174. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been paying non-practising allowance to Government Doctors in lieu of private practice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend this scheme throughout the country; and

(d) 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) Officers of the Central Health Service are granted Non-Practising Allowance as they are not allowed to do private practice of any kind whatsoever, including any consultation and laboratory practice. Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy physicians and officers holding various categories of Dental Posts are also allowed Non-Practising Allowance.

(b) Non Practising Allowance is payable at the rate of 25% of basic pay subject to the condition that pay plus Non-Practising Allowance does not exceed Rs. 29,500/- p.m.

(c) and (d) "Health" being a State subject, under the Constitution of India, it is the responsibility of the respective State Governments to decide the admissibility of Non-Practising Allowance to their doctors.

[English]

National TB Control Programme

*175. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to launch a revised TB control programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of TB patients at present, State-wise;
- (d) whether any target has been fixed to control the disease;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for this purpose;
- (f) the number of deaths occurred due to TB during 1999-2000 State-wise; and
- (g) the steps proposed to be taken to control TB in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) was launched in March, 1997.

(b) and (g) The revised strategy has the following components:—

- (i) Emphasis on diagnosis of infectious patients through high quality microscopy by providing Binocular Microscopes.
- (ii) To achieve 85% cure of all detected new smear positive cases through administration of directly observed Short Course Chemotherapy.
- (iii) Augmentation of the case finding activities to detect 70% of new sputum positive cases.
- (iv) Ensuring uninterrupted drug supply by providing drugs in patient-wise boxes.

To run the programme successfully the following steps have been taken:

- (i) Strengthening of the TB cells at the Central and State level.
- (ii) Strengthening of the Training Institutions for Tuberculosis at the Central and State level.
- (iii) Intensive training is being provided to the medical and para-medical personnel.
- (iv) Release of funds directly to State/District TB societies.
- (v) Decentralisation of diagnostic services by establishing Microscopy centres for approximately one lakh population and placing DOTs centres for providing treatment near to the patients residence.

The Revised strategy is being implemented in a phased manner to cover a population of 400 million by 2002. About 140 million population has already been covered under the RNTCP. It is expected that in another 3-4 months this will increase to 250 million. This strategy is also under implementation in five tribal districts of Orissa with DANIDA assistance. All 14 tribal districts are expected to be covered by 2002. Andhra Pradesh will also be covered in phases under DFID assistance.

(c) State-wise present number of TB patients is not available.

(d) The target under RNTCP is to achieve a treatment success rate of at least 85% of new sputum smear positive cases and to detect 70% of such cases.

(e) Funds earmarked for the purpose are as under:

World Bank assisted RNTCP	— Rs. 749.30 crores
DANIDA assisted RNTCP in Orissa	— Rs. 31.95 crores
DFID assisted RNTCP AP (Proposed)	—Rs. 109.93 crores.

(f) The indicative figure of annual death due to T.B. is 0.5 million for the country. No State-wise statistical estimate is available.

Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited

*176. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure including the cost of preservation so far incurred on the Durgapur Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited after discontinuance of production;

(b) whether chemicals plants of this nature can be kept under suspended animation indefinitely till a decision on revival is taken;

(c) whether the Government propose to re-start the production in those units;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) An expenditure of Rs. 85.10 crores has been incurred so far as standing charges including cost of preservation (salary/wages, power & fuel, etc.) on the Durgapur plant since June, '97.

(b) to (e) Durgapur plant has been kept under preservation as its sustained and viable operations are not feasible unless a complete revamp of the plant is undertaken which is hampered by budgetary constraints and high cost of production. Hence, it will be possible to consider the resumption of production of Durgapur unit only in terms of the decision of the Government on the revival of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. which stands referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

A chemical plant of this nature can be kept under preservation for reasonably long periods depending on local climatic conditions and other relevant factors provided proper procedure of preservation is adhered to and periodic inspections are carried out so as to assess the health of the plant.

Technology Park

*177. DR. V. SAROJA:
SHRI SAHIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more technology parks for women;

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

(c) the number of such parks set up so far and proposed to be set up in the near future, location-wise;

(d) whether these parks are proposed to be developed with the partnership of public and private sector; and

(e) the salient features of the said parks?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In the immediate future it is proposed to set up two more Technology Parks for Women one for the Arid Zone at Barmer in Rajasthan and another one for the East Coast Hill Region at Koraput in Orissa. So far, Technology Parks for Women have been set up at Dehradun in Uttar Pradesh for the Northern Mountainous Region and at Manipal in Karnataka for the West Coastal Region. The Development of these Parks involves close cooperation between the Government and science and technology oriented grassroot voluntary organisations working with women in the region.

(e) The salient features of the Parks are:

- To act as a Resource Centre for dissemination of appropriate location specific technologies.
- To create Awareness about new technologies, instruments, appliances which are friendly to women in their day-do-day work.
- To provide exposure for effective utilization of natural resources like land, water and biomass.
- To network NGOs and Research Institutions of the area to provide technological solutions to problems faced by women.

India's Performance at World Athletic Championship

*178. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inquiry has been conducted into India's poor performance at the recently held world athletic championship at Siville in Spain;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the steps ~~taken~~/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the amount spent on the sports during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The promotion of a particular game is the responsibility of the concerned National Sports Federation. Accordingly, Amateur Athletic Federation of India (AAFI), which is an autonomous organization, is responsible for promotion of Athletics. The Department of Youth Affairs and Sports through its operational wing *i.e.* Sports Authority of India (SAI) supplements the effort of AAFI by providing assistance in training, technical and scientific inputs, organization of coaching camps, foreign exposure, providing foreign coaches etc.

(d) The amount spent on sports during the last three years is indicated below:

Year	Amount spent (Rs. in lakhs)	
	Plan	Non-Plan
1996-97	5520	2362
1997-98	6915	1219
1998-99	8996	1157

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Private Educational Institutions

*179. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

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

(a) whether the Government provide financial assistance to educational institutions in the private sector;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the terms and conditions laid down for this purpose; and

(c) the number of such educational institutions and the amount of financial assistance provided to them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Central Government provides financial assistance to the eligible Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) including private educational institutions, under various schemes through different Ministries/Department/Autonomous Organisations. The details of such grants spread over various Ministries/Departments/Autonomous Organisations are not maintained centrally. The terms and conditions in this regard are spelt out in each scheme. Generally, to be eligible for assistance, an organisation is required to be registered and normally in existence for three years. The details of grants of Rs. one lakh and above to the eligible organisations are normally contained in the Annual Reports of the Ministries/Departments/Autonomous Organisations.

[English]

Amendments to Police Act, 1861

*180. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring amendments in the Police Act, 1861 to make it relevant to present day policing;

(b) whether the National Police Commission has also recommended to bring amendments in the Act; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) The National Police Commission in its 8th Report recommended replacement of Police Act, 1861. 'Police' is a state subject as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution and it is primarily for the State Governments to have their own Police Acts enacted. Some of the State Governments have made their own Police Acts.

Pursuant to the directions of the Supreme Court in a pending PIL, a Committee was constituted to suggest ways and means for implementation of the pending recommendations of the National Police Commission including amendment of the Police Act, 1861. The reports of the Committee have been filed in the Supreme Court as directed by the hon'ble Court.

National Policy for Food Processing Industries

*181. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a National Policy for the Food Processing Industry;

(b) whether the Committee constituted for this purpose has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the policy is likely to be announced;

(d) whether the Government have earmarked any National Fund for the development of the Food Processing Sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) While no Committee has been constituted for the specific purpose of food processing policy formulation, however, pursuant to the recommendations of the Development Council on Processed Fruits and Vegetables, Cereal Products and Beverages made in the meeting held in December, 1998, a Task Force has been constituted to identify the problems faced by the processed food industry and to suggest action points to solve problems of processed food sector in India requiring short-term solutions in the following areas:

- (i) Post harvest infrastructure including cold chain system for perishables.
- (ii) Optimum utilization of eco-friendly packaging materials.
- (iii) Backward linkages by processors with farmers.
- (iv) Marketing of processed foods for domestic consumption and exports.

The Report of the Task Force is almost ready and the valuable inputs in the Report would be used in the formulation of Food Processing Policy as well.

As wide ranging consultations would be required with the state Governments and other inter-related Departments of Government of India before the policy is finalized, it is difficult to indicate a time-frame within which the policy will be announced.

The Plan Schemes of the Department of Food Processing Industries for the year 2000-01 include a token provision of Rs. 1 crore in connection with creation of a fund for the development of the food processing industries.

Employees Provident Fund

*182. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees covered under Employees Provident Fund, State-wise;

(b) whether pension is proposed to be granted to non-members of Employees Provident Fund Family Welfare Scheme;

(c) whether the Government propose to consider the demand to increase the minimum provident fund pension to Rs. 1500 p.m.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) As on 31.3.1999, there were 2.31 crore employees covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. The requisite information about the covered employees, Statewise, is given in the Statement attached.

(b) No Scheme by the name of Employees' Provident Fund Family Welfare Scheme was ever introduced. With effect from 1.3.1971, a pension scheme under the name of the Family Pension Scheme had been introduced. Employees who were members of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme on 28th February, 1971 had the option to join the Family Pension Scheme. While some employees opted for that Scheme, there were many who did not opt for the same. Such of the employees who did not opt for the Scheme but were in service on or after 16.11.1995, when the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 was introduced, have been given the option to join the Scheme. Others, who did not opt for the Family Pension Scheme, 1971 and had ceased to be in employment before 16.11.1995, are not eligible to join the Scheme.

(c) and (d) The minimum and maximum amount of pension have been fixed on the basis of actuarial calculations and keeping in view the affordability and financial viability of the Pension Fund. Under the Scheme, there is a provision for evaluation of pension fund and review of pensionary benefits on annual basis. It is not considered actuarially feasible to enhance the minimum pension to Rs. 1500/- per month.

Statement

Number of employees covered under Employees Provident Fund State-wise (as on 31.3.99)

Name of Regions	Members
Andhra Pradesh	1681927
Bihar	836851
Delhi	1298781
Gujarat	1634678
Himachal Pradesh	85111
Haryana	588011
Karnataka	1646724
Kerala	698427
Madhya Pradesh	881367
Maharashtra	3800412
North East	223280
Orissa	564576
Punjab	1313816
Rajasthan	709462
Tamil Nadu	3575323
Uttar Pradesh	1372015
West Bengal	2208529

Hijacking of Indian Airlines Plane

*183. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines flight was hijacked in December, 1999 mainly because of the presence of an ISI base in Nepal;

(b) whether like the Government of Pakistan, the Government of Afghanistan did not cooperate in freeing the hostages;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the countries and international fora where the Indian Government has raised this issue;

(e) whether international organisations and other countries have condemned Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nepal in this matter;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the effective steps being taken by the Government to check the damage being caused to the country by ISI and other countries; and

(h) the steps taken to throw out ISI from the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Government are aware of and concerned about Pakistan's intelligence agency, Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), misusing the territories of Nepal for activities inimical to India's interests. Credible reports received by Government also reveal the complicity of the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu in the facilitation of activities inimical to India's interests. These include reports of assistance received by hijackers of Indian Airlines IC-814 from Pakistani diplomatic personnel based in Kathmandu.

(b) and (c) The Taliban authorities in Afghanistan, while adopting an attitude of correct facilitators, consistently and clearly had their sympathies with the hijackers and their other supporters, and acted accordingly.

(d) to (f) An exercise to inform international public opinion was put into operation immediately after the hijacking of IC-814 occurred. The Minister of External Affairs personally contacted his counterparts in the international community. This included his counterparts in the neighbouring countries, member countries in the UN Security Council and Foreign Ministers of Governments of nationals on board the aircraft. The Foreign Secretary also spoke to some of his counterparts and to heads of diplomatic missions in New Delhi. All our foreign interlocutors expressed their support as also their understanding of the difficult choices that the Government of India faced while dealing with the incident. This was further elaborated in official statements issued by several foreign governments, which left no doubt that the hijacking represented an unacceptable act of international terrorism. Government also raised the matter with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) with a view to bring to the attention of the member countries the need to adopt appropriate measures to apprehend and extradite the hijackers to India. The hijacking incident has highlighted to the international community evidence of Pakistan's continued state sponsorship of terrorism and its attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of India. There is also a better appreciation of the impact this has on the security of the country and the region. This concern is now

reflected in both official statements by several Governments and in the coverage by the international media.

(g) and (h) Government remains firm in its resolve to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country and to combat all forms of terrorism.

Ban on Use of Transgenic Plants

*184. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering the demand of environmentalist to ban the use of transgenic plant varieties in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any plan for reducing consumption of pesticides and other chemicals in farming; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is stated that trials conducted have shown that transgenic plants technology can be perfected to develop plants resistant to pests and diseases which will reduce the consumption of pesticides and chemicals besides improving the quality and nutritional values of crops.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Government is promoting the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Practices for a number of crops in the country for reducing the consumption of chemicals and pesticides which are harmful to the environment and financial assistance for this purpose is being given to the State Governments.

[Translation]

Recharge of Ground Water

*185. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI A. NARENDRA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level in various regions of several States is constantly declining as a result of which several handpumps and tubewells have become defunct;

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

(c) whether the Government have assessed the annual decline in the ground water level in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof state-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government have formulated any action plan to achieve the target in time bound manner to raise the ground water level of affected areas;

(f) if so, the funds earmarked by the Government for the Ninth Five Year Plan, particularly for the year 2000-2001;

(g) whether the Government have made any request to different foreign agencies for financial assistance during the last three years; and

(h) if so, the quantum of foreign assistance received and utilized during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (h) Long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the States/Districts showing pockets where fall in ground water level for more than four metre has been observed are indicated in the Statement. The average decline in ground water level in these States/Districts is twenty centimetre per annum. As per information, handpumps/tubewells installed in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are reportedly in-operative as a result of decline in the ground water level. The Central Ground Water Board is monitoring the position of ground water level four times a year from about 15,000 monitoring stations in the country.

The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on studies of artificial recharge of ground water in some 'over-exploited', 'dark' and 'grey' blocks in the country. The scheme aims at improving the level of ground water. The Government have earmarked an amount of Rs. 25.00 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan and Rs. 5.00 crore during the year 2000-2001 for experimental artificial recharge studies.

No request for financial assistance from foreign agencies has been made by the Government in the matter.

Statement

Name of the State/District showing annual decline in ground water level of more than 4 metres

Sl.No.	State	Districts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Shrikakulam, Chittoor.
2.	Maharashtra	Akola, Nagpur, Jalgaon, Osmanabad, Satara, Aurangabad, Sangli, Buldhana, Amravati.
3.	Punjab	Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ferozpur, Ludhiana, Patiala, Sangrur, Faridkot, Fatehgarh.
4.	Haryana	Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Mehendragah, Jind.
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Gonda, Farukhabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Fetehpur Allahabad, Banda, Nainital.
6.	Bihar	East Singhbhum, Ranchi, Samastipur, Chapra, Dharbhanga.
7.	West Bengal	Purulia, Midanapur.
8.	Orissa	Koraput, Mayurbhanj.
9.	Rajasthan	Nagaur, Bikaner, Jaipur.
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain, Dewas, Shajahanpur, Dhar, Sagar, Bilaspur, Raipur, Surguja, Guna, Narsinghpur.
11.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwar, Bellari, Shimoga, Bangalore, Mysore, Gulbarga.
12.	Tamil Nadu	Salem, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tanjavour, Paddukottai, Kamrajar, Thirunaganar, North Kannada.

[English]

Irrigation Canals

*186. SHRI A. BRAHMANIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long-term plan under the consideration of the Union Government to encourage all State Governments to embark on a programme and have water proof irrigation canals in order to reduce seepage; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the Government offered financial and technical assistance to the State Governments for the implementation of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) All Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation projects and their distribution network are conceived planned and constructed by the State Government according to their priority with their own resources. There is no programme at present to take up lining of all Irrigation Canals in all the States. However, lining of Canals in selective and vulnerable reaches to reduce losses by excessive seepage and to reduce water logging due to seepage has been taken up in various projects. Central Water Commission provides technical assistance by way of appraisal for its techno-economic feasibility and consultancy in design where required by the States/Projects.

Facilities to Haj Pilgrims

*187. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Haj Committee (CHC) has been accused of providing deficient services to thousands of Haj pilgrims who pay crores of rupees to the Committee;

(b) if so, the details of facilities which are being provided to Haj pilgrims;

(c) whether the Government have decided to increase the number of Haj pilgrims from this year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have also increased the subsidy for individual Haj pilgrim;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The government have seen the

press reports about the difficulties faced by some of the Haj pilgrims.

(b) Details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) With the efforts of the Government, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has agreed to increase the quota of Indian pilgrims for Haj from this year onwards from 91000 to 120000.

(e) to (g) For Haj 2000, the Government have decided that the pilgrims, who go through the auspices of Central Haj Committee, should pay the same airfare which they had been paying in earlier years and that Government will defray the difference between actual airfare charged by the Air Charter Company and the fare paid by the pilgrim. As the Government have decided to increase the number of Central Haj Committee pilgrims from 66,000 to 72,000 and the cost of chartering have gone up, the amount defrayed by the Government has consequently increased. It is estimated that the total amount to be defrayed by the Government would be approximately Rs. 137 crores this years.

Statement

The following facilities are provided to the Haj pilgrims by the Government, the Central Haj Committee and the various State Haj Committees:

- (a) Distribution of application forms, collection of requisite amount and preparation of Pilgrim's Pass (special travel document) and facilitation in having Haj visa affixed.
- (b) Distribution of a booklet for guidance of the Haj pilgrims.
- (c) Deputation of staff at embarkation and disembarkation points to facilitate the pilgrims.
- (d) Deputation of Khuddam-ul-Hujja, doctors, nurses, para-medical staff, dispatch of medicines, looking after the welfare of pilgrims. Administrative staff is also sent to assist in the arrangements.
- (e) Setting up medical dispensaries in Makkah and Madinah.
- (f) Arrangement of accommodation, transport and tents in Makkah and Madinah.
- (g) Organising the services of Moallims (Religious Guides).

(h) Orientation and training programmes for trainers who, in turn, impart training to Haj pilgrims all over the country.

(i) Participation in the finalisation of the Haj Charter Agreement.

[Translation]

Bonded Labourers

*188. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAOTALA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of bonded labourers in each State at present;
- (b) the reasons for large scale prevalence of the bonded labour;
- (c) the number of bonded labourers rehabilitated during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate bonded labour from the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) As per the latest survey conducted by all the State Governments/UTs. during October-December, 1996 as many as 28,916 bonded labourers were identified. The State-wise position of the bonded labourers identified during the survey is given below:

S.No.	Name of the State	Number of Bonded Labour identified during October-December, 1996
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3526
2.	Bihar	106
3.	Karnataka	19
4.	Madhya Pradesh	18
5.	Maharashtra	2
6.	Tamil Nadu	25008
7.	Uttar Pradesh	237
Total		28916

(b) The bonded labour system is primarily linked with poverty, unemployment and economic deprivation arising out of landlessness and assetlessness.

(c) State-wise number of bonded labourers rehabilitated during last 3 years are given below:

State	Year		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1. Bihar	—	—	98
2. Orissa	48	—	35
3. Tamil Nadu	175	6000	5578
4. Uttar Pradesh	—	—	249

(d) The bonded labour system stands abolished throughout the country *w.e.f.* 25th October, 1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Under the Act, District Magistrates are empowered to take punitive action against the offenders/employers who are found either guilty of keeping labour under bondage or indulge in propagating the system of bonded labour.

Financial assistance under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is provided by the Central Government to the State Government to the extent of Rs. 5000/- per bonded labour on matching contribution (50:50) basis for rehabilitation of freed bonded labourers. With a view to ensuring that the bonded labourers are rehabilitated on a permanent basis, the State Governments have been advised to suitably integrate/dovetail the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with other anti-poverty programmes *viz.*, Swarnajayanti Gram Swarogjar Yojana (SGSY), Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan of the State Governments etc. so as to pool and integrate the resources available under different schemes in an imaginative manner for the purpose of effective rehabilitation of bonded labourers.

[English]

Drought Relief

*189. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for interim relief have been received by the Union Government from States to face the drought situation in the country;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have deputed teams to assess the extent of damage caused due to drought in States;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount released so far by the Union Government to each State as interim relief; and

(e) the amount sanctioned for Flood relief and Drought Prone Areas Programme during each of the Five Year Plan and the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Tripura had submitted Memoranda for assistance from the NFCR in the wake of drought.

(c) Central Teams have already visited the affected areas except Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh.

(d) Assistance is provided to all the States every year under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of various natural calamities. The Centre and the States contribute to this Fund in the ratio of 3:1. Three quarterly instalments of Central share of CRF for 1999-2000 have been released to all the States. 4th quarterly instalment has been released to all States except Bihar, Maharashtra, Manipur and Nagaland for want of some clarification from them. In addition the NCRC has approved Rs. 75.36 crore to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 73.42 crore to Jammu & Kashmir, Rs. 4.93 crore to Manipur and Rs. 5.34 crore to Tripura from NFCR.

(e) As per information received from the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Rural Development, the Central assistance released to States under various programmes are indicated below:

Assam: The only State getting Central assistance outside State Plan for flood management in Brahmaputra valley. Statement indicating the assistance provided to them since 1974-75 is attached.

Bihar (i) Flood protection works of Kosi and Gandak started in 8th Plan. An amount of Rs. 11.86 crore was released during the 8th Plan, Rs. 2.38 crore was released during 1997-98 Rs. 2.09 crore was released during 1998-99.

- (ii) Flood proofing programme started in North Bihar in 1991-92. Assistance of Rs. 0.20 crore during 1991-92, Rs. 1.50 crore during 1995-96 and Rs. 0.87 crore during 1997-98 was released.
- (iii) Raising and strengthening of existing embankments along Lelbakeya river was started in 1998-99. Rs. 1.00 crore was released during 1998-99.

Uttar Pradesh : Flood protection works of Kosi and Gandak rivers started in 1997-98. Assistance of Rs. 0.48

crore during 1997-98 and Rs. 0.46 crore during 1998-99 was released.

Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) is being administered since 1995-96 for developing 161 identified drought prone districts in 13 States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Central assistance of Rs. 118.10 crore during 1995-96, Rs. 110.00 crore during 1996-97, Rs. 90.75 crore during 1997-98, Rs. 73.00 crore during 1998-99 and Rs. 90.48 crore during 1999-2000 (till date) have been released.

Statement

Details of Central Loan Assistance Released to the Government of Assam for Flood Management in Brahmaputra Valley

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Gross Amount released (Rs.)	Recoveries			Net Amount released (Rs.)
		Principal (Rs.)	Interest (Rs.)	Total (Rs.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1974-75	6.00	—	—	Nil	6.00
1975-76	4.39	—	—	Nil	4.39
1976-77	6.00	—	—	Nil	6.00
1977-78	7.25	—	—	Nil	7.25
1978-79	10.20	—	—	Nil	10.20
1979-80	10.75	—	—	Nil	10.75
1980-81	13.00	—	—	Nil	13.00
1981-82	15.90	—	—	Nil	15.90
1982-83	13.00	—	—	Nil	13.00
1983-84	10.00	—	—	Nil	10.00
1984-85	15.00	—	—	Nil	15.00
1985-86	15.00	—	—	Nil	15.00
1986-87	13.50	—	—	Nil	13.50
1987-88	21.00	—	—	Nil	21.00
1988-89	21.00	—	—	Nil	21.00
1989-90	19.95	—	—	Nil	19.95

1	2	3	4	5	6
1990-91	18.00	—	—	Nil	18.00
1991-92	20.00	3.16	6.17	9.33	10.67
1992-93	25.00	7.84	16.19	24.03	0.97
1993-94	25.00	6.73	14.16	20.89	4.11
1994-95	25.00	7.74	15.63	23.37	1.63
1995-96	25.00	—	—	Nil	25.00
1996-97	10.09 (grant)	—	—	Nil	10.09*
1997-98	18.00	3.42	4.58	8.00	10.00
1998-99	18.00	—	—	Nil	18.00
Sub Total	375.94 (loan) 10.09 (grant)	28.89	56.73	85.62	300.41
1999-2000	15.00	—	—	—	15.00
Total	390.94 (loan) 10.09 (grant)	28.89	56.73	85.62	315.41

* For the years 1996-97, as a special case, a grant of Rs. 10.09 crore was released as reimbursement for works undertaken by the Flood Control Department, Government of Assam.

Border Dispute with China

*190. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Ambassador to India has expressed that strong ties with India are necessary;

(b) if so, the extent to which both China and India have resolved the border dispute;

(c) whether both countries are working together to improve the relations and settle all disputes peacefully;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievements made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) The Prime Minister has stated that we seek friendly, co-operative, good neighbourly and mutually beneficial relationship with China. In line with this policy, our relations with China have diversified and and expanded. Exchanges at the

governmental, parliamentary, non-governmental, people-to-people and other levels are taking place.

As regards the boundary question, India and China are committed to working towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. Both countries are discussing the boundary question in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group on the Boundary Question (JWG) and its sub-group, the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials (EG). Eleven meeting of JWG and seven meeting of EG have been held so far. The Agreements on Maintenance of Border Peace and Tranquility, signed in 1993, and on Confidence Building Measures in the military Field Along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas, signed in November 1996, contribute to maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas.

During my visit to China on June 14-15, 1999 and my subsequent meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister during the ASEAN Regional Forum - Post-Ministerial Conference Meeting in Singapore on July 25, 1999, I had exchanged views with my Chinese counterpart on various issues in our bilateral relations as also on regional

and international issues of mutual interest. We agreed on promoting CBMs, having a security dialogue, expanding economic and trade relations and jointly celebrating the forthcoming 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations (April 1, 2000).

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Murasoli Maran visited China and co-chaired the Sixth Meeting of the India-China Joint Group on Economic Relations and Trade, and Science and Technology in Beijing on February 21-22, 2000. During the meeting the two sides agreed on measures to enhance bilateral trade. In 1999, the trade was US\$ 1.987 billion, an increase of 3.4% over 1998.

The President stated in his Address to Parliament on 23rd February 2000 that he would undertake a State visit to China in May this year.

We seek a relationship in which both sides are responsive to each other's concerns. We remain committed to the process of dialogue to resolve outstanding differences.

Development of North-East States

*191. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no developmental activities in North-Eastern States despite increasing Central assistance in the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken to improve the situation in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The North-Eastern States have achieved development in terms of higher Literacy and lower Crude Birth, Crude Death and Infant Mortality Rates than the All-India average. To ensure speedy economic development in the Region, a large numbers of projects, included in the PM's Packages and Shukla Commission recommendations, have been completed/taken up for implementation. Further, following policy

initiatives have also been taken to augment the resource base of the North-Eastern States:

- (i) 30% of Normal Central Assistance is earmarked for Special Category States which include N.E. States.
- (ii) 90% of Plan assistance is grant and 10% loan as against 30% grant and 70% loan for other States.
- (iii) State contribution of 15% which is mandatory for the Basic Minimum services schemes, is not applicable to N.E. States.
- (iv) 10% of Plan provision of the Central Ministries/Departments has been earmarked for development of N.E. States.
- (v) Over and above the State Plan outlays which have been increasing over the years, funds are also being sanctioned out of the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources created through transfer of unspent balance of the earmarked outlays of the Central Ministries and Departments meant for development of the N.E. States.
- (vi) The North Eastern Council is also engaged in the development of infrastructure in the Region.
- (vii) Special dispensation has been made in respect of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) by incorporating minor irrigation projects for the North-Eastern States and allowing 25% of the State's share, as against 33% for others, in availing of Central Loan Assistance.
- (viii) Diversion to the extent of 20% of the Normal Central Assistance (Plan) is allowed for Non-Plan purposes.

Following steps have been taken to optimise benefits of the schemes/projects being implemented in the Region:

- (i) Monitoring of implementation of schemes/programmes in the Region on quarterly basis.
- (ii) Involvement of public sector undertakings like NEPCO, BHEL, Border Road Organisation etc. in implementation of projects, as far as possible.
- (iii) Channelising of Non-Lapsable funds through Central Ministries/Departments, wherever necessary.
- (iv) Sensitising the States to the need of reducing their non-plan expenditure.

Production of Foodgrains

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

(a) the names of the States which are deficient in foodgrain production;

(b) whether the Government have received any proposal from such Governments including the Government of Kerala for extending financial assistance to increase the production of foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the decision of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) Based on normative requirements of foodgrains, as recommended by National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, and projections of average population as on 1st July, 1997, 1998 & 1999, the States, deficient in foodgrain production, are Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura & West Bengal.

(b) to (d) No. Sir. For increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains in the country, however, Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Area are being implemented. For increasing the production and productivity of Pulses, the Government is also implementing National Pulses Development Project. Under these programmes, incentives are being provided to the farmers on distribution of seeds, improved farm implements and sprinkler sets etc. Under the scheme of ICDP-Rice, incentives on Power Tillers is also being provided. Besides above, field demonstrations and farmers' trainings are also being organised under the above mentioned schemes to acquaint the farmers with the latest production technologies. The State of Kerala is covered under ICDP-Rice and National Pulses Development Project.

Welfare Projects

*193. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:

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

(a) the details of the projects undertaken under the National Policy on older persons, prevention of alcoholism and drug abuse;

(b) the funds earmarked for the purpose during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the funds earmarked for the purpose are fully utilized and if not, the reasons for the same;

(d) the extent to which success has been achieved under each of the above projects in the country; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that each of the above programmes is implemented successfully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is the nodal Ministry of Government of India for policies and programmes relating to Older Persons. In pursuance of the National Policy on Older Persons, both the ongoing schemes for welfare of Older Persons were reviewed and revised with a view to make them more flexible and broad based. Under the Ministry's revised scheme "An Integrated Programme for Older Persons", financial assistance upto 90% of the project cost is provided to NGOs for establishment and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units and also to provide Non-institutional services to the older persons. Under the other revised scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Home/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons, grant up to Rs. 30 lakhs is provided to eligible organisations for construction of old age homes and multi service centres for older persons.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also the nodal Ministry for policies relating to prevention, educational awareness and social rehabilitation of alcohol/drug abusers/addicts. To achieve this goal this Ministry has been implementing the Scheme titled "Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse". This scheme is being implemented through Registered Societies/Trusts/Companies etc. by providing financial assistance to the extent of 90% of the total approved expenditure. In case of the North Eastern States, Sikkim and J&K the extent of grant it is 95% of the cost. These organisations are financially assisted for setting up/maintenance of Counselling and Awareness Centres and Treatment cum Rehabilitation Centres and for organising De-addiction camps, Awareness Programmes and Manpower Development.

(b) The funds earmarked under the above mentioned three schemes during the last three years, year-wise, are indicated below.

Name of the Scheme: An Integrated Programme for Older persons (Plan Scheme)

(Rupees in crores)			
Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
1996-97	7.00	7.00	7.22
1997-98	12.50	8.87	6.10
1998-99	15.00	10.00	7.75

Name of the Scheme: Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Home/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons (Non-Plan Scheme)

(Rupees in crores)			
Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
1996-97	5.00	3.93	1.30
1997-98	5.00	1.63	0.30
1998-99	3.20	2.34	1.55

Name of the Scheme: Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse

(Rupees in crores)						
Year	Budget Estimates		Revised Estimates		Actual Expenditure	
	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan
1996-97	15.00	00.16	14.50	00.16	9.57	00.16
1997-98	17.50	00.16	11.52	00.16	11.52	00.16
1998-99	16.00	00.15	16.00	00.16	15.20	00.02

(c) No, Sir. In case of 'An Integrated Programme for Older Persons', the shortfall in expenditure during 1997-98 and 1998-99 was due to non-receipt of proposals from eligible organisations as also recommendations and inspection reports from State Governments concerned. The shortfall under the Scheme of Assistance for Construction of Old Age Homes etc. during 1996-97 was because it was the first year of the scheme and not many organisations were aware of it. While during 1997-98 and 1998-99 less expenditure was due to the fact that the scheme was under review.

The shortfall in expenditure during 1996-97 and 1997-98, under the 'Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse' was due to non-receipt of complete and timely proposals from the NGOs as well as recommendations and inspection reports of the ongoing cases from the various State Governments.

(d) (i) *An Integrated Programme for Older Persons*

Started in 1992-93 as "Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Programmes relating to Aged" with a budget provision of Rs. 1.00 crore only, the scheme

has been running successfully and was revised and made flexible during 1998-99 so as to be able to meet the diverse needs of the older persons and given a new nomenclature "An Integrated Programme for Older Persons". The budget provision for 1999-2000 stands at Rs. 15.00 crores. At present, 234 Old Age Homes, 398 Day Care Centres, 50 Mobile Medicare Units and 3 Non-institutional Service Centres for older persons are being assisted financially under the scheme.

(ii) *Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/ Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Home/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons:*

Started in 1996-97, scheme has now taken off and during the year 1999-2000 a large number of proposals for construction of Old Age Homes have been received from eligible organisations located in different parts of the country. This is indicative of the fact that the scheme has become quite popular. Since inception, 54 Old Age Homes have been constructed in different parts of the country under this scheme

(III) *Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse*

Beginning with seven centres established in Delhi in 1985-86, the total number of centres now functioning nation-wide has reached 434 as on 29.2.2000. These include 174 Counselling Centres and 260 Treatment cum Rehabilitation Centres. As a result of the implementation of the programme 7,80,164 drug addicts have been registered in these centres during the period 1996-97 to 1998-99.

(e) The first step already taken by the Government for further improvement in implementation of the two schemes for welfare of older persons is their complete review and revision during 1998-99 with a view to making them flexible so as to be able to meet the diverse needs of older people. As the funds earmarked were not being fully utilised because of non-receipt or the late receipt of the recommendations of the State Governments, an alternate system of programme appraisal/monitoring/inspection of voluntary organisations seeking financial assistance under the two schemes has been evolved by involving Schools of Social Work etc. in the country. This new system is in force from the financial year 1999-2000.

The third scheme has also been reviewed and restructured on the basis of interaction with the implementing agencies, experts and professionals in the area of alcoholism and drug abuse as well as the experience of the Ministry. The revised Scheme is being implemented with effect from April, 1999. For effective implementation of the Programme, the revised Scheme has specific components such as involvement of Panchayat institutions and local bodies. There is a special focus on the programme in North-East part of the country where the problem is alarming. Steps have also been taken for developing proper research methodology to undertake a nationwide survey on the problem of drug abuse which will provide authentic and more reliable data on the subject.

[*Translation*]

Development of Information Technology

*194. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an abundant scope for the development of information technology sector in the country during the coming years;

(b) if so, the assessment of the Government in regard to rate of growth during the next three years;

(c) whether there is possibility of not achieving the said rate of growth due to non-production of electronic equipment in desired quantity in the country; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the tremendous potential in the Information Technology sector, the Government had set up a Task Force which has submitted three reports wherein various recommendations have been made to give this sector a good boost. The estimated growth rate of this sector is around 30-35% during the next three years.

Indian Land Occupied Illegally by Pakistan and China

*195. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the area of Indian land illegally occupied by Pakistan and China;

(b) the area of Indian land illegally transferred to China by Pakistan; and

(c) the steps taken/propose to be taken by the Government to get back these areas?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The area under forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan is approximately 78,000 sq. kms. There is an area of approximately 38,000 sq. kms. under the illegal occupation of China.

(b) Under the so-called "Sino-Pak Boundary Agreement" of 1963, Pakistan ceded 5180 sq. kms. of Indian territory to China.

(c) Under the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, Government is committed to resolving all issues with Pakistan through peaceful negotiations and direct bilateral dialogue.

Discussions on the boundary questions with China are conducted within the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) and its sub group, the India-

China Expert Group (EG). Both India and China are committed to working towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. The Agreements on Maintenance of Border Peace and Tranquility, signed in 1993, and on confidence building measures in the military field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas signed in November 1996, contribute to the maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Government remains committed to ensure that the territorial integrity of India is not compromised under any circumstances.

Employment for Handicapped Persons

*196. SHRI TARUN GOGOI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons registered in different Employment Exchanges of the North-Eastern States

and Madhya Pradesh as on 31st December, 1999 and the number of handicapped persons out of them;

(b) the number of persons, particularly the handicapped, provided with jobs during the last two years;

(c) whether the reserved quota of the handicapped persons is filled up regularly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) The number of job-seekers (both total and handicapped) all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges in North Eastern States except Sikkim (Sikkim is not covered under the network of Employment Exchanges) as on 30.6.1998 and job or self-employment provided to the handicapped during 1997 and 1998 (upto 30.06.1998) were as under:

(In thousands)

	Total job-seekers as on 30.06.1998	Number of Handicapped job-seekers out of total as on 30.06.1998	Handicapped persons provided jobs/self-employment	
			1997	1998 upto 30.06.1998
North-Eastern States	2197.3	8.9	0.23	0.12
Madhya Pradesh	2456.3	27.7	0.34	0.22

Employment Exchanges cater to only a small fraction of the total employment that is generated. Moreover, the employment exchanges sponsor the candidates as per the requisition/ requirements of employers. Handicapped persons are also included in these.

[English]

Remunerative Prices for Paddy and Wheat

*197. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the discrepancies in the remunerative prices fixed for paddy and wheat;

(b) if so, the adverse effects on the farmers as a result thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) to (c) There are no discrepancies in the remunerative prices fixed for Paddy & Wheat.

[Translation]

High Yielding Varieties of Seeds

*198. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the High Yielding Varieties (HYV) of seeds developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during the last one year;

(b) whether HYV varieties of seeds of wheat and maize are being developed only by the foreign countries;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to revitalise research activities to improve the quality of seeds in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) The ICAR system has developed and released at the central level 78 high yielding varieties and hybrids of different crops during 1999. The details are given in Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The research efforts on the development of high yielding inbred varieties and hybrids are intensified in different crops during the IX plan. In addition, mission mode programme on hybrid research, development of transgenic for management of insects, gene pyramiding for rust resistance in wheat etc. have been launched during last year. To ensure quality seed of improved varieties, seed technological researches on the development of package of practices for seed production (viz. plant population, isolation distance, plant nutrition plant protection, synchronization of flowering), seed health, processing, storage and testing, and identification of areas/seasons suitable for seed production has been intensified. Also good quality, indented breeder seed of released varieties is produced to meet the national requirement.

Statement

Details of High Yielding Varieties and Hybrids of different crops developed and Released during 1999

Crop Variety/Hyb.	Area of Adaptation	Salient Features
1	2	3
RICE		
VL Dhan 81	Valley and hilly areas of U.P., Himachal Pradesh and Meghalaya under Irrigated transplanted condition.	Tolerant to stem borer and leaf folder
Pooja	Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal for shallow water condition.	Tolerant to pests and diseases.
CSR-13	Haryana, Eastern & Central U.P., Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal for irrigated alkaline (sodic) land and coastal saline soils.	Salt tolerant and disease tolerant.
CSR-27	Haryana, U.P., Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal for saline and alkaline soils	Salt tolerant

1	2	3
WHEAT		
Malviya	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal under irrigated conditions.	Resistance against stripe rust leaf blight and loose smut.
Shresth	U.P., Punjab, Haryana and parts of Rajasthan	Resistant against brown rust.
UP 2425	U.P., Punjab, Haryana and parts of Rajasthan.	Resistant to all three rusts.
Malav Shakti	M.P. Gujarat, Rajasthan and U.P.	Resistant to leaf and stem rust
KRL-19	Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Rajasthan, H.P., Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and North-Eastern states.	Resistant to salinity
PBW-396	Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Rajasthan and H.P.	Resistant to all three rusts.
PBW-443	Bihar, U.P., Orissa, West Bengal and North-Eastern states.	Resistant to all three rusts.
Malav Ratna	M.P., Gujarat, Rajasthan and U.P.	Resistant to all three rusts
K-9644	Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.	Resistant to rusts and leaf blight.
MAIZE		
Gaurav	Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana & Rajasthan under rainfed conditions.	Moderately resistant to major foliar and stalk diseases.
Vivek Hybrid-4	Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh under rainfed conditions.	Tolerant to pests & diseases.
Prakash	Across the country under rainfed and irrigated conditions.	Tolerant to pests & disease.
PAC 738	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra.	Tolerant to stem Borer, shootfly and abiotic stresses.
PAC 776	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra.	Tolerant to lodging and abiotic stresses.

1	2	3
32A09	Across the country except Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Eastern M.P.	Tolerant to borer & resistant to turcicum blight.
4642 (PRO 312)	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka.	Highly tolerant to turcicum blight & stem border.
4210 (PRO 316)	H.P., J&K, Hill of U.P., North Eastern states except Sikkim & Assam.	Tolerant to major insects pests.
SORGHUM		
CSH 17	Gujarat, M.P., Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.	Resistant to lodging and shattering.
JKSH-22	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat.	Tolerant to major pests and diseases.
CSH 18	Maharashtra, M.P., Rajasthan, Gujarat & U.P.	Medium maturity, resistant to grain mold.
PEARL MILLET		
Pusa 605	Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi.	Resistant to downey mildew.
JBV 2	Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh & U.P.	Resistant to downey mildew.
Nandi 32	Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh & U.P.	Resistant to downey mildew, ergot & smut.
Pusa-415	Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh & U.P.	Resistant to downey mildew.
Pusa Composite 334	Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh & U.P.	Resistant to downey mildew.
MLBH-504	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka.	Resistant to downey Mildew and ergot.
Nandi-8	Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh	Drought tolerant.
FINGER MILLET		
Bhairabi	Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.	Resistant to neck blast, grass hopper.
FOXTAIL MILLET		
PS4	All foxtail millet growing region	—

1	2	3
BARLEY		
Harit (HBL 276)	Northern hill zone	Early maturing
RD-2552	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and H.P.	—
FORAGES		
<i>Fodder Sorghum</i>		
Pant Chari-5	Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and A.P.	Resistant to anthracnose zonate leaf spot and other foliar diseases.
Safed Moti <i>Fodder Guar</i>	Across the Country	Multicut hybrid.
Bundel Guar-3	Arid and Semi-arid Zones of the country	—
CHICKPEA		
Pusa 1003	Eastern U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Assam	Bold seeded, tolerant to wilt
JG 11	Southern Zone	Performs well as rainfed crop
DGD-72 (Pragati)	M.P., Gujarat, Maharashtra	Bold seeded, wilt resistant
Pusa Chamatkar	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, Western U.P.	—
PIGEONPEA		
MA-3	H.P., MS, Gujarat	Moderately resistant to wilt and sterility, resistant to pod fly.
MUNGBEAN		
HUM-1	H.P., MS, Orissa, Gujarat, Parts of U.P., A.P., TN, Kerala, Karnataka	Resistant to YMV
URDBEAN		
Tu 94-2	A.P., TN, Orissa, Kerala and Karnataka	Resistant to YMV and moderately resistant to powdery mildew.
IPU 94-1	Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Western U.P., Eastern U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam for kharif season	YMV resistant

1	2	3
KU 92-1	Eastern U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam	YMV resistant
RBU 38	Eastern U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, MS, M.P., Gujarat for kharif cultivation	Resistant to Cercospora leaf spot
MOTHBEAN		
RMO 225	Moth growing areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra	Drought tolerant
CAZRI Motn-1 COWPEA	North-Western India	Drought tolerant
V 585	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and U.P.	Resistant to lodging
UPC 9202	M.P., Maharashtra, Gujarat and parts of U.P.	
GC-3	Suitable for arid and semi-arid areas	Early maturing with 21% protein, suitable for arid and semi-arid areas
HORSEGRAM		
AK-21	All horsegram growing areas	Resistant to anthracnose
GUAR		
RGC 986	All guar growing areas	—
RGC 1002	All guar growing areas	—
RCG-1003	All guar growing areas	31% gum and 25% protein
LENTIL		
Jawahar Lentil-3	Rajasthan, MP, Maharashtra and parts of U.P.	—
FIELDPEA		
Malviya Mattar-15	J.K., H.P., U.P., Hills, Eastern U.P., Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal NE States	
FABABEAN		
Vikrant	Throughout the country	Resistant to diseases
SESAME		
JT 55	Eastern U.P., M.P., Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and NE States	—
SUNFLOWER		
Sideshwar (LS-11)	Gujarat, MP and MS under rainfed condition	—

1	2	3
LINSEED		
LCK 9216	Irrigated conditions of UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Kota area of Rajasthan	Resistant to rust, powdery mildew, moderately to Alternaria blight and bud fly
LMH-62	Rainfed conditions of MP, MS, Rajasthan, Orissa, Bundelkhand region of U.P.	Resistant to rust, wilt and powdery mildew
GROUNDNUT		
CSMG 884	UP, Rajasthan, Maharashtra	Resistant to early and late spot and bud necrosis
HNG 10	UP, Rajasthan, parts of M.P.	Semi spreading, medium bold kernel
RAPESEED-MUSTARD		
VSL-5	U.P., Rajasthan	—
SOYABEAN		
MACS-450	M.S., Karnataka, TN, A.P.	—
CASTOR		
CGH 6	Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra	—
COTTON		
Desi Cotton Hybrid 1	Northern Zone (Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan)	—
JUTE		
JRC-698	Suitable for white jute growing belt of North Bengal and Bihar for Mid-March to early April sowing in low to high lands with early onset of nowester rain.	Has good fibre quality
JRO-8432 (CO-32)	Suitable for whole tossa jute belt for mid-March to end of April sowing.	Has good fibre quality
POTATO		
Kufri Pukhraj	North Indian Plains and pleateau regions.	Resistant to early blight, moderately resistance to late blight.
Kufri Chipsona-1.	North Indian Plains.	Resistant to late blight and suitable for processing (Chip making).

1	2	3
Kufri Chip-sona-2	North Indian Plains.	Resistant to late blight, tolerant to frost and suitable for processing (Chip making)
Giriraj	North Indian hills	Resistant to late blight.
Kufri Anand	North Indian Plains.	Resistant to late blight and tolerant to frost.
BRINJAL		
Pusa Ankur	M.P., Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh	Small round type.

Child Labour

*199. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Government has not ratified the ILO Convention No. 182 on elimination of worst forms of child labour from the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the Government propose to ratify this Convention; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to create a congenial environment at workplace for child labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) The 87th Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) held in June, 1999 unanimously adopted ILO Convention No. 182. For the purpose of the Convention the terms "the worst forms of child labour" comprises:

- (i) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
- (ii) the use, procuring or offering of a Child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;
- (iii) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and

trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;

- (iv) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

Soon after adoption of the Convention at the 87th Session of the ILO at Geneva in June, 1999, Government have initiated the process for Ratification of Convention No. 182.

The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 regulates the working conditions of children in all employments which are not prohibited under the Act. This includes working hours, weekly holiday and health and safety measures creating a congenial environment at workplace for child labour.

[English]

Cattle Rearing Centres

*200. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cattle rearing centres are proposed to be set up all over the country for the scientific development of cattle rearing to boost the milk production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Grant of Visa

1755. SHRI HARIBHAUSHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any guidelines to our missions abroad not to grant visa more than once in every six months to nationals of various countries specially Iran; and

(b) if so, the rationality of such decisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Indian Mission and Posts abroad have been instructed to scrutinise carefully the applications of foreigners, made within a period of six months of the applicant's last departure from India, to make sure that the further visit is for a bonafide purpose and that the liberal grant of visa is not misused.

UN Report on Child Abuse

1756. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UN report reveals nearly two million children are being abused globally every year and the largest number of them is from South and South East Asia;

(b) if so, the break up of number of child abuse noticed in India during 1997-98 and 1999 State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent child abuse in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The latest Report titled "The State of World's Children 2000" released by UNICEF at New Delhi on 13th December, 1999 mentions that there is no way to calculate the exact number of children whose lives are endangered by their sale and trafficking, by debt bondage, serfdom, forced or compulsory labour, forced or compulsory recruitment into armed conflict, prostitution, pornography or by the production and trafficking of drugs. However, the report titled "The Progress of Nations for the year, 1997", published by UNICEF, states that more than one million children are forced into prostitution every year, the majority in Asia.

(b) The number of children in India against whom crimes like rape, sale, exposure and abandonment etc. have been committed during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 is 5980, 5788 and 1143 (excluding child rape) as per records maintained by National Crime Records Bureau. The State-wise details is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) Statement-II giving the requisite information is attached.

Statement I

S.No	States/U.Ts.	Number of Incidence during the years		
		1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	365	340	47
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29	10	1
3.	Assam	195	223	19
4.	Bihar	368	368	0
5.	Goa	16	14	5
6.	Gujarat	389	389	164
7.	Haryana	184	227	95
8.	Himachal Pradesh	70	51	14
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	24	8
10.	Karnataka	124	141	70

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	184	191	13
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1243	1034	160
13.	Maharashtra	916	888	213
14.	Manipur	5	7	0
15.	Meghalaya	4	11	0
16.	Mizoram	11	49	1
17.	Nagaland	3	4	0
18.	Orissa	155	153	8
19.	Punjab	89	109	25
20.	Rajasthan	201	208	38
21.	Sikkim	6	2	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	116	113	8
23.	Tripura	23	16	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	528	536	19
25.	West Bengal	390	303	68
26.	A&N Islands	7	5	0
27.	Chandigarh	10	8	10
28.	D&N Haveli	1	2	0
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	1
30.	Delhi	338	358	155
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	4	4	1
Total		5980	5788	1143

Statement II

The Government has taken a number of measures both administrative and legal to prevent children from being abused. Some of which are as follows:

(I) **LEGAL:**

The following are important specific legislations to protect the children from the clutches of violence and abuse meted out the them:—

(i) Juvenile Justice Act, 1986

The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 has provisions for protection from cruelty and has elaborate provisions for the care, protection and rehabilitation of neglected and abused children. The Immoral Prevention Act, 1956 (as amended) deals with the punitive as also preventive aspects of prostitution including child prostitution.

(ii) Probation of Offenders Act, 1958.

(iii) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

(iv) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1996.

- (v) The Factories Act (Amended) 1954.
- (vi) The Child Marriage Restraint Act (Amended) 1979.
- (vii) The Orphanages and Other Charitable Homes (Supervisions & Control) Act, 1960.
- (viii) Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956.
- (ix) The Infant Milk Substitute, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production Supply & Offenders) Act, 1992.
- (x) The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation, Prevention and Misuse) Act, 1994.
- (xi) Hindu Minority and guardianship Act, 1956.
- (2) Indian Penal Code considers the following as serious offences:
- (i) Kidnapping or maiming a child for begging (Section 353-A-IPC)
- (ii) Selling or buying of girls for purposes of prostitution (Section 372 and 373 IPC)
- (iii) Exposure and Abandonment of children under 12 years by parents or guardians (Section 317 IPC).
- (iv) Sexual harassment (Section 509), child prostitution and child rape are also covered.
- (II) POLICIES AND PROVISIONS:
- (i) The National Policy for Children's 1974 states that "children shall be protected against neglect, cruelty and exploitation".
- (ii) The National Decadal Plan of Action for the Girl Child 1991-2000 recognises the rights of the girl child to protection from exploitation, assault and physical abuse.
- (iii) The National Policy on Education recommends firm exclusion of corporal punishment to children in schools.
- (III) ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES:
- (i) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has also been implementing a scheme for welfare of street children, which has been reviewed and revised and renamed as An

Integrated Programme for Street Children. The basic aim of the programme is to protect a children from all types of abuse, including rape and induction into prostitution etc. which they are exposed to when on the street unprotected.

- (ii) One of the important initiatives taken under the revised scheme was the establishment of Child Helpline Service in a number of cities. The Child Helpline is a 24 hour free phone service which can be accessed by children in distress by dialing the number 1098 on the telephone. The service is currently available at Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Hyderabad, Nagpur, Bangalore and Patna.
- (iii) Government of India has constituted a Central Advisory Committee to suggest measures to be taken for eradicating child prostitution. The Plan of Action prepared by this Committee has been finalised and the Implementation Machinery is being set up.
- (iv) In order to protect children from illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of such substances, a scheme of assistance to voluntary organisations for prohibition and drug abuse prevention is also being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Inclusion of Fishermen in the List of ST

1757. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to include all traditional fishermen of Andhra Pradesh in the Scheduled Tribe list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in include the fishermen in Scheduled Tribe list?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Housing Facilities to SC/ST

1758. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority provide Housing facilities to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in their various schemes;

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

(c) the details of schemes announced by DDA for scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is a reservation of 17.5% and 7.5% respectively for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the various housing schemes of DDA. If adequate number of Scheduled Tribe applicants are not available in any particular scheme, then the flats remaining unallotted out of the flats reserved for STs, are allotted to the applicants belonging to the Scheduled caste category and *vice versa*.

(c) Ambedkar Awas Yojana was launched by the DDA in 1989 exclusively for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribe applicants for MIG, LIG and Janata flats.

Engineering and Medical Colleges

1759. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up some Engineering and Medical Colleges in the tribal and backward areas;

(b) if so, the places identified for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether any Engineering and Medical College is proposed to be established in Keonjhar, a tribal district of the state; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal in the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in respect of setting up of Engineering Colleges and Medical Colleges respectively in the tribal and backward areas.

(b) to (d) do not arise.

Financial Assistance to Madarsas

1760. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated during the Ninth Plan under the scheme of modernisation of Madarsas, State-wise, year-wise; and

(b) the actual utilisation of funds by each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) For the Ninth Plan Period an amount of Rs. 37.00 crores was allocated for the scheme of Modernisation of Madarasas Education. The budget is not specifically earmarked Statewise. However, grant is released on the basis of receipt of proposals from State/UTs. The funds allocated year-wise during the Ninth Plan Period are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Year:	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Amount:	5.62	7.00	3.27	12.00	7.50

(b) A Statement showing the funds sanctioned to the

States/UTs during the said period is enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.31	30.24	22.37
2.	Assam	Nil	156.24	—
3.	Bihar	12.67	Nil	—
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	0.72	—
5.	Goa	Nil	1.44	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.61	Nil	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	38.88	—
8.	Orissa	1.83	Nil	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	24.43	96.84	—
10.	Maharashtra	1.59	2.16	—
11.	Karnataka	19.98	Nil	39.78
12.	Rajasthan	13.71	17.84	—
13.	Sikkim	0.26	0.72	—
14.	Tripura	Nil	79.25	—
15.	Uttar Pradesh	78.84	249.52	248.40
16.	West Bengal	19.04	Nil	—
Total		173.26	673.85	310.55

Recognised for Treatment to Government Employees

1761. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1279 dated December 7, 1999 regarding treatment in private hospitals and to state:

- (a) whether the information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the same is likely to be collected?

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

SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Technical Institutes

1762. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up technical institutes in the Scheduled Caste-Scheduled Tribe dominated areas in the country especially in Madhya Pradesh during the next financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has no scheme to consider establishment of such technical institutions.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Poor and Backward Districts

1763. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of poor and backward districts in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of States where the poorest and the most backward districts are situated;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the development and upliftment of these districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of allocations made in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development does not categorise any district of the country as poor and backward.

However, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Rural Development have identified districts as poor and backward. The details of the States where these poor and backward districts are situated are given in Statement-I and II respectively.

(c) to (e) There are various schemes for urban and rural development being implemented throughout the country which cover these poor and backward districts also.

Statement I

State-wise List of Industrially Backward Districts as Categorised by Central Board Direct Taxes (Ministry of Finance)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Districts	
		Category 'A'	Category 'B'
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	2
2.	Bihar	20	13
3.	Gujarat	1	2
4.	Karnataka	—	1
5.	Kerala	2	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	5	13
7.	Maharashtra	1	1
8.	Orissa	2	4
9.	Rajasthan	5	7
10.	Uttar Pradesh	11	24
11.	West Bengal	6	3
Total:		53	70

Statement II

State-wise List of Poor and Backward Districts as Identified by the Ministry of Rural Development

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Poor and Backward District
1.	Bihar	38
2.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
3.	Haryana	1
4.	Rajasthan	2
5.	Sikkim	2
6.	Uttar Pradesh	17
7.	West Bengal	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1
9.	Karnataka	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	19
11.	Maharashtra	10
12.	Orissa	4
Total:		100

Allocation of Funds to A.P. for Sports

1764. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in Andhra Pradesh to encourage the sports;

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated to the State for sports activities during the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) The following Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being implemented all over India, including in the State of Andhra Pradesh:

- (i) Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure;
- (ii) Grants for Promotion of Sports in Universities & Colleges;
- (iii) Grants for installation of Synthetic Playing Surfaces;
- (iv) Promotion of sports Games in Schools;
- (v) National Championship for Women; and
- (vi) Rural Sports Programme.

(b) and (c) Funds are not allocated state-wise or for a particular state. Financial assistance is sanctioned to State/UT on the basis of viable proposals/requests from them.

Funds for Sewerage Disposal

1765. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided assistance for sewerage disposal projects to Madhya Pradesh during 1998-99 and 1999-2000; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH

AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the Annual Plan, 1999-2000, the Planning Commission provided an additional Central assistance of Rs. 30.00 crores for Gwalior Sanitation Works.

Formulation of Drugs

1766. CH. TEJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the research being made for the formulation of various drugs of multiple use from neem tree in the foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details of research work being done in the foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The Government has no official information of research being carried out on the formulations of various drugs of multiple use from Neem Tree in the foreign countries.

Indira Mahila Yojana

1767. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of the Indira Mahila Yojana to cover the country as a whole; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the modifications, proposed to be made in the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There is a proposal for expanding the Indira Mahila Yojana in 900 blocks, including the existing 238 blocks by the end of IX Plan. The thrust of the programme remains that of mobilising women into groups at village level and their federation at block level but there is a much greater emphasis on capacity building at all levels and more flexibility in implementation.

Funds for SC/STs

1768. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have sought permission to use the funds for any purpose beneficial to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan/Tribal Sub-Plan SCA to SCP/TSP as these communities in Kerala lack in basic amenities and infrastructure; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) No, Sir. This Ministry has not received any specific request from the State Government of Kerala seeking permission to use the funds for any purpose beneficial to SC/STs under the SCA to SCP/TSP.

(b) Does not arise.

Dividers on Busy Roads

1769. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether accidents are taking place on roads like SP Marg, Willington Crescent in New Delhi which do not have dividers in between;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide dividers on busy roads; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. There have been instances in which accidents took place on road stretches not provided with dividers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Hostels for Working Women

1770. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for setting up hostels and informal education Centres for the working women in Madhya Pradesh during the current Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such hostels and education centres sanctioned and proposed to be sanctioned in the near future in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Seven proposals seeking assistance for construction of hostel buildings for 402 working women and 93 children have been received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh during the current Five Year Plan period. The Scheme of Non-formal Education caters to the target group of children in the age-group of 6-14 years who do not go to schools. The programme is not for working women or construction of hostels for them.

(c) No hostel for working women was sanctioned as the proposals did not meet the schematic norms. Clarification/information sought for from the State Government organisations has not been received. Sanction of new hostels depends upon receipt of proposals recommended by the State Government which meets the schematic norms of the Scheme.

Free Education to Girls

1771. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any comprehensive plan from the Bihar Government seeking financial help for providing free education to the girls of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard and the amount of assistance provided to the State for the purpose?

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 finalisation in the Union Government, the Government of Bihar and sent certain information related to free education for girls in the State. The State Governments would be requested to prepare their proposal in line with the scheme when it is finalized.

[English]

Development of Metro Cities

1772. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assistance for the development of metropolitan cities so far; and

(b) if so, the details of allocation made to each metropolitan cities during each of the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Development of Mega Cities, funds are provided to the five Mega Cities of Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore. The details of allocation made to each of the five cities during the last three years is as under:

Name of the city	Central Share released		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Mumbai	17.73	17.39	19.40
Calcutta	14.89	16.23	16.78
Chennai	12.81	13.78	14.15
Hyderabad	12.22	13.90	15.66
Bangalore	11.25	13.55	13.91

Traffic Jams

1773. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the problem posed by the very large number of "Traffic Jams" that occur in the NCR every day leading to serious respiratory problems both for the commuters and the Traffic Policemen on duty; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to resolve the problem of "traffic jams" and the date when 'Metro Project' (MRTS) is likely to be completed and the persons accountable for the delay beyond the date of completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The sharp increase in the vehicular population in Delhi does present a difficulty in the smooth flow of traffic.

(b) The steps taken to improve traffic conditions and ease traffic congestion in Delhi include, *inter-alia*, widening of roads; construction of flyovers at congestion prone areas; strict enforcement of traffic rules and regulations; creating awareness about road safety measures and traffic regulations; installation of traffic signals, road dividers and

road markings; introduction of Zero Tolerance Zones, etc. In addition, the Traffic Unit of Delhi Police has been recently provided to be strengthened by creation of additional 1255 posts for deployment at traffic points which were hitherto unmanned and in traffic zones for mobile patrolling on open stretches of roads.

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

NISCOM

1774. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Institute of Science Communication (NISCOM) contributing/contributed its two data base to the consortium called Asian Health, Environment and Allied Data-base (AHEAD).

(b) if so, the royalties paid to NISCOM by AHEAD during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether CSIR/NISCOM propose to withdraw/already withdrawn from contributing data to AHEAD; and

(d) 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) Yes, Sir. NISCOM contributed two of its data bases for the CD-Rom project of AHEAD.

(b) The royalties accrued over the period 1995 to 1998 were paid to NISCOM in one installment amounting to Rs. 2.67 lakhs in February, 2000.

(c) and (d) NISCOM has in 1999, withdrawn from the consortium AHEAD for CD-Rom project due to administrative reasons. Now no further activity relating to the project is being carried on at NISCOM.

Training Centres for Women

1775. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposal for setting up of various types of training centres exclusively for women in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the details of other schemes formulated for the upliftment of women in the State?

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

(b) Under Women's Economic Programme (NORAD), 13 project proposals from NGOs have been recommended from Karnataka State Women Development Corporation, Bangalore during the year 1999-2000, requesting financial assistance for setting up of training centres for women.

(c) Discrepancies observed in project proposals have been communicated to the applicant organisations.

(d) With the objective of awareness generation and economic empowerment of women from rural and urban slums, Indra Mahila Yojana (IMY) was launched in 1995 covering ten blocks in Karnataka State.

For the women in need of temporary shelter on account of marital conflicts, maladjustment, temporary accommodation and rehabilitation through training is provided under the scheme of Short Stay Homes (SSH). 15 Short Stay Homes have been sanctioned for Karnataka State.

Committee to Review CSIR

1776. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Committee set up by the Government to review the CSIR under the Chairmanship of Prof. Abid Hussain has submitted its report during December 1986;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made for the systematic and planned career development of all S&T staff; and

(c) the number of scientific (Group IV) in each laboratory/Institute of CSIR including the CSIR belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes registered for Ph.D. on various Universities/Institutes and also whose registration for Ph.D were objected/rejected/pending for appropriate decision during 1990-99, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The review Committee had recommend as follows:

(1) Having two streams of Scientific personnel: (i) normal stream recruited and compensated as per the then prevailing system, and (ii) special stream of contract appointments on 50% higher salary;

(2) Combining of the then merit promotion and assessment promotion schemes;

(3) Setting up a Human Resource Development group for systematic planned career development of all staff;

(4) Setting up of a central training institute for training/ and retraining purposes.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sports Complex in New Delhi

1777. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a Sports Complex at Dwarka in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the total expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Higher Education Policy

1778. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a new higher education policy; and

(b) if so, the details and the objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration of the Government,

at present. Higher Education Policy is part of the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, which was modified in 1992.

Pay Scales of University Teachers

1779. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released funds to the remaining states particularly to Assam for implementation of the scheme of revision of pay scales of University and college teachers and for payment of arrears;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the funds are proposed to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) A statement indicating the amount of grants released to various States during the current financial year for implementation of the Scheme of revision of pay scales of University and College teachers is enclosed. The Schemes submitted by various other State Governments, including that of Assam, are being examined in consultation with the concerned States. The requisite funds for the purpose would be released to the remaining States as soon as the required clarifications on various aspects of the Scheme are furnished by them.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	State	Amount
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80.00
2.	Gujarat	45.00
3.	Karnataka	80.00
4.	Kerala	50.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	70.00
6.	Maharashtra	150.00
7.	Manipur	5.00
8.	Mizoram	2.98

1	2	3
9.	Meghalaya	3.80
10.	Punjab	40.00
11.	Rajasthan	50.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	100.00
13.	Tripura	8.00
14.	Uttar Pradesh	16.00
Total		700.78

Encroachment on CGHS Land

1780. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is any encroachment on Government land allotted to C.G.H.S. Dispensary No. 77 at Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi;

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

(c) the time by which the construction is likely to be started/completed?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Central Public Works Department has reported that there is no encroachment on Government land allotted to C.G.H.S. Dispensary at Mayur Vihar Phase-I, Delhi. However, there are few benches installed by the local residents for seating purpose. The plot is already under watch and ward.

(c) C.G.H.S. has reported that action to construct the Dispensary building is in process and completion is subject to the availability of resources.

[Translation]

DDA Award

1781. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority had made available the original copies of the Award No. 39 of 1982-83 to the residents of New Ashok Nagar (Chilla Saroda Vagar) Delhi-96 as per the Award Book;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) DDA has reported that the Award No. 39 of 1982-83 of village Chilla Saroda Vargar was announced by the Land Acquisition Collector of Government of NCT of Delhi.

[English]

HIV Test Centres

1782. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of HIV confirmatory test centres in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether Medical College, Rohtak have the HIV confirmatory test facility;

(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) A statement indicating number of HIV confirmatory test centres location-wise is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Since 1987.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Voluntary Blood Testing Centres sanctioned in the year 1998-99

1. Andhra Pradesh

- (i) Andhra Medical College, Vishakhapatnam.
- (ii) Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada.
- (iii) Guntur Medical College, Guntur.
- (iv) Siddhastha Medical College, Vijayawada.
- (v) Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad.
- (vi) Gandhi Medical College, Secunderabad.

(vii) Kakatiya Medical College, Warrangal.

(viii) Kumool Medical College, Kumool.

(ix) S.V. Medical College, Tirupati.

2. Assam

(i) Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati.

(ii) Silchar Medical College, Silchar.

(iii) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh.

3. Bihar

(i) Darbhanga Medical College, Leharia Sarai.

(ii) S.K. Medical College, Muzzafarpur.

(iii) Patna Medical College, Patna

(iv) Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi.

(v) M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur.

(vi) Pataliputra Medical College, Dhanbad.

(vii) Medical College, Bhagalpur.

(viii) Magadh Medical College, Gaya.

(ix) Nalanda Medical College, Patna.

4. Delhi

(i) A.I.I.M.S., New Delhi.

(ii) M.A.M.C., New Delhi.

(iii) U.C.M.S., New Delhi.

(iv) Sucheta Kriplani Medical College, Delhi.

5. Goa

(i) Goa Medical College, Panaji.

6. Gujarat

(i) B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.

(ii) Municipal Medical College, Ahmedabad.

(iii) Medical College, Baroda.

(iv) M.P. Shah Medical College, Jamnagar.

(v) Govt. Medical College, Surat.

7. Haryana

(i) Govt. Medical College, Rohtak

8. Himachal Pradesh

(i) I.G.M.C. Shimla.

9. Jammu & Kashmir

(i) Govt. Medical College, Srinagar.

(ii) Govt. Medical College, Jammu.

(iii) Shere-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science, Srinagar.

10. Karnataka

(i) Mysore Medical College, Mysore.

(ii) Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore.

(iii) Karnataka Medical College, Hubli.

(iv) Medical College, Bellary.

(v) Medical College, Mangalore.

11. Kerala

(i) Medical College, Trivandrum.

(ii) T.d. Medical College, Alleppey.

(iii) Medical College, Trichur.

(iv) Medical College, Trichur.

(v) Medical College, Kottayam.

12. Madhya Pradesh

(i) Govt. Medical College, Jabalpur.

(ii) G.R. Medical College, Gwalior.

(iii) M.G.M. Medical College, Indore.

(iv) Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal.

(v) S.S. Medical College, Rewa.

(vi) Pt. J.L.N. Medical College, Raipur.

13. Maharashtra

(i) Grant Medical College, Bombay.

(ii) Seth G.S. Medical College, Bombay.

(iii) T.N. Medical College, Bombay.

(iv) L.T.M. Medical College, Bombay.

(v) B.J. Medical College, Pune.

(vi) A.F.M.C., Pune

(vii) Miraj Medical College, Sholapur.

(viii) Dr. V.M. Medical College, Sholapur.

(ix) Govt. Medical College, Aurangabad.

(x) S.R.T.R. medical College, Ambajogai.

(xi) Medical College, Nagpur.

(xii) Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur.

(xiii) Govt. Medical College, Nanded.

14. Orissa

(i) S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack.

(ii) V.S.S. Medical College, Burla.

(iii) M.K.C.G. Medical College, Berhampur.

15. Pondicherry

(i) J.I.P.M.E.R.

16. Punjab

(i) Medical College, Amritsar.

(ii) Medical College, Patiala.

(iii) Medical College, Faridkot.

17. Rajasthan

(i) S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur.

(ii) S.P. Medical College, Patiala.

(iii) R.N.T. Medical College, Udaipur.

(iv) Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur.

(v) J.L.N. Medical College, Ajmer.

18. Tamil Nadu

(i) Govt. Medical College, Chennai.

(ii) Stanley Medical College, Chennai.

- (iii) Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai.
 (iv) Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Institute.
 (v) Thanjabur Medical College, Thanjabur.
 (vi) Medical College, Coimbatore.
 (vii) Madurai Medical College, Madurai.
 (viii) Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli.
 (ix) Medical College, Chingleput
19. Uttar Pradesh
- (i) S.N. Medical College, Agra.
 (ii) M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad.
 (iii) J.N. Medical College, Aligarh.
 (iv) Institute of Medical Science, BHU, Varanasi.
 (v) G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur.

- (vi) M.I.B. Medical College, Lucknow.
 (vii) K.G. Medical College, Lucknow.
 (viii) B.R.D. Medical College, Gorakhpur.
20. West Bengal
- (i) Govt. Medical College, Calcutta.
 (ii) R.G. Kar Medical College, Calcutta.
 (iii) N.R.S. Medical College, Calcutta.
 (iv) National Medical College, Calcutta.
 (v) B.S. Medical College, Bankura.
 (vi) North Bengal Medical College, Siliguri.
21. Chandighr
- (i) P.G.I. of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh.
22. Manipur
- (i) Regional Medical College, Imphal.

Already Existing Voluntary Blood Testing Centres

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Blood Testing Centre
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Deptt. of Microbiology Osmania College. Hyderabad 2. Deptt. of Microbiology S.V. Medical College Tirupati. 3. Deptt. of Microbiology Andhra Medical College Vishakhapatnam 4. Surveillance Centre Instt. of Prev. Medicine Hyderabad 5. Surveillance Centre Indian Naval Ship Hospital Kalyani Vishakhapatnam
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6. Surveillance Centre Distt. Hospital Itanagar

1	2	3
3.	Assam	7. Deptt. of Microbiology Guwahati Medical College Guwahati
4.	Bihar	8. Rajendra Memorial Research Institute, Patna
5.	Goa	9. Deptt. of Microbiology Goa Medical College Panaji
6.	Gujarat	10. Deptt. of Microbiology B.J. Medical College Ahmedabad
7.	Haryana	11. Deptt. of Microbiology Medical College Rohtak
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12. Deptt. of Microbiology Indira Gandhi Medical College Shimla
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13. Department of Immunopathology Sher-e-Kashmir Instt. of Medical Sciences, Srinagar
		14. Deptt. of Microbiology Govt. Medical College Jammu
10.	Karnataka	15. Deptt. of Microbiology Bangalore Medical College Bangalore
		16. Deptt. of Microbiology Kasturba Medical College Manipal
		17. Surveillance Centre National Institute of Mental & Neurosurgery, Bangalore
11.	Kerala	18. Deptt. of Microbiology Medical College Trivandrum
		19. Surveillance Centre Indian Naval Ship Hospital Cochin

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20. Deptt. of Pathology Gandhi Medical College Bhopal
		21. Regional Medical Research Centre for Tribal Health Jabalpur
		22. Choitram Hospital & Research Centre, Indore
13.	Maharashtra	23. Deptt. of Microbiology Seth G.S. Medical College Mumbai
		24. Deptt. of Microbiology J.J. Hospital Mumbai
		25. Sion Hospital Mumbai
		26. B.Y.N. Nair Hospital Mumbai
		27. Rajabari Hospital Ghatkopar Mumbai
		28. Deptt. of Microbiology B.J. Medical College Pune
		29. Deptt. of Microbiology Govt. Medical College Nagpur
		30. Surveillance Centre Civil Hospital Kolhapur
		31. Surveillance Centre District Hospital Chandrapur.
		32. Deptt. of Microbiology Govt. Medical College Miraj
		33. Surveillance Centre Indian Naval Ship Hospital Ashwini, Mumbai

1	2	3
		34. Deptt. of Microbiology Arméd Forces Medical College Pune
14.	Manipur	35. Surveillance Centre J.N. Hospital Imphal
15.	Meghalaya	36. Surveillance Centre Civil Hospital Shillong
16.	Mizoram	37. Surveillance Centre Civil Hospital Aizwal
17.	Nagaland	38. Surveillance Centre Naga Hospital Kohima
		29. Surveillance Centre District Hospital Dimapur
18.	Orissa	40. Deptt. of Microbiology S.C.B. Medical College Cuttack
		41. Surveillance Centre Regional Medical Research Centre Bhubaneshwar
19.	Punjab	42. Deptt. of Microbiology Govt. Medical College Amritsar
20.	Rajasthan	43. Deptt. of Microbiology S.M.S. Hospital Jaipur
21.	Sikkim	44. Surveillance Centre S.T.N.M. Hospital Gangtok
22.	Tamil Nadu	45. Deptt. of Microbiology Instt. of Child Health & Hospital for Children Madras
		46. Deptt. of Microbiology Madurai Medical College Madurai
		47. Surveillance Centre Medical College, Chennai.

1	2	3
23.	Tripura	48. Surveillance Centre District Hospital Agartala
24.	Uttar Pradesh	49. Deptt. of Microbiology K.G. Medical College Lucknow
		50. Surveillance Centre Central Jalma Instt. for Leprosy Agra
		51. Deptt. of Microbiology Instt. of Medical Sciences Varanasi
		52. Deptt. of Microbiology J.L.N. Medical College Aligarh
		53. Surveillance Centre Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital Allahabad
25.	West Bengal	54. Surveillance Centre National Institute of Hygiene and Public Health Calcutta.
26.	Delhi	55. Deptt. of Microbiology University College of Medical Sciences, Shahdara, Delhi
		56. Deptt. of Microbiology Maulana Azad Medical College New Delhi
		57. Surveillance Centre Armed Forces Command Hospital Delhi Cantt.
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	58. Surveillance Centre G.B. Hospital Port Blair.
28.	Chandigarh	59. Deptt. of Immunopathology P.G.I., Chandigarh.
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	
30.	Daman & Diu	
31.	Lakshadweep	60. Surveillance Centre Govt. Hospital Kavaratti
32.	Pondicherry	61. Surveillance Centre Govt. General Hospital Pondicherry
		62. Deptt. of Microbiology JIPMER Pondicherry

Drug Trafficking in Delhi

1783. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Delhi major hub for drug trafficking' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 24, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by the Government to save Delhi from becoming a hub for international drug trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item in question refers to the latest Annual Report of the International Narcotics Control Board in which it has been, *inter-alia*, observed that Delhi and Mumbai have emerged as the major drug trafficking centres in South Asia and certain parts of India have witnessed a rapid deterioration of the drug abuse situation.

(c) and (d) India continues to be a transit country for trafficking of drugs. The measures taken by the Central Government to put an effective check on drug trafficking in Delhi include maintenance of the utmost vigilance by the enforcement agencies; imparting training to enforcement staff to improve their effectiveness; strict watch on the activities of drug smugglers and peddlers as also on criminals released from jail; creation of a special Narcotics Cell by Customs Department at Indira Gandhi International Airport and creation of a Narcotics Cell in Delhi Police.

[Translation]

Thai Citizens in India

1784. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Thai citizens permanently residing in India;

(b) whether all these Thai citizens have valid visa with them;

(c) if not, the action being taken by the Government against them;

(d) whether there is any agreement between the two Governments to issue double visa;

(e) if not, whether the Thai Government is following the said agreement in letter and spirit; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (f) As per figures available as on 30th June 1999, the details of 1832 Thai nationals staying in India are as follows:

Registered Thai nationals	—	1522
Residing in India on long Term Visa, that is more Than six months		
Overstaying	—	308
Illegally staying	—	2

All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been delegated powers under the different acts governing entry, stay, movement of foreigners, including the powers to detect and deport illegally staying foreigners. Instructions are also being reiterated to them from time to time in this regard. During 1998, 11 Thai nationals, staying in India illegally, were deported.

Thai nationals are eligible for grant of Multiple Entry Visa for visiting India.

[English]

District Planning Committees

1785. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have fully implemented the amendments/provisions made in the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992;

(b) if so, the names of States in which these provisions have not been implemented so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The State Governments have

implemented the various provisions of Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 by enacting necessary conformity legislation. Elections to municipal bodies have been held in all States except Bihar and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The first State Finance Commissions have also been constituted in all States. State governments are in the process to devolving requisite functions and financial powers to urban local bodies to enable them to function in an efficient manner. The Government of India is already pursuing with State Governments for implementation of various provisions of the above Act. Recently, a series of Regional Meet of elected representatives of local bodies and a Conference of Ministers-in-charge of Municipal Administration and Urban Development of States and Union Territories was convened by the Ministry of Urban Development, in which the process of implementation of the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act was also reviewed.

Reducing Poverty

1786. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Biotechnology important tool for reducing poverty' published in 'The Hindu' dated 27.11.99; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Biotechnology is an important field with its impact already well established in agriculture, health, environment and industrial development. It generates tools for poverty eradication and ensuring food, health, ecological and livelihood security of the poor in particular. The Department of Biotechnology has funded several R&D programmes to generate the technology package for societal applications. The aim of this scheme is to provide employment opportunities to the beneficiaries through proven biotechnological tools, generate new knowledge and conduct training and demonstration. The scheme has almost benefitted 20,000 families in rural areas. Other programmes of DBT in agriculture, health and environmental Biotechnology supplement these efforts.

Salaries of School Teachers

1787. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed all the public schools to hike their school fees upto 40% for the purpose of enhancing the salaries of their teachers in accordance with the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether directives issued by the Supreme Court have since been implemented by the Public Schools especially the D.A.V. Public School, Masjid Moth, Kailash Hill, R.K. Puram and others in the area;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the implementation of these directives so that the arrears to the teachers of the public schools could be given at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (e) Education is on the concurrent list and School Education is primarily the concern of State/UT Governments. All the matters relating to School Education including hike in fees are decided by the concerned State/UT Government. The role of Union Government in this field is purely advisory/recommendatory in nature.

Cyclone Resistance Observatory

1788. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to build cyclone resistance observatory in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would consider for building up such observatories in cyclone prone areas in West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) No, Sir, the Government does not have any proposal to build cyclone resistance observatory in Orissa, as resisting or reducing the fury of tropical cyclones is not possible. Such experiments made in other parts of the world in the past have not yielded

any fruitful results. However, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) maintains an adequate network of surface and upper air observatories and 10 Cyclone Detection Radars along the coastline for observation and surveillance of tropical cyclones. With the help of INSAT satellite imagery, the cyclones are monitored even when they are out at sea. IMD has six Cyclone Warning Centres, of which one is located at Bhubaneswar in Orissa, and they provide cyclone warnings for various Government functionaries, other users and the general public.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise, Sir.

Techno Park

1789. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for setting up a Techno Park;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken 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) No Sir. No such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Science and Technology.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise.

Population Policy

1790. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Members of Parliament had appealed to release the final draft of the National Population Policy for discussion before it is placed in the House;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) We are unable to trace any such communication/request as received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(c) The National Population Policy, 2000 has been approved by the Government during 15th February, 2000.

It has been laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 3rd March, 2000.

A notice was issued for placing the National Population Policy in the Rajya Sabha.

Operation Random by Militant Outfits/ISI

1791. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hijacking of IC-814 Indian Airlines Plane was a part of 'Operation Random' planned by several militant outfits and ISI;

(b) if so, the the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have apprised of the ISI plan in advance by several intelligence agencies of foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not taking action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government is not aware that the hijacking of IC-814 Indian Airlines was a part of 'Operation Random' planned by several militant outfits and ISI.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Nehru Yuva Kendras

1792. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

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

(a) the details of projects launched and completed by the Nehru Yuva Kendra during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned and made available during the said period. Kendra-wise, State-wise;

(c) the amount spent by the Kendras during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the details of Schemes, projects and proposals of these Kendras during 1999-2000, Kendra-wise;

(e) the number of Nehru Yuva Kendras functioning in the country, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government propose to increase the allocation for these Kendras for promoting their activities;

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

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) and (f) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Details are given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Kendras
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23
2.	Assam	23
3.	Bihar	50
4.	Gujarat	19
5.	Haryana	16
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	14
8.	Karnataka	20
9.	Kerala	14
10.	Madhya Pradesh	48
11.	Maharashtra	30
12.	Manipur	9
13.	Meghalaya	5
14.	Nagaland	7
15.	Orissa	16
16.	Punjab	14
17.	Rajasthan	30
18.	Sikkim	4
19.	Tamil Nadu	29

1	2	3
20.	Tripura	3
21.	Uttar Pradesh	63
22.	West Bengal	22
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
24.	A&N Islands	6
25.	Chandigarh	1
26.	Delhi	3
27.	Goa	3
28.	Lakshadweep	1
29.	Pondicherry	4
30.	Mizoram	3
31.	D&N Haveli	1
32.	Daman & Diu	2
Total:		500

[English]

Fake Currency

1793. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study regarding induction of fake currency into the economy deliberately by foreign sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether specific responsibility has been given to any enforcement wings to watch, monitor and study the pattern of circulating fake currency in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Available information indicates that fake Indian currency notes are being clandestinely inducted into the country from across the Indo-Pak border and Indo-Nepal border, besides being fabricated in India through a variety of techniques involving the use of printing presses, colour photo-copiers, scanners and colour printers. Government is also aware of the sinister designs of the ISI of Pakistan to destabilise the economy of the country.

(c) and (d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subject as per the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Counterfeiting currency-notes, using as genuine forged or counterfeit currency notes, possession of forged or counterfeit currency notes, making or possessing machinery, instruments or material for forging or counterfeiting currency notes and making or using documents resembling currency notes are all offences under the Indian Penal Code.

The Central Bureau of Investigation has created a Special unit for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes. The Border Security Force has alerted its forward troops to be more vigilant so as to ensure that such currency notes are not smuggled into the country.

The following steps have been taken by the Ministry of Finance to deal with the problem of fake currency:

- (i) A High level Committee has been constituted, with representation from the Department of Economic Affairs, Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Home Affairs/National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS, to go into the entire gamut of issues pertaining to the security dimension of Indian currency.
- (ii) Currency and Coinage Division has set up a six-member Fact Finding Committee under the convenorship of Shri V.R. Gaikwad, Dy. General Manager, RBI, comprising experts on note-printing/currency paper, etc. for examining the fake notes seized in the past in order to enable the Government to take remedial action *vis-a-vis* printing and security features.
- (iii) RBI has been advised to go in for a publicity campaign about security features incorporated in the genuine notes so that the members of the public may distinguish between genuine and fake notes.

Fake Currency

1794. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
DR. SANJAY PASWAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Fake notes were printed at Pak Security Press" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated January 10, 2000;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A UDC in the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu was caught red-handed while trying to exchange a consignment of fake Indian currency notes totalling Rs. 50,000/- (in the denomination of Rs. 500/-) by the Nepalese Police on 3.1.2000. Since he claimed diplomatic immunity, he was detained by the Nepalese Government. On inquiry, the Nepalese Government found that his conduct and activities were not found to be compatible with his official status. He was, therefore, asked to leave Nepal.

Import of Confectionary Items

1795. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the import of confectionery items containing additive called BHA which is not allowed in the country as per the provision of PFAT;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ban additive BHA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per existing provisions, use of BHA *per se* is not allowed in confectionery items, except as a carryover from the permitted flavour where BHA, if used, may not exceed 0.01 percent of the flavour.

Water Supply Schemes

1796. MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE:
SHRI SUKHDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any scheme for water supply for various towns with the external assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of each of the scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Project-wise information available is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

List of on-going Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Projects with External Assistance

Sl. No.	State	Project	Cost (Rs. in Crores)	External Assistance (In million)/ agency	Status/ Remarks
1.	Tamil Nadu	II Chennai water supply and sanitation	5463.12	US\$ 86.5 World Bank	Under Implementation
2.	-do-	Functional Improvement to Water Supply & Sewerage in Chennai	598.66	Yen 17098 JBIC (Japan)	-do-
3.	Karnataka	Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage	1209.60	Yen 28452 JBIC (Japan)	-do-
4.	Kerala	Kerala Water Supply Thiruvananthapuram, Kozikode, Pattuvam, Meenad, Cherthala and Adjoining	901.15	Yen 11997 JBIC (Japan)	-do-

List of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Projects Recommended for External Assistance

Sl. No.	Project	Cost (Rs. in crores)	External Assistance/ Agency	Status/ Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	II Hyderabad Water Supply & Sanitation	1488.40	World Bank	Under consideration
2.	III Madras Water Supply & Environmental Sanitation	1105.19	World Bank	-do-
3.	II Maharashtra Water Supply & Sewerage	891.00	World Bank	Updated project report under scrutiny by the World Bank
4.	Bombay IV Middle Vaitama Water Supply	570.0	World Bank	World Bank has not given any indication to consider the project.

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Project preparation facility for carrying out detailed study on Water Supply and Sewerage Project in Delhi	—	World Bank	World Bank has agreed in principle to give loan of US\$ 2.5 million for project preparation.
6.	Project preparation facility for carrying out detailed study on Water Supply Sewerage & Drainage project in Calcutta.	—	-do-	World Bank has agreed in principle to give loan of US \$ 2.5 million for project preparation.
7.	Water Supply and Sewerage project in Surat	615.715	-do-	World Bank has not given any indication to consider the project
8.	Integrated Water Supply and Sewerage Project for Visakhapatnam	141.00	French	French Govt. has allocated French Francs (FF) 98 million
9.	Improvement of Water Supply and Sewerage for Bangalore	97.34	French	French Govt. has allocated FF 50 million.
10.	Construction of Water Treatment Plant at Chembarambakkam, Tamil Nadu	30.5	French	Under consideration of French Govt.
11.	Improvement of Water Supply Distribution Management in Calcutta	32.05	French	French Govt. has allocated FF 45 million.
12.	Upgradation and augmentation of Kangchup Water Supply in Manipur	21.60	French	French Govt. has allocated FF 31.65 million.
13.	Jaipur Water Supply and Sewerage project	442.40	JBIC (Japan)	Loan for new projects has been frozen by Govt. of Japan.

List of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Projects for External Assistance under Process

Sl. No.	Project	Cost (Rs. in crores)	External Assistance/ Agency	Status/ Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Goa Water Resources Consolidation project	1171.30	—	Comments sent to State Govt. in May 1998 for compliance.
2.	Water Supply Project for Surendranagar, Rajkot Jamnagar and Kuchh districts	1422.90	World Bank	Under scrutiny of Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Org. (CPHEEO).
3.	Water Supply & Sanitation project of Haryana	427.35	Middle East	-do-
4.	Augmentation & Improvement of Water Supply to Greater Jammu	444.60	JBIC Japan	Recommended for inclusion in the pipeline for Japanese assistance which is frozen at present.
5.	Jabalpur Water Supply & Sewerage Project	466.86	-do-	Comments sent to Govt. of MP in July 1998 for compliance.
6.	Water Supply Schemes for 5 towns in Ahmednagar and Pune districts.	161.00	Danida	Comments sent to State Govt. in July, 1997 for compliance.
7.	Water Supply & Sewerage Project for Pune	337.00	Spanish	Under scrutiny of CPHEEO.
8.	Water Supply & Sanitation Project of Nagpur city	1088.88	Middle East	Under Scrutiny of CPHEEO.
9.	Infrastructure Dev. programme of Greater Mumbai	449.70	Spanish	-do-
10.	Urban Water Supply Schemes of 6 towns of Mizoram	84.87	French	Comments sent to State Govt in May, 1999 for compliance.
11.	Water Supply & Sanitation for 15 towns of U.P.	2448.78	World Bank	Recommended to Deptt. of Economic Affairs in Oct., 98 for World Bank assistance. Clearances of Planning Commission & CPHEEO called for.

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Setting up of Water Treatment Plants at Bansberia and Bhatpara in West Bengal	184.89	JBIC Japan	Comments sent to State Govt. Loan from JBIC Japan is frozen at present.
13.	Improvement of Water Supply distribution in Calcutta Wards 101 to 141	8.48	German	Recommended in March, 98 DEA has requested State Govt. to furnish additional information
14.	Urban WS & Sanitation Schemes of Pondicherry	108.00	—	Comments sent to UT Adm'n. in August, 1999 for compliance.

Ratio of Hospitals and Beds

1797. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of hospitals and beds in hospitals are available per million people in Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan separately, State-wise;

(b) the ratio of doctors, nurses available per million people during the said period separately, State-wise; and

(c) the growth rate of Primary Health Centres, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Number of hospitals, number of hospital beds & number of beds of all type alongwith ratio during 1985 to 1995, number of beds, States/Union Territories-wise as on 31.12.1995, number of medical practitioners registered with Medical Council of India alongwith ratio for the whole nation, number of doctors in Government Agencies and average population serviced in different States/Union Territories, ratio of nurses per million during Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan, States/UTs-wise and progress of establishment of Primary Health Centres are given in attached Statement-I to VI.

Statement I

No. of Hospitals, No. of Hospital Beds & No. of Beds All Types alongwith Ratio during 1985 to 1995 (as on 31st December)

Years (As on 31st Dec.)	Number of Hos- pitals	Number of Hospitals per 1000000 population	No. of Hospital Beds		No. of Beds (All Types)	
			Actual	Ratio per 100000 population	Actual	Ratio per 100000 population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1985	7474	10	535735	71	656850	88
1986	8067	10	555264	72	694121	91
1987	9803	12	585889	74	706471	91
1988	10840	13	598059	74	751091	95
1989	11079	13	602490	74	794712	97
1990	11571	13	642103	75	810548	95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1991	11174	13	642103	75	810548	95
1992	13692	16	596203	70	834650	97
1993	14867	17	615156	69	859640	96
1994	15033	17	621250	69	863969	94
1995	15097	16	523819	67	870161	93

Figures are Provisional.

NB: Beds (all types) means beds in Hospitals, Dispensaries, PHC Clinics Sanatoriums etc.

Statement II

Number of Beds (all types) State/UT-wise (as on 31st December 1995)

State/UT	Number of Beds All Types	Reference Period
1	2	3
ALL INDIA	870161	1995
1. Andhra Pradesh	55524	1993
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2256	1991
3. Assam	16000*	1990
4. Bihar	44642	1991
5. Goa	4212	1992
6. Gujarat	78664	1994
7. Haryana	11128	1995
8. Himachal Pradesh	8933	1995
9. Jammu & Kashmir	9000*	1988
10. Karnataka	54783	1995
11. Kerala	87195	1993
12. Madhya Pradesh	26724	1991
13. Maharashtra	126528	1992
14. Manipur	2059	1995

1	2	3
15. Meghalaya	2915	1992
16. Mizoram	1929	1995
17. Nagaland	1549	1991
18. Orissa	16658	1995
19. Punjab	24892	1995
20. Rajasthan	36702	1995
21. Sikkim	875	1995
22. Tamil Nadu	61000*	1998
23. Tripur	2162	1995
24. Uttar Pradesh	74450	1985
25. West Bengal	68117	1995
26. A&N Island	1101	1995
27. Chandigarh	530	1995
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	154 P	1995
29. Daman & Diu	21000	1991
30. Delhi	22838	1994
31. Lakshadweep	110	1995
32. Pondicherry	1211	1991

P : Provisional

* : Rounded to Thousand, Hence Approximate.

Source: Dte. of Health Services of States/UTs.

Statement III

No. of Medical Practitioners registered with Medical Council of India alongwith Ratio

Year	Medical Practitioners Registered with Medical Council of India (00)	Medical Practitioners Per 1,00,000 Population
1	2	3
1951	618	17
1961	837	21
1971	1511	27
1981	2687	39
1982	2715	38
1983	2842	39
1984	2965	40
1985	3082	41

1	2	3
1986	3203	41
1987	3318	42
1988	3556	44
1989	3686	46
1990	3819	46
1991	3940	47
1992	4108	48
1993	3793	44
1994	3912	44
1995	4052	45
1996	3601*	39*

Source: Medical Council of India.

Doctors Registered with various State Medical Councils

* Variation in ratio due to non-availability of figures from some of the State Medical Councils.

Statement IV

Number of Doctors in Govt. Agencies and Average Population Served in different States/UTs - 199;

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Doctors Engaged Under Govt. Agency	Population Served per Govt. Doctor	Period to which Data Relates
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1059	1:61471	31.12.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	233	1:3536	31.12.90
3.	Assam	2660	1:8750	31.12.91
4.	Bihar	NA	*	31.12.1991
5.	Goa	540	1:2186	31.12.91
6.	Gujarat	3645	1:11404	31.12.91
7.	Haryana	NA	1:11705	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	NA	1:5350	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	*	31.12.91
10.	Karnataka	3397	1:13536	31.12.91

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	4163	1:7213	31.12.91
12.	Madhya Pradesh	NA	*	31.12.91
13.	Maharashtra	NA	*	31.12.91
14.	Manipur	684	1:2675	31.12.91
15.	Meghalaya	322	1:5357	31.12.90
16.	Mizoram	146	1:5000	31.12.91
17.	Nagaland	202	1:5403	31.12.89
18.	Orissa	4965	7:6418	31.12.91
19.	Punjab	3462	1:5642	31.12.91
20.	Rajasthan	NA	*	31.12.91
21.	Sikkim	101	1:4297	31.12.89
22.	Tamil Nadu	3189	1:17879	31.12.91
23.	Tripura	673	1:3822	31.12.90
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8630	1:15438	31.12.91
25.	West Bengal	NA	*	31.12.91
26.	A&N Islands	122	1:3448	31.12.91
27.	Chandigarh	864	1:913	31.12.91
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	12	1:11000	31.12.90
29.	Daman & Diu	19	1:5346	31.12.91
30.	Delhi	NA	1:6233	—
31.	Lakshadweep	28	1:1714	31.12.91
32.	Pondicherry	350	1:2174	31.12.91

Note: *Not Available. Ratio has been worked out with the annual estimates of population of the year to which the data relates.
Govt. Agency includes Central/State Govt. Hospital, Public Sector undertaking Hospital etc.
Source : Director General of Health Services.

Statement V

*7th Five Year Plan (As per 1981 Census)
From 1.4.85 to 31.3.90*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Nurses (Upto 1990)	Population	Population per Nurse
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15477	53549673	3460
2.	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura	2270	26607199	11721

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	8883	69914734	7871
4.	Gujarat	24291	34085799	1403
5.	Haryana	3383	12922618	3820
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1524	4280818	2809
7.	Karnataka	23401	37135714	1587
8.	Kerala	22747	25453680	1119
9.	Madhya Pradesh	58199	52178844	897
10.	Maharashta & Goa	38279	63870901	1669
11.	Orissa	15830	26370271	1666
12.	Punjab, Delhi, Chandigarh & J&K	23472	29448320	1255
13.	Rajasthan	9819	34261862	3489
14.	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadara & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep	33655	49345214	1466
15.	Uttar Pradesh	12828	110862013	8642
16.	West Bengal & Sikkim	17172	54897032	3197
		311230	685184692	2202

Source: Nurses Data Available with INC
Ratio of Nurses per million 4542.31

8th Five Year Plan (As per 1991 Census)

from 1.4.92 to 31.3.97

State	No. of Nurses (Upto 1991)	Population	Population per Nurse
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	16688	66508008	3985
Assam, Ar. P., Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura	2270	31547314	13897
Bihar	8883	86374465	9724
Gujarat	24995	41309583	1403
Haryana	3383	16463648	4867
Himachal Pradesh	1524	5170877	3393
Karnataka	23401	44977201	1922
Kerala	22747	29098518	1279

1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh		70771	66181170	935
Maharashtra & Goa		39674	80106980	2019
Orissa		20640	31659736	1534
Punjab, Delhi, Chandigarh & J&K		24751	38063328	1538
Rajasthan		9819	44005990	4482
Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadara & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep		34298	57239162	1669
Uttar Pradesh		13518	139112287	10291
West Bengal & Sikkim		18396	68484422	3723
INDIA		340208	846302689	2485

Source: Nurses Data Available with INC.
Ratio of Nurses per million is 4019.93

*9th Five Year Plan (As per 1991 Census)
From 1.4.97 to 31.3.2000*

S.No.	State	No. of Nurses (Upto 1997)	Population	Population per Nurse
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42659	66508008	1559
2.	Assam, Ar. P., Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura	2270	3154314	13897
3.	Bihar	8883	86374465	9724
4.	Gujarat	68045	41309583	607
5.	Haryana	4344	16463648	3790
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6046	5170877	855
7.	Karnataka	50371	44977201	893
8.	Kerala	24914	29098518	1168
9.	Madhya Pradesh	84932	66181170	779
10.	Maharashtra & Goa	99676	80106980	804
11.	Orissa	30719	31659736	1031
12.	Punjab, Delhi, Chandigarh & J&K	31487	38063328	1209
13.	Rajasthan	22515	44005990	1955
14.	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadara & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep	79881	57239162	717
15.	Uttar Pradesh	15310	139112287	9086
16.	West Bengal & Sikkim	34701	68484422	1974
		606753	846302689	1895

Source: Nurses Data Available with INC
Ratio of Nurses per million is 7169.45

Statement VI**Primary Health Centres - Progress of Establishment - 1.4.1991 to 1.4.1996**

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	No. functioning as on 1.4.85	7th Plan		No. functioning as on 1.4.90	1990-91		No. functioning	
			Target 1985	Achievement		Target	Achievement	as on 1.04.91	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	555	1150	728	1283	80	0	1283	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	28	24	24	3	4	28	
3.	Assam	237	200	212	449	2	43	492	
4.	Bihar	796	1500	1205	2001	232	2209	238	
5.	Goa	13	7	7	20	8	0	20	
6.	Gujarat	310	690	532	842	0	32	876	
7.	Haryana	163	231	203	366	0	28	394	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	106	110	84	190	25	2	192	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	123	200	143	266	50	15	281	
10.	Karnataka	365	774	777	1142	58	55	1197	
11.	Kerala	199	900	709	908	25	0	908	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	680	731	501	1181	120	1	1182	
13.	Maharashtra	1519	261	132	1671	100	1	1372	
14.	Manipur	31	37	33	64	9	0	64	
15.	Meghalaya	32	33	29	61	10	6	67	
16.	Mizoram	19	18	16	35	8	3	38	
17.	Nagaland	21	14	12	33	2	0	33	
18.	Orissa	484	500	391	875	100	0	974	
19.	Punjab	130	330	330	460	52	0	460	
20.	Rajasthan	448	702	600	1048	250	275	3323	
21.	Sikkim	18	2	2	20	1	2	22	
22.	Tamil Nadu	436	1057	950	1386	107	50	1436	
23.	Tripura	32	15	22	54	15	0	54	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1169	2500	1831	3000	169	639	3639	
25.	West Bengal	1772	488	372	1544	50	0	1544	
26.	A&N Islands	6	5	8	14	2	2	16	
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3	3	2	5	0	0	5
29.	Daman & Diu	2	0	0	2	1	2	4
30.	Delhi	8	0	0	8	0	0	8
31.	Lakshadweep	7	0	0	7	0	0	7
32.	Pondicherry	14	6	8	22	2	2	24
Total		9118	12392	9863	18981	1396	1469	20450

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	1991-92		No. functioning as on 1.4.92	8th Plan Targets	1992-93		No. Functioning as on 1.4.93
		Target	Achievement			Target	Achievement	
1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	1283	300	50	0	1283
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4	4	32	15	4	4	36
3.	Assam	50	37	529	245	50	42	571
4.	Bihar	0	0	2209	1078	193	0	2209
5.	Goa	2	1	21	2	0	0	21
6.	Gujarat	0	37	913	82	25	25	936
7.	Haryana	0	0	394	0	0	0	394
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	0	192	67	15	18	210
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	20	14	295	95	25	0	295
10.	Karnataka	50	65	1262	300	50	50	1312
11.	Kerala	80	0	908	72	15	0	908
12.	Madhya Pradesh	290	0	1182	620	41	0	1182
13.	Maharashtra	0	3	1675	100	10	5	1680
14.	Manipur	2	2	66	8	2	1	67
15.	Meghalaya	6	4	71	26	5	8	79
16.	Mizoram	3	0	38	8	2	0	38
17.	Nagaland	2	0	33	20	5	0	33
18.	Orissa	40	22	996	170	35	12	1008
19.	Punjab	0	12	472	44	12	12	484
20.	Rajasthan	50	50	1373	200	40	40	2413

1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21.	Sikkim	1	1	23	1	0	0	23
22.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	1436	0	0	0	1436
23.	Tripura	0	1	55	0	10	7	62
24.	Uttar Pradesh	154	13	3652	65	65	85	3737
25.	West Bengal	20	0	1544	100	100	3	1546
26.	A&N Islands	1	1	17	1	1	0	17
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	5	1	1	0	5
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
30.	Delhi	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
32.	Pondicherry	3	2	26	2	2	0	26
Total		1021	269	20719	4450	759	311	21030

*[Translation]***Barauni Fertilizer Plant**

1798. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Barauni Fertilizer Factory is in danger due to caused erosion by the river Ganges;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate essential programmes for the protection of this factory;

(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) to (d) No, Sir. The plant is at some distance from the river Ganges and is well protected by a Bundh constructed by the Government of Bihar.

*[English]***Reorganisation of States**

1799. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision for the creation of new states recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to set up a commission for the delimitation and reconstitution of States;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the additional expenditure to be incurred every year due to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The

Government is committed to the creation of new States of Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Vananchal.

(c) and (d) No such Commission is proposed to be constituted. The Government is not contemplating any general reorganisation of States.

(e) The creation of new States would involve some additional expenditure. However, it is difficult to assess its annual impact at present.

Higher Education in Remote Areas

1800. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to extend the High School education in the remote areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Government of India have no specific scheme to extend the high school education specifically in the remote areas. However, a scheme was started in 1985-86 to establish, on an average, one Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district in the country with the objective of providing good quality modern education to all talented children in rural areas. Navodaya Vidyalayas are fully residential, co-educational institutions providing education upto Senior Secondary stage. Education in these schools including boarding and lodging, text-books, uniforms etc. is free for all students 410 schools covering as many districts in 30 States and UTs has so far been opened with about 1.21 lakh students on rolls.

[*Translation*]

Private Hospitals

1801. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is obligatory for private hospitals to keep 40 to 50 beds free of charge for poor patients;

(b) whether most of the private hospitals are not observing this norm; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken against them?

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

SHANMUGAM): (a) Private hospitals which availed themselves of Custom Duty Exemption under notification No. 64/88-Cus., dated 1.3.88 on import of medical equipments are liable to provide at least 40% free treatment for OPD patients and free treatment to all Indoor patients belonging to families with income less than Rs. 500/- per month and reserve 10% of Indoor beds for such patients.

(b) and (c) Institutions which availed themselves of benefits for Custom Duty Exemption under the said notification are being reviewed strictly in terms of judgement given by Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal No. 16735 of 1996 delivered on 17.12.96 and the custom duty exemption certificates are withdrawn from the Institutions not fulfilling the stipulated conditions.

[*English*]

Development of North-Eastern States

1802. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:
SHRI K.A. SANGTAM:
SHRI TARUN GOGOI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister have announced a package for the development of North-Eastern States during his recent visit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of projects undertaken and the allocation made for these projects;

(d) the financial allocation made for creating the employment opportunities for youths in the North-Eastern States during the last three years; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check militant activities in North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) On 22nd January, 2000, the Prime Minister announced a Rs. 10,271 crore agenda for the development of North East and Sikkim. Copy of announcement is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Steps taken by the Government to combat militancy in the North East include, *inter alia*, deployment

of Central Para Military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence between the security forces; modernisation/upgradation of State Police Forces, reimbursement of security related expenditure; sanction of Special Central Assistance to the State Governments; declaration of the most seriously affected areas as 'disturbed areas' and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations'. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action.

Statement

Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee's Rs. 10,271-Crore Agenda for Socio-Economic Development in the North-East & Sikkim

Shillong, January 22, 2000

After listening to the points made by Governors and Chief Ministers of the North-East States and Sikkim, the Prime Minister has decided upon the following initiatives for the social and economic development of the North-East region and Sikkim:

1. Banking:

- (a) A sum of Rs. 500 crores will be provided for rural infrastructure development every year from the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).
- (b) Banking facilities will be provided at all border trading points within one year.
- (c) A sum of at least Rs. 50 crores will be disbursed per annum by North-East Development and Finance Corporation (NEDFI).

2. Commerce:

- (a) An Export Development Fund (EDF) for the North-East region will be set-up with an initial corpus of Rs. 5 crores. The Ministry of Commerce will work out the facilities for operation of this fund.
- (b) The border townships of Morch (Manipur), Zokhawther (Mizoram), Dawki (Meghalaya) and Suterkhandi (Assam) will be developed over the next 2 years at a cost of Rs. 20 crores.

3. Border Trade:

An Empowered Committee will be set up to process the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Border Trade.

4. Health:

North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences in Shillong will be upgraded and made a national institute. The upgraded institute will offer studies in 8 medical super specialities, 5 surgical super specialities and 10 non-clinical specialities. The institute shall have a 500-bed referral hospital. A sum of Rs. 422.60 crores will be spent on upgrading these facilities.

5. Education:

- (a) A Central University will be set up in Mizoram. The Bill for this purpose has been phased by the Rajya Sabha and will be taken up by the Lok Sabha soon. A sum of Rs. 25 crores will be spent for development of infrastructure for this new university which meets a long-standing demand of the people of Mizoram.
- (b) Government has decided to double the number of Industrial Training Institutes for imparting training in new trades over the next 3 years. This will involve an outlay of Rs. 100 crores.

6. Security Related Expenditure:

The Union Government will further expand the list of items of expenditure incurred by the police, eligible for reimbursement, which would include 50% of POL (petrol, oil and lubricants) costs, village guards, village defence committees and home guards (subject to guidelines). The SRE reimbursement facility will be extended to Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. The Modernisation of Police Force Scheme (in kind) will be extended to Sikkim. The total additional reimbursement would be Rs. 40 crores per annum.

7. Peace Bonus for Mizoram:

Mizoram is the most peaceful State in the North-East today. With a view to encourage the people of Mizoram who have opted for peaceful economic development, Government has accepted the recommendation of the Committee set up by the Finance Ministry and allotted Rs. 180 crores to Mizoram to tide over its financial problems. Government will also release Rs. 50 crores every year from the non lapsable pool and resources for 5 years for specific infrastructure development projects in Mizoram.

8. New India Reserve Battalion (IRB):

Government will also sanction 3 India Reserve Battalions — One each for Tripura, Mizoram and Manipur.

With an estimated expenditure of Rs. 15 crores every year for 3 years, the setting up of these 3 IRBs will cost Rs. 45 crores.

9. Border Fencing and Border Roads:

It has been decided to fence the remaining portion of Indo-Bangladesh border and construct border roads with a total outlay of Rs. 1,335 crores. The work on this would commence in April 2000.

10. Central Non-Lapsable Pool of Resources:

The Government has streamlined the procedure for selection of projects which are to be funded out of the Central non-lapsable pool of resources. It is expected that projects worth Rs. 500 crores will be sanctioned annually to build up infrastructure and take up other economic development projects.

11. Power:

The Government has accorded approval to 2 hydro-electric projects in the Central Sector:

- (a) Loktak Downstream (90 MW) in Manipur at the cost of Rs. 578 crores.
- (b) Teesta V (510 MW) in Sikkim at the cost of Rs. 2,200 crores.

Action has been initiated to ensure that Subansiri Lower Side (660 MW) project in Arunachal Pradesh commences in 2001. This will require investment of Rs. 3,000 crores.

Ministry of Power has prepared a new scheme for rural electrification of 500 tribal villages to be funded by Rural Electrification Corporation. The scheme will cost Rs. 30 crores.

Assistance will be provided for completing the ongoing critical transmission/sub-critical transmission systems at a cost of Rs. 239.92 crores.

12. Civil Aviation Policy:

In order to provide inexpensive air travel in this region, Government has decided:

- (a) Aviation Turbine Fuel will be provided to small aircrafts at international prices.

- (b) Aviation Turbine Fuel for small aircrafts will be treated as a "declared good"-i.e. it will attract a sales tax of not more than 4%.

- (c) There will be no IATT for routes operated in the North East.

13. Roads Sector:

- (a) Government will soon sanction 8 road/bridge projects under NEC with a total outlay of Rs. 258.24 crore.

- (b) Twelve new National Highways/extension of existing highways have been declared, covering a total length of 1,962 km. A sum of Rs. 100 crores will be earmarked for the development of these highways.

14. Information Technology:

To promote Information Technology and its application, an ambitious programme has been drawn up to establish computer information centres in all 446 blocks in the 7 North-East States. Another 40 such centres will be set-up in Sikkim. This project will be implemented in the next 2 years at a cost of Rs. 100 crores.

15. Excise Concession:

Excise concession in the New Industrial Policy shall be made applicable to the Numaligarh Refinery in Assam. This would involve an annual concession of around Rs. 200 crores.

16. Flood Control:

- (a) The Government has decided to reform the Brahmaputra Board to make its functioning more effective for implementation of flood management schemes.

17. Horticulture:

A Technology Mission for Horticulture will be sanctioned during the current financial year. The total outlay for this mission is Rs. 262.50 crores over the next three years.

18. Development of Bodo Areas:

The special programme scheme for development of infrastructure and other facilities in the Bodo Autonomous Council Areas will be sanctioned with a total outlay of Rs. 30 crores per annum for 3 years.

Medicines under CGHS Store

1803. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various general restricted medicines/special restricted medicines of CGHS formulary are often brought under the category of slow moving stocks and are temporarily converted to general category from time to time; and

(b) if so, the names of medicines, which were brought under the slow moving stocks and were converted to general category by the CGHS Medical Store, New Delhi during the last three years, year-wise?

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

(b) The information is given in the the Statement attached.

Statement

The names of the medicines are as under:

1997

Code	Name of the item	Category
1	2	3
1016	Cap. Raricap HT	GR
1016	Cap. Kemiron-12	GR
1027-D	Cap. Vitabect	GR
1130	Tab. Monoferon-12	GR
1131	Cap. Calphos	GR
1136	Cap. Swissplex	GR
3058	Syp. Calphos	GR
2052	Inj. Anaforfen 3 ml. Ampl	GR
3042	Syp. Enpizyme 200 ml	GR
2013	Inj. Daizepam 10 mg/2 ml Ampl	GR
1998		
1019	Cap. Vit. A 50000 IU	GR
1026	Syp. Monotrim 100 ml	GR
2140	Mazoline Vaginal Tab.	GR

1	2	3
2144	Inj. Xylocaine Sol. 2% 30 ml	GR
2154	Ointment Eudyna 1%	GR
2159	Ointment Beclosal 15 gr	GR
2160	Permethrin 5% Cream 30 gm	GR
3037	Eml. Benzyl Benzoite 25% 500 ml	GR
3047	Syp. Sod Volproate 100 ml.	SPR
4210 (B)	Tab. Niriendipin 20 mg	SPR

Population Control

1804. SHRI BASANGOUDA R. (YATNAL) PATIL:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IMA initiates steps for population control, reproductive health" appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated February 14, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the details of projects undertaken under the National Population Control Programme by the Government during the last three years; and

(e) the extent to which success has been achieved under each of the said project, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) The Government is aware of the news item under caption "IMA initiates steps for population control, reproductive health" which appeared in 'The Hindustan Time' dated 14th February, 2000.

During the last three years, the population stabilisation programme has been substantially revamped and strengthened. A major development has been the adoption of the comprehensive, integrated and holistic programme of reproductive and child health, since October, 1997 which amalgamates all earlier initiatives like the maternal and child health, the universal immunisation programme, and the child survival and safe motherhood.

The RCH programme bridges gaps in earlier programmes by focussing on neglected geographical sectors. For instance, it brings in area projects for the poorly performing states and districts, and integrated projects for remote/border districts. Similarly, it focusses on segments of the population earlier overlooked such as the urban slums, adolescent health and even on men as partners in planned parenthood. A coordinated training schedule is underway in every state through 16 collaborating training institutions, to sensitise the health care personnel at different levels. Information, education and communication campaigns have generated universal awareness about the significant benefits from fewer children, better spacing, better health and nutrition and better education.

As a result of all of the above, the achievements of the Family Welfare programme have been quite

substantial. Some States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa have already achieved the 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.

As a result of various programmes, Crude Birth Rate has reduced from 40.8 in 1951 to 26.4 in 1998, IMR has reduced from 146 in 1951 to 72 in 1998, Couple Protection Rate has increased from 10.4% in 1971 to 44% in 1999, Crude Death Rate has reduced from 25 in 1951 to 9.0 in 1998 and Total Fertility Rate has reduced from 6 in 1951 to 3.3 in 1997.

A statement showing the State/UT-wise demographic indicators is enclosed.

Statement

Demographic Indicators

Sl. No.	State/UT	Literacy Rate % Female (7 yrs. & above) 1991	C.B.R. (Crude Birth Rate) 1998*	Natural Increase (CBR- CDR) 1998*	I.M.R. (Infant Mortality Rate) 1998*	T.F.R. (Total Fertility Rate) 1997*	CPR (In %) 31.3.99 (Prov.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	INDIA	39.3*	25.4	17.4	72	3.3	44.0
I.	Major States						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.72	22.3	13.5	66	2.5	50.3
2.	Assam	43.03	27.7	17.6	78	3.2	16.7
3.	Bihar	22.89	31.1	21.7	67	4.4	19.7
4.	Gujarat	48.64	25.3	17.5	64	3.0	54.5
5.	Haryana	40.47	27.6	19.5	69	3.4	49.7
6.	Karnataka	44.34	22.0	14.1	58	2.5	55.4
7.	Kerala	86.17	18.2	11.8	16	1.8	40.5
8.	Madhya Pradesh	28.85	30.6	19.4	97	4.0	46.5
9.	Maharashtra	52.32	22.3	14.7	49	2.7	50.1
10.	Orissa	34.68	25.7	14.8	98	3.0	39.0
11.	Punjab	50.41	22.4	14.7	54	2.7	66.0
12.	Rajasthan	20.44	31.5	22.7	83	4.2	36.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Tamil Nadu	51.33	18.9	10.5	53.	2.0	50.4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	25.31	32.4	21.9	85	4.8	38.2
15.	West Bengal	46.56	21.3	13.8	53	2.6	32.9
II. Smaller States							
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	29.69	21.9	16.0	47	2.8	14.0
2.	Delhi	66.99	19.4	14.1	33	1.6	28.8
3.	Goa	67.09	14.2	6.1	26	1.0	27.1
4.	Himachal Pradesh	52.13	22.5	14.8	68	2.5	48.2
5.	J&K	NA	19.8	14.4	45	NA	15.0
6.	Manipur	47.60	19.0	13.7	21	2.4	20.1
7.	Meghalaya	44.85	29.2	20.2	53	4.0	4.6
8.	Mizoram	78.60	15.8	10.2	25	NA	34.6
9.	Nagaland	54.75	NA	NA	NA	1.5	7.8
10.	Sikkim	46.69	20.9	14.8	51	2.5	21.9
11.	Tripura	49.65	17.6	11.5	47	3.9	25.2
III. Union Territories							
1.	A&N Islands	65.46	17.7	13.1	28	1.9	39.9
2.	Chandigarh	72.34	17.9	13.8	20	2.1	38.0
3.	D&N Haveli	26.98	34.1	26.4	63	3.5	29.1
4.	Daman & Diu	59.40	21.5	14.5	54	2.5	30.2
5.	Lakshadweep	72.89	22.9	16.7	37	2.8	9.1
6.	Pondicherry	65.63	18.0	10.2	26	1.8	56.9

*Provisional

[Translation]

Profit of Fertilizer Plants

1805. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

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

(a) the details of growth in profit of fertilizer plants during the last three year, year-wise;

(b) whether there has been any downfall in the profit during this period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring all round improvement in the functioning of fertilizer industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) to (c) The details of the profit/loss made by the public sector undertakings/cooperatives under the administrative

control of this Department and the reasons therefor are given below:

(Rs./crore)

Name of the PSU	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Main reasons for Losses
1	2	3	4	5
Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.	-538.00	-735.69	-838.29	Technological, design and equipment deficiencies, frequent equipment breakdowns, feedstock limitations, power shortages, industrial relations problems, and surplus manpower and resource constraints.
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.	-532.64	-647.83	-514.49	As above.
Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.	-60.63	-105.53	-57.95	Depreciation of rupee leading to higher cost of inputs, delay in disbursement of concession, low capacity utilisation of acid plants leading to higher imports of phosphoric acid, and inventory carrying cost on heavy build up of stocks.
Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	12.10	-55.35	-25.74	(a) Lower production due to extended shutdown of plants for revamp hook-up & longer period of stabilisation. (b) Under recovery in respect of complex fertilizer due to increase in prices of inputs and depreciation of the rupee. (c) Delay in disbursement of ad hoc concession.
Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd.	-8.28	-53.40	-87.49	Decontrol of SSP and delays in disbursement of concession, intrinsic cost disadvantage of pyrites based sulphuric acid production, increase in operating costs of pyrites mining at Amjhore, rising costs of deep underground mining at Mussoorie and increased transportation costs.
Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	61.78	53.94	-48.26	Interest burden on Government loan used for capital investment in the Ammonia Replacement Project, depressed market condition of caprolactam due to downturn in the international price, unremunerative prices of complex/mix fertilizers.

1	2	3	4	5
Projects & Development India Ltd.	31.82	6.09	-15.85	Low level of orders for catalysts and lack of job orders as the new projects envisaged at the time of formulation of the revival package got delayed.
National Fertilizers Ltd.	11.20	189.01	41.15	—
Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.	76.88	189.37	105.64	—
Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd.	166.41	438.85	345.78	—
Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd.	229.38	299.61	261.13	—

(d) The following incentives are available to bring all round improvement and encourage investment in the fertilizer industry:

- (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.

[English]

Medical Colleges

1806. DR. BALI RAM:
SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to start Medical Colleges at District Head Quarters in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any criteria has been fixed for starting such Medical Colleges;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of Medical Colleges at present and their input and output of students during the last three years, State-wise; and

(f) the number of Indian doctors are at present working/practising outside India, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) In the Establishment of Medical College Regulation, 1999 of the Medical Council of India, dated 30th July, 1999, notified in the Part III Section 4 of the Gazette of India on 28.8.1999 the detailed qualifying criteria has been prescribed.

(e) At present 169 medical colleges are functioning in the country. The State-wise intake of these colleges is given in the enclosed Statement. The State-wise information of students passing out from these colleges is not available. However, about 17000 medical Graduate are passing out annually from these colleges.

(f) The number of Doctors in whose cases NOCs have been issued for going abroad for higher studies/training/residency during last three years is as under:

1997	—	1583
1998	—	1688
1999	—	1589

The exact number of Indian doctors at present working/practising outside India, country-wise is however, not available.

Statement

Name of State	Nos. of Medical Colleges			Admission Capacity		
	Govt.	Private	Total	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1. Andhra Pradesh	9	4	13	1401	1501	1601
2. Assam	3	—	03	391	391	391
3. Bihar	8	3	11	577	577	577
4. Chandigarh	1	—	01	50	50	50
5. Delhi	4	—	04	460	460	460
6. Goa	1	—	01	70	70	70
7. Gujarat	7	1	08	1065	1065	1065
8. Haryana	1	—	01	115	115	115
9. Himachal Pradesh	2	—	02	65	115	115
10. Jammu & Kashmir	2	2	04	380	380	380
11. Karnataka	4	19	23	2530	2830	2930
12. Kerala	6	—	06	800	800	800
13. Madhya Pradesh	6	—	06	720	720	720
14. Maharashtra	16	18	34	3502	3502	3502
15. Manipur	1	—	01	85	85	100
16. Orissa	3	—	03	321	321	321
17. Pondicherry	1	1	02	175	175	175
18. Punjab	3	3	06	520	520	520
19. Rajasthan	6	—	06	597	597	597
20. Tamil Nadu	11	5	16	1775	1775	1775
21. Uttar Pradesh	9	2	11	1162	1162	1162
22. West Bengal	7	—	07	700	700	700
Total			169	17461	17911	18126

*[Translation]***Infiltration**

1807. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of infiltration reported alongwith the number of infiltrators apprehended during the last six months across the Indo-Pak border;

(b) whether more than 5000 infiltrators have already entered into the Indian territory as per the reports received from the Jammu and Kashmir State;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether necessity to strengthen the border security to check the illegal infiltration across the border is being felt;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate a plan to check intrusion and to deploy the ex-servicemen on the border;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the objective behind this plan is to compel Pakistan to leave anti-India policy on Kashmir; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) During the last six months, 163 infiltrators have been apprehended by the security forces on the Indo-Pak International border.

(b) and (c) As per estimates of the security agencies, a good number of infiltrators including foreign mercenaries have infiltrated into Jammu & Kashmir during 1999.

(d) to (h) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach, comprising of additional deployment of Security Forces, setting up of Border Observation Posts, erection of fencing/flood lighting in vulnerable areas, improved weaponry and equipment for security forces, gearing up of intelligency machinery etc. for greater vigilance along the International Border/Line of Control to check infiltration and other subversive activities. Proactive action against the militants in the hinterland have also been undertaken with a view to defeat Pakistan sponsored terrorism in J&K and rest of the country.

AIDS Patients

1808. DR. ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI:
SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI VIJAY GOEL:
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER:

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

(a) whether AIDS menace is increasing continuously in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of persons suffering from AIDS at present, State-wise;

(d) the States in which AIDS patients are maximum in the country;

(e) the budgetary allocation made to treat these patients during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(f) the number of people died due to AIDS during the last three years, State-wise;

(g) the specific schemes of the Government to check the menace of AIDS in the country; and

(h) the details of projects implemented to control AIDS in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In spite of effective preventive intervention programmes the number of AIDS cases are increasing because of behavioural disease with long asymptomatic period and without any cure which can eliminate the virus from the body of infected person.

(c) The number of persons suffering from AIDS as reported upto 31st January, 2000 is 10123. State-wise break up is given in attached Statement-I.

(d) The three States where AIDS cases have been reported maximum are Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Manipur.

(e) State-wise budgetary allocation for the last three years (including current year) is given an attached Statement-II. This includes care and support to AIDS cases.

(f) A statement-III indicating state-wise number of deaths due to AIDS during the last three years, is attached.

(g) and (h) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, comprehensive Programme is currently under implementation throughout the country (including West Bengal) as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main components consist of:-

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counseling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counseling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections home and community based care.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.
- Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sectors.

Statement I

National Aids control programme, India Aids cases in India (reported to NACO) (As 31st Januai 2000)

S. No.	Name	AIDS Cases
1	2	3
1.	Andhrā Pradesh	48
2.	Assam	33
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4.	A & N Islands	0
5.	Bihar	3
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	137
7.	Delhi	219
8.	Daman & Diu	1
9.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
10.	Goa	19
11.	Gujarat	137
12.	Haryana	1
13.	Himachal Pradesh	25
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
15.	Karnataka	234

1	2	3
16.	Kerala	106
17.	Lakshadweep	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	354
19.	Maharashtra	3379
20.	Orissa	12
21.	Nagaland	29
22.	Manipur	446
23.	Mizoram	12
24.	Meghalaya	8
25.	Pondicheery	141
26.	Punjab	100
27.	Rajasthan	106
28.	Sikkim	2
29.	Tamilnadu	4354
30.	Tripura	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	168
32.	West Bengal	57
Total		10123

Statement II

National AIDS Control Programme

Sl.No.	State/UT	1996-97 Released	1997-98 Released	1998-99 Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	425.00	425.00	650.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.00	25.00	30.00
3.	Assam	100.00	100.00	100.00
4.	Bihar	25.00	50.00	110.00
5.	Goa	25.00	50.00	35.00
6.	Gujarat	300.00	250.00	230.00
7.	Haryana	130.00	75.00	160.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	115.00	225.00	115.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.00	25.00	25.00

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Karnataka	350.00	175.00	335.00
11.	Kerala	225.00	100.00	65.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	425.00	150.00	315.00
13.	Maharashtra	900.00	950.00	800.00
14.	Manipur	200.00	150.00	245.00
15.	Meghalaya	35.00	25.00	30.00
16.	Mizoram	150.00	100.00	100.00
17.	Nagaland	190.00	155.00	227.00
18.	Orissa	50.00	75.00	100.00
19.	Punjab	225.00	75.00	150.00
20.	Rajasthan	375.00	225.00	100.00
21.	Sikkim	50.00	50.00	50.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00	2000.00	800.00
23.	Tripura	50.00	50.00	20.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	450.00	495.00	200.00
25.	West Bengal	600.00	100.00	350.00
26.	Pondicherry	7.00	0.00	40.00
27.	A&N Islands	45.91	31.09	20.00
28.	Chandigarh	46.93	28.00	60.00
29.	D&N Haveli	17.00	16.00	—
30.	Daman & Diu	19.00	24.22	15.00
31.	Delhi	400.00	25.00	110.00
32.	Lakshhadweep	16.71	15.42	—
33.	MDACS, Mumbai	—	—	350.00
34.	Ahmedabad MC	—	—	5.00
35.	Chennai MC	—	—	—
Total:		7752.55	6239.73	5942.00

National AIDS Control Programme Release of Funds during 1999-2000

S.No.	Name of State	Approved Plan 1999-2000	Amount Released				Total
			I. Instal.	II Instal.	III Instal.	IV Instal.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1558.05	500.00	450.00	19.67	250.00	1219.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	381.23	25.00	134.00	—	—	159.00
3.	Assam	448.66	50.00	272.00	—	—	322.00
4.	Bihar	288.96	55.00	—	—	—	55.00
5.	Goa	196.68	25.00	23.00	—	50.00	98.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Gujarat	968.20	120.00	326.00	—	275.00	721.00
7.	Haryana	417.47	70.00	—	—	200.00	270.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	395.58	60.00	178.00	—	—	238.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	356.29	25.00	—	—	—	25.00
10.	Karnataka	1067.70	160.00	222.00	19.67	400.00	801.67
11.	Kerala	458.44	30.00	250.00	—	—	280.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	714.62	150.00	202.31	—	—	352.31
13.	Maharashtra	1695.57	400.00	300.00	98.35	200.00	998.35
14.	Manipur	470.50	100.00	232.71	19.67	—	352.38
15.	Meghalaya	235.58	25.00	45.14	—	—	70.14
16.	Mizoram	196.70	50.00	68.00	—	25.00	143.00
17.	Nagaland	380.78	100.00	210.00	—	—	310.00
18.	Orissa	470.73	50.00	150.00	—	—	200.00
19.	Punjab	400.72	75.00	162.39	—	—	237.00
20.	Rajasthan	646.63	50.00	100.00	—	—	150.00
21.	Sikkim	123.84	25.00	—	—	—	25.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1571.99	400.00	270.00	59.01	—	729.01
23.	Tripura	115.50	25.00	—	—	25.00	50.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1010.91	100.00	451.00	—	250.00	801.00
25.	West Bengal	724.97	175.00	150.00	—	—	325.00
26.	NCT Delhi	638.84	50.00	233.00	—	—	283.00
27.	Pondicherry	126.87	25.00	—	—	—	25.00
28.	A&N Islands	102.82	25.00	25.00	—	—	50.00
29.	Chandigarh	185.15	30.00	60.00	—	—	90.00
30.	D&N Haveli	14.95	25.00	—	—	—	25.00
31.	Daman & Diu	93.40	25.00	20.00	—	50.00	95.00
32.	Lakshhadweep	32.32	25.00	—	—	—	25.00
33.	MDACS, Mumbai	840.38	150.00	420.00	—	—	570.00
34.	Ahmedabad MC	160.05	25.00	50.00	—	—	75.00
35.	Chennai MC	216.22	25.00	—	—	100.00	125.00
Total:		17707.30	3250.00	504.55	216.37	1825.00	10295.92

Statement III*Death due to HIV/AIDS*

State/UT	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	—	6	—
2. Assam	—	1	—
3. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—

1	2	3	4
4. Andaman & Nicóbar Islands	—	—	—
5. Bihar	—	—	—
6. Chandigarh	—	12	5
7. Punjab	—	—	—
8. Delhi	5	4	—
9. Daman & Diu	—	—	—
10. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
11. Goa	3	1	2
12. Gujarat	—	4	—
13. Haryana	—	—	—
14. Himachal Pradesh	1	—	—
15. Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
16. Karnataka	29	34	6
17. Kerala	13	4	—
18. Lakshadweep	—	—	—
19. Madhya Pradesh	4	12	9
20. Maharashtra	110	82	13
21. Manipur	71	—	4
22. Mizoram	—	—	—
23. Meghalaya	—	—	—
24. Nagaland	7	—	2
25. Orissa	2	—	—
26. Pondicherry	18	4	1
27. Rajasthan	—	1	—
28. Sikkim	—	—	—
29. Tamil Nadu	—	18	71
30. Tripura	—	—	—
31. Uttar Pradesh	24	—	1
32. West Bengal	—	2	—
Total	287	217	114

[English]

Production of Bulk Drugs

1809. SHRI P.D. ELANGOAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any new plans to increase the production of Bulk drugs to meet the domestic demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the production, demand and supply of these drugs in the country;

(d) whether these drugs are also imported;

(e) if so, the details thereof in this regard;

(f) whether the Government monitor the quality and quantity of the bulk drugs produced in the small scale industries; and

(g) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) The drug policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring abundant availability of drugs at reasonable prices. Import policy allows import of almost all drugs, except a few covered under the negative (Restricted) list of imports, to ensure availability of needed drugs.

(f) and (g) Small Scale units are exempted from the licensing provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. However, they are required to register their production activity with the Directorate of Industries of the concerned State/Union Territory. Under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder, the enforcement of quality control of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals is regulated by the respective States.

South-East Asia Studies

1810. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open a Department of South-East Asia Studies in one of the Central Universities of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present with the Government (Department of Education) to open a Department of South-East Asia studies in the Central Universities of Assam.

Emergency Services in E.N.T. Department

1811. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether AIIMS/Safdarjung Hospital are not providing Emergency treatment to children in E.N.T. Department;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; 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) to (c) In AIIMS the facility of examining ENT cases are available in D-4 ENT Ward. Emergency patients including children are examined in this ward and provided immediate treatment. Thereafter, for definite and curative treatment every patient is advised to attend the regular OPD for further investigation and treatment. Those requiring detailed investigation/emergency ear operation are admitted and provided indoor treatment. In Safdarjung Hospital, emergency treatment facilities for children are available round-the-clock.

[Translation]

Funds for Ocean Development

1812. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated by the Government for ocean development projects during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government are aware of any irregularities and misappropriation of the funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The funds allocated under both Plan & Non-Plan Programmes of the Department of Ocean Development for the past three years and the current year are as under:

(in crore rupees)

	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE
Plan	52.00	45.00	88.10	85.00	88.00	88.00	90.00	86.00
Non-Plan	14.83	19.38	17.85	17.11	19.50	19.41	20.88	20.67
Total	66.83	64.38	105.95	102.11	107.50	107.41	110.88	106.67

- (b) No, Sir.
 (c) to (f) Do not arise.

Agriculture Information Centre

1813. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Agriculture Information Centre in order to provide weather related information to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether setting up of such an Agriculture Information Centre is planned in the Aurangabad district of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the time likely to be taken 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) No Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise Sir.

However, providing weather related information to farmers is taken care of by India Meteorological Department (IMD) through biweekly Agrometeorological Advisory Service (AAS) Bulletins and the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) under Department of Science and Technology through Agromet Advisory Service Units.

(c) No, Sir.

However, Aurangabad district of Maharashtra is covered by the existing services provided by IMD and NCMRWF.

(d) In view of (a), (b) and (c) above, does not arise, Sir.

[English]

Exploitation of Marine Wealth

1814. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to exploit marine wealth;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the budgetary provisions made/being made for this purpose; and

(c) the details of schemes/products likely to be extracted?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN

DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The schemes implemented by the Government for exploiting the Marine Wealth include the following:

Development of Marine Fisheries - a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the Ministry of Agriculture with a budgetary provision of Rs. 16 crore during the 1999-2000. The sub-components of the project include Motorisation of Traditional Craft and reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel Oil.

Development of Drugs from Sea, A National Research and Development under the Department of ocean Development with the budgetary provision of Rs. 1.6 crore during 1999-2000.

Polymetallic Nodules Programme—a programme of the Department of Ocean Development with an outlay of Rs. 14.05 crore for 1999-2000. This programme has four components namely Survey and Exploration, Environmental Impact Assessment Studies, Technology Development for Mining and Technology Development for extractive Metallurgy.

Industry Status to Health Care Segment

1815. SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to confer industry status to the Health Care Segment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to invite Foreign Direct Investment in Health Care Sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Study of Science and Technology

1816. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether aptitude among students for study of science and technical subjects is declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof regarding recent assessment made in this regard, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any new schemes in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, alongwith target fixed and allocation of funds made to each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) No Study of the emerging trends for study of science and technical subjects has been conducted by this Department in the recent past. However, there has been no overall decline among students seeking admission in Engineering and Technology Courses. There is no proposal to formulate any new scheme in this regard.

[*Translation*]

Technology Development Board

1817. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Technology Development Board was set up by the Government during 1996 for export and transfer of indigenous technology;

(b) if so, the details of proposal received and sanctioned by the Government;

(c) the amount spent and the profit earned by the TDB so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for implementation of the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) No, Sir. The objective of the Technology Development Board, set up in September, 1996 under an Act of Parliament, is to extend financial assistance to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting development and commercial application of indigenous technology or adapting imported technology to wider domestic application.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Schemes in Biotechnology

1818. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed performance/progress of schemes for promotion, development/R&D in Bio-technology during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of new schemes launched/proposed by the Government for promotion/development and adoption of bio-technology in the production process both in agriculture and industry during the current year and the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise; and

(d) the details of institutions set up/proposed for education/higher study in bio-technology and their present and projected intake capacity; State-wise?

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) Yes, the Department of Biotechnology, has in place a strong mechanism for reviewing the performance/progress of schemes for promotion and development of Biotechnology. There are several expert committees viz. Scientific Advisory Committees for policy matters, Biotechnology Research and Promotion Committee and 12 Subject matter Task Forces, other expert committees, Project Management Committees at Programme level etc. These committees meet twice a year for necessary recommendations, mid-course corrections, monitoring/reviewing of the progress/performance of various schemes/projects. The detailed composition, recommendations and action taken thereof are published in the Department's Annual Reports year to year. Further, the activities of the Autonomous Institutions and the Public Sector Undertaking are periodically reviewed and monitored by their respective Governing bodies and Scientific Advisory Committees.

(c) Details of schemes launched/proposed by the department for promotion and Development in Agriculture and Industry for each year are published in Annual Report of Department. The programmes/schemes proposed to be taken up during the 9th plan (1997-2002) including the remaining period of the plan are published in the 9th Plan Document of the Department made available by the Planning Commission for Public use. In brief, during the current financial year, the department has supported R&D projects/schemes in agricultural biotechnology for improvement and development of pest and disease resistance, salt tolerance and quality of cotton, rice, wheat, cowpea, pigeonpea, mungbean, urad bean; plant tissue culture for production of elite material in tree species; demonstration of biofertilisers and biopesticides in institutions/universities of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, North-East, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. A National Centre for Plant Genome Research was also established in Delhi for networking on genome research. In Industrial biotechnology, projects for development of diagnostic kits of food contaminants, improvement of processing of fruits and vegetables are also funded. During remaining period of 9th plan, several projects in these areas will be strengthened and leads will be developed into technologies for transfer to industries to promote production activities.

(d) The Department of Biotechnology has been supporting through Post Graduate teaching (M. Sc./M. Tech. PG Diploma/Post MD/MS Certificate/PDF) in 49 Institutions/Universities/and other organisations in the following states with their intake capacity; Assam (22), Andhra Pradesh (34), Bihar (12), Chandigarh (14), Delhi (80), Gujarat (30), Goa (10), Himachal Pradesh (15), J&K (10), Kerala (12), Karnataka (35), Madhya Pradesh (10), Maharashtra (40), Orissa (12), Pondicherry (10), Punjab (32), Rajasthan (10), Tamil Nadu (67), Uttar Pradesh (62) and West Bengal (26). Seven programmes are likely to be initiated in some more states including North-East.

Government Press, Santragachi

1819. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to merge the Publication Division and Forms Division of Government of India Press at Santragachi, West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government have set up a Committee to discuss the issue with the employees and workers of the Press in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the conditions of such merger;

(d) whether the merger and modernisation is likely to be undertaken simultaneously; and

(e) if so, details of the plan thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Basic Standard of Private Nursing Homes/Hospitals

1820. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Accreditation Council for private nursing homes and hospitals to ensure minimum basic standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are taking steps to ensure that private nursing homes and hospitals do not exploit the poor 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) At present there is no such proposal.

(c) and (d) 'Health' is a State subject under the Constitution of India and it is the responsibility of the State Government to frame rules to regulate the functioning of Private Hospitals/Nursing Homes.

Rehabilitation of Widows

1821. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of widows of persons killed in the terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir during each of the last three years;

(b) whether Central Assistance is being provided for the Rehabilitation of widows during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Data regarding widows is not maintained at Central Government level. As indicated by State Government the widows and security force personnel killed in J&K in terrorist violence is as follows:

Year	1997	1998	1999
Civilians killed	939	867	821
Security Forces Personnel Killed	186	232	356

(b) and (c) With the objective of providing assistance for psychological and economic rehabilitation of the victims of militancy, the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir had set up a Council in 1995 for rehabilitation of widows, orphans, handicapped and old aged persons adversely affected by militancy. Government of India has contributed Rs. 6.00 crores towards the corpus fund. The State Government also provides ex-gratia relief as per its prescribed norms for the next-of-kin of persons killed and for immovable property damaged in terrorist violence. The amount of such ex-gratia paid by State Government is regularly reimbursed by Government of India as part of Security Related Expenditure.

Production of Urea

1822. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
 SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN:
 PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
 SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:
 SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
 SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:
 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to put ban on setting up of new projects for three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which it affect the public and cooperative sector projects;

(d) the extent to which the country is likely to face shortage of urea during the next three years;

(e) whether imported urea is available at the cheaper rates than the subsidised urea being produced in the country;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of Urea to the farmers all over the country at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):
 (a) to (c) Government have decided not to encourage new capacities for production of urea in the country till the year 2003-04, over and above the following four projects in the Public/Cooperative sector for which an 'in principle' approval, subject to investment appraisal by Public Investment Board (PIB), has already been accorded:

- (i) Expansion of Hazira plant of KRIBHCO in Gujarat.
- (ii) A new urea plant to be set up by KRIBHCO at the existing site of FCI's Gorakhpur Plant in Uttar Pradesh.
- (iii) Expansion of Thal Plant of RCF in Maharashtra.
- (iv) A grassroot urea plant to be set up by IFFCO at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

This is on account of the near self-sufficiency, which has been achieved in production of urea and also the assessment of the demand and supply scenario till the year 2003-04.

(d) and (g) The country has achieved near self sufficiency in production of urea. Adequate supply of urea at reasonable and statutorily notified prices to farmers all over the country is ensured through allocation made from different manufacturing units within the country, after assessing the requirement of urea for each state. Any gap between the demand and the indigenous availability of urea to meet the allocation will be met through imports.

(e) and (f) Imported as well as subsidised urea being produced in the country is available to the farmers at the same statutory price fixed by the Government.

[*Translation*]

Education Cess

1823. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
 SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to levy education cess for creating funds to meet the requirements of spread and development of education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to implement the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) There is no proposal in the budget of 2000-2001 to levy an Education Cess for educational development in the country.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Investment in Drug and Chemicals by MNCs

1824. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details the Government policies in regard to investment by the multinational companies in drug and chemicals sector;

(b) the details of policy change in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from multinational companies for investment in drug and chemicals sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof, company-wise; and

(e) the present status of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):
(a) and (b) Details are given in enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) The receipt of proposals for foreign collaboration is an ongoing process. The proposals are considered by Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) in consultation with the administrative ministry concerned. During the period from August, 1991 to December, 1999 Government has approved 1489 proposals, both technical and financial, in Chemicals (other than fertilisers) sector envisaging foreign direct investment of Rs. 120405.84 million and 351 proposals both technical and financial, in Drugs & Pharma sector envisaging foreign direct investment of Rs. 8817.61 million. This includes investment made by multinational companies in these sectors.

The details of such proposals, namely, name and country of foreign collaborator, percentage of equity, item of manufacture/activity and location of the project are published by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion in their monthly publication, namely, 'SIA Newsletter' which is widely circulated including to the Parliament Library.

Statement

In the Chemicals sector, foreign equity up to 51% is permitted under the automatic route in the case of proposals for manufacture of industrial organic and inorganic chemicals, manufacture of pesticides (excluding fertilizers), manufacture of paints, varnishes and related products, artist's colour and ink, manufacture of chemical products not else where covered. In addition, higher level of foreign equity is considered in cases of special requirements and merits of each case.

In the case of Pharmaceuticals sector foreign equity up to 74% is permitted under the automatic route in the case of bulk drugs, their intermediates and formulations (except those produced by the use of recombinant DNA technology). Foreign equity above 74% for manufacture of bulk drugs is considered on a case to case basis for manufacture of bulk drugs from basic stages and their intermediates and bulk drugs produced by the use of recombinant DNA technology as well as specific cell/tissue targeted formulations.

[English]

Drug Industry

1825. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be please to state:

(a) the action taken so far to make the drug industry a self-reliant and export oriented industry; and

(b) the investments and incentives proposed for the vigorous research and breakthrough innovations to strengthen this industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) to (b) The action taken to make the drug industry self-reliant and export-oriented, *inter-alia*, include (a) setting up of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research for training and educating research-oriented scientists; (b) setting up of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, which is at an arm's length from the Government and fixes prices in transparent manner; (c) setting up of an export cell in the Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals which is assisting pharmaceutical exporters; and (d) prompt recognition to R&D centres in pharmaceutical companies.

The important incentives given for research and development, *inter-alia*, include (a) weighted tax deduction @ 125% for sponsored research programmes in approved national laboratories/universities etc.; (b) exempting from price control a new drug which has not been produced elsewhere and which has been developed through indigenous R&D; and (c) exemption from customs duty to research equipment imported by public-funded and non-commercial institutions.

Ayurvedic Treatment

1826. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Conference on Ayurveda-2000 held recently in Chennai;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made in the Conference; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Sowpamika Ayurvedic Foundation for

Research, Health & Education in collaboration with other institutes organised International Conference on Ayurveda-2000 at Chennai.

(b) and (c) The organisers have informed that the recommendations made include upgradation of education, addition of more species of plants in "Ayurveda formulary", removal of restriction on the use of plants of wild origin, setting of herbal plants Board, documentation of knowledge, expansion of panchkarma therapy, notification of Good Manufacturing Practices, excise relief and R&D support for use of active ingredients and injections.

Most of the recommendations are already covered under existing schemes or new initiatives. Cultivation to substitute wild plants has started. Technical issues are examined by the Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Drug Technical Advisory Board.

Use of Stimulants by Sports Persons

1827. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some sports persons are alleged to have used stimulants in the National Games and Athletic meets including those of schools held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the action taken against such persons; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for the promotion of Athletics?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Government has received no specific complaint against particular sports persons for use of drugs.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) With a view to promoting athletics in the country, the Government is implementing a number of schemes/programmes such as Rural Sports Festival, North East Sports Festival, National Sports Talent Contest, Army Boys Sports Companies, Special Area Games and SAI Training Centres. Talented athletes under these schemes are identified and nurtured for achieving excellence in sports.

Further, the Amateur Athletic Federation of India also holds Sub-junior, Junior and Senior National Athletic Championships, Permit Meets and other National/International level competitions to encourage Indian athletes

to give better performances. The required scientific support in terms of sports physiology, psychology, Kinesiology, Bio-Mechanics, Anthropometry, Nutrition and Sports Medicine also made available to the promising athletes.

Keeping in view the objective of improving India's performance in international competitions and in the forthcoming Olympics-2000 and Asian Games/Commonwealth Games-2002, the Government has also finalised the Long Term Development Programmes in consultation with Sports Authority of India and National Sports Federations with a view to having a systematic plan for achieving excellence in international sports competitions.

Communicable Diseases

1828. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

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

(a) whether the Government have achieved its target to eradicate Leprosy, Polio and other epidemic diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to control Tuberculosis, Malaria, Jaundice, Dengue, Kala Azar, Cholera, Haemorrhage fever and AIDS in the country;

(d) the assistance provided to various States for prevention and treatment of these diseases during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(e) the details of external aided projects carried out to eradicate/control various diseases in the country; and

(f) the details of institutions involved in tackling communicable diseases all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, efforts are being made to achieve the target of elimination of leprosy by the end of the year 2000 by reducing the case load from the level of 5.19/10,000 population in March 1999 to less than 1 per ten thousand. Polio is scheduled to be eradicated from the country by the winter of 2000.

Of the other communicable diseases which are a threat to public health, Guinea worm has been certified by WHO as eradicated in February, 2000 while

programme to interrupt transmission of Yaws has been initiated since 1996-97.

Many of the epidemic diseases are not amenable to eradication. Therefore, efforts are on to prevent and contain them through the implementation of disease control programmes focussing on environmental manipulation, health education, use of vaccines etc. or through the development of a disease surveillance mechanism which can provide early warning signals of potential outbreaks and thus enable rapid response thereto.

(c) and (e) For controlling diseases like TB, Malaria and AIDS, Govt. is implementing National disease control programmes, External aid in the form of financial assistance from the World Bank and technical and financial support from WHO are being obtained under these programmes as well as for the leprosy elimination programme. The emphasis is on implementing optimum strategies for combating these diseases and developing capacity and infrastructure in the States for this purpose. The key elements of support given to the States for TB, Malaria, Kala Azar, Cholera and AIDS are listed in Statement-I. Technical and financial support from external agencies like DFID and DANIDA is also being obtained for implementing national programmes for diseases like TB and AIDS in selected States and/or in selected activities.

(d) Details of total assistance provided for prevention and treatment of TB, Malaria, AIDS and Kala Azar, in terms of cash and kind during the last 3 years as well as the current year, State-wise, are given in Statement-II & III respectively.

(f) A large number of institutions at the Central and State levels, including medical Colleges, CHCs, PHCs, etc. are involved in the effort to tackle communicable diseases. Specialised institutions involved in this regard include those engaged in research and training as well as in surveillance and monitoring activities. They include institutions under ICMR which specialise in specific communicable diseases viz. TB Research Centre, Chennai, Malaria Research Centre, Delhi, National Institute of Virology, Pune NICED, Calcutta, JALMA, Agra, as well as the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, the National Tuberculosis Institute, Bangalore, National Institute of Health and F.W., the State Institutes of Health & F.W., State TB Training and Demonstration Centres, LRS Institute for TB and Allied Diseases etc. District and State level societies set up for implementing National Programmes for TB, AIDS, Leprosy and Malaria are also actively involved both in implementation and monitoring of these programmes.

Statement I

Key Elements of Support given to the States for TB, Malaria, Kala-Azar and AIDS

1. Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP)

- * Emphasis on diagnosis of infectious patients through high quality microscopy by providing Binocular Microscopes.
- * To achieve 85% cure of all detected new smear positive cases through administration of directly observed Short Course Chemotherapy.
- * Augmentation of the case finding activities to detect 70% of new sputum positive cases.
- * Ensuring uninterrupted drug supply by providing drugs in patient-wise boxes.

2. National Anti-Malaria Programme (NAMP)

- * Early case Detection and Prompt Treatment (EDPT) through use of newer drugs and Rapid Diagnostic Kits.
- * Selective Vector Control including use of Synthetic Pyrethroids in rural areas and Biolarvicides in urban areas.
- * Promotion of personal protection methods by use of Medicated Mosquito Nets (MMNs).
- * Early detection and containment of epidemics.
- * Information, Education and Communication towards personal prevention and Community participation. Institutional and Management capacity building, manpower development through intensive re-orientation, training programmes at all levels and efficient Management Information System (MIS).

3. Kala-Azar Control Programme

- * Supply of anti Kala-azar drugs free of cost through the State Governments.
- * Interruption of transmission through vector control by undertaking residual spray of DDT in affected areas.
- * Early diagnosis and complete treatment through Primary Health Care System.

- * Health education and community participation.
 - * Organisation of Orientation Training for the Officers involved in implementation of the Kala-azar Control Programme.
- 4 *Centrally sponsored scheme for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS.*
- * Reduction the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counseling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infection.
 - * Preventive intervention for the general population
- by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counseling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
 - * Providing financial assistance for home based and community based care.
 - * Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.
 - * Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sectors.

Statement II

Assistance provided to various States under National Programme for T.B., Malaria, AIDS and Kala-Azar for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Tuberculosis			Malaria		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17.61	172.01	198.62	634.63	617	482.93
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.69	1.45	1.66	126.9	297.5	18.61
3.	Assam	42.87	44.2	51.03	1660.83	26.18	2130.42
4.	Bihar	141.59	258.76	298.79	206.76	348.98	403.05
5.	Goa	6.63	1.8	2.07	3.46	5.18	7.12
6.	Gujarat	11.74	86.23	99.58	471.75	726.77	611.11
7.	Haryana	0.12	44.86	51.8	327.77	291.08	260.39
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5.11	7.84	9.06	118.33	90.84	51.47
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.19	21.15	24.42	120.62	78.62	72.57
10.	Karnataka	15.06	102.93	118.85	853.62	568.62	264.47
11.	Kerala	118.02	38.48	44.43	53.65	63.6	102.73
12.	Madhya Pradesh	152.17	174.33	201.3	769.35	1072.77	454.49
13.	Maharashtra	23.24	171.76	198.34	2405.71	1028.44	260.26
14.	Manipur	4.01	0.28	0.32	303.28	273.91	377.34
15.	Meghalaya	10.64	4.88	5.63	222.93	196.96	231.55
16.	Mizoram	6.16	1.97	2.28	106.07	132	172.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Nagaland	3.21	1.57	1.81	122.45	212.62	183.34
18.	Orissa	0.08	73.69	85.09	248.15	233.43	385.14
19.	Punjab	18.78	54.41	62.83	282.79	183.26	290.67
20.	Rajasthan	13.03	107.62	124.23	2025.35	1799.74	1994.15
21.	Sikkim	2.85	1.08	1.24	39.34	1.77	8.47
22.	Tamil Nadu	13.61	138.22	159.61	150.39	204.88	240.72
23.	Tripura	3.01	7.57	8.75	300.67	414.05	356.97
24.	Uttar Pradesh	59.48	349.35	403.39	941.71	505.73	1121.92
25.	West Bengal	86.17	133.56	154.22	772.7	125.71	330.90
26.	Delhi	15.28	56.69	2.77	117.88	66.04	37.21
27.	Pondicherry	2.15	3.31	1.82	16.12	12.48	6.15
28.	Andaman & Nicobar	1.43	14.27	0.82	94.04	93.83	155.68
29.	Chandigarh	1.06	39.67	2.27	46.33	48.53	44.30
30.	D & N Haveli		7.7	0.44	12.73	24.75	24.9
31.	Daman & Diu		5.51	0.32	8.88	12.37	10.08
32.	Lakshadweep		2.85	0.16	2.10	3.48	5.24

Assistance provided to various States under National Programmes for T.B., Malaria, AIDS and Kala-Azar for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99

(Rs. in lakh)

S.I.	Name of the State	AIDS			Kala-azar		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	425.00	425.00	650.00	—	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.00	25.00	30.00	—	—	—
3.	Assam	100.00	100.00	100.00	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	25.00	50.00	110.00	208.32	880.91	806.22
5.	Goa	25.00	50.00	35.00	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	300.00	250.00	230.00	—	—	—
7.	Haryana	130.00	75.00	160.00	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	115.00	225.00	115.00	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.00	25.00	25.00	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	350.00	175.00	335.00	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Kerala	225.00	100.00	65.00	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	425.00	150.00	315.00	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	900.00	950.00	800.00	—	—	—
14.	Manipur	200.00	150.00	245.00	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	35.00	25.00	30.00	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	150.00	100.00	100.00	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	190.00	155.00	227.00	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	50.00	75.00	100.00	—	—	—
19.	Punjab	225.00	75.00	150.00	—	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	375.00	225.00	100.00	—	—	—
21.	Sikkim	50.00	50.00	50.00	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00	2000.00	800.00	—	—	—
23.	Tripura	50.00	50.00	20.00	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	450.00	495.00	200.00	—	—	—
25.	West Bengal	600.00	100.00	350.00	141.68	89.82	193.78
26.	Delhi	400.00	25.00	110.00	—	—	—
27.	Pondicherry	7.00	0.00	40.00	—	—	—
28.	Andman & Nicobar	45.91	31.09	20.00	—	—	—
29.	Chandigarh	46.93	28.00	60.00	—	—	—
30.	D&N Haveli	17.00	16.00	—	—	—	—
31.	Daman & Diu	19.00	24.22	15.00	—	—	—
32.	Lakshadweep	16.71	15.42	—	—	—	—

Statement III

Allocation of Funds to the various States/UTs during the Current Financial year (1999-2000).

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the States	TB	Malaria	AIDS	Kala-Azar
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	482.76	322.86	1219.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.54	303.27	159.00
3.	Assam	114.13	2267.01	322.00
4.	Bihar	1054.73	481.35	55.00
				864.38

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Goa	3.17	10.93	98.00	—
6.	Gujarat	1203.88	489.04	721.00	—
7.	Haryana	79.13	259.03	270.00	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	133.64	46.11	238.00	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	37.30	52.73	25.00	—
10.	Karnataka	701.35	662.66	801.67	—
11.	Kerala	885.69	117.72	280.00	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	418.17	893.40	352.38	—
13.	Maharashtra	852.83	282.97	998.35	—
14.	Manipur	31.66	403.05	352.38	—
15.	Meghalaya	8.60	306.70	70.14	—
16.	Mizoram	3.48	309.56	143.00	—
17.	Nagaland	2.77	240.83	310.00	—
18.	Orissa	325.38	329.67	200.00	—
19.	Punjab	95.98	288.96	237.39	—
20.	Rajasthan	397.40	1146.16	150.00	—
21.	Sikkim	1.90	11.65	25.00	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	660.48	392.31	729.01	—
23.	Tripura	13.36	375.89	50.00	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	897.57	622.18	801.00	—
25.	West Bengal	1583.18	296.36	325.00	135.62
26.	Delhi	500.00	75.40	283.00	—
27.	Pondicherry	2.78	10.32	25.00	—
28.	Andman & Nicobar	1.25	116.46	50.00	—
29.	Chandigarh	3.47	47.25	90.00	—
30.	D&N Haveli	0.67	25.94	25.00	—
31.	Daman & Diu	0.48	16.42	95.00	—
32.	Lakshadweep	0.25	5.81	25.00	—

Properties of SAI on Lease

1829. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of stadia and properties of Sports Authority of India on lease to private groups and companies; and

(b) the budgetary allocation made for the Welfare of

Youth activities during the current Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) The details are given in enclosed Statement.

(b) Budgetary allocations made for the Welfare of Youth activities during the current IX Five Year Plan is Rs. 352.24 crres at the prices of 1996-97.

Statement*Details of Stadia and Properties of SAI on Lease to Private Groups and Companies*

Sl. No.	Name of Organisation	Name of Stadium	Area (Per Sq.Ft.)	Monthly Rent (Rs.)	Period
1.	M/s. Procal Pvt. Ltd.	JN Stadium	4274	3,47,049/-	20.05.97 to 19.05.02
2.	M/s. Confederation of India Industries	-do-	6444	5,55,473/-	15.09.97 to 14.09.02
3.	M/s. Pavilion	-do-	7240	1,26,100/-	08.01.97 to 31.03.99
4.	M/s. Sierra Industries (P) Ltd.	-do-	1468	15,000/-	30.09.98 to 29.09.98
5.	M/s Standing Conference of Public Enterprises	-do-	102435	30,000/-	01.04.99 to 31.03.02
6.	M/s. Shubham	-do-	5934	1,07,597/-	08.01.97 to 31.03.99
7.	M/s. Regency Banquet-cum-Restaurant	TKS Pool	18719.62	5,43,399.85	01.04.84 to Nov. 97

Note: Properties shown as at S.No. 3, 6 & 7; the formal lease has expired but due to litigation they are in occupation of SAI premises.

Conviction in Rape Cases

1830. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conviction in rape cases in Delhi is as low as 4 percent and cases take years before a judgement can be delivered;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered in 1997, 1998 and 1999 alongwith the number of cases in which the culprits arrested/convicted, zone-wise;

(c) whether the Delhi Commission for Women has made some suggestions for speedy trial and disposal of the rape and molestation cases; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the attached Statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Commission for Women has suggested that trial of cases of rape/molestation of women should be conducted by Special Courts presided over by lady Judges and all rape cases should be sent to these designated Courts only for conducting trial in-camera on a day to day basis. The Government fully appreciates the need for speedy trial, particularly in rape/molestation cases.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Cases Registered	Cancelled	Admitted	Worked Out	Persons Arrested	Cases Decided by Court	Cases Convicted	Cases Acquitted	Persons Convicted	Persons Acquitted	Conviction/Percentage Case-wise
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
I. 1997												
1.	South	107	09	98	96	136	17	05	12	09	21	29.41%
2.	Central	35	03	32	32	48	07	—	07	—	—	0%
3.	South-West	72	04	68	67	99	09	01	08	01	10	11.11%
4.	West	80	04	76	75	100	04	01	03	01	03	25%
5.	North-East	67	02	65	63	96	19	05	14	10	32	26.31%
6.	North-West	104	05	99	97	134	13	—	13	—	13	0%
7.	East	30	07	23	23	36	10	03	07	04	14	30%
8.	New Delhi	12	03	09	09	16	01	—	01	—	01	0%
9.	North	45	04	41	39	56	05	01	04	01	04	20%
10.	Crime & Railways	01	01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Indira Gandhi International Airport	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		553	42	511	501	721	85	16	69	26	106	18.82%
II. 1998												
1.	South	79	02	77	65	108	09	02	07	02	07	22.22%
2.	Central	24	—	24	23	33	02	—	02	—	02	0%
3.	South-West	59	03	56	56	80	07	01	06	01	08	14.28%
4.	West	85	06	79	75	122	03	—	03	—	06	0%
5.	North-East	57	03	54	46	60	13	02	11	03	17	15.38%
5.	North-West	72	08	64	57	81	04	—	04	—	06	0%
7.	East	25	—	25	25	33	06	02	04	02	10	33.33%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8.	New Delhi	09	02	07	06	11	01	—	01	—	01	0%
9.	North	34	01	33	32	48	—	—	—	—	—	0%
10.	Crime & Railways	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Indira Gandhi International Airport	01	—	01	01	02	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		445	25	420	386	578	45	07	38	08	57	15.55%

III. 1999

1.	South	72	03	69	63	79	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Central	33	—	33	31	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	South-West	43	—	43	40	71	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	West	64	02	62	56	73	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	North-East	45	—	45	39	54	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	North-West	75	02	73	67	91	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	East	21	1	20	20	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	New Delhi	04	—	04	03	05	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	North	42	01	41	39	57	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Crime & Railways	02	—	02	02	02	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Indira Gandhi International Airport	01	—	01	01	01	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		402	09	393	361	486	—	—	—	—	—	—

ISI Mark for Mineral Water

1831. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether branded mineral water available in the market is spurious;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make ISI mark mandatory for production of natural mineral water; and

(d) if so, the time by which such a decision is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) There is no report from States/UT Govts. which are responsible for implementing the provisions of the PFA Act/Rules 1955 that mineral water being sold in the market are spurious.

(c) and (d) A draft notification proposing to cover all mineral water under the compulsory certification scheme of the Bureau of Indian Standards has been issued under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 inviting objections/suggestions.

[Translation]

Female Population

1832. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the female population is constantly decreasing due to increasing female foeticide in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to maintain equal male-female ratio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The number of females per 1000 males has decreased from 946 in 1951 to 927 in 1991. The lower sex ratio for females may be due to several reasons, which include mortality differentials, higher preference for the male child and sex-selective abortions based on determination of sex of unborn foetuses.

(b) A Reproductive and Child Health Programme started in October, 1997 is being implemented throughout the country. Under this programme the interventions which include immunisation programme, control of acute respiratory diseases, diarrhoeal diseases, prophylaxis against Vitamin 'A' and Iron deficiency against anaemia are being implemented in all districts. In addition, equipment for essential new-born care is being provided to PHCs, CHCs and district hospitals in a phased manner.

With a view to regulate and prevent the misuse of modern pre-natal diagnostic techniques, leading to detection and selective abortion of female foetus, the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 has come into force in the country from 1st January, 1996.

The Department of Women and Child Development has taken various initiatives for development of the girl child as well as for the empowerment of women. These are:

- (i) **Balika Samridhi Yojana:** Launched in 1997 to give financial help to families below the poverty line in which a girl child was born.
- (ii) **Integrated Child Development Services.**
- (iii) **Adolescent Girls Schemes:** The scheme attempts to raise the health and nutrition status of adolescent girls.

(iv) **National Plan of action for SAARC Decade of the Girl Child (1991-2000).**

(v) **Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Programme.**

(vi) **Training and income generation activities for women.**

[English]

Public Health Sector

1833. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) per capita expenditure incurred on Public Health during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, State-wise;

(b) per capita expenditure under external assistance services for implementing the National Programmes for Malaria, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Blindness, AIDS and Reproductive and Child Health for the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether allocation for public health to the North-Eastern States has been reduced during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the programmes and assistance including external assistance given to them is in conformity with the policy of priority to the backward and weaker States;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) As per information furnished by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), per capita Government expenditure on health, state-wise at current prices for the periods 1994-95 to 1996-97 is given in attached Statement. These estimates for 1997-98 are under compilation by CSO.

(b) State-wise per capita expenditure under external assistance for implementing various health and family welfare programmes are not available.

(c) and (d) By and large, outlays for health sector to the North Eastern States have been increased during the last three years.

(e) to (g) Central Government is supporting States in implementation of various national health programmes for Malaria, TB, Leprosy, Blindness and AIDS for which allocation of funds are made keeping in view the incidence of such diseases in the respective States. In view of the

financial crunch and the high incidence of Malaria in the North Eastern States 100% Central assistance is being provided to them since December, 1994, as against 50:50 cost sharing between Central and State Governments for rest of the States.

Statement

Per Capita Government Expenditure (current & capital) on Health by States for the years 1994-95 to 1996-97 at current prices

Sl.No.	State	Total Govt. Expenditure (Health) (Rs. Lacs)			Population in Lacs as on 1st October			Per capita Govt. Expenditure (Health) (Rs.)		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994	1995	1996	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	46530	51560	62437	705.08	716.67	726.24	66	72	86
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2691	3708	3405	9.83	10.19	10.57	274	364	322
3.	Assam	13909	17642	19944	240.48	245.24	249.72	58	72	80
4.	Bihar	33729	36419	39141	911.11	924.79	939.93	37	39	42
5.	Goa	3205	3762	4885	13.29	13.75	14.21	241	274	344
6.	Gujarat	31730	38536	44681	443.05	451.78	459.27	72	85	97
7.	Haryana	9932	11424	12739	179.36	183.7	187.61	55	62	68
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10526	12645	14939	58.22	60.12	60.91	181	210	245
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	16699	16722	19418	86.8	89.59	90.53	192	187	214
10.	Karnataka	33467	37613	40961	480.66	489.65	497.61	70	77	82
11.	Kerala	28734	34557	38189	304.24	308.04	311.85	94	112	122
12.	Madhya Pradesh	38316	39789	55464	718.24	734.83	749.76	53	54	74
13.	Maharashtra	63309	70505	91425	843.47	859.22	873.41	75	82	105
14.	Manipur	3224	3989	4447	20.88	21.62	22.38	154	185	199
15.	Meghalaya	3334	4051	4562	20.17	20.89	21.63	165	194	211
16.	Mizoram	2801	3205	4593	7.85	8.13	8.44	357	394	544
17.	Nagaland	4110	5827	6020	13.78	14.25	14.88	298	408	405
18.	Orissa	18335	19398	21142	336.28	241.99	346.64	55	57	61
19.	Punjab	21468	24017	28698	217.55	221.84	225.63	99	108	127

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20.	Rajasthan	34055	40662	47797	480.33	492.21	503.04	71	83	95
21.	Sikkim	2370	2543	2472	4.62	4.79	4.96	513	531	499
22.	Tamil Nadu	54604	68027	74513	584.11	591.44	598.26	93	115	125
23.	Tripura	3406	3885	4679	31.34	32.45	33.6	109	120	139
24.	Uttar Pradesh	69104	8227	90246	1514.96	1551.46	1583.89	46	53	57
25.	West Bengal	50152	54910	69982	726.92	740.34	752.79	69	74	93
26.	Delhi	15919	22481	23813	108.54	112.8	120.52	147	199	198
27.	Pondicherry	2859	3809	3491	9.19	9.5	9.86	311	401	354
28.	Centre*	73732	73982	82900	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		692300	787939	916984	9084.21 [§]	9265.56 [§]	9433.21 [§]	76	85	97

Source: 1. National Accounts Statistics.

2. Registrar General's office for Population.

Note: Expenditure on Health does not include Expenditure on Family Welfare, Medical & Health Expenditure by Defence Services and Local Authorities.

* includes UT's without legislature.

§ All India.

[Translation]

Open Universities

1834. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some more Open Universities in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the name of places where these Universities are proposed to be set up and the criteria adopted for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

1835. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI JITENDER REDDY:

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

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has revised upwards the prices of certain bulk drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of times the prices of bulk drugs have been revised upward during the last three years;

(d) the extent to which the retail prices of these drugs have been increased in the market;

(e) whether the prices of some important drugs viz. Dextropropoxyphene and Mefenamic have been fixed and included in the controlled drugs list;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

are given in the enclosed Statement.

(g) if not, reasons therefor?

(d) Statutory price of bulk drug fixed under Para '3' of DPCO '95 is the maximum sale price and at no point can the drug be sold at a price higher than the price so fixed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since inception of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority on 29.8.1997, till date the prices of 20 scheduled bulk drugs and their 9 derivatives have been revised upward. The details

(e) to (g) The price of Dextropropoxyphene, which is a scheduled bulk drug was fixed on 4.6.99. Mefenamic Acid was originally included in the Schedule-I of DPCO '95 but omitted *vide* Gazette Notification No. 501 dated 2.9.97.

Statement

Bulk Drug Prices Notified by NPPA since inception and till 29.2.2000

S.No.	Name of the Bulk Drug/Derivatives	Unit	Current Rs.	Price Date
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Pheniramine Maleate	Kg.	952.00	119E/10.2.98
2.	Vitamin B1 HCL	Kg.	1418.00	1102E/23.12.98
2(a)	Vitamin B1 Mononitrate	Kg.	1160.00	1102E/23.12.98
3.	Rifampicin	Kg.	4885.00	108E/12.2.99
4.	Nalidixic Acid	Kg.	2947.00	799E/10.9.98
5.	Lodochloro Hydroxyquinoline	Kg.	740.00	800E/10.9.98
6.	Dexamethasone	Gm.	118.00	904E/14.10.98
6. (a)	Dexamethasone Disod. Phosphate	Gm.	139.00	904E/14.10.98
7.	Analgin (Metamizole)	Kg.	378.00	1103E/23.12.98
8.	Asprin	Kg.	115.00	109E/12.2.99
9.	Theophylline	Kg.	499.00	107E/12.2.99
9. (a)	Aminophylline	Kg.	419.00	1007E/4.10.99
9. (b)	Hydroxy Ethyl Theophylline	Kg.	650.00	1008E/4.10.99
10.	Ranitidine	Kg.	1255.00	205E/31.3.99
11.	Demethyl Chlortetracycline (Tetracycline)	Kg.	4559.00	206E/31.3.99
12.	Dextropropoxyphene HCL	Kg.	3891.00	418E/4.6.99
13.	Sulphamoxole	Kg.	637.00	680E/24.8.99
14.	Pentoxiphylline	Kg.	2453.00	679E/24.8.99
15.	Oxytetracycline HCL	Kg.	1100.00	690E/30.8.99

1	2	3	4	5
15. (a)	Oxytetracycline Amphoteric	Kg.	1560.00	691E/30.8.99
16.	Prednisolone	Kg.	59000.00	1006E/4.10.99
17.	Vitamin A Acetate (Dry power)	0.5 MIU/gm.	4166.00	1054E/27.10.99
17. (a)	Vitamin A Acetate (Oily liquid)	1.0 MIU/gm.	3136.00	1054E/27.10.99
17. (b)	Vitamin A Palmitate (Oily liquid)	1.0/1.7 MIU/gm.	3178.00	1054E/27.10.99
18.	Betamethasone Alcohol	Gm.	224.00	107E/7.2.2000
18. (a)	Betamethasone Valerate	Gm.	212.00	107E/7.2.2000
18. (b)	Betamethasone Phosphate	Gm.	185.00	107E/7.2.2000
19.	Lynestrinol	Kg.	79044.00	108E/7.2.2000
20.	Ephedrine HCL	Kg.	1431.00	109E/7.2.2000

Note: (a) and (b) denote derivatives of the parent bulk drug.

Inclusion of Sikkim State

1836. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been persistent demand from the Government of Sikkim about inclusion of Sikkim State in the North-Eastern Council;

(b) if so, the time by which the demand is pending with the Union Government alongwith the reasons for delay; and

(c) the present status of the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The North Eastern Council (Amendment) Bill, 1998 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 8.12.98 which proposes, *inter alia*, the inclusion of Sikkim in NEC.

Setting up of Special Grants

1837. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up special cells to check ISI activities in various States like Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to provide special assistance to these States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Some States have taken special measures including setting up of cells, task force etc. to check activities of ISI.

Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments for modernisation of their police forces in order to equip them to deal with terrorism and other security problems more effectively.

Insecticides Act, 1968

1938. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose simplification of the provisions of the Insecticides act to bring the regulatory mechanism in the line with the internationally followed arrangements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have banned some insecticides recently for use in the agricultural fields;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue the farmers from the simplification of the provisions of the insecticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) and (b) While the technical guidelines for data generation on safety, efficacy etc. prescribed by the Registration Committee set up under the Insecticides Act are almost at par with those prescribed internationally, the Government considering to amend certain provisions of the Insecticides Act to ensure availability of the required quality of pesticides to the farming community at large.

(c) and (d) The Government reviews the insecticides covered under the Insecticides Act, 1968 from time to time regarding their efficacy and continued use. A list of pesticides which are banned for use in the country is given in enclosed Statement.

(e) The amendments mentioned in (a) above are aimed at providing the required quality of pesticides to the farming community at large.

Statement

List of Pesticides Banned for use in India

1. Aldrin
2. Benzene Hexachloride (BHC)
3. Calcium Cyanide
4. Chlordane
5. Copper Acetoarsenite
6. Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)
7. Endrin
8. Ethyl Mercury Chloride
9. Ethyl Parathion
10. Heptachlor
11. Menazon
12. Nicotine Sulphate*
13. Nitrofen
14. Paraquate dimethyl sulphate
15. Pentachloro Nitrobenzene (PCNB)
16. Pentachlorophenol (PCB)
17. Phenyl Mercury Acetate (PMP)
18. Sodium Methane Arsonate (MSMA)
19. Tetradifon
20. Toxaphene
21. Methomyl 24% L Formulation

22. Methomyl 12.5% L formulation (w.e.f. 26.3.2000)

23. Phosphomidon 25% SL formulation (w.e.f. 26.3.2000).

* These pesticides are manufactured in India for export purpose only.

Check on Population

1839. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

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

(a) whether the position of India in respect of population would stand first in the World very shortly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the family planning schemes taken up by the Government are not at all effective specially in the rural areas;

(d) whether any stringent measures being proposed by the Government to effectively enforce two children norms;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether some States have introduced legislation adopting two children norms;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) If current trends continue, India may overtake China in 2045, to become the most populous country in the world, with a projected population of 152 crore.

The National Population Policy has been approved by the Government, during February, 2000. The Policy aims at a long-term objective to achieve a population stabilisation by 2045, at the level consistent with the requirements of sustainable economic growth, social development, and environmental protection.

(c) It is true that the performance of family planning programme is not alike in rural and urban areas. The National Population Policy, 2000 has therefore, proposed priority attention for making reproductive health care,

accessible and affordable by all, of increasing rural infrastructure, and development, extension of primary and secondary education, and basic amenities like safe drinking water, sanitation and housing, appropriately trained health personal and provision of essential equipment and drugs.

(d) to (e) No, Sir. No stringent measures has been proposed by the Government to enforce two child norm. The National Population Policy advocates the small family norm. The National Family Welfare Programme continues to be voluntary in nature.

(f) to (h) Rajasthan, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi and Orissa have enacted legislation, in relation to Panchayats and Municipalities, for disqualifying persons from contesting elections or holding elective office, on the grounds of violating the two child norm.

The Central Bill, on the two child norm, viz. the Constitution (Seventy-Ninth Amendment) Bill, 1992 is pending before the Rajya Sabha since December, 1972. The discussions are continuing to arrive at a consensus among political parties, for passage of the Bill.

AIDS Patients

1840. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has sought opinion of the Medical Council of India and the Union of India as to whether AIDS patients can marry with the consent of his/her partner;

(b) if so, whether the Medical Council of India has given their opinion on the subject;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the reserchers are looking to a new generation of HIV drugs to keep patients alive as the current drugs have failed to be helpful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Medical Council of India has been named as a respondent in a case filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(b) The matter is posted for hearing on 10th March, 2000 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(c) The matter is sub-judice.

(d) Yes, Sir.

District Primary Education Programme

1841. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The names of districts in Andhra Pradesh where District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is being implemented;

(b) whether the Government propose to include other districts of the state under the programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The names of the districts of Andhra Pradesh where District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is being implemented are given in the Statement attached.

(b) and (c) A request has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for inclusion of the remaining four districts under DPEP, which is under consideration.

Statement

District Primary Education Programme

1. Vizianagaram
2. Nellore
3. Kurnool
4. Karimnagar
5. Warangal
6. Srikakulam
7. Visakhapatnam
8. Guntur
9. Prakasam
10. Chittoor
11. Cuddapah
12. Anantapur
13. Mahabubnagar
14. Khammam
15. Nalgonda

16. Rangareddy
17. Medak
18. Nizamabad
19. Adilabad.

[*Translation*]

Price of Medicines

1842. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied the effect of GATT agreement in the pharmaceutical sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely effect on the patent based products;

(d) whether prices of medicines have been increased by the Government in view of GATT agreement; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make available cheap medicine to the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) The GATT Act is a part of WTO, which *inter alia*, includes many other agreements. One of the agreements in the TRIPS Agreement and one part of the TRIPS pertains to patents. India today does not provide product patents on pharmaceuticals. With the coming into effect of the TRIPS Agreement, India will have to provide patents, both on products and processes, in the pharmaceutical sector. However, as India has opted for the transitional provisions under the TRIPS Agreement, the enforcement of the provisions of TRIPS pertaining to product patent would be effective only with effect from 1st January, 2005. Presently the process patent continues and no study has been conducted yet by the Government on the likely effect of the product patent in the pharmaceutical sector.

WTO agreements do not oblige India or any other member country to increase prices of medicines. It may further be mentioned that drug prices control is compatible with WTO and TRIPS agreement and hence the Government will still have the right to have a system of controlling prices of medicines, even after the TRIPS Agreement comes into force.

National Commission for Children

1843. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the legal structure for the education and development of children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal to constitute National Level Commission having legal powers to check the exploitation of children has since been implemented;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Constitution (Eighty Third amendment) Bill to make provision for the right to free and compulsory education for children in the age group of 6-14 years a Fundamental Right and also to make it a Fundamental Duty of every citizen, who is a parent or guardian, to provide opportunity for education to children in the age group of 6-14 years, is under consideration of the Government.

(c) to (e) The proposal to set up a National Commission for Children is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Blood Bank in Orissa

1844. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Blood Banks in Orissa got recognition from the Union Government;

(b) whether any financial aid for upgradation of Blood Banks has been given to Orissa; and

(c) if so, the financial assistance provided for this purpose to the State during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) There are 48 licensed Blood Banks in Orissa.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The scheme is for modernisation of various level blood banks and major blood banks by supplying them blood bank equipments, besides cash assistance for

Salaries of Technicians and a contingency amount for procuring reagents and other consumables. Funds have been released as follows:

1996-97	—	Rs. 50.00 lakhs
1997-98	—	Rs. 75.00 lakhs
1998-99	—	Rs. 100.00 lakhs

Funds have been placed at the disposal of State AIDS Cell of Government of Orissa now converted as State AIDS Control Society of Orissa.

[Translation]

Effect of Liquor

1845. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied the ill-effects of Liquor 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) and (b) The De-addiction Centre, AIIMS has carried out several studies on health damage due to excess alcohol consumption over several years.

There is published literature to indicate that excessive consumption of alcohol can lead to diseases like cirrhosis of Liver, hyper-tension, cardiac and sexual dysfunctions, Neuro-psychological dis-orders etc.

There are well established in-patients and out-patients treatment services available for alcohol de-addiction in Central Govt. Hospitals like AIIMS, Dr. RML Hospital & LHMC & Associated Hospitals etc. In these Centres, Pharmacological, behavioural and psychotherapeutic treatment are being provided to the patients who are simultaneously also discouraged to consume alcohol. The de-addiction centre of AIIMS, besides providing treatment to affected individuals also undertake health education measures to discourage intake of alcohol.

[English]

Fencing of Border

1846. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of border which India shares with Pakistan;

(b) the area of Border with Pakistan which is fenced so far, State-wise;

(c) the borders remain unfenced, State-wise and reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fence the remaining border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) India shares a total of 3101 Kms. Border, including 790 Kms. Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir with Pakistan.

(b) to (d) A total of 452 Kms. and 1035 Kms. of border with Pakistan has been fenced in Punjab and Rajasthan sectors respectively. Certain unfeasible riverine and shifting sand dune areas in Punjab and Rajasthan respectively have been left unfenced. Government have also approved construction of fencing on raised embankment in 310 Kms. stretch of Rann of Kutch area of Gujarat sector and work in 10 Kms. has already started. The entire work of construction of fencing in Gujarat sector is expected to be completed in about five years time. A multi-modal approach for sealing the Jammu International Border has also been planned.

Sea Wall in Coastal Areas of Kerala

1847. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal to construct sea-wall in the coastal areas of the State; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for construction of a 126.288 km of new sea wall and re-formation of 99.958 km of old damaged sea wall at an estimated cost of Rs. 346.50 crores. The proposal was examined in the Central Water Commission, modified and considered for inclusion in their consolidated National Coastal Protection Project (NCCP) for an amount of Rs. 232.77 crore.

The revised proposal prepared on the basis of the observations offered by the Appraisal Agencies, estimated to cost Rs. 304.00 crore has been received from the State Government of Kerala by CWC. It has been examined and comments have been sent recently to State Government for further modification of the proposal. The revised proposal from the State Government is awaited.

[*Translation*]

Family Planning Programme

1848. SHRI CHIMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to publicize Family Planning Programme during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise; and
- (c) the details of amount provided and utilised for the implementation of Family Planning Programme during the said period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Government have been promoting and popularising the family planning programme since its inception in 1951 through advocacy, awareness generation programmes and use of local specific information, education, communication methods, including inter-personal counselling through the field staff and NGOs. Use of the electronic media and the print media constitutes a major part of this programme. Field publicity is arranged through wings of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting like the Song & Drama Division, the Directorate of Field Publicity in the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity. In recent years some of the additional measures being taken in most states are: involvement of the Mahila swasthya Sanghs, Sensitisation programme for local opinion leaders; use of the Zilla Zaksharatha Samithis for local IEC; Swasthya Melas, involvement of Health Awareness units under the Nehru Yuvak Kendras in 12 states, etc. The NGO scheme under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme offers a major role to field level NGOs for advocacy and health communication work.

- (c) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

	Budget Estimate	Actuals
1996-97	1535.00	1562.25
1997-98	1829.35	1822.15
1998-99	2489.35	2342.75

[*English*]

Stamp Duty

1849. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the maximum and minimum rates of stamp registration duty in the country; and
- (b) the steps taken to introduce a uniform stamp duty for encouraging uniform housing programmes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) The information about the current rates of stamp duty in each State is not available. This information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

- (b) The Ministry of Finance has informed that stamp duty being a State subject, there is no proposal to introduce uniform stamp duty throughout the country.

Health Checking Programmes in Schools

1850. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether health checking programme is in operation in schools all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details of deficiencies/deforities noticed amongst the students during the implementation of the said programme; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the common deficiencies noticed amongst the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) A School Health Check up Programme for Students in Primary Schools was implemented during 1996-97 as a special campaign. The reports received from 486 Districts indicate that 97.15% schools had implemented the scheme, and 85.6% of the enrolled children were examined for detection of common ailments, which included anaemia, worm infestations, Night blindness, iodine deficiency disease (goitre), ear discharge, scabies, pyoderma, vision defects and dental problems. Continuation of the Programme as a Centrally funded Programme has since been discontinued.

Fees of Universities

1851. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to increase fees for different courses in all the Central Universities as well as deemed universities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

(c) the extent to which it is likely to effect the common man children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Para 11.2 of the National Policy on Education, 1986 envisages raisings fees at the higher levels of education to maintain the quality of education in the country. However, fee is regulated as per the provisions contained in the Ordinances of a University. As such, any hike in fee for different courses is decided by the respective University keeping all factors in view. The Government of India has no direct role in this regard. However, it can facilitate the process. The facilitation role of the Government is enjoined by the National Policy.

[Translation]

KRIBHCO

1852. SHRI SIS RAM OLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had sanctioned one crore rupees for setting up a power plant by the KRIBHCO at Jhunjhunu district;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the time by which the said plan is likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) a Multi State Cooperative Society under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers had initiated action in November, 95, to explore the possibility of setting up a 200 MW Power Project at Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan. KIBHCO's Board of Directors noted that surface water was not available in Jhunjhunu, and indications were that ground water level may go down once the poweer project is commissioned, which may adversely affect minor irrigation. Also, in the absnece of allocation of naphtha for the project out of the state quota, KRIBHCO was advised by the Government of Rajasthan to select a fuel other than naphtha for the project. Pre-feasibility study for the project based on alternate fuels indicated that the cost of power generation with Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as fuel will be much more economical. In view of the above, the Board of Directors of KRIBHCO decided not to pursue the proposal for setting up a power plant at Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan.

[English]

Assistance for Malaria and Polio to Rajasthan

1853. DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount released and spent by Rajasthan under the National Malaria Eradication Programme to control Malaria and polio during each of the last three years and till-date, separately; and

(b) the details of amount sought by the Government of Rajasthan under the said programme during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The requisite information is as under:

National Anti-Malaria Programme (NAMP):

National Anti-Malaria Programme (NAMP) is a category-II Centrally sponsored programme based on cost sharing basis between the Centre and the State Governments. The Central Government provides assistance in kind in the form of drugs, insecticides, larvicides, equipment etc. The States are to meet the operational cost and other expenses.

The Central assistance provided to Rajasthan in kind under the programme during the last three years and proposed for the current financial year is as follows:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1996-97	2025.35
1997-98	1799.74
1998-99	1994.15
1999-2000	1146.16 (Proposed)

In addition to the above 10 district of the State are covered under the Enhanced Malaria Control Project with World Bank Support being implemented since September, 1997. The Central assistance both in cash and kind under the Project as provided to Rajasthan is given below:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount Spent (Rs. in lakhs)
1997-98	17.50	17.50
1998-99	100.00	36.20
1999-2000	60.18	Not reported.

Pulse Polio Immunization Programme:

The details of funds released and reported expenditure in respect of funds released for POL/Transport and IEC/Social mobilization activities under Pulse Polio Immunization Programme to Rajasthan during the last 3 years and for the current year are given below:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount Spent (Rs. in lakhs)
1996-97	174.75	102.35
1997-98	200.60	131.26
1998-99	414.89	375.58
1999-2000	760.68	Not reported

*Figures are provisional.

In addition to above following funds were also allocated to Rajasthan for cold chain maintenance;

1996-97	Rs. 12.00 lakhs
1997-98	Rs. 12.00 lakhs
1998-99	Rs. 12.49 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 12.69 lakhs

British Education Fair

1854. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
DR. SANJAY PASWAN:
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

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

(a) whether the British Education Fair has been organised by the British Council in Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai for providing/getting admission in the British Universities;

(b) if so, whether the students opt for distance learning are proposed to be treated at par with the Degree/Diploma/Post Graduate degree of Indian Universities;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to meet the growing demands of the students for higher studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Intrusion on the Border

1855. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any intrusion by Pakistani intruders on the borders from Kutch in Gujarat and Rajasthan after the Kargil war;

(b) if so, the number of intruders entered into the country so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to check the intrusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) No armed intrusion has taken place before or after the Kargil war through the area of Kutch in Gujarat and Rajasthan. However, the figures of crossing of Pak nationals/intruders/smugglers/infiltrators for the period from July, 1999 to February, 2000 are as under:

(i) Rajasthan Border	—	11
(ii) Gujarat Border	—	10

All these Pak intruders apprehended by BSF were handed over to local Police for proceeding against them under the law of land.

World Bank's Assistance for Education

1856. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) whether the World Bank provides fund for technical support for basic education projects and the district Primary Education Programme to various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details of funds provided to each State during the last three years till date, year-wise;

(c) the projects undertaken by these funds and the result achieved therefrom; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve good result in time therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The World Bank is providing funds in the form of IDA credit for implementation of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), including technical support from the national level, in selected educationally backward districts of the States covered under the programme.

(b) At present World Bank assistance to the extent of US\$ 1243.4 million (about Rs. 4546 crores) has been tied up for implementation of DPEP in 182 districts of 13 States, namely, Assam, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan to meet 85% of the project cost and the remaining 15% is to be shared by the concerned State Government. The funds provided by the Government of India to the various States against the World Bank assisted projects of DPEP during the last three years upto February, 2000 is indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(c) DPEP seeks to achieve the objective of universalisation of primary education through various strategies/interventions, which include construction of additional classrooms and new schools, opening of Non-formal/Alternative Schooling Centres, appointment of new teachers, setting up Early Childhood Education Centres, strengthening of State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs/District Institute of Educational Training (DIETs), setting up of Block Resource Centres/Cluster Resource Centres for teacher training, development of improved Teaching Learning Material, special interventions for education of girls' SC/ST, integrated education for disabled children etc. The various Review Missions and evaluatory studies conducted for the programme have brought out that DPEP has created an impact on the entire primary education system. DPEP has added 8000 new formal schools and another 15,000 are in the pipeline. 38,000 alternative schooling centres of various kinds have been set up and about 75,000 more are planned. In addition, about 16,000 summer schools are functioning annually. There has been significant increase in enrolment in the DPEP districts, gender and social inequities have been substantially reduced and signs of increased learning achievements and improvements in classroom processes are in evidence.

(d) With a view to achieving the desired objectives of the programme within the project period, the programme is being supervised and monitored at the

national level through the mechanism of Joint Review Missions, computerised Programme Management Information System (PMIS)/Educational Management Information System (EMIS), meeting of the Project Board and General Council of the DPEP Mission,

participation in the meetings of the Executive Committees of the State Implementation Societies, providing regular technical/professional support to the programme, obtaining periodic reports from the Project States etc.

Statement

Re: World Bank's Assistance for Education.

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of State	Funds released by G.O.I. during the last 3 years (1997-98 to 1999-200) upto February, 2000			Total
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (upto February, 2000)	
1.	Assam	30.37	23.00	44.13	97.50
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	216.00	216.00
3.	Bihar	18.02	34.94	16.00	68.96
4.	Haryana	36.67	5.00	7.00	48.67
5.	Himachal Pradesh	18.74	14.76	10.00	43.50
6.	Karnataka	60.18	84.00	21.48	165.66
7.	Kerala	30.13	26.00	6.00	62.13
8.	Mahdy Pradesh	117.84	160.84	47.00	325.68
9.	Maharashtra	50.33	23.49	19.00	92.82
10.	Orissa	21.15	15.00	0.50	36.65
11.	Rajasthan	—	—	30.50	30.50
12.	Tamil Nadu	43.40	19.19	14.25	76.84
13.	Uttar Pradesh	54.49	89.00	30.00	173.49
Total		481.32	495.22	461.86	1438.40

[*Translation*]

Posts of Sanskrit Post Graduate Teachers

1857. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of posts of Sanskrit post graduate teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas has been gradually decreasing over the last one decade;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The data for last 10 years is being collected.

Research on Medicines

1858. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts on research and manufacturing of cheap and qualitative medicines in order to make the country self-reliant in the field of life saving drugs; and

(b) the action plan of the Government alongwith the production of medicines to maintain quality and certification to check the circulation of spurious medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The Drug Policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring abundant availability of drugs at reasonable prices. The Government has set up in March, 1999 a Pharmaceutical Research and Development Committee with a view to recommend measures to strengthen the research and development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in the country and to identify the support required by the Indian pharmaceutical companies to undertake domestic R&D. The Committee has submitted its Report to the Government.

Under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder, the enforcement of quality control of drugs and pharmaceuticals is regulated by the respective States.

[English]

Amendment in Prevention of Food Adulteration Act

1859. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Processing Industries have represented for amendment in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

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

(b) The suggested amendments include the following:

1. Change in the title of the Act;

2. Amendments of certain definitions given in the Act;

3. Making provisions for giving a counterpart of the sample to the vendor;

4. Rationalization of penal provisions commensurate with the gravity of the offence etc.

(c) and (d) A Departmental group of officers drawn from concerned Ministries/Departments and some of the State Governments has been set up to review the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954. The first meeting of the Group was held on 1-2nd March, 2000 in which the various stakeholders and interest groups presented their views/suggestions on amendment of certain specific provisions of the PFA law as it exists today. Since amendment of a statute involves inter-ministerial consultations and various procedural formalities, a firm deadline in this regard cannot be stipulated.

Working Women Hostel

1860. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for grant under the scheme for working women hostel from the Government of Kerala;

(b) the total amount sanctioned by the Government during the last three years; and

(c) the number out of the total applications pending with the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Twelve applications seeking assistance for construction of hostel buildings for working women have been received from the State Government of Kerala during the last three years.

(b) An amount of Rs. 245.52 lakhs has been sanctioned to different organisations in Kerala during the last three years.

(c) No complete proposal is pending. There are 4 incomplete proposals in respect of which clarification/information sought for from the State Government/organisations has not yet been received.

Houses for Disabled

1861. SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken initiative for the construction and allotment of houses especially designed for the disabled moving on wheel chairs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) One of the aims on the National Housing and Habitat Policy 1998 is to meet the special needs of the disabled. However, housing is a State subject. The Central Government has formulated guidelines and space standards for barrier free built environment for the disabled as well as elderly persons. These guidelines have prescribed construction of a minimum of 2% of the total number of units (in case of single detached single dwelling units) to be constructed with barrier free features in case of staff housing multiple dwelling and high rise residential units and tenements, a minimum of 1 unit for every 25 plus 1 additional unit for every 100 units thereafter is to be with barrier free features.

These guidelines have been circulated among the State Governments for their guidance.

Dogri Language in 8th Schedule

1862. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons speaking Dogri language and the number who speak and read this Dogri language in the country;

(b) whether the Union Government have proposed to include Dogri language in 8th Schedule of the Constitution;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The number of persons who returned Dogri language as their mother tongue in the country was 89,681 as per the 1991 Census excluding Jammu & Kashmir where census could not be conducted due to disturbed conditions. As regards the persons who speak and read Dogri language in the country, details are not available as it was not collected at the Census.

(b) to (d) The Government proposes to constitute a High Powered Body for evolving criteria for inclusion of any or more languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India. The question of inclusion of Dogri language in the Eighth Schedule can be taken up at the appropriate time in terms of the criteria to be evolved by the proposed Body.

Petrochemical Complex in Maharashtra

1863. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a series of port based zero emission petro-chemical complex in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the location thereof;

(c) the total cost of expenditure involved in these projects; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (d) The need to set up integrated 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.

Grants to Universities

1864. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Universities/Colleges selected by UGC for providing financial assistance to conduct coaching classes for weaker sections amongst the educationally backward minority communities during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the actual utilisation of funds by these Universities/Colleges during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) A statement showing names of Universities/Colleges covered by UGC under the Scheme of Coaching Classes for Minorities during the last three years is enclosed.

(b) As per the information received in UGC from the Universities/Colleges, actual expenditure during the last three years is as under:

Years	(Rs. in lakhs)
1996-97	52.66
1997-98	55.01
1998-99	63.16

Statement

Statement showing names of Universities/Colleges covered by UGC under the Scheme of Coaching Classes for Minorities during the last three years

S.No.	Name of State and Universities	S. No.	Name of Colleges
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Kakatiya University, Warangal-560009.	1.	Anwar-Ul-Uloom College, New Mallepatty, Hyderabad.
2.	Osmania University, Hyderabad 570007. (Discontinued in December, 1999)	2.	Osmania College, Kumool.
Assam			
3.	Gauhati University, Gauhati-781614		
Bihar			
4.	L.N. Mithila University, Darbhanga.	3.	Mirza Ghalib College, Bodh-Gaya.
5.	Patna University Patna.	4.	D.S. College, Katihar.
		5.	K.S. College, Laheriasarai, Darbhanga.
		6.	Karim City College Jamshedpur
		7.	Millat College, Leheriyasarai, Darbhanga. (closed in 1999)
		8.	MLSM College, Darbhanga.
		9.	Marwari College, Kishan Ganj.
Delhi			
6.	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.	10.	Zakir Hussain College. New Delhi.
Gujarat			
7.	South Gujarat University, Surat.		
Haryana			
8.	M.D. University, Rohtak.		

1	2.	3	4
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Jammu & Kashmir

9. Jammu University,
Jammu
10. Kashmir University,
Srinagar.

Karnataka

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>11. Bangalore University,
Bangalore</p> | <p>11. Anjuman-E-Islam's
Nehru Arts, Science & Commerce College,
Ghantikeri, Hubli.</p> <p>12. Anjuman Arts, Science & Commerce College,
Bijapur.</p> <p>13. Akka Mahadevi Mahila Mahavidyalaya,
Bidar.</p> <p>14. Dr. Ambedkar College of Arts & Commerce,
Gulbarga.</p> <p>15. HKE Society's Smt. V Gangasri College for
Women, Gulbarga.</p> <p>16. HKE Society's M S Irani Degree College of Arts,
Science & Commerce, Gulbarga.</p> <p>17. HKE Society's Arts, Science & Commerce
College, Aland.</p> <p>18. HKE Society's Sri Prabhu Arts, Science and JMB
Behra Commerce College,
Shorapur, Gulbarga.
(Not implemented)</p> <p>19. Hasanath College for Women,
Bangalore.</p> <p>20. Karnatak Arts, Science & Commerce College,
Bidar.</p> <p>21. SECAB Association's Adhur Razzaga Insidar
College of Arts, Science and Commerce College
for Women, Bijapur.</p> <p>22. The Al-Ameen Arts, Science & Commerce
College, Bangalore</p> |
|--|--|

Kerala

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>12. Calicut University
Calicut.</p> | <p>23. Farook College,
Calicut.</p> <p>24. Govt. College, Kasaragod,
Distt. Kasaragod.</p> <p>25. Iqbal College,
Peringamala, Trivandrum.</p> |
|--|---|
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1	2	3	4
		26.	MES, Kalladi College, Mannarghat, Palghat.
		27.	MES Manpad College, Mallapuram.
		28.	MES Ponnani College, Ponnani. (Discontinued in December 1999)
		29.	Pocker Sahib Memorial Orphanage College, Tirurangadi.
		30.	St. Mary's College, Sultan Bathery, Wynad, Distt. Calicut.
		31.	Sree Narayana College, Matika, Distt. Trichur.
		32.	Sir Syed College, Taliparamba Cannore Distt.
		33.	MES Asambi College, P.O. Vemballur, Kodungallur, Trichur.
Maharashtra			
13.	Bombay University, Mumbai.	34.	Anjuman-I Islam's Akbar Peerbhoy College of Commerce & Economics, Tyabji Marg, Dr. Dadabhoy Nauroji Road, Mumbai.
14.	Nagpur University, Nagpur.	35.	Dr. Ambedkar College of Commerce & Economics, Walda (Mumbai). (Discontinued in December 1999)
		36.	Maulana Azad College of Arts, Science & Commerce. Aurangabad.
Madhya Pradesh			
15.	Barkatullah University, Bhopal.	37.	Saifia College, Bhopal.
16.	Devi Ahilya Vishvavidyalay, Indore.		
Manipur			
		38.	Lilong Haoreibi College, Manipur.
Punjab			
		39.	Government College, Melarkotia.
		40.	S.D. College, Hoshiarpur.

1	2	3	4
		41.	D A V College, Mahatma Hans Raj Road, Jalandhar. (Discontinued in December 1999)
Tamil Nadu		42.	Islarniah College, Vaniambadi, North Arcot Distt.
		43.	Jamal Mohamed College, Tiruchirapalli.
		44.	Mazharul Uloom College, Ambur North Arcot Distt.
		45.	Rajab Serfoji Govt. College, Thanjavur.
Uttar Pradesh			
17.	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202001	46.	APN Degree College, Basti.
18.	Allahabad University, Allahabad-211001.	47.	Acharya Narendra Deo Kisan PG College, Gonda.
19.	Chaudhry Charan Singh University, Meerut. (Discontinued in December 1999)	48.	BMKB (PG) Degree College, Akbarpur, Faizabad.
20.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Agra.	49.	Degree College, Patti, Pratapgarh.
21.	Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur.	50.	Govt. Mahila Post Graduate College, Qila Rampur.
22.	Lucknow University, Lucknow.	51.	Gandhi Faizen (PG) College, Shajahanpur
		52.	Hamidia Girls Degree College, Sultanpur Bhawa, Noorullah Road, Allahabad.
		53.	Halim Muslim Degree College, Kanpur.
		54.	Karamat Hussain Muslim Girls Degree College, Mohanagar, Lucknow.
		55.	Lucknow Christian Degree College, Lucknow.
		56.	M M H College, Ghaziabad.

1	2	3	4
		57.	Shibli National College, Azamgarh.
West Bengal		58.	Maulana Azad College, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Calcutta.
		59.	Khandi Raj College, Murshidabad.

Non-Payment of Salary, NMB, Nagpur

1865. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations from the staff of Nagpur Nutritional Monitoring Bureau has been received regarding non-receipt of salary from February, 1998 to May, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the payment of salary to them is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) The salary to the Staff of National Nutritional Monitoring Bureau, Nagpur for the Months of February 1998 to April, 1998 and May, 1998 was paid on 20.5.98 and 9.6.98 respectively. The delay in payment of salaries occurred on account of non-receipt of progress report from this State Unit.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts in Delhi University

1866. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem regarding vacant posts in Delhi University appearing in 'Dainik Jagran', New Delhi Edition dated January 8, 2000;

(b) if so, the number of posts lying vacant in Delhi and other Central Universities, University-wise;

(c) the number of these vacant posts belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes separately; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up these posts especially those belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

[English]

Child Development Projects

1867. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Integrated Child Development Project sanctioned for Kerala during the last three years; and

(b) the amount provided by the World Bank for these projects during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Out of a total sanction of 163 Integrated Child Development Services Projects, Kerala was permitted to operationalise 120 projects upto 1997-98. During 1998-2000, further 20 projects were permitted to be operationalised. The balance 23 projects have been permitted to be operationalised during 2000-2001.

(b) The following funds were provided to the State Government of Kerala under the World Bank assisted

ICDS-III Project, year-wise (including ICDS Training Programme):

1997-98	Nil
1998-99	Rs. 6.33 crores
1999-2000	Rs. 8.11 crores

[*Translation*]

Navodaya Vidyalayas

1868. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Navodaya Vidyalayas running in Bihar at present alongwith number of students studying therein;

(b) whether the number of teachers in these Vidyalayas is less than the requirement;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to fill up all vacant posts in the said Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) At present 48 JNVs are functioning in the State of Bihar, with 14,201 students studying therein.

(b) to (d) The position of teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in the State of Bihar is as under:

Posts	Sanctioned	In Position	Vacant
PGTs	230	217	13
TGTs	385	342	43
Misc. Categories	241	201	40

Pending regular recruitment of teachers, the vacant posts of teachers are filled up on contract/part time basis.

[*English*]

Misuse of Agriculture Land

1869. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer

to the answer given to USQ No. 3385 dated 21.12.99 regarding misuse of agricultural land and to state:

(a) the details of cases pending under section 81 of Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 in the Courts of Revenue Assistance, Hauz Khas and Vasant Vihar, New Delhi;

(b) the time by which these cases are pending and the reasons for not finalising them expeditiously; and

(c) the details of warrant of possession executed so far by the Revenue Department?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Government of National Territory of Delhi has reported that there are 419 cases pending under section 81 of Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 in the courts of Revenue Assistants, Hauz Khas and Vasant Vihar, New Delhi.

(b) There is no specific reason for pendency and these cases are being heard by Revenue Assistant as per the law for disposal.

(c) Warrant of possession is issued by the Court of Revenue Assistant on the application moved by the Gram Sabha. During the year 1999, 42 warrant of possession were issued in above mentioned sub-Divisions and one warrant of possession was executed.

Lease System in Delhi

1870. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Delhi to abolish lease system in Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in this connection, Government has introduced a Scheme vide its orders dated 14.2.92 under which conversion of leasehold system of land tenure in Delhi into freehold in respect of residential plots has been allowed on payment of one time conversion fee and the said scheme is still open.

*[Translation]***Technical Teachers Training Institutes**

1871. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the qualification prescribed for appointment of President and members of Board of Governors of Technical Teachers Training Institutes; and

(b) the functions of such Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) There is no position of President in Technical Teachers Training Institutes. However, the Board of Governors is headed by a Chairman. No qualifications have been prescribed for appointment of Chairman and Members of the Board of Governors.

(b) The specific duties of the Board of Governors are incorporated in the Memorandum of Association of the respective Institute. Briefly, the Board of Governors oversees the functioning/management of the Institute and provides appropriate policy directions.

*[English]***Dibrugarh University**

1872. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Universities recognised by U.G.C. to generate income by cultivating any crops, pisciculture etc.

(b) whether the Universities of Dibrugarh in Assam has leased the University Land for tea cultivation to any private company; and

(c) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Survey of New Ashok Nagar**

1873. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officers of Delhi Development Authority has conducted a survey of New Ashok Nagar Delhi-96 (Chilla Saroda Vagar) merely on papers in November 1980 and the residents of this area were not informed about the survey;

(b) if so, whether the survey report was prepared under section VI in September, 1981 on the basis of documents of the Registrar Office;

(c) if so, the reasons for not conducting survey on the spot; and

(d) the number of residents of this colony filed objections to the D.D.A.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. D.D.A. has reported that it has not conducted any such Survey.

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

*[English]***CGHS Dispensaries in Delhi**

1874. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to open CGHS Dispensaries in those areas of NCT where there is no CGHS Dispensaries so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any CHGS Dispensary is proposed to be opened at Nand Nagri area of Trans Yamuna; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) There are proposal to set up the following CGHS Allopathic dispensaries under CGHS, Delhi during the

Ninth Five Year Plan subject to availability of manpower and resources:

1. Vasant Vihar
2. Vasant Kunj
3. Mayur Vihar Phase-II
4. Vikaspuri
5. Sultanpuri
6. Sarita Vihar
7. Najafgarh
8. Sahibabad (Ghaziabad)

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A dispensary has already been sanctioned for Nand Nagri area of Trans Yamuna but the same could not be started due to non-availability of suitable accommodation.

Courses Started by IGNOU

1875. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IGNOU has started a number of courses including MCA as distant education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CIC course meant for entrance for MCA proposed to be started in January 2000; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by IGNOU to start the CIC course immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the University is running the following five computer programmes including MCA as distance education:

- (1) Master of Computer Application (MCA)
- (2) Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA)
- (3) Certificate in Computing (CIC)
- (4) Advanced Diploma in Information Technology (ADIT)
- (5) Bachelor in Information Technology (BIT)

(c) Yes, Sir. IGNOU has already started the CIC programme from January, 1996.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Council of Historical Research

1876. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Historical Research has withdrawn two books under the series "Towards Freedom" from the publishers, Oxford University Press; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Historical Research has requested the publishers, the Oxford University Press, to temporarily withhold the work of publication of the two volumes written by Prof. Sumit Sarkar and Prof. K.N. Panikkar.

Cocktail Drug for HIV/AIDS

1877. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cocktail drug (AZT) is being sold in the Indian market as a preventive and curable medicine for HIV/AIDS; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The drug AZT (azidothymidine) has been approved and is being marketed by M/s. Glaxo, Wellcome and M/s. Cipla, Mumbai.

PHC/Sub Centres in Delhi

1878. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PHC/Sub-Centres set up by the Government in Delhi;

(b) whether these Centres are as per norms prescribed by the Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps the Government propose to take to set up more PHC, Sub-Centres in Delhi;

(d) whether the existing PHC/Sub-Centres are fully equipped with the required medicines as well as Doctors; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps being 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) There are 42 Sub Centres and 8 PHCs functioning in Delhi.

(b) As per 1991 population norms there is a shortfall of 148 Sub Centres and 24 PHCs in Delhi.

(c) Establishment of these centres is the responsibility of the State Government. Additional Central Assistance under Basic Minimum Services Programme is being provided to the States for strengthening seven Basic Minimum Services, one of which is Primary Health Care. Planning Commission has given targets to set up 148 Sub Centres and 24 PHCs under Ninth Plan.

(d) and (e) There is a shortage of doctors in some Primary Health Centres PHCs are established and maintained by the State Government. The Central Government is providing funds for strengthening the Primary Health Care Services, provision of medicines, contractual staff and inservice training etc. under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme.

[Translation]

Contract Labourers

1879. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed on contract basis in Government and Government aided hospitals of Delhi;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to regularise their services in their respective hospitals; and

(c) if so, the time by which they are likely to be made permanent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No labour is employed on contract basis in Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals and All India Institute of Medical Sciences. However, these four hospitals are engaging private agencies to guide the patients and their attendants and for the security of the hospitals. As far as hospitals of

Government of NCT of Delhi are concerned the information is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Quality of Food Served by SAI

1880. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that the food supplied to sportsmen and women at the canteens run by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) is unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India is enquiring into the matter. Remedial measures will be taken as required.

[Translation]

Shifting of Film Producers from Mumbai

1881. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the film producers of Mumbai are planning to shift their business to Delhi in view of attacks of Mafia on the film producers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the identity of the mafia or gangs has been ascertained; and

(d) if so, the action being taken against them so as to build confidence in the film industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No such information is available with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 'Police Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. As such, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments from time to time, to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system to ensure effective prevention of crime.

A proposal for constituting a Task Force to deal with all aspects of organized extortion has been forwarded to the State Government of Maharashtra.

Official Language

1882. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of official language had published an advertisement to invite membership for Hindi Advisory Committee in various Ministries;

(b) if so, the number of applications received and the Ministries for which these are meant for;

(c) the names of the ministries in which the said Committee has been constituted alongwith the names of the Committee members;

(d) the ministries in which the said Committee has not yet been constituted and the reasons for delay therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. perhaps the intention of the Hon'ble member is to refer Hindi Salahakar Samiti and not to Hindi Advisory Committee.

(b) On the basis of application received, a list of 448 person has been prepared. While considering the proposal received from Ministries/Departments for re-constitution of their Hindi Salahakar Samities, Department of Official Language also considered this list for nominating 3 non-official members in it.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) and (e) In addition to Ministries/Departments mentioned in reply to part (c) of the question, the process for constitution/re-constitution of Samities in other Ministries/Department is in progress. Concerned Ministries/Departments have been requested from time to time by the Department of Official Language to expedite constitution/re-constitution of these samities as early as possible.

Statement

I. Name of Ministries/Departments where Hindi Salahakar Samities have been constituted.

- (1) Department of Agriculture and Co-operative.
- (2) Department of Commerce and Deptt. of Supply.
- (3) Department of Revenue & Expenditure.
- (4) Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.
- (5) Department of Heavy Industry & Public Enterprises.
- (6) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- (7) Ministry of Labour.
- (8) Department of Mines.
- (9) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
- (10) Ministry of Power
- (11) Ministry of Railways
- (12) Department of Science & Technology and Ocean Development.
- (13) Ministry of Steel.
- (14) Ministry of Water Resources.
- (15) Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizer
- (16) Department of Food Processing Industries.
- (17) Department of Telecommunications.

II. A list of Members of Parliament, members nominated by Parliamentary Committee on official

language, members nominated by voluntary organisation/
Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad in addition to official

members and non-official members nominated in the
constituted Hindi Salahakar Samities are as follows:

Name of Ministries/Department	Name of non-official member
1	2
(1) Department of Agriculture and Co-operative	(1) President, Akhil Bhartiya Hindi Sanstha Sangh (2) President, Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad. (3) Shri Sukhvira Singh Rana (4) Shri Mahendra Pal Singh (5) Shri Ramnath Sehgal (6) Shri Daulal Saakhi (7) Dr. Govardhan Sharma (8) Dr. P.K. Balsubramanyan (9) Shri Loknath Bharati
2. Department of Commerce and Department of Supply	(1) S. Darshan Singh, Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad (2) Prof. Anand Ram Tripathi, Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Vardha (3) Shri H.T. Thakkar (4) Shri M.L. Maitrya (5) Dr. C.P. Rajgopalan Nayar (6) Shri Katam Lakshmi Narayan (7) Shri D. Tangvelan (8) Dr. Rajendra Prasad Gupta (9) Dr. Raj Kishore Singh (10) Dr. Chitranjan Mishra
3. Department of Revenue & Expenditure	(1) Shri Sudhakar Pandey (2) Shri Chandradhar Tripathi (3) Prof. S.B. Madhav Rao (4) Shri Devraj (5) Prof. Dr. R.S. Ramchandra Nayar (6) Prof. K.K. Krishnan Nambutri (7) Dr. Veena Srivastav (8) Dr. Ramswarth Singh

1	2
4. Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	(1) Dr. Babu Singh Chauhan (2) Shri Suresh Mishra (3) Shri Sudhakar Prasad Ram Tiwari (4) Dr. Keshav Phalke (5) Dr. T. Kunj Kishore Singh (6) Dr. M. Raman Nayar (7) President, Nagri Pracharini Sabha (8) Representative, Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad
5. Deptt. of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises	(1) Shri V. Seshan, Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad (2) Shri Anant Ram Tripathi (3) Shri Narendra Kohli (4) Dr. Prem Prakash Bhatt (5) Shri Naresh Shandilya (6) Shri Jawahar Lal Kaul (7) Dr. Harvansh Lal Dhiman (8) Dr. Tippeyswami (9) Prof. Jagmal Singh
(6) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	(1) Dr. Sayyed Rahmatulla (2) Smt. Nishi Mishra (3) Dr. Nand Kishore Trikha (4) Shri Shashi Bhushan Vajpayee (5) Shri K.K. Grover (6) Shri Phool Chand Suman (7) Prof. Jayant Vasoya (8) Prof. Dr. B.S. Gautam "Vikal" (9) Dr. Ram Kumar Garva
(7) Ministry of Labour	(1) Shri Ramesh Gupta Chatak (2) Shri Nand Kishore Sharma (3) Shri Rasa Singh Rawat (4) Shri Shailendra Prashar (5) Dr. Sohanpal Sumnakshar (6) Shri K.K. Grover

1	2
	(7) Dr. V. Krishna
	(8) Dr. M. Seshan
	(9) Dr. N. Chandrashekhra Nayar
(8) Deptt. of Mines	(1) Shri Chandrika Prasad, Vice-President, Kendriya Sachivalya Hindi Parishad
	(2) Shri K.M. Samuvail, Kerala Hindi Prachar Sabha
	(3) Dr. (Smt.) Usha Goel
	(4) Dr. Pandurang Dungey
	(5) Dr. J. Ram Chandra Nayar
	(6) Shri Vijay Pratap Singh
	(7) Shri Devendra Upadhyay
	(8) Dr. (Smt.) Achla Rani Tiwari
	(9) Shri Lakshman Prasad Mishra
(9) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	(1) Dr. Daya Krishna Vijay
	(2) Dr. Kanhaiya Singh
	(3) Shri Suresh Sinha
	(4) Shri Prashant Mishra
	(5) Representative, Kendriya Sachivalya Hindi Parishad
	(6) Dr. S. Khadar Mohiddin
	(7) Shri Ratan Kumar Pandey
	(8) Shri T.R. Bhatt
(10) Ministry of Power	(1) President, Kendriya Sachivalya Hindi Parishad
	(2) President, Rashraabhasha Prachar Samiti, Vardha
	(3) Shri Vinod Narayan Jha
	(4) Dr. Madhuresh Nandan Kulshreshth
	(5) Smt. Meena Aggarwal
	(6) Smt. Om Tiwari
	(7) Shri R.K. Mishra
	(8) Dr. Madhav Rao Venkat
	(9) Shri C.D. Tripathi
(11) Ministry of Railways	(1) Shri Sudhakar Pandey
	(2) Dr. Lakshminarayan Dubey

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(11) Ministry of Railways

- (3) Shri Vinod Narayan Jha
 (4) Dr. Madhuresh Nandan Kulshreshth
 (5) Smt. Meena Aggarwal
 (6) Smt. Om Tiwari
 (7) Shri R.K. Mishra
 (8) Dr. Madhav Rao Venkat
 (9) Shri C.D. Tripathi
- (1) Shri Sudhakar Panday
 (2) Dr. Lakshminarayan Dubey
 (3) Shri Suneet Vyas
 (4) Shri Mohan Das Sonusurkar
 (5) Prof. Surajbhan Singh
 (6) Dr. Ved Pratap Vedic
 (7) Shri Prabhash Joshi
 (8) Dr. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar
 (9) Shri Habib Tanvir
 (10) Dr. N. Chandrashekhran Nayar
 (11) Shri Alok Mehta
 (12) Shri Rajat Sharma
 (13) Shri Vinod Dua
 (14) Smt. Mrinal Pandey
 (15) Shri Prem Kumar Mani
 (16) Shri Ram Bujhavan Singh
 (17) Shri Siddeshwar Prasad
 (18) Shri Chandra Prakash
 (19) Shri Vikas Kumar Jha
 (20) Shri Rahul Dev
 (21) Shri Shailesh Kumar
 (22) Shri S.D. Narayan
 (23) Shri Madhusudan Krishan Ji Saathyey
 (24) Shri Ram Kripal Singh
 (25) Shri Sanjya Pugliya

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- (26) Shri Harivansh
- (27) Shri Anurag Chaturvedi
- (28) Shri Kurban Ali
- (29) Shri Arun Keshri
- (30) Shri Ram Bahadur Rai
- (31) Shri T.S.K. Kannan
- (32) Shri Harishankar Vyas
- (33) Shri Vijay Kumar Mishra
- (34) Ms. Indira Goswami
- (35) Prof. Nizamuddin
- (36) Shri Mohan Das Naimish Rai
- (37) Shri Virendra Yagyik
- (38) Shri Arvind Nimbavli
- (39) Shri Tarun Vijay
- (40) Smt. Mridula Sinha
- (41) President, Kendriya Sachivalya Hindi Parishad

(12) Deptt. of Science & Technology
and Ocean Development

- (1) Shri Vinod Raina
- (2) Prof. Manager Pandey
- (3) Prof. Neerja Shukla
- (4) Prof. B.B. Tripathi
- (5) Shri Manohar Singh Batra, Kendriya Sachivalya Hindi Parishad
- (6) Prof. Anant Ram Tripathi
- (7) Dr. N.G. Devki M.G.
- (8) Dr. Mukul Chand Pandey
- (9) Dr. Shambhu Nath

(13) Ministry of Steel

- (1) Shri Vibhuti Mishra
- (2) Shri Ramesh Nayyar
- (3) Dr. Keshri Lal Verma
- (4) Dr. H.L. Bacchithia
- (5) Dr. Vishnu Singh Thakur
- (6) Shri Ramanath Shukla
- (7) Dr. Shanker Lal Purohit
- (8) Shri S.M. Ramchandran Swami

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(14) Ministry of Water Resources	(1) Shri Chandrika Prasad, Kendriya Sachivalya Hindi Parishad (2) President, Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Prayag (3) Dr. Narendra Kohli (4) Dr. Shailendra Nath Srivastava (5) Shri Chandrika Prasad Sharma (6) Shri Tarun Vijay (7) Shri Dr. Jagmal Singh (8) Prof I.B. Singh (9) Shri Sheikh Abdul Salam
(15) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	(1) Shri Pritam Singh Rahi (2) Dr. Manoop Singh (3) Shri Sudhakar Prasar Ram Tiwari (4) Shri Mahesh Bansal, Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad (5) Shri Vibhuti Mishra, Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Prayag (6) Shri K.G. Balkrishan Pillai (7) Dr. Gyan Singh Maan (8) Shri Bhuvneshvar Burman
(16) Food Processing Industries Deptt.	(1) Km. Aradhna Chowdhri (2) Shri Himanshu Joshi (3) Dr. N.G. Devki (4) Dr. V.N. Upadhyay (5) Shri Gajbhan Shastri (6) Representative, Kendriya Sachivalya, Hindi Parishad (7) Representative, Akhil Bhartiya Hindi Sanstha Sangh
(17) Deptt. of Telecommunications	(1) Prof. Anant Ram Tripathi (2) Dr. R. Surendran (3) Dr. Virendra Kumar Dubey (4) Dr. Siyaram Tiwari (5) Shri Krishna Kumar Grover (6) Prof. Vachaspati Upadhyay (7) Shri Tarun Vijya (8) Prof. (Ms.) Charu Mittal

[English]

Naxalite Activities

1883. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to convene a meeting of Home Ministers of each State to activate their forces against the naxalite activities and PWG in respective States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Home Minister has convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the States affected by Left wing Extermist activities, on 31.3.2000 at New Delhi.

White Paper on ISI Activities

1884. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared or preparing a 'White Paper' on the role of Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence in terrorist activities in India including that on intrusions by Pakistani Militants and forces in Kargil;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Preparation of a White Paper on the role of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence in terrorist activities in India is under consideration.

[Translation]

Vijayi Veer Awas Yojana

1885. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a foundation stone for the Vijayi Veer Awas Yojana has been laid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of Awas likely to be constructed under the said Yojana, category-wise alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(d) the time by when the Construction is likely to be completed;

(e) the criteria laid down for the allotment of these houses;

(f) whether there is a scheme to allot houses to the dependents of all the martyrs as on date; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The foundation stone for "Vijayee Veer Awas Yojana" was laid on 25.12.1999.

(c) The DDA propose to construct 414 flats 312 Type 'A' (2-bedroom) plus 102 Type 'B' (3-bedroom) at Sector 18-A Dwarka, New Delhi under the said "Vijayee Veer Awas Yojana" at an estimated cost of Rs. 18.86 crores.

(d) The likely time of completion is one year.

(e) Following criteria has been laid down by the DDA for allotment of these flats:

(i) The applicant must be a permanently disable soldiers or widow/next of kin/dependent of killed soldiers involved in 'Operation Vijay'. The permanent disability should be certified by the concerned Armed Services Medical Board.

(ii) He/she should have completed 18 years of age as on 30.11.1999.

(iii) The applicant should also submit an affidavit on Rs. 2/- non-judicial stamp paper duly attested by the 1st Class Magistrate or Notary Public by affixing Notarial Stamp worth Rs. 3/- as per the prescribed proforma.

Subsequently on the request of the Ministry of Defence, it has been decided to extend the Scheme to all battle casualties including 'Operation Vijay' w.e.f. 1.5.1999 so that the flats offered in the Scheme could be utilized in full provided the number of flats already offered by the DDA is not exceeded.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Under the guidelines for out-of-turn allotment of DDA flats, war widows of soldiers of Delhi domicile who have fallen in indigent conditions *inter alia* are eligible for consideration for allotment of DDA flats by the Empowered Committee consisting of Lt. Governor of Delhi and Urban Development Minister.

Ambulance Services in Hospitals of Delhi

1886. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ambulance services provided in the Government Hospitals of Delhi lacking the necessary facilities are being misused;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures to be taken by the Government to make the ambulance services useful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The ambulance services provided in the Central Government Hospitals of Delhi, i.e. (1) Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, (2) Safdarjung Hospital, and (3) Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals, are well equipped with trained manpower and other equipments and medicines to handle common emergency conditions and are used for patients. The information in respect of hospitals under the administrative control of Government of NCT of Delhi is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House/Sabha.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in case of Central Government Hospitals.

[English]

Setting up of Training centres by SAI

1887. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of training centres set up under the Sports Promotion Schemes by the Sports Authority of India in the country, location-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of schools adopted by SAI under the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of facilities provided to the trainees under the Schemes?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) 71 Training Centres have been set up by the Sports Authority of India under its sports promotion scheme. The number of Centres in each scheme is as follows:

(i) Army Boys Sports Companies	16
(ii) SAI Training Centres	42
(iii) Centres of Excellence	06
(iv) Special Area Games	07

Details regarding the Centres, location-wise and State-wise are given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) There are in all 31 schools which have been adopted under National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme. The details of adopted schools under NSTC is given in enclosed Statement II.

(c) Facilities to the trainees are given in terms of sports facilities, sports equipments, coaching, scientific back-up, boarding and lodging, medical assistance, insurance cover, competition exposure, educational expenses (till 12th class).

Statement I

Training Centres Under Sports Promotion Schemes of SAI

Sl.No.	Scheme	Location	State
1	2	3	4
i.	Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)	1. Jabalpur 2. Ranikhet 3. Roorkee 4. Bareilly	Madhya Pradesh Uttar Pradesh Uttar Pradesh Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3	4
		5. Delhi Cantt.	Delhi
		6. GTC Shillong	Meghalaya
		7. ARC Shillong	Meghalaya
		8. Danapur	Bihar
		9. Ramgarh	Bihar
		10. MEG Bangalore	Karnataka
		11. ASC Bangalore	Karnataka
		12. Belgaum	Karnataka
		13. Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
		14. Kirkee Nasik	Maharashtra
		15. Nasik	Maharashtra
		16. Kamptee	Maharashtra
II.	Sports	1. Elluru	Andhra Pradesh
	Training	2. Nizamabad	Andhra Pradesh
	Centres	3. Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
	(STC)	4. Bangalore	Karnataka
		5. Dharwad	Karnataka
		6. Kollam	Kerala
		7. Medikeri	Kerala
		8. Trivandrum	Kerala
		9. Trichur	Kerala
		10. Calicut	Kerala
		11. Pondichery	Pondicherry
		12. Chennai	Tamil Nadu
		13. Salem	Tamil Nadu
		14. Calcutta	West Bengal
		15. Lebong	West Bengal
		16. Siliguri	West Bengal
		17. Burdwan	West Bengal
		18. Dhenkenal	Orissa
		19. Cuttack	Orissa
		20. Kandivalli (Mumbai)	Maharashtra

1	2	3	4
		21. Gandhinagar	Gujarat
		22. Ponda	Goa
		23. Alwar	Rajasthan
		24. Jodhpur	Rajasthan
		25. Dhar	Madhya Pradesh
		26. Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
		27. Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
		28. Kashipur	Uttar Pradesh
		29. Raibarielly	Uttar Pradesh
		30. Etawh	Uttar Pradesh
		31. Delhi	Delhi
		32. Patiala	Punjab
		33. Chandigarh	Punjab
		34. Bhiwani	Haryana
		35. Kurukshetra	Haryana
		36. Bilaspur	Himachal Pradesh
		37. Dharamshala	Himachal Pradesh
		38. Dimapur	Nagaland
		39. Imphal	Manipur
		40. Guwahati	Assam
		41. Golaghat	Assam
		42. Shillong	Meghalaya
III.	Centre of Excellence	1. Southern Centre (Bangalore)	Karnataka
		2. Western Centre (Gandhinagar)	Gujarat
		3. Central Centre (Delhi)	Delhi
		4. Northern Centre (Chandigarh)	Punjab
		5. Eastern Centre (Calcutta)	West Bengal
		6. North-East Centre (Imphal)	Manipur

1	2	3	4
IV.	Special Area Games (SAG)	1. Ranchi 2. Jagatpur 3. Port Blair 4. Aizwal 5. Imphal 6. Tellicherry 7. Alleppay	Bihar Orissa A&N Islands Mizoram Manipur Kerala Kerala

Statement II*National Sports Talent Contest**A Statement giving details of SAI Adopted Schools Under the NSTC Scheme*

Sl.No.	Location	State
1	2	3
<i>Southern Region</i>		
1.	St. Joseph's Indian High School, Bangalore	Karnataka
2.	V.P. Sidhartha Public School, Vijaywada	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Mount Carmel School, Kottayam	Kerala
<i>Eastern Region</i>		
4.	St. Ignatius High School Gumla	Bihar
5.	Sukantnagar Vidya Niketan, Calcutta	West Bengal
6.	B.S. High School, Sundergarh	Orissa
7.	Umakanta Academy, Agartala	Tripura
8.	Tashi Namgyal Academy, Gangtok	Sikkim
9.	Govt. Girls High Sec. School, Ranchi	Bihar
10.	G.G. High Secondary School, Krishna Nagar	West Bengal
11.	St. G.H. School, Sundergarh	Orissa
12.	Downhil G.H. School, Kurseong	West Bengal
<i>Central Region</i>		
13.	Mahadevi Kanya Pathshala Inter College	Uttar Pradesh
14.	Govt. Multipurpose HS School, Indore	Madhya Pradesh

1	2	3
15.	Udaipratap Inter College, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
16.	Colvin Taloqdar, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
17.	Maharani Laxmibai Multi-Purpose, Jabalpur <i>Western Region</i>	Madhya Pradesh
18.	Muktangana English School, Pune	Maharashtra
19.	Parvara Public School, Parvara Nagar, Ahmedabad	Gujarat
20.	Bhupal's Noolles HS School, Udaipur	Rajasthan
21.	Bhonsla Military School, Nasik	Maharashtra
22.	Sanjeevan Vidyalaya, Panchgani	Maharashtra
23.	St. Anthony's High School, Shillong <i>North-East Region</i>	Meghalaya
24.	Dony Polo Vidya Bhavan, Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
25.	Don Bosco HS, Guwahati	Assam
26.	Sainik School, Imphal	Manipur
27.	Anthony's High School, Goa <i>Northern Region</i>	Meghalaya
28.	Shivalik Public School, Chandigarh	Chandigarh
29.	Govt. Girls SS School, Jalandhar	Punjab
30.	Motilal Nehru School Sports, Rai	Haryana
31.	CRZ Sr. Sec. School, Sonapat	Haryana

World Class Schools

1888. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up world class schools in all the States for the benefit of NRI students;

(b) if so, whether it is also proposed to relax the rules for registration of such schools under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c) Does not arise.

Fake Degrees and Marksheets

1889. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of fake degrees and marksheets in the Universities particularly in Nagpur University have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected in each State particularly in Nagpur during the last year; and

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

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

According to the information furnished by UGC, cases of fake degrees and marksheets have come to the notice of the Commission through newspaper reports in respect of Delhi University, Bhagalpur University, L.N. Mithila University, B.N. Mandal University and Vinoba Bhave University. Cases of fake degrees of Osmania University, Gulbarga University, Kakatiya University, Nagpur University and Madurai Kamaraj University have also been reported in the Press.

(c) Appropriate action in this regard is to be taken by the Law enforcing agencies on the basis of investigation reports.

Tribals Welfare Project

1890. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposal received for the welfare and rehabilitations of the tribals from the States;

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

(c) whether the Government have any scheme to provide land for rehabilitation and upliftment of the Tribals in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) For the development of the Scheduled Tribes, a number of proposals have been received and after approval, are being implemented through the State Government/Union Territory Administrations and Voluntary Organisations. The proposals relate to the following schemes:

I. Educational Schemes:

(a) Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Area.

(c) Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas.

(d) Vocational Training Centres.

(e) Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

II. Economic Schemes:

(f) Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)

(g) Assistance to STDCs

(h) Price Support to TRIFED.

(i) Investment in the Share Capital of TRIFED.

(j) Grant under first proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution.

(k) Scheme of Village Grain Banks.

(l) Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs).

III. Social Scheme:

(m) Research and Training.

2. In addition to the above, there are certain Educational schemes which are common for both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as under:

(i) Post Matric Scholarship for SC and ST students;

(ii) National Overseas Scholarship for SC, ST students.

(iii) Upgradation of merit of SC/ST students.

(iv) Book Banks for SC/ST students.

(v) Coaching and Allied Scheme for SC/ST students.

Apart from the above, no other specific proposal has been received from the States/Union Territories.

(c) The concerned State Governments take care of this aspect.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Iron Deficiency in Women and Children

1891. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Indian Women suffering from iron deficiency;

(b) the number of Indian children afflicted with Cretinism and mild retardation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Preliminary analysis of data collected by the National Family Health Survey-II in eleven States during 1998-99 revealed that about 41.5 to 63.6 per cent of the women in the age group of 15 to 49 years are anaemic. However, the survey conducted by ICMR during 1984-86 showed that around 87.6 per cent of pregnant women had anaemia.

Based on surveys, it is estimated that 2.2 million children are affected by cretinism and another 6.6 million children have mild neurological disorders.

The Government of India has recognised that anaemia and iodine deficiency diseases are major public health problems. Therefore, specific intervention such as Prophylaxis programmes against Nutritional Anaemia due to Iron Deficiency under Reproductive and Child Health Programme and National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme are under implementation to prevent and control these micro-nutrient deficiency disorders.

[*Translation*]

Freedom Fighter Pension

1892. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending cases pertaining to grant of Samman pension to freedom fighters of Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to implement any special scheme for settlement of the said cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of applications pending for freedom fighters pension for more than three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to reduce the eligibility period of jail from six months to three months for getting pension;

(f) whether there is any proposal under consideration to increase the pension and other facilities; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (d) No case, complete in all respects and eligible for pension, duly verified and recommended by the State Government, is pending at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(e) The eligibility period of jail suffering has already been relaxed from six months to three months in the case of women and SC/ST freedom fighters. There is no proposal under the Government's consideration for reducing the period of jail suffering in respect of others.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Deployment of Central Forces to States

1893 DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI PS. GADHAVI:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have demanded more Central forces to combat ISI activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Central forces deployed to these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Payment of Compensation

1894. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the militancy related incidents the amount of compensation paid to the next-of-kin differs vastly in the case of policemen, para military forces and army men who are killed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for variation in the payment of relief when persons belonging to these forces die in similar circumstances while performing their duty alongwith the criteria for fixing the amount of relief;

(d) whether any uniformity in the payment of compensation amount is proposed to be brought about by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (e) Next-of-kins of Central Para Military Forces and Army personnel are paid compensation as per their entitlements indicated in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Statement on details of Compensation

I. Details of compensation paid to Next-of-Kins of Central Para Military Force Personnel as prescribed vide Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare O.M.No. 45/55/97-P&PW © dated 11th September, 1998.

- (a) Death occurring due to accidents in the course of Performance of duties. Rs. 5.00 lakhs.
- (b) Death occurring in the course of performance of duties attributable to acts of violence by terrorists, anti-social elements etc. Rs. 5.00 lakhs
- (c) Death occurring during (a) enemy action in International war or border skirmishes and (b) action against militants, terrorists, extremists etc. Rs. 7.50 lakhs

In addition to the above CPMFs have their own schemes for payments from Private/Welfare grants.

II. Details of compensation paid to the families of Military personnel as intimated in Ministry of Defence DO Letter No. 1634/D (pay/Sers)/99 dated the 12th August, 1999:

- (a) Death occurring due to accident in the Course of performance of duties. Rs. 5.00 lakhs

(b) Death occurring in the Course of performance of duties attributable to acts of violence by terrorists, anti-social elements etc. Rs. 5.00 lakhs

(c) Delhi occurring (i) during border skirmishes and (ii) action against militants, terrorists, extremists etc. Rs. 7.50 lakh

(d) Death occurring during enemy action in international war or such war like engagements which are specifically notified by Ministry of Defence. Rs. 10.00 lakhs

Book Piracy

1895. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether book piracy in respect of the text books published by NCERT is going on unabated; and

(b) if so, the effective measures proposed to be taken to combat the piracy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The NCERT has informed that there is no specific complaint about the piracy of NCERT's text books. However, the NCERT has issued a warning in all National Dailies in this regard.

Eradication of Cataract

1896. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the patients of cataract are continuously increasing in the country;

(b) the number of such patients as on March 31, 1998, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to take steps for the eradication of this disease;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The number of patients with cataract are increasing due to increase in life expectancy.

(b) Records of patients suffering from cataract are not available. Estimated number of blind persons as per National Survey (1986-89) was 1.24 crores out of which about 80% were blind due to cataract. State-wise estimated blind persons is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) Steps taken by the Govt. to provide services to cataract patients include:

1. Assistance for performing cataract surgery in Government Hospitals;

2. GIA to NGOs @ Rs. 400 for conventional surgery and Rs. 600 for intraocular Lens (IOL) Cataract Surgery;
3. Provision of sutures and IOLs required for cataract surgery as commodity assistance;
4. Training of eye surgeons in IOL cataract surgery;
5. Identification of blind persons due to cataract and preparation of blind registers; and
6. Organisations of eye camps to screen and treat patients suffering from cataract.

Statement

State-wise Prevalence of Blindness and Estimated Blind Persons

Census Code	State/UTs	Population (1991)	Prevalence /10000 POP.	Estimated Blind
1	2	3	4	5
World Bank Project States				
2	Andhra Pradesh	66508008	150	1088000
13	Madhya Pradesh	66181170	201	1322000
14	Maharashtra	78937187	164	1252000
19	Orissa	31659736	172	538000
21	Rajasthan	43997990	224	938000
23	Tamil Nadu	55858946	165	922000
25	Uttar Pradesh	139112287	158	2098000
Other States				
3	Arunachal Pradesh	864558	123	13500
4	Assam	22414322	134	300000
5	Bihar	86374465	128	1066000
31	Delhi	9420644	63	62000
6	Goa	1169793	203	25000
7	Gujarat	41309582	144	583000
8	Haryana	16463648	113	183000
9	Himachal Pradesh	5170877	87	45000

1	2	3	4	5
10	Jammu & Kashmir	7718700	280	211000
11	Karnataka	44977201	129	559000
12	Kerala	29098518	131	367000
15	Manipur	1837149	65	11000
16	Meghalaya	1774778	22	3000
17	Mizoram	689756	NA	—
18	Nagaland	1209546	38	4000
20	Punjab	20281969	73	140000
22	Sikkim	406457	45	3000
24	Tripura	2757205	118	34000
26	West Bengal	68077965	96	654000
27	A&N Islands	280661	67	1900
28	Chandigarh	642015	189	11400
29	D&N Haveli	138477	NA	—
30	Daman & Diu	101586	NA	—
32	Lakshadweep	51707	89	400
33	Pondicherry	807785	NA	—
Total		846294688		12435200

* Source: WHO/GOI National Survey (1986-89)

** Survey results projected for 1991 census population

Official Secrets Act 1923

1897. SHRI SADASHIVARAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bill providing right to information to citizens and diluting the effect of the Official Secrets Act, has been finalised;

(b) if so, the salient features of the bill; and

(c) the time by which the said bill is likely to be presented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) With a view to introducing greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies, the Government had, in January, 1997, constituted a Working

Group on 'Right to Information and Promotion of Open and Transparent Government' under the Chairmanship of Shri H.D. Shourie. The report of the Working Group has been processed and a Bill for Freedom of Information has been drafted. The Bill is presently under examination for introduction in Parliament.

[Translation]

Emergency Treatment in Hospitals

1898. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any scheme for providing emergency treatment in Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centres in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government in this regard; 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) Central Government have not chalked out any scheme for providing emergency treatment in Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centres in Madhya Pradesh. However, Rs. 97.00 lakhs has been sanctioned to Government of Madhya Pradesh for upgradation and strengthening of Trauma Centre at Maharaja Yashwant Rao Hospital, Indore.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

National Policy on Children

1899. SHRI BASANGOUDA R. (YATNAL) PATIL:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:

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

(a) whether the Government have received representations with regard to the amendment and review of the National Policy on Children and proper implementation of all Acts and laws relating to child welfare;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Para-Military Forces

1900. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of requests received from terrorism affected States to deploy paramilitary forces during each of the last three years and current year;

(b) the number of para-military forces deployed by the Union Government, State-wise;

(c) whether violent incidents have taken place at large scale during the Lok Sabha elections in 1999 and Assembly elections during 2000;

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

(e) the effective steps taken by the Union Government to make para-military forces more effective and check incidents of violence in terrorism and extremism affected States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The maintenance of law and order is the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Para Military Forces are provided to assist the State Governments to maintain public order. The deployment of these forces depends upon their availability and the overall security scenario. Keeping in view these constraints, Central Para Military Forces have been deployed in various States and Union Territories. It is not in public interest to indicate the details of these forces and their levels of deployment.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The General Elections 1999 and Assembly Elections 2000 have been by and large, peaceful.

(e) The performance of the Central Para Military Forces is reviewed from time to time and various steps have been taken to improve their effectiveness. These include introduction of rotational training, upgradation of weaponry and equipment, introduction of a new scheme for training and revision of Standard Operating Procedure of the Central Para Military Forces etc.

[English]

Recovery of Penalty

1901. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recovered Rs. 40 crores penalty from M/s. Ranbaxy for over-charge on Revital;

(b) whether the Revital has been approved as food supplement;

(c) if so, the name of officers involved in supporting the over-charging on Revital and granting approval to Revital as food supplement;

(d) whether matter has been investigated by any Government agencies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Revital is a product containing Gingseng with vitamins and minerals. In its meeting held in February, 1995, the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), which is a statutory body under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, recommended that Gingseng may be termed as Food for Special Dietary uses or in the preparation of therapeutic foods without medicinal claims.

Subsequently, the Licensing Authority in Himachal Pradesh has granted license under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 to M/s. Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited, Paonta Sahib, for manufacture of 'Revital' capsule.

(d) and (e) In November, 1992, price was fixed for Revital Capsules under Drug Price Control Order, 1987. However, M/s. Ranbaxy Labs Limited informed the Government that they had stopped manufacture of the product.

Matter was investigated at the time and no case of overcharging was established.

Status to Chennai Medical College

1902. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to withdraw the status of Deemed University accorded to Chennai Medical College;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are considering to confer autonomous status to Chennai Medical College like All India Institute of Post Graduate Medical Science; and

(d) if so, the decision 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) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal pending with Government.

Regular and Adhoc Govt. Allotment

1903. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide regular and adhoc allotment of Government residential accommodation to Government employees;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which the adhoc allotment are made cancelled;

(c) the number of such allotments cancelled during each of the last three years, till date; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ad-hoc allotment may be cancelled when the allottee is either transferred to a different station or to an ineligible office or retired or leaves Govt. service for any other reason or when it is a case of violation of the Allotment Rules like subletting etc.

(c) and (d) Cancellation of allotment including ad-hoc allotments of Govt. houses in the above circumstances is a normal/routine feature, No separate list of the such cancellations is maintained.

[*Translation*]

Herbs Growing

1904. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign countries have an eye on the herbs growing in our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Ayurveda and Siddha Research Council in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Foreign countries are showing interest in plants and herbs having a medical use. Details cannot be assessed as work is in progress in different countries at various stages.

(c) The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha have already initiated steps to prepare comprehensive data base on medicinal plants. Complete data base of 40 drugs is in the process of publication.

Steps have also been initiated to prepare Traditional Knowledge Digital Library of our knowledge and plants to tabulate what is already in the public domain. This will prevent patenting by other countries.

[English]

National AIDS Control Programme

1905. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint District Programme Manager in each District of India, to

carry out and monitor the second phase of National AIDS Control Project by NACO;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of District level AIDS Control Societies are functioning at present during the last three years; and

(d) the funds allotted for each State AIDS Control Societies during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the States/ Union Territories have been asked to nominate one of the existing programme officers of the National Health Programmes to supervise the work of National AIDS Control Programme at the district level and designate them as district nodal officers.

(c) No, Sir. No separate District level AIDS Control Societies are proposed in the project.

(d) A statement indicating the funds allotted to each State AIDS Control Societies during last three years is enclosed.

Statement

National AIDS Control Programme

		(Rs. in lacs)		
S.No.	State/UT	1996-97 Funds Released	1997-98 Funds Released	1998-99 Funds Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	425.00	425.00	650.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.00	25.00	30.00
3.	Assam	100.00	100.00	100.00
4.	Bihar	25.00	50.00	110.00
5.	Goa	25.00	50.00	35.00
6.	Gujarat	300.00	250.00	230.00
7.	Haryana	130.00	75.00	460.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	115.00	225.00	115.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.00	25.00	25.00

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Karnataka	350.00	175.00	335.00
11.	Kerala	225.00	100.00	65.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	425.00	150.00	315.00
13.	Maharashtra	900.00	950.00	800.00
14.	Manipur	200.00	150.00	245.00
15.	Meghalaya	35.00	25.00	30.00
16.	Mizoram	150.00	100.00	100.00
17.	Nagaland	190.00	155.00	227.00
18.	Orissa	50.00	75.00	100.00
19.	Punjab	225.00	75.00	150.00
20.	Rajasthan	375.00	225.00	100.00
21.	Sikkim	50.00	50.00	50.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00	2000.00	800.00
23.	Tripura	50.00	50.00	20.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	450.00	495.00	200.00
25.	West Bengal	600.00	100.00	350.00
26.	Pondicherry	7.00	0.00	40.00
27.	A&N Islands	45.91	31.09	20.00
28.	Chandigarh	46.93	28.00	60.00
29.	D&N Haveli	17.00	16.00	—
30.	Daman & Diu	19.00	24.22	15.00
31.	Delhi	400.00	25.00	110.00
32.	Lakshadweep	16.71	15.42	—
33.	MDACS, Mumbai	—	—	—
34.	Ahmedabad MC	—	—	350.00
35.	Chennai MC	—	—	50.00
Total		7752.55	6239.73	5942.00

[Translation]

Women Development Corporation

1906. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether women development corporations have been established in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the works undertaken by these corporations so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Uttar Pradesh Mahila Kalyan Nigam Limited was incorporated on 17th March, 1988 under the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) The Corporation has its office in Lucknow. It caters to all the Districts in the State.

(c) The Uttar Pradesh Mahila Kalyan Nigam Ltd., Lucknow has undertaken the following activities since its inception.

1. Construction of 10 hostel buildings for working women.
2. Training programmes under the Scheme of Setting up of Employment and Income Generating Training-cum-Production Units for Women (NORAD).
3. World Bank/IFAD Scheme for Development and Empowerment of Women in rural Areas.
4. Kaushal Sudhar Yojana (Scheme of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh).
5. Samunnat Mahila Vikas Yojana (State Government Scheme for Uttaranchal region).
6. Margin Money Loan Scheme (State Government Scheme).
7. Organising exhibitions for women entrepreneurs outside the State.

[English]

Medical Expenditure on VVIPs

1907. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether expenditure on VVIPs medical care trebled during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the huge expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, the questions do not arise.

[Translation]

Science and Technology Schemes

1908. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken/proposed to be taken any scheme for the development and application of science and technology during the last three years, till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study in rural areas in this regard;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) if not, 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 (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has undertaken various new initiatives/schemes for the development and application of science & technology. Some of the important schemes undertaken during the last three years are: Fund for Improvement of Infrastructure in Universities and higher educational institutions, Kishore Vaigyanik Prothsaahan Yojana (KVPY) to encourage students to take up research as a career, Swamjayanti fellowships for basic research, Projects under Technology Vision 2020, Jai Vigyan Missions, Fund for Technology Development, Patent Facilitating Mechanism, Technopreneur Promotion Programme and National Accreditation for Testing and Calibration of Laboratories. Further to promote application of science & technology in rural areas, a number of field investigations has been undertaken in specific sectors like horticulture, leather tanning, pottery, low cost housing etc. Schemes/coordinated programmes have been formulated for the development and benefit of the weaker sections of the society and the rural areas through application of science & technology.

[English]

National Policy on Medicine

1909. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a national policy to bring herbal and over the counter medicines under one umbrella so as to maintain standards of safety and efficiency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Mashelkar Committee has made any suggestion in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Recognition to Technical Institutes

1910. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of technical and professional Institutes are functioning in various parts of the country without recognition from the All India Council of Technical Education and other Apex Professional Regulatory Organisations;

(b) if so, the number of such unrecognised technical/professional educational institutes, State-wise and location-wise particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard and also in regard to regularise them on meeting the requirement of prescribed norms for recognition; and

(d) the details of fresh initiatives taken/proposed to upgrade the technical/professional education and higher education facilities including R&D?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) does not have any specific information regarding the number of technical institutions functioning in the country without its recognition.

(c) AICTE encourages technical professional institutions to apply for its approval and accreditation subject to their meeting the specified norms and standards.

(d) To upgrade the technical/professional education facilities including R&D, AICTE operates a number of schemes, namely, Career Awards for young teachers, Grants for organising professional seminars, Travel Grants to faculty for presenting research papers at international conferences, Emeritus Fellowships, Visiting Professorship, besides providing research grants to faculty under the scheme of Research & Development and support for industry-sponsored research projects.

Attacks by Extremists

1911. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether dumping of arms, explosives, explosions, firing, killings and attacks on military and BSF basis continued in Jammu and Kashmir since December, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of persons killed/injured due to these incidents, incident-wise;

(c) whether the Government failed to check the activities of extremists;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent such attacks both on military as well as on the people in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(e) the extent to which these attacks were reduced during January onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) As intimated by State Government the casualties in various

types of terrorist incidents of civilians and security forces is as follows:

Civilian Killed/Injured	Dec. 1999		Jan. 2000		Feb. 2000 (1st fortnight)	
	K	I	K	I	K	I
By random firing	36	21	32	13	19	7
By hanging	00	12	00	21	00	26
By explosion	5	68	12	12	15	5
By grenade attacks	4	28	1	14	00	15
Persons killed by abduction	12	00	10	00	3	00
Persons killed in cross firing	15	00	17	00	5	00
Persons killed in police firing	00	00	00	00	00	00
Security Forces killed/Injured	K	I	K	I	K	I
In cross firing	31	41	17	23	7	9
By hanging/rocket attack	3	2	00	00	00	00
In explosion	00	1	5	4	2	6
In grenade attacks	2	17	1	18	00	1
After abductions	1	00	00	00	00	00
In random firing	9	7	3	8	4	5

(c) to (e) With a view to tackling the problems of terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir, the Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes, inter-alia, strengthening of border management, neutralising plans of the militants by proactive action against them in the hinterland, generating up intelligence machinery, greater functional integration through an institutional framework of Operations Groups and Intelligence Group of the UHQ at all levels, improved technology, weapons and equipments for Security Forces.

Steps are being taken to flush out militants and curb militant activities including closer vigil on the border, establishment of more naka parties in depth areas to check infiltration/exfiltration, more pickets, intensive patrolling and extensive cordon and search operations.

- K—Killed
- I—Injured

Crimes Against Women

1912. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHAL RAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women have recently reviewed the position regarding upsurge in various crimes being committed against women in the States during the recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken and the new comprehensive strategies worked out by the Government and National Commission for Women to deal with the problem of crimes against women more effectively and also strengthening the monitoring cells at State and district levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Although law and order including crimes against women is a State subject. At the national level, the Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal agency for this subject. The National Commission for Women periodically reviews the crime situation against women in the country. Periodical conferences and meetings are held and the concerned Ministry/Agency is requested to take suitable steps to curb violence against women. For instance, in collaboration with the CBI and Department of Women & Child Development, the National

Commission for Women held a Workshop on "Crime Against Women in India" on 5th April, 1999. The main recommendations of the workshop were summarized as a draft Action Plan. This is being followed up with the concerned Ministries/Departments and on the issues relating to National Commission for Women, action is being taken by them.

(c) The Government of India has initiated a number of measures to check such crimes. Apart from legislative changes in the relevant acts, instructions/guidelines have been issued from time to time to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislations relating to crimes against women and monitor their enforcement. The National Commission for Women is pursuing the recommendations of the workshop referred to above, and are also going to hold a Workshop on "Forging Partnership with Law Enforcing Agencies" in March, 2000 to evolve appropriate Modules for "gender sensitization training" to different categories of personnel-police, administrative, judicial and others.

National Committee for Anganwadi Workers

1913. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Committee for Reviewing benefits and facilities provided to Anganwadi workers and helpers has been constituted by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) and (c) The report of the Committee is under finalisation.

CBI

1914. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "After Mattoo case CBI may be in for many more shocks" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 19, 1999;

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

(c) the result of such a review and the steps taken to withdraw such frivolous cases with due permission of respective courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The two cases referred in the news-item relate to RC. 23(A)/95-DLI against Shri Vinod Kumar, Junior Engineer, MCD, Karol Bagh, Delhi and RC. 35(A)/97-DLI against Shri Umesh Kumar Parashar, Junior Engineer (Civil), MCD, Delhi investigated by the CBI. In both the cases, the final decision was taken by the competent authority after thorough investigation and on the merits of the evidence collected during the investigation.

(c) There is no proposal to undertake a general review of all cases pending trial. Due care is taken to ensure that frivolous cases are not registered in CBI. Due care is also taken to avoid frivolous prosecution or prosecuting any one against whom there is insufficient eviencue.

Spread of Cholera

1915. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the spread of Cholera in many parts of the country;

(b) whether the National Institute of Cholera, Clacutta has made study in this regard;

(c) if so, the State-wise details thereof particularly in Kerala; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to combat this disease in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) As per the information available with Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, the number of cholera cases and deaths reported during 1997-1999 are as given below:

	1997	1998	1999
(i) No. of States/UTs reporting Cholera	12	11	10
(ii) No. of cases	3173	3554	1946
(iii) No. of deaths	18	05	04

(Figures are provisional)

(b) Yes, Sir. The National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Calcutta has made several investigations on different cholera outbreaks in the country during 1998-2000.

(c) A statement indicating number of cases and deaths State-wise including Kerala is enclosed.

(d) Govt. of India has initiated the Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) Programme in 1986-87 with the objective of preventing diarrhoea associated deaths in children due to dehydration. The goal set under the programme is reduction of deaths due to diarrhoeal diseases in children by 30% by 1995 and 70% by 2000 AD. The strategies under the programme includes:

- Increase in the use of home made fluids and ORS at home levels.
- Continued feeding.

- Improve maternal knowledge.
- Increase in accessibility of ORS through Government channels and private sector by appropriate social marketing.
- Standardisation of ORS packets.
- Better case management by workers as well as medical practitioners at all service facilities.
- Surveillance of cases and deaths from diarrhoea.

Government of India is also providing safe drinking water through Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission.

Government has also launched a National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases in selected districts for detection of early warning signals of outbreaks and rapid response for prevention and control of such outbreaks.

Statement

State-wise cholera cases and deaths, India, 1997-1999

Sl.No.	Name of State	1997		1998		1999	
		C	D	C	D	C	D
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	107	1	39	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	—	—
4.	Vugar	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa	0	0	10	0	2	0
6.	Gujarat	31	0	90	0	22	0
7.	Haryana	21	0	55	0	18	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	6	1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Karnataka	725	9	283	1	81	1
11.	Kerala	14	1	56	0	6	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16	2	—	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	737	1	1054	4	128	2
14.	Manipur	0	0	17	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Punjab	1	0	3	0	3	0
20.	Rajasthan	103	0	7	0	0	0
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	900	0	581	0
23.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	21	0	—	—	—	—
25.	West Bengal	369	0	108	0	185	0
26.	A&N Island	0	0	—	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	3	0	0	0
28.	D&N Haveli	0	0	—	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	956	0	929	0	914	0
31.	Lakshadweep	72	4	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		3173	18	3554	5	1946	04

C—cases, D—death, 0 Nil, — Information not reported.

Figures are provisional

Source: CBHI, Directorate General of Health Services.

Pushpa Bhawan, Madangir Road, Delhi.

Dumping of Drugs

1916. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multinationals are dumping new drugs in India;

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

(c) whether guidelines have been chalked out by the Government to ensure the quality and reasonable prices of these drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Before any new drug is approved for marketing in the country, its safety and efficacy are invariably required to be established through clinical trials in the Indian Population, published data and quality control parameters tested by the Central Drugs Laboratory to ensure that the new drugs conforms to the prescribed quality control testing, as per the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945. Another criterion for approval of any new drug is that the said drug is approved by the regulatory authorities of the country of origin nor banned in any other country.

(c) and (d) Government has laid down guidelines for fixing of drug prices in (i) the Drug Policy, 1986 (as modified upto September, 1994) and (ii) the Drugs (Prices

Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO). In fixing the prices under DPCO, 1995, the objectives of the Drug Policy, 1986 modified in September, 1994, as well as the price determination formula in DPCO, 1995, are kept in view. As per the Government Policy, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), does not ordinarily fix the prices of drug/formulation that do not fall under Schedule-I of DPCO, 1995. These are monitored and corrective action taken wherever called for.

North East Council

1917. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the North East Council held in January regarding fragil security environment and slow development of N.E. Region;

(b) if so, the main observations and suggestions made and the decision taken therein; and

(c) the action plan drawn out to deal with the menace comprehensively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No meeting of the North Eastern Council was held in the month of January, 2000.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Development of Women

1918. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is amongst the most backward countries of the World in regard to the rights and development of women;

(b) if so, the position of India in this regard;

(c) the reasons for not improving the condition of women in India even after 50 years of Independence;

(d) whether the National Institute of Rural Development has submitted any report to the Government in regard to the condition of women;

(e) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the condition of women in the country and give due status to them in the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Human Development Report 1999 brought out by UNDP has developed Gender Related Development Index (GDI) which attempts to capture achievements in various indicators such as life expectancy, educational attainment and income-but adjusts the results for gender inequality. GDI has been developed for 143 countries and India ranks 112.

(c) It is not correct to say that conditions of women in India have not improved since Independence. For instance life expectancy, maternal mortality, female literacy, share of women in economically productive population, wage differential between male and females, share of women in earned income and proportional income share for women etc. have shown marked improvement in the last 50 years. However, it is recognized that much more has to be done to improve the lot of women.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. National Institute of Rural Development has brought out India Rural Development Report 1999 in which gender issues have been discussed. The Salient features presented in the Reported in the Report are:

The value of Gender-related Development Index (GDI) in 1995 for India is 0.388 against the maximum value of 0.919 in Sweden and minimum value of 0.169.

Among the Indian States Kerala records the highest GDI of 0.565 while Uttar Pradesh has the lowest value 0.293.

(f) Women centred approach to development is the important strategy adopted by Government. The earlier successful experiences of the scheme of Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) in improving the income levels and empowerment of women has been given further thrust by stipulating that 50 percent of groups formed under Swamajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) should be for women.

30% reservation for women in all tiers of Panchayati Raj and urban local bodies is one of the most significant steps by Government.

30% has been earmarked for women in all wage employment programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Schemes such as Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), Setting up of Employment and Income Generating Training-cum-Production Units for Women (NORAD), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) are being implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development for the advancement of Women.

Schemes for housing and shelter, educational infrastructure, health care system, support services like child care facilities, schemes for provision of drinking water and sanitation, conservation of environment and social security schemes to take care for specially disadvantaged rural women are all geared towards improving the lot of women. Monitoring and Evaluation studies are continuously taken up both within the Government and outside, for getting the mid-term review and feedback about implementation and necessary rectifications.

[English]

Extremist in Manipur

1919. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidence of extortion of money by the extremist groups has been increased in Manipur recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any link of extremist groups operating in Manipur with ISI; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to check the activities of outfits there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Militant activities, including extortion, in Manipur have shown an increase in recent past. This is mainly because much of the Militancy in the North East, including Manipur, has degenerated into a cottage industry of killings, extortions and kidnappings with the sole aim of making money.

(c) Pak ISI is actively involved in fomenting trouble in the North East.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to combat militancy in Manipur include, inter alia, deployment of Central Para Military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence between the security forces; modernisation/upgradation of State Police

force; reimbursement of security related expenditure; sanction of Special Central Assistance to the State Government; declaration of the entire State as 'disturbed area' and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations'. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action.

IFFCO Factory in Andhra Pradesh

1920. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IFFCO propose to start a factory at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the land acquisition for the purpose has been completed; and

(c) the present status of the erection of this plant and the schedule for the commencement of production thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) to (c) The proposal of Indian Farmers Fertilisers Cooperative Limited, (IFFCO), to set up a new ammonia-urea plant in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh with an annual urea capacity of 7.68 lakh metric tonnes at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 1736 crore has been approved 'in principle' by the Government, subject to investment appraisal by the Public Investment Board (PIB). Investment appraisal of this project has been undertaken by the PIB in its meeting held on 9.7.99. The project is being processed for taking a final investment decision taking into account the observations of the PIB regarding the viability of the project, desirability of encouraging use of LNG as feedstock to reduce the incidence of subsidy and the need to stagger the implementation of the proposed projects due to limited demand supply gap forecasts.

The land required for the project has been fully acquired by the Andhra Pradesh State Government and handed over to IFFCO.

Mahila Polytechnics

1921. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:

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

(a) the number of Mahila Polytechnics opened in Karnataka particularly in Chikkaballapur with the Central assistance so far during the current year;

(b) whether the State Government has sought Central assistance for opening of such Polytechnics at Holenarasipura in Hassan District, and Chikkaballapur; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) There is no scheme in the Ministry of Human Resource Development to provide Central assistance for opening of new Polytechnics. Therefore, opening of new Mahila Polytechnics in Karnataka with the Central assistance during the current year does not arise.

Medical Facilities

1922. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise number of Ministers and VIPs who went abroad for their treatments since 1995;

(b) the cost incurred on their treatment by the Government;

(c) whether sophisticated medical facilities are available in India; and

(d) if so, the reasons for getting treatment abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The requisite information is as under:

1995-96	10
1996-97	3
1997-98	1
1998-99	3
1999-2000	2

(b) The total expenditure incurred on them by the Government is as under:

Rs. 9,33,59,247.00

US\$ 34,432.00£

UK£ 73,836.07

(c) and (d) The complicated nature of cases where it is not possible to provide medical treatment in India are referred abroad for treatment on the recommendation of a Standing Committee consisting of DGHS as Chairman, DG, ICMR and DG, AFMS as members and after obtaining the approval of the Government.

Tests for Engineering Courses

1923. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to consider any scheme for a Common Entrance Test for engineering courses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The number of students seeking admission to professional institutions in the field of Technical Education is increasing year by year. Lakhs of Students appear in the entrance tests conducted by various Institutes, State Governments and other such agencies all over the country each year. Multiplicity of entrance examinations has put tremendous strain & trauma on students along with their parents. It has also resulted in unlimited duplication of work and non-optimisation of resources for conduct of such examinations. Candidates from rural areas and small towns have been the worst sufferers. Keeping this in view, it has been proposed by this Ministry to organise a common entrance test at National level called National Education System for Testing (NEST).

(c) The scheme is likely to be implemented sometime in January, 2001.

[*Translation*]

Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993

1924. SHRI VAIKO: will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to give more powers to Human Rights Courts by making suitable amendments in the protection of Human Rights Act;

(b) the details of the States in which such special courts have been set up so far;

(c) the time by which the special courts are likely to be set up in most of the States; and

(d) the efforts being made to ensure time bound disposal of cases by these courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per the information available, such Courts have been notified in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, and Tripura.

(c) and (d) The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 has an enabling provision for the State Governments to specify for each district, a court of session to be a human rights court, to try offences arising out of violation of human rights. The Central Government has been writing to the concerned States to expedite notification of Human Rights Courts, in each district.

As per Article 227 of the Constitution, the High Court has superintendence over all courts throughout the territories in relation to which it exercises jurisdiction and in lieu of this may issue general rules for regulating the practice and proceedings of such courts.

[English]

Cross Border Terrorism

1925. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government possess significant evidence of Pak's involvement in cross-border terrorism and sponsoring insurgency in the N.E. region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The arrest of ISI agents in Assam and interrogation reports of arrested militants in the North Eastern Region reveal Pakistan's involvement in training, supply of arms etc. to militant groups in the North East.

(c) The measures taken include sensitising and gearing up of the intelligence machinery; sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by Army, Central Para-Military Forces, Intelligence agencies and State Police; modernisation and upgradation of Police and Security

Forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and Communication System; raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between Border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of Surveillance equipments including night vision devices etc.

Indian Science Congress

1926. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of recommendations made at the 87th Session of the Indian Science Congress at Pune on the development of Science and Technologies; and

(b) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations made in the previous report of Indian Science Congress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) The recommendations of the 87th session of the Indian Science Congress held in Pune in January 2000 are consolidated by Indian Science Congress Association, at Calcutta with whom the responsibility vests for organising the Congress and for circulating the recommendations after consolidation.

(b) The action taken by the Government of the recommendations made in the previous report of the Indian Science Congress include —

- (i) close; Academia - industry - research institution linkages
- (ii) collaborative ties with industry and institutions in the field of - agriculture, food, water management, energy and material conservation, low-cost housing, and, environment protection.
- (iii) establishment of Awards for brilliant young scientists.
- (iv) training of young science students in the national laboratories.
- (v) support to basic research in bio-sciences.

Tamil as Classical Language

1927. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is longstanding demand of the people of Tamil Nadu, to declare Tamil Language as a classical language by the Union Government; and

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

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

(b) The primary responsibility for the development of regional languages lies with the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government is also implementing several Schemes for the promotion of regional languages including Tamil. The Sahitya Academy administers award for classical and medieval literature and Tamil scholars are also considered under this category. One such award has already gone to a Tamil Scholar.

Computer Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1928. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

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

(a) whether computer education has been started in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, some Kendriya Vidyalayas have conducted computer classes without competent teachers specially for the XI and XII classes in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for the appointment of competent computer teachers in the said schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Computer education has been started in Kendriya Vidyalayas and pending recruitment of regular computer teachers Vidyalayas have been authorised to appoint Post Graduate Computer Science Teachers on contract basis.

[*Translation*]

World Bank Aided Welfare Schemes

1929. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank aided health and family welfare schemes has been introduced in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

World Bank Assisted IPP-VIII Project

The World Bank assisted Eighth India Population Project has been extended to the State of Uttar Pradesh so as to take up Logiste Improvement activities w.e.f. 27th January, 2000 at a total cost of Rs. 21.83 Crores. The Project closing date is 30th June, 2001. The Project activities, inter-alia, include construction of Warehouses at State and Regional level, deployment of dedicated staff for handling and storage, monitoring of stocks through computerized system and training of staff.

World Bank Assisted RCH-Sub Project, Uttar Pradesh

Two World Bank assisted Reproductive and Child Health Sub Projects are under implementation in Rai Bareilly District and Firozabad City since September, 1997, for a period of five years at a total cost of Rs. 16.33 Crores and Rs. 4.87 Crores respectively. The main objectives of these Sub Projects are to improve access to essential RCH Services, to address the needs of women and men in reproductive age and children particularly among disadvantaged groups and areas; focus on safe motherhood, child survival and prevention of RTI/STI and establishment of effective referral services.

RCH Project

The Department is implementing Reproductive and Child Health Programme, launched in 1997-98 with support from the World Bank. This Programme integrates the existing maternal and child care services with those of fertility regulation with additional inputs for care and management of Reproductive Tract Infections/Sexually Transmitted Infection. The Programme is being implemented in all the districts of the country including in Uttar Pradesh. An approved outlay for the RCH Programme is Rs. 5112.53 crore during the 9th Plan period. The details of year-wise assistance (Kind and

cash) provided to Uttar Pradesh under RCH Programme for the last three years are as under:

<i>Years</i>	<i>Assistance (Kind and cash) (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1996-97	5860.20*
1997-98	5387.88
1998-99 (figures provisional)	8239.35

* Assistance provided under CSSM Programme which has been subsumed into the RCH Programme from 1997-98.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

All the district of UP have been covered for providing free multi-drug therapy services to all the leprosy patients.

The MDT services are being implemented through District Leprosy Societies created under the Chairmanship of District Magistrates.

Adequate funds and free anti-leprosy drugs have been supplied to the States.

The amount sanctioned to the Government of U.P. during last three years is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cash</i>	<i>Kind</i>	<i>MDT funds Sanctioned to districts</i>	<i>Total (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1996-97	187.00	293.43	478.68	959.11
1997-98	143.25	250.86	636.70	1030.81
1998-99	182.00	303.36	426.00	911.36

National AIDS Control Programme

National AIDS Control Programme is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme being implemented in the country and includes Uttar Pradesh. Funds released to the State during the last three years are as follows:

1996-97	450.00 lakhs
1997-98	495.00 lakhs
1998-99	200.00 lakhs

Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme

Under the World Bank assistance of Rs. 748 crores the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme is being implemented in a population of 400 million in a phased manner including the State of Uttar Pradesh. Under the Programme, 8 districts of U.P. will be covered, service delivery has already been started in Lucknow and Barabanki districts of U.P. Services delivery is likely to start in another six districts of U.P. viz. Unnao, Raibareilly, Ghaziabad, Gautam Budh Nagar, Meerut and Bhagpat by end of March, 2000.

Amount released to these districts: (in lakhs)

<i>District</i>	<i>1998-99</i>	<i>1999-2000</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Lucknow	31.836	39.581	Service delivery started
Barabanki	—	15.735	-do-
Unnao	36.14	—	Services delivery likely to start by end of March, 2000.
Raibareilly	37.77	—	-do-
Ghaziabad	-	43.01	-do-
Gautam Budh Nagar	-	18.71	-do-
Meerut	—	36.63	-do-
Bhagpat	—	18.38	-do-

Cataract Blindness Control Programme

World Bank Assisted Cataract Blindness Control Project has been under implementation in Uttar Pradesh since 1994-95.

The project includes construction of eye wards and operation theatres, training of personnel salaries for additional staff. IEC, Performance of Cataract Surgery etc. Amounts sanctioned to U.P. in the last three years are as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cash Grants released to the State Govt.</i>	<i>GIA to D.B.C.S.</i>	<i>Non-Recurring Grants to NGOs</i>	<i>Total (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1996-97	725.97	285.00	5.125	1016.095
1997-98	138.28	564.00	35.50	737.780
1998-99	207.25	599.50	—	806.750

*[English]***Heritage Status**

1930. COL. (RETD.) SONARAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to accord "Heritage Status" to some of the cities/towns in Rajasthan and to develop them as model cities/towns;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) the names of cities/towns which are likely to be given "Heritage Status"; and

(d) the time by which this scheme is likely to be finalised for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Declaring a city as World Heritage City is within the purview of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO.

(c) and (d) The Rajasthan Government have plans for conservation of the Heritage of Jaipur City and the Architectural heritage of the walled City of Jaisalmer. Indian National Trust for Art and Culture (INTACH) is being associated for preparing detailed plans for conservation of the heritage character of these two cities.

Artificial Rainfall

1931. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to solve the water problem in the drought prone areas by way of cloud-seeding;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have proposed any scheme to create a man-made weather office for making artificial rainfall in the water parched areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

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 (e) No Sir. No Scheme has

been formulated to solve the water problem in the drought prone areas by way of cloud seeding. Many countries including India, have carried out experiments in cloud seeding but these are only at the research stage. There is no proven method of creating artificial rain through cloud seeding, particularly in the tropical regions where there are warm clouds.

Attacks on Films Shooting

1932. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of attacks recorded on the shooting of films on the sets in 1999 and 2000;

(b) the number of film personalities subjected to such attacks;

(c) the organisations or cultural units behind these attacks; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to prevent such attacks in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

Report on Refugees

1933. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the report on refugees of Jammu and Kashmir and Tibetans released by the United States Commission;

(b) if so, the number of refugees have taken shelter in various parts of the country;

(c) the number of refugees of various countries reside in India, country-wise;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the action taken to review their cases by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The United States Committee for Refugees, a non-governmental

organisation, recently published the World Refugee Survey, 1999 report wherein it is, inter-alia, stated that India hosted more than 292,000 refugees in 1998, including 110,000 from Tibet. The Report also mentions that 350,000 Kashmiris had been internally displaced due to the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) to (e) As per the information furnished by Bureau of Immigration, as collected from State Governments, the details regarding foreign nationals staying in India as "refugees" as on 31.1.1998 is as under:

Country	Registered foreign refugees
Stateless (Tibet)	82149
Sri Lanka	63765
Bangladesh	26163
Afghanistan	12255
Others	554
Total	184886

The Sri Lankan and Tibetan refugees get relief/ assistance from the Government of India during their stay in India. All other foreigners of nationalities mentioned above have generally come on valid passports and visas and have been getting extension of stay. The stay is governed under the provisions of different Acts such as Foreigners Act 1946, Passport (Entry into India) Act 1920, Registration of Foreigners Act 1939 and rules and others framed thereunder.

[Translation]

Norms for Family Welfare Centres

1934. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

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

(a) whether the Government have prescribed certain norms to set-up family welfare centres in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any request/proposal to set-up family welfare centres in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details alongwith the latest position thereof; and

(e) the time by which the centres are likely to be set-up in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Family Welfare centres were established at all the block level Primary Health Centres only up till 1.4.1980. After this period these centres have been integrated with the Primary Health Centres for providing Family Welfare services.

(c) and (d) 433 Rural Family Welfare Centres were established in Maharashtra before 1970. There is no request/proposal received to set up more such centres in Maharashtra.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Pulse Polio

1935. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE:

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 "Disturbing rise in polio cases" appearing in the *Times of India* dated January 27, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government have undertaken any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the number of polio cases reported during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the short comings in the programme?

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

(b) An elaborate surveillance system for detecting and reporting cases of acute flaccid paralysis has been established throughout the country. Independent surveys through UNICEF are conducted to monitor the implementation of each of the pulse polio immunisation rounds.

(c) A Statement showing the number of cases of polio detected during the last 3 years is enclosed.

(d) For eradicating polio from the country, 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. Based on the surveillance data and expert advice, the efforts have now been intensified and during 1999-2000, four rounds of PPI are being held throughout the country followed by two additional rounds in eight high risk States of Assam,

Jihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. The intensive rounds are spread over 3-4 days. On the first day the children are immunised at the fixed polio booths and on 2nd day onwards teams of health workers go from house to house to immunise children who may be left over from the first day. States have been provided with funds to create awareness through information, education and education efforts and by involving the Panchayat members for reaching all children in the age group of 0-5 years. In addition, the Government is also taking steps to improve the routine immunisation programme (including polio) all over the country.

Statement

Polio Cases for the last three years State/Union Territory-wise

Sl.No.	State/UT	Polio		
		1997*	1998	1999#
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28	176	60
2.	A&N Islands	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	3	0
4.	Assam	0	10	20
5.	Bihar	102	412	346
6.	Chandigarh	3	4	3
7.	D&N Haveli	0	1	0
8.	Daman & Diu	0	5	0
9.	Delhi	35	94	117
10.	Goa	0	7	1
11.	Gujarat	207	273	74
12.	Haryana	15	140	63
13.	Himachal Pradesh	4	7	3
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	6
15.	Karnataka	117	156	57
16.	Kerala	1	17	12
17.	Lakshadweep	NR	0	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	130	237	123

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Maharashtra	162	228	102
20.	Manipur	1	0	1
21.	Meghalaya	2	2	0
22.	Mizoram	1	0	0
23.	Nagaland	3	6	2
24.	Orissa	15	114	25
25.	Pondicherry	1	3	0
26.	Punjab	13	28	27
27.	Rajasthan	71	255	158
28.	Sikkim	0	1	1
29.	Tamil Nadu	95	142	26
30.	Tripura	5	2	2
31.	Uttar Pradesh	1154	1901	1328
32.	West Bengal	105	96	88
Total		2275	4322	2645

* Based on reported data from Central Bureau of Health Intelligence.

Based on surveillance data from the National Polio Surveillance Unit.

NR Not reported.

Amendment in Hindu Succession Act, 1956

1936. SHRI M.V.V.S MURTHI:
 SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:
 SHRI R.S. PATIL:
 SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
 SHRI BASANGOUDA R. (YATNAL) PATIL:
 SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
 SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have directed all the States to carry out suitable amendments in the Hindu Succession Act to confer property rights on women in a joint family;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations were requested in September, 1997 to amend Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act 1956 to provide coparcenary right in a coparcenary property for the daughter of a coparcener in a Joint Hindu Family governed by the Mitakshara law at par with their male counterparts. This was to be done on the pattern of the amendments made in the Act by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

(c) The responses received from some of the State Governments are as follows:

Sikkim

The Hindu Succession Act 1956 and related legislations are not extended to the State of Sikkim.

Nagaland

The State enjoys special provision relating to the existing Customary Laws of the land that include

inheritance etc. under Article 371 (a) of the Constitution. Therefore, the amendment in the provisions relating to inheritance is not considered relevant to the State.

Kerala

In Kerala, coparcenary property rights have been abolished vide Kerala Joint Hindu Family System (Abolition) Act, 1975 which came into force w.e.f. 1.12.76. Hence, in effect, Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act 1956 does not operate in Kerala.

[*Translation*]

Farzi Passport

1937. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Portugal Ke Farzi Passport Samet Do Sikh Yuvak Hawaii Adde Se girafar" appearing in 'Dainik Jagran' dated January 12, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, there was no such incident during the current year in which any person(s) was found to have travelled on a forged Portugese passport and arrested on arival at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi.

(c) The Immigration and other staff posted at Indira Gandhi International Airport is under standing instructions to be extremely alert and vigilant. Besides, the Customs and other agencies functioning at the Airport meet regularly, once every month, under the Chairmanship of the Airport-Director, Airport Authority of India for better coordination.

Increase in Crimes

1938. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convene a meeting with Chief Ministers and Home Ministers of States to give directions to check the increasing crimes; and

(b) if so, the time by which the meeting is likely to be convened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) There is no proposal at present under Government's consideration to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers and Home Ministers of States to discuss the crime situation.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

IIM, Calicut

1939. SHRI E. AHAMED:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

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

(a) the number of Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) in the country at present;

(b) whether performance of these institutes has been evaluated;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of seats allotted for MBA in IIM, Calicut;

(e) whether the Government have noticed any financial irregularities in the functioning of the Institute at Calicut and ordered for a special audit therefor; and

(f) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) At present, there are six Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta, Lucknow, Calicut and Indore. An Expert Committee set up by the Government assessed the overall performance and impact of the Indian Institutes of Management at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta and Lucknow in 1992 and made recommendations for future development which, *inter-alia*, included the objectives of these institutes, academic and research activities, governance, self sufficiency, resource generation and faculty development.

(d) There is no specific number of seats allotted for Post Graduate Programme in Management at IIM Calicut. However, the Institute is targeting 90 students to a batch.

(e) and (f) Indian Institute of Management Calicut, being a new institute, had sought the help of Government

to organise an audit of the Institute for completion of accounts. Accordingly, the Government had had audit of IIM Calicut. No major financial irregularities were observed and rectificatory action was taken by the institute.

Standard of Technical Education

1940. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Government control over the functioning of private institutes offering courses in engineering, management, architecture, pharmacy, hotel management, town planning, MCA, MBA, B.Ed. and B.E.;

(b) if so, the details of organisations through which these institutions are being monitored;

(c) if not, whether minimum standard of quality of education is being provided to students by these institutes and their accreditation is voluntary at this stage; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to ensure that minimum standard of quality of education is maintained by such Institutes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (d) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) are the national level statutory bodies established by the Government of India for regulation and proper maintenance of norms and standards in Technical Education (inclusive of engineering, management, architecture, pharmacy, hotel management, town planning, MCA, MBA, BE) and Teacher Education (B.Ed.) respectively.

Migration of Rural Population

1941. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale migration of rural work force to the urban areas and particularly to the metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, whether the encroachment due to such influx has been increasing in the national capital region; and

(c) if so, the steps to provide separate settlement colonies for these people and to clear the slums?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Separate statistics of encroachment in the National Capital Region are not available. However, for the city of Delhi relocation of Slum & JJ Dwellers is done by the government of National Capital Territory of Delhi under a three pronged strategy. The salient features of the scheme are given below:

- (1) Relocation/resettlement of eligible dwellers as in existence on 31.1.90, from the lands urgently required for public projects. Post-January, 1990 migrants are to be evicted to discourage continued migration.
- (2) In-situ up-gradation of identified JJ Clusters on land which are not earmarked for any project and are not required in the foreseeable future, after obtaining* NOC from the concerned land-owning agencies; and
- (3) Providing of minimum basic amenities under the State Plan Scheme of "Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS)" in all other JJ Clusters.

World Bank Funded Project

1942. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has funded West Bengal Municipal Development Project under the Externally Aided Urban Development Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the name of the nodal agency in this regard;

(c) whether the progress of work of the project has been satisfactory; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Two agreements for Japanese Grant amounting to US\$ 468.750 and US\$ 927.050 respectively were signed with the World Bank on 17.9.98 to support the Government of West Bengal in the preparation of the West Bengal Urban Infrastructure and Municipal Development Project.

(c) and (d) As per available information, the closing date of the two grants has been extended to 30th June, 2000.

Nursing Home in Safdarjung Hospital

1943. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Safdarjung Hospital does not have a Nursing Home;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction;

(d) whether the pensioners cannot avail the facility of one of the approved private hospitals;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to remove the existing disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Since inception, Safdarjung Hospital does not have Nursing Home.

(c) At present there is no proposal to set up a Nursing Home in Safdarjung Hospital.

(d) Pensioners can avail themselves of the facilities of approved Private Hospitals under Central Government Health Schemes, once the recommendation of Government specialist has been obtained.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Border Security Force

1944. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of B.S.F. Jawans retired with pensionary benefits since 1994 to January, 2000; and

(b) the number of BSF jawans retired with pensionary benefit under act 19 of 1969 after 10 years and 40 days service but their pension has not been released till date alongwith the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed before the House.

[Translation]

Activities of LTTE

1945. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the effective scheme being formulated or proposed to be formulated to keep a strict watch on the LTTE prisoners kept in various camp jails in Tamil Nadu and to counter the activities of the LTTE militants outside in view of their close association with I.S.I.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): The information is being obtained from the Government of Tamil Nadu and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Baratghar at R.K. Puram

1946. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is not even a single 'Baratghar' in R.K. Puram, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to set up Baratghar in R.K. Puram?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) There are four community centres one each in Sector 1, 2, 3 & 4 in R.K. Puram, New Delhi, which are inter-alia used for marriage purposes also.

(c) An exercise has been initiated to fix priority of such community centres in various Government colonies according to the needs of the residents and availability of resources.

Grand Hotel, Shimla

1947. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the basic facilities like water, water immersion rods, heat convertor, electrical gadgets in rooms, quilts with washed cover are inadequate/sub standard in Grand Hotel, Shimla;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide said facilities therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The Government does not provide either movable electrical gadgets, like immersion rods, heat convectors, or quilts in the rooms in Grand Hotel, Shimla. Only bed linens along with blankets are provided which normally are clean and of good quality. Admittedly, there is inadequate supply of water.

(b) Since the building which houses the Grand Hotel, Shimla is of old vintage, made of wood, use of movable electrical gadgets are fire hazards and are, hence, not supplied. The inadequate supply of water is largely due to low pressure of water received from Shimla Municipal Corporation.

(c) To augment water supply, the matter has been taken up by CPWD with the Municipal Corporation, Shimla. Steps are also being taken to explore the availability of underground water by providing drill bore.

ISI Activities In Nepal

1948. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has conveyed to Nepal authorities regarding perceived laxity on the part of Nepal police for preventing the spread of ISI related fake Indian currency notes in Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has also asked the Nepal Government to clarify the position of Nepal police for allowing Pakistani Embassy staff involved in fake currency racket to leave the country without a proper interrogation;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has also taken a strong view in the case related to supply of RDX to the Kashmiri and Punjab militants from Nepal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The Government are aware and concerned about ISI involvement in the circulation of fake Indian currency in Nepal. Assam Saboor, UDC in the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu, was caught red-handed on 2nd January, 2000, with counterfeit Indian currency notes worth Rs. 50,000/-. On 5th January, 2000, he was asked by the Government of Nepal to leave the country within 72 hours on account of his involvement in an activity incompatible with his status. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Nepal. While appreciating the deterrent action taken by the Nepalese authorities against the Pakistani Embassy official, the Government of India have conveyed their deep concern and sought the cooperation of the Government of Nepal on this issue. On their part, the Government of Nepal have reiterated that their territory would not be allowed to be used for activities inimical to India's interest and have assured to extend full cooperation to the Government of India in this regard.

(d) and (e) Instances of smuggling of RDX across the open Indo-Nepal border have also come to notice in recent years. Shared concern on this issue is evident from the determination expressed by both sides to take urgent necessary steps to prevent the misuse of open Nepal border for activities directed against India.

Conference of HIV/AIDS

1949. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on-going programme of HIV/AIDS is being challenged on scientific forum;

(b) whether any Conference was recently held in Nagpur to ascertain validity of HIV/AIDS programmes and methods of testing;

(c) if so, the details of participants including international experts from foreign countries; and

(d) the agenda discussed and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) An International Conference on validity of HIV/AIDS programme including methods of testing was held in Nagpur on 30-31st January, 2000. About 50 persons participated in this conference. The agenda that was discussed was on the validity of HIV strain prevalent in India and different parts of the World; the methods of

diagnosis of HIV infection and HIV infection as the cause of AIDS. In this conference no recommendations were made and no formal documents signed. Dr. D.A. Gadkari of National Institute of Virology, Pune attended. The report of Dr. Gadkari is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

National Institute of Virology

*WHO Collaborating Centre for Arbovirus and
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No. 513(01)/1-6826

25th February 2000

SPEED POST

Dr. Lalit Kant
Sr DDG & Chief Division of ECD
Indian Council of Medical Research
Ansari Nagar
Post Box No. 4911
NEW DELHI 100 029.

Sub: Report on the "International Conference on Validity of HIV/AIDS Programme including methods of Testing" held at Nagpur on 30-31 January 1999.

Dear Dr. Kant,

This has reference to your request to submit a report on the above mentioned conference.

I attended the meeting on instructions from the Council. I had submitted an Abstract on the HIV subtyping work that we had done at NARI, Pune and presented the data. Please find enclosed herewith the Inaugural and Scientific Programme of the meeting. Under separate cover, I am also sending you the Abstract book for your perusal. About 50 people, including the speakers attended the meeting. The WHO was represented by Dr. Shashi Kant from the WHO Country Office, New Delhi. There were no formal recommendations of the meeting made or signed. The Organizer requested me to inaugurate the Conference (since the Health Minister, Maharashtra State could not attend the meeting). I politely declined

this invitation. At the end of the Inaugural session, the surprise announcement was that an Exhibition will be inaugurated at my hands. I did that to find out that the exhibition was news paper cuttings, other reports which criticized the ongoing scientific work on HIV/AIDS.

The argument of Dr. Harven was that HIV has not been isolated and electron micrograph photographs were not available. My reply was that there are hundreds of HIV isolates available through out the world and NARI has also isolated about 70 HIV strains. Several EM photographs are available in scientific literature including our work which was published in IJMR. Dr. Roberto Giraldo's argument was that there are about 70 diseases listed in literature which give false positive results. These, to my mind were isolated reports when the kits were in improvement stage. It was also clearly argued by me that presently available HIV diagnostic kits have high degree of sensitivity and specificity and to our experience such false positive results do not occur at any significant level. It was also argued by Dr. Giraldo that when the serum samples were tested in undiluted form each and every sample gives positive results in ELISA test. It was argued by me that manufacturer's protocol on serum dilutions must be adhered to and using undiluted serum is violation of standard protocol recommended by the manufacturer. This argument holds true for most diagnostic tests. The major argument was that it has not been shown that HIV causes AIDS. Dr. Shashi Kant argued in several ways that there is sufficient information in literature that HIV is a causative agent for AIDS and also referred to abstract submitted by you. A couple of studies were presented that HIV sero-positive patients suffering with severe diarrhoea and other diseases were cured by a ayurvedic, homeopathic and nutrition supplement treatment. However, there were no controls, no inclusion criteria, no standard treatment and outcome indicators. Only conclusion was that these patients who were morbid were able to walk around and are living physically normal life, post treatment. No other tests were performed.

The last session of the meeting was the Penal Discussion. The participants were three foreigners, Dr. Shantilal Kothari (Organizer), Dr. Shashi Kant, myself and an Advocate. The session was Chaired and conducted by Dr. Manu Kothari from Mumbai.

The major arguments were that the HIV testing was unnecessary, faulty, poisonous compounds like AZT should not be recommended for intervention of mother to child transmission of HIV. Myself and Dr. Shashi Kant

did not agree to these arguments. Majority of the people had biased opinion, were not scientifically sound and did not know much about National and International scientific status of HIV research. As mentioned earlier, no recommendations were made and no formal documents were signed.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/
D.A. Gadkari
Director

Encl: As above

[Translation]

Deaths Due to Tobacco

1950. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

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

(a) whether use of tobacco and Gutka leads to various diseases;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to ban on the use, sale and advertisement of all types of tobacco products in the country;

(c) the number of people die every year due to tobacco related diseases as per WHO report;

(d) whether the Government propose to ban smoking in public places strictly;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

SHANMUGAM): (a) Consumption of tobacco and tobacco products including Gutka are known to be associated with cancers of oral cavity, throat, lungs, larynx, oesophagus; coronary artery disease; chronic obstructive lung diseases; stroke; peripheral artery disease; low birth weight etc.

(b) to (f) As per the address of Director General, WHO, during the "WHO International Conference on Global Tobacco Control Law: Towards a WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control", held at New Delhi on 7-9 January, 2000, tobacco is responsible for 40 lakh global deaths per year. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation (Tenth Lok Sabha) in its 22nd Report had made several recommendations primarily intended to discourage the use of tobacco and tobacco products. The Government is examining these recommendations and the draft legislation is under consideration of Government.

Hindi Advisory Committee

1951. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindi Advisory Committee has been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of programmes for celebrating the Golden Jubilee of official language Hindi;

(d) whether non-Government observers have been nominated in the Committee;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the number of embassies where official language implementation committee has been constituted; and

(g) the number of countries where Golden Jubilee of official language, Hindi is being celebrated under the auspices of Indian embassies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a), (b), (d) and (e) Constitution of Hindi Salahakar Samiti of Ministry of Home Affairs is under process. There is a provision to nominate both official and non-official member in it. There is no provision to nominate observers in the Hindi Salahakar Samiti.

(c) The inauguration of Official Language Golden Jubilee programmes in the Ministry of Home Affairs commenced with the organisation of small celebration on

14th September 1999, in which an appeal has been made to all the officers/employees to do more and more official work in Hindi. To monitor the use of Hindi in official work in the Ministry of Home Affairs closely, Official Language Implementation Committee have been set up at the Divisional Levels from the Golden Jubilee year and their periodical meetings are being held. Other programmes being organised during this period includes competition on Hindi essay/Hindi typing/Hindi stenography and Hindi Vayavhar Pratiyogita, lectures of Hindi scholars and awarding of official language shield to Attached/Subordinate offices.

(f) As per the information available in the Ministry of External Affairs, Official Language Implementation Committees have been constituted in 85 Embassies.

(g) Instructions have been issued to all the Embassies to organise programmes on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of Official Language Hindi. Accordingly suitable action is being taken by the Indian Embassies.

[English]

Task Force for Development of Women and Children

1952. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI BASANGOUDA R. (YATNAL) PATIL:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a task force to review all schemes under the Union Government for the benefit of Women and Children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said task force is likely to be set up;

(d) whether the Government propose to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding with State Governments for the development of Women and Children; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) There is a proposal to set up a Task Force to review all legislations and Government schemes pertaining to the role of women in the national economy. It would help to chalk out specific programmes for observing 2001 as "Women's Empowerment Year". Details are being finalised shortly.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

DDA Housing Scheme

1953. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI SAHIB SINGH:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) propose to introduce any new housing scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the registrants awaiting their allotments, scheme-wise, category-wise; and

(d) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Pending review of entire housing scenario in the Capital and NCR by the Ministry of Urban Development and covering all waiting registrants, the Delhi Development Authority has been directed not to announce or sanction any new Scheme or Project.

(c) Following registrants are waiting for allotment:—

Category	Scheme	Registrants awaiting
LIG	NPRS-1979	13,305
MIG	NPRS-1979	6,692
LIG	AAY-1989	4,600
MIG	AAY-1989	2,690
Janta	JHRS-1996	13,656

(d) No definite time-frame can be indicated at this stage as it all depends on the availability of developed land and availability of infrastructure.

Induction of Israeli Origin Security System

1954. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of the hijacking of IC 814 the Government have decided to induct expertise in guaranteed sophisticated security system of Israeli origin; and

(b) if so, the time by which such devices are likely to be incorporated in the Indian system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development Fund for Tribal Areas

1955. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Development Fund for rapid development of tribal areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) For rapid socio-economic and educational development of Scheduled Tribes, a number of programmes/schemes are already in operation. These are:

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan;
2. Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution;
3. Schemes of boys and Girls Hostels for STs;
4. Ashram Schools;
5. Model Residential Schools;
6. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations engaged in the development of Scheduled Tribes;
7. Schemes for the development of Primitive Tribal Groups;

8. Vocational Training Centres in tribal Areas;
9. Educational Complexes in low literacy pockets;
10. National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation for extending loans at concessional rates to Scheduled Tribes;
11. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India for marketing to the produce of the Scheduled Tribes;
12. Post-Matric Scholarships
13. Setting up of Book Banks in educational institutions;
14. Coaching and Allied Scheme for imparting coaching facilities to Scheduled Tribes for various competitive examinations and admission to educational institutions;

Scholarship Under NTSS

1956. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for providing scholarship under the National Talent Search Scheme; and

(b) the number of scholarships being provided under the said scheme each year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The NCERT has informed that the Council conducts a written examination for about 3000 candidates recommended by different States/UTs studying in class Xth. The test consists of Mental Ability Test (100 marks) Scholastic Aptitude Test (100 marks). On the basis of the scores obtained in these two papers, about 1500 candidates are called for interview at selected places in the country and the final awards are given on the basis of the composite scores obtained in the written examination and interview.

(b) Annually 750 scholarships are being awarded.

Provision of Free of Cost Medicines

1957. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide free medicines to people living below poverty line under the scheme 'Health for all';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large scale cultivation of medicinal herbs for manufacturing cheap medicines has been under consideration of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount likely to be allocated to States for this scheme during 1999-2000; and

(f) the time by which this scheme is likely to be introduced in Bihar and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) There is no such scheme as Health for All. This is the overall objective of the National Health Policy of the country. Medicines are generally provided free to the in-patients in the hospitals and under health programmes.

(c) to (f) There is a Central Scheme for development and cultivation of medicinal plants (in herbal gardens) and to develop Agro-techniques for cultivation of medicinal plants. Funds are allocated to institutions and not States. 34 institutions also identified for the purpose are working on 140 plants, the results of which will be evident after 2 to 3 years. Under the Department of Family Welfare, under the RCH programme there is 'Vanaspati Van Yojana' to increase the availability of medicinal plants used in ISM drugs for mother and child health, in which; the denuded area of 3,000 to 4,000 hectares will be brought under the medicinal plants plantation activity.

Governments of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have initiated the activity of Vanaspati Van Yojana. Proposals of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Kerala are under process. These efforts will help to provide genuine medicines at reasonable prices.

National Identity Cards

1958. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the feasibility report on the issue of Multi-Purpose National Identity Cards throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The task of preparing the Feasibility Report was entrusted to a professional consultancy firm in October, 1999. The Feasibility Report is expected shortly.

Arms Training to Kashmiri Youths

1959. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that local unemployed Kashmiri youths are once again very serious to cross the border for arms training; and

(b) if so, the action plan drawn by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The available reports indicate that while there have been efforts on the part of Pro-Pakistan Militant outfits to intimidate and lure some youths in certain parts of the State for terrorist activities the local youth have, by and large, defeated the designs of the terrorists. Proper manning of the IB & LOC has also foiled the attempting of Pak ISI to take away youths across.

(b) The Government both at the Centre and the State are taking all necessary measures to give an impetus to the development programmes in the State and to provide employment avenues to the unemployed youth.

The issue of providing employment to youths have been receiving attention of the Government. Special recruitment drives have been undertaken in the past as a result of which thousands of youths have been employed. This includes white collared jobs in Central Government Offices, Public Sector Undertakings, Banks and Insurance Companies. Some Central PSUs have also employed people in the past through Campus recruitment. A very large number have been recruited for various Central Police Organisation (CPO) and in the Army since 1991-92. Efforts are continuing to increase the intake of youth of J&K in Central Government jobs.

Revolving Funds for Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1960. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a revolving fund for the integrated development of at least one small or medium sized town in each State and to appoint a special group of experts to monitor the services in a local body;

(b) if so, the funds likely to be earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the said Scheme is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) A scheme of this nature is proposed.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise as the scheme is to be approved.

Secondary Health Systems

1961. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the name and member of States where State Health Systems Development Project with World Bank assistance aiming at improving, upgrading the secondary level Health system is not under implementation;

(b) the existing norms to include the States under Secondary Health System with World Bank assistance;

(c) whether the Government have received any request from the Bihar, Assam and Madhya Pradesh and other States regarding strengthening the secondary health system in the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government regarding strengthening the secondary health system in States preferably in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) State Health Systems Development Projects with World Bank assistance aiming at improving/upgrading the secondary level Health System is under implementation only in the States of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa and Maharashtra.

(b) Each project proposal is examined on its merits and the infrastructure available in the State.

(c) to (e) Project proposals have been received from the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Bihar. 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. As regards SHSDP, Uttar Pradesh, the same has already been posed to the World Bank. As regards, SHSDP, Bihar the proposal from the State Government has been received only recently.

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 fructify, depending on the time taken on the design and formulation of the project by the State.

Investigation Against DADG/DDG, TB

1962. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has investigated cases against any DADG and DDG (Stores), DDG (TB); and

(b) if so, the outcome of CBI investigations against DADG, Delhi and Bombay and DDG (Stores) and DDG (TB)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has investigated cases against various DADG and DDG (Stores) of Medical Stores Organisation. There was also investigation against an officer posted earlier as DDG (TB).

(b) Based on CBI investigations, disciplinary proceedings for major penalty have been initiated against concerned officials of Medical Stores Organisation, including the present DADG, Mumbai and DDG (Stores), Delhi.

Performance of Cricket Team

1963. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

(a) whether the Indian cricket team fared badly in the recently held overseas tours;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether political pressure was exerted in the matter of selection of players;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to depoliticise the selection process; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the performance of our cricket team?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) The performance of Indian cricket team during its recent tour to Australia was not satisfactory. Indian team lost both the test series and the triangular series of one-day matches.

(c) to (e) The promotion of the game of cricket in the country is the responsibility of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) which is an autonomous organization. The Government has no role say in the selection of players which is exclusively done by BCCI through their constituted Selection Board. There are, at present, no statutory rules to regulate the functioning of the federations including BCCI. However, Government of India is in the process of formulating a new sports policy, under which the issue of appropriate functioning of sports federations and allied institutions is also proposed to be addressed.

Reimbursement Policy

1964. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from CGHS beneficiaries to review the policy of reimbursement of medical expenses incurred on treatment from recognised private hospital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for revision of rates for reimbursement of medical expenses for treatment taken in private hospitals recognised under CGHS.

Bomb Blast in Bathinda

1965. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a bomb blast took place in Bathinda in January;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the bomb was brought from debris of the defence cantonment;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the defence authorities has conducted any enquiry to find out the means of reaching the huge bomb in the shop causing loss of human lives and injury to some persons;

(e) if so, the result of the enquiry; and

(f) the steps taken to stop such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (f) According to available information, a blast took place in a shop of a scrap dealer in the Aggarwal colony near Basant Vihar locality in Bathinda city on January 11, 2000. A case has been registered vide FIR No. 15 dated 11.01.2000 U/s 304A IPC, 4/5 Explosives Substances, Act, at PS Kotwali, Bathinda, which is under investigation.

Medicinal Plant Board

1966. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Medicinal Plant Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to identify and develop forest areas rich in Medicinal Plants in the country; and

(d) the steps taken to develop exportable pharma products based on the medicinal plants and protect existing bio-diversity of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The Government has initiated a proposal but no final decision has been taken.

(c) At present there is no special programme for the identification and development of forest areas rich in medicinal plants. However, those objectives are pursued from the following programme:

- (1) A 100% Centrally sponsored scheme for the conservation and development of Non-timber Forest Produce (NTFP) including medicinal plants is under implementation.
- (2) The network of protected areas comprising of 86 National Parks and 448 Wildlife Sanctuaries is also helping in the conservation of wild flora including medicinal plants.
- (3) Under a DANIDA assisted project *in-situ* conservation of medicinal plants has been undertaken by establishing network of Medicinal Plants Conservation Areas.
- (4) Collection of wild plant species covered under Schedule-VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified areas has been banned by law.
- (5) Department of Family Welfare, under RCH programme is assisting State Governments to set up "Vanaspoti Van" in the medicinal plants, in the denuded forest areas in various States.
- (6) Department of Bio-technology has set up 4 gene Banks (at Trivandrum, Lucknow, Delhi and Jammu) to store and protect the germ plasm of various plants species found in the country.

(d) To promote the export of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani products, steps are being taken to establish quality control parameters, strengthen drug testing laboratories and complete the pharmacopoeia work. This will help standardize the products.

In order to protect the existing bio-diversity of the country, the Government is formulating a legislation of bio-diversity with the broad objective of conservation and sustainable utilization of the bio-diversity and equitable sharing of benefits out of the use of biological resources.

Smuggling of AK-47 Rifles

1967. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether AK-47 rifles are being smuggled into the country especially in Uttar Pradesh freely through Nepal border;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any stock of the situation; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to check the smuggling of arms and ammunitions and other items from Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.- SWAMI): (a) to (c) Interrogation of an ISI trained Mumbai underworld criminal, arrested in June, 1999, has revealed that Nepalese territory is being misused by anti-India elements for storing AK-47 rifles and other sophisticated weapons for smuggling into India.

In order to prevent the misuse of the Indo-Nepal border by anti-India elements, the concerned agencies of His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of India are also in regular touch, both directly and through bi-lateral institutional mechanisms, for preventing the misuse of the Indo-Nepal border. As a result of this cooperation, several terrorist conspiracies sponsored by Pakistan have been neutralised in recent years. Government of Uttar Pradesh have taken measures to strengthen policing of the U.P. Nepal Border.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Hospitals in Bihar

1968. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of hospitals modernised and expanded during Eighth Five Year Plan State-wise;

(b) if the financial assistance provided for the purpose, during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 till date State-wise;

(c) the proposal received from the States in this regard so far;

(d) whether new hospitals/dispensaries have been opened with the assistance of World Bank; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) 'Health' being a State subject under the Constitution of India, it is the responsibility of respective State Government to provide assistance for modernisation and expansion of hospitals under their administrative control keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

(d) and (e) State Health System Development Project with World Bank assistance to improve/upgrade the secondary level health system is being implemented in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa and Maharashtra.

[English]

Unauthorised Encroachment

1969. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Atikarmankarion ke virudh Police Karvai Ke nirdesh" appearing in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated February 11, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of FIR lodged by Delhi Police under section 447, 441 of IPC during the last three years;

(d) the details of 600 acres of gram sabha land being evicted from the encroachers; and

(e) the details of gram sabha land yet to be evicted from encroachment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was decided in the meeting of the Monitoring Committee held on 10th February, 2000 to inter alia, launch a 15 day's drive for upgradation of sanitation and maintenance work including removal of encroachments in 12 areas identified by Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

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

(d) and (e) The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi removed during the last two months encroachment upon Gram Sabha land measuring about 600 Bighas. The Gram Sabha land from which encroachment has not yet been removed measures around 11,500 Bighas.

[Translation]

Family Planning Programmes

1970. SHRI RAMSHAKAL:
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:
DR. BALIRAM:
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) the funds allocated for the health centres and family planning centres respectively during each of the last three years and the current year State-wise;

(b) the funds utilised for the purpose during the said period State-wise;

(c) whether there will be shortage of primary health centre/community centres/sub-centres in view of the projected population figures to March, 2000; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be 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 funds allocated to the States during the last three years and during current year up to February, 2000 is given in enclosed Statement I. The assistance is initially given on the basis of assessed requirement and is finally settled on the basis of audited accounts. As the Grant is given on the basis of utilization requirement, there is normally no surplus left with the State Government.

Under Health Sector, funds are also provided to the States by the Planning Commission under Minimum Needs Programme/Basic Minimum Services. Outlay and expenditure on these Centres in the last three years is given in enclosed Statement II.

(c) Yes. There would be short fall of about 20585 sub-centres 3567 primary health centres and 3436 community health centres as per existing population norms of the projected population as in March, 2000.

(d) The States have been advised to establish adequate number of centres as per their requirements. The Planning Commission is providing funds as Additional Central Assistance under Basic Minimum Services Programme for strengthening of 7 Basic Services, including Primary Health. The States are free to utilize their funds as per their priority. Government of India is also assisting the State Governments to strengthen the existing Centre by provision of funds for Major and Minor Civil Work, provision of essential contractual staff, medicine and equipment kits of in service training under Reproductive & Child Health Programme.

Statement I

Funds allocated to the States for Family Planning Centres viz. H&FW Trg. Centres, Rural F.W. Centres, Sub-Centres, PP at Sub-Divisional Level, Urban F.W. Centres, Health Post and PP at Distt. Level.

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Upto Feb. 2000)
1. Andhra Pradesh	3083.00	3567.00	4795.80	6351.75
2. Arunachal Pradesh	37.00	54.00	57.65	134.51
3. Assam	1405.00	1973.00	2670.07	6754.00
4. Bihar	3304.50	5261.00	7387.56	9964.00
5. Goa	68.00	92.00	116.72	154.50
6. Gujarat	2218.00	3169.20	4064.52	5302.75
7. Haryana	723.00	1024.70	1351.36	1799.99
8. Himachal Pradesh	550.00	787.00	1113.32	1468.99
9. Karnataka	1925.00	3106.00	4256.34	5634.25
10. Kerala	1741.00	2225.00	2972.57	4028.75
11. Madhya Pradesh	3392.00	4831.35	6273.49	8290.25
12. Maharashtra	4010.00	5235.00	6896.20	8740.00
13. Manipur	207.00	254.00	303.30	619.29
14. Meghalaya	157.50	193.00	233.86	521.82
15. Mizoram	95.50	128.00	145.79	266.20
16. Nagaland	101.00	113.00	120.43	273.39
17. Orissa	1952.85	2777.75	3700.30	4958.00
18. Punjab	963.27	1321.00	1726.43	2160.77
19. Rajasthan	2685.00	3620.60	4724.88	6266.75
20. Tamil Nadu	2897.50	4177.74	5526.00	7243.43
21. Tripura	202.00	280.00	359.76	754.00
22. Uttar Pradesh	7788.00	8940.00	11601.85	15203.69
23. West Bengal	2981.00	3750.96	5049.27	6700.50
24. Jammu & Kashmir	539.50	735.01	975.82	1373.65
25. Sikkim	157.50	145.82	162.86	253.25
	43184.12	57762.13	76586.15	105217.88

Statement II*Outlay and Expenditure of Minimum Needs Programme/Basic Minimum Services Programme under Health Sector*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
		Outlay	Actual Expdr.	Outlay	R.E.	Outlay	R.E.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1029.00	500.00	800.00	600.00	2923.60	2923.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	448.00	448.00	948.00	881.00	1021.00	1021.00
3.	Assam	2048.00	2048.00	3073.00	2673.00	3120.00	3120.00
4.	Bihar	2700.00	2178.4	NA	NA	5059.00	5059.00
5.	Goa	170.00	113.9	170.00	157.00	187.80	187.80
6.	Gujarat	2160.00	2280.00	1000.00	1000.00	12177.00	12177.00
7.	Haryana	1063.00	1069.00	1501.1	1761.1	1425.00	1425.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1400.00	1400.00	1713.2	1713.2	2659.10	2659.10
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1946.00	1946.00	3105.00	3105.00	6460.00	6460.00
10.	Karnataka	3638.00	3169.00	NA	NA	12713.00	12713.00
11.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	426.00	426.00	855.00	855.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2919.00	2919.00	Na	5498.6	5604.00	5604.00
13.	Maharashtra	6699.00	7034.00	9480.00	9480.00	9882.00	9882.00
14.	Manipur	231.5	231.5	269.00	269.00	271.65	271.65
15.	Meghalaya	946.00	946.00	1946.00	1346.00	1306.50	1306.50
16.	Mizoram	400.00	400.00	800.00	780.00	1651.00	1651.00
17.	Nagaland	175.00	311.00	1003.00	1003.00	1017.00	1017.00
18.	Orissa	1293.00	1293.00	2041.3	1961.2	1907.89	1907.89
19.	Punjab	1100.00	819.00	1575.00	1575.00	3432.00	3432.00
20.	Rajasthan	8296.00	7504.00	10818.00	9585.00	7005.05	7005.05
21.	Sikkim	170.00	184.8	206.3	206.3	267.15	267.15
22.	Tamil Nadu	3014.0	2831.00	4295.00	3163.4	2440.86	2440.86
23.	Tripura	460.00	345.00	549.00	549.00	619.00	619.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5361.00	5098.00	6784.00	10066.00	12759.00	12759.00
25.	West Bengal	995.00	500.00	1039.00	1725.00	1500.00	1500.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	A&N Islands	330.00	330.00	455.00	455.000	671.00	671.00
27.	Chandigarh	119.6	119.6	268.4	268.4	353.00	353.00
28.	D&N Haveli	45.0	45.0	77.6	77.6	207.50	207.50
29.	Daman & Diu	50.00	50.00	68.7	68.7	97.00	97.00
30.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	1450.00	100.00	1800.00	1800.00
31.	Lakshadweep	39.3	39.3	87.1	87.2	151.77	151.77
32.	Pondicherry	214.00	214.00	181.7	181.7	240.52	240.52
All India		49459.4	46366.5	54417.2	60762.4	101784.39	101784.39

(Figures are provisional). — : Nil

Source: State Plan Division, Planning Commission.

Outlay and Expenditure of Minimum Needs Programme under Health Sector

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1998-99		1999-2000
		Outlay	RE	Outlay
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3923.60	3923.60	N.A.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1072.00	872.00	607.00
3.	Assam	4334.00	4334.00	4534.00
4.	Bihar	7518.00	7518.00	10800.00
5.	Goa	101.95	105.70	106.55
6.	Gujarat	12132.31	12132.31	11342.82
7.	Haryana	2700.00	2700.00	2700.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3341.54	3341.55	3319.83
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6334.86	6896.86	6312.79
10.	Karnataka	11785.00	11615.85	N.A.
11.	Kerala	1975.00	1975.00	607.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4357.78	4357.78	4056.69
13.	Maharashtra	7142.00	7142.00	6856.93
14.	Manipur	600.00	550.00	550.00

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	2000.00	1750.00	2329.00
16.	Mizoram	1760.00	1785.00	1830.00
17.	Nagaland	1139.00	1139.00	1139.00
18.	Orissa	3465.19	3465.19	4127.72
19.	Punjab	2579.60	1968.60	2458.00
20.	Rajasthan	8830.00	6600.00	9656.00
21.	Sikkim	275.05	275.05	N.A.
22.	Tamil Nadu	3388.14	3388.14	2442.99
23.	Tripura	659.00	659.00	630.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6378.00	6888.00	15413.57
25.	West Bengal	3103.00	3616.00	3246.00
26.	A&N Sialnds	786.00	786.00	956.00
27.	Chandigarh	222.50	222.50	250.50
28.	D&N Haveli	81.45	81.45	121.45
29.	Daman & Diu	153.80	153.80	128.00
30.	Delhi	3619.00	3702.00	5525.00
31.	Lakshadweep	174.39	174.39	141.09
32.	Pondicherry	303.87	330.28	453.00
All India		106236.03	104449.04	102640.93

(Figures are provisional)
Source: Planning Commission

[English]

Foreign Nationals Entered India on Fake Documents

1971. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Foreign nationals entered India on fake documents during the last three years;

(b) the number out of them were apprehended at major airport during each of the said period; and

(c) the steps being taken/contemplated by the Government to check such unauthorised intrusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) As per available information, the number of foreign nationals detected for travelling on fake or forged travel

documents at the five major international airports during the period 1996 to 1998 is as under:

1996	1997	1998
431	550	731

The various steps that are being taken to check such unauthorised intrusions include introduction of visa stickers with advanced security features in place of visa stamp; provision of equipment such as computers, ultra-violet lamps etc; training of immigration staff etc.

Police Stations

1972. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new police stations in view of the increase in crime rate in the Capital;

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

(c) the time by which these police stations are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police propose to commence construction of office buildings at the following six police stations during the financial year 2000-2001:

1. Saraswati Vihar
2. Shakarpur
3. Nand Nagri
4. Vasant Kunj
5. Sector-23, Dwarka
6. Kamala Market

The expected period for completion of such projects ranges from one and a half years to two years.

[Translation]

Delhi Police

1973. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the tarnishing image of Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve its image;

(c) the number of cases relating to torture of innocent citizens in fake cases by Delhi Police during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct probe into such fake cases through any investigating agency; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) There have been isolated instances in which the conduct of individual police officials was adversely noticed. It is, however, the constant endeavour of the Government that Delhi Police should have a clean and citizen-friendly image.

(b) The measures taken by Delhi Police to improve its image include:

(i) deterrent action in all cases where police officials are found involved in malpractices, misbehaviour, etc.;

(ii) the training syllabi both for initial training and refresher courses have been designed to inculcate amongst the police trainees the sense of community service and respect of law. In addition, Special Courses on Human Rights are conducted;

(iii) the members of the Force are frequently briefed by senior officers during Sampark Sabhas about the need to behave politely and courteously with the members of the public;

(iv) the facility to ring up telephone number 3319922 has been provided in order to enable the members of the public to speedily lodge their complaints against any harassment by police officials; and

(v) the facility of P.O. Box No. 171 was introduced in July, 1999 to enable the members of public to send their complaints against any criminal or corrupt behaviour of police personnel.

(c) There were 24 cases during the last three years in which the allegation of registration of false case was made.

(d) and (e) Such complaints are inquired into by the Vigilance Branch of Delhi Police and suitable action is taken against those found guilty.

[English]

Dishonest Practice III-B Visas

1974. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government sources think that there is no dishonest means involved in the matter of III-B visas *i.e.* temporary work visas in the country;

(b) whether Tamil Nadu is the main centre from where largest number of III-B visas are issued annually;

(c) whether large number of Indian citizens are suffering due to this dishonest practice in III-B visas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) According to the existing visa policy, foreign nationals desirous of working in India can be granted employment visas by Indian Missions and Posts abroad, under delegated powers, if they are coming for senior managerial positions or highly skilled or technical jobs. There is no such category as 'III-B Visa' in India.

Police Force

1975. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K. Padamanabhayyah to give suggestions for making the police force capable;

(b) whether any other special issues have been given to the committee for considering over and making suggestions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) A Committee was constituted on 5th January, 2000 to examine and specify the challenges the Police would face in the new millennium and to suggest ways and means

to meet them adequately. The Committee has been requested to submit its report within a period of three months.

Unutilised Tribal Welfare Fund

1976. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of funds meant of tribal welfare in the States remains unutilized;

(b) if so, whether the Government have devised any mechanism to check the deviation of funds for other purposes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir, in the case of some of the States there are instances of unutilized funds meant for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

(b) and (c) Guidelines have been issued by the Ministry to States/UTs to utilize the funds during the financial year for which these are meant. The States/UTs have been advised to strengthen the monitoring mechanism for proper utilization of funds. However, wherever unspent balances have been reported by the States/UTs, the same is taken into consideration and adjusted while sanctioning/releasing further funds.

Internal Security in North Eastern Region

1977. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH:
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:
SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY:
SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether internal security of each State in the North East Region is severely affected by the regional insurgency and divisive outlawed organisation with the help of some foreign powers and their agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to curb such activities;

(d) whether every killing, kidnapping, arsoning of the houses in the villagers by the militants of the outlawed

organisation is targeted against the democratic people and their leaders give upper hand to the miscreants and creating danger of ethnic divisions and tensions;

(e) if so, the proposals received from the States Government for help; and

(f) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Militant activities in Manipur and Tripura have shown an increase in recent past. The situation in rest of the North East, including Assam and Nagaland, has shown a distinct improvement.

There are reports that some of the North-Eastern militant groups have developed trans-border linkages in Bangladesh, Myanmar and Bhutan. Pak ISI has also been active in fomenting trouble in the North East.

(c) Steps taken by the Government to combat militancy in the North East include, inter alia, deployment of Central Para Military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence between the security forces; modernisation/upgradation of State Police forces; reimbursement of security related expenditure; sanction of Special Central Assistance to the State Governments; declaration of the most seriously affected areas as 'disturbed areas' and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations'.

The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action.

Our security concerns, including illegal migration, cross-border movements and cross-border crimes, have been taken up with the neighbouring countries at appropriate levels.

(d) Activities of militant groups operating in North East are, at times, aimed at creating ethnic divisions and tensions.

(e) and (f) Proposals for assistance are received for reimbursement of security related expenditure; modernisation of State police forces; modernisation of prison administration; rehabilitation of surrendered militants etc. These are examined under the relevant schemes and assistance, as admissible, provided.

Proposal for deployment of additional Central Para Military Forces/Army are also received and considered, subject to overall availability.

Standard of Education

1978. SHRI RATTANLAL KATARIA:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:
SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that the standard of elementary and secondary education in the country is declining continuously;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve both quality and quantity of the education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The Government at various levels takes continuous steps to improve the quality of education and the achievement levels of students. Some of the important initiatives being implemented currently include renewal and improvement of primary school textbooks in their approach to learning, content and presentation, large scale teacher training in activity based and competency based pedagogy, setting up block and cluster resource centres to provide support to teachers, strengthening of schemes such as environmental education, value education, science improvement and setting up of laboratories and libraries.

There has also been quantitative expansion of schooling facilities in the country which is evident from the table below:

	(in lakhs)	
	1950-51	1998-99
Primary Schools	2.10	6.27
Upper Primary Schools VI-VIII	0.13	1.90
Secondary/Sr. Secondary Schools 10+2	0.07	1.12

[Translation]

Appointment on Deputation Basis in KVS

1979. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangthan have decided to appoint departmental candidates on deputation basis on the posts meant for direct recruitment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) During the last few years a number of vacancies of Principals have remained unfilled because of non-availability of suitable candidates against the quota reserved for direct recruitment as also for promotion. In order to cope up with this situation an element of deputation has been introduced as one of the modes for filling up the post of Principals and recruitment rules have been modified empowering the Commissioner to fill up such vacancies on deputation basis from amongst employees of Government of India/State Governments/Union Territories/Autonomous Bodies and CBSE affiliated +2 Schools provided the candidate fulfills qualifications as prescribed for direct recruits.

[English]

Assassination Attempt on Chief Minister

1980. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that assassination attempt made on the life of the Chief Minister of Nagaland;

(b) if so, the findings of the investigation made in this regard; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A criminal case has been registered and investigation undertaken by the State Police, which is in progress.

Officials of Delhi Police

1981. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C.B.I. has raided the premises of a high officials of Delhi Police recently;

(b) if so, the details of the disproportionate assets recovered as a result thereof; and

(c) the names of Delhi Police Officials identified by the Central Vigilance Commission for corruption cases and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the investigation of the case is at a preliminary stage only and the investigation agency is unable at present to assess whether the assets acquired by the officer concerned are disproportionate to the known sources of his and his family's income.

(c) The names of the police officials in whose case the Central Vigilance Commission have recommended disciplinary action/prosecution are indicated in the attached Statement. Whereas the proceedings are at various stages of completion in respect of 7 of these officials, the action taken against the remaining 7 officials is as follows:

S.No.	Action taken	Number of official
1.	Major penalty imposed	2
2.	Charges dropped as the accused official expired	1
3.	Charges dropped on completion of disciplinary proceedings	4

Statement

S.No.	Name	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Shri Atma Ram	Assistant Commissioner of Police (Retd.)
2.	Shri M.L. Kararwal	Assistant Commissioner of Police
3.	Shri Surender Singh	S.H.O.
4.	Shri Kapoor Singh	S.H.O.
5.	Shri Mahendra Singh	Sub-Inspector
6.	Shri Satish Sharma	Sub-Inspector
7.	Shri Ranveer Singh	Sub-Inspector

1	2	3
8.	Shri Devender Kumar	Sub-Inspector
9.	Shri Surjeet Singh	Asstt. Sub-Inspector
10.	Shri Jaipal Singh	Asstt. Sub-Inspector
11.	Shri R.S. Khokar	Addl. S.H.O.
12.	Shri Daleep Singh	Head-Constable
13.	Shri Ujjawal Mishra	Deputy Commissioner of Police
14.	Shri Satinder Nath	Inspector

Insurgency in North East Region

1982. SHRI RAJKUMAR WANGCHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of agreement made with different insurgent organisations in North-Eastern States;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating for opening dialogue with the NSCN (K) group;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) There has been only one agreement with an insurgent organisation in the North-East in the recent past. This pertains to the Cease Fire between the Government of India and the NSCN (I/M) with effect from 1st August, 1997. This agreement is currently valid upto 31st August, 2000.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government is committed to restoration of peace and has extended an invitation to all those who have strayed from the paths of togetherness to come forward for talks within the four corners of our Constitution.

[Translation]

Cow as a National Animal

1983. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been demanded from the Government to declare cow as a national animal;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered this demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) According to information received from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, no proposal to declare cow as a national animal is under their consideration at present. "Tiger" has already been declared as the national animal.

PSUs in Drug Sector

1984. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the PSUs in Drug Sector are proposed to be privatized;

(b) if so, the reasons for the chronic sickness of the units, PSU-wise; and

(c) The financial implications of the revival/ privatization of the PSUs and present status of proposals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (c) All the Central PSUs in the pharmaceutical sector have been declared sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The future of these companies except Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. would be determined by the proceedings and the final decision of the BIFR in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. In the case of BCPL, the rehabilitation package approved by the BIFR is under implementation.

(b) There is an element of commonality in the reasons for the chronic sickness of the Pharmaceuticals PSUs. These reasons are the severe competition from private sector, large employee related costs, inability of the Government to extend Budgetary support and a heavy burden of various social overheads.

[*Translation*]**Statement****Review of Schemes for Social Sector**

1985. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the schemes for social sector;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the purpose of this said review;

(c) the findings thereof;

(d) whether the Government have taken any action to check misappropriation of funds being done on schemes for social sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) A review of various schemes under implementation in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was undertaken during 1998-99 with a view to make them user-friendly, flexible, enhance their coverage and usefulness, revise financial norms in keeping with the changes in the price-index and to achieve better targeting of the beneficiaries. A list of schemes reviewed is given in enclosed Statement.

(d) to (f) Funds are released to State Governments/ U.T. Administrations on the basis of proposals received from them and after careful examination of the detailed information regarding past performance and utilization of funds released earlier in respect of each scheme.

In the case of NGOs, grants-in-aid are released on the basis of the recommendations of the State Government/U.T. Administration concerned, Inspection Reports of the Central/State Government/U.T. officers/ organizations and after scrutiny of the Annual Audited Accounts and Utilization Certificates. In case of any complaint of misappropriation of funds or other irregularity, the matter is got thoroughly investigated. Wherever it is established that an NGO has indulged in malpractices, the matter is taken up with the State Governments/UTs for recovery of the unutilized grants and for take over of the assets created out of Government funds, besides stopping further release of grants.

List of schemes of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment which were reviewed.

I. Scheduled Castes Development

1. Upgradation of merit for SCs/STs.
2. Special Educational Development Programme for SC Girls belonging to very low literacy levels.
3. Grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations working for Scheduled Castes.
4. Post-Matric Scholarships for SC/ST students.
5. National Overseas Scholarship for SCs/STs.
6. Coaching and allied Schemes for SCs/STs.
7. Boys/Girls Hostel.
8. Research and Training.
9. Pre-Matric Scholarships to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations.
10. Special Central Assistance to Schedule Component Plan for Scheduled Castes.

II. Welfare of Backward Classes/Minorities

11. Pre-Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections based on Economic Criteria

III. Welfare of Disabled

12. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Disabled.
13. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Establishment and Development of Special Schools.
14. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons.
15. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Persons with Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation for Manpower Development.
16. Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/ fitting of Aids/Applications (ADIP).

IV. *Social Defence*

17. Integrated Programme for Street Children.
18. Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self-Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons.
19. Programme for Juvenile Justice
20. General grant-in-aid programme for assistance in the field of Social Defence.

[English]

Personal Computer Targets

1986. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering various measures with a view to achieve a PC penetration target of 20 per thousand population by 2008; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Various measures taken in this regard are:

- (i) Implementation of ISP Policy for expansion of internet in the country;
- (ii) Development of software in Indian languages and promotion of content development in Indian languages.
- (iii) Promotion of e-commerce. In this regard, Information Technology Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 16th December, 1999.
- (iv) To bring down the cost of computers, Government in the recent budget has reduced the duty on finished computer systems from 20% to 15% and on key components of computer from 5% to 0%.
- (v) Depreciation on computers has been allowed at the rate of 60%.

- (vi) Computer systems have been made freely importable vide EXIM Policy 1997-2002 applicable w.e.f. 1.4.1999.
- (vii) The second hand computers and computer peripherals donated by an outside donor to Government schools have been exempted from custom duties.
- (viii) Donation of computers, imported duty-free by EOU/EPZ/STP/EHTP to recognized non-commercial educational institutions, registered charitable hospitals, public libraries, public funded research and development establishments, two years after their use by the said units, has been exempted.

[Translation]

Review of Infrastructure

1987. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of major projects in infrastructural sector in the country;

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

(c) whether any shortcoming has been noticed therein;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The result of the review is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir. As on January, 2000, out of 183 major projects, 101 projects have suffered cost overrun and 96 projects have suffered time overrun with respect to their latest approved cost and schedule.

(d) The reasons for delay vary from project to project. In general, the reasons include: administrative and

procedural delays, delay in land acquisition, delay in award of work contracts, failure of civil contractors, delay in supply of equipment and construction and faulty implementation procedures.

(e) The corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce time and cost overrun of these projects include the following:

- (i) Monthly as well as Quarterly monitoring by the Government. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures;
- (ii) Indepth critical review of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries with the State Governments, equipment

suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays;

- (iii) Inter-ministerial coordination for resolving problems of inter-ministerial nature;
- (iv) Review of projects by Empowered Committee of the concerned Ministries/Departments for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving of land acquisition and other problems;
- (v) Making funds available to complete the projects in advanced stage of implementation, as per schedule.
- (vi) Reproritisation of projects for implementation within the available financial resources.

Statement

Statewise Summary of Projects costing more than 100 Crs. with respect to Approved Schedule as on 01/01/2000

S.No.	Sector	No. of projects	Total cost (Rs. Crs)			Proj. with cost over run				Proj. with time over run			
			Latest Approved	Anticipated cost	cost over: run (%)	No.	Latest Approved	Anticipated Cost	% inch Base	No.	Latest Approved	Anticipated cost	Range (MO)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	7596.9	7644.7	0.6	4	4387.4	4504.8	2.7	7	3149.3	3204.7	10 - 57
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	831.7	1635.6	96.7	1	675.7	1479.6	119.0	1	675.7	1479.6	50 - 50
3.	Assam	7	4868.5	5925.6	21.7	2	2068.9	3126.1	51.1	3	2304.5	3361.6	10 - 28
4.	Bihar	13	6780.4	8690.4	28.2	5	3536.8	5464.8	54.5	5	2453.8	3164.7	12 - 60
5.	Goa	1	250.00	250.00	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0 - 0
6.	Gujarat	7	3512.6	3954.8	12.6	5	2098.2	2729.5	30.1	3	1661.2	2220.0	29 - 120
7.	Haryana	2	1450.2	1476.7	1.8	1	287.2	379.1	32.0	1	287.2	379.1	27 - 27
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	9350.3	9350.3	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1	7666.3	7666.3	39 - 39
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	6605.2	7383.9	11.8	2	2637.7	3416.4	29.5	3	3045.4	3824.2	12 - 84
10.	Karnataka	6	1075.6	2055.5	91.11	4	682.1	1662.0	143.7	0	0.0	0.0	0 - 0
11.	Kerala	4	2291.3	2334.6	1.9	2	128.8	317.9	146.9	2	935.0	1053.8	10 - 19
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11	8253.6	8328.3	0.9	5	1501.4	1759.1	17.2	5	2098.7	2297.6	12 - 48
13.	Maharashtra	18	4694.1	5568.5	18.6	10	1950.2	2824.6	44.8	12	2914.0	3609.5	6 - 69
14.	Manipur	1	578.6	578.6	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0 - 0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15. Mizoram		1	368.7	368.7	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0 - 0
16. Nagaland		1	331.6	758.7	128.8	1	331.6	758.7	128.8	1	331.6	758.7	32 - 32
17. Orissa		9	12594.4	15133.7	20.2	7	12008.6	14687.7	22.3	4	5161.4	6791.9	20 - 72
18. Punjab		2	514.1	599.2	16.6	2	514.1	599.2	16.6	2	514.1	599.2	15 - 132
19. Rajasthan		3	653.8	887.3	35.7	3	653.8	887.3	35.7	0	0.0	0.0	0 - 0
20. Sikkim		1	181.2	408.2	125.3	1	181.2	408.2	125.3	1	181.2	408.2	51 - 51
21. Tamil Nadu		12	7528.3	8447.8	12.2	7	4338.8	5337.9	23.0	7	6393.3	7291.1	5 - 73
22. Tripura		1	575.0	849.0	47.7	1	575.0	849.0	47.7	0	0.0	0.0	0 - 0
23. Uttar Pradesh		10	7472.0	11002.1	47.2	7	6708.7	10238.8	52.6	4	4734.2	7779.1	2 - 77
24. West Bengal		11	2367.5	2949.8	24.6	7	797.5	1380.6	73.1	8	1807.7	2182.8	1 - 96
25. Multi State		42	13542.5	16129.3	19.1	24	6405.3	9207.6	43.7	26	8417.0	10665.2	6 - 117
Total		183	104268.1	122711.5	17.7	101	52469.0	72019.0	37.3	96	54731.6	68737.1	

[English]

Sea Mussel Culture

1988. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) provides technical help for open sea mussel culture;

(b) if so, number of farmers benefitted from this mussel culture so far in the coastal areas of various States, State-wise;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted regarding commercial viability of mussel culture;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to popularise mussel culture among aqua farmers on the West Coast opening up a whole new range of products such as mud crabs, oysters clams and sweet water prawns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The CMFRI provides technical support to the fish farmers for setting up mussel farms in the open seas and estuaries. The details of the number of farmers

from the coastal states, benefitted from this technical sport are as under:

States	No. of farmers benefitted
Maharashtra	5
Goa	6
Karnataka	24
Kerala	165
Tamil Nadu	27
Andhra Pradesh	5
Andaman Islands	4

(c) and (d) Feasibility surveys have been conducted by CMFRI to assess the commercial viability of mussel culture in open seas as well as in estuarine areas. At present, most of the small scale commercial mussel farms are located in Kerala and Karnataka. Several farms have been set up through financial assistance under the programmes on Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Training of Rural Youth in Self Employment (TRYSEM), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and other local Gramin Banks.

(e) The CMFRI conducts regular training programmes and demonstrations in the coastal rural districts for the benefit of State Govt. fisheries officials, NGOs, rural

women and unemployment youths under their institute-based programmes and also through its Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) and Trainers Training Centre (TTC). The CMFRI also organizes monthly scientist-farmers-industry meets to popularise various sea-farming technologies, including mussel culture. Brochures and Pamphlets in vernacular languages on mussel culture are being distributed among coastal fish farmers. The CMFRI has taken up programmes on integrated sea farming incorporating the mussel, edible oysters, clams, mud crabs and other estuarine fish species.

Ponnani Fishing Harbour

1989. SHRI G.M BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1427 on December 8, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the technical examinations of the project report for Ponnani Fishing Harbour in Kerala referred to the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery, Bangalore, has been completed and report received;

(b) if so, the details of the results of technical examination;

(c) if not, the time by which the technical examination report is likely to be expected;

(d) the main items of the project for development and the cost involved therein;

(e) whether sanction process for the long pending project would be expedited; and

(f) if so, the norms fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore have requested the Governemnt of Kerala to furnish additional technical information relating to model studies and other details for examination.

(d) The main components of the project include breakwater, quay, auction hall and other ancillary facilities with a total estimated cost of Rs. 29.70 crores.

(e) and (f) Based on the receipt of additional technical information from the State Government and techno-economic feasibility of the project, the proposal will be further considered.

[Translation]

Chambal Damini Canal

1990. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are providing funds for the maintenance of Chambal Damini canal passing through Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to set up a commission for the distribution of water of the canal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) No such request for setting up of a Commission for distribution of water of the canal has been received from either of the beneficiary State of Madhya Pradesh/Rajasthan.

Construction of Canals

1991. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been approved by the Union Government for construction of canals in Etawah, Araiya and Mainpuri districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the canals are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Minimum Wages for Agricultural Workers

1992. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to protect the interest of agricultural workers and revise minimum wages for them;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far and the present status of State/Centre legislation protecting agricultural workers, State-wise including minimum and prevailing rates of wages for male and females; and

(c) the prevailing mechanism for effective implementation of labour laws in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages. There is also a provision for Variable Dearness Allowance linked with Consumer Price Index and both Central and some State Governments revise Variable Dearness Allowance from time to time.

Recently, the Minimum Wages for Agricultural workers under Central Sphere have been revised vide Gazette Notification S.O. 1085 dated 11.11.1999. A statement indicating rates of minimum wages fixed by different States/UTs and the Central Government is attached. The Act does not discriminate between workers on sex basis. Both male and female workers are entitled for equal remuneration under their respective categories. Also, a comprehensive law to protect and safeguard the interests of agricultural workers has been envisaged. Besides, some State Governments have enacted separate laws to protect the interests of agricultural labourers in their territories.

(c) There are enforcement machineries set up by both Central and State Governments for effective implementation of various laws under their respective jurisdictions. In order to ensure compliance they carry out inspections periodically and take appropriate action against the defaulters.

Statement

Daily Rates of Minimum Wages for Agricultural Workers Fixed by Different States/UTs Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948

(As on 1.1.99)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 30.00 to Rs. 36.50 p.d. (According to Zones)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 35.60 to 37.60 p.d. (According to Areas)
3.	Assam	Rs. 45.00 p.m.* without food, shelter and clothing Rs. 38.60 p.m. plus food, shelter and clothing
4.	Bihar	Rs. 38.61 p.d.*
5.	Goa	Rs. 58.00 p.d.
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 34.00 p.d.
7.	Haryana	Rs. 70.12. p.d.* with meals or Rs. 74.12 p.d. without meals
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 26.00 p.d. Rs. 45.75 p.d

1	2	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 30.00 p.d.
10.	Karnataka	Rs. 26.00 p.d.
11.	Kerala	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 40.20 p.d. for hard work
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 49.46 p.d. *
13.	Maharashtra	Rs. 39.00 to Rs. 41.00 p.d. (According to Zones)
14.	Manipur	Rs. 55.00 p.d.* for Hill Areas Rs. 52.00 p.d. for other than the Hill Areas
15.	Meghalaya	Rs. 50.00 p.d.
16.	Mizoram	Rs. 70.00 p.d.
17.	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 p.d.
18.	Orissa	Rs. 42.50 p.d.*
19.	Punjab	Rs. 59.11 p.d. * with meals
20.	Rajasthan	Rs. 65.66 p.d. without meals Rs. 44.00 p.d.
21.	Sikkim	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 yet to be extended
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 54.00 p.d.
23.	Tripura	Rs. 40.00 p.d.
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 47.00 p.d. to Rs. 49.00 p.d.
25.	West Bengal	Rs. 51.34 p.d.* for Adult Rs. 38.73 p.d. for Child (with meals) Rs. 48.14 p.d. for Adult Rs. 36.07 p.d. for Child (without meals) (8.10.98)
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Rs. 50.00 p.d. (Andaman) Rs. 53.00 p.d. (Nicobar)
27.	Chandigarh	Rs. 52.09 p.d.* with meals or Rs. 60.15 p.d. without meal
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 38.00 p.d.
29.	Delhi	Rs. 90.30 p.d.*

1	2	3
30.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 35.00 p.d.
31.	Lakshadweep	Rs. 45.00 p.d.
32.	Pondicherry	
	(i) Pondicherry Region	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d.
	(ii) Mahe Region	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 40.20 p.d. for hard work
	(iii) Yanam Region	Rs. 19.25 to Rs. 26.25 p.d.
	(iv) Karaikal	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d.
	Central Sphere	Rs. 77.12 to* Rs. 84.12 p.d.

Note:— (1) The Minimum Wages also include the variable dearness allowance, wherever provided.

(2)* Indicate the provision of variable dearness allowance with the minimum rates of wage.

[Translation]

Study on Food Processing Industries

1993 SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been carried out by the Indian Food Trade and Development Organisation for the development of food processing industries;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the final decision taken by the Union Government on this study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) As far as the Ministry of Agriculture is concerned, no information is available regarding the study being carried out by the Indian Food Trade and Development Organisation.

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

[English]

Digging of Wells

1994. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for release of financial assistance for digging of wells in the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) No proposal has been received from the State Government of Kerala for release of financial assistance for ground water based schemes.

(c) Does not arise.

Vocational Courses

1995. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govt. of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government to include some of the vocational courses under Apprentices Act, 1961;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the date by which these courses are likely to be included under Apprentices Act, 1961?

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

(b) The request of the Government of Maharashtra is for inclusion of the following subject fields under the category of Technician (Vocational) Apprentices under the Apprentices Act, 1961:

1. Repair, Maintenance and Rewinding of Electrical Motors
2. Electronic Technology
3. Mechanical Technology
4. Auto Engineering Technician
5. Bakery & Confectionery
6. Cookery

(c) and (d) Similar Rajya Sabha Question no. 2093 for 15.3.99 was replied and an Assurance was given to that house that the request of Government of Maharashtra is under consideration of the Government of India.

Closure of Mini Steel Plants

1996. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of mini-steel plants closed during the last three years;

(b) the total number of employees rendered jobless due to closure of these units;

(c) the number of employees absorbed in the new companies/plants set up in their place; and

(d) the number of mini-steel plants closed during the above period reopened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) 52 numbers of Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) based mini steel plants were reportedly closed during the period from 1996-97 to 1999-2000 (Upto 31.12.1999).

(b) As per available information, the closed EAF units had employment of about 18056.

(c) and (d) Seven closed EAF units which were reopened through Induction Furnace route fully re-employed 594 persons.

Water Sharing Agreement

1997. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and Bangladesh for sharing of water of Teesta river of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

NCDC

1998. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hive off some sections of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to other institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of new programmes of projects have been sanctioned by NCDC during the last three years;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to create core competency for NCDC in some areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any study has been done on the functions of NCDC for the last three years; and

(g) if so, the outcome thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) NCDC has sanctioned 936 projects involving assistance of Rs. 1284.40 crores under various schemes during the last three years.

(d) and (e) NCDC has its own technical experts in the fields of human resource development and evaluation of projects. The projects received from the State Governments are examined by the technical experts before sanction.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. An expert group under the chairmanship of Special Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, studied the functions of NCDC and submitted its report. In order to implement the recommendations of the expert group, a steering group under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation was set up which has submitted its report. The main recommendations of the expert group and steering group were; relaunching of the principal repayable by NCDC to the Central Government for atleast three years; redeployment of annual interest instalment as grant to the NCDC fund for next five years until total grant reaches Rs. 500.00 crores; allowing NCDC to borrow funds from the banks as per its requirement and allowing NCDC to raise tax free bonds on the pattern of HUDCO, REC etc.; allowing one percent rebate in the interest rates to the cooperatives which are professionally managed; and implementation of proposed scheme for providing working capital finance to the cooperatives.

Agriculture Extension

1999. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Agriculture Extension Centres set up in each State, during the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government have a proposal to set up some Agriculture Extension Centres with the World Bank assistance; and

(c) if so, the number of such centers proposed to be set up in the country particularly in Orissa during 2000-2001?

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

(a) No such Agriculture Extension Centres have been set up. However, 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras and 188 Farmers' Training Centres have been imparting training to the farmers.

(b) No, Sir. However, forty Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATICs) at State Agricultural Universities/Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Farmers Information and Advisory Centres (FIACs) at block level in districts of six States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab are being established under the World Bank assisted National Agricultural Technology Project. Besides, the existing Zonal Agricultural Research stations (ZARs) are proposed to be strengthened to take up the additional functions of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in 53 districts in the country where there is no Krishi Vigyan Kendra under the same project with the support from World Bank.

(c) Ten FIACs and one ATIC are proposed to be established in Orissa during 2000-2001. In addition, two existing Zonal Agricultural Research Stations are proposed to be strengthened to take up the additional functions of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Bhadrak and Navarangpur districts.

Annapurna Scheme

2000. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to launch 100% Centrally sponsored scheme "Annapurna" for the senior citizens;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the estimated number of senior citizens likely to be benefited under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Rural Development, who are administering this Scheme, the Annapurna Scheme will be launched from April, 2000.

(b) The salient features of the scheme are as follows:

(i) 10 Kgs. of grain per month are to be provided to all indigent senior citizens;

(ii) The eligibility norms applicable under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) will also apply to the Annapurna Scheme. In addition

the beneficiary should not have been claiming pensions under NOAPS and his/her children should not be residing in the same village;

(iii) The Gram Panchayats are to identify, prepare and display a list of such persons after giving wide publicity.

(c) The estimated number of senior citizens likely to be covered is 13.76 lakhs.

Desilting/Dredging of Yamuna River

2001. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shallow water-level in the river Yamuna due to heavy silting and accumulation of sand on the bed of the river;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government contemplating for desilting and dredging the river-bed; and

(c) if so, the time by which the desilting work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yamuna is an alluvial river and carries heavy silt load. However, nothing specific has been reported by any State Government regarding shallow water level in the river Yamuna due to heavy silting.

(b) Union Government have not received any proposal regarding desilting/dredging of Yamuna river from concerned State Governments.

(c) Does not arise.

Revival of ET&TDC Limited

2002. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to revive Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, the scheme evolved in this regard;

(c) whether the Government are considering to introduce Voluntary Retirement Scheme for employees;

(d) if so, details of the scheme in this regard and if not, reasons thereof;

(e) whether the Government are considering to close down this public sector; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

(c) to (f) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

[*Translation*]

Support Price of Wheat

2003. SHRI HARIBHAI CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various farmers organisation have expressed their resentment regarding the support price of wheat announced by the Government for the current year;

(b) if so, the demands of the farmers organisations;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision to consider their said demands;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The Government has not announced the support price of wheat for the current year so far.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Nuclear Power Corporation

2004. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading financial institutions have agreed to lend long term loans to the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited for implementing its nuclear power programme;

(b) if so, the total amount of loan agreed to by these financial institutions; and

(c) the projects likely to be implemented by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The nuclear power projects are being implemented with the Government Budgetary support and medium term market borrowings. The details are as follows:

Kaiga Atomic Power Project-2 of 220 MWe has been synchronised to the Southern grid on 2.12.99 and Rajasthan Atomic Power Project-3 of 220 MWe has achieved criticality on 24.12.99. Apart from completing and commissioning the ongoing projects of a total capacity of 440 MWe, comprising of the Kaiga Atomic Power Project Unit-1 and the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project Unit-4, proposals for nuclear power development in the Ninth Five Year Plan include commencement of work on two units (3 & 4) of the Tarapur Atomic Power Project (TAPP 2x500 MWe), Kaiga Units-3 & 4 (2x220 MWe), besides the commissioning of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the 2x1000 MWe Nuclear Power Station at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu with Russian assistance and the commencement of preliminary work on the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) (1x500 MWe) towards the end of the Ninth Plan.

Foreign Direct Investment in Space Sector

2005. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to allow Foreign Direct Investment upto 74% in establishment and operation of Indian Satellite system for companies registered in India and those with operating licence for specific services from administrative ministries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; alongwith its implication and *modus operandi* for clearance of such proposals;

(c) the details of FDI proposals received by the Government and present status of each proposal; and

(d) the action being taken for the implementation of the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the decisions are as follows:

1. Only Indian registered Companies will be allowed to establish and operate an Indian Satellite System.
2. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in such a company shall not exceed 74 percent.
3. FDI in this sector would have to be approved by the Government. No Company would be eligible for automatic approval from RBI.
4. A Committee of Secretaries, to be set up, called CAISS (Committee for Authorising the Establishment and operation of Indian Satellite Systems) will act as a window for clearing the Indian Satellite Systems.

(c) There are presently four proposals cleared by the Government for FDI in setting up space segment capacity for the following categories of services:

- Multi-media system;
- Global Mobile Personal Communication Satellite (GMPCS) system; and
- Value added systems.

(d) The Committee for authorising the Establishment and Operation of Indian Satellite Systems (CAISS) will consider the above proposals.

[Translation]

Bee Keeping Industry

2006. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned and spent for Bee-keeping Industry under the purview of KVIC to different States during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the proposal received by Government during the above period for bee-keeping from the State Governments and the number out of them sanctioned so far and the number of pending;

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(d) whether the Government propose to allocate more funds to KVIC to boost bee-keeping industry;

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

(f) whether any survey has been conducted for setting up of bee-keeping industry in the country; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRi OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) The Statement showing the State Board-wise Budget sanctioned by the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) under the Bee-keeping industry during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is enclosed.

(b) According to KVIC, they have received 74 (31 individuals, 43 institutions) proposals during the period April 1996 to Dec., 1999, out of which, three proposals have been sanctioned (2 individuals + 1 institution) and 21 proposals are under examination of the KVIC. Balance 50 proposals being incomplete, have been returned.

(c) Since the formalities have to be completed by KVIBs, no definite time can be given.

(d) to (g) Yes, Sir. Under the UNDP-KVIC Sub-Programme, the KVIC is implementing a programme entailing about Rs. 3.2 crores.

The KVIC is conducting a survey of 10 clusters. The survey is expected to be completed in the year 2000-2001.

Statement

Statement Showing the Budget Sanctioned to State/U.T. KVI Boards Under Bee-Keeping Industry

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of the Board	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
A	B	C	D	E
1.	Mizoram	4.81	4.81	00
2.	Manipur	34.65	34.65	69.31
3.	Nagaland	53.96	53.96	4.05
4.	Kerala	16.44	16.44	15.15
5.	Haryana	12.87	12.87	22.90
6.	Pondicherry	2.05	2.05	4.30
7.	Andhra Pradesh	10.84	10.84	00
8.	Sikkim	9.08	9.08	Budget not yet approved
9.	Delhi	00	00	00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.40	5.40	22.00
11.	Punjab	77.74	77.74	Budget not yet approved

A	B	C	D	E
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	15.96	15.96	11.98
13.	Chandigarh (UT)	00	00	00
14.	Rajasthan	00	00	2.47
15.	Karnataka	11.36	11.36	Budget not yet approved
16.	Tamil Nadu	00	00	Budget not yet approved
17.	Lakshadweep	00	00	00
18.	Maharashtra	23.31	23.31	12.91
19.	Gujarat	12.58	12.58	00
20.	Goa	00	00	Budget not yet approved
21.	Bihar	100.02	100.02	Budget not yet approved
22.	Orissa	26.95	26.95	433.15
23.	West Bengal	13.27	13.27	17.20
24.	Andaman & Nicobar	00	00	00
25.	Assam	4.81	4.81	Budget not yet approved
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	00	00	00
27.	Meghalaya	12.59	12.59	Budget not yet approved
28.	Tripura	00	00	23.75
29.	Uttar Pradesh	45.84	45.84	147.48
30.	Madhya Pradesh	18.00	18.00	00
Total		512.53	512.53	786.65

[English]

Test Firing a Missile by Pakistan

2007. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has recently test fired short range surface-to-surface missile successfully;

(b) if so, the details of target range of the missile and its payload;

(c) whether it also carries nuclear warhead; and

(d) if so, whether any prior warning of the test was communicated to India by Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. On 7 February, Pakistan issued a statement regarding the test firing of a new design of Hatf-I with greater pay load and improved accuracy. It was claimed that the missile had a range of 100 kms

and could carry a variety of warheads, though the nature of these warheads was not specified.

(d) Yes, Sir. A prior notice about this test was conveyed to the Government by Pakistan on February 4.

Cotton Technology Mission

2008. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI CHINDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total production of cotton in 1999-2000 estimated to fall by nearly 10% over the preceding year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to establish Cotton Technology Mission with an outlay of Rs. 600 crore to improve both the yield and quality of cotton in the country;

(d) if so, the target fixed for production of cotton under this Mission; and

(e) the exact amount allocated by the Union Government to meet the financial need of this Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The total production of cotton for the year 1999-2000 is estimated at 121.34 lakh bales as compared to 121.77 lakh bales during preceding year *i.e.* 1998-99.

(c) to (e) The Government of India has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton with a outlay of Rs. 566.50 crore to improve both the yield and quality of cotton in the country during the remaining years of IX Plan.

The production target of cotton has been fixed at 193 lakh bales of 170 kg. each by the year 2001-2002.

The Technology Mission on Cotton is consisted of four Mini-Missions. The Mini-Mission-I on research is to be implemented by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, while the Department of Agriculture and

Cooperation is the nodal Department for Mini-Mission-II for increasing production of cotton. The Ministry of Textiles is responsible for the implementation of Mini-Mission-III dealing with the development of market infrastructure and Mini-Mission-IV for the modernisation of ginning and pressing factories.

The Government of India has approved Rs. 566.50 crore for the implementation of the Mission for the remaining years of IX Plan *i.e.* 1999-2000 to 2001-2002.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Remote Sensing Data

2009. SHRI KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Remote Sensing Agency at Hyderabad could not reconcile between the funds obtained from sale of data and the annual fees paid to the foreign satellite owners;

(b) if so, the extent of revenue loss suffered by the country as a result thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken against those who are responsible for this loss; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) As a national facility, National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) is given the mandate to acquire, archive and disseminate data in a timely manner on an assured basis to the user community for various applications including natural disasters. Towards this, NRSA has a policy of acquiring data from various remote sensing satellites, both Indian and foreign. In the process, it is likely that a certain percentage of data acquired may not be made use of ultimately. Over the years, NRSA has been able to provide data services to the user community on a continued and assured basis, while maintaining a positive growth in the revenue generated from the overall sales of data products from various satellites. Currently, NRSA is not paying any fee for receiving foreign satellite data by appropriate reciprocal arrangements.

(b) Does not arise, since the operations of NRSA are not entirely commercial in nature.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Computerisation in Rural Institution

2010. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive plan for popularising computerisation in rural institutions of the country to eradicate redtapism in rural Government institutions and banking system in semi-urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of computerisation in rural India, State-wise in general and Maharashtra in particular with funds proposed to be provided/invested during the next 5 years;

(c) the special schemes launched for providing computer education during 2000-2001 in Maharashtra and the targets set therefor; and

(d) the details of pilot project formulated for promotion of computerisation in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) Computerisation of the district rural agencies is an essential aspect of establishing an effective information system for the implementation of various rural poverty alleviation and development programmes at the district level. While efforts are being made to computerize all the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) of the country separately,

efforts are on to provide a connectivity network between the DRDAs, the States and the Centre to ensure timely and smooth flow of information. Under the erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), funds @ Rs. 7 lakhs (Rs. 5.60 lakhs Central share and Rs. 1.40 lakhs State share) has been released to all the DRDAs for installation of computer at the DRDA level and also at State/Union Territory Headquarters. The State-wise progress in this regard is given in the Statement attached.

Among the special schemes launched is the Jhabua Development Communication Project covering all the villages of Jhabua and 200 villages of the neighbouring tribal villages of Dhar and Khargone. It has been decided to provide VSAT based connectivity on a pilot project basis in the following DRDAs:

	Name of the State	Name of DRDAs	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Anantapur	2. Nalgonda
2.	Tamil Nadu	3. Thanjavur	4. Perambalur
3.	Uttar Pradesh	5. Almora	6. Etawah
4.	Madhya Pradesh	7. Hoshangabad	8. Narsinghpur
		9. Raisen	
5.	Himachal Pradesh	10. Solan	
6.	Bihar	11. Hazaribagh	
7.	West Bengal	12. Midnapur	
8.	Meghalaya	13. Shillong	
9.	Maharashtra	14. Chandrapur	
10.	Rajasthan	15. Sikar	

National Informatics Centre is the Executing Agency of the Project. The capital cost of the project is estimated to be Rs. 99.62 lakhs for the 15 DRDAs.

Statement

Status of Computerisation in Different States/UTs as on 03.03.2000

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	Purchase of Computer is being finalised	Computer Hardware & Software is likely to be purchased	Computer is being installed	Computer installed	No. Information
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	Yes	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	Yes	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	Yes	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	Yes	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	Yes	—	—
6.	Gujarat	—	—	Yes	—	—
7.	Haryana	—	—	—	Yes	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	Yes	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	Yes	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	Yes
11.	Kerala	—	—	Yes	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	Yes	—
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	Yes
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	Yes
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	Yes	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—	Yes	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	Yes
18.	Orissa	—	—	—	Yes	—
19.	Punjab	—	—	Yes	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	Yes	—
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	Yes
22.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	Yes
23.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	Yes	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	Yes
25.	West Bengal	—	—	—	Yes	—
26.	A&N Islands	Yes	—	—	—	—
27.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	Yes
28.	D&N Haveli	—	—	—	—	Yes
29.	Lakshadweep	Yes	—	—	—	—
30.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	Yes	—

Anti Terrorism Pact with Hungary

2011. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Hungary, India to sign anti-terrorism pact" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated February 8, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this pact is likely to be signed;

(d) the names of countries which are involved in the process of nuclear smuggling; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to check on the alarming terrorism and nuclear smuggling in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Government have seen the news item.

(b) to (d) In their bilateral interaction, the Governments of India and the Republic of Hungary have expressed their deep concern over the threat faced by the international community from international terrorism, extremism, narco-terrorism and organised crime and have agreed that the international community should jointly take steps to eradicate this global menace. The two Governments are discussing bilateral Agreements in this regard.

(e) Government continues to take all necessary steps to safeguard the security and territorial integrity of the country.

Steel Development Fund

2012. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a fund called Steel Development Fund created out of cess collected from the main steel producers and it has been discontinued since the reform process was undertaken;

(b) if so, whether the main producers including SAIL have been demanding the Government to make their contribution returned in view of the fact that the fund is withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand of the main contributors?

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

(b) and (c) None of the main producers including the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has demanded for return of their contribution from the Steel Development Fund (SDF). However, SAIL had submitted a revival package to the Government which included, inter-alia, financial and business restructuring of the Company including waiver of loans to the tune of Rs. 5073 crores taken by SAIL from the SDF. The proposal for waiver of SDF loans was considered and approved by the Government on 15.2.2000.

Asylum to Karmapa

2013. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:
 SHRI SURESH KURUP:
 SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
 SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA:
 SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN
 SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:
 SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
 SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
 SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:
 SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
 SHRI R.L. BHATIA:
 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
 SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
 SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE:
 SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:
 SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
 SHRI MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have obtained the necessary information about the flight of the 17th Karmapa alongwith his team from Tibet to Dhamsala in January, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the mystery still surrounds the reported flight of Karmapa Lama from Tibet and his proposed visit to Rumtek monastery in Sikkim;

(d) whether Dalai Lama has requested the Union Government to give asylum to Karmapa;

(e) if so, whether the Government have also received any request from some organisations to provide political asylum to Karmapa alongwith his associates;

(f) if so, whether the Government have received any protest from China and some organisations against providing asylum to Karmapa;

(g) whether the Government propose to give him the same status as had been given to Dalai Lama;

(h) if so, the action taken by the Government on this issue; and

(i) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (i) Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, arrived in Dharamsala from Tibet on January 5, 2000. The Chinese side has been requested to share with us details regarding the circumstances of his departure from Tibet for India. The official Chinese position on Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji's arrival in India is that Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji had gone abroad to "get the musical instruments" of the Buddhist rituals and the "black hat" used by previous Karmapas. His Holiness the Dalai Lama has publicly stated that Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji would like to stay in India and study. Representations have been received from his supporters regarding his continued stay in India. Representations have also been received against his continued stay in India. The matter requires careful consideration taking into account all relevant factors.

Pandiyar Punnampula Irrigation Scheme

2014. DR. C. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has urged the Union Government to include Pandiyar Pannampula Irrigation Scheme of Coimbatore-Erode District in the current Annual Plan and release adequate funds for execution of the scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per Annual Plan (1999-2000) document of Tamil Nadu, Pandiyar Punnampula Irrigation Scheme is not included by the State Government under major and medium irrigation sector in the State.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Talks on Terrorism With Italy

2015. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI:
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Italy have jointly decided to tackle the issue of global terrorism in the context of the hijacking of Indian Airlines plane;

(b) if so, whether both the countries have held talks in this regard;

(c) if so, whether Afghanisatan situation was also discussed;

(d) if so, the broad features of the discussion held between both the countries;

(e) whether both the countries have decided to work together in curbing the terrorists activities;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Wide ranging discussions were held with the Italian Foreign Minister during the visit of the External Affairs Minister to Italy on 11-12 January, 2000. These included talks on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues including, inter-alia, global terrorism and the situation in Afghanistan. It was agreed that both countries would cooperate bilaterally and in multilateral fora to combat the scourge of international terrorism. The two countries also agreed to work closely to facilitate exchange of information about possible terrorist activities, organised crime and drug trafficking.

(g) Government would be implementing the provisions of the bilateral 'Agreement on Cooperation to Combat Terrorism, Organised Crime and Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances', which was signed between India and Italy on 6 January, 1998. The agreement provides for constitution of a bilateral committee to be chaired by Home Ministers of the two countries, constant and regular exchange of information and mutual consultations. India's draft convention on international terrorism will be discussed in the UN General Assembly in September 2000. India and Italy have agreed to have further consultations on this matter through their respective Permanent Missions to the UN.

Subsidies on Food and Fertilizers

2016. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to curtail or to do away with the food and fertilizer subsidies;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) the details of subsidies and support measures adopted to help encourage the farmers;

(d) whether there is constant pressure from International Monetary Fund and International Financial Institutions for withdrawal of subsidies;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any Committee has been constituted by the Government on fertilizers prices;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken by the Government on the report of said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (h) There is a proposal to reduce subsidies on food and fertilisers by 4.45 per cent compared to the BE of 1999/2000 in the Union Budget for 2000/2001. The entire gamut of subsidies is proposed to be got reviewed by the Expenditure Reforms Commission to be headed by Shri K.P. Geethakrishnan, former Finance Secretary.

Aid for Social Sector

2017. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the aid received from Italy during each of the last three years especially in Social Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): In so far as the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is concerned, aid has been provided by Italy to the Indian Spinal Injury Centre, New Delhi, in the form of equipment, under bi-lateral agreement

between Government of India and Italian Government, as per details given below:

Year	Amount provided
1996-97	Rs. 3,36,65,497
1997-98	Rs. 76,16,153
1998-99	Rs. 31,360
Total	Rs. 4,13,13,010

[Translation]

National Project Construction Corporation

2018. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Project Construction Corporation is passing through a crisis period;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there are plans with the Government to revive this corporation; and

(d) if so, the time by which the corporation is likely to be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) NPCC Ltd. Is a sick public undertaking and has been incurring heavy losses since 1989 onwards due to high employment cost, surplus manpower, interest burden on loans, limited bank guarantee, low recovery of outstanding dues from project authorities and insufficient generation of funds by the performing units.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Revival of NPCC Limited is linked with many factors such as its potentiality to revive, reduction in surplus manpower, improvement in work orders position, and availability of funds etc.

[English]

Information Technology

2019. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's growing Information Technology is lagging behind several advanced countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to realise the dream of India becoming a infotech super power in the next decade;

(d) the targets set for next three years in the field of Information Technology; and

(e) the efforts being made to achieve targets?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The IXth Five Year Plan Working Group on Electronics Industries had laid down the following targets for production in the field of Information Technology.

(Rupees in crores)		
1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
72,100	99,150	138,350

The various steps taken by the Government to boost the Infotech Sector is given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Initiatives taken for the Growth of Information Technology (IT).

The Government of India has set up the Ministry of Information Technology on 15.10.1999 to facilitate all initiatives in the IT sector including Internet, e-commerce, IT education and IT based education.

2. The Government has accepted the first report of the National IT Task Force outlining 108 recommendations of the IT Action Plan. These recommendations suggest measures and policies covering a wide spectrum of issues relating to telecommunication, finance, banking, revenue, commerce, electronics, HRD, defence and rural development to enable India to emerge as an Information Technology super power within the next ten years. A target of software export of US\$50 billion by the year 2008 has been set. The Task Force has also recommended a goal of "IT for All" by 2008 in India. The

second and third report of the Task Force address the issues and strategy for development of hardware industry, R&D in the area of IT, manpower training and education.

3. All Government Departments are required to spend 2-3% of their budget towards implementation of IT. To induce more investment in R&D in computers, a weighted deduction of 125% on the sums paid to any university, college or institution or a scientific research association for the purpose of scientific, social or satistical research has been provided.

4. Many States of India have drawn up comprehensive IT plans and have come out with IT policies which will help in creating a conducive environment for high growth of high-tech industries.

5. Government of India has also formed a Rs. 100 crores National Venure Capital Fund in association with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for the IT industry particularly for small and medium enterprises.

6. Penetration of Personal Computers (PC) in the country at present is slightly more than 3 per 1000 persons. The target is to increase the PC penetration to 20 per 1000 person by the year 2008. To push the demand of PCs in the country, depreciation on computers has been increased to 60%.

7. Government has implemented Internet Service Providers (ISPs) Policy. ISPs are allowed to set up International Gateways and hire bandwidth on foreign satellites. Public and private sectors have been licensed to provide internet services in the country. No licence fee is payable for first five years and a nominal fee of one rupee is to be paid after five years. The internet policy approved by Governments provides inter-connection of networks and setting up of international gateway by the internet service provider independent of VSNL. The infrastructure for Internet is proposed to be upgraded as below:

- (a) Department of Telecom Services (DTS) is setting up national internet backbone in the country.
- (b) Internet Service Providers are allowed to set up last mile linkages freely by fibre optic or by radio communication.
- (c) The Internet access is also allowed through authorized cable TV.

8. The tariff for internet access has been recently reduced. DTS have recently offered 20% concession on rental for leased lines taken and used for internet applications. Students are being given one time concessions on internet accounts by DTS. Access to internet on local call basis from the nearest internet node has been provided throughout the country except in Andaman and Nicobar Island and Leh (J&K). The existing departmental Public Call Operators (PCO) and Subscriber Trunk Dialing (STD) booths are proposed to be upgraded to public tele-info/cyber centres. The centres will provide multi-utility services such as internet, e-mail access and internet libraries.

9. To provide the legal framework for transaction on internet and e-commerce, Information Technology Bill, 1999 was introduced in the last session of the Parliament. Such a legal framework will facilitate and give a fillip to the e-commerce activities in the country.

[Translation]

Livestock Census

2020. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted a livestock census to identify the breeds of cow progeny;

(b) if so, the number of breeds of cow progeny, State-wise;

(c) whether some breeds of cow progeny have become extinct including Tharpurkar breeds of cow progeny of Rajasthan;

(d) whether stray bulls are suffering from several diseases including sexual diseases;

(e) if so, the measures being taken by the Government for the treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. The Livestock Census conducted every five year takes into account indigenous and crossbred cattle, but, Breed Census is not conducted. The Tharpurkar breed of cattle is not extinct and both research and development programmes are targetted to the breed for its development.

(d) and (e) Stray bulls are prevented from breeding by taking up mass castration programme for which the States are provided financial assistance. Sexual health status of stray bulls are, therefore, no monitored.

[English]

Scheme for Naxal-Hit Areas

2021. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted an action plan to the Central Government for developmental activities in naxal-hit areas in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the plan under scrutiny; and

(c) the amount proposed to be sanctioned for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir, The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a three year Action Plan (1996-97) to 1998-99) for strengthening police force and development in Naxalite affected areas at a total cost of Rs. 1299.17 crore. The Action Plan was examined keeping in view similar problems being experienced by the States of Orissa, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh would have to dovetail their existing development programmes in Naxalite-affected areas and approach the concerned Central Ministries for assistance under different Central schemes being administered by them.

SC/ST Benefits to Minorities

2022. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to extend reservation in employment and other benefits to muslims, christians and other minorities on the same lines as applicable to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(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) There is no such proposal pending with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such provision in the Constitution of India.

Amendment to Rehabilitation and Disabilities Act

2023. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Rehabilitation Council of India Act and Persons with Disabilities Act (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full participation); and

(b) if so, the details of the amendments including the composition of the Council?

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

(b) The proposed amendments have not yet been finally processed.

Dialogue with Pakistan

2024. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dialogue with Pakistan launched at the SAARC Male Summit in May, 1997 stands suspended or cancelled;

(b) whether the restoration of civilian democratic rule in Pakistan is, for the Indian Government the *sine-qua-non* for the resumption of dialogue; and

(c) if so, the other conditions that have to be fulfilled for resumption of the dialogue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Government remain committed to building trust and confidence, putting into place a stable structure of cooperation and addressing all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the Simla Agreement and

the Lahore Declaration. We expect Pakistan to demonstrate its adherence to these agreements by abandoning its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism and stopping its hostile propoganda against India. These are not pre-conditions but integral parts to any dialogue process.

Bill on Agriculture Workers

2025. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce Comprehensive Central Legislature on agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A proposal to enact a comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers is under consideration of the Government. It includes provision for regulating the working conditions, working hours, minimum harvesting wages, speedy dispute resolution, security of employment and creation of a Welfare Fund for providing certain welfare/social security measures including health, maternity benefit, old age pension, children's education, housing etc. to these workers. As it is the endeavour of the Government to reach a consensus on the matter, a conference of the State Labour Ministers was again held on 18.1.2000 in New Delhi when views of the State Governments were obtained. The proposal is being re-examined on the basis of the views/comments of the State Governments.

Revenue Through Sale of I.R.S. Data

2026. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned during the last two financial years by the way of sale of Indian Remote Sensing data abroad;

(b) the market share of data sales of India in the global market;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the competitive edge of IKONOS, a remote-sensing satellite launched by a US company over IRS' Market; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to maintain competitive edge of IRS space imaging market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The revenue earned by Antrix Corporation Limited, a wholly owned Government of India Company under the administrative control of the Department of Space, during the last two financial years by way of sale of IRS data abroad is as follow:

Financial Year	Revenue earned (Rs. in lakhs)
1997-98	375.19
1998-99	590.24

(b) The market share of data sales of India in the global market is estimated at 15%.

(c) While the IKONOS data has an edge because of its high resolution and would serve the specific market segment of large scale mapping, the IRS data will continue to have its niche amongst users because of its wider coverage and complementarity of imaging capabilities - specifically in natural resources management and environmental monitoring.

(d) To cater to the challenging requirements of the user community and also to maintain edge in the remote sensing programme, the Department of Space is already working on advanced satellites which will provide imaging capabilities at par with the contemporaneous imaging satellites. Further developing appropriate application services using the existing IRS data at 5.8 m resolution for key applications, specifically because of the wider swath and multispectral imaging, will help maintain edge of the IRS data market.

Telugu-Ganga Irrigation Project

2027. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission have not given hydrological clearance to multipurpose Telugu-Ganga project of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts taken by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to get the project cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Clearance of Telugu-Ganga Project including its hydrological aspect is linked with resolution of inter-State issues by Andhra Pradesh with the co-basin States of Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Profit Earned by SAIL

2028. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the net profit/loss earned/suffered by the Steel Authority of India Limited during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) the reasons for huge losses during the year 1999-2000;

(c) whether major portion of the cost in the production of steel is spent on coal itself;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some high officials have been found to be involved in alleged irregularities; and

(f) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) The net profit/loss (-) of Steel Authority of India Limited from 1997-98 is as under:

Year	(Rs. in crores) Profit/Loss (-) after tax
1997-98	133
1998-99	-1574
1999-2000 (upto Dec. '99)	-2049

The huge losses during 1999-2000 are mainly due to stress on margins arising out of sluggish demand for steel, greater competition from imports, enhancement of supplies in domestic market and higher interest and depreciation cost on capitalisation of modernisation of steel plants at Rourkela, Bokaro and Durgapur.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In 1998-99, the coal and coke cost was about 62% of the total raw material cost.

(e) and (f) Between March, 1997 and February, 2000, four executives were found to have allegedly committed

irregularities in award of contracts. Regular Department Action (RDA) for imposing major penalties has been initiated against them.

Inter-State Water Disputes

2029. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development has strongly recommended to the Union Government to enact a comprehensive law for joint management of inter-state rivers;

(b) if so, whether the existing river dispute laws are ineffective and need overhauling; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development has recommended for enactment of a law on inter-state rivers to be called the Inter-State Rivers and River Valley (Integrated and Participatory Management) Act to inter-alia provide for (i) the constitution of River Basin Organisations and for their powers and functions, and (ii) data collection and studies to be made by the Union for possible inter-state inter-basin transfers. It has also recommended to amend the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 to ensure that awards of inter-state water tribunals are given within a reasonable period of time as also for the effectiveness of such awards.

(c) An implementation Cell in the National Water Development Agency has been constituted to examine recommendations of the National Commission and suggest to Union Government about the implementability or otherwise of the recommendations and to suggest modalities for implementation of such recommendations, as found implementable. An Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission has been constituted for assisting the implementation Cell in examining the recommendations.

Utility of Planning Commission

2030. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the original model of Planning has lost much of its utility;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have prepared a report on the new role of the Planning Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the new role of the Commission is likely to help in post reform era?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Indian planning methodology has traditionally focused on the relationship linking growth to the investment rate and the incremental capital-output ratio (ICOR), and the Indian plans have been essentially investment plans, dealing with the allocation of investible resources among different sectors, maintaining inter-sectoral consistency towards attaining the targetted rates of growth. Even today this approach remains useful as a starting point for assessing the limits of the possible alternative paths of development and the steps required for accelerating the growth rate of the economy. However, with economic reforms, some of the traditional instruments of implementing the Plans are no longer available. Market forces, relative price and incentives now play much more important roles in the determination of over-all rate of investment or its sectoral distribution. With the steady reduction in the share of public investment, and greater importance of private investment and the movement towards a money market based system, planning is moving away from direct intervention strategies to planning for policies, and several new policy issues have to be assessed.

(c) to (e) The Planning Commission is currently engaged in an exercise to reorient the planning process and redefine the role of the Commission with a view to make it more responsive to the changing domestic and global economic scenario.

Visit of General Pervez Musharraf to China

2031. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Terrorism, Kashmir to dominate Sino-Pak talks" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated January 17, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware about the recent visit of General Pervez Musharraf to China;

(c) if so, whether his visit comes against the backdrop of sharp exchanges between India and Pakistan over the hijacking of the Indian Airlines Plane on December 24, 1999;

(d) if so, whether General Musharraf got support from China; and

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

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

(c) to (e) Government have noted the reported statements of Chinese leaders during the visit of General Pervez Musharraf, that the Chinese Government would continue to foster its comprehensive partnership with Pakistan. Government continue to closely monitor developments in the region which have a bearing on India's security and take all steps to safeguard its national interests.

[Translation]

Pilgrimage to Mansarovar and Nanaksar

2032. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who went on pilgrimage to Mansarovar (China), Nanaksar (Pakistan) and Haj (Mecca) during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government had provided any financial assistance and other facilities to persons going on pilgrimage to Mansarovar and Nanaksar at par with haj pilgrims during the above period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount spent thereon during the above period; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

Year	Mansarovar (China)	Nanaksar (Pakistan)	Haj (Mecca)
1997	516	6680	81,766
1998	487	6525	94,602
1999	459	2308	98,072

(b) to (e)

Mansarovar (China):

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, along the traditional route across Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh District of Uttar Pradesh, is co-ordinated by the Ministry of External Affairs and conducted with the assistance of various Central and State Government agencies. Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) makes the required logistical arrangements for the Yatra on the Indian side, including boarding and lodging. During 1999-2000, MEA provided Rs. 3250 per yatri to KMVN for this purpose. Government provided for medical examination prior to the Yatra and medical assistance, security and escort cover, insurance cover and communication links between the Indian and Chinese sides for the duration of the Yatra. The Government also deputed a Liaison Officer and a doctor with each batch of yatri. The Delhi State Government provided for stay of yatri at Ashok Yatri Niwas in New Delhi for 4-5 days during their onward and return journey. It is the endeavour of Government to improve and upgrade facilities for the yatri on a continuing basis.

The total expenditure incurred by MEA on account of logistical arrangements, communication links and publicity for the Yatra is indicated below:

1997	Rs. 25,78,000
1998	Rs. 14,61,000
1999	Rs. 42,09,688

Nanaksar (Pakistan)

In respect of Jathas visited Pakistan, no financial assistance is provided. But the Government provides assistance in issuance of visas, issue of foreign exchange through RBI, special train services for the pilgrims, both for onward and return journeys, and attaches a Liaison Officer from the High Commission of India, Islamabad with the visiting jathas, who renders assistance to the pilgrims when the pilgrims contact for any kind of help.

Haj (Mecca):

The financial assistance is provided by the Government in the form of a subsidy to partially defray the cost of air-fare. The assistance is given to only those pilgrims who perform Haj under the aegis of Haj Committee. The quantum of subsidy to defray the cost of air-fare over the last three years has been as follows:

1997	Rs. 80.01 crores
1998	Rs. 119.44 crores
1999	Rs. 109.55 crores

To facilitate the smooth performance of Haj by the Indian pilgrims, the Government deputed medical, para-medical and administrative staff from India and also augments the staff strength of our Consulate in Jeddah by recruiting temporary staff for the duration of Haj. In addition, the Government also sends medicines in Saudi Arabia for use by Haj pilgrims in case of need.

*[English]***Nutritional Gardens**

2033. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka is implementing the scheme for Establishment of Nutritional Gardens in Rural Areas with 100% Central assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has submitted a proposal for implementation of the above scheme during 1999-2000 to the Union Government for sanction and financial assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which sanction is likely to be accorded by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (e) National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous organisation of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, is providing financial assistance under its scheme namely Establishment of Nutritional Garden in Rural Areas to various State Governments including Government of Karnataka. Under this scheme the NHB

provides upto ten numbers of fruit plants to a family @ Rs. 5 per plant through State Government/UTs in Rural Areas. The Government of Karnataka have received an amount of Rs. 8 lakhs during the current financial year under this scheme from the NHB.

*[Translation]***Imbalance between Agriculture and Industry**

2034. SHRI RATAN LAL KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of problems have arisen as a result of imbalance between Agriculture and Industry in India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to maintain balance between Agriculture and Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The year wise shares of agriculture and industry in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as per the new series on National Accounts Statistics, base year 1993-94, brought out by the Central Statistical Organisation, are as follows:

Year	(per cent)	
	Agriculture	Industry
1993-94	31.0	26.3
1994-95	30.5	27.0
1995-96	28.4	27.9
1996-97	29.3	27.1
1997-98 (Provisional)	28.0	27.1
1998-99 (Quick Est)	29.1	25.7
1999-2000 (Advanced Est)	28.0	25.9

These figures indicate that the shares of both the sectors have not changed significantly. However, with rapid industrialisation the share of industry is expected to rise over time.

Promotion of Horticulture

2035. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided financial assistance for promotion of horticulture during each of the last three years and current year so far;

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

(c) whether the Union Government are contemplating to formulate other schemes to promote horticulture; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has provided financial assistance to the State/Union Territories for promotion of Horticulture under its various Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes which include schemes on Integrated Development of Fruits, Vegetables, Root and Tuber Crops, Spices, Cocoa, Cashewnut, Floriculture, Mushroom, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Honeybees and Use of Plastics in Agriculture and also the schemes of National Horticulture Board and Coconut Development Board. The details of the funds released to the different States/Union Territories during 1996-97 to 1999-2000 (year-wise) are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In the current year the following new schemes have been approved for implementation during IX Plan in order to promote horticulture:

- (i) *Human Resource Development in Horticulture:* The scheme aims at providing training to personnel at supervisory and gardener level besides other technical staff in the State Directorates of Horticulture with a view to improve technical skill for better implementation of the horticulture development programmes in the states.
- (ii) *Integrated Horticulture in Hills and Tribal Areas:* This scheme aims at implementing integrated programme for development of horticulture in the tribal and hilly areas. The scheme is being implemented in project mode through state designated agency and would address all the components of horticultural development including marketing.
- (iii) *Capital Investment Subsidy for Cold Storages:* A Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Cold Storages and Storages, which envisages the Construction of 12.00 lakh tonnes capacity and Modernisation/Expansion of 8.00 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity and 4.5 lakh tonnes of onion storage capacity has been approved and is being implemented. Under the scheme, capital investment subsidy amounting to 25 per cent of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs shall be provided. In the case of North-Eastern States, the subsidy would be 33.33 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 60.00 lakhs per project.

Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the State/U.T.	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Allocations)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	7095.86	1308.49	1750.67	1908.20
Arunachal Pradesh	43.49	142.15	224.17	216.37
Assam	17.80	43.51	28.00	140.86
Bihar	100.67	127.82	169.65	274.12

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	145.55	46.90	169.65	294.14
Gujarat	43.44	206.55	258.60	518.58
Haryana	126.06	132.07	342.06	325.49
Himachal Pradesh	170.98	37.00	106.27	178.37
Jammu & Kashmir	725.71	825.91	267.00	636.82
Karnataka	2262.80	2752.18	3521.93	3146.24
Kerala	2173.89	1904.24	1661.39	1537.24
Madhya Pradesh	16.48	297.66	478.41	542.12
Maharashtra	2494.07	3263.05	4205.26	3756.84
Manipur	206.83	300.12	109.59	173.75
Meghalaya	80.06	64.48	118.00	152.33
Mizoram	129.08	109.26	167.00	168.44
Nagaland	140.10	169.24	249.60	246.41
Orissa	659.03	739.30	749.72	799.94
Punjab	238.49	103.00	167.22	220.16
Rajasthan	231.76	443.53	459.59	578.27
Tamil Nadu	1196.17	883.29	1647.24	1629.09
Tripura	24.91	69.58	89.38	142.84
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	128.74	174.14	586.41
West Bengal	25.31	110.00	37.00	205.78
Sikkim	103.51	147.85	214.69	252.07
Andman & Nicobar	16.18	34.62	24.99	39.19
Chandigarh	6.00	12.50	1.00	7.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11.43	13.30	2.50	18.12
Daman & Diu	11.33	14.80	5.00	18.56
Delhi	10.92	57.00	88.47	39.70
Lakshadweep	11.87	15.40	14.00	19.89
Pondichery	13.80	10.50	21.93	34.69
Total:	18533.58	14514.04	17556.19	17307.94

[English]

Restructuring of SAIL

2036. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a restructuring package for the Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Department of disinvestment has asked the Ministry of Steel to consider disinvestment in the Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the opinion of the Ministry of Steel about the disinvestment in the Steel Authority of India Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Financial cum business restructuring package for SAIL has already been approved by the Government and its details are as under:

- (i) Financial Restructuring of SAIL by waiving of loans advanced to it from Steel Development Fund to a value of Rs. 5073 crore and Rs. 381 crore from the Govt. of India.
- (ii) Provision of Government guarantees with 50% interest subsidy for loan and interest thereon of Rs. 1500 crore to be raised by SAIL from the market to finance reduction in manpower through Voluntary Retirement Scheme.
- (iii) Provision of Government guarantee for loan and interest thereon of Rs. 1500 crore including Rs. 500 crore already agreed to be raised by SAIL from the market primarily for meeting repayment obligation on past loans during 1999-2000.
- (iv) To initiate the process of divestment of following non-core assets while protecting jobs of existing employees.
 - Power Plants at Bokaro, Durgapur and Rourkela.
 - 2x60 MW Captive power plant-II at Rourkela Steel Plant and the Central Power Training Institute at Rourkela
 - 2x50 MW Captive power plant-II at Durgapur Steel Plant

— 122 MW (2x55 MW+12 MW back pressure turbine) Captive Power Plant-I, 3x60 MW Captive Power Plant-II and steam generating capacity of 660 MT/hour at Bokaro Steel Plant

— Oxygen Plant-II of Bhilai Steel Plant

— Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Salem

— Alloy Steels Plant (ASP), Salem

— Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant (VISL), Bhadravati

— Fertiliser Plant at Rourkela

(v) Allowing SAIL to have a minority shareholding in any joint venture contemplated for revival of Indian Iron & Steel Company (IISCO).

(c) to (e) Ministry of Steel duly obtained the comments of the concerned Ministries including Department of Disinvestment, before placing the financial-cum-business restructuring proposal for approval of Government. The views of the concerned Ministries were considered by Government while approving the package mentioned at (a) and (b).

M.P.L.A.D.S.

2037. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the amount from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 5 crore under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme in view of infrastructural needs of various region.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) MPLADS allocation per year per MP was doubled on 23.12.98. The unutilised balance available in various

states aggregates to over Rs. 1500 crores. Due to low rate of utilisation and in view of the condition of Government finances, it is neither feasible nor justifiable to enhance the allocations for MPLADS.

[*Translation*]

Additional Financial Assistance

2038. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total additional financial assistance demanded by the State Governments during each of the last three years;

(b) the total amount allocated by the Union Government, year-wise and plan-wise during the above period;

(c) the reasons for not providing full assistance as against the demand in each case;

(d) whether the additional assistance demanded in the current year have been provided;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The Additional Central Assistance is provided to the States in accordance with the criteria arising from the Gadgil formula. The amounts of Additional Central Assistance provided to the States were Rs. 68.53 crore, Rs. 205.12 crore and Rs. 227.64 crore during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively.

(d) to (f) A statement giving State-wise details of Additional Central Assistance provided during the current year 1999-2000 (upto 4-3-2000) is enclosed.

Statement

Additional Central Assistance Sanctioned for Annual Plan 1999-2000 (Upto 04-03-2000)

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	States	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.25
3.	Assam	16.50
4.	Bihar	11.00
5.	Goa	0.00
6.	Gujarat	0.00
7.	Haryana	5.40
8.	Himachal Pradesh	204.72
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7.00
10.	Karnataka	1.00
11.	Kerala	17.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.00
13.	Maharashtra	1.50
14.	Manipur	0.00
15.	Meghalaya	0.50
16.	Mizoram	6.38
17.	Nagaland	9.85
18.	Orissa	0.00
19.	Punjab	5.00
20.	Rajasthan	0.00
21.	Sikkim	3.66
22.	Tamil Nadu	1.50
23.	Tripura	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	33.26
25.	West Bengal	6.69

File Name : ACA

[English]

Kaiga Atomic Power Plant

2039. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kaiga Atomic Power Plant which had attained criticality during August, 1999 is operating to its full capacity at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken special measures to avoid such criticality in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Kaiga Atomic Power Project (Kaiga - 1&2) has two units of 220 MWe each. Kaiga-2 attained criticality on 24.09.1999 and was synchronised to the grid for the first time on 2.12.1999. Presently, the unit is operating at full capacity. Unit-I of Kaiga Atomic Power Project is expected to achieve criticality during the latter half of the year 2000.

(c) and (d) Sustained nuclear chain reaction is a first step in the operation of nuclear power reactor, prior to power production. The process of reaching sustained nuclear chain reaction at low power is termed as "Attaining Criticality". During the entire stage of power production, the reactor remains critical and power is raised to produce steam, which is used to run Turbo-generator to produce electricity.

Attaining criticality is a normal mode of operation of nuclear reactor. There is no cause what so ever for alarm in this regard.

[Translation]

Bidi Workers

2040. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme being implemented for the upliftment of child labourers of Madhya Pradesh which has a large number of bidi workers;

(b) whether more than fifteen thousand child labourers are engaged in bidi making in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sent a proposal to the Union Government for launching a child-labour project for those child labourers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) are already under implementation in 6 districts of the State, namely, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Bilaspur, Surguja, Raigarh and Mandasaur. Proposals for additional NCLPs, have been received. Action has already been initiated for consideration of these project proposals.

In a Survey conducted in the year 1997, the total number of child labourers found working in all the hazardous establishments, including the Bidi industry, were 11209.

[English]

Water Management

2041. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan has recently submitted its report to the Government;

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

(c) whether the Commission has inter-alia recommended revision of the National Water Policy of 1987; and

(d) if so, the action propose to be taken by the Government for the implementation of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An Implementation Cell in the National Water Development Agency has been constituted to examine recommendations of the National Commission and suggest

to Union Government about the implementability or otherwise of such recommendations, as found implementable. An Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission has been constituted for assisting the implementation cell in examining the recommendations.

Statement

The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan has submitted its report to the Government of India on 1.12.99.

The main recommendations of the Commission are as under:

1. Continued government funding on enhanced scale for major projects, instilling financial discipline and prioritisation of projects for channelising the funds. Central assistance to major projects to be projectwise instead of being part of the overall plan assistance.
2. Need for well laid down compensation packages for all categories of project affected persons. While doing so, the Commission has emphasised that resettlement and rehabilitation projects be implemented by a functional authority with sufficient funds.
3. Need for amending the existing Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, enactment of a new Act in lieu of the existing River Board's Act, 1956, and also amending the existing Irrigation Acts which would facilitate participatory irrigation management.
4. Optimal utilisation of land and water should be aimed at in basins having surplus before considering interbasin transfers (intrabasin transfer to be given first priority).
5. Setting up of River Basin Organisation for each Inter-State River having representation from the concerned State Governments, Water Users etc.
6. Substantial revision of present water rates to cover the entire operation & maintainance expenses, constituting Water Pricing Authority on the analogy of existing Energy Pricing Authorities.
7. For environment protection, the principle of "User Pays, Polluter Pays" need to be adopted for industrial uses.

8. Need for revising the National Water Policy (1987), need for making hydrological data for all basins freely available to all interested.
9. For flood control measures, Commission has recommended preparation of disaster preparedness plans, performance review of embankments and policy to regulate the land use in different flood zones. Existing flood forecasting system be strengthened and modernised using telemetary and satellite communication.
10. For optimal and integrated development of trans - Himalayan rivers, India should work for cooperation amongst the neighbouring countries. For this purpose, it has been suggested that National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in India, Water Resource Planning Organisations (WARPO) in Bangladesh and Energy Development Authority (EDA) in Nepal be designated to interact as a clearing house of information.
11. For hydropower development, Commission has recommended creation of hydropower development fund, promotion of joint ventures, tariff rationalisation etc.
12. For navigation development, the Commission has recommended that Inland Water Transport be treated as a nascent industry.

Vocational Training Institutes

2042. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vocational Training Institutes functioning at present in Orissa for the Welfare of labourers working in the unorganised sector;

(b) the financial grants granted to the State for their rehabilitation;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up Regional Vocational Training Institutes in the State during the Ninth Five-year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Nil.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam.

It was decided in 1996 to set up a Regional Vocational Training Institute for Women in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. The State Government was requested to provide a suitable plot of land free of cost and temporary accommodation in Bhubaneswar. All other infrastructure was to be provided by Government of India and the scheme was included in the Ninth Five-year Plan Proposals.

The State Government is yet to provide the land and temporary accommodation. The investment decision can be made only after the State Government makes available a suitable plot of land.

Software Exports

2043. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the software exports from India have registered a sharp growth during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the growth of this Industry has been even in the domestic market; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to further promote this Industry?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)	Year	Rs. in Crore
	1996-97	3,700
	1997-98	6,500
	1998-99	10,940

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to Promote Software Industry

1. The Government of India has set up the Ministry of Information Technology on 15.10.1999 to

facilitate all initiatives in the IT sector including Internet, e-commerce, IT education and IT based education.

2. The Government has accepted the first report of the National IT Task Force outlining 108 recommendations of the IT Action Plan. These recommendations suggest measures and policies covering a wide spectrum of issues relating to telecommunication, finance, banking, revenue, commerce, electronics, HRD, defence and rural development to enable India to emerge as an Information Technology super power within the next ten years. A target of software export of US\$ 50 billion by the year 2008 has been set. The Task Force has also recommended a goal of "IT for All" by 2008 in India. The second and third report of the Task Force address the issues and strategy for development of hardware industry, R&D in the area of IT, manpower training and education.
3. All Government Departments are required to spend 2-3% of their budget towards implementation of IT. To induce more investment in R&D in computers, a weighted deduction of 125% on the sums paid to any university, college or institution or a scientific research association for the purpose of scientific, social or statistical research has been provided.
4. Many States of India have drawn up comprehensive IT plans and have come out with IT policies which will help in creating a conducive environment for high growth of high-tech industries.
5. Government of India has also formed a Rs. 100 crores National Venture Capital Fund in association with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for the IT industry particularly for small and medium enterprises.
6. Penetration of Personal Computers (PC) in the country at present is slightly more than 3 per 1000 persons. The target is to increase the PC penetration to 20 per 1000 by the year 2008. To push the demand of PCs in the country, depreciation on computers has been increased to 60%.
7. Government has implemented Internet Service Providers (ISPs) Policy. ISPs are allowed to

set up International Gateways and hire bandwidth on foreign satellites. Public and private sectors have been licensed to provide internet services in the country. No licence fee is payable for first five years and a nominal fee of one rupee is to be paid after five years. The internet policy approved by Governments provides inter-connection of networks and setting up of international gateways by the internet service provider independent of VSNL. The infrastructure for Internet is proposed to be upgraded as below:

- (a) Department of Telecom Services (DTS) is setting up national internet backbone in the country.
 - (b) Internet Service Providers are allowed to set up last mile linkages freely by fibre optic or by radio communication.
 - (c) The Internet access is also allowed through authorised cable TV.
8. The tariff for internet access has been recently reduced. DTS have recently offered 20% concession on rental for leased lines taken and used for internet applications. Students are being given one time concession on internet accounts by DTS. Access to internet on local call basis from the nearest internet node has been provided throughout the country except in Andaman and Nicobar Island and Leh (J&K). The existing departmental Public Call Operators (PCO) and Subscriber Trunk Dialing (STD) booths are proposed to be upgraded to public tele-info/cyber centres. These centres will provide multi-utility services such as internet, e-mail access and internet libraries.
9. To provide the legal framework for transaction on Internet and e-commerce, Information Technology Bill, 1999 was introduced in the last session of the Parliament. Such a legal framework will facilitate and give a fillip to the e-commerce activities in the country.

[*Translation*]

Rani Avantibai Irrigation Project

2044. SHRI PRAHLAND SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Rani Avantibai Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the total estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the expenditure incurred and released by the World Bank during the last three years till date, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The latest estimated cost of the Rani Avantibai Sagar (Bargi) Project is Rs. 742.84 crore (at 1994 price level). The details of expenditure incurred on the project are as under:

	Rs. in crore
1. Expenditure up to end of VIII Plan	397.41
2. Approved outlay for IX Plan	120.50
3. Expenditure during 1997-98	29.79
4. Expenditure during 1998-99	38.21
5. Proposed outlay for 1999-2000	28.60
6. Likely expenditure up to 31.3.2000	494.01

The above project is not being funded by the World Bank.

[*English*]

Meeting of MPs with Minister

2045. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting was held between the Minister of Water Resources and Members of Parliament of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal States recently;

(b) if so, the points discussed and suggestions made by the Members of Parliament in the meeting; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry for the expeditious implementation for these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir. The meeting was held on 21.12.1999.

(b) During the deliberations in the meeting most of the Members of Parliament expressed their concern over the problem of floods and river erosion along the river Ganga in the reaches between eastern Uttar Pradesh

and Farakka in West Bengal, delay in execution of ongoing projects in these States and for providing special financial assistance to the States.

(c) As water is a State subject, various schemes for utilisation of available water resources are formulated, planned and executed by the State Governments as per their priority out of their own resources. Accordingly, the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal have been requested to take action on the suggestions made by the Members of Parliament.

A Central Team headed by the Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission, visited the erosion affected problem reaches in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal from 4.1.2000 to 12.1.2000 for on the spot inspection and assessment of the gravity of the problem in various vulnerable reaches. The Central Team has identified certain vulnerable reaches and suggested to take up remedial measures in their report submitted to the Government on 14.01.2000. The report has been sent to the concerned State Governments for implementation of the recommendations of the Central Team.

Hardware Segment

2046. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hardware Segment growth has declined in comparison to the Software growth during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government are considering to promote the hardware segment of the infotech sector in order to maintain the balance between the software and hardware segments of the industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the incentive and other measures being taken by the Government to boost the hardware sector?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) During the period 1996-99, the growth of hardware segment has been in the range of 8 to 15 per cent, as against 48 to 60 per cent in the software segment. A Statement I is attached.

However, the need for maintaining balance between the software and hardware segment of the industry does not arise. There is scope for them to grow independent of each other.

The issue of Development, Manufacture and Export of Information Technology Hardware was examined in details by the National Task Force on IT & Software Development and its recommendations are available in the 2nd Report of the Task Force.

(e) A statement-II is attached.

Statement I

a. Hardware and Software Segment Production during 1996-99

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Hardware			
Total Production (Rs. in crores)	20,340	22,100	25,250
Growth (%)	12.37	8.65	14.25
Software			
Total Production (Rs. in crores)	6,300	9,970	15,890
Growth (%)	48.58	58.25	59.38

The inherent low capital intensive and intellectual resources driven nature leading to a large number of entrepreneurs/players, coupled with some of the Government initiatives, and global opportunity in the form of Y2K problem have been some of the main reasons for excellent growth in the software sector. On the other hand, the process of liberalization/globalization, inherent requirement of economies of scale, coupled with unfavourable tariff structure, inadequate infrastructure, high cost of finance and low domestic and foreign investment have led to gradual depletion of the hardware manufacturing base.

(b) Taking the production base of US\$ 6.01 Billion for the year 1998-99, the hardware production for the year 2008-09 has been targeted for export at US\$ 10 Billion.

(c) The Task Force set-up by the Government has in its 2nd report made recommendations for giving a boost to the hardware sector.

Statement II**Incentives to IT Sector**

1. A Special Advance Licensing Scheme for export of Electronics products has been notified vide DGFT Public Notice No. 41 (RE-98)/1997-2002 dated 16.9.98. The imports under the scheme shall precede export and the licences under the scheme shall be issued with the positive value addition. The Designated Officers of the Ministry of Information Technology (MIT) have been entrusted with the task of verifying the relevance/usability of inputs in the export product as well as the quantity required.
2. As a major step to encourage production and exports, the facility to import capital goods under the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at zero duty with a reduced threshold limit of Rs. 1 crore was extended to the electronics industry w.e.f. April 14, 1998. For Software sector this limit was reduced to Rs. 10 lakhs. The export obligation required to be fulfilled is 6 times CIF value of CG on FOB basis or 5 times CIF value of CG on NFE basis, over a period of six years.
3. A separate procedure for consideration of EPCG applications pertaining to the electronics and software sectors has been notified vide DGFT Public Notice No. 15(RE-98)/1997-2002 dated 8.6.98, whereby these applications are considered by the Licensing authorities on the recommendations of the Designated Officers of MIT instead of being placed before the EPCG Committee. DGFT have also issued a Public Notice No. 29(RE-98)/1997-2002 dated 1.9.99, as per which units in electronics and software sectors will have option to apply for EPCG Licence to the competent authority on the basis of self-declaration regarding the nexus between the CG to be imported with the items to be exported.
4. Foreign investment of upto 100% is permitted in units set up solely for exports on automatic route. Various incentives are available for export-oriented units, which include duty free imports of capital goods, raw-materials, components, and other inputs tax holidays against export and access to the domestic market. Such units can be set up under any of the schemes, viz., Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP), Software Technology Park (STP), Export Processing Zone (EPZ) and 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU). The EHTP scheme has been designed to meet the specific requirement of a globally-oriented electronics sector. Software Technology Park Scheme is an export oriented scheme for the development and export of computer software using data communication links or in the form of physical media, including export of professional services.
5. EHTP and STP schemes are implemented under the aegis of the Ministry of Information Technology through a single window mechanism of the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee (IMSC).
6. Powers of approval of the Designated Officers of MIT for implementation of STP/EHTP schemes have been further enhanced, vide Para 9.37 of the Ministry of Commerce Handbook of Procedures (Vol. I), 1997-2002 (incorporating amendments made upto 31.3.99). They can now approve setting up of STP/EHTP units where foreign exchange required for import of capital goods (net of taxes) is upto US\$ 10 million.
7. A special stock option scheme for Indian Software Companies linked with ADR/GDR offerings by these companies, as an instrument to enable these companies to provide incentives to retain their highly skilled professionals, has been notified vide Reserve Bank of India (RBI) A.D. (M.A.) Circular No. 25 dated 7.8.98.
8. RBI has framed Guidelines dated 8.8.98 for sanction of working capital finance to information technology and software industry.
9. Government has approved setting up of a National Venture Fund for Software and IT Industry (NFSIT) with a corpus of Rs. 100 crores, out of which MIT shall contribute Rs. 30 crores.
10. Provision for issue of Sweat Equity by companies has been introduced in the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1999.
11. In the EXIM Policy, 1997-2002 (incorporating amendments made upto 31.3.99), DTA access upto 50% of the FOB value of export has been permitted for electronics hardware units under EOU/EPZ/EHTP schemes and the software units under EOU/EPZ/STP schemes. Broadbanding has been permitted in the DTA sales of Hardware manufactured by EHTP units for items covered in the Letter of Permission.

12. The procedures for operation of the units in the EHTP/EOU/EPZ/STP schemes have been simplified considerably and a number of operations have been permitted on the basis of self certification, as per Chapter 9 of Ministry of Commerce Handbook of Procedures (Vol. I), 1997-2002 (incorporating amendments made upto 31.3.99).
13. Procedure for sub-contracting of production process in DTA has been made simpler for EHTP/EOU/EPZ/STP units, in terms of Department of Revenue Notification No. 44/98-Customs dated 2.7.98.
14. Manufacturers - importers of Electronics goods having investment of Rs. 3 crores and above and units in EPZs/EHTP and STP are eligible for fast-track clearance of goods imported by them vide Ministry of Finance (CBEC) Circular No. 56/98 dated 3.8.98.
15. Value addition norms for Rupee exports to Russia reduced from 100% to 33% under Advance Licensing Scheme, as per Para 7.10 of the EXIM Policy, 1997-2002 (incorporating amendments made upto 31.3.99).
16. The Depreciation on Computers has been allowed @ 60%.
17. In the 2000-01 Budget, Customs duty on Computers and Peripherals has been reduced from 20% to 15%. The Customs duty on all storage devices, integrated circuits, microprocessors, Data display tubes and Deflection components of colour monitors has been reduced to NIL rate.
18. Information Technology Software is exempted from Customs Duty.
19. EOU/EPZ/STP/EHTP units set up upto 31.3.2000 shall be exempted from payment of Corporate Income Tax for 10 years.
20. Profits from export of computer software are eligible for Income Tax deduction in terms of Section 80 HHE of the Income Tax Act.
21. Definition of Computer Software, as in Section 80 HHE of the Income Tax Act has been widened to include transmission of data.
22. Benefit of Section 80 HHE is available to supporting software developers.
23. Exemption of withholding tax on interest on External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) has been extended to the IT sector.
24. Computer system are freely importable.
25. The donation of computers, imported duty free by EOU/EPZ/STP/EHTP units to recognised non-commercial educational institutions, registered charitable hospitals, public libraries, public funded research and development establishments, etc. two years after their use by the said units has been permitted vide Ministry of Finance Notification No. 47/98-Customs dated 16.7.98.
26. The second-hand computers and computer peripherals donated by an outside donor to Government schools have been exempted from customs duties, vide Ministry of Finance Notification No. 18/99-Cus. dated 11.2.99.
27. Income by way of dividends or long-term capital gains of a Venture Capital Fund or Venture Capital company from investment made by way of equity shares in a Venture Capital Undertaking, which has been expanded to include the Software and IT sectors, will henceforth not be included in computing the total income.
28. To give thrust to Venture Capital finance, SEBI has been made the single point nodal agency for registration and regulation of both domestic and overseas venture capital funds.
29. Under policy on portfolio investment, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) are permitted to invest in a company upto an aggregate of 24% of equity shares, extendable upto 30% subject to approvals. This limit has been raised from 30% to 40% in the Budget 2000-01.
30. Under the Employee Stock Option Scheme, income tax payable on income from GDRs purchased in foreign currency by a resident employee of IT software and service companies, shall be at a concessional rate of 10%.
31. To induce more investment for R&D activities, a weighted deduction of 125% on the sums paid to any university, college or an institution or a Scientific research association for the purposes of scientific, social or statistical research has been provided.

Fisheries in Madhya Pradesh

2047. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fishery Department of Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a scheme amounting to Rs. 130.362 lakhs for development of certain reservoirs to the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be approved by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a scheme during November, 1996 for development of 17 reservoirs in the State at an estimated cost of Rs. 130.362 lakhs. Since the Ministry of Agriculture is not implementing any scheme on development of reservoirs, the proposal of the State Government has not been considered.

Tripartite Standing Labour Committee

2048. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 36th session of the Tripartite Standing Labour Committee was held recently in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of fresh strategies being worked out/finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The 36th Session of the Standing Labour Committee (SLC) of the Ministry of Labour was held at Delhi on 9th Feb. 2000. The conclusions adopted by the SLC are given in the Statement attached. The conclusions of the Committee always receive due importance and consideration by the Government while formulating policies and programmes.

Statement

Conclusion of the 36th Session of the Standing Labour Committee held on 9th February, 2000

- (i) While appreciating the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Labour to bring the urgent and important concerns regarding payment of wages and statutory dues and bringing down periodicity of wage revision to five years, in respect of employees of Central Public Sector Undertaking, before the Government at the highest level, the Committee recommended that the Group of Ministers set up to examine and make suggestion on the issue should meet regularly and submit their proposals preferably within two months' time.
- (ii) Noting the emerging trend towards disinvestment and privatisation, the Committee recommended that the concerned Ministries as well as the Ministry of Disinvestment should consult the Tripartite bodies before taking action with regard to disinvestment in Central Public Sector units as the decision of the Government has implications on employment and social security of the workers.
- (iii) While noting the constitution of the Second National Commission on Labour, the Committee recommended that representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations and Employers Organisations should be given adequate representation in the Working Groups/Task Forces to be set up by the Commission and they should be fully associated in the consultation process of the Commission.
- (iv) The Committee noted that despite consultations spanning over two decades no progress has been achieved in enacting a Central legislation for agricultural workers and recommended that the Bill for the purpose should be introduced in the forthcoming Budget Session of the Parliament.
- (v) The Committee also suggested that amendments to the Contract Labour Act, Industrial Disputes Act and Minimum Wages Act and implementation of other labour laws should be considered for employment generation, better working conditions and harmonial industrial relations.

- (vi) The Committee recommended that the Central Government should initiate action to formulate and implement a national policy on home work.
- (vii) The Committee suggested that labour rights should be protected in the Export Processing Zones (EPZ) and compliance to labour laws should be achieved through labour inspection.
- (viii) The Committee decided to have the following agenda items for the 36th Session of the Indian Labour Conference:
- (i) Industrial Sickness;
 - (ii) Workers participation in industry;
 - (iii) Workers' Education
- (ix) The Committee noted with concern that the recommendations made by Dave Committee for investing provident fund and pension fund in the market, recommended that the Ministry of Labour should reject the recommendation of Dave Committee in so far as it relates to the investment of funds from EPF Scheme.
- (x) The Committee also recommended that tripartite committees under the Ministry of Labour and State level should be activated by properly constituting, by holding meeting regularly and by taking follow up action promptly.
- (xi) The Committee welcomed the decision to enhance import duty of sugar and recommended that similar enhancement on other items should be encouraged to protect jobs and local industry.

Resolution of the 36th Session of the Standing Labour Committee held on 9th February, 2000.

The 36th Session of the Standing Labour Committee having been convened at New Delhi by the Ministry of Labour and having met on 9th February, 2000.

Having taken stock of the current economic, employment and social scenario;

Taking note with serious concern, attempts to link international trade with core labour standards and to include such issues in the work programme of the WTO;

Recalling the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its follow up adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 86th Session in 1998 to promote and implement the Core ILO Conventions in member countries irrespective of the fact whether the member country has ratified the relevant Conventions or not;

Reaffirming India's full commitment to achieve implementation of core labour standards;

Noting with concern the increase in unilateral actions in international trade in the form of social labelling or voluntary codes adopted by manufacturers or retailers; and

Recalling that concerted efforts were made by some developed countries in the Third Ministerial Conference of WTO at Seattle to establish a link between trade and labour standards and to set up a Joint Working Group with the involvement of the WTO.

Resolved that

The surest means of advancing labour standards will be through ensuring sound, economic and social development and free and fair international trade with greater opportunities provided for developing countries. Constraining international trade with labour standards is not the right way forward. The competent body to set and deal with core labour standards is the ILO, as was clearly enunciated by the First Ministerial Conference of WTO itself in Singapore in December 1996. In this context, renewed efforts made by some developed countries to raise the issue of trade and labour standards in the future work programme of WTO is fraught with serious risk of being used as a protectionist device that could adversely impact on the comparative advantage of developing countries, thereby further harming the employment opportunities and slowing down the economic and social progress of developing countries. We therefore reject renewed attempts to introduce any link between trade and labour standards in WTO or ILO or any other fora in one form or another.

Extradition of Hijackers

2049. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken up the issue with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and its member countries in apprehending the hijackers and their accomplices and bringing them to justice;

(b) if so, the reaction of the ICAO thereto;

(c) whether any efforts are being made by them to get extradition of hijackers involved in IC-814 plane hijacking; and

(d) if so, the extent to which International Civil Aviation Organisation has helped India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has forwarded a report on the hijacking of Indian airlines Flight IC-814 to the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) under the Convention for the Suppression of the Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal Convention of 1971) and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircrafts (The Hague Convention of 1970). The Government has, in this communication asked ICAO to follow-up with Pakistan, the apprehending and extradition of the hijackers and their accomplices, to India, in accordance with its obligations under the above-mentioned Conventions. ICAO Secretariat in its response stated that report of the Government of India to ICAO on the hijacking will be included in the 'Reports on Acts of Unlawful Interference during 1999' which will be presented to the ICAO Council during its 159th Session. Government have also raised the matter with the Government of Pakistan and reminded it that it has an obligation, under various bilateral and international agreements, to apprehend the hijackers and extradite them to India. The Government of Pakistan, in its response, has reiterated its general position that it would apprehend and prosecute anyone found on its territory or on the territory of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, who may be suspected of having committed offences related to hijacking. As it has at the same time rejected

our demarche, Pakistan's general commitment has to be assessed accordingly.

[*Translation*]

Unemployment Problem

2050. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of diploma/degree holders and post-graduates coming out of Agriculture colleges/institutes in the country are facing unemployment problem due to limited employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any action plan for the proper utilization of the trained persons under the new agricultural policy during the Ninth Five-Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the information collected from the State Agricultural Universities/Institutes, very many of the diploma holders/graduates and post graduates have to wait six months to three years to get suitable employment in government sector/private sector in their respective fields of specialisation.

(c) and (d) The new agricultural policy of the Government is in the final stage of finalization. Action Plan based upon the national agricultural policy shall be prepared after this. However, the Agricultural Human Resources Development Project of the ICAR has provided support for establishment of counseling and placement cells in the State Agricultural Universities. Most of the State Agricultural Universities have already established the placement cells.

[*English*]

Losses Suffered by SAIL

2051. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to the reply given to SQ No. 48 on December 1, 1999 and state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has again suffered heavy losses in the third quarter at Rs. 710 crores as mentioned in the 'Pioneer' dated January 30, 2000;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the losses and to improve the functioning of the SAIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Limited has suffered a loss of Rs. 701 crores in the 3rd quarter of 1999-2000. The heavy losses during 1999-2000 are mainly due to stress on margins arising out of sluggish demand for steel, greater competition from imports, enhancement of supplies in domestic market and higher interest and depreciation cost on account of capitalisation of modernisation of steel plants at Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro.

(c) Government has recently approved a plan for the business and financial restructuring of SAIL, with a view to increase its competitiveness and to turn the company on to a path of profitability. It is also in constant dialogue with SAIL and periodically reviews its performance to increase its competitiveness and efficiency.

[Translation]

New Agricultural Policy

2052. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the Draft Resolutions of the New Agricultural Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Draft Resolution of the New Agricultural Policy; and

(c) the time by which the New Agricultural Policy is likely to be announced?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Agriculture Policy is in the final stage of drafting.

[English]

Welfare Fund for Landless Labourers

2053. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to create a separate welfare fund of Rs. one thousand crore for welfare of landless labourers has been circulated by the Union Government to the State Governments;

(b) if so, the time when the proposal was sent and the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government have not been able to take any decision to implement this proposal so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the names of the State Governments whose reaction on the proposal have been received and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) A proposal to enact a comprehensive legislation for landless agricultural workers is under consideration of the Government which inter-alia includes creation of a Welfare Fund for providing certain welfare/social security measures to these workers. There were certain reservations expressed by a few State Governments on some of the components of the draft legislation including identifying the source of the fund. As it is the endeavour of the Government to reach a consensus on the matter, a Conference of the State Labour Ministers was again held on 18.1.2000 in New Delhi when views of the State Governments were obtained. The proposal is being re-examined on the basis of the views/comments of the State Governments.

Child Labourers Working in Hazardous Industries

2054. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to recast the definition of the hazardous industries so as to effectively implement action plan for removing the child labourers from such hazardous industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Hazardous Industry has not been defined in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 at present. The occupations/processes considered hazardous are added to the schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 on the advice of the Technical Advisory Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Act. Employment of children in such occupations/processes is prohibited. Presently, 13 such occupations and 51 processes stand included in parts A&B respectively of the Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

Production of Fruits and Vegetables

2055. CH. TEJVEER SINGH:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the largest fruit and vegetable producing State in the country;

(b) the State-wise and Year-wise production of fruits and vegetables during the last three years;

(c) the details of estimated production of fruits and vegetables for the current year;

(d) whether prices of fruits and vegetables have shoot up presently;

(e) if so, the support price fixed by the Government for fruits and vegetables, particularly potatoes and onions;

(f) the States which have demanded financial assistance for achieving self-reliance in the production of fruits and vegetables; and

(g) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to increase fruits and vegetable production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Maharashtra and West Bengal are the largest fruit and vegetable producing States respectively in the country as per data available with the National Horticulture Board for the year 1998-99.

(b) State-wise and year-wise production of fruits and vegetables during the last three years *i.e.* 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given in the Statement attached.

(c) No advance estimates are made on the production of fruits and vegetables except for potato and onion which are estimated as under:

Potato	236 lakh metric tonnes
Onion	57.4 lakh metric tonnes

(d) No, Sir. There is no increase in the prices of fruits and vegetables rather it has declined as per wholesale price index.

(e) The support prices of fruits and vegetables are not fixed.

(f) The State Government of Kerala had requested assistance for achieving self reliance for the production of vegetables in their State.

(g) The Government of India is implementing following schemes to increase the production of fruits and vegetables in the country during 9th Five Year Plan.

(1) Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate Arid Zone Fruits with an outlay of Rs. 125.00 crores.

(2) Integrated Development of vegetables including Root & Tuber Crops with a proposed outlay of Rs. 43.83 crores.

Statement

State-wise and Year-wise Production of Fruits

State/UTs	Production (in 000' MT)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	5657.7	5899.1	4300.7
Arunachal Pradesh	87.9	87.9	91.6

1	2	3	4
Assam	1229.0	1220.4	1249.5
Bihar	2752.2	3755.4	3797.2
Delhi	0.3	0.3	1.0
Goa	93.5	84.6	96.9
Gujarat	1820.0	2267.8	2293.5
Haryana	150.9	176.0	192.4
Himachal Pradesh	375.1	303.2	448.0
Jammu & Kashmir	945.4	1047.4	881.1
Karnataka	5133.6	5446.3	5446.3
Kerala	1826.0	1826.0	1621.2
Madhya Pradesh	1127.0	1184.0	1374.4
Maharashtra	6333.1	6473.2	7521.7
Manipur	111.0	111.0	115.3
Meghalaya	239.0	186.4	186.4
Mizoram	66.0	69.0	76.8
Nagaland	168.8	189.7	152.0
Orissa	1342.4	1511.8	1718.4
Punjab	813.5	813.5	844.7
Rajasthan	267.2	277.9	310.3
Sikkim	12.5	13.2	8.3
Tamil Nadu	3862.7	3683.8	5447.6
Tripura	400.9	400.9	372.1
Uttar Pradesh (Hill)	510.2	515.3	520.4
Uttar Pradesh (Plain)	4045.1	4293.0	3097.8
West Bengal	1035.1	1373.6	1536.0
Andaman & Nicobar	16.7	16.7	16.7
Chandigarh	3.3	3.2	3.2

1	2	3	4
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7.1	7.7	7.1
Daman & Diu	3.4	3.4	3.4
Lakshadweep	0.7	0.7	0.7
Pondicherry	20.8	20.8	20.8
Total	40458.1	43263.2	43753.6

State-wise and Year-wise Production of Vegetables

Production (in 000' MT)

State/UTs	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1895.0	2252.2	2290.5
Arunachal Pradesh	80.5	80.9	80.9
Assam	2074.1	2180.2	2834.8
Bihar	8235.7	8266.2	9418.4
Delhi	470.7	329.0	651.9
Goa	68.0	69.4	70.0
Gujarat	2179.4	2176.9	3255.0
Haryana	1385.5	1290.4	1850.0
Himachal Pradesh	569.0	606.4	606.4
Jammu & Kashmir	328.9	395.1	606.9
Karnataka	4978.7	4944.9	4944.9
Kerala	2790.0	2789.5	2857.2
Madhya Pradesh	2889.5	2748.7	3276.2
Maharashtra	4275.4	3317.2	4479.5
Manipur	53.1	53.1	45.0
Meghalaya	412.2	308.6	308.7

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	49.6	47.5	62.4
Nagaland	188.4	204.2	313.3
Orissa	8746.0	9656.6	10087.1
Punjab	1612.9	1634.6	1906.3
Rajasthan	389.0	321.9	396.1
Sikkim	54.0	57.6	42.2
Tamil Nadu	3990.3	4085.4	5704.8
Tripura	358.4	358.6	232.8
Uttar Pradesh (Hill)	807.8	792.6	840.7
Uttar Pradesh (Plain)	12446.8	8623.4	12680.6
West Bengal	13670.8	15016.0	16367.4
Andaman & Nicobar	15.8	15.8	15.8
Chandigarh	10.2	11.5	11.5
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	13.5	13.5	13.5
Daman & Diu	1.0	1.0	1.0
Lakshadweep	0.7	0.7	—
Pondicherry	33.5	33.5	33.5
Total	76074.4	72683.1	86285.3

**Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Caste/
Scheduled Tribes**

2056. DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the welfare schemes and programmes being formulated and implemented by the Government during the last three years and till date for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, minorities and other Weaker Sections of the societies in Rajasthan State;

(b) the funds allocated and spent for implementation

of these schemes during this period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The names of schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and Other Backward Classes, and the funds released to Rajasthan under each scheme during the last three years is given in Statement I to IV attached.

Statement I

Amount Released Under the Schemes for Upliftment of Scheduled Castes in Rajasthan during 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (Till Date)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (till date)
1.	Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan	1619.91	2279.81	2575.48	1821.48
2.	Assistance to Scheduled Castes Development Corporations (SCDCs)	54.99	82.75	0.00	0.00
3.	National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of scavengers and their dependents	1023.98	273.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Post Matric Scholarship for SC/ST students	934.75	84.70	450.53	526.59
5.	Pre-Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations	115.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Construction of Hostels for SC Girls	0.00	0.00	84.15	0.00
7.	Construction of Hostels for SC Boys	143.96	129.66	243.20	0.00
8.	Upgradation of merit of SC/ST students	8.94	8.32	16.99	15.51
9.	Book Banks for SC/ST students	0.00	15.00	42.14	0.00
10.	Coaching and Allied Scheme for SC/ST students	31.58	17.76	43.18	0.00
11.	Special Educational* Development Programme	5.65	4.25	28.05	15.59
12.	Implementation of PCR and Atrocities Act	83.60	16.00	50.00	50.00
13.	Grant-in-aid to NGOs	22.89	17.72	41.43	25.21

* Grant-in-aid is released to Zilla Panchayats

Statement II

Amount Released Under the Schemes for Upliftment of Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub Plan	2467.32	2341.13	3475.72
2.	Girls Hostels for STs	33.37	150.17	70.77
3.	Boys Hostels for STs	—	159.55	192.10
4.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	—	—	100.00
5.	Grant-in-aid Voluntary Organisation working for the Welfare of STs.	—	14.42	35.26
6.	Investment in Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation in India Ltd.	—	—	—
7.	Price support operations to TRIFED	—	—	—
8.	Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas.	—	—	—
9.	Educational Complex in low literacy pockets for development of women literacy in tribal areas	18.78	55.94	33.25
10.	Vocational Training Centre in Tribal Area	—	24.00	—
11.	Village Grain Banks	—	—	—
12.	Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribal Area	—	—	—
13.	Grant under Art. 275(1) of the Constitution	600.00	600.00	700.00
14.	Grants-in-aid to State Tribal Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce Operations	50.00	50.00	—
15.	Research & Training.	5.66	13.37	—

Statement III

Amount Released Under the Schemes for Upliftment of Backward Classes in Rajasthan 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Pre-Matric Scholarship	—	—	—
2.	Post-Matric Scholarship	—	—	—
3.	Boys Hostel	—	—	—
4.	Girls Hostel	—	—	—
5.	Grant-in-aid to NGOs	—	—	—
6.	Pre-examination coaching	—	—	—

Statement IV

Amount Released Under the Schemes for Upliftment of Minorities in Rajasthan 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Pre-examination coaching for weaker sections based on economic criteria	10.03	7.61	4.44
2.	Multi-Sectoral Development Plans in Minority-Concentration Districts	—	—	—

Delay in Sending Indian Dead Bodies

2057. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any diplomatic initiative with the Gulf countries, in particular with Saudi Arabia on inordinate delay in sending back the bodies of Indians who died due to accident on account of inordinate time taken in completion of medico-legal formalities; and

(b) if so, the response of these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The Government have been consistently taking up with the Gulf countries including recently with Dr. Nizar Obaid Madani, Saudi Assistant Foreign Minister, the question of early completion of medico-legal formalities required in case of death of Indian nationals in accidents.

Training to OBCs

2058. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any special training programmes for Other Backward Castes enabling them to improve their socio-economic status;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for implementation of these programmes, State-wise and the target thereof;

(d) the role of people's representatives in these programmes;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any reports from the State Governments with regard to the socio-economic status of the Other Backward Castes in the States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Following schemes/programmes are implemented by the Government for enabling the OBCs to improve their socio-economic status:

- (i) Schemes for Grants in aid to NGOs for upgrading skill of OBCs as well as to enable them to take up income generating activities.
- (ii) Schemes for Pre-examination coaching for Other Backward Classes, under which coaching/training for competitive/entrance examinations is provided to candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes through assistance to coaching institutions of repute.
- (iii) The National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) provides support for organizations of project linked training for upgradation of technical and entrepreneurship skill of persons belonging to Other Backward Classes.

These schemes are implemented through concerned State Governments/UTs and assistance is released on getting complete proposals. As such, State-wise allocation/targets are not fixed. Implementation of these schemes are monitored from time to time by various bodies, in which people's representatives are also associated.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Placement of EDP Staff

2059. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to extend the benefit of various judgements to similarly placed non-petitioners also in regard to pay of erstwhile Data Processing Assistant in the grade of DPA Grade III (scale 1600-2600) as per 4th Pay Commission in the Department of National Sample Survey Organisation;

(b) whether any Committee has been set up by the Government to examine the question of placement of EDP staff in the Data Processing Division of National Sample Survey Organisation; and

(c) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir. It is the policy of the Government, as laid down by the Ministry of Finance that benefits of judgements delivered by different Courts of Law will be applicable only to the petitioners unless there is a direction to the Government in the judgement itself to extend the benefit to all similarly placed non-petitioners also. The sanctioned strength of EDP posts in the Data Processing Division is 597. So far, 167 EDP staff have been extended the benefit of judgements of different Courts of Law. The Government is in the process of implementation of orders given by the Principal Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal in respect of 299 EDP staff of DPD. Some more cases, involving about 125 EDP staff, are pending in different Benches of the Central Administrative Tribunal and as and when orders on these pending cases are received, the petitioners in those cases will also be extended the benefit.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Committee has submitted its report, which is being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

Satellite Data

2060. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether satellite data should be made available on free of charge to countries prone to natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region;

(b) if so, whether the participants declared the same;

(c) the other decisions arrived at in the conference; and

(d) to what extent India will be provided with such data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN

SHOURIE): (a) and (b) There have been proposals in several international fora that satellite data should be made available free of charge by satellite operators to countries subjected to disasters. However, no consensus has yet been reached at the international level, including at the Second United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, held at New Delhi in November 1999.

(c) The above Conference made the Delhi Declaration launching the second phase of the Regional Space Applications Programme of ESCAP for action oriented, result driven programme for optimising human and financial resources in the region through cooperation in the areas of environmental and natural resource management, food-security, capacity building, human resource development and education, poverty alleviation, weather forecasting, natural disaster management, health care and hygiene and sustainable development towards improving the quality of life.

(d) India receives weather related data from the Indian INSAT satellites and remote sensing data from the Indian IRS satellites. India also receives data from the NOAA satellites of USA, ERS and METEOSAT of Europe and Radarsat of Canada. If required, data can be requested from other operators also.

Swadeshi Plank

2061. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lately reviewed and revised its Swadeshi plank;

(b) if so, the revised Government policy regarding prioritisation and promotion of Swadeshi; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken in this regard during the ensuing years under the Ninth Five-Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The Swadeshi approach, which emphasizes on self-reliance, is to be viewed in the dynamic context of a changing world order. Although the SSI sector has developed core competence internationally in a few segments, Government would encourage technology upgradation in all areas so that the Small Scale Industries can thrive in the face of increasing competition, both domestically and internationally. The Ninth Plan strategy,

inter-alia, includes technology upgradation, improved supply of credit, skill upgradation, strengthening of infrastructure and market development.

Renovation of Irrigation Projects

2062. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the extensive damage caused to irrigation project in Orissa due to recent super cyclone;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of the damage caused; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to repair and renovate the damaged projects expeditiously?

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

(b) The severe cyclonic storm and floods from 29th October to 1st November, 1999 have caused 2005 and 8647 breaches in various embankments. Canal and Canal structures respectively under major/medium irrigation. Also 1000 headworks and distribution systems under minor irrigation and 8565 lift irrigation points have been damaged.

(c) Centre has provided Rs. 42.50 crore under Calamity Relief Fund and Rs. 500 crore under the National Fund for Calamity Relief to the Government of Orissa for overall relief, rehabilitation and re-construction in all Sectors which includes the repairs of damaged irrigation structures.

ICCR Activities

2063. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the research and extension activities taken up by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of groups sponsored/deputed by ICCR for art, culture and other activities during the above period indicating country, specific occasion period and type of programmes;

(c) the details of artists or groups from the North Eastern Region who were sponsored/deputed for such occasions;

(d) whether the Government propose to include traditional art and cultural groups from North-Eastern region in future;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) does not conduct "research and extension activities".

(b) The particulars of cultural groups sponsored/deputed by the ICCR for performances abroad

during the last three years are given in Statement I attached.

(c) List of artistes and groups from the North-Eastern region sponsored/deputed by the ICCR is given in Statement II attached.

(d) and (e) The ICCR has been sponsoring traditional art and cultural groups from the North-Eastern Region and will continue to do so. Details of groups to be sponsored/deputed abroad in the next financial year are yet to be decided by the Council.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement I

Indian Council for Cultural Relations Outgoing Cultural Delegations 1996-97

S.No.	Country	Name of Group	Period	Particulars of Visit
1	2	3	4	5
1.	France	Ms. Padma Talwalkar (Hindustani Vocal) X3, Mumbai	7-15 April, 1996	To give performances at the exposition of Indian and an Exhibition Entitled "18th Century French Adventure in the India of Maharajas" at the Theatre of Chambery.
2.	Nepal	Ustad Amjad Ali Khan (Sarod) X5 Delhi	4-6 April, 1996	To Perform for H.E. King of Nepal. Special concert organised by the Indian Embassy in Kathamandu.
3.	Morocco	Ms. Madhavi Mudgal (ODISSI) x 7, Delhi	13-15 April 1996	To give performance at the request of Mission for Charity Show.
4.	Panama	Ms. Monika Newsan (Bharatanatyam)	18 April 1996	Panamian National Who has learnt Bharatanatyam to perform at the function for installation of Bust of Mahatma Gandhi.
5.	Thailand	Dr. Padma Subramanyam (Bharatanatyam) X 15, Chennai	20-30 April 1996	To participate in Festival of India Thailand.
6.	Morocco	Ms. Renu Bassi (Kathak) X5 Delhi	24-28 April 1996	To participate in The Indian Expo. in Morocco

1	2	3	4	5
7.	UK	Ms. Sobha Naidu (Kuchipudi) X5, Hyderabad	21-31 May 1996	For performances at The Indian Festival of Southern Culture.
8.	Singapore	Mask Dance Group X 12, Gangtok	26-30 May 1996	To give performance at Inauguration of Singapore Arts Festival.
9.	France	Shri Budhadev Das Gupta (Esraj), Calcutta	30th May to 15th June 1996	To Organise Cultural Event on Tagore by Maison Des Cultures Du Monde.
10.	Singapore	Pt. V.G. Jog (Violinist), Calcutta	1-15 May 1996	To give performance at the Invitation of Nrityalaya Aesthetic Society, Singapore.
11.	South Korea	Rabindra Sangeet Singer X 5, Calcutta	5-12 May 1995	In connection with The Celebration of 135th Birth Anniversary of Tagore.
12.	Australia	Ms. Sanjukta Panigrahi (Odissi) X 6, Bhubaneswar	4th June to 15th July 1996	Invitation received from Federation of Indian Association of Victoria
13.	Israel	Ustad Allah Rakha, Shri Fazal Qureshi And Ustad Sultan Khan, Mumbai	5-10 June 1996	To perform at the Israel Festival
14.	Mauritius	Ms. Penaz Masani (Ghazal) X6, Mumbai	14-18 June 1996	to Perform at the Invitation of the President of Mauritius for Mega Concert a Charity Show to raise funds for Eradication of Polio in the Islands of Indian Ocean Region.
15.	Germany	Dr. Gopal Shankar Mishra, (Veena and Sitar), Banaras	9-30 June 1996	To give performances Cum Lecture/ Workshop at the Invitation of the Linden Museum Stuttgart.
16.	France	Prof. T.N. Krishnan (Violinist) X5, Chennai AND 10 Member Bharatanatyam Group, Mumbai	2-7 July 1996	To participate in the Festival of D'Nantes.

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Kyrghystan	10 Member Children's Group of Delhi Public School, Delhi	30 July to 5th August 1996	To give performances at the International Youth Talent Festival.
18.	Syria Turkey Cyprus	Lok Chand Folk Dance Group, Calcutta	2-20 August 1996	To participate in "International Amity Festival" under the CEP with Syria
19.	Bhutan	Gulabi Sapera (Rajasthani Folk Dance and Music) X7, Jaipur	12-19 August 1996	To participate in Independence Day Celebrations
20.	North Korea	Nizamuddin Langa (Rajasthani Music), Delhi	12-19 August 1996	To participate in "April Spring Friendship Art Festival"
21.	Sri Lanka	12 Member Pung Cholam and Dhol Cholam Group, Imphal	14-18 August 1996	To perform in the "SAARC Drumming and Dance Festival"
22.	Kenya	Shri Jagit Singh (Ghazal) X3, Mumbai	14-19 August 1996	To give performance at the "Made in India Show"
23.	Hungary	Ms. Durga Arya (Kathak) X5, Delhi	16 August to 6th Sept. 1996	To participate in "Naturexpo" in Budapest
24.	South Africa Zambia Botswana Kenya Lesotho	Mallika Sarabhai (Bharatnatyam) X 6, Ahmedabad	20-30 August 1996	To give performance
25.	U.K.	Shri V.P. Dhananjayan and Mrs. Dhananjayan, Chennai	August/Sept. 1996	To give performance
26-40.	Russia	- Ustad Zakir Hussain (Tabla) X 7, Mumbai - Ms. Madhavi Mudgal (Odissi) X 3, Delhi	16-28 Sept. 1996	To give performances during the "Days of Indian Culture" in Russia.

1	2	3	4	5
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- Ms. Preeti Patel
(Manipuri) X4,
Calcutta

- Ms. Bharti
Shivaji
(Mohiniattam) X3
Delhi

- Ms. Saswati Sen
(Kathak) X4,
Delhi

- Ms. Leela
Samsun
(Bharatnatyam)
X-3, Delhi

- Shri V Ravi
Shankar
(Kuchipudi) X3,
Chennai

- Shri Uday
Jadugar (Magic) X 4,
Shimoga

- Ms. Parvati
Khan (Pop Singer) X 13,
Mumbai

- Bhoomika
(Modern Dance) X 14,
Delhi

- Ms. Shubha
Mudgal
(Hindustani
Vocal) X 4, Delhi

- BIHU x 12,
Guwahati

- Shri
Raghunath Seth
(Flute) X 4,
Mumbai

- Prof. T N
Krishnan (Violin) X 14,
Chennai

- AA Vishkar
(Folk Dance) X 15,
Ahmedabad

1	2	3	4	5
41.	UK	Ustad Sabri Khan (Sarangi) X 2, Delhi	5th Sept. to 3rd Oct. 1996	To perform at the Invitation of Sonia Sabri, Birmingham UK
42.	USA	Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra (Odissi) X 8, Bhubaneshwar	10 Sept. to 20 Nov. 1996	Invited by Centre for World Music and Related Arts
43.	South Korea	Ms. Renu Bassi (Kathak) X 5, Delhi Shri Harwinder Bajwa (Bhangra) X 12, Ludhiana	13-16 Sept. 1996	Asia Week Celebration in Pusan South Korea
44.	Switzerland	Smt. Aruna Sayeeram (Carnatic Vocal) X 4, Mumbai	15-22 Sept. 1996	To Perform at the Invitation of the Association for Classical Indian Music, Zurich
45.	Germany Ireland Belgium Switzerland Netherlands United Kingdom	Singh Bandhu (Hindustani Vocal) X 5, Delhi	16 Sept. to 7th Oct 1996	To give performances
46.	South Africa	Shri U Srinivas (Mandolin) X 4, Chennai	18-24 Sept. 1996	To give performances at the Invitation of Mr. Mahalingam Kolapan
47.	Oman	Ms. Aditi Mangladas (Kathak) X 5, Delhi	29th Sept. to 3rd Oct. 1996	To give performances in connection with visit of VVIP to Sultanate of Oman
48.	Sri Lanka	Ms. Shovana Narayanan (Kathak) X 6 Delhi	29 Sept. to 3rd Oct. 1996	To give performances
49.	Iraq Bahrain UAE	Ms. Maya Rao (Modern Dance) X 8, Bangalore	30 Sept. to 14 Oct. 1996	To participate in Babylon International Festival in Iraq and Bosra Festival in Syria
50.	USA	PT. Hari Prasad Chaurasia (Flute) X 3, Mumbai -Pt. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt (Vichitra Veena) X 1, Jaipur	10 Sept. to 5th Nov. 1996	To perform at the Invitation of Dr. B.N. Dixit of Centre for the performing Arts of India

1	2	3	4	5
51.	Nepal	Shri Rahmat Khan Langa (Rajasthani Folk Dance and Music) X 12, Delhi	3-7 Oct. 1996	To give Performances on the occasion of "Dussehra/Diwali Fair" organised in the Indian Embassy Grounds.
52-55.	Vietnam	- Pt. Bhajan Sopori (Santoor) X 3, Delhi - Ms. Rohini Bhate (Kathak) X 11, Pune - Pung Cholam (Drums of Manipur) X 6, Imphal - Craftsman X 2, Jaipur	7-17 Oct. 1996	To participate "Days of Indian Culture" in Vietnam
56.	USA Mexico Panama El Salvador Nicaragua Peru	11 Member Kathakali Group of Kerala Kala Mandalam, Thrissur	9 Oct. to 6th Nov. 1996	To participate in Cervantino Festival and to perform in "India Week" Organised by the Mission in Tour in the Region
57.	Bhutan	Ms. Sonal Mansingh (Odissi) X7, Delhi	24 Oct. to 5th Nov. 1996	To give performances
58.	Belgium	- Ms. Saroja Ganapasthyu (Kuchipudi) X 6 Hyderabad	15-31 Oct. 1996	To interact and present joint performances with Belgium Musicians
59.	Turkmenistan Kazakhstan	Shri Gautam Roy Chowdhary (Pop Music) X 8, Mumbai	25 Oct. to 6 Nov. 1996	To participate in the 5th Anniversary Celebration of Independent Turkemenistan
60.	Seychelles Mauritius	Shri Mohan Bhatt Nanu (Rajasthan Puppet) X 4, Delhi	17 Oct. to 1 Nov. 1996	To participate in the Creole Festival
61.	Mauritius	Shri Satish Mahto (Chhau Dance) X 12, Calcutta	6-14 Nov. 1996	To perform at the Dussera Celebrations

1	2	3	4	5
62- 77	Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PT Jasraj (Vocal) X 6, Mumbai - Raja and Radha Reddy (Kuchipudi Dance) X 5, Delhi - UT Zakir Hussain (Percussion Ensemble) X 4, Mumbai - Saoli Mitra (Theatre) X 14, Calcutta - Ms. Ritu Guha (Ravindra Sangeet) X 5, Calcutta - Shri Rajan (Violin) X 3, Banaras - Ms. Alamel Valli (Bharatnatyam) X 4, Chennai - Shri K N Panikkar (Theatre) X 16, Thiruvananthapuram - Shri Hari Prasad Chaurasia (Flute) X 5, Mumbai - Ms. Madhavi Mudgal (Odissi) X 6, Delhi - Shri Habib Tanvir (Theatre) X 16, Bhopal -Mahdusudan (Baul Group) X 5, Calcutta - Seraikella Chhau X 13, Calcutta 	18-30 Nov. 1996	Utsav - The India Festival

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		- Pung and Dhol Cholam X 10, Imphal		
		- Snow, Yak, Lion Dance X 10, Gangtok		
		- Ms. Usha Uthup (Pop) X 7 Calcutta		
78.	Pakistan	Suresh Dutta (Puppet) X 13, Calcutta	17-29 Oct 1996	To participate in the International Puppet Festival being organised by Peer Theatre Workshop and Rafi Peer Group Lahore
79.	Australia New Zealand	Satish Vyas (Santoor) X 2, Mumbai	Oct/Nov 1996	To perform at the invitation of World Culture Music, Sydney
80.	Reunion Islands Madagascar Kenya	Ms. Saroja Vaidyanathan (Bharatanatyam) X 15, Delhi	3rd Nov. to 23rd Nov. 1996	To perform During Diwali Celebrations in the Reunion Islands
81.	Ireland Denmark Sweden Belgium	Bhaswati Mishra (Kathak), Delhi	24-28 Oct. 1996	To give performance at the Festival "Celebration of Senses"
82.	Greece Turkey Azerbaijan	Shri NB Sharma (Shadow Puppet) X 7, Hyderabad	11-22 Oct. 1996	To give Performance at International Theatre Festival in Greece and Thereafter Tour to the Region.
83.	Egypt	15 Member Dance and Music from Imphal and Abhik Sarkar (Sarod) X 3, Delhi	1-10 Nov. 1996	The Indian Cultural Festival at American University
84.	France	Two Travel Grant to Artists from Rajasthan	3rd Dec. to 22nd Dec. 1996	to preform at the Invitation of "Theatre Entete"
85.	Malaysia	Shri Satish Babbar X 6, Delhi	6-12 Dec. 1996	To participate in the First International Ghazal Festival
86.	Japan	Panchavadyam (Dance and Music) X 7, Delhi Rajinder Gangani (Kathak) X 8, Delhi	26 Jan. to 4 Feb 1997	To give performance at the invitation of Saltama prefecture

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87.	Sri Lanka	Ms. Bhagyalakshmi Chandresekharan (Music) X5, Delhi	11-17 Jan 1997	Centenary Celebration of the Visit of Swami Vivekananda to Sri Lanka
88.	Bangladesh	Pt. Ravi Shankar X7, Delhi	26 Feb to 3rd March 1997	To give performance in connection with 25th Anniversary Celebration of Independence of Bangladesh
89.	UK	50% of 8 Travel Grants to Attakalari Artistes, Hyderabad	28 March to 30 July 1997	To participate in the Project "Beyond the Wall"
90.	USA	Mrs. Aruna Kale X 2, Mumbai	15 March to 10 April 1997	Request from Dr. B.N. Dixit for Indian Music concert being organised by the Centre of Performing Arts of India University of Pittsburgh, USA
91.	New Zealand	4 Member Puppet Group led by Shri Babu Lal, Delhi	18-30 March 1997	To participate in the Festival of Asia being organised by Asia 2000 Foundation
92.	Macau	14 Member Kohinoor Langa Group from Jaipur	22nd Feb to 8th March 1997	To participate in the Art Festival of Macau

Indian Council for Cultural Relations outgoing Cultural Delegations 1997-98

Sl.No.	Country	Type of Group	Period	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Pakistan	Ms. Sharbari Mukherjee music expert from Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi	2nd April to 7th April, 97	Invitation received from Pakistan National Council of Arts to participate in Symposium on Living Traditions of Music in Asia Muslim World and Central Asian Region
2.	North Korea	Sh. Nandu Bhende popular music group X 7, Mumbai	7th April to 18th April, 97	To participate in the 15th April Spring Festival in Pyongyang
3.	USA	Pt. Shiv Kumar Sharma (Santoor), Mumbai and	18th April to 19 May, 97	Invitation received from Dr. B.N. Dixit Centre for the

1	2	3	4	5
		Ustad Shafaat Ahmad Khan (Tabla), New Delhi		Performing Arts of India, Univ. of Pittsburgh. Ongoing programme of ICCR's co-operation with the Centre for Performing Arts.
4.	U.K.	Sh. Umyalapuram K. Sivaraman (Mridangam Player) Chennai, Tamil Nadu	17th April to 30th May, 97	To perform at the invitation of Mr. K.S. Bhavani Shankar, Director of Related Arts, Liverpool.
5.	South Korea	Folk dance group-of Sarabhuj led by Sh. Tarun Pradhan X 15 Calcutta	11-15th May, 97 (Assistance)	To participate in "Asia Week, festival organised by International Relations Deptt., Pusan.
6-7	France (a) Morocco	Panchavadyam & Thyambaka (Drums of Kerala) X 12 Thiruvananthapuram	15 May-4 June 97	invitation of the Theatre de a Ville Paris for performances at their new Theatre
	France (B)	Ms. Bharati Shivaji Mohiniattam Dancer) X 6 New Delhi	8-20 June 97	-Do-
8.	Hungary	Sh. Shubendra Rao (Sitar Player), New Delhi	21st June to 22nd June, 97	To perform at the International Music Day.
9.	Australia	Ms. Krishna Chakravarty (Sarod Player) X 2 Banaras	12th June to 28th June, 97	To perform during the exhibition entitled dancing to the flute organised by the Art Gallery of New South Wales
10.	USA	Ms. Madan Bala Sidhu (Punjabi Folk Singer) X 5 New Delhi	5th July to 20th July, 97	To give performances at a Punjabi Conference.
11.	U.K.	Wadali Brothers (Sufi Singers) X 6 Amritsar	1st July to 14th July 98	Request received from Shri Prakash Daswani, Artistic Director, Music London, to participate in the Music Village Project.
12.	Germany Morocco	Sh. Keshav Bagade Folk Music Group X 4 Pune	4th July to 16th July, 97	To give performance at Rudolf Stadt Folk Dance Music Festival in Germany Performances being arranged by Mission in Rabat.
13.	Mauritius Reunion Islands	Pung Cholam and Dhol Cholam Group (Jagoi Marup Group) X 9, Imphal	1st-14th July, 97	To give performances on the occasion of "Made in India Show" being organised by Confederation of Indian Industries.

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Kyrgyzstan	10-12 Children's Cultural Group, Bal Bhavan New Delhi	30th July to 5th August, 97	To participate in the International Youth Talent Festival, 97 at the request of the wife of the President of Kyrgyzstan
15-16	Maldives	Sh. R. Ganesh and Sh. R. Kumaresh (Violin) X 4, Chennai and Ms. Alakananda Das Gupta (Kathak) X 5, New Delhi	11th to 18th August, 97	To give performances
17.	Bangladesh	Pt. Birju Maharaj (Kathak) Dance Maestro X 12 New Delhi	10th-14th Aug. 97	To give performances
18.	Sri Lanka	Uttar Priyadarshi by Chorus Repertory Theatre of Sh. Rattan Thiyam X 28 Imphal	11th Aug. to 19th Aug., 97	To give performances
19.	Canada	Three travel grants (a) Ms. H. Vijyantimala Devi (Manipuri), New Delhi (b) Sh. Shashidhar Acharya (Chhau), New Delhi (c) Sh. P. Vijayan (Kathakali). Thiruvananthapuram	12th Aug. to 19th Aug. 97	Request from Mission for presentation of special multimedia dance theatre production, "Muktinad"
20.	USA	Ustad Ali Akbar Khan (Sarod) X 3, USA	15th Aug., 97	Performance in main hall of the United Nation's General Assembly, New York.
21.	USA	Sh. Channulal Mishra Hindustani Vocal X 5 Banaras	24th Aug. to 15th Sept., 97	Invitation received from Smithsonian Institute.
22.	U.K.	Shri Lokendra Arambam Theatre group X 5 Imphal	7th-27th Aug. 97	To present a joint Production "Macbeth" with Waterman inc. London
23.	Germany	Ms. Daksha Seth Kathak and Contemporary Dance X 5, Thiruvananthapuram	22-30 Aug. 97	To give performances.
24-25.	South Africa Zambia Lesotho	Vasant Raas and Pung Cholam group X 15, Imphal	15th to 30th August, 97	To give performances

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26.	Switzerland Germany	Sh. Shujat Khan (Sitar) X 5 New Delhi	5th to 17th Aug., 97	To perform at the U.N. in Geneva and participate in the Geneva Festival and to give performances in the Night Concert in Berlin on 16th Aug.
27.	Egypt	Lok Nartak Dal Kakog led by Shri Brahm Dutt Sharma Folk dancers X 16 Shimla	24th Aug. to 31st Aug. 97	To give performances
28.	Colombia	"Begam Barve" by Theatre group fo Sh. Amal Allana X 8, New Delhi	25th Aug. to 7th Sept. 97	To perform at the "VI International Festival of Theatre, Ciudad de Cicuta"
29.	Turkey Jordan Syria Cyprus Greece	Sh. Jaya Rama Rao and Sh. Vanashree Rao (Kuchipudi) X 6 New Delhi	1st August, 97 to 5th Sept., 97	To give performances.
30.	USA	Pt. Brij Narayan Sharma (Sarod), Mumbai and Pt. Anindo Chatterjee (Tabla)	24th Aug. to 20th Sept., 97	Request from Dr. B.N. Dixit Centre for the Performing Arts of India, Univ. of Pittsburg. Ongoing programme of ICCR's co-operation with the Centre for Performing Arts.
31-32	Ghana Nigeria Morocco Ivory Coast Benin Togo Burkina Faso Cameroon	Folk dance/music group from Rajasthan Gangaur Ghoomar Group X 11, Mumbai and from Punjab (Bhangra) (CGH Police Cultural Group X 8, Chandigarh	9th Aug. to 22nd Sep, 97	To give performances.
33-34.	Tanzania Uganda Ethiopia Kenya Botswana Zambia	Flute - Hindustani Sh. Pashupati Nath Arya New Delhi and Sh. Madhukar Anand and Ms. Kiran Chauhan Kathak X 7, Patna, New Delhi	7th Aug., to 6 Sept., 97	To give performances.
35.	Australia New Zealand Port Moresby	Garbha Dance troupe of Keder Arts Centre Banda X 15	13th Aug. to 5th Sept., 97	To give performances
36-37.	Uzbekistan	Dr. Shanno Khurana (Hindustani Vocal) Ms. Silesh Srivastava Folk Singer X 9, New Delhi	25 Aug. 3 Sept. 97	To participate in the International Music Festival

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38.	USA Canada	Ms. Protima Gauri Bedi Odissi Group X 7 Bangalore	14th Aug. to 10th Oct. 97	To give performances in New York and other cities in USA & Canada.
39.	Bhutan	Sh. Gautam Roy (Pop Group) X 8, Mumbai	12-24 Aug. 97	To give performances.
40-41	Indonesia Malaysia Singapore	Presentation by Ms. Kanaka Srinivasan and her students X 13, New Delhi and Music group of Sh. Shahid Parvez (Sitar) X 3, Pune	12th Aug., to 30th Aug., 97	To give performances at the invitation of Indo-Indonesia Association.
42.	Pakistan	Pt. Hari Prasad Chaurasia Hindustani Flute X 5 Mumbai	1-8 Sept., 97	To give lecture-demonstration at the invitation of Sanjan Nagar, Instt. of Arts and Philosophy, Lahore and a concert to be organised by the Mission in Islamabad.
43.	USA	Uctad Asad Ali Khan (Rudra Veena) X 3 New Delhi	13th Sept., to 23rd Dec. 97	To give performances in U.S.A.
44-49.	Kazakhstan	Cultural groups Sh. Durga Charan Ranbir (Odissi group) X 12, Bhubaneshwar Ms. Aimoni Gagoi (Bihu group) X 11 Dollu Kunitha Group, Guwahati (Drums of Kamataka) X 10 Pt. Amamath (Flute), New Delhi Ms. Renu Bassi/Mangla Bhatt (Kathak Group) Sh. T.V. Gopalakrishnan X 5 (Percussion & Ensemble), Chennai	3 Sept. to 9th Sept. 97	To participate in the "Days of Indian Culture".
50-51.	Hungary Poland Romania Croatia Bulgaria Austria Bratislava	Ms. Ranjana Gauhar (Odissi) X 5, New Delhi and Sh. Ravi Kiran (Gottuvadyam) X 5 Chennai	2nd Sept. to 21st Sept., 97	To give performances
52-53.	Russia Belarus	Chultural Group X 15 1. Ms. Mangi Bai (Teratali group) Folk Dance group X 6 Jodhpur 2. Sh. Sikander Langa Folk Music group X 5 Jodhpur	1-16th Sept., 97	To participate in the Festival "One World" organised to celebrate the 850th Anniversary of Moscow.

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54.	Germany Ireland	Tolpavakutu Puppet group X 8 Thinvananthapuram	11th Sept., to 22nd Sept., 97	To give performances in the International Puppet Festival in Ireland.
55.	Italy	Shri Aijaz Mohd. Bangle Maker (Craftsmen) Jaipur	19 Sept. to 1st Oct. 97	Request from Mission for a Craftsman to be sent for an Exhibition being organised in Turin.
56-57.	U.A.E. Qatar Kuwait Bahrain Egypt Tunis Morocco Oman Yemen	(a) Ms. Vaishali Trivedi (Kathak) Ahmedabad X 5 (b) Sh. Kailash Sharma (Flute, Hindustani) X 1 New Delhi	17 Sept. to 2nd Nov. 97	To give performances.
58.	Trinidad and Tobago Surinam Guyana Barbados	Contemporary Dance group of Ms Mamta Shankar X 15 Calcutta	13th Sept. 97 to 6th Oct. 97	To give performances.
59.	Chile Peru Argentina Brazil Mexico Cuba Panama, Costa Rica Colombia & Venezuela	Ms. Sonal Mansingh dance group (Odissi) X 6, New Delhi	28th Sept. to 28th Nov. 97	To participate in the Cervantino Festival and chain tour of Latin America.
60.	U.S.A.	Ms. Vidya Dangle (Violinist) X 2 Mumbai	16 Sept. to 16th Oct. 97	To give performances
61.	Sweden Finland Norway Ireland Belarus Germany U.K.	Ms. Kavita Dwibedi (Odissi) X 5 New Delhi	26 Sept., to 21st Oct. 97	To give performances.
62-63	(a) Italy Germany Malta & Libya (b) Italy Germany	1. Pt. Jagannath (Shehnai) X 5 New Delhi 2. Ms Pratibha Prahlad Bharatanatyam Dancer Bangalore X 5	26th Sept. to 18th Oct. 97 26th Sept. to 18th Oct. 97	"India Night After oper Frankfurt, followed by chain tour of Germany to be organised by Indo-Germany Society.

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64-65.	Norway	Folk dance group X 14 1. Shri Subash Nirwan (Tabla) X 3 Thiruvananthapuram 2. Dr. L. Subramaniam (Violinist) X 5, Bangalore	19th Sept. to 30th Sept. 97 25th Oct. to 15th Nov. 97	Performances being organised by Norwegian Government's Rikskonserte
66.	South Korea	Sh. K.N. Panikker's Sopanam Theatre X 16 Thiruvananthapuram	1st Sept. to 11th Sept. 97	ITI-UNESCO International Theatre Festival, Seoul.
67.	Iraq Jordan	Folk Dance group Sarabhuj X 15, Midnapur	25th Sept. to 4th Oct. 97	To give performances in Babylon Festival
68.	Japan	Acharya Chhau Nritya Bichitra (a) Seraikella Chhau Group X 12 (b) Ms. Rama Vaidyanathan Bharatnatyam Dancer X 8 New Delhi	2-21 Sept, 97	To participate in the Min-On Concert
69-70.	Kyrgyzstan	Darpana Academy (Folk Dance Group) X 14, Ahmedabad Ms Penaz Masani (Pop Music Group) X 9, Mumbai Technical Team X 3	17-24 Oct., 97	To participate in the "Days of Indian Culture"
71.	Finland	Sh. Gulfam Sabri and Tabla player, New Delhi	9-25th Oct., 97	To give performances
72.	Portugal Switzerland	Ustad Amjad Ali Khan (Sarod Maestro) X 3, New Delhi	6-12 Oct. 97	To give performances
73.	Mauritius Namibia Seychelles	Ms. Gopa Biswas (Odissi) X 6 Bhubneshwar	27th Oct. to 7th Nov. 97	To give performances
74.	Turkmenistan	"Aavishkar" group Folk Dance group X 21 from Ahmedabad	24th Oct. to 31st Oct. 97	To participate in the 6th Anniversary Celebration of the independence of Turkmenistan.
75.	Kazakhstan	Sh. Shubender Rao Sitar Player X 1, New Delhi	17-27 Oct. 97	To give performances at the Kazakhstan Music Festival
76-77.	China	Ms. Madhumita Roy (Kathak) X 5, Calcutta and Sh. G.S. Rajan (Camatic Flute) X 4, New Delhi	22 Oct., 97 to 1 Nov., 97	To give performances.

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78.	Hongkong China	Ms. Sharon Prabhakar Popular Music group X 11	22nd Oct. to 5th Nov. 97	To give performances.
79	Canada USA	Ms. Chandralekha's Group (Special Choreographic Composition "Mahakal") X 16 Chennai	6th Oct. to 9th Nov. 97	To give performance on the occasion of Canada's Year of Asia Pacific at the invitation of Brooklyn Academy for Music
80.	Belgium	Pt. Ram Narayan (Sarangi) X 4 Mumbai	30th Oct. to 6th Nov. 97	To give performances at the Invitation of Indo-Belgium Society.
81.	Germany	Ms. Arundati Roy Odissi dancer X 1, Bhubneswar	4 Oct. - 4 Nov. 97	To give performances
82.	Syria Greece	Dr. Lalgudi Jayaraman (Violin) X 5 Chennai	7th Nov. to 29th Nov. 97	For lecture/performance tour.
83.	USA	Smt. Veena Sahasrabuddhe (Hindustani Vocal) X 3 Pune	3 Nov., to 15 Dec. 97	Festival of Songs, organised by Asia Society. The National Festival of Indian Vocal Music.
84.	South Korea Myanmar Vietnam Laos Cambodia	Ms. Ananda Shankar Modern Dance Group Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi from Hyderabad X 12	7-30 Nov., 97	To participate in Chang mu International Dance Festival, 97, in Seoul and to give performances in International Ramayana Festival in Cambodia.
85.	Italy	5 Member Darpana Academy (Puppet) Ahmedabad	30 Nov. 5 Dec. 97	To give performances at the invitation of "LA Grande Opera"
86-88.	Bangladesh	Sh. Manna Dey Play Back Singer X 5 Mumbai Ms. Alarmel Valli Bharatnatyam Dancer X 6 Chennai Shri T.R. Dhandapanai, Talavadya Kacheri X 5 New Delhi	1-4th Dec. 97	To give performances in the South Asian Music Festival
89.	Nepal	Ms. Kiran Segal (Odissi) Ramayana Presentation X 16, New Delhi	1st 6th Dec., 97	To give performances.
90-91.	Sri Lanka	Hindustani and Carnatic Violin, Jugabandi Ms. N. Rajan X 3 from Banaras and Sh. T.N. Krishnan X 4 from Chennai	7-14th Dec. 97	To give performances
92.	Thailand Indonesia	Ms. Nalini & Kamalini (Kathak Dancers) X 6 New Delhi	7th Dec. to 20th Dec, 97	To give performances
93.	Italy	Ms. Jyotsana Shourie Bharatnatyam Dancer X 6, New Delhi	17 Dec. 22 Dec. 97	To present her production "Birth of Jesus"

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94-95	Srilanka	Ms. Sreikala Bharat (Bharatnatyam) Ms. S. Gayatri (Vocal) from Chennai	20-22 Dec. 97	To give performances/ Lecture Demonstration.
96.	France	16 member Kudiyattam group of Kerala Kala Mandalam, Thiruvananthapuram	10th Jan. to 10th Feb. 98	To give performances
97.	Pakistan	Pt. Jasraj (Hindustani Vocal) X 6, Mumbai.	23rd Jan. to 26th Jan. 98	To give performances on the occasion of Republic Day Celebrations
98.	USA	Pt. Jasraj (Hindustani Vocal) X 6, Mumbai	January, 98	To give performances
99.	U.K.	Smt. Kumudini Lakhia Director "Kadamb", Ahmedabad	11th Feb. 98 to 23rd March 98	To give lectures at the invitation of Sampad (South Asian Arts Development) U.K.
100-101.	Madagascar Tanzania Zimbabwe Kenya South Africa	Mrs. Surva Mukherjee of Geetanjali group X 11, Calcutta and Smt. Sharmista Mukherjee (Kathak Dancer) X 4, New Delhi	12th Feb. to 3rd March 98	To give performances
102.	U.A.E. Qatar Kuwait Bahrain Oman	Ms. Sarla Kumari (Kuchipudi) X 6 Hyderabad, A.P.	17th Feb. to 10th March 98	To give performances.
103.	Mauritius	Ms. Sumitra Guha (Vocal) X 7, New Delhi	20th Feb. to 3rd March 98	To give performances.
104.	Australia	Karikudi Mani Percussion Ensemble X 4 Chennai	24th Feb. 98 to 20th March 98	To give performances.
105.	Swaziland Mozambique Botswana Tanzania	Kuchipudi group of Ms. Swathy Somanath X 6 Hyderabad, A.P.	26th Feb. to 10th March 98	To give performances
106.	Nepal	Pt. Ravi Shankar (Sitar) X 7, New Delhi	28th Feb. to 1st March 98	To give performances.
107.	France	Travel grant to Pt. Shivu Taralaghatti Sitar and his tabla player X 2, Chennai	1st March 98 to 5th June 98	To give performances at the invitation of Paris based Association "Kalavistar"

1	2	3	4	5
108.	Mexico Panama Surinam Barbodos Guyana Tanzania	Ms. Penaz Masani Popular group X 9 Mumbai	2nd March to 6th April 98	To give performances at the India Trade Promotion Exhibition and chain tour to the region.
109.	Mexico El-Salvador Panama Venezuela Surinam	Ms. Aditi Mangaladas (Kathak group) X 6 New Delhi	2nd March to 29th March 98	To give performances at the Indian Trade Exhibition and chain tour to the region.
110.	Bangladesh	"Jatra" People's little theatre group led by Ms. Sova Sen X 30 Calcutta	8-13th March 98	To give performances.
111.	Sri Lanka	Ms. Joya Biswas (Sitar) X 4 Calcutta	12th March to 7th April 98	To give performances
112.	Mauritius	Ramleela Group of Shri Ram Bharatiya Kala Kendra, New Delhi	13-20th March 98	To give performances
113.	France	Sh. Paban Das Baul Baul Singer West Bengal X 4	18th March to 18th April 98	To give performances.
114.	Morocco Egypt	Sh. Ganesh Mahato Purulia Chhau group from West Bengal X 14	20th March to 4th April 98	To give performances
115.	Reunion Island	Bharata Kalanjali group led by Shri V.P. Dhanajayan X 15 Chennai	22nd March to 16th April 98	To give performances at St. Denis at the request of our Mission
116.	Israel Syria Cyprus Italy Romania	Ms Alarmel Valli (Bharatnatyam) X 6 Chennai	23rd March to 17th April 98	To give performances
117.	Colombia	Theatre group led by Shri Bansi Kaul X 16 Bhopal, M.P.	30th March to 9th April 98	To give performance in the VIth Ibero - American Theatre Festival

**Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Outgoing Cultural Delegations 1998-99**

S.No.	Country	Name of the Group	Period	Particulars of Visit
1	2	3	4	5
1.	USA	Sh. M.s. Shashank (Carnatic Flute) X 4 Chennai	23rd March to 14th April, 98	To perform at the National Academy of Sciences and at the Getty Hall in Los Angeles
2.	North Korea	Ms. Padmini Roy (Pop Group) X 9 Mumbai	10-18th April, 98	To participate in April Spring Festival in Pyong Yang
3-5.	Brazil	Cultural Groups 1. Pt. Hari Prasad Chaurasia X 5 (Flute), Mumbai 2. Ms. Malavika Sarukkai (Bharatnatyan) X 6, Chennai 3. Ms. Kumudini Lakilia (Katilak) X 16	1-20th May, 98	To perform at the Festival of India
	*TG: Travel Grant			
6.	USA * Germany	Shri Atul Desai (Hindustani Vocal) X 3 Ahmedabad	1st May to 30th Aug. 98	To give performances
7.	Germany * USA JAE	Gundecha Bandhu (Dhrupad) X 4 Mumbai	8th May to 30th June, 98	To give performances at the invitation of Indo- German Societies
8.	Greece	Shri Hemani Chauhan (Folk Singer) X 6 Ahmedabad	14-26th May, 98	To participate in the India Vision 98
9-10.	Japan Philippines Hong Kong Singapore	Ms. Malavika Sarukkai (Bharatanatayam) X 6 Chennai Ustad Shamim Ahmed Khan (Sitar) X 3, Mumbai	15th May to 2nd June, 98	To give performances Organised by Min-On Concerts in Japan and Chain Tour of the Region
11.	Barbados Surinam Trinidad & Tobago	Folk Singer of Smt. Deep Mala Mohan (Bhojpuri Folk Singer) X 4, New Delhi.	15th May to 14th June 98	To give performances
	*TG: Travel Grant			

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Morocco UAE Hungary France	Prof. Debu Chaudhury (Sitar) X 4, Delhi	23rd May To 15th June, 98	To give performances at The Sacred Music Festival in the City of Fes, Morocco and Chain Tour of the Region.
13.	Singapore	Panchavadyam and Thyambaka Percussion Ensemble X 10 Kerala	30th May to 4th June, 98	To give performances in The Singapore Arts Festival
14.	France *	Smt. Gangubai Hangal (Hindustani Vocal) X 5 Hubli, Karnataka	1-12th June, 98	To give performances at UNESCO, Paris on Invitation
15.	USA	Shri Vempati China Satyam Kuchipudi Arts Academy X 10 Chennai	3rd June to 29th Sept. 98	To give performances
16.	U.K. *TG: Travel Grant	Feroz Khan's Theatre "Mahatma Versus Gaandhi", Mumbai	8th June 98	To give performances at the Bloomberry Theatre at the Invitation of Indian High Commission
17-19.	Bangladesh	1. Ms. Kum Kum Dhar (Kathak) X 5, Lucknow 2. Pt. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt (Mohan Veena) X 4, Jaipur 3. Ms. Malini Rajurkar (Hindustani Vocal) X 5, Hyderabad	9-16th June, 98 15-21st June, 98 21-27th June, 98	To give performances
20.	Singapore *	Shri O.S. Arun (Camatic Vocal) X 5, Chennai	9-22nd June 98	To give performances in Singapore Arts Festival
21.	UK *	Shri Anand Shankar & Shri Gopal Mishra, Calcutta	June 98	To participate in the Indo British Music Project

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Brunei *TG: Tavel Grant	Ms. Neelima Azeem and Pandit Ram Mohan Mishra	June 98	To give performances
23.	USA	7-Member Rajasthani Folk Dance & Music Group of Shri Nizamuddin Langa, Delhi & One Craftsman, Shri Jafar Ali (Brocade Weaver)	25-28th June 98	To participate in the Boise River Festival in The State of Idaho.
24.	France *	5-Member Puppet Group Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandal from Udaipur	28th June to 5th July, 98	To give performances at the invitation of Theatre En Tete in the Festival, "Sur L'air de l'Inde Paris"
25.	Portugal Hungary Denmark	* Dancers Guild X 16 led by Manju Shri Chaki Sircar, Calcutta	July '98	To Participate in the World Expo '98 and Thereafter to Tour The Region.
26.	Portugal * TG: Travel Grant	* Shri Buddhadev Dasgupta (Sarod) X 3, Calcutta	July '98	To participate in the World Expo '98
27.	Portugal Denmark Hungry Italy	* Pung Cholam & Dhol Cholam X 10, Manipur	July '98	To participate in the World Expo '98 and Thereafter to Tour the Region
28.	Portugal Hungary Germany	* Rang Bahar X 14 Folk Dance Group Gujarat	July '98	To participate in the World Expo '98 and Thereafter to tour the Region
29.	Switzerland*	Arya Vaidyasala Kottakkal Mapapuram X 10 (Kathakali) Dist. Kerala	8-14th July 98	To give performances

1	2	3	4	5
30.	South Africa Zimbabwe Botswana Tanzania *TG : Travel Grant	Harvinder Singh Bajwa, (Bhangra & Gidha) X 16, Ludhiana, Punjab	10th July to 10th Aug. 98	To participate in the Heritage Festival in Durban
31.	Vietnam Laos Cambodia Malaysia Singapore Indonesia	Ms. Leela Samson (Bharatanatyam) X 7, New Delhi	14th July to 10th August 98	To give performances
32.	Sudan Jordan Saudi Arabia Kenya Tanzania UAE	Shri Jafar Hussan (Qawwali) X 9 Badyaun	14th July To 10th August 98	To give performances
33.	Palestine	13-Member Contemporary Dance Troupe "Bhoomika" led by Pt. Narendra Sharma, New Delhi	17-20th July, 98	To give performances at the 6th Palestine International Festival
34.	Bangladesh	Ms. Usha Ganguli (Theatre) X 25 Calcutta	20-30th July 98	To give performances
35.	Ethiopia Djibouti	Shri Johar Ali (Violin) X 3	24-28 July 98	To give performances
36.	USA * *TC: Travel Grant	8 Member Nandikar Group of Prof. Rudhrprasad Sengupta, Calcutta	29th July to 25th Aug. 98	To give performances & Joint production of the Play Gotraieen at the New York International Friberg Festival
37.	Qatar UAE	Nina & Rajinder Mehta (Light Classical), Mumbai	2-15th August 98	To give performances
38.	Madagascar Mauritius	Shri Partho Bose (Sitar Player) Calcutta	9-17th Aug. 98	For Jugalbandi Performances

1	2	3	4	5
39.	Maldives	Dummy Horse Folk Dance Group X 14, Cehnnai, Tamil Nadu	11-18th August, 98	To give performances
40.	Nepal	Folk Dance & Music Group (Song & Drama Division) X 25, New Delhi	11-18th August, 98	To give performances
41- 42.	Iraq Jordan	Shri Deepak Chaudhury (Sitar) X 3 Ms. Prerana Shrimai, (Kathak) X 5, Delhi	11-18th Aug. 98	To give performacnes
	*TG: Travel Grant			
43.	Thailand	Singhajeet Singh & Charu Mathur (Manipur Dance) X .14, New Delhi	11-19th Aug. 98	To give performances
44.	Norway Denmark Italy Germany	Ms. Kala Ramnath (Hindustani Violin) X 3 Mumbai	12-22nd Aug. 98	To give performances
45.	Bhutan	M.s Usha Uthup (Pop Singer) X 11, Calcutta	12-24th Aug. 98	To give performances
46.	Italy UK Netherlands Germany	Ms. Uma Sharma (Kathak) X 6, Delhi	12-24th Aug. 98	To give performances
47.	Seychelles Reunion Islands South Africa	Henger Abari Asom Kala Kendra (Bihu Group) X 14, Guwahati, Assam	13-23rd Aug. 98	To give performances
	*TG: Travel Grant			
48.	Australia *	Shri T.V. Gopalkrishnan, (Percussion Ensemble) X 6, Chennai	14-24th August, 98	To give performances

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49.	USA *	Ms. Prabha Atre, (Hindustani Vocal) X 3, Mumbai	14th Aug. 30th Nov. 98	To give performances
50.	Sri Lanka*	20 Member Bomaby Chamber Orchestra	15th Aug. 98	To present Joint Concert with Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka
51.	Iraq Syria Turkey Azerbaijan *TG: Travel Grant	"Rangala" (Bhangra and Giddha) X 12 Ludhiana, Punjab	26th Aug, to 12th Sept. 98	To participate in Babylon International Festival in Iraq, Basrah Festival in Syria and Izmir Folk Dance Festival in Turkey
52.	USA *	Smt. Pushpa Bhuyan (Sattriya Dance) X 4, Guwahati	29th July to 29th Aug. 98	To give performances at The invitation of the Indian-Forum Utah (IFU), Salt Lake. The proposal was originally approved by the former President, ICCR. Visit could not take place earlier due to illness of Ms. Bhuyan
53.	Australia Indonesia Malaysia Hong Kong Japan Singapore South Korea	Ms. Swapana Sundari (Kuchipudi) X 5 New Delhi	7th August, 98 to 13th Sept. 98	To give performances
54.	Nigeria Ivory Coast Cameroon Spain, France Germany	Ms. Aruna Mohanty (Odissi) X 5 Bhubaneswar	7th Sept. to 15th October 98	To give performances
55.	Nigeria Ivory Coast Cameroon Spain France * TG: Travel Grant	Shri M.N. Rao (Sitar) X 3, Bangalore	7th-30th Sept. 98	To give performances
56.	Poland Czech Republic	Ms. Vasudhara Doraswamy (Bharatanatyam) X 5, Bangalore	9-14 Sept. 1998	To give cultural performances

1	2	3	4	5
57-59.	USA	* Shri Ulhas Kalshalkar (Vocal) Shri Partha Sarthy (Sarod) Shri Shubhendra Rao (Sitar)	15th Sept. to 1st Nov. 98	Request from Dr. B.N. Dixit for Indian Music Concerts arranged by Performing Arts of India
60.	USA *	Shri K.J. Yesudas & Smt. Sudha Raghunathan, (Camatic Vocal) X 7 Chennai	16th Sept. to 30th Sept. 98	To give performances at the Invitation of Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, USA
61.	UK, France * Austria	Smt. Shanno Khurana (Hindustani Vocal) X 5 New Delhi	22nd Sept. to 20th Oct. 98	To Give performances
	*TG: Travel Grant			
62.	Malaysia	Ms. Gurmeet Bawa (Bhangra & Gidda Group) X 18	11-29 Sept. 98	To give performances during Commonwealth Games
63.	France	Prof. Gora Sarbadhakary, (Rabindra Sangeet) Vishwabharti Calcutta	28th Sept. to 7th Oct. 98	To give performances
64-65.	Russia *	Pt. Laxman Krishna Rao Pandit, (Hindustani Vocal) X 2, New Delhi Shri Sunil Mukherjee (Sarod), New Delhi	29th Sept. to 6th Oct. 98	To give Lecture Demonstration and performances
66-67.	Turkey Kuwait Qatar Oman, UAE	Ms. Vijalakshmi (Mohiniattam) X 6 Ms. Vandana Kaul (Kathak) X 5	2-21st Oct. 98	To give performances
68.	Mexico Venezuela Argentina Cuba	Shri Astad Deboo (Contemporary Dance) X 8, Mumbai	9-27th Oct. 98	To participate in Cervantino Festival, Mexico and Chain Tour of the Region

1	2	3	4	5
69.	Netherlands UK Germany Denmark * TC: Travel	Ms. Mahima Casewa (Light Classical) X 4 New Delhi Grant	9-21st Oct. 98	To give performances
70.	Germany UK Sweden	Yakshagana Group of Late Shri Shiva Ram Karanti X 14, Karnataka	16th Oct. to 26th Nov. 98	To give performances at the Invitation of Indo German Societies
71.	Austria France	* Shri Sanjoy Bandopadhyay (Sitar) X 3 Khairagarh, MP	23rd Oct. to 20th Nov. 98	To give performances at the request of Austria- India Association
72.	France UK	* Ms. Sulochana Brahapati (Hindustani Vocal) X 5 New Delhi	23rd Oct. 30th Nov. 98	To give performances
73.	Belgium Denmark France Germany	* Ms. Shobhna Rao (Light Classical) X 5	23rd Oct. to 20th Nov. 98	To give performances
74.	France Germany Belgium *TG : Travel Grant	* Shri M.V. Narashimhachari (Bharatnatyam) X 3 Chennai	30th Oct. to 15th Dec. 98	To give performances at the Invitation of 'Triveni'.
75.	Philippines	5 Air tickets to Paranjoti Academy Chorous Group, Mumbai	8-15th Nov. 98	To participate in the International Chorus Festival
76.	Sri Lanka	Ms. Jyoti Srivastava, Odissi Dancer X 5 New Delhi	12-19th Nov. 98	To give performances in the Dance Festival and give Lecture Demonstration
77.	France	Ustad Imrat Khan (Sitar) X 2 St. Louis, USA	15-18th Nov. 98	To give performances in Connection with the Unesco Madanjeet Singh Prize
78.	France Netherlands Croatia	Ms. Geetanjali Lal (Kathak) X 5 New Delhi	19-30th Nov. 98	To give performances at the Invitation of 'Mandapa' in Paris

1	2	3	4	5
79.	Canada	* Shri Mazhar Ali Khan/Javad Ali Khan (Vocal) X 3	8-20 Dec., 98	To give performances at the Invitation of Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan Music Academy of Toronto
	*TG: Travel Grant			
80.	Thailand	Kargam Group X 20 (Folk Dance Group), Tamil Nadu	7-13th Dec. 98	To give performances on the occasion of the Asian Games
81-82.	Sri Lanka	* Ms. Rama Vaidyanathan (Bharatnatyam) X 4 New Delhi * Ms. Charumati Ramachandran (Carnatic Vocal)	10-22 Dec. 1998	To give LEC Demonstration conduct workshop and give performances
83.	Thailand	Ms. Rina Jana (Odissi) X 5, Bhubaneswar	13-25 Jan. 99	To give performances and Lecture Demonstration
	TG: Travel Grant			
84.	South Africa Zimbabwe Mozambique Zambia Botswana	Ustad Aslam Sabri (Qawwali) X 6, New Delhi	20th Jan-23rd Feb. 99	To give performances
85.	UAE Oman Qatar	Samanvay Folk Dance Group from Gujarat X 18	21st Jan-11th Feb. 1999	To give performances
86.	Malaysia Singapore Indonesia	Ms. Madhavi Mudgal (Odissi) X 7 New Delhi	24th Jan.-12th Feb. 99	To give performances and Lecture Demonstration/Interaction with Dancers and Visit Dance Institutions
87-88.	Germany Bosnia Denmark Italy	Ms. Deepti Omcherry Bhalla (Mohiniattam) X 5 and Ustad Allauddin Khan (Sraj Player) X 3	25th Jan-22nd Feb. 1999	To give performances

1	2	3	4	5
89.	South Africa Zambia Botswana	Smt. Mani Krishnaswami (Carnatic Vocal) X 6, Chennai	27 Jan- 20th Feb. 99	To give performances
90.	Sri Lanka * TG: Travel Grant	Ms. Rekha Surya (Light Classical) X 5, New Delhi	6-13th Feb. 1999	To give performances
91- 92.	Nepal	Ms. Pratibha Prahlad (Bharatanatyam) X 6, Bangalore Ms. Alarmel Valli (Bharatnatyam) X 6, Chennai	3-7th Feb. 1999 14-17th Feb 1999	To give performances
93.	Bangladesh	Ms. Ranjaboti Sircar (Contemporary Dance) X 5, Chennai	16-19 Feb. 1999	To give performances
94.	Sweden Netherlands Poland Belgium Germany	Ms. Shovana Narayan (Kathak) X 5 New Delhi	17th Feb- 7th March 1999	To give performances, Lecture Demonstration and Conduct workshops
95.	Australia	* Theatre Group of Ms. Neelam Mansingh Choudhary X 21, Chandigarh	20th Feb. 99 to 12th March 99	To participate in the Festival of Perth and Canberra Multicultural Festival in Canberra
96- 101	Bangladesh	Shri Ratan Thiyam (Theatre) X 30, Imphal Ms. Padma Talwalkar (Vocal) X 3 Mumbai	7-12th March 1999 9-12th March 1999	To give performances during the "India Trade Exhibition" organised by ITPO in Association with HCI, Dhaka
	*TG : Travel Grant			

Statement II*Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Outgoing Cultural Delegations 1996-97**Groups Sponsored Abroad from North-East Region*

S.No.	Country	Name of the Group	Period	Particulars of Visit
1.	Singapore	Mask Dance Group X 12, Gangtok	26-30 May, 1996	To give performance at inauguration of Singapore Arts Festival
2.	Sri-Lanka	12-Member Pung Cholam and Dhol Cholam Group, Imphal	14-18 August, 1996	To perform in the "SAARC Drumming and Dance Festival".
3.	Russia	BIHU-12, Guwahati	16-28 September, 1996	To give performances during the "Days of Indian Culture" in Russia.
4.	Vietnam	Pung Cholam (Drums of Manipur) X 6, Imphal	7-17 October, 1996	To participate "Days of Indian Culture" in Vietnam.
5-6.	Bangladesh	Pung and Dhol Cholam X 10, Imphal and Snow, Yak, Lion Dance X 10, Gangtok	18-30 November, 1996	Utsav, The India Festival

Annexure 'B' Continued

*Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Outgoing Cultural Delegations 1997-98**Groups Sponsored Abroad from North-East Region*

S.No.	Country	Name of the Group	Period	Particulars of Visit
1.	Mauritius Reunion Islands	Pung Cholam and Dhol Cholam Group (Jagoi Marup Group) X 9, Imphal	1-14 July, 1997	To give performances on the occasion of "Made in India Show" being organised by Confederation of Indian Industries
2.	Sri-Lanka	Uttar Priyadarshi by Chorus Repertory Theatre of Shri Rattan Thiyam X 28, Imphal	11-19 August, 1997	To give performances
3.	Canada	Travel Grant to Ms. H. Vijayantimala Devi, Manipuri.	12-19 August, 1997	Request from Mission for Presentation of special Multimedia Dance Theatre Production, "Muktinad".
4.	U.K.	Shri Lokendra Arambam Theatre Group X 5, Imphal	7-27 August, 1997	To present A joint Production "Macbeth" with Waterman IC London.
5-6.	South Africa Zambia Lesotho	Vasant Rass & Pung Cholam Group X 15, Imphal	15-30 August, 1997	To give performances
7.	Kazakhstan	Ms. Aimoni Gagoi (Bihu Group) X11, Guwahati	3-9 September, 1997	To participate in the "Days of Indian Culture".

*Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Outgoing Cultural Delegations 1998-99*

Groups Sponsored Abroad from North-East Region

S.No.	Country	Name of the Group	Period	Particulars of Visit
1.	Portugal Denmark Hungary Italy	Pung Cholam & Dhol Cholam X 10, Imphal	July, 1998	To participate in the World Expo '98 and thereafter to tour the Region
2.	Seychelles Reunion Islands South Africa	Hengerabari Asom Kala Kendra, (Bihu Group) X 14, Guwahati	13-23 August, 1998	To give performances.
3.	USA	Smt. Pushpa Bhuyan (Sattriya Dance) X 4, Guwahati	29 July-29 August, 1998	To give performances at The invitation of the Indian-Forum Utah (IFU), Salt Lake. The proposal was originally approved by the Former President, ICCR. Visit could not take place earlier due to illness of Ms. Bhuyan.
4.	Bangladesh	Shri Rattan Thiyam (Theatre) X 30, Imphal	7-12 March, 1999	To give performances during the "India Trade Exhibition" organised by ITPO in Association with HCI, Dhaka.

[Translation]

Standard Keyboard of Typewriters

2064. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian languages are lagging behind in the field of internet and e-Mail due to non-availability of their standard key-board in typewriters;

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

(c) the number of Indian languages for which standard key-board have been finalised and the number of languages which are under consideration for finalisation; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to finalise standard keyboard of all Indian languages?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The key-board overlay for 10 scripts viz. Devanagari, Assamese, Tamil, Oriya, Kannada, Bengali, Telugu, Malayalam, Gujarati and Punjabi have been standardised as per IS 13194:1991.

Hindi, Marathi, Konkani and Sanskrit are written in Devanagari script. Manipuri is written in Bengali script.

Perso-Arabic languages viz. Urdu, Sindhi and Kashmiri overlay have also been defined in this standard based on GIST technology. These languages also get written in Devanagari script. Sindhi is written in Gujarati Script, as well.

All the 18 officially recognised Indian Languages are represented in this standard.

(d) Does not arise.

Inter-State Water Dispute

2065. SHRI SIS RAM OLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the share of Rajasthan in Yamuna Water is about 1500

cusec for Jhunjhunu, Churu and Rajgarh Tehsils for providing water for irrigation, but this water is being supplied to Uttar Pradesh and Haryana;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide due share of water to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) According to Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Chief Ministers of five co-basin States of Yamuna river on 12.5.1994, the interim seasonal allocation of the annual utilisable water resources of river Yamuna for Rajasthan, pending construction of storages in the upper reaches of Yamuna river, is as under:

Rajasthan	
Period	BCM
March to June	0.086
July to October	0.963
November to February	0.070

The tentative distribution for Rajasthan at Okhla as made by the Upper Yamuna River Board is 288,800,238 cusecs for the period from March to June, July to October and November to February respectively. Rajasthan is not getting their stipulated quantity of water mainly because of siltation of about 200 metre of a portion of Gurgaon canal being maintained by the State of Uttar Pradesh and also due to reduced capacity of Agra Canal. Upper Yamuna River Board suggested Rajasthan to take up the issue with the States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana for expediting the desiltation work.

For utilisation of Yamuna water in Rajasthan, two schemes namely (i) utilization of Yamuna water in Bharatpur and (ii) utilization of Yamuna water in Jhunjhunur have been formulated by the State of Rajasthan. The scheme pertaining to Bharatpur is under examination. For the other scheme pertaining to Jhunjhunur, Project Report is under preparation by Govt. of Haryana whose canal carrier system is to be utilised for supply of water to Jhunjhunur/Churu districts of Rajasthan. On submission of the Project Report by Haryana, Government of Rajasthan shall have to modify their scheme.

[English]

Seed Policy

2066. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new policy on seed development of 1988 has become obsolete with the entry of multinational companies participation in seed business in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to frame a new policy in seed development to protect the interest of indigenous agricultural based companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) to (e) The existing new policy on seed development is to encourage the import of best planting material available any where in the world for increasing the farm productivity, production, farm incomes of Indian farmers and export earnings on the farm surplus. Based on the trials conducted by Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and recommendation of ICAR, bulk quantity of seed is allowed for import for two years only. Within two years the importer should bring the parent material and seed production technology from the foreign companies for production/multiplication of seed within the country, to avoid repetitive import. Hence, the existing New Policy on Seed Development protects the interest of indigenous agricultural based companies, while providing an environment for making available improved seeds and planting material to the Indian farmers.

Subernrekha Irrigation Project

2067. SHRI SALKHAN MURMU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds granted and released by the World Bank for the completion of Subernrekha Multipurpose Irrigation project in Bihar, during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the time by which the project is likely to be completed; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the rehabilitation and resettlement of oustees of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No World Bank assistance has been

received for Subernrekha Multipurpose Irrigation Project in Bihar during the last three years as the project is not under the World Bank assistance.

(b) All irrigation and multipurpose projects are planned and executed by the State Governments from their own allocations of plan funds. The completion of Subernrekha Multipurpose Irrigation Project, thus, depends on the availability of funds and the priority given to it by the Government of Bihar.

(c) The Revised Rehabilitation Policy of Government of Bihar (1990) comprises special feature like grant of Rs. 20,000 for house building to each displaced family and a broad spectrum of economic rehabilitation measures such as provision for employment, replacement of land, vocational training and self employment etc. Besides, 29 resettlement colonies comprising 70 to 90 acres of land each on average have been identified as vantage points within 20-40 Km. of reservoir area. Out of these 11 colonies in Chandil Sector and 4 colonies in Icha are being developed.

U.N. Aid for Troops and Equipments

2068. SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion/negotiation has been held between Indian Government and U.N. authorities regarding payment for troops and equipments contributed by India and various peace-keeping operations in different countries in the world.

(b) if so, the likely amount to be paid by the U.N. authorities to the Indian Government; and

(c) the time by which this amount is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The reimbursement of cost of troops and equipment contributed by India for various peace-keeping operations is under discussion/negotiation with the UN. The UN authorities have so far certified that an amount of US\$ 26.06 million is to be paid to the Government of India. Additional claims are being processed. Majority of claims relate to India's peace-keeping activities in Somalia (UNOSOM). The payment by the UN is released on availability of funds from Member States. Government of India is pressing for early settlement of claims.

Coconut Development Board

2069. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coconut Development Board has formulated a system of registration of coconut growing farmers in major coconut producing States;

(b) if so, whether the Coconut Development Board is likely to formalise and institutional relationship with farmers on the similar terms as that of Tobacco Board;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of coconut growing farmers, State-wise;

(d) whether any direct assistance is likely to be given by the Board to farmers wishing to replace unproductive plantations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) The Coconut Development Board provides assistance to farmers for new planting in the form of incentive subsidy @ Rs. 6,000/- per hectare in 3 instalments. Besides, a compensation of Rs. 200/- per palm for cutting and removal of diseased/senile palm/unproductive palms and Rs. 5/- per seedling for replanting is provided through the State Governments.

Village Level Information Centres

2070. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government envisage a plan for establishment of village level Information Centre (Samadhan Centres) to be executed by NGOs;

(b) if so, the details of the Schemes;

(c) whether Government propose to set up more such centres in the country;

(d) if so, the number of requests received by the Government from NGOs and States for such centres;

(e) the number of such centres established so far State-wise; and

(f) the time by which the remaining requests are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have funded one project on an experimental basis and entrusted to Centre for Ecology and Rural Development (CERD) which is a NGO in Pondicherry. This project is being implemented in Tamil Nadu and the relevant details are given in enclosed Statement.

(c) to (f) Requests for setting up such Centres have been received from States of Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Manipur. However, work at new centres will only be taken up after evaluation of the project being implemented in Tamil Nadu.

Statement

Computer Application for Village Information Network

This pilot project is being implemented at Centre for Ecology and Rural Development (CERD), an NGO in Pondicherry.

This project aims to set up Village Information Centres (Samadhan Kendras) in the Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu to provide information services for 30-40 gram panchayats in two blocks—Mudukalathur and Bogalur. The total cost approved for the project is Rs. 15.48 lakhs for a period of three years. The project is expected to be completed by mid 2001.

One Village Information Centre (VIC) has already been set up at Mudukallathur block in the Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu. The following are some of the software applications developed under this project:

- Software package on Animal Husbandry.
- Software package for installation and maintenance of hand pumps.
- Pest Management for paddy, cotton and groundnut.
- Database generation and maintenance services for field level health intervention programme being co-ordinated by Tamil Nadu Science Forum.

This programme is on in 60 villages. In each village there is data on about 200 families and 200 children and in addition all vital events in the villages like pregnancies, births, death and marriages. The forms for distributing in the villages and for people to request information has been developed and deployed in villages.

Other software packages under development include:

- Educational Opportunities and career counselling.
- Government Banks, Post Offices and LIC schemes with the forms required.
- Monitoring package for Women's Credit Co-operative network.

Demands Made by Forum of SC/ST MPs

2071. SHRI BUTA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether forum of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Members of Parliament in the representations submitted to then Prime Minister on December 17, 1996 September 1, 1997 and July 23, 1998 have demanded posting of adequate number of SCs/STs Officers as Secretary to the Central Government/ equivalent posts under the autonomous statutory subordinate and attached Offices of various Ministries and Departments;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon and results achieved since 1996;

(c) the number of posts of Secretary under the Central Government/autonomous subordinate and statutory organisation and number of SCs/STs Officers working against such post as on January 1, 1996 and January 1, 2000 and their percentage as compared to the total posts;

(d) the nature and composition of the Committee/board which empanels persons for such associating persons belonging to SCs/STs on such Committee/Board; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Parliamentary Forum for SCs/STs had, among other matters, represented that conscious efforts should be mounted to bring suitable individuals belonging to SCs and STs available in the country to important posts including that of Secretary to Government of India in reasonable numbers.

(b) Appointment of Officers belonging to SCs/STs at the level of Secretary or equivalent posts in Government of India essentially depends upon the number of officers belonging to that category who had joined the service over 32 years ago, their willingness for being posted in Delhi and their being spared for Central deputation. Eligible and available officers belonging to the SCs/STs are considered along with others for appointment to posts of Secretary/equivalent posts in Government of India and those found suitable and are available are appointed to such posts.

(c) As on 1.1.96, 108 officers were holding posts of Secretary/equivalent in Government of India. Number of SC/ST officers who were holding such posts as on that date is not available.

As on 1.1.2000, 153 officers were holding posts of Secretary/equivalent in the Government of India. Out of those, 92 were IAS officers and out of them, 4 belonged to the SC/ST category.

IAS officers belonging to 1963 to 1966 batches have been empanelled and appointed to posts of Secretary/equivalent in Government of India from 1995 till date. One SC/ST officer each of 1963, 1964 and 1965 batches and three of 1966 batch of the IAS were empanelled and appointed to Secretary or Secretary equivalent posts on Central Deputation.

(d) and (e) Officers belonging to the IAS and other Central Services Group 'A' are empanelled for holding the posts of Secretary or Secretary equivalent in the Government of India, with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), on the recommendation of a Special Committee of Secretaries

which consists of the Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Home Secretary and Secretary (Personnel). All these members of the Committee are ex-officio.

Linking of Scholarships to Price Index

2072. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of scholarship presently has been linked to the price index changes;

(b) whether Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebration Committee had recommended to link the amount of pre-matric and post-matric scholarships to the price index;

(c) if so, action taken by the Government to implement the same; and

(d) the details of the amount of pre-matric and post-matric scholarship being provided to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes?

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

(b) Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebration Subcommittee on Education, in their report, recommended that the amount of scholarship under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, should be linked with the "cost of living index".

(c) The States/UTs were addressed seeking their suggestions for the modification of the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Consultations with States/UTs are necessary as they have to bear the committed liability (except in case of North Eastern States) from their own resources. The comments received from several States do not favour linking of maintenance allowance rates with consumer price index under the Scheme.

(d) The details are given in the Statement attached.

Statement**Rates of Maintenance Allowance (Subject-wise) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for SC & ST Students**

Course of Study	Rate of Maintenance Allowance (Rs. per Month)	
	Hostlers	Day-Scholars
Group A	425	190
Medical/Engineering including Degree level courses in Indian Medicine, B.A.M.&S. and comparable courses in Ayurvedic, Unani/Tibia and Homeopathic System of Medicine. B.Sc. (Agriculture/B.V.Sc./B.F.Sc. (Fisheries) Higher Technical and all professional studies like Degree and Post-graduate courses in Agricultural and Veterinary Science.		
Group B	290	190
Diploma level courses in Indian Medicine and comparable Courses in Ayurvedic, Unani/Tibia and Homeopathic System of medicine. Diploma and comparable courses in Engineering, technology, architecture, medicine, diploma level courses in printing technology and courses for overseer draftsman, Surveyor. Commercial Pilot License, Diploma and higher courses in Hotel Management, catering technology and applied Nutrition. Degree and post-graduate course in nursing and pharmacy. Wireless and television operators/sound recording and sound engineering motion picture, photography, film direction/ Acting/screenplay/writing. Degree/post-graduate diploma courses in Business Management, Chartered and Cost/Works Accountancy. Post-graduate courses in science subjects.		
Group C	290	190
Certificate course in Engineering/Technology Architecture and Medicine. Diploma and Certificate courses in Agriculture, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Fisheries, Dairy Development, Hygiene and Public Health, Sanitary Inspector's Course, Courses for Rural Services, Cooperation and Community Development, Sub-Officer's Course at the National Fire Service College, Nagpur, Library Science. Degree/Post-graduate Diploma and Post Graduate courses in Teachers Training, Library Science and Physical Education, Music, Fine Arts and Law, Craft Instructor's Training Course, Certificate Course in Hotel Management/ Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition. Passenger Transport Management, Associate Degree in Pharmacy. Post-graduate courses in Arts and Commerce Subjects.		
Group D	230	120
General courses upto Graduate level (2nd year and onward)		
Group E	150	90
Class XI and XII in 10+2 system, Intermediate courses and first year of general courses upto Graduate level		

Rates of Scholarship Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to Children of those engaged in unclean occupations

Hostelers

Class	Rate (Rs. per month for 10 months)
III-VIII	200
IX-X	250

Day Scholars

Class	Rate (Rs. per month for 10 months)
I-V	25
VI-VIII	40
IX-X	50

Annual adhoc grant of Rs. 500 per student is also admissible to hostelers as well as day scholars.

Markandeya Irrigation Project

2073. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Karnataka to set-up Markandeya Irrigation project in the State;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

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

(b) and (c) The clearance of the scheme is linked with the promptness with which the State authorities comply with the observations made by Central Appraising Agencies.

Commission on Natural Disasters

2074. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Disaster Mitigations Institute has suggested the setting up of a National Commission on natural disasters and emergencies;

(b) if so, details of the suggestion including the objectives and the functions of the Commission and alongwith any other natural disasters; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad had suggested constitution of a National Commission on Natural Disasters and Emergencies with focused terms of reference to completely revamp the relief, rehabilitation, recovery and mitigation administration and structures to match the challenge ahead. There is at present no proposal with the Government to set up such a Commission on natural disasters and emergencies.

[Translation]

Impact of Use of Internet

2075. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the usage of internet by various organisations;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the gap between the developed and developing countries is likely to increase in use of internet; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information available from the Website of Pricewaterhouse Coopers; World Economic Forum and Pricewaterhouse Coopers have surveyed a total of 1020 CEOs in North America, Asia, Europe and Latin America. The findings of this survey which were released during World Economic Forum 2000 meeting in Davos are as follows:

(1) 50% of the Global CEOs believe the Internet will widen the gap between developed and developing nations.

(2) 38% of the CEOs are of the opposing view.

(3) 90% of the CEOs surveyed believe that the continued growth of internet commerce depends

on global standards being developed for privacy protection, security, authentication and dispute resolution. The enthusiasm for global standards was most marked in Asia and Europe.

- (4) CEOs around the world are generally bullish about their companies growth prospects over the next three years with 27% describing themselves as "Extremely optimistic" and 64% as "somewhat optimistic".
- (5) The CEOs are evenly divided in their opinions, 42% on each side, as to whether their governments have done "a great deal" and a "a fair amount" or contributed only "to some extent". Asian 54% and North American 48% are the largest regional groups pointing to considerable activity on the part of their Government, with European and Latin American CEOs viewing their Governments as less active. Clearly Asian and North American Governments are perceived as more active.

(c) and (d) There are divergent views on this subject. However, the use of internet would benefit both developing and developed countries. Developing countries can implement the socio-economic developmental activities at a faster pace and more efficiently.

[English]

Underground Water

2076. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Board provides technical assistance to States for identifying and utilisation of ground water;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted by the Central Ground Water Board of digging some tube wells in several areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the future action plan of the Union Government to provide sufficient water for irrigation purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Central Ground Water Board provides technical assistance to the State Governments for identifying and utilisation of ground water sources through its normal programme of scientific

exploration of ground water. The criteria for selection of locations for drilling of bore holes by the Central Ground Water Board include the need for ascertaining the availability, quality and quantity of ground water, requests of the State Governments for ground water development, results of remote sensing, geo-physical surveys and hydrogeological mapping. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, the Board has drilled 1699 wells as on 31.3.99 out of which 336 exploratory wells have already been handed over to the State Government.

The drilling of bore holes is a continuous process and is undertaken by the Central Ground Water Board under its normal programme of work on annual basis in different parts of the country.

[Translation]

Role of Information Technology for Upliftment of SCs, STs and OBCs

2077. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes are being undertaken by the Government to raise the standard of living of the people living in backward, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes areas of Madhya Pradesh through information technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are given in enclosed Statement.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Employment Generation Training Scheme (EGTS) applicable to entire country provides for training SC/ST/OBCs in Information Technology. This scheme has two components as below:

- (1) Equipment and Faculty assistance.
- (2) Fee reimbursement assistance

Both Government and non-Government organisation are involved in the implementation of this scheme.

Government support is currently provided to Participating Institution (PI) for conducting four courses as below:

- (1) Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC) 'O' and 'A' level.
- (2) Repair and Maintenance of Consumer Electronics Equipment including Telephone Subscriber Equipment.
- (3) Repair and Maintenance of Personal Computer Hardware.
- (4) Professional/skill development short term courses.

Equipments and Faculty Assistant (E&FA)

Ministry of Information Technology will provide a non-recurring grant for equipping a "Centre" through the procurement of computer systems, furniture, licenced software, Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS), air-conditioners and library books etc. The cost break up is as below:

DOEACC 'O' Level	(Rs. in lakhs)
Pentium computer system 10 Nos.	5.00
Computer furniture	1.50
UPS plus air-conditioner	1.00
Licenced Software	1.50
Library books etc.	1.00
Total	10.00
<hr/>	
DOEACC 'A' level	
Pentium Computer System 10 Nos.	7.00
Computer furniture	1.50
Uninterrupted Power Supply plus air-conditioner	2.00
Licenced software	2.50
Books & Journal	1.50
Teaching aids	1.50
Total	16.00

[English]

Central Secretariat Service

2078. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have promoted Section Officers and Under Secretaries of Central Secretariat Services to the next higher grade under in-situ schemes during 1998-99;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering on the same analogy to promote assistants of CSS to their next higher grade;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, the time is likely to be taken in said promotions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Owing to protracted litigation in CAT and Supreme Court on inter-se seniority of Section Officers, panels of CSS officers for promotion to Under Secretary (US) and Deputy Secretary (DS) levels could not be finalised after 1986 for US and after 1993 for DS. This resulted in acute stagnation in the grades of Section Officers/Under of CSS officers for promotion to Under Secretary (US) and Deputy Secretaries. Following Supreme Court's directions dated May 9, 1997, a Common Seniority List of Section Officers was notified on 3.12.1997. Subsequently, orders were issued in September, 1998 and August, 1999 to upgrade 'temporarily' a specified number of posts from the grades of Section Officers/Under Secretaries to that of Under Secretaries/Deputy Secretaries for giving promotion on personal/in-situ basis to the eligible officers.

For the Assistants, however, panels for promotion to the grade of Section Officer, have regularly been finalised on annual basis. Meanwhile, Career Progression Scheme (ACP) had been introduced for Groups 'B', 'C' and 'D' employees in August, 1999. Assistants (Group 'B') thus stand on a different footing. The case of Assistants for in-situ promotion on the analogy of the aforesaid orders issued in 1998 and 1999, does not hold.

*[Translation]***Canalisation of Swan River**

2079. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether concerned departments of Himachal Pradesh State Government have sent satisfactory replies to the Union Government with regard to canalization of Swan river and its 73 distributories in Una district of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether clearance has been given for canalization by various Central Ministries;

(c) if so, whether Union Government propose to make financial allocation in the ensuring budget in this regard;

(d) if so, the amount proposed to be allocated; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Swan River Flood Management and Integrated Development Phase I, Flood Control Project of Himachal Pradesh was considered and accepted by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects of the Ministry of Water Resources at its 72nd Meeting held on 18.1.2000, subject to clearance by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the concurrence of the State Finance Department. The State Government has informed on 3.3.2000 that the State Finance Department has concurred in the project. Therefore, the Project would qualify for consideration of investment clearance after the State Government obtains and conveys to the Planning Commission the clearance to this project from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(c) to (e) As per the Constitution, the irrigation and flood control is a State subject and the responsibility of planning, funding, execution and maintenance of all types of such projects primarily lies with the State Government. As such, the funding for this project also is to be arranged by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh.

*[English]***Cyber Laws for Protection of Indian Industry**

2080. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to frame appropriate cyber laws to provide adequate protection to industrial and technological advancements in the wake of techno-economic liberalization to ensure that incoming trade enterprises do not set their undue market dominance at the cost of our technology and industry and to keep pace with technological advances;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the present status of the measures under consideration in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Government have introduced the Information Technology Bill, 1999 in the Lok Sabha on December 16, 1999 to provide legal recognition for transactions carried out by means of electronic data interchange and other means of electronic communication, commonly referred to as electronic commerce.

Nuclear Weapons Capability

2081. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is further developing its nuclear weapons capabilities and matching warheads to missiles posing a challenge and threat to India and also threat to peace in South Asia;

(b) if so, whether US Government is aware about all these facts;

(c) if so, whether India is also developing the same in view of the Pakistan's decision to further improve nuclear weapons capabilities; and

(d) if so, the extent to which India propose to further develop its nuclear weapons capability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. It is assessed that efforts by Pakistan to enhance

its nuclear capabilities, including in the areas of fissile material production, weaponisation and delivery systems, continue.

(b) Government has in its bilateral dialogues with key countries including the US, conveyed its concerns regarding nuclear and missile proliferation in Pakistan and its adverse impact on India's security.

(c) and (d) Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perception.

Employees State Insurance Scheme

2082. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme in each State during last one year;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps to enhance the benefits under this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) A Statement showing progressive coverage of workers under the ESI Scheme as on 31.3.1999 is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Review/enhancement of benefits under the ESI Scheme is an on-going process. Keeping in view the resources position of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) benefits have been revised from time to time. The Extended Sickness Benefit which was earlier payable for a maximum of 309 days has been extended up to two years. The rate of extended sickness benefit has been enhanced from 62.5% to 70% of the pay. The amount of funeral benefit has been enhanced from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1500/-. The contributory conditions for entitlement to sickness benefit has been reduced from 91 days to 78 days and for maternity benefit from 80 days to 70 days. It has been decided to exempt the employees in receipt of wages up to Rs. 40/- per day from payment of their share of contribution under the ESIS. The ceiling on expenditure on medical care has been enhanced from Rs. 500/- per insured persons per annum to Rs. 600/- per insured person per annum with effect from 1.4.1999. In order to ensure easy availability of super-speciality services through reputed Institutions, tie-up arrangements have been made and a revolving fund has been constituted to grant advances for the beneficiaries (Insured Persons).

Statement

Number of Insured Persons covered under the ESI Scheme as on 31.03.99

Sl.No.	Name of the State/Region	No. of Insured Persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh & Yanum	5,23,800
2.	Assam & Meghalaya	41,000
3.	Bihar	1,90,800
4.	Chandigarh	29,500
5.	Delhi	5,78,350
6.	Goa	77,050
7.	Gujarat	6,15,100
8.	Haryana	3,97,450
9.	Himachal Pradesh	51,600
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	20,150
11.	Karnataka	6,01,200
12.	Hubli Area	1,02,350
13.	Kerala & Mahe	4,27,300
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2,56,500
15.	Maharashtra	
	(i) Mumbai Area	9,72,900
	(ii) Nagpur Area	1,25,000
	(iii) Pune Area	4,06,550
16.	Orissa	1,44,350
17.	Pondicherry	41,250
18.	Punjab	4,15,100
19.	Rajasthan	3,06,250
20.	Tamil Nadu	
	(i) Chennai Area	6,42,300
	(ii) Coimbatore Area	2,50,050
	(iii) Madurai Area	2,39,000
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5,44,500
22.	West Bengal	8,19,650
	All India	88,19,050

Closing of Indo-Nepal Border

2083. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal Government has rejected the suggestions of Indian Government that its border with India will be closed and border crossing be permitted with passports in view of the Indian Airlines plane hijacking from Kathmandu;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made by the Indian Government in this regard and the reasons why these suggestions have been rejected by the Nepal Government;

(c) whether the Pakistani ISI agents are taking advantage of the existing opportunities and are using this border for terrorists activities;

(d) if so, whether both Nepal and India have discussed this matter thoroughly and have decided to work jointly to check the ISI activities which are creating trouble in India; and

(e) if so, the extent to which Nepal has taken steps to check the activities of ISI and other terrorist organisations using Nepal as a base for anti-Indian operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) At the third meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group on Border Management held in Kathmandu from February 1—3, 2000, the two sides discussed the possibility of introducing a passport system, without the requirement of visa, for the purpose of identification of nationality of Indian and Nepalese citizens travelling by air between the two countries. Till such time that the modalities for the operationalisation of this system are firmed up, it was agreed to scrutinise and reduce the types of photo-identification documents that would be valid for air travel and notify each other of the revised list of such documents.

(c) to (e) The Government of India have discussed from time to time with the Government of Nepal our concerns about the ISI misusing the Nepalese territory and the open India-Nepal border for activities inimical to India's interest. Reports received by the Government indicate increasing evidence of ISI using Nepal as a staging post for terrorist activities directed against India. The Nepalese Government have been sensitised on this issue.

Measures have been taken to enhance cooperation with Nepal, particularly with regard to implementing effective border management. The concerned agencies of the two Governments remain in regular touch to coordinate efforts to tackle this problem. There are also bilateral institutional mechanisms, such as the Joint Working Group on Border Management and Home Secretary level talks, which have been evolved to specifically develop cooperation on security matters and to address these concerns. In pursuance of the decisions taken in these meetings, both sides have agreed to jointly coordinate measures to prevent misuse of the open India-Nepal border for activities directed against India. On their part, the Government of Nepal have assured that their territory would not be used for activities inimical to India's interest and have been extending their cooperation to the Government of India in this regard.

Uranium Reserves

2084. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of uranium reserve in the country at present;

(b) whether uranium is being used in industries, other than Atomic Power Plants; and

(c) if so, the quantum of uranium used in such industries as well as in the Atomic Power Plants, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research of the Department of Atomic Energy has identified the existence of uranium resources, of varying grades and quantities, at several locations in the States of Bihar, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka. The established deposits at Jaduguda, Bhatin and Narwapahar in the East Singhbhum District of Bihar are currently being mined. The deposits at other locations are in different stages of estimation, with reference to the relevant parameters of techno-economic feasibility of actual exploitation. The total uranium resources thus estimated are 92,000 metric tonnes approximately of uranium oxide (U₃O₈)

(b) Very small quantities of uranium have been used in industries other than nuclear power.

(c) It is not in the public interest to disclose information on the quantum of uranium used in the nuclear power reactors in the country.

Grant-in-Aid for Various Schemes

2085. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
SHRI P. MOHAN:

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

(a) the details of schemes of Grant-in-aid available for various categories of social organisations and physically handicapped welfare organisation;

(b) the total allocation for these schemes and guidelines thereof;

(c) the normal time taken for release of Grant-in-Aid under these schemes;

(d) the number of proposals received from NGOs and Government agencies during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the details of such proposals approved amount sanctioned together with the reasons for non-approval of proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The schemes of Grant-in-aid available for various categories of social organizations and physically handicapped welfare organizations are indicated below:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Scheme	Budget Allocation
1. Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities	62.29
2. Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids/Appliances	30.00
3. Prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drugs) Abuse	19.00
4. Grant-in-aid Programme for Assistance in the field of Social Defence	1.01
5. Integrated Programme for Older Persons	10.00
6. Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organizations/ Self Help Group for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons	2.39
7. Integrated Programme for Street Children	9.00
8. Grant-in-aid Voluntary Organizations Working for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes	30.00
9. Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations Working for the Other Backward classes	2.50
10. Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for the Other backward Classes	2.50
11. Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for Weaker Sections based on Economic Criteria.	2.50

The grants to the organizations are sanctioned on the basis of norms of Schemes. The broad criteria for giving grant-in-aid under the scheme are:

Recommendation along with inspection report of the State Government concerned, Financial position of organization, Credibility of the Organisation, Viability of the project and Location of the project.

(c) There is no specified time for sanctioning of projects. The time taken for disposal of application

depends upon the receipt of complete documents and recommendation from the organizations and the appropriate authorities.

(d) and (e) A Statement is attached.

Regarding reasons for non-approval of proposals, the Ministry reserves the right to reject cases on grounds of incomplete documents, non-viability of the project, over clustering of projects, lack of experience in the proposed field of action and unsound financial position.

Statement

Name of State/UT	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	200	912.63	214	960.34	390	1520.66
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	2	6.22	3	9.28	2	3.71
Assam	12	44.16	10	20.30	29	107.40
Bihar	56	238.01	51	263.66	59	232.05
Chandigarh	3	9.40	1	8.94	12	35.05
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	1	3.21	0	0.00
Delhi	52	368.87	50	458.92	99	1353.76
Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Goa	3	21.91	4	16.87	3	16.00
Gujarat	23	106.57	28	140.60	188	223.07
Himachal Pradesh	4	15.23	2	12.25	4	49.20
Haryana	39	182.67	48	241.51	63	315.39
Jammu & Kashmir	14	78.06	5	15.16	7	43.34
Karnataka	112	434.19	92	448.25	94	579.82
Kerala	65	259.57	58	336.38	74	1041.15
Lakshadweep	0	0.00	4	0.00	0	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	36	113.40	39	120.28	88	285.24
Maharashtra	104	302.44	81	193.23	132	509.42
Manipur	28	155.72	33	123.73	82	314.33
Meghalaya	4	10.08	7	6.50	4	26.24
Mizoram	3	32.82	6	34.27	5	56.27
Nagaland	1	3.41	4	28.31	4	32.05
Orissa	75	209.05	78	295.93	183	781.86
Pondicherry	3	5.31	2	10.82	4	20.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Punjab	29	147.77	25	121.62	46	288.97
Rajasthan	26	168.15	20	249.97	39	474.95
Sikkim	1	1.20	1	2.06	1	1.73
Tamil Nadu	107	325.53	85	348.38	113	450.96
Tripura	6	18.25	9	28.58	9	42.65
Uttar Pradesh	258	729.77	262	802.83	338	1724.79
West Bengal	128	613.36	128	599.37	167	869.19

Employees State Insurance Corporation

2086. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons insured under Employees State Insurance Corporation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is a proposal to expand the existing medical facilities in this State under ESIC; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) As on 31.3.99 there were 5,23,800 employees covered under the ESI Scheme in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) During 1999-2000, two new ESI hospitals i.e. one each at Tirupathi and Nizamabad have started functioning. The Corporation has also sanctioned one new dispensary for Srikakulam district and another new dispensary in Prakasam district. In order to upgrade facilities in ESI hospitals/dispensaries in Andhra Pradesh, necessary sanctions have been issued for equipments like ultrasound, Semi-Auto analyser, Pulse Oxymeter, Cardiac Monitor and dental units. A revolving fund of Rs. 240/- Lakhs has been provided with Regional Director, ESIC, Hyderabad to sanction advance payments to insured persons needing Super-Specialised and Specialised treatment.

[Translation]

Atomic Policy

2087. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Atomic policy after Pokhran nuclear tests;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Government's nuclear policy has been clearly enunciated following the May 1998 tests. Detailed statements have been made in Parliament from 27 May 1998 onwards by the Prime Minister in this connection. Our nuclear policy has been marked by restraint and openness. India has not violated any international agreements either in 1974 when we first demonstrated our capability or in 1998. The series of tests undertaken by India in May 1998 was intended to respond to our deteriorating security environment and conducted in the supreme national interest. Subsequent to the tests, which have provided an adequate scientific data base for designing the types of devices needed by us for a credible minimum nuclear deterrent. Government has declared a voluntary moratorium on further nuclear test explosions. The priority of our meeting the country's national security concerns having been addressed, the Government desires to develop a national consensus on our position *vis-a-vis* on the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

[English]

Traditional Crop Pattern

2088. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to sudden changes in traditional cropping patterns, barley crop is being replaced with wheat and mustered;

(b) whether there is a decline in the per hectare productions of barley crop since 1997;

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

(d) whether any study has been conducted about the continued reduction in the area under the barley crop;

(e) if so, the details of the outcome thereof; and

(f) the corrective steps taken/proposed by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The area under barley is on declining trend due to shifting of its area to more remunerative crops like oilseeds, wheat etc.

(b) and (c) The productivity of barley in major States during 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given in the enclosed Statement. It may be seen that except Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, the productivity in other States has either increased or remained constant during these two years. The reasons for lower productivity in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have been unfavourable weather conditions.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Questions do not arise.

Statement

Productivity of Barley in Major States During 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Productivity in Kg per hectare)

State	1997-98	1998-99
Haryana	2800	2778
Himachal Pradesh	1312	1495
Madhya Pradesh	1210	1143
Punjab	3000	3226
Rajasthan	1911	1976
Uttar Pradesh	2215	2019

Administrative Cost

2089. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an alarming level of administrative cost in eight North-Eastern States has stalled development activities; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to bail out these States with special assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) It is a fact that there has been a dramatic rise in the level of administrative cost (non-plan expenditure) in the eight North-Eastern States. While this has certainly entailed diversion of funds which would otherwise have been available for development, its ill-effects have been mitigated by the following measures taken by the Government:

- (i) Diversion to the extent of 20% of the Normal Central Assistance (Plan) is allowed for Non-Plan purposes.
- (ii) 30% of Normal Central Assistance is ear-marked for Special Category States which include N.E. States.
- (iii) 90% of Plan assistance is grant and 10% loan as against 30% grant and 70% loan for other States.
- (iv) State contribution of 15%, which is mandatory for the Basic Minimum Services schemes, is not applicable to N.E. States.
- (v) 10% of Plan provision of the Central Ministries/ Departments has been ear-marked for development of N.E. States.
- (vi) Over and above the State Plan outlays which have been increasing over the years, funds are also being sanctioned out of the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources created through transfer of unspent balance of the ear-marked outlays of the Central Ministries and Departments, meant for development of the N.E. States.

- (vii) Special dispensation has been made in respect of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) by incorporating minor irrigation projects for the North-Eastern States and allowing 25% of the State's share, as against 33% for others, in availing of Central Loan Assistance.

Water Availability in Delhi

2090. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI BASANGOUDA R. (YATNAL) PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Advisor Irrigation and Command Area Development of Planning Commission has suggested several measures for improving water availability in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Delhi Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Internal Meeting of the Planning Commission held on 23.9.95 under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, the note bringing out various aspects alongwith future strategies in regard to water supply for domestic purposes for the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi was discussed. After discussions in the above meeting, the Note was sent in December, 1995 to the Government of NCT of Delhi with the request to take further action as deemed necessary by them. The action points suggested as a part of the demand management of the water supply problems are given in Statement-I attached.

(c) The Action Taken Report sent by Delhi Jal Board is given in Statement II attached.

Statement I

Water Availability in Delhi

In the note sent to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in Dec. 1995, the following action points were suggested:

- (i) A vigorous and extensive mass information campaign through airing Radio and Television spots should be taken up to enhance public awareness about city's water plight and to let people know how they can conserve water. More important objective of such campaign should be to convince people at their sub-conscious level to conserve the water through judicious use and avoid its wasteful use.
- (ii) Distribution network of water supply in Delhi needs to be rehabilitated/modernized to reduce the losses to a level of maximum 15% as well as to even the present sharp variations in water availability in different zones/areas. The investment for such modernization is obviously a higher priority than the one envisaged for new projects/schemes.
- (iii) For quite some time, the auto-closing cast-iron taps are available for use at public places which allow supply of water only upon pressing. The installation of such taps as public taps in Delhi can save a lot of water which otherwise is being wasted. Deterrent action for tampering such taps could be initially warning to the residents of the locality followed by dis-connection till they mend their ways.
- (iv) It is not uncommon to see in Delhi that treated water supply is being used for gardening purposes and that too, in lavish style. These days of modern technology, the 'xeriscape landscaping' is too known. Xeriscape designs draw on a wide variety of attractive, indigenous and drought tolerant plants, shrubs and ground cover to replace the thirsty green lawns found in most cities. Xeriscape yard typically needs 30—80% less water than a conventional one and also can reduce fertilizer and herbicide as well.
- (v) Restructuring of water pricing is needed in as much as only about one-tenth of 1% of the annual expenditure of an average family is spent on water. In fact, the water pricing structure should have adequate built-in financial deterrent measures so that consumers remain within the allotted quotas (which needs to be decided) and thereby to avoid over-use of water, particularly, treated water.
- (vi) Commercial establishments, particularly, big hotels, automobile service stations etc., could

be compelled to meet their most of the water demands for various uses other than drinking and cooking from the treated/recycled water or they can have their own source of water. (Israel treats about 70% of its total sewage and re-uses it to irrigate 19000 ha. of agricultural land. As in 1988, Israel was re-using water to the extent of 5%—110 million cu. m. — of its total available water supply which was 2020 million cu. m. and now they have planned to increase the re-use to the extent of 325 million cu. m. against total water demand of 2090 million cu.m. by the year 2000).

- (vii) A strong surveillance is needed against unauthorized installation of booster pumps by users themselves as well as use of treated water for non-drinking purposes like gardening etc.
- (viii) Existing building bye-laws need to be suitably amended to encourage the construction of underground cisterns for collection of rain water during monsoon for domestic uses later on as a part of residential buildings. The construction of such under-ground water cisterns as a part of building was traditionally known (as "tanka") to the people in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan for long time. This concept needs to be revived and made popular in present context.
- (ix) For the flushing system in the private/public buildings, the use of 12 litre capacity flushing system for toilets may be reduced to about 6 litres capacity model. For example in Mexico city more than 3,50,000 toilets in public places, commercial buildings and private residences were upgraded which saved 28 million cu.m. of water per year enough to meet the household needs of more than 2,50,000 residents.
- (x) Continuous and sharp decline in the ground water table in Delhi area is a matter of concern. To avert this phenomenon, more and more green coverage, by way of afforestation, revival of regional depressions such as Najafgarh Jheel and the old Ganga bed on the Hindon river, north of Ghaziabad as well as old mines and quarries for storage of rain/river water, should be created. Simultaneously, renovation and construction of check dams, contour bunds etc., for rain water harvesting should be taken up. Also there should be regulation of ground water extraction by a legislation. The Ministry of Water Resources had circulated the draft act called

the Ground Water (Control and Regulation) Act in 1970 and later on Model Bill to regulate and control the development of Ground water in September, 1992 to all States and Union Territories. Thus, the basic work for providing a legal framework to regulate the ground water development is already available now.

- (xi) A scheme on the basis of a Master Plan should be taken up to create detention basins on low lying areas for storage of excess flood waters from Yamuna river as well as rain waters for using the same subsequently. Such detention basins will also help for ground water recharge.

Statement II

Water Availability in Delhi

The Action Taken Report sent by the Delhi Jal Board is as follows:

1. Delhi Jal Board has initiated vigorous and extensive mass information campaign through Radio and Television to enhance public awareness about City's water situation and how to conserve water.
2. The Delhi Jal Board has replaced old/rusted/corroded water mains in walled city area in a length of 92KMs. upto January 2000. The Delhi Jal Board has also approved a scheme for replacement of 20.75 KMs. old water lines at an estimated cost of Rs. 362 lakhs. The work on 20 ground reservoirs and booster pumping stations recommended by Tata Consultants has been completed while work on 4 is in progress. DDA has allotted land for 8 ground reservoirs and booster pumping stations in the trans Yamuna Area. Tenders to construct ground reservoir and booster pumping station at one of these sites have been invited, while proposals have been framed for the remaining.
3. Auto Closing, cast Iron Taps were tried in the past but in the absence of deterrent action for tampering with such taps, installation of these taps was stopped.
4. Instructions have been issued to all Government Departments not to use filtered water for gardening.
5. Delhi Jal Board has recently revised the water tariff of different categories viz. commercial & industrial and domestic use, effective from June and July, 1998.

6. Delhi Jal Board is releasing only limited quantity of water for big hotels and commercial establishments, restricted to their drinking water requirements only.
7. Press Release has been issued, time and again, against the use of on-line boosters to caution the public. Between April, 1998 to February, 2000 the Delhi Jal Board served 15109 notices to remove on-line boosters and 4797 boosters were removed from the consumers connections.
8. Building by-laws need to be suitably amended to encourage the construction of underground tanks for collection of rain water during monsoon for domestic uses later on as a part of residential building. DDA and MCD should initiate for such amendments.
9. As regards use of 12 litres capacity cisterns for toilets, we had already requested Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development for suitable amendments in Building By-laws for the use of only small cisterns of 5 to 6 litres in flush. We have also requested her that pending amendments in building by-laws, Director General, CPWD can be advised to use only small size cisterns in flush toilets in public buildings being constructed by them. We have, similarly, requested Principal Secretary (UD), Government of Delhi for similar action for amendment in Building By-laws as well as Engineer-in-Chief, PWD, Delhi Government to use only small sized flush cisterns in public buildings. The Delhi Jal Board had a dialogue with some of the leading manufacturers on sanitary fittings to start manufacturing cisterns of small sizes and cisterns with regulatory mechanism to regulate the release of water as per requirement. While cisterns of small sizes are available, the manufacturers see a limited role for cisterns only. Their contention is that the cistern releasing small quantum of water would not be able to serve the purpose efficiently and that to achieve the desired result, a combination of small size cistern and toilet seats built to their specifications should be utilized.
10. To check sharp decline in ground water table in Delhi, Central Ground Water Authority has

started registration of private borewells in Delhi. Government of Delhi has decided to take up revival of regional depressions in Delhi for rain water harvesting and recharging ground water.

11. Government of Delhi has already decided to create detention basins on low lying areas for storage of excess flood water from Yamuna river as well as rain waters for using subsequently. To give additional storage it was felt that the pondage level should be raised by 1 mtr. with a new barrage across the river Yamuna in Delhi. The matter is under consideration of CWC and their report is yet to be received. Therefore, no final decision has so far been taken.

Food Processing Industries

2091. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing industries in organised and unorganised sectors in the country; State-wise; and

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for setting up these units during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The information regarding the State-wise number of food processing industries, which are both in the organized and unorganized sectors, is not maintained centrally. However, as per Annual Survey of Industries (1997-98), there were 31415 food processing units in the factory sector. State-wise details are given in Statement-I attached.

(b) State-wise details of assistance provided for setting up of food processing units during the period 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (till February) is given in Statement-II attached. This is in addition to assistance provided for Research & Development, Quality Control Facilities, Seminars and workshops and Backward Linkages etc.

Statement I

State-wise details of Food Processing Units in the Factory sector (As per Annual Survey of Industries 1997-98)

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Factories
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11272
2.	Assam	744
3.	Bihar	354
4.	Goa	43
5.	Gujarat	1392
6.	Haryana	640
7.	Himachal Pradesh	65
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	81
9.	Karnataka	1392
10.	Kerala	1274
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1126
12.	Maharashtra	2612

1	2	3
13.	Manipur	9
14.	Nagaland	20
15.	Orissa	371
16.	Punjab	1335
17.	Rajasthan	512
18.	Tamil Nadu	4044
19.	Tripura	47
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2510
21.	West Bengal	1336
22.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4
23.	Chandigarh	35
24.	Daman & Diu	16
25.	Delhi	128
26.	Pondichery	46
27.	States not specified	7
Total		31415

Statement II

State-wise details of financial assistance provided to various food processing units during the last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (upto Feb.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	57.50	20.85	65.65
2.	Assam	4.80	192.00	111.96
3.	Bihar	52.00	—	7.78
4.	Gujarat	25.00	75.00	30.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	113.08	166.15	40.75
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	7.50	7.50
7.	Karnataka	56.75	25.80	—

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Kerala	102.00	100.32	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	50.00	73.00	—
10.	Maharashtra	179.80	146.77	84.65
11.	Manipur	14.43	30.41	46.68
12.	Nagaland	10.05	99.00	5.72
13.	Orissa	16.55	131.90	75.475
14.	Punjab	89.45	48.15	—
15.	Tamil Nadu	99.50	22.43	36.18
16.	Uttar Pradesh	52.75	78.74	82.38
17.	West Bengal	—	205.60	56.56
18.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	7.50	—
19.	Delhi	—	6.00	—
20.	Mizoram	36.87	—	—
21.	Meghalaya	—	—	44.30

Economic Disparity

2092. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Economic disparity among States growing in post-reforms era" appearing in 'Economic Times', dated February 14, 2000;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the gap between the development of various States in the country is widening after the adoption of new policy pertaining to economic reforms; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main thrust of the newspaper report is that while the Indian economy has grown at a rapid pace in the nineties, the gains of prosperity have been distributed unevenly. Prosperous states have prospered further while poor ones have become poorer.

(c) While data regarding State GDPs cannot be wholly relied upon such data as is available precludes us from ruling out the possibility that disparities have widened.

(d) The allocation of financial resources by the centre through the Finance Commission and the Planning Commission benefits the poorer states more than the richer ones. This is one medium that acts as a corrective against widening regional disparities. The backward states should also ensure that there is proper development of social and other infrastructure facilities in their region so that there is incentive for greater private investment to flow into their region.

[*Translation*]

Golden Jubilee Year of Official Language Hindi

2093. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Embassies which are celebrating the Golden Jubilee Year of Official Language Hindi;

(b) whether some Embassies are not celebrating this Golden Jubilee year of Official Language Hindi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the measures being taken by his Ministry for progressive use of Official Language Hindi;

(e) whether the Government propose to make any assessment of the progress made in the use of Official Language Hindi in the Embassies and Consulates;

(f) if so, whether the Official Language Hindi in the Embassies treated at par with any other foreign language; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) All Indian Missions abroad have been instructed to celebrate the Golden Jubilee year of declaration of Hindi as Official Language. They have been instructed to organize special programmes for the promotion and propagation of Hindi in their Missions. The Missions and Posts where Hindi lovers or Hindi speaking people are in great numbers have been given an increased allocation of 20% over the last year to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Year to Declaration of Hindi as Official Language. Accordingly, all the Missions are actively organizing suitable programmes.

(d) to (g) Ministry of External Affairs is making all efforts for the promotion and propagation of Hindi in its offices as well as in Missions/Posts abroad. The Heads of Missions/Posts read President's messages for Independence and Republic Days both in Hindi and English. Sadbhavana and Quomi Ekta Diwas pledges are taken by the officials in Hindi. Annual programmes issued by Official Language Department are sent to the Missions for compliance. Instructions have been issued to the Missions to increase original correspondence in Hindi and to ensure compliance of provision of Official Language Rule 5 i.e. replies to the letters received in Hindi should be in Hindi only. Hindi software have already been supplied to 60 Missions and efforts are being made to supply at least one Hindi software to other Missions/Posts. Ministry's supply of Hindi books to the Missions for gift/donation to the universities/colleges/voluntary organizations or associations engaged in promotion and propagation of Hindi abroad normally amounts to about Rs. 10 lakhs per year. Ministry is constantly monitoring the use of Hindi through the Quarterly Progress Reports received from the Missions and Posts.

The Official Language Hindi enjoys a special status in our Missions and Posts. All the name plates, sign boards, letter heads, inscription on the envelopes and other items of stationery are in Hindi, English and the local official language.

[English]

Role of Planning Commission

2094. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has any statutory power to oversee the utilisation of plan fund in the State;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to bring about administrative reforms in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) An exercise to review the role of the Planning Commission in the wake of changed economic scenario is in progress. However, there is no proposal to confer statutory powers on the Commission.

Indo-U.K. Talks on Terrorism

2095. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had talks with British Foreign Secretary in London;

(b) if so, the details of the main issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether India and Britain have agreed on an arrangement to fight terrorism jointly;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Minister of External Affairs exchanged views with Mr. Robin Cook, British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, on 14th January, 2000 in London.

(b) The broad based and wide ranging discussions extended to global and regional issues such as UN reform, international terrorism, environment, developments in Pakistan and Afghanistan and bilateral issues including the idea of setting up the Indo-British Round Table. The discussions contributed to the ongoing political dialogue with the U.K., and led to an enhanced understanding of India's position and concerns on bilateral, regional and global issues.

(c) to (e) During EAM's visit to London, the idea of cooperation in combating international terrorism was given priority and discussed by EAM at the highest levels of the British Government. Concrete measures for cooperation between the two countries in this regard are currently being examined.

These measures include a Terrorism Bill, which is presently being discussed in the British Parliament. This Bill, when it becomes an Act, would have a provision for trying a British national in the U.K. for a serious crime committed in another country.

Aid to NGOs/VOs

2096. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL:
DR. V. SAROJA:
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY;
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

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

(a) the total number of voluntary organisations and non-Governmental organizations in the country getting financial aid from the Government;

(b) the total amount of financial aid given to these organisations during the last three years, year-wise and till January, 2000 and State-wise;

(c) whether expenditure incurred by such NGOs are monitored and audited by audit and accounts department of the Ministry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the name of the authority empowered for assessing the working of such organizations, utilization of funds and progress made in utilizing the Grant-in-aid;

(e) whether the Government propose to issue any guidelines to regulate the functioning of such organization; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Presently, there are 1812 voluntary organizations and non-Governmental organizations in the country getting financial aid from the Government.

(b) The financial aid given to these organizations State-wise, during the last three years, year-wise and till January, 2000 is given in the Statement.

(c) and (d) No Sir, the expenditures incurred by the grantee NGOs are not directly monitored by the Ministry. Inspections of the NGOs are carried out by the agencies designated by the Ministry. Annual accounts of expenditure duly audited by the chartered accountants are insisted upon before releasing the second & final instalment of grant-in-aid to an organisation. Special audits and inspections are also carried out by the internal audit wing and other officers of the Ministry, if need arises.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Name of State/UT	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	912.63	960.34	1520.66	1166.95
Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh	6.22	9.28	3.71	6.32
Assam	44.16	20.30	107.40	99.22
Bihar	238.01	263.66	232.05	147.99
Chandigarh	9.40	8.94	35.05	19.73
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	3.21	0.00	0.00
Delhi	368.87	458.92	1353.78	498.12
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	21.91	16.87	16.00	20.20
Gujarat	106.57	140.60	223.07	166.22
Himachal Pradesh	15.23	12.25	49.20	17.94
Haryana	182.67	241.51	315.39	114.62
Jammu & Kashmir	78.06	15.16	43.34	30.33
Karnataka	434.19	448.25	579.82	554.27
Kerala	259.57	336.38	1041.15	319.45
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	113.40	120.28	285.24	152.56
Maharashtra	302.44	192.23	509.42	605.52
Manipur	155.72	123.73	314.33	301.24
Meghalaya	10.08	6.50	26.24	21.52
Mizoram	32.82	34.27	56.27	50.84
Nagaland	3.41	28.31	32.05	36.62
Orissa	209.05	295.93	781.86	612.12
Pondicherry	5.31	10.82	20.32	11.45
Punjab	147.77	121.62	288.97	187.95
Rajasthan	168.15	249.97	474.95	464.43
Sikkim	1.20	2.06	1.73	1.99
Tamil Nadu	325.53	348.38	450.96	442.84
Tripura	18.25	28.58	42.65	17.85
Uttar Pradesh	729.77	802.83	1724.79	1367.50
West Bengal	613.36	599.37	869.19	670.11

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

2097. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SUGUNA KUMARI:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant of SAIL is at the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of revival package;

(d) whether the Government have recently sanctioned financial package for Steel Authority of India;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount out of the sanctioned package proposed to be utilised by SAIL for revival of VSP; and

(f) the steps taken to prevent its reference to Board for Industrial Finance and Reconstruction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) is not under SAIL but under Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) and it is not on the verge of closure.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) to (f) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) had submitted a comprehensive turn around proposal for its revival which inter-alia included writing off of losses. The Disinvestment Commission has recommended writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company *i.e.* as on 31.3.1999 Rs. 4065.30 crores alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity in RINL to a strategic buyer. Based on the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission, Government has taken up the matter and it is presently under inter-ministerial consultations. No final decision has yet been taken.

The details of the financial package sanctioned to SAIL are given in the Statement attached. As VSP is not under SAIL, the financial package sanctioned for SAIL cannot be used for VSP.

Statement

Details of Financial Package Sanctioned to Steel Authority of India (SAIL)

- (1) Financial Restructuring of SAIL by waiving of loans advanced to it from Steel Development Fund to a value of Rs. 5073 crore and Rs. 381 crore from the Govt. of India.

(2) Provision of Government guarantees with 50% interest subsidy for loan and interest thereon of Rs. 1500 crore to be raised by SAIL from the market to finance reduction in manpower through Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(3) Provision of Government guarantee for loan and interest thereon of Rs. 1500 crore including Rs. 500 crore to be raised by SAIL from the market primarily for meeting repayment obligation on past loans during 1999-2000.

(4) To initiate the process of divestment of following non-core assets while protecting jobs of existing employees.

— Power Plants at Bokaro, Durgapur and Rourkela

• 2x60 MW Captive Power Plant-II at Rourkela Steel Plant and the Cental Power Training Institute at Rourkela.

• 2x50 MW Captive Power Plant-II at Durgapur Steel Plant.

• 122 MW (2x55 MW+12 MW back pressure turbine) Captive Power Plant-I, 3x60 MW Captive Power Plant-II and steam generating capacity of 660 MT/hour at Bokaro Steel Plant.

— Oxygen Plant-II of Bhilai Steel Plant

— Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Salem

— Alloy Steels Plant (ASP), Durgapur

— Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant (VISL), Bhadravati

— Fertiliser Plant at Rourkela

(5) Allowing SAIL to have a minority shareholding in any joint venture contemplated for revival of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO).

Manas-Sankosh Link Canal Project

2098. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geo-technical Report based on laboratory investigation has been prepared for the Link proposed Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga to increase the flow of water to save Calcutta Port in few months;

(b) if so, the details of the report;

(c) whether any Techno Economic Survey has been conducted for this Link Canal;

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

(e) the time by which the work on the project is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Since March, 1997, the Centre has taken up the works of the geo-technical investigation comprising of field investigations and Laboratory tests for characterisation of foundations of structures for preparation of the report of Teesta-Ganga portion of Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga link Canal.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Link Canal Project is found to be techno-economically viable as per pre-feasibility study done in 1994.

(d) As per the prefeasibility study, the cost of this project is Rs. 11,670 crore at price level of 1994-95 which envisages Head Works, Canal System, Canal Power House and Navigation.

(e) The construction work of this Link Project can be taken up only after the completion of the survey and investigations and the Detailed Project Report.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Technique in Small Scale Industries

2099. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create separate fund for the upgradation and modernisation of the small scale industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR

ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Technology Development & Modernisation Fund (TDMF) has already been set up by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in April, 1995 for the upgradation and modernisation of small scale industries. An amount of Rs. 200 crores has been earmarked by the SIDBI for this purpose. The SIDBI provides direct assistance under the scheme as well as through Primary Lending Institutions (PLIs) by way of refinance. In the Union Budget 2000-2001, the operation of this fund has been extended by another 3 years.

[English]

Nuclear Power Generation

2100. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet its Uranium requirement for the Nuclear reactors in the country;

(b) the targets fixed for the nuclear power generation and targets achieved by the country during the last three years;

(c) the target fixed for the Ninth Five Year Plan particularly for the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, year-wise and project-wise; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve these targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Adequate resources of Uranium required for the nuclear reactors of the country (present and envisaged) have been established by Department of Atomic Energy.

(b) Targets and achievements for nuclear power generation in respect of the Projects under Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy for last three years *i.e.*

1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (up to January 2000) are given below:

1997-98 (MUs)		1998-99 (MUs)		1999-2000 (up to Jan. 2000) (MUs)	
Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
8515	9618	9795	11174	8823	10147

In addition, Government owned reactor RAPS-1 generated 480 MUs, 827 MUs and 975 MUs in the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively.

(c) Targets for nuclear power generation for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 are given below:

Station/ Year	TAPS (MUs)	RAPS-2 (MUs)	MAPS (MUs)	NAPS (MUs)	KAPS (MUs)	KAIGA-2 (MUs)	RAPP-3 (MUs)	Total (MUs)
2000-01	1870	1208	1800	2665	2665	985 KAIGA 1&2	965 RAPP 3&4	12158
2001-02	1300	1150	750	2500	1000	1000	1700	11900

(d) Measures like improving outage management, intensive training for maintenance and operating staff, effective co-ordination with Regional Electricity Boards regarding grid related matters, etc., have been taken to achieve the targets.

during the conference were efficient management of water, soil, weather and climate, agro-biodiversity, agroforestry and socio-economic aspects.

Efficient and Sustainable Management of Soil and Water

2101 PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has organised an international seminar on "efficient and sustainable management of soil and water"; and

(b) if so, details of the salient features of the seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. An International Conference entitled "Managing Natural resources for sustainable agricultural production in the 21st century" was held from February 14-18, 2000 at new Delhi.

(b) The goal of the conference was "Managing natural resources for sustainable agricultural production—Vision 21st century".

In this conference 18 technical sessions, four panel discussions, four plenary lectures and four evening lectures were arranged. The major issues addressed

There were 1400 participants from various countries viz., USA, U.K., Austria, Netherlands, France, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Australia, Israel, Bangladesh, China, Nepal, Switzerland, Lithuania, Brazil and India.

From this conference very useful recommendations have emerged with due emphasis on integrated efforts to improve the productivity through efficient management of soil, water, climate and other resources. These recommendations will prove useful for strengthening research efforts for achieving sustainable agricultural productivity under different ecosystems of the country.

Children Education of Officials Working In Indian High Commissions

2102. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the children/declared dependents of the diplomatic staff working in the Indian High Commissions/Embassies for obtaining Higher Education/training in specialised fields in their respective countries at present, country-wise;

(b) the diplomatic staff working in various Indian High Commissions/Embassies who have left their jobs to take up other lucrative jobs in their respective countries, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government have laid down any norms/conditions in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government for the misuse of their position to obtain such jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Government of India under the Children's Education Allowance Scheme provides for the education of children of Indian officials assigned to Indian missions/posts abroad. This Scheme is available to children from the age of 5 to 20 years. Higher education beyond the school stage is not covered under this Scheme and the same has to be arranged by the official on his own expense. Since these expenses are not borne by the Government, details of the number of children obtaining higher education are not available.

(b) to (e) In the recent past, there has been no case of any official from an Indian mission leaving to take up other lucrative jobs in their place of posting. Resignation by officials is governed under extant rules which mandate that the official return to India and spend the minimum prescribed period before his/her resignation is accepted.

Investment in SAIL

2103. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. A. Bhattacharya Committee on restructuring of steel plant has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the report;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to implement the recommendations;

(d) whether SAIL has decided to invest additional investment to increase its market share; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) Government is not aware of Dr. A. Bhattacharya Committee's Report on restructuring of steel plant. However, a committee headed by Dr. S.K. Bhattacharya, Director, RDCIS has made the following recommendations for making the Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur viable.

MoU with 10-12 major customers who consume about 60% of billets, rounds and bars produced

by ASP. Concept of key accounts managers can be introduced.

- Emphasis for increasing market share in eastern region from the present level of 24% Share in the other regions have to be maintained.
- Focus on high contributing products like billets, forgings, quenched & tempered plates.
- Concentrated efforts on fewer grades and products with larger quantity.
- Finding market of stainless steel slabs other than SSP.

Process improvement measures for controlling variable cost *inter-alia* by way of reduction in raw materials, power and fuel consumption, improvement in yield and quality, etc., have also been suggested. Some of them will be implemented by March, 2000 without any investment, with benefits accruing from 2000-01.

Addition/modification of some facilities which have been suggested, with a total investment of Rs. 8.8 crore will be implemented within a maximum period of 15 months, and benefits should accrue latest by 2001-02.

(d) and (e) While SAIL has plans to increase its market share, the actual investment will depend on availability of resources consequent to its restructuring.

Agreement Signed between India and U.S.A.

2104. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of India and U.S.A. have met a number of times during the last year;

(b) if so, the details of agreements reached between U.S.A. and India;

(c) the details of issues on which agreements have been signed;

(d) the extent to which these discussions have helped in reaching agreements on various issues;

(e) whether both the countries have agreed to continue discussion till a final solution of their issues are settled; and

(f) if so, the manner in which both the countries has been agreed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PNJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The ongoing Indo-US dialogue on security, non-proliferation, disarmament and related issues was resumed in London on November 17-18, 1999 and was continued on January 18-19, 2000 in London. As part of this dialogue, officials from the two sides have also met to discuss issues relating to export control and counter-terrorism.

(b) and (c) During the meeting in London on January 18-19, 2000, the two sides agreed to establish a Joint Working Group on Counter-terrorism and also to work together to ensure that the perpetrators of the hijacking of Indian Airlines flight IC-814 were brought to justice, as part of their joint effort to combat international terrorism. The two sides also agreed on the need to intensify and broaden Indo-American discussions.

(d) The ongoing Indo-US dialogue has led to some progress in creating a better mutual understanding on security issues. During these talks, international terrorism and the need for co-operation between the two sides in combating international terrorism have been extensively discussed.

(e) and (f) Both sides consider this dialogue to be useful for laying the foundation of a multi-faceted, broad-based and forward looking relations between the two countries and, for this purpose, have agreed to institutionalise and continue this dialogue.

Amelioration of Acid Soils

2105. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted proposals regarding Reclamation of Saline, Alkaline and Water logged areas and implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Amelioration of acid soils" for the approval and financial aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Intervention of Central Government was sought to reclaim 24,000 ha. of saline and alkaline

soil at a cost of Rs. 60 crores, 12,000 ha. of waterlogged lands at a cost of Rs. 24 crores and 25,000 ha. of acidic soils at a cost of Rs. 5 crores during 9th Five Year Plan. The Ministry's proposal for inclusion of a scheme for amelioration of acid soils in the country was not approved by the Planning Commission and hence no financial assistance could be provided to Karnataka State under the scheme. The Scheme of Waterlogging has been sent to the Ministry of Water Resources since the subject of waterlogging concerns the Ministry of Water Resources. As regards the scheme of Reclamation of Saline Areas, a Joint Team comprising representatives of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Indian Council of Agriculture Research and Ministry of Water Resources has been constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture to identify the extent of problem areas of coastal and inland salinity in the country and to recommend package of practices for reclamation of saline areas.

(c) Based on the recommendations of the Joint Team, the proposed scheme of Reclamation of Saline Areas will be submitted to the Planning Commission for consideration.

[*Translation*]

Seminar of SC/ST MPs

2106. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government organized a seminar for MPs belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 5th December to 7th December, 1999 to consider the problems faced by these communities;

(b) if so, points considered in the seminar to ensure economic and social upliftment of dalits; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement giving recommendations of the seminar is enclosed.

(c) The concerned Central Ministries/Departments and Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs have already been addressed to take action on the recommendations and to keep this Ministry apprised of the progress. Review of relevant schemes, operated by this Ministry, has been started.

Statement*Recommendations of Drafting Committee*

Out of the various suggestions received from the Members of Parliament, the Drafting Committee has decided to make the following recommendations:

- (i) At present the Policy of Reservations is governed by Executive Instructions issued by DoPT from time to time. As this arrangement has not proved effective, it is recommended that a law should be enacted for giving statutory basis to this policy with a provision for punitive action against persons/authorities responsible for its non-implementation. This law should be kept in the IX Schedule of the Constitution.
- (ii) Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be strictly as per the percentage of their population in the Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabhas, services, educational institutions and all other organisations, corporations etc.
- (iii) Representation of SCs and STs should be provided in the Rajya Sabha and Vidhan Parishads in the States. The reservation should be strictly in proportion to the population.
- (iv) Through 73rd Amendment of the Constitution, reservations for SCs and STs in Panchayati Raj institutions has been made mandatory. If any of the State or the UT does not provide such reservation in the rural and urban local bodies it shall be presumed that constitutional machinery has failed in terms of article 356 of the Constitution and necessary action taken accordingly. The Panchayat Raj Act was extended to the Scheduled Areas in 1996 through an Act of Parliament and the States were required to enact suitable legislation in this regard within a period of one year which ended in December, 1997. There are certain important issues like transfer of control over minor forest produce to the Gram Sabhas in the Scheduled areas, which is yet to be resolved. Urgent action is required in this regard.
- (v) Out of the 5 offending OMs issued by the DoPT, the Prime Minister has announced during his inaugural address that action has already been initiated to review two of these OMs and the constitutional amendment will be brought about for this purpose. Necessary constitutional amendment/Bill with regard to all these five subjects should be introduced during the current Session of the Parliament.
- (vi) The present policy of reservation in Public sector Undertakings or statutory corporations should continue even after the Government equity in such public sector undertakings or statutory corporations is reduced to below 50%. Policy of reservation should also be extended to the services in the private sector and necessary legislative measures should be taken for this purpose.
- (vii) A National Judicial Commission should be set up which should also have a representative of SC/ST. The policy of reservation should be introduced in the higher judiciary also for SCs and STs. Similarly in matters of appointments in various offices like Vice-Chancellors, Chairman and MDs of PSUs/Statutory Corporations, policy of reservation for SCs and STs should be extended.
- (viii) There should be provision for reservation to the SCs and STs in matter of admissions in educational institutions like schools, colleges, universities, professional institutions, including in super speciality courses in medicine.
- (ix) The payment of scholarship to the students belonging to SCs and STs may be made on quarterly basis and its quantum should be linked up with price index.
- (x) For each district in the country a Navodaya School may be opened exclusively for SC and ST students which should have facilities for computer education and all other modern facilities.
- (xi) All necessary support should be extended to reputed and well established NGOs who are engaged in programmes relating to education/residential schools and other activities for children belonging to these Communities.
- (xii) Adequate hostel facilities should be provided for boys/girls belonging to these communities which should be attached to educational institutions.
- (xiii) All the central Ministries and the State Governments should formulate SCP and TSP and ensure allocation of funds in proportion to the percentage of population. Necessary mechanism should be provided to ensure that diversion of these funds do not take place and the funds are utilised according to the specific needs of these communities.

- (xiv) Posts reserved for SCs and STs should be filled up only by candidates belonging to these communities. In case of non-availability of candidates among SCs or STs, these vacancies/posts should be exchanged only between these two communities.
- (xv) A comprehensive Bill may be urgently introduced with regard to all the cases of inclusion/exclusion in Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes lists.
- (xvi) A separate Awas Vikas Yojana should be formulated for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with an objective to cover all the houseless among them within a period of 5 years.
- (xvii) The implementation of PCR Act and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (POA) Act, 1989 should be made more strict and involvement of people's representatives in their implementation should be ensured. In major cases of atrocities involving large scale deaths of people of these communities and damage to their properties, concerned District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police should be held responsible and necessary action taken accordingly.
- (xviii) Urgent action should be taken for effective implementation of Land Reforms Act and distribution of surplus land among SC and ST.
- (xix) In the Scheduled Areas implementation of land transfer regulations should be made more effective and where tribal lands have been transferred unauthorised by immediate action should be taken to restore the lands to their owners.
- (xx) The interests of the landless workers should be protected and they should be facilitated to form associations to fight for their just causes.

Sd/-
Shri K.H. Murappa
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Shri Karfa Munda
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Shri Rajlal Varma
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Ms. Mayawati
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Shri Amar Roy Pradhan
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Shri Dilip Singh Bhuria
Member of Parliament

Sd/-
Shri Praveen Rastupal
Member of Parliament

Construction of Dams

2107. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of dams being constructed on the Narmada river in various States; and
- (b) the policy of the Government in regard to water release management in case of the excessive flow of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) 6 major, 3 medium and 157 minor irrigation and multipurpose projects in Madhya Pradesh and one inter-state major multipurpose project in Gujarat are under construction in Narmada Basin.

(b) The Narmada Water Disputes (NWD) determined the utilisable quantum of waters of Narmada at Sardar Sarovar Dam site on the basis of 75% dependability as 28 Million Acre Feet (MAF). The NWD has also determined that the utilisable flow of Narmada in excess of the 28 MAF is to be apportioned in the ratios *i.e.* 73 for Madhya Pradesh, 36 for Gujarat, 1 for Maharashtra and 2 for Rajasthan.

Vocational Training Scheme

2108. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch an extensive Vocational Training Scheme for workers in Bihar with the aid of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a scheme to start new industrial training institutes for women under this project;

(d) the number of training institute set up under this scheme in Bihar, location-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to explore the possibility of opening industrial training institutes for women in Bihar;

(f) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

India implemented a World Bank assisted Vocational Training Project during 1989-98 covering 28 States including Bihar. A proposal to consider a fresh World Bank assisted Vocational Training Project is at its preliminary stages of consultation with the states. No decision on a fresh World Bank assisted Project has been taken.

(c) Opening of new Industrial Training Institutes is under the purview of the concerned State government.

(d) to (g) Do not arise.

[English]

National Task Force on Information Technology

2109. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Task Force on Information Technology (IT) has submitted its first report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have implemented all the recommendations of the first report of Task Force on Infotech;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to implement all the recommendations of second report of Task Force on Hardware;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the State-wise, break-up and investment made in Information Technology for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The report contains 108 recommendations and these have been accepted by the Government.

(c) and (d) 44 out of 108 recommendations have been implemented. 30 recommendations are on-going and are to be implemented in phases. 3 recommendations have been found non-implementable and 31 are yet to be implemented. Those yet to be implemented relate to

Department of Telecommunications, Department of Education, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Finance and State Governments. Ministry of Information Technology (MIT) being the nodal Ministry for promotion of IT in the country is pursuing with the concerned Ministries/Departments for implementation of these recommendations. MIT has set up five groups to go into the recommendations and prepare a blue print for the implementation.

(e) and (f) So far, the Government have taken the following steps in this regard:

(i) Government in the recent budget has reduced the basic customs duty on the following select items:

	Previous Rate (%)	Current Rate (%)
Computers	20	15
Motherboard	20	15
Floppy diskettes	20	15
Specified Capital Goods for manufacture of Semiconductor	15	5
Microprocessor	5	0
CD ROMs	5	0
Integrated circuits & micro assemblies	5	0
Data graphic display Tubes for colour Monitor	5	0

(ii) Government has set up National Venture Fund for Software and IT Industry (NFSIT) with a corpus of Rs. 100 crores, out of which Ministry of Information Technology shall contribute Rs. 30 crores.

(iii) Provision for issue of sweat equity by companies has been introduced in the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1999.

(g) Ministry of Information Technology supports a variety of projects and programmes in Information Technology being implemented by different agencies in the States. No specific allocation of funds for projects in the IT sector is made State-wise. However, funds are made available to the States where specific projects are taken up for implementation.

[*Translation*]

Exploitation of Dalits

2110. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Jahan Dalit ko Aaj Bhi Joota Pehanna Mana Hai" appearing in 'Nav Bharat Times' New Delhi edition dated January 28, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been investigated or proposed to be investigated;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the steps being taken by the Union Government to emancipate Dalits from untouchability in the Country; and

(g) the guidelines likely to be issued to the State Government not to deprive Dalit section from social rights?

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

(b) to (d) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has investigated into the matter and reported that the allegations are false.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) In furtherance of Article 17 of the Constitution by which untouchability was abolished and its practice in any form was forbidden, the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 was enacted in order to enforce the Constitutional provision. Further to check and deter crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was brought into force *w.e.f.* 30th January, 1990. Rules notified under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in March 1995 lay down procedures for implementation of that Act, including provision of relief and rehabilitation to the affected persons/dependents.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955

and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments on 50:50 basis (100% to the UTs) for the measures undertaken/proposed by them for effective implementation of both the Acts.

Ministry of Home Affairs have also requested the Chief Secretaries of States/UTs to accord high priority to the framing, implementation and monitoring of the policies/schemes under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and to have appropriate mechanism for this purpose.

[*English*]

Patents

2111. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per World Trade Organisation agreement on Patents Act to be effective from 2004/2005, the seeds requirement of the country will have to be brought from American Multi-national Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is likely to reduce the position of Indian seeds companies both in public and private sectors; and

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

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Relations with Bangladesh

2112. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to improve bilateral relations with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues yet to be resolved between India and Bangladesh at present;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to resolve and settle these issues; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) India and Bangladesh are close and friendly neighbours. All matters are discussed in a spirit of friendship and cooperation, with the objective of putting in place mutually satisfactory arrangements. The bilateral dialogue currently covers major aspects of economic cooperation including the restoration of multimodal communication links, enhancement of infrastructural facilities, ease of travel, trade issues, cooperation in the field of border management and security including the control of illegal cross-border movements, smuggling and crimes such as trafficking in women and children, and matters relating to demarcation of boundary. These are issues relating to regular interaction between the two countries and are part of a continuous dialogue.

Reservation System in Jobs in various Foreign Countries

2113. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Indian Officers working in Indian Embassies in various countries;

(b) whether the Government are following any reservation system in the job recruitments in various countries attached to Indian Embassies there;

(c) if so, the details of the representation from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes, Backward Castes and other castes in various cadres in the Indian Embassies abroad, country-wise;

(d) the details of the vacant posts in various categories in the Indian Embassies in various countries; and

(e) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) There are 1943 Indian officials posted at various levels in Indian missions/posts abroad.

(b) and (c) No reservation system is followed while deploying officials in particular missions/posts abroad.

However, all appointments to the Ministry of External Affairs are governed by the national policy on reservations which is strictly adhered to.

(d) and (e) Postings to Indian missions/posts at the various levels are done by the Foreign Service Board, Senior Establishment Board and the Junior Establishment Board on a regular and periodic basis so as to ensure that posts are not kept vacant for long periods of time.

[Translation]

Water Management

2114. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Gambheer jal sankat ki oar badhta ja raha hai Bharat" appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' on January 10, 2000;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) No Sir, no such news-item has been reported in the Mahanagar Edition of "Navbharat Times" dated 10.1.2000. However, the water availability in the country remains more or less fixed according to the natural hydrologic cycle. The per capita water availability is reducing progressively owing to increasing population. The average annual per capita water availability which is estimated to be about 1900 Cu. m. in 2000 AD may come down to 1350 Cu. m. by 2025 AD at national level, which is well above the limit of 1000 Cu. m. per capita per annum, considered as scarcity condition. Therefore, even by the end of 2025 A.D., India is not likely to face water scarcity situation at the national level, though uneven water availability may cause local water scarcity in some parts of the country. The Government has initiated various measures like Command Area Development Programme and Water Resources Consolidation Projects to improve efficiency of irrigation water use in the country.

[English]

Central Development Board

2115. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Central Development Board for the reconstruction of Orissa State after the destruction caused by the recent super cyclone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The Government has no proposal to set up a Central Development Board for the reconstruction of Orissa State in the aftermath of super cyclone. But, an Authority at the Ministerial level headed by the Defence Minister has been set up by the Government of India, to expedite rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the cyclone affected areas of Orissa. The Authority is known as Orissa Cyclone Reconstruction Authority (OCRA), and is serviced by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture.

The aforesaid Authority will not take over the functions either of the State Government or of the concerned Ministries/Departments which will be followed as per the normal procedure as laid down in the Transaction of Business Rules and allocation of work, and functions of the Orissa Government as a State of the Union. The Authority will, however, provide the highest forum both at the Centre and State for consultation, and guidance for a joint effort for restoration, rehabilitation and reconstruction work in the cyclone affected districts of Orissa in a coordinated and concerted manner.

Development of Market Infrastructure

2116. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tripura has submitted proposal in 1994-95 for the development of market infrastructure amounting to Rs. 9680 lakhs; and

(b) if so, details of the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Tripura had submitted to the Central Government in October, 1994 a Project profile for development of marketing infrastructure. Subsequently, this was followed by a detailed proposal in May, 1997 for financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 9680 lakhs for the development of Post Harvest Management and other market infrastructure.

(b) The proposals submitted by the State Government of Tripura were examined by the Ministry of Rural Development and a new scheme for development of agricultural marketing strategies in the North-Eastern States was prepared. However, these proposals could not be approved as they were not covered by the schemes relating to agricultural marketing under the Ninth Five Year Plan and the inability of the Planning Commission to allocate additional funds for the scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan period.

Government have recently approved a scheme of Capital Investment subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticultural Produce with a view to giving a major thrust for development of Post Harvest Management infrastructure in the country, including the North Eastern States.

Permanent Membership of Security Council

2117. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item Captioned "France for India in Security Council" appearing in *Pioneer* dated February 18, 2000;

(b) whether France has strongly favoured India for its rightful place in the re-structured UN Security Council;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether India, China, France and Russia are likely to emerge as an alternative to the US-dominated unipolar world; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) France has supported India's candidature for a permanent seat in a restructured Security Council. In its most recent public statement, it has been stated that India has a rightful place in any extended Security Council.

(d) and (e) France and India have a shared interest in working towards the establishment of a multi-polar world based on cooperation and not confrontation. This multi-polar world is not directed against any particular country and is intended to take into account the new realities of the present international order. This view was recently publicly articulated by both Foreign Ministers of France and India in a Seminar in New Delhi on Multi-Polarity on 17th February 2000.

Labour Oriented Industry

2118. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether labour-oriented industries in the country are on the decreasing in number;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure more workers are not retrenched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) There is no clear evidence of decline in the number of labour oriented industries in the country in recent years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken by the Government to ensure that workers are retained in productive employment and are not retrenched include infusion of funds for revival of industries, incentives for technology upgradation, support to domestic industry through tax concessions etc.

Minority Commission

2119. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new body of the Minority Commission has been constituted;

(b) if so, the names and details of the status of the persons so nominated and the date of its constitution;

(c) the terms of the nominated persons;

(d) the criteria adopted for the nomination; and

(e) the details of the recommending organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Commission for Minorities has been reconstituted with effect from 21.01.2000 with the following persons:

1. Justice (Retd.) Mohammed Shamim	Chairperson
2. Shri Trilochan Singh	Vice-Chairperson
3. Lt. Gen (Retd.) A.M. Sethna	Member
4. Shri T.K. Lochen Tulku	Member
5. Shri John Joseph	Member
6. Shri Shamim Kazim	Member
7. Shri Vijay Kumar Dar	Member

(c) The Chairperson and members hold office for a term of three years from the date of assuming office, as per section 4 (1) of National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.

(d) and (e) The National Commission for Minorities has been constituted as per provision under Section 3(2) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 as amended *vide* the National Commission for Minorities (Amendment) Act, 1995 (44 of 1995), which provides that the National Commission for Minorities shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and five Members to be nominated by Central Govt. from amongst persons of eminence, ability and integrity, from amongst the minority communities.

Voluntary Organisations

2120. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had brought out 'Guidelines for Voluntary Organisations' few years back;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission have recently discontinued bringing out this publication;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the alternative measures proposed by the Government to draw the attention of Voluntary Organisations/NGOs towards various central sponsored schemes aimed at poverty alleviation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Planning Commission had not brought out any 'Guidelines for Voluntary Organisations'. However, the Planning Commission had prepared a Directory of Schemes for Voluntary Organisations during September, 1995 giving information on various Central Sector Schemes for poverty alleviation and social development, in which NGOs/Voluntary Organisations can participate.

Visit of Russian Deputy Prime Minister

2121. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Russian delegation led by the Russian Deputy Prime Minister recently visited India to discuss and decide upon trade related bilateral pending issues;

(b) if so, the details of the economic issues discussed and decisions taken thereon; and

(c) the fresh agreements signed and implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Dr. Viktor Khristenko, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, paid an official visit to New Delhi on January 14-15, 2000. During Dr. Khristenko's visit, the 6th Session of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC) was held. Finance Minister and Dr. Khristenko are the Co-Chairman of the IRIGC.

(b) and (c) A Protocol of the 6th Session of the IRIGC was signed at the conclusion of the meeting by the Co-Chairmen. During the IRIGC meeting, both sides noted that there have been positive trends in the

development of trade and economic cooperation between India and the Russian Federation and expressed satisfaction at the upward trend in bilateral trade during the year 1999-2000. They however, acknowledged that the volume of bilateral trade did not correspond to the existing potential and agreed to take appropriate measures towards its further expansion and diversification, through greater representation of non-traditional and hi-tech items. The Commission also noted the overall progress in bilateral cooperation in the fields of science and technology, power and non-conventional energy sources, metallurgy, coal, information technology, environment and natural resources, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals and culture.

Bhima Irrigation Scheme

2122. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhima Irrigation Scheme is pending for clearance with the Union Government for a very long period;

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

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme. The Project Report of this Scheme, with an estimated cost of Rs. 45.75 crore, was submitted by the Government of Karnataka to Central Water Commission (CWC) in December, 1985 for providing annual irrigation of 24290 hectares to Gulbarga district. However, clearance of the scheme is linked with the promptness with which the state authorities comply with the observations made by the Central Appraising Agencies.

Marketing Network

2123. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of regulated markets in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government provides financial assistance/technical know-how and other facilities to State Government for setting up these markets;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to bring all the regulated markets in the country under a network in the age of information technology;

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard;

(f) whether PHD Chambers of Commerce and ASSOCHAM have given certain suggestions for success of marketing network; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) to (c) The number of regulated markets in the country as on 31.3.1999 is 7075. The details of regulated markets are given in the Statement. At present, there is no scheme to give financial assistance to the State Governments and U.T. Administrations for setting up of such markets. However, the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection renders technical guidance to the States in framing and implementation of Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Acts for regulation of markets.

(d) and (e) The Department has formulated a new scheme for "Agricultural Marketing Information Network" under which important markets in the country are proposed to be linked.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The PHD Chamber of Commerce held a National Seminar on Problems of Small and Marginal Farmers in Marketing Fruits and Vegetables on 20-21 August, 1998 at New Delhi. One session was devoted to "Issues in Marketing of Fruits and Vegetables in India." In their report, they have suggested that efforts may be made to improve marketing facilities for marginal and small farmers so that their interests are protected and they get the best price for their produce. The role of middlemen in the existing infrastructure needs to be reduced to the minimum through direct procurement by large retailers

from the farmers. The Government should provide transportation, storage, processing and marketing facilities at the farms level which are vital elements in an efficient marketing system. There is a need to build up a post harvest handling system to take care of the fruits and vegetables from farms to retail markets. ASSOCHAM has, inter alia, suggested that restrictions on the movement of various agricultural commodities should be completely removed and that futures trading in agricultural commodities should be allowed. These suggestions would be examined and necessary action will be taken.

The suggestions received from PHD Chamber of Commerce have been examined. The Government have formulated five new schemes for strengthening, upgrading and expanding agricultural marketing network in the country. In order to further develop the post-harvest handling system for fruits and vegetables, Government have recently approved a scheme of capital investment subsidy for construction/expansion/modernisation of cold storages/storages.

Statement

S.No.	States/UTs	Number of regulated markets
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	841
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
3.	Assam	35
4.	Bihar	813
5.	Goa	6
6.	Gujarat	396
7.	Haryana	284
8.	Himachal Pradesh	35
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
10.	Karnataka	473
11.	Kerala	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	606
13.	Maharashtra	855

1	2	3
14.	Manipur	—
15.	Meghalaya	—
16.	Mizoram	—
17.	Nagaland	—
18.	Orissa	144
19.	Punjab	675
20.	Rajasthan	403
21.	Sikkim	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	270
23.	Tripura	21
24.	Uttar Pradesh	645
25.	West Bengal	542
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—
27.	Chandigarh	3
28.	Dadrá & Nagar Haveli	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—
30.	Delhi	22
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	6
Total		7075

Indo-France Space Mission

2124. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and France have discussed the joint programme for Space Mission;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which both the countries are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir. India and France have discussed a joint programme for a satellite mission called *Mega Tropiques* for research on atmospheric phenomena in the tropical region related to climate.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the French Space Agency (CNES) have signed a Statement of Intent to study the feasibility of jointly carrying out the *Megha Tropiques* mission.

(c) The study envisages flying a scientific instrument to be developed jointly by India and France and two instruments from France on a French satellite platform, and launching the satellite using India's PSLV. Data analysis is to be carried out by both sides as well as selected scientists from the international community.

(d) Both countries are expected to gain more expertise in using the scientific data for understanding the tropical atmosphere. ISRO and CNES will build experience in working together in complex technical programmes which can open up bigger opportunities in the future.

Production of Foodgrains

2125. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) foresees difficulties in rising foodgrain production by four million tonnes annually;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the obstacles faced by ICAR in achieving this target;

(c) whether ICAR propose to introduce new rice and wheat varieties to meet this challenge; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The foodgrains production during triennium ending 1982-83 was 130 million tonnes (MT) which increased to 190 MT during triennium ending 1997-98 and it is now 203 MT in the year 1998-99. The production of food grains is increasing by about 4 MT annually. The ICAR does not foresee much difficulty in maintaining the pace of foodgrain production at above level in the light of improve varieties and production

technologies developed, provided the new technologies are transferred efficiently and the weather conditions are not unfavourable.

(c) and (d) The ICAR has already developed a number of improved varieties of wheat and rice with yield potential 4 to 6 tonnes per hectare for various agro-ecological conditions given in Statement-I and II attached. The ICAR has plans to introduce new improved varieties on continuous basis with built-in resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses.

Statement I

Important high yielding rice varieties developed and released recently

Variety	Yield Q/ha	Area of adoption
1	2	3
CSR-27	60-65	Sodic soils of UP and Haryana, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal
CSR-13	55-65	Haryana, Eastern and Central U.P., Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal
Pooja	40-50	Assam, M.P., Orissa, Tripura, West Bengal
VL-Dhan 81	40	Valley and hilly areas of U.P., Himachal Pradesh and Meghalaya
Jawahar Rice	23	M.P., Bihar and Orissa
Triguna	44	Coastal areas of A.P. and Maharashtra
VL-Dhan 61	50-54	Hills of U.P. and H.P.
Pusa 677	50-54	Tamil Nadu, Kamataka, A.P., M.P.
Nidhi	40	Tamil Nadu, A.P., Pondicherry, West Bengal
Pusa 834	50	A.P., Kamataka, U.P.
Mahameya	40	M.P., Orissa, Tripura
Pusa 44-33	50	U.P., Haryana
Narendra Dhan-359	50	U.P., Bihar, Orissa, Assam
Narendra Dhan 97	30	U.P., Orissa, West Bengal
Ajaya	50	Bihar, U.P., M.P., Punjab, Haryana
PNR-381	55	Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
Lunishree	45-50	Orissa
CR 1002	40-45	West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar

1	2	3
IR-64	40-45	All India
VL Dhan 221	30	U.P. and Himachal Pradesh
Haryana Basmati-1	45	Haryana, Punjab and U.P.
CST-7	40-45	Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal
Heera	30-40	Drought prone/rainfed uplands
Rice Hybrids		
APRH-1	71	Telengana, Rayalseema, A.P.
APRH-2	75	Telengana, Rayalseema, A.P.
MGR-1	61	Tamil Nadu
KRH-1	60	Karnataka
KRH-2	61	Karnataka
DRRH-1	75	Telengana and Rayalseem of Andhra Pradesh
CNRH-3	75	West Bengal
UPRH-27	64	U.P.

Statement II*Important High Yielding Varieties of Wheat developed and released recently*

Variety	Yield (Q/ha)	Area
1	2	3
UP 2425	38.00	Western Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana & Eastern Rajasthan
Wheat Shresth	50.00	Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan except Kota & Udaipur and Plains of H.P. and J&K
Malviya	45.00	Uttar Pradesh, Binar & West Bengal
Wheat 468		
Malav Shakti	44.00	MP, Gujarat, Kota and Udaipur Division
Bhawani	37.00	Kerala and Tamil Nadu
Ganga (DDK 1009)	47.00	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
G.W. 273	35-40	M.P., Gujarat, Rajasthan and Bundel Khand area of U.P.
MACS 2846	40.00	Maharashtra and Karnataka
Rajeshwari	36.00	U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam
Raj 3765	42.00	U.P., Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan

1	2	3
HP 1731	40-45	U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam
UP 2338	50-55	U.P., Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
WH 896	40-45	U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam
DL 803-3	45-50	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat
HI 8381	35-40	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat
DWR 195	35-40	Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
DL 784	45.00	U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam
PBW 299	35.00	U.P., Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
K8804	37-46	U.P., Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal
DWR 162	42	Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
HP 1633	45	Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam
GW 190	46	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan

New U.N. Treaty

2126. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries who have signed new U.N. Treaty that aimed at cutting of funding for terrorist activities;

(b) the aims of the new treaty;

(c) whether the subscribing States are also likely to cooperate in the matter of investigations, extraditions and funds known to be allocated for terrorist purposes;

(d) whether India had approached the U.N. General Assembly to declare the Pakistan a Terrorist State; and

(e) if so, the response of the U.N. General Assembly in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Algeria, Comoros, Finland, France, Italy, Malta, The Netherlands, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, and United States of America have so far signed the International Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9th December, 1999.

(b) Financing lies at the core of the problem of combating terrorism. Till now no international legal

instrument existed covering this area. The Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Financing concluded under the auspices of the United Nations in 1999 is aimed at bridging this gap.

(c) The Convention lays down on States Parties the duty to extradite or prosecute the offenders. The States Parties are also obliged to take appropriate measures for the confiscation of funds used or allocated for the purpose of committing the offences covered by the Convention.

(d) and (e) India has not approached the U.N. General Assembly to declare Pakistan a terrorist State, as the U.N. General Assembly does not have a practice of designating countries terrorist States. India has, however, repeatedly raised the problem of cross-border terrorism at the U.N. and proposed a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism to address the problem of state responsibility to refrain from and prevent acts of terrorism.

Export Promotion and Investment

2127. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken major initiatives for promotion and development of Information Technology in the country both for domestic application and export purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action plan under consideration and growth projections for the next five years;

(c) whether any plan has been finalised for boosting software exports for 2000-2002 and 9th Plan period alongwith projected export growth of software during next Five years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the investment made during the current year and likely to be made during next Five years for Information Technology Sector?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement in this regard is enclosed. The compounded annual growth rate for the Information Technology industry is estimated to be about 30-35% during the next five years.

(c) and (d) The software export target during the 9th plan for the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 have been fixed at Rs. 23,000 crores and Rs. 36,500 crores respectively. An annual growth rate of about 40% is expected during the next five years.

(e) The thrust of the Government is to create policy ambience to attract major investments primarily from the private sector. Government will act as a proactive facilitator, promotor and motivator. Government has been funding schemes/programmes relating to Telecom-infrastructure, IT education, Research, Design and Development.

Statement

Initiatives taken for the Growth of Information Technology (IT)

1. The Government of India has set up the Ministry of Information Technology on 15.10.1999 to facilitate all initiatives in the IT sector including Internet, e-commerce, It education and IT based education.

2. The Government has accepted the first report of the National IT Task Force outlining 108 recommendations of the IT Action Plan. These recommendations suggest measures and policies covering a wide spectrum of issues relating to telecommunication, finance, banking, revenue, commerce, electronics, HRD, defence and rural development to enable India to emerge as an Information

Technology super power within the next ten years. A target of software export of US \$ 50 billion by the year 2008 has been set. The Task Force has also recommended a goal of "IT for All" by 2008 in India. The second and third report of the Task Force address the issues and strategy for development of hardware industry, R&D in the area of IT, manpower training and education.

3. All Government Departments are required to spend 2-3% of their budget towards implementation of IT. To induce more investment in R&D in computers, a weighted deduction of 125% on the sums paid to any university, college or institution or a scientific research association for the purpose of scientific, social or statistical research has been provided.

4. Many States of India have drawn up comprehensive IT plans and have come out with IT policies which will help in creating a conducive environment for high growth of high-tech industries.

5. Government of India has also formed a Rs. 100 crores National Venture Capital Fund in association with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for the IT industry particularly for small and medium enterprises.

6. Penetration of Personal Computers (PCs) in the country at present is slightly more than 3 per 1000 persons. The target is to increase the PC penetration to 20 per 1000 person by the year 2008. To push the demand of PCs in the country, depreciation on computers has been increased to 60%.

7. Government has implemented Internet Service Providers (ISPs) Policy. ISPs are allowed to set up International Gateways and hire bandwidth on foreign satellites. Public and private sectors have been licensed to provide internet services in the country. No licence fee is payable for first five years and a nominal fee of one rupee is to be paid after five years. The internet policy approved by Governments provides inter-connection of networks and setting up of international gateway by the internet service provider independent of VSNL. The infrastructure for internet is proposed to be upgraded as below:

- (a) Department of Telecom Services (DTS) is setting up national internet backbone in the country.
- (b) Internet Service Providers are allowed to set up last mile linkages freely by fibre optic or by radio communication.
- (c) The Internet access is also allowed through authorized cable TV.

8. The tariff for internet access has been recently reduced. DTS have recently offered 20% concession on rental for leased lines taken and used for internet applications. Students are being given one time concession on internet accounts by DTS. Access to internet on local call basis from the nearest internet node has been provided throughout the country except in Andaman and Nicobar Island and Leh (J&K). The existing departmental Public Call Operators (PCO) and Subscriber Trunk Dialing (STD) booths are proposed to be upgraded to public tele-info/cyber centres. These centres will provide multi-utility services such as internet, e-mail access and internet libraries.

9. To provide the legal framework for transaction on Internet and e-commerce, Information Technology Bill, 1999 was introduced in the last session of the Parliament. Such a legal framework will facilitate and give a fillip to the e-commerce activities in the country.

World Bank Evolves New Strategy

2128. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "World Bank evolves new strategy" appearing in the 'Tribune' dated November 19, 1999;

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

(c) whether sustainable development and continuity is the main theme of the agenda;

(d) if so, the details of the agenda; and

(e) the new strategy evolved by the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) to (e) The World Bank's strategy for agricultural and rural development emphasises on sustainable development and continuity, even after projects undertaken with their financial assistance are completed. The elements of agenda and renewed strategy for sustainable development are:

- Participatory process through community involvement in selecting treatments, participating in sustainable application of such treatments and long term management of assets created through projects.

- Socio-economic aspects to ensure that benefits reach more marginalised and vulnerable sections of the rural population in the States.
- Development rural infrastructure including roads and market facilities etc.
- Institutional strengthening, such as, community capacity building, strengthening of policy reforms, human resource development, improvement in knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, and strengthening project management.
- Empowering women by improving their capacity to manage development by promoting income generating activities.

Software Development Centre

2129. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Singapore has evinced keen interest in setting up a software development centre in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely investments to be made by the Government of Singapore in this regard in this country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) While the Prime Minister of Singapore has evinced keen interest in setting up a Software development centre in Andhra Pradesh, no formal proposal in this regard has been received so far.

Foreign Capital Investment

2130. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procedure of foreign capital investment in the agriculture sector has been further simplified;

(b) if so, the estimated foreign capital investment in the agriculture sector at present;

(c) the percentage upto which foreign capital investment is likely to be made in the agriculture sector, and

(d) the improvements likely to be made in the agriculture sector under the said foreign capital investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No change in Policy or procedure regarding foreign capital investment in agriculture sector has been made.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Pension to Widows

2131. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Crooks wait on road to widows' pensions" appearing in the *Indian Express* dated February 6, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to enquire into such incidents all over the country alongwith reasons for non-clearance of widows' pensions; and

(d) the measure taken/proposed to be taken to check exploitation of widows and other deserving women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Development of Agricultural Land

2132. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a vast area of agricultural land is yet to be made cultivatable in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for bringing other land into agricultural purposes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is estimated that there is 142.8 million ha. Cultivated land in the country of which 89.8 m.ha. is under rainfed agriculture. In case of Maharashtra and Karnataka the total cultivated area is 17.9 and 16.0 m.ha. respectively of which rainfed area is 10.6 and 8.3 m.ha. respectively. Under rainfed agriculture, the productivity levels vary widely due to various kinds of land degradations. There is significant potential to increase productivity of rainfed agricultural land through appropriate interventions.

(c) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing the following land-based programmes in these two States for the development of degraded land and increasing agriculture productivity through watershed approach.

- (i) Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (FPR).
- (ii) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas.

The financial assistance provided by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to these States during the last three years is as under:

	(Rs. in crore)		
State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Maharashtra	33.54	33.20	43.60
Karnataka	18.46	30.50	31.15

Succor to Disabled Persons

2133. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitation International a chief consultative body to organizations like UNESCO, World Bank and UNICEF in the disability Sector has urged the Committee of Nations to provide succor to disabled persons in the new millennium as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 12, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the organisation has submitted a copy of its charter to the Prime Minister;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Rehabilitation Coordination India presented a Charter on Disability to the Hon'ble Prime Minister. A copy of the Charter is given in the Statement attached.

(d) The thrust of the Charter is that all possible facilities be provided to persons with disabilities for their overall development. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has already enacted a legislation, namely, the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 which came into force w.e.f. 7.2.1996. This Act provides for comprehensive services to the persons with disabilities for providing them equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation. All the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government, State Governments and UT Admns. and other appropriate agencies have to ensure the implementation of the various provisions of the Act by making necessary institutional arrangements and implementing various programmes for the people with disabilities within the limits of their economic capacity and development.

Statement

Rehabilitation International

Charter for the Third Millennium

We enter the Third Millennium determined that the human rights of each person in every society shall be recognised and protected. This Charter is proclaimed to translate this vision into reality.

Basic human rights are still routinely denied to entire sectors of the world's population, including many of the estimated 600 million children, women and men who have disabilities. We seek a world where equal opportunity for disabled people becomes natural consequence of enlightened policies and legislation supporting full inclusion in and access to all aspects of society.

Scientific and social progress in the 20th century has increased understanding of the unique and inviolate value of each life. Yet ignorance, prejudice, superstition and fear still govern much of society's response to disability. In the Third Millennium, we must accept disability as an ordinary part of the varied human condition. Statistically, at least 10% of any society is born with or acquires a disability, and about one family in four includes a disabled person.

In developed and developing countries in the North and South of the world segregation and marginalisation

have placed disabled people on the lowest rung of the social and economic ladder. In the 21st century, we must insist on the same human and civil rights for people with disabilities as for everyone else.

The 20th Century has demonstrated that with invention and ingenuity it is possible to extend access to every resource of the community—to the physical, social, and cultural environments, transportation, information, technology, mass media, education, justice, public service, employment, sports and recreation, voting and worship. In the 21st Century, we must extend this access from the few to the many, dismantling all environmental, electronic and attitudinal barriers to full inclusion in community life. With that access can come the stimulation of participation and leadership, the warmth of fellowship, the glories of shared affection, and the beauties of the earth and universe.

Every, minute of every day, more and more children and adults are being added to the number of persons whose disabilities result from the failure to prevent preventable diseases and failure to treat treatable conditions. Global immunisation and other prevention strategies are no longer aspirations they are practical and cost-effective possibilities. What is needed is the political determination, primarily of governments to end this affront to humanity.

Technological advances are theoretically bringing manipulation of the genetic components of life within human control. This introduces new ethical dimensions to the international dialogue about disability prevention. In the Third Millennium we must create compassionate policies that respect the dignity of all people and the inherent balance and benefits derived from the wide diversity among them.

International programmes to assist economic and social development should require minimum accessibility standards in all infrastructure projects, including technology and communications, to ensure that people with disabilities are fully included in the life of their communities.

Every nation should have on-going, countrywide programmes to reduce or prevent any risk that might lead to impairment, disability or handicap, as well as early intervention programmes for children and adults who become impaired.

All disabled people should have access to treatment, information about self-help techniques and if needed, provision of adaptive and appropriate technologies.

Every person with an impairment, and every family with a disabled member, should receive the rehabilitation

services necessary to optimise mental, physical and functional well being, thus ensuring the capacity of the disabled individual to manage life as independently as any other citizen.

Disabled people should have a central role in planning their own rehabilitation and support programmes, and disabled people's organisations should be empowered with the necessary resources to share responsibility in national planning for rehabilitation and independent living.

Community based rehabilitation should be widely promoted nationally and internationally as an affordable and sustainable approach to services.

Each nation must develop, with the participation of organisations of and for people with disabilities, a comprehensive plan with clearly defined targets and timetables for implementing the aims expressed in this Charter.

This Charter calls on Member States to support the early promulgation of a United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities as a key strategy to achieve these goals.

In the Third Millennium, it must become the goal of all nations to evolve into societies that protect the rights of people with disabilities by supporting their full empowerment and inclusion in all aspects of life. For these purposes, the Charter for the Third Millennium is proclaimed for action by all humankind, in the conviction that implementation of its aims is a primary responsibility of each government, and of all relevant non-governmental and international organisations.

This Charter was approved by the Assembly of Rehabilitation International in London, United Kingdom. 9 September, 1999.

Sd/-	Sd/-
Secretary General President,	Dr. Thakur V. Hari Prasad President, Rehabilitation Coordination Indiz.

Hostles for SC/ST Students

2134. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
DR. GIRIJA VYAS:

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

(a) the number of hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes boys and girls set up so far in the country under the Cental Scheme during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of proposals received by the Union Government in this regard from the State Governments during the years 1995-96 to 1999-2000, year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have not released its share for the implementation of said scheme for the years 1995-96, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which Central share is likely to be released to the State Governments;

(f) the number of SCs/STs boys and girls benefited from such hostels in the States, State-wise; and

(g) the necessary steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Construction of Hostels under the Central scheme is undertaken by the States/U.T. Administrations. During the last three years, 425 SC/ST Boys Hostels and 542 SC/ST Girls Hostels were sanctioned to the States/U.T. Administrations, as shown below:

	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC
Boys	59	90	103	27	62	84
Girls	68	162	106	78	83	45

(b) A Statement-I showing the proposals received during the years 1995-96 to 1999-2000 is attached.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

(f) and (g) Statements-II to V showing the beneficiaries are attached.

Statement I*Details of Proposal received during 1995-96 to 1999-2000 (Upto 6.3.2000)*

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Construction of Boys Hostels for STs	7	9	10	15	6
2.	Construction of Girls Hostels for STs	11	10	12	13	4
3.	Construction of Boys Hostels for SCs	16	10	10	9	17
4.	Construction of Girls Hostels for SCs	12	10	6	7	15
Total		46	39	38	44	42

Statement II*Details of Students benefited under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Boys Hostels for SCs.*

S.No.	State/U.T.	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3880	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Assam	144	Nil	84	Nil
3.	Bihar	Nil	250	Nil	Nil
4.	Gujarat	795	Nil	Nil	375
5.	Haryana	20	55	50	Nil
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	24	Nil	88	Nil
7.	Karnataka	1600	1025	Nil	1725
8.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	Nil	210
9.	Maharashtra	956	605	Nil	Nil
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1050	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Orissa	1526	Nil	60	Nil
13.	Punjab	56	Nil	Nil	56
14.	Rajasthan	725	1285	Nil	700
15.	Tamil Nadu	600	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Tripura	1	160	Nil	30
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1000	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	West Bengal	520	Nil	Nil	90
19.	Chandigarh	Nil	200	Nil	Nil
20.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		12897	3580	282	3186

Statement III*Details of Students benefited under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Boys Hostels for STs.*

S.No.	State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Andhra Pradesh	800	—	312	200
2.	Assam	—	160	145	50
3.	Gujarat	—	—	—	405
4.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	50	200
5.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—
6.	D&N Haveli	120	120	—	100
7.	Kerala	—	180	—	180
8.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	450
9.	Manipur	—	85	30	35
10.	Meghalaya	100	100	200	—
11.	Orissa	270	240	240	66
12.	Rajasthan	—	—	1150	450
13.	Tamil Nadu	—	150	—	—
14.	Tripura	200	100	50	50
15.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	100
16.	West Bengal	460	—	—	—
17.	Jammu & Kashmir	48	50	—	—
18.	Karnataka	—	—	200	150
19.	Maharashtra	—	—	300	775
20.	Bihar	—	—	—	150
Total		1998	1185	2677	3361

Statement IV*Details of Students benefited under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Girls Hostels for SCs.*

S.No.	State/U.T.	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4800	Nil	10940	Nil
2.	Assam	144	Nil	84	Nil
3.	Bihar	Nil	250	Nil	Nil
4.	Gujarat	200	401	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Haryana	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	50
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Karnataka	265	350	527	787
9.	Kerala	150	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Maharashtra	Nil	208	Nil	Nil
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	6600	Nil	Nil
12.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Orissa	270	300	Nil	Nil
14.	Punjab	32	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Rajasthan	75	Nil	Nil	225
16.	Tamil Nadu	1000	Nil	1300	900
17.	Tripura	120	40	Nil	100
18.	Uttar Pradesh	250	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	West Bengal	240	Nil	Nil	50
20.	Chandigarh	Nil	100	Nil	Nil
21.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		7546	8249	12851	2112

Statement V*Details of Students benefited under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Girls Hostels for STs.*

S.No.	State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	900	1000	416	50
2.	Assam	35	150	150	50
3.	Gujarat	—	—	—	230
4.	Himachal Pradesh	100	—	50	—
5.	Daman & Diu	60	—	60	—
6.	D&N Haveli	20	—	—	220
7.	Kerala	—	120	—	180
8.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	1700

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Manipur	—	75	15	—
10.	Maghalaya	100	100	200	—
11.	Orissa	360	360	330	66
12.	Rajasthan	200	100	—	200
13.	Tamil Nadu	—	50	—	—
14.	Tripura	100	100	—	50
15.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	50
16.	West Bengal	80	—	—	—
17.	J&K	98	—	—	—
18.	Karnataka	—	172	100	—
19.	Maharashtra	—	—	340	165
20.	Bihar	—	—	—	150
Total		2153	2227	1661	3111

[Translation]

Attachment of NRI with Socio-Economic Activities

2135. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to keep the Non-Resident Indians and the persons of Indian origin residing in foreign countries attached to their motherland on cultural, economic and emotional grounds?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): The Government through its Missions and Posts abroad maintains regular and continuous contacts with the Indian community organisations in various countries, covering all matters of common interest. This includes the Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) as well as Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs). Indian newspapers, magazines and books on India are made available through libraries in our Missions. Audio-visual material such as films, videotapes, etc. on various aspects of India's culture, history, religion, and socio-economic development are also available. The Indian Missions and Posts work actively with the Indian community organisations in holding various cultural events, including during visits of eminent artists from India. Indian Cultural Centres have been set up in several countries, which enables the Indian community to

benefit from their programmes to strengthen awareness and knowledge of India's cultural heritage.

2. Government has provided special facilities to NRIs/PIOs to invest in and participate in the economic development of India. These include special tax free bank deposit schemes, liberal facilities for Foreign Direct Investment, Portfolio Investment in Securities and Deposits, and Investment in Real Estate. A PIO Card is now available to enable PIOs to move more freely into India and entitles them to the same facilities as NRIs in economic, financial and educational fields.

3. Government also encourages Indian community organisations to come forward at time of national crisis, disasters, etc. to show their support for India. Indian Missions and Posts are in contact with Indian community organisations for this purpose.

[English]

Norms for Inclusion of Community in SC/ST or OBC List

2136. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY:

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

(a) the norms fixed by the Government to include certain community in the List of SC/ST or OBC;

(b) whether there is a proposal to include Dhobi community of Maharashtra in Scheduled Castes list and Vettaikara Naikan Community of Tamil Nadu in the Scheduled Tribes list; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not including these communities in the respective lists so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Criteria for inclusion of any community in the list of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBC are as under:

Scheduled Castes:

Extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the traditional practice of untouchability.

Scheduled Tribes:

Primitive traits, distinct culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness:

OBC:

Social, educational and economic aspects of backwardness;

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, The proposals have been received. The State Government concerned have been requested for sending additional ethnographic information justifying their inclusion in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[*Translation*]

MPLADS

2137. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sansad Nirvachan Kshetra Vikas Yojna puri safal nahin rahi" appearing in 'Dainik Jagran', dated 25th December, 1999;

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

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make MPLADS effective;

(d) the suggestions received by the Government from the Members of Parliament in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The news-item refers to un-utilised balance of the funds allocated under MPLADS to the extent of 40% and the proposal to allow the nominated Members of Parliament to spend funds in more than one State.

(c) The progress of expenditure has since increased to 65.5% thereby leaving the unutilised balance to the extent of 34.5%. This improvement is attributable to the number of steps taken by the Government in the recent past to accelerate the execution of projects under MPLADS. These include advice to all DCs to process and sanction all the works recommended by MPs to the extent of their entitlement of MPLADS funds, without waiting for the receipt of funds from this Ministry and to send a report in the prescribed format every month so that funds could be released to the fullest extent. The DCs have also been requested to stipulate a time limit for the implementing agencies to complete the given work in a specific time frame depending on the nature of work. All MPs have been requested to give their recommendation for various works well in advance in a phased manner, not to cancel works in the midway, recommend civil works, only on undisputed locations. The State Governments have also been advised to issue necessary instructions to all concerned to strictly follow the monitoring arrangement as laid down in the guidelines. The Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha has already considered the proposal to allow nominated members to recommend work in more than one State. The views of the Committee on MPLADS Lok Sabha, on the matter are yet to be received. After they are received, necessary changes in the guidelines would be made.

(d) and (e) Suggestions have been received from MPs for amendment of guidelines. Some of these have been referred to the respective Committees on MPLADS of both the Houses.

Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

2138. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have constituted any committee to identify the bonded labour and to rehabilitate them;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its composition; and

(c) the recommendations made by the Committee so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Under Section 13 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, Vigilance Committees both at the District and Sub-Divisional levels have been set up to identify, release and rehabilitate the bonded labourers. The details of the bonded labourers identified, released and rehabilitated on recommendations of the Vigilance Committees, State-wise are given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Name of the State	Bonded Labourers Identified and Released	Bonded Labourers Rehabilitated
Andhra Pradesh	36,289	29,552
Arunachal Pradesh	3,526	—
Bihar	13,092	12,368
Karnataka	62,727	55,231
Madhya Pradesh	12,822	11,897
Orissa	49,971	46,843
Rajasthan	7,478	6,217
Tamil Nadu	63,894	51,453
Maharashtra	1,384	1,300
Kerala	823	710
Haryana	544	21
Uttar Pradesh	27,726	27,718
Total	2,80,340	2,43,375

*[English]***Promotion of Education on Internet**

2139. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote and propagate internet education;

(b) if so, the programmes prepared in this regard;

(c) the steps being taken for implementation thereof;

(d) whether the assistance of any foreign company has been sought for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) From time to time Government have been taking various initiatives for promoting and implementing Internet based education. These include: (i) Virtual Campus Initiative of IGNOU - One Year PG Diploma in IT, (ii) Centralized Web site for Internet-Based Online Interactive Courseware and Courses - IIT Delhi, (iii) Internet-Based Online Interactive Information Services over Internet and Hybrid Network - IIT, Kanpur and (iv) Design and Development of Multimedia Based Courseware - BITS, Pilani.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Condemnation of the Incidents of Hijacking

2140. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several countries had condemned the hijacking of Indian Airlines Aircraft in December, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Canada had suggested to resort to negotiations with hijackers instead of condemning the incident of hijacking; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The hijacking of IC-814 received widespread international condemnation. This was elaborated in the

official statements issued by several foreign Governments. These statements of condemnation left no room for doubt that the hijacking of IC-814 represented an unacceptable act of international terrorism and that any action undertaken by Government would receive full support.

(c) and (d) The Government of Canada issued a statement saying that as it considered the safety of the passengers on board to be of the utmost importance, it was actively supporting a negotiated settlement to the hijack crisis. The Government of Canada also said that they could not overlook their wider concerns about terrorism and the threat that this posed to the international community.

Promotion of Indigenous Industry and Job Opportunities

2141. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Software Industry is very much dominated by the foreign companies like IBM and Microsoft etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the export potentials for the software and hardware in India;

(d) the details of the countries to which these computer software and hardware are likely to be exported alongwith the quantity and value thereof;

(e) the role of the Government in promoting the indigenous software companies and to promote job opportunities in India; and

(f) the estimated employment opportunity to be generated in the coming years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The IT Task Force has set a target of US\$ 50 billion for Software and US\$ 10 billion for hardware for the year 2005.

(d) A Statement is enclosed.

(e) The thrust of the Government is to create policy ambience for the growth of Indian Software sector and resultant job opportunities and creation of wealth.

(f) There is a potential for creation of 7 million jobs; break up being 2.2 million in the software sector and 4.8 million in the hardware sector.

Statement

The data for Hardware and Software export for the year 1998-99 to the major foreign destination is given below:

Destination	Year 1998-99 (%)	
	Software	Hardware
North America (USA & Canada)	61	21.78
Australia & New Zealand	2	0.52
Europe	23	23.21
Japan	4	7.24
South East Asia	4	34.90
West Asia	1.5	8.36
Rest of the World	4.5	3.99
Total Percentage	100	100
Total Value of Exports	Rs. 10,940 crores	

Cold Storage

2142. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) provides financial assistance to States for construction of rural cold storage by cooperatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such cold storage with the Central help set up in each State, State-wise;

(c) whether there is nay plan under construction of NCDC to construct more cold storage in the rural areas during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NCDC provides assistance for setting up Cold Storages under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for under/

Least developed States and under Corporation Sponsored Scheme in other States. So far, 240 Cold Storages with a Capacity of 6.63 lakh tonnes have been created with total assistance of about Rs. 93 crores. State-wise details are given in enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Cold Storages are, mainly, set up for storage of potatoes and other horticulture produce. These are set up on the basis of the requirements of Cooperatives as assessed and recommended by the State Governments. Programme for current year for setting up cold storage units in different States is indicated below:

State	No. of Units
Assam	1
Tripura	1
Bihar	1
West Bengal	2
Madhya Pradesh	3
	8

Statement

S.No.	State	No. of Units
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	20
4.	Gujarat	3
5.	Haryana	4
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	3
8.	Madhya Pradesh	19
9.	Karnataka	4
10.	Maharashtra	2
11.	Nagaland	1
12.	Orissa	18

1	2	3
13.	Punjab	16
14.	Rajasthan	3
15.	Tamil Nadu	2
16.	Tripura	1
17.	Uttar Pradesh	95
18.	West Bengal	45
19.	Chandigarh	1
Total		240

Gross Domestic Product

2143. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of negative environmental impact of development is being taken into account while assessing Gross Domestic Product (GDP);

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is aware that over 10 per cent of the country's GDP is being lost annually due to environment damage and related impact;

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

(e) the steps the Government propose to take control the environmental damage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Though concerns have been expressed both at national and international levels to take into account the environmental damages in the economic aggregates, it has not, however, been possible to evolve firm agreement at the international level on concept, definition, measurement and valuation of environmental assets and degradation beyond natural rejuvenation process. Therefore, the UN Statistical Commission has not recommended that the estimates of GDP be corrected for environmental damages.

(c) and (d) No official estimates of the loss of GDP due to environment damage and related impact are available. Some research studies are, however, available which indicate such losses varying from 2.64% to about 10%. These research studies are not based on comparable methodology and are heavily influenced by the value judgement of research workers.

(e) Several steps have been taken by the Government to prevent and control damage to the environment. Measures taken include prevention and control of pollution through legislation viz., Air (prevention and control of pollution) Act, 1981, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended upto the 1988, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1988, National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995, National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997, The Environment (Protection) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1999 — Emission Standards for New Generator Sets, Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1999 notification, etc; Mandatory Environment Impact Assessment of Development Projects to mitigate damage to environment; Emphasis on Pollution Prevention rather than end of the Pipe Pollution Control; Fiscal incentives to the industries for adopting cleaner production technology; an allocation of Rs. 850 crores made for 2000-2001 for implementing various schemes of the Ministry of Environment including Control of Pollution and Afforestation.

[Translation]

National Commission for Safai Karamchari

2144. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any recommendations from National Commission for Safai Karamchari in respect of injustice being meted out to the safai karamcharis and to conduct a survey to ensure the number of these employees and their dependants;

(b) if so, the other suggestions given by the Commission in this regard; and

(c) the action taken/proposed 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) to (c) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has submitted three annual reports for the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, 1997-98 (combined report). These annual reports contain the recommendations of the Commission on various aspects of Safai Karamcharis. The two annual reports for the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 along with Action Taken Memoranda are being processed for laying in the both houses of the Parliament. The third report for the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 was received in January, 2000.

[English]

Cyber Crisis

2145. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent hacking of some major Internet sites has exposed the vulnerability of cyber security in India as well;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to counter such assaults;

(c) whether the Government have received any suggestion from agencies to deal with the cyber crimes as cognizable offences;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether advancement in technology has broken the barrier of time and space crimes and criminals have also changed; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (f) Internet is a global entity and knows no international borders. Certain internet sites in the country have been affected by hackers activity. It is difficult to pinpoint the geographical locations of such hackers. The hackers generally operate under some fictitious names or from some dormant sites. As the use of net is increasing, various security measures are taken to safeguard the internet sites. Technology and security practices are also moving rapidly. Depending upon the needs of security, various levels of securities are normally used to safeguard the internet sites. For important sites, which need to be effectively guarded, proactive procedures

like firewalls are used to secure the network from infiltration. The other precautions which are followed include changing the system password and conducting security audit of the system regularly.

The Information Technology Bill, 1999 which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.12.1999 provides for penalty for various types of cyber offences including hacking.

Upper Tunga Irrigation Project

2146. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper Tunga Irrigation project is pending with Central Water Commission for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Project Report of Upper Tunga Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 379.97 crore was submitted by the Government of Karnataka to Central Water Commission in February, 1992 for providing annual irrigation of 94698 Hectares (2,34,000 Acres) to Shimoga, Dharwad and Chitradurge districts.

(c) Clearance of the Project is linked with compliance of observations regarding dam, gates, canal, irrigation planning, environment, construction material and cost aspects by the State Government.

Privatisation of Steel Plants

2147. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:
SHRI SAHIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to privatise all the Plants of the Steel Authority of India Limited including Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any negotiation has been done with any Indian or Foreign Company in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the norms laid down by the Government to involve Private Sector in Steel Plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) With the onset of the New Industries Policy, iron and steel industry has been dereferred from the list of industries reserved for the public sector. Further, there is no requirement of Industrial licensing for setting up of iron and steel plants in the country save for certain locational restrictions. Since the Steel Industry has been opened up to the market completely, investment decisions for setting up steel plants etc. are a matter of commercial judgement on the part of the entrepreneurs.

Grading of NGOs

2148. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:
SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to do grading of Non-Governmental Organisations on the basis of their financial performance and the qualitative impact of their work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the Non-Governmental Organisations blacklisted during the last three years due to financial misappropriation;

(d) whether the Government have stopped grant to such NGOs including that of 'Indian Council of Education';

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the action likely to be taken against those organisation found defaulters; and

(g) the steps taken to recover the funds misappropriated?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) List is given in the Statement attached.

(d) On receipt of a complaint against the Honorary Director, Indian Council of Education, New Delhi, Govt. of Delhi was requested to conduct an enquiry into the affairs of the organisation. The grounds of complaint were not established on enquiry. It has, therefore, been decided not to discontinue grant-in-aid to organisation.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The grants to these organizations have been stopped and the State Governments have been advised to initiate action for recovery of funds and seize the assets created by them out of the Government funds.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the NGO
1.	Anjuman Madrasa Islamia Jalaun, U.P.
2.	Indian Institute of Rural Reconstruction & Social Change, Jehanabad, Bihar.
3.	Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Bihar.

ISI and Taliban Hand In Hijacking

2149. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Apharan mein Laden, Taliban va ISI ka hath hone ka andesha" appearing in Dainik Jagran, dated December 26, 1999;

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

(c) whether any links have been detected between the hijacking episode of IC-814 on December 24, 1999 and the Osama bin Laden operating from Saudi Arabia;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(e) the steps being taken on the international forum by the Indian Government against Osama bin Laden; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to curb such activities of Laden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Government have seen the report appearing in the Dainik Jagran of December 26, 1999. Available evidence with Government points in the direction of Pakistan's complicity in the hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight IC-814. Government have raised the matter with

the Government of Pakistan and have reminded them that as a signatory to several International Conventions against Terrorism, also the Simla Agreement of 1972, and the Lahore Declaration, it has an obligation to take the hijackers into custody and extradite them to India. Government have also raised the matter of Pakistan's complicity in the hijacking of IC-814 with the international community through the relevant international fora. There is now much greater awareness of Pakistan's continued sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India and the impact this has on the security of the country and the region. This concern is being reflected in the statements issued by the official spokesmen of several foreign Governments and in the coverage by the international media.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Export by Small Scale Industries

2150. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the share of small scale industries in the overall export as compared to the organised sector in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the extent of its contribution to the employment generation and creation of wealth in the country; and

(c) the long-term strategy formulated for the development and growth of small scale industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) The share of Small Scale Industries in the overall Export of India during the last three years is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Year	Total Exports of the country	Exports from Small Scale Sector	% share in India's total Exports
1.	1996-97	117524.98	39248.54	33.40%
2.	1997-98	126286.00	44442.18	35.19%
3.	1998-99	141603.53	48979.23 (P)	34.59%

(P) Provisional

(b) It is estimated that the Small Scale Sector is providing gainful employment to about 171.58 lakh

persons. The contribution of the Small Scale Sector as a whole to the total production of the manufacturing sector in India is about 40%.

(c) The long term strategy envisages greater focus on improved credit flow, enhanced technology support for modernisation & quality upgradation, fiscal concession in the form of excise relief, expanding Entrepreneurship Development Programmes by involving voluntary agencies & strengthening Entrepreneurship Development Institutes, improving export capabilities of this sector, and providing better common facilities, services & training facilities and increasing use of information technology, etc.

India and Russia to Formalise Strategic Partnership

2151. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia has informed India that the stage could now be set for formalisation of a strategic partnership between the two countries;

(b) if so, the proposals which are under consideration to be signed during next Indo-Russian Summit between both the countries; and

(c) the extent to which these proposals are likely to improve the relation between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Relations between India and the Russian Federation are time-tested and have traditionally been characterised by continuity, trust and mutual understanding. These are based on mutuality of interests and to mutual benefit. The principles governing our bilateral relations are enunciated in the bilateral treaties of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of August 9, 1971; of Friendship and Cooperation of January 28, 1993; the Declaration on Further Development and Enhancement of Cooperation of June 30, 1994; and the Moscow Declaration on the Protection of Interests of Pluralistic States of June 30, 1994. The Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and the Russian Federation will carry forward the principles in the above Treaties.

The text of the Declaration on Strategic Partnership has been mutually agreed upon and would be signed during the next Indo-Russian Summit, expected to take place after the Presidential elections in the Russian Federation.

Cattle Disease

2152. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals/schemes from States particularly from Andhra Pradesh for sanction/approval to eradicate foot and mouth disease amongst cattle

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering complete funding in order to eradicate this disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV:

(a) Yes, Sir. State Governments submit proposals for central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes including Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control Programme every year. Proposals from Andhra Pradesh also have been received for consideration.

(b) During the current financial year State Government of A.P. has submitted two proposals under this scheme for approximately Rs. 3 lakhs, and for Rs. 333 lakhs for a special scheme under Janma Bhumi Programme. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State Government under the first proposal for Rs. 3 lakhs. The proposal for sanction of Rs. 333 lakhs under the Janma Bhumi Programme could not be favourably considered since it is deficient in certain essential aspects, and also due to budgetary constraints.

(c) The proposal for revising the funding pattern for this scheme is in its formative stages only.

(d) Does not arise.

ESI Hospitals

2153. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have submitted number of proposals related to ESI hospitals to the Union Government for approval and financial assistance during the years 1998 and 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of those proposals; and

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

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

(b) and (c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) the pending proposals will be finalised as and when necessary clarification/information is received from the State Government.

Statement

Proposals for Sanction of various equipment in ESI hospitals/dispensaries and status of sanction for Karnataka

S.No.	Name of Hospital	Equipment sanctioned/under process of sanction
1	2	3
1.	Rajajinagar	Sanction conveyed for Auto analyser, Ultrasonography, Dental Unit, Pulse Oximeter, Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator. Proposal for sanction of Urology equipments, ECHO Cardiogram, EPABX and ENT department are under process.
2.	Indira Nagar	Sanction conveyed for purchase of Ultrasound, Dental Unit, Pulse Oximeter, Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator. Proposal for Trauma centre equipments, EPABX Board are under process.
3.	Mysore	Sanctions conveyed for 300 MA X-Ray machines, Ultrasonography, dental Unit, Pulse Oximeter Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator. Proposals for Boyles apparatus is under process.

1	2	3
4.	Dandeli	Sanction conveyed for 300 MA X-Ray machine. Proposal for sanction of ambulance is under process.
5.	Davangere	Sanction conveyed for 60 MA X-Ray machine, Ultrasonography, Dental Unit, Pulse Oximeter, Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator. Proposal for upgradation from 50-70 beds and ambulance are under process.
6.	Mangalore	Sanction conveyed for 60 MA X-Ray Machine, Ultrasonography, Dental Unit, Pulse Oximeter, Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator.
7.	Hubli	Sanction conveyed for 60 MA X-Ray machine, Ultrasonography, Dental Unit, Pulse Oximeter, Cardiac Monitor with Defibrillator.
8.	Shahbad	Rs. 40 lacs released for purchase of initial equipments.
9.	Belgaum	Rs. 40 lacs released for purchase of initial equipments.
10.	ESI Dispensaries (126 Nos.)	Sanction conveyed for necessary basic equipments.
11.	Computers	The provision of computers to State Govt. Directorates, as a policy, is under consideration of ESIC.

[*Translation*]

Oustees of Narmada Dam

2154. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated an action plan to ensure proper rehabilitation for the oustees of Narmada Dam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of oustees of Narmada Dam rehabilitated so far;

(d) the amount spent so far and estimated amount likely to be spent on their rehabilitation; and

(e) the time by which they are likely to be rehabilitated?

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

(b) Based on comprehensive database, past experiences in Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) in other projects and liberalised R&R policy, the Government of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra had prepared their individual Action Plans in early 1993 which were later revised in 1995. These Plans were integrated by NCA into an integrated Master Plan to present a holistic picture of the R&R programme. This Master Plan inter-alia dealt with socio-economic and cultural milieu of PAFs, the legal framework, R&R policy and procedures, implementation machinery, organisation for R&R, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E), empowerment of women and youth, special care for vulnerable groups, appeal mechanisms, consultation with oustees, financial plan for R&R etc. As per 1995 Master Plan the total Project Affected Families (PAFs) had increased from 30144 to 40727. Number of PAFs have further increased to 40827 due to addition of 100 more genuine PAFs in Maharashtra recently. The Master Plan includes village-wise, category-wise PAFs and their preference in R&R to settle in home state or in Gujarat.

In compliance to the decision of Review Committee of NCA in 1996 the R&R Sub-Group of NCA is reviewing the R&R measures at every 5 m height of the dam and the Action Plan for Resettlement and Rehabilitation for balance families upto a dam height of EL 90.0 m has been finalised for implementation by the States.

(c) A total of 11,569 PAFs have been rehabilitated as on 27.1.2000.

(d) The cost of resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) works associated with SSP was estimated as Rs. 870 crores at 1995 price level. A total expenditure of Rs. 436.61 crores have been incurred on R&R works upto January, 2000.

(e) The rehabilitation work is being taken up pari-passu with the progress on the raising of the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam, which is subjudice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

[*English*]

National Cooperative Policy

2155. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to formulate a National Cooperative Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy; and

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to formulate a National Policy on Cooperatives in order to facilitate all round development and economic viability of the Cooperatives and to ensure their working as autonomous, self-reliant and democratically managed institutions, responsible to their members.

(c) Certain procedural formalities like consultation with the State Governments and all other Concerned Departments are to be completed before giving it a final shape. Approval of the Cabinet will also be necessary thereafter. Thus, No rigid time frame for formulation of the policy can be indicated.

[*Translation*]

Indians in Russian Jails

2156. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian citizens are in jails of the Russia and other countries disintegrated from Russia;

(b) if so, the number of Indian citizens imprisoned in these countries, country-wise;

(c) the period of their imprisonment and the major crimes committed by them;

(d) whether the Indian Government have made any efforts to get them released; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) According to information available with Government, a total of 24 Indian nationals are currently in prisons of countries which have emanated from the disintegration of the Former Soviet Union. The terms of imprisonment of these nationals are varied, with the maximum term being 9 years. The Indian nationals have been sentenced for various crimes including burglary, physical assault, cheating, currency speculation, drug trafficking and murder.

(d) and (e) As soon as the Indian Embassies in the concerned countries have been intimated of arrests, detention or sentencing of any Indian national, our Missions have immediately sought consular access and consular officials have been visiting those serving prison terms. Through the intervention of our Missions, cases of improvement in conditions of prisons have been reported. In some cases, the terms of sentences have been reduced and one prisoner amnestied and deported back to India. Our Missions constantly monitor the welfare of Indian nationals, even in prisons overseas.

[English]

Mango Pulp Industries

2157. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to promote mango pulp industries and fruit processing industries in the country;

(b) if so, the number of mango pulp industries functioning in the country, State-wise and the details of the production and export in terms of quality and value;

(c) whether the Union Government have any special programme to increase the area under the cultivation of mango in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The Department of Food Processing Industries provides support to facilitate overall growth of food processing sector including fruit processing. Under its plan schemes, the Department provides concessional finance to food processing industries. Besides, other agencies like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC), also provide assistance under their respective schemes. This sector has also been included as priority sector for providing loan by Financial Institutions.

(b) The total number of Mango processing units in the country as on April, 1999 is 292. Of this, 42 units are located in Andhra Pradesh, 50 units in Tamil Nadu and the rest in other States. The total production is estimated to be 62,000 to 80,000 Metric Tonnes per annum. Export of Mango pulp in 1997-98 was 46874.526 MT valued at Rs. 125.31 crores.

(c) and (d) A Central sector scheme, entitled Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits, is being implemented during the 9th Plan by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation under which, assistance is being provided for various activities including area expansion of fruit crops. Mango is also covered under the programme. The outlay for the scheme during 1999-2000 is Rs. 25.00 crores.

[Translation]

Ongoing Irrigation Projects

2158. DR. SANJAY PASWAN:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Five Year Irrigation Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the production of foodgrains is likely to be doubled by the year 2008 as a result of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) All types of irrigation development schemes are conceived, formulated and implemented by the State Governments from their own allocation of Plan funds. However, under the ongoing Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) the following strategies have been adopted for the development of irrigation in the country.

- (i) To improve water use efficiency by progressive reduction in conveyance and application losses;
- (ii) To bridge the gap between the potential created and its utilisation by strengthening the Command Area Development Programme (CADP), institutional reforms and promoting farmer's involvement in irrigation management;
- (iii) To complete all the ongoing projects, particularly those which were started during pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan period as a time bound programme to yield benefits from the investments already made;
- (iv) To restore and modernise the old irrigation systems which were executed during the pre-Independence period and 25 years ago;
- (v) To introduce rational pricing of irrigation water, based initially on O&M cost and then to encourage higher level of water use efficiency;
- (vi) To take concrete steps towards comprehensive and integrated development of natural water resources, taking into account the possibility of inter-river-basin transfer of surplus water;
- (vii) To promote adaptive research and development to ensure more cost-effective and efficient execution and management of irrigation systems;
- (viii) To promote Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) with full involvement of water user community, which will be at the centre stage of the implementation of above strategies of the Ninth Plan;
- (ix) To encourage and implement the conjunctive use of ground and surface water towards optimal utilisation of water resource and to have its development environmentally sustainable as well; and
- (x) To accelerate the development and utilisation of ground water, particularly in the eastern

region on sound technical, environmental and economic considerations also with proper regulatory mechanisms.

The Ninth Five Year Plan targets for creating additional irrigation potential in the country and corresponding outlays are as under:

Sector	Target for creation of Additional irrigation Potential (in million hectare)	Outlay (Rs. crore)
Major & Medium Irrigation	9.81	42644.11
Minor Irrigation	7.24	3984.84
Total	17.05	51628.95

(c) and (d) The Ninth Plan target is to achieve a growth rate of about 4.5% per annum in agricultural output and production of 234 million tonnes of foodgrains by 2001-02.

[English]

Ban on Harkat-ul-Mujahideen

2159. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. and U.K. have asked Pakistan to curb militant group operating from Pakistan and also ban the Harkat-ul-Mujahideen and disband its organisational presence in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether U.S. Senate team and British Chief Defence Staff visited Pakistan in January, 2000;

(d) if so, whether Pakistan has agreed to the request of U.S.A. and U.K. over the ban of the terrorist activities of Harkat-ul-Mujahideen; and

(e) if so, the present status of the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) The United States of America have asked Pakistan to crack down on terrorist organisations operating within the country. The United Kingdom has told Pakistan to

stop cross-border terrorism. This was conveyed, respectively by the two countries, during the visit of the US Senate team and the British Chief of Defence Staff in January, 2000.

Pakistan continues to actively encourage terrorist organisations operating from its territory and with its state sponsorship of cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere in India. This is now widely acknowledged by the international community, which openly recognises Pakistan's state sponsorship of terrorism and the impact it has on the security of India and the region.

Government remains committed to take all steps necessary for safeguarding the security and territorial integrity of the country.

Assistance to National Dairy Development Board

2160. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Development Board has received any financial aid/grants from the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The NDDB has received the following amount as financial aid/grants from the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying during the last three financial years:

Financial Year	Funds received from Projects (Rs. in lakhs)
1996-97	1450.00
1997-98	398.00
1998-99	50.00

Development of Horticulture

2161. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is providing financial assistance under Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits and Development of Commercial floriculture;

(b) if so, the assistance provided during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to promote tissue culture technology in the production of horticultural crops;

(d) if so, the names of crops identified for tissue culture;

(e) whether the production of horticultural crops has shown any increase in tissue culture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement indicating the assistance provided to the State Governments under the Central Sector Scheme on Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits and Development of Commercial Floriculture during the last three years of the 9th Plan inclusive of the current year is attached.

(c) and (d) Horticultural crops like banana, papaya, citrus, cashew, guava, potato, pepper, ginger, turmeric, vanilla, cardamom and flower plants have been identified for propagation through tissue culture.

(e) and (f) Tissue culture is used for rapid multiplication of disease free planting material. This technology has been successful in commercial production of crops like banana, the production of which has increased from 7.79 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 14.14 million tonnes in 1997-98.

Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

State	Funds Provided Under Fruits Scheme			Funds Provided Under Floriculture Scheme		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Outlay)	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Outlay)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	41.00	80.00	114.06	10.00	47.40	18.20
Arunachal Pradesh	22.00	39.44	55.27	1.50	8.48	11.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	5.00	20.00	45.83	3.00	3.50	10.50
Bihar	71.72	20.00	101.97	0.00	45.00	10.50
Goa	0.00	0.00	11.90	0.00	4.00	12.50
Gujarat	0.00	30.00	115.61	0.00	0.00	11.00
Haryana	34.80	75.00	94.81	0.00	79.30	22.20
Himachal Pradesh	22.00	0.00	71.00	0.00	48.00	20.20
Jammu & Kashmir	232.00	0.00	104.41	14.50	0.00	18.20
Karnataka	80.00	140.00	200.17	19.50	20.00	24.40
Kerala	98.50	216.19	94.56	0.00	25.00	22.00
Madhya Pradesh	108.00	133.00	112.06	5.20	43.00	15.00
Maharashtra	100.00	214.00	204.64	0.00	12.00	18.70
Manipur	182.00	0.00	77.58	3.00	0.00	11.00
Meghalaya	10.30	10.00	21.85	0.00	3.00	11.40
Mizoram	30.00	19.00	40.13	6.00	0.00	9.40
Nagaland	50.00	113.00	59.70	12.00	3.00	59.90
Orissa	299.00	500.00	335.11	12.00	1.00	61.50
Punjab	25.00	39.08	49.08	22.50	21.00	18.70
Rajasthan	40.00	70.08	80.62	9.00	6.99	10.80
Sikkim	10.30	14.00	55.79	13.50	41.00	23.30
Tamil Nadu	80.00	183.00	148.03	0.00	25.00	21.80
Tripura	14.20	27.00	31.90	0.00	6.00	5.60
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	20.00	122.44	0.00	21.97	16.20
West Bengal	70.00	0.00	93.10	0.00	14.00	13.80
A&N Islands	11.30	4.00	14.69	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	11.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
D & N Haveli	4.80	2.50	6.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.00	0.00	5.90	12.00	83.00	13.20
Daman & Diu	4.80	2.50	8.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	10.90	9.00	14.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	3.00	2.50	8.01	3.00	1.98	2.00
Total	1671.62	1984.29	2500.10	146.70	563.62	493.00

Agreement on Information Technology

2162. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and United States have arrived at an agreement on information technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories

2163. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the State Government of Karnataka for the establishment of Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories with the help of Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilizers", financial assistance is provided for strengthening/setting up soil testing laboratories. However, the Scheme has no provision to extend this financial assistance for setting up mobile soil testing laboratories.

The proposal of Government of Karnataka for setting up mobile soil testing laboratories has not been received in this Ministry.

(b) and (c) The questions do not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

New Agricultural Insurance Scheme

2164. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Governments particularly from Government of Maharashtra to make changes in the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Demands have been made from time to time by the implementing States including Maharashtra for improving the scope and content of Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). These demands include:

- Bringing more crops under the purview of CCIS.
- Extending its scope to cover non-loanee farmers.
- Lowering the unit area of Insurance etc.

(c) On the basis of the demands of the States/UTs. Government of India has already introduced the 'National Agricultural Insurance Scheme' (NAIS) from Rabi 1999-2000 in place of CCIS in the country. The new scheme covers all farmers both loanee and non-loanee) and all crops (subject to availability of past yield data). The Scheme is required to be implemented at smaller unit of insurance *i.e.* at Gram Panchayat level within a period of three years subject to availability of yield data and capability to conduct crop cutting experiments.

Recommendation of Employees Provident Funds

2165. DR. BALIRAM:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dave Committee has recommended to invest a part of amount deposited under Employees Provident Funds in capital market/securities; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations likely to be accepted and rejected separately alongwith the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The Dave Committee has recommended, *inter-alia*, discontinuation of premature withdrawal from PF, opening of individual accounts by the EPF members, enhancement of employer's contributions to Pension Fund to 10% withdrawal of Government contribution of 1.16% to the Pension Fund, professional management of pension fund etc. The recommendations of the Dave Committee relating to the Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Pension Scheme have been considered and rejected by the Central Board of Trustees, EPF on the ground of being contrary to the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. This has been communicated to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which had constituted the Dave Committee.

[English]

Indians Migrated to Gulf Countries

2166. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of Indians migrated to Gulf countries during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) A Statement indicating the number of Indians who migrated to other countries for overseas employment during the last three years, State-wise is attached. In each of the three years, about 80% of these workers migrated to the Gulf countries. The details given in the statement pertain to only such of the workers who migrated to different countries for work after obtaining emigration clearance from the offices of Protector of Emigrants and not those in whose case emigration clearance was not required.

Statement

No. of workers who migrated to other countries for work

State	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	38,278	30,599	18,983
Assam	776	513	24
Bihar	6,369	14,569	5,866
Gujarat	12,792	8,528	3,956
Goa	1,024	945	543
Haryana	929	1,692	288
Himachal Pradesh	61	207	130
Jammu & Kashmir	228	769	262
Karnataka	40,396	11,535	5,287
Kerala	1,56,102	91,720	60,445
Madhya Pradesh	3,897	6,429	904
Maharashtra	25,146	24,657	9,871
Manipur	07	—	—
Meghalaya	04	—	—
Orissa	3,511	2,079	549

1	2	3	4
Punjab	12,414	26,876	15,167
Rajasthan	28,242	19,824	9,809
Tamil Nadu	63,672	69,793	47,402
Tripura	-	1	14
Uttar Pradesh	17,754	33,728	11,789
West Bengal	2,254	3,765	1,559
Delhi	2,494	5,535	3,569
Pondicherry	74	285	180
Sikkim	-	1	12
Chandigarh	-	78	872
Others	-	1,236	2,071
Total	4,16,424	3,55,164	1,99,552

Revival of Alloy Steel Plant Durgapur

2167. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the loss incurred by Alloy Steel Plant Durgapur during the current year;

(b) whether the Management of Steel Authority of India Limited have agreed to make the Alloy Steel Plant at Durgapur viable;

(c) if so, the details of revival of plant; and

(d) to what extent the measures taken by the SAIL have succeeded in revival of this plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Alloy Steel Plant incurred a loss of Rs. 172 crores from April-December, 1999 during the current year.

(b) to (d) The Government has approved the financial restructuring of SAIL which includes eventual divestment of Alloy Steels plant. Meanwhile the management of SAIL is taking steps to make the plant viable.

A committee headed by Dr. S.K. Bhattacharya, Director (RDCIS) recommended the following measures

to improve the viability of the Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur.

- MoU with 10-12 major customers who consume about 60% of billets, rounds and bars produced by ASP. Concept of key accounts managers can be introduced.
- Emphasis for increasing market share in eastern region from the present level of 24% Share in the other regions have to be maintained.
- Focus on high contributing products like billets, forgings, quenched & tempered plates.
- Concentrated efforts on fewer grades and products with larger quantity.
- Finding market of stainless steel slabs other than SSP.

Process improvement measures for controlling variable cost *inter-alia* by way of reduction in raw materials, power and fuel consumption, improvement in yield and quality, etc., have also been suggested. Some of them will be implemented by March, 2000 without any investment, with benefits accruing from 2000-01.

Addition/modification of some facilities which have been suggested, with a total investment of Rs. 8.8 crore will be implemented within a maximum period of 15 months, and benefits should accrue latest by 2001-02.

Impact of these measures will be evaluated after their implementation.

Labour Courts and Tribunals

2168. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Labour Courts and industrial tribunals under Union Government are without any judge and adequate manpower;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Statement showing the vacant posts of Presiding Officers and Staff in Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts.

S.No.	Name of CGIT-cum-Labour Court	Vacancy Position	
		Name of Posts	Date of vacancy
1.	Asansol	1. Presiding Officer	10.7.99
		2. P.A.	1.6.93
		3. LDC	1.4.93
2.	Bangalore	1. Presiding Officer	7.10.99
		2. UDC	2.5.98
		3. LDC	27.10.93
3.	Calcutta	1. Presiding Officer	1.2.2000
4.	Dhanbad No. 2	1. Presiding Officer	1.12.99
5.	Jabalpur	1. Presiding Officer	14.1.2000
		2. Secretary to Court	1.2.2000
6.	Jaipur	1. Secretary to Court	1.9.98
		2. Daftry	1.9.98
7.	Mumbai No. 1	1. Presiding Officer	8.1.2000
8.	Chennai	1. Presiding Officer	24.5.99
9.	Bhubaneswar	1. Presiding Officer	24.5.99
		2. Daftry	24.5.99
10.	Hyderabad	1. Presiding Officer	24.5.99
11.	Nagpur	1. P.A.	15.9.98
		2. UDC	15.9.98

Selection of Presiding Officers for CGIT-cum-Labour Court, Chennai and Bhubaneswar has been made and sent to the Competent Authority. As regards the remaining

vacant posts, steps are being taken to fill up the vacancies expeditiously.

[Translation]

Procurement of Soyabeans

2169. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and price at which NAFED has procured soyabeans from Madhya Pradesh during the current year;

(b) the main agencies from whom they have been procured;

(c) whether this procured soyabean has been processed;

(d) the quantity of soyabean still left unprocessed; and

(e) whether the Government propose to process the entire quantity of soyabean so that Madhya Pradesh oil seed association will be benefited by this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) A quantity of 3,32,266 MTS of yellow Soyabean @ Rs. 845/- per Qtl. and 2652 MTS of Black Soyabean @ Rs. 755/- per Qtl. has been procured in Madhya Pradesh during the current year under the Price Support Scheme.

(b) The procurement was undertaken by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) through Madhya Pradesh Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (MARKFED) and Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Oilseeds Growers Federation Ltd., (Oilfed).

(c) and (d) A quantity of 50,000 MTS is being processed through the plants of M.P. Oilfed, out of which around 40,000 MTS has so far been processed and the remaining 10000 MTS is still to be processed.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Non-Acceptance of Indian Currency by High Commissions

2170. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some High Commissions like Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore have stopped accepting notes of Rs. 500 denomination;

(b) if so the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The High Commissions of Malaysia and Singapore and the Embassy of Thailand have denied that they were not accepting notes of Rs. 500 denomination.

(c) All the foreign diplomatic missions have been advised to accept notes of Rs. 500 denomination from Indian national for normal diplomatic services. They have also been advised to contact a designated officer of the Reserve Bank of India in case of any doubt about the genuineness of any Indian currency or any other matter connected therewith.

[Translation]

Potable Water from Sea

2171. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI TARUN GOGOI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has recently developed a new technology to convert sea water into potable water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to launch pilot projects in major cities to get potable water from sea;

(d) if so, whether any agreement has been signed with the Government of coastal States and private agencies to provide technology for setting up commercial plants for converting sea water into potable water; and

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL,

PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

[English]

Upliftment Schemes for Fishermen

2172. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being sponsored by the Government as well as by the National Cooperative Development Corporation for the upliftment of poor fishermen and small fish farmers;

(b) the funds spent by the Union Government as well as National Cooperative Development Corporation on those schemes during 1998-99 and 1999-2000, till date;

(c) the States where these schemes are being implemented; and

(d) the progress achieved by those States through these schemes?

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

(a) to (c) The schemes sponsored by Government of India which *inter alia* result in the upliftment of poor fishermen and small fish farmers, the expenditure under these Schemes during last year and current year (upto Feb., 2000) and the States and Union Territories in which these Schemes are implemented are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Expenditure	
		1998-99	1999-2000 (Upto Feb., 2000)
A. Coastal States and Union Territories			
1.	Integrated Coastal Aquaculture	100.00	195.19
2.	Fishing Harbours at Major & Minor Ports	1069.30	259.45
3.	Development of Marine Fisheries	1063.98	890.00
B. All States and Union Territories			
4.	Development of Freshwater Aquaculture	798.00	623.39
5.	National Welfare of Fishermen	1099.38	1748.64
6.	Training & Extension	40.04	61.57

The Schemes implemented by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), *inter alia*, provide assistance to fishery co-operatives to take up the following activities:

- (i) Purchase of operational inputs such as fishing boats, nets and engines.
- (ii) Creation of infrastructure facilities for marketing (transport vehicles, cold storages, retail outlets, etc.)

- (iii) Establishment of processing units including ice plants, cold storages, etc.
- (iv) Development of inland fisheries, seed farms, hatcheries, etc.
- (v) Integrated fisheries projects.

The funds spent by NCDC on these schemes during 1998-99 was Rs. 5319.31 lakhs and during 1999-2000 till date is Rs. 4299.05 lakhs. These Schemes are implemented in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura and West Bengal.

(d) The progress of the various Schemes during 1998-99 is as below:

1. A total of 836 ha of brackish water area was brought under scientific fish farming and 1248 fish farmers were trained in improved practices.
2. Construction of one Fishing Harbour and five Fish landing Centres were completed.
3. A total of 740 traditional crafts were sanctioned for motorisation and about 18000 mechanised fishing vessels of length below 20 metre benefited from the scheme for reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD.
4. A total of 41230 ha water area were brought under freshwater fish farming and 29647 fish farmers were trained.
5. A total of 3333 houses were sanctioned for construction and 12.13 lakhs fishermen were provided insurance cover.

The Schemes implemented by Government of India and NCDC resulted in higher fish production, employment generation and better living standards for the fishermen.

Specific Data on Handicap

2173. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "disabled angry at non-inclusion" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 31.01.2000;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Census Commissioner;

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

(e) whether the Government have prepared the frame work of the persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 granting certain rights and privileges to the disabled; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has always been concerned about collecting accurate data on the number of disabled persons in the country. Data on disability was collected in 1981 Census. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have taken up the issue of collection of disability data through the 2001 Census from 1997 onwards with the concerned authorities. We have also offered to provide training to enumerators to be used for this purpose. However, in view of the technical difficulties in collecting accurate disability data in the 1981 Census, the Registrar General & Census Commissioner as well as the Ministry of Home Affairs are of the view that Census is not the right medium for collecting reliable data on disability, it has, therefore, been decided to request the Department of Statistics to direct National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) to undertake a comprehensive sample survey to collect data on the incidence of disability as was done earlier in 1991.

(e) to (f) Under the provisions of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 the following have been constituted: (i) Central Coordination Committee, which undertakes review and coordination of the activities of all Departments of Government and other Governmental and non-Governmental organisations which are dealing with matters relating to persons with disabilities and (ii) Central Executive Committee, which is responsible for carrying out the decisions of the Central Coordination Committee. The Central Government has also appointed Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities under the Act to supervise/monitor the implementation of the above Act. Similarly, most of the State Governments and constituted State Coordination Committee and State Executive Committee and appointed the State Commissioner for persons with disabilities, as required under the Act.

2. In order to reach maximum number of disabled persons in the country, the Government implements the following programs/schemes for persons with disabilities.

- (a) In consonance with the policy of providing a complete package of welfare services to the physically, mentally, hearing and visually handicapped individuals and groups and in order to effectively deal with the multidimensional problems of the handicapped population, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has established six National/Apex Institutes, each working in a specific area of disability.
- (b) Two Schemes are being implemented for providing support to non-government agencies working for various programmes for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- (c) The Rehabilitation Council of India, which is statutory body for standardisation and training of rehabilitation professional, recognition of training institutions and registration of professionals, has taken up a plan for manpower in disability rehabilitation throughout the country.
- (d) The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO), Kanpur has been set up with the main objective of developing and manufacturing standard aids and appliances for the disabled persons and to make them available at reasonable prices to them throughout India.
- (e) The District Rehabilitation Centre Scheme (DRC) provides comprehensive rehabilitation services to the rural disabled right at their door step in 11 districts of the country. Four Regional Rehabilitation Training Centres (RRTCs) have also been set up at Chennai, Mumbai, Cuttack and Lucknow for training and manpower development in the field of rehabilitation, particularly for the DRCs.
- (f) Under the Scheme of Employment of the Handicapped financial assistance is given to States for running special employment exchanges and normal employment exchanges, for persons with disabilities.
- (g) For providing suitable and cost-effective aids and appliances and improving the mobility and enhancement of employment opportunities for the disabled, the scheme of Science & Technology Project in mission Mode has been

launched. Under this project, financial assistance is provided for generation of new technologies and guiding these to large scale use to meet social needs.

- (h) Government has also set up a Corporation, namely, National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation for economic development of the handicapped persons.

3. Further, the Government have, in the current year, formulated several schemes specifically for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. These include six Composite Regional Resource Centres in different parts of the country to provide services for different kinds of disabilities as outreach extension centres of the National Institutes in the disability sector; four Regional Resource Centres for persons with spinally injuries and orthopaedic disabilities as a Central Sponsored Scheme with Centre and State share on 90:10 basis; four Auxiliary Production Centres of Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) for easy availability of quality aids and appliances. A new four tier-scheme namely, National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities has been recently approved in the State sector in order to create infrastructure at State/District/Block and Gram panchayat level for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to the handicapped. In addition, more than hundred districts have been identified for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services at the doorsteps of persons with disabilities. Services identified include setting up of composite fitment and rehabilitation centres in collaboration between the National Institutes/Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India/District Rehabilitation Centres under the Central Government and the District administration/State Government respectively. A Bill for setting up a National Trust for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has been passed to provide support to those vulnerable categories and their families.

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Employees Provident Fund

2174. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund had made recommendations for improvements in the employees pension scheme, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations accepted by the Government; and

(c) the reasons for not accepting the rest of the recommendation?

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

(b) and (c) The recommendations/suggestions received from the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund and Other sources related inter-alia to removal of discrimination between married sons and married daughters and between remarrying widows and remarrying widowers, extension of the scheme benefits to the employees drawing wages beyond Rs. 5000/- per month, provision for commutation, reduction in discounting rate for early payment of pension, provision of ensuring pension payment in default cases, application of the scheme to the serving subscribers who did not join the Family Pension Scheme, 1971, refund of family pension related withdrawal benefit in the case of exemption and coverage of piece-rated workers. These suggestions were examined and a notification carrying out necessary amendments in the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 was issued on 28.2.1996. Based on the recommendations of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund the scheme has been further amended providing, *inter-alia*, for payment of pension to the dependant parents, life long pension to the disabled children, enhancement of minimum children pension from Rs. 115/- to Rs. 150/- per month, minimum orphan pension from Rs. 170/- to Rs. 250/- per month and minimum widow pension to Rs. 450/- per month in respect of the beneficiaries of the ceased Family Pension Scheme, 1971. Consequent to the second annual valuation of the Pension Fund as on 31.3.98, an increase of 5.5% on pension in payment has been sanctioned to the pensioners w.e.f. 1.4.1998. However, the recommendation of the Central Board of Trustees for enhancement of interest on the pension fund kept in public account from 8.5% to 12% per annum has not been found acceptable by the Government due to financial constraints.

Child Labour in Farms

2175. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present laws have failed to curb child labour in farms;

(b) if so, whether in the State of Andhra Pradesh the National Human Commission, in January, 1999 has asked the State Government to take immediate steps to curb the system of bonded labour in farms in districts and send a report;

(c) if so, whether girl child too have been employed in farm sector; and

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has urged the State Government to make laws to check the child labour in farms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in 13 occupations and 51 processes listed in the schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The Schedule includes employment of children in processes involving the manufacturing or handling of pesticides and insecticides; processes in agriculture where tractors, threshing and harvesting machines are used, chaff cutting, sericulture, manufacture of tobacco etc. enforcement of the provisions of the Act rest with the State Government.

(b) and (c) As per the information received from National Human Rights Commission, a complaint from an Organisation in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh regarding engagement of girl children in the age group 7-14 in hybrid seed cultivation in 3 districts of AP has been received. No directions have, however, been given to the State Government during January, 1999.

(d) In view of (a) above, no specific reference has been made by the Union Government to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard.

Research and Technology Plan

2176. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a national seminar on Research and Development in Indian Agriculture in the wake of Globalization the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has suggested to provide a long-term research and technology plan for Indian agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to provide new technology to the agriculture;

(d) the main suggestions made during the seminar by the agriculture experts; and

(e) the steps being taken to implement these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A national seminar on Research and Development thrusts in agriculture in the wake of globalization was held on 9th September, 1999 in Planning Commission in which Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission had suggested that a long-term research and technology plan for Indian agriculture be developed. This should include notifying names of authorities upto district level for documentation of country's flora and fauna in a community bio-diversity register, documentation of Indian basmati rice through DNA fingerprinting, studies on pesticide residue in crops, and setting up of private laboratories under a system of accreditation.

(c) Government have taken initiatives to strengthen the institutions under Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR) and State Agriculture Universities (SAUs). Steps have also been taken to strengthen and expand the network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and strengthen agricultural extension to provide new technology to agriculture.

(d) and (e) Various suggestions were made to protect the interest of Indian agriculture in ministerial conference on World Trade Organization (WTO) with respect to tariff levels, agriculture subsidies, market access, abolishing quotas etc. Stress was laid on crops requiring less water as a part of strategy for integrated watershed management and involvement of extension machinery, SAUs, KVKs and mass media etc. ICAR are required to formulate a strategy for sustainable agriculture and by educating communities and stepping up investment in R&D and human resource development for the agriculture sector.

The seminar also focussed on problem areas such as natural resource management, water logged areas, mixed farming with pisciculture, stepping up of indigenous research in bio-technology and need for increased spread in micro-biology, tissue culture and to improve the organic contents in the soil by popularizing blue-green algae and azola etc. Issues concerning land use pattern and poverty amelioration measures were also discussed. Ninth Plan strategy has taken into account all these measures for implementation.

Fishery Industry

2177. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fishery industry has been badly affected due to oil spill in the sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof and measures taken by the Government to save the fishery industry;

(c) the number of people engaged in this industry as on date, State-wise; and

(d) the revenue earned by the Government from this industry during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[*Translation*]

Employees State Insurance Scheme

2178. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of industrial employees benefited from the Employees State Insurance Scheme in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the percentage of increase in the number of beneficiaries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The number of employees covered under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme in the State of Madhya Pradesh increased from 1,77,400 on 31.3.96 to 2,36,000 on 31.3.99, registering an increase of 33.03% in coverage during this period.

[*English*]

Central Pension Authority

2179. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Central Pension Authority to confer pension benefits to people in the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Construction Workers

2180. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the disparities in wages of the construction workers in the country; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) There are variations in wages due to factors such as socio-economic conditions, demand for and supply of labour, cost of living, etc. which differ from State to State. However, in order to ensure uniformity in wages, the Government has been taking several steps. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 both the Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages for employments in construction sector. There is also provision for Variable Dearness Allowance linked to Consumer Price Index. The Central Government has been issuing guidelines/instructions from time to time to all the State/UT Governments for reducing the disparities in minimum wages in different States/Regions. There are six Regional Advisory Committees (renamed as Regional Labour Ministers' Conference) working for bringing uniformity in fixing/revising minimum rates of wages. At national level, a floor level minimum wage of Rs. 45/- per day has been fixed.

In order to secure compliance of provisions under the Act, the enforcement machinery both at Central and State level carry out inspections of employments in their jurisdictions.

Defaulting Units

2181. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of defaulting units/establishment detected by Provident Fund authorities as on December 31, 1999, State-wise with total amount in default;

(b) how does it compare with the corresponding previous two years period;

(c) the details of area and industry specifically identified State-wise; and

(d) the details of stringent action proposed against the defaulters alongwith fresh policy decision taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) The comparative information about the number of EPF

defaulters and the amount of default during the last three years was as under:

Year	No. of defaulters	Amount (Rs. in cr.)
31.3.97	21522	466.56
31.3.98	21355	463.97
31.3.99	19258	573.18

The information showing number of EPF defaulters and the amount of default as on 31.3.99 State-wise is attached. 54.86% of the total EPF arrears pertain to Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal. Industry-wise, 30.75% PF arrears pertain to textile industry, 17.39% to electrical, mechanical and general engineering industry, 7.22% to educational sector, 5.03% to road-motor transport, 4.70% to sugar industry and the remaining to other sectors. Necessary legal and penal action as provided under section 7A, 7Q, 8B, 14 & 14B, of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 is already being taken to recover the dues outstanding against the defaulting establishments. Criminal proceedings are also launched under section 406/409 of the IPC against the employers who deduct employees' share of PF from their wages but do not deposit the same in the fund.

Statement

Sl.No.	Region/State	No. of Cases	Amount (in lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1945	2299.40
2.	Bihar	778	1556.02
3.	Delhi	395	360.99
4.	Gujarat	1142	2034.28
5.	Himachal Pradesh	118	124.56
6.	Haryana	1116	2921.73
7.	Karnataka	753	1356.56
8.	Kerala	616	689.41
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1497	4925.73
10.	Maharashtra	992	5864.66

1	2	3	4
11.	N.E. Region	208	184.78
12.	Orissa	588	2059.29
13.	Punjab	842	952.48
14.	Rajasthan	1755	1932.57
15.	Tamil Nadu	3172	2366.35
16.	Uttar Pradesh	1339	7207.39
17.	West Bengal	1902	20477.55

[*Translation*]

Small Scale Industries

2182. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to identify the items which could be reserved for small scale industries and their sale could be increased in the international market;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Government is likely to prepare the list of these items; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in taking action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

[*English*]

Amendment in the Constitution

2183. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution for effective implementation of the policy of reservation for Scheduled Castes/Tribes in regard to appointment and promotion and make provisions of punishment for non-implementation and adopting obstructive measures in implementation; and

(b) if so, the time by which such legislation is likely to be introduced in the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No such decision has been taken as on date.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[*Translation*]

Fund for States

2184. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise allocation made by the Union Government to each State during each of the year in Ninth Five Year Plan against their demand;

(b) whether the Union Government is unable to release full amount to these States;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(d) whether the financial position of several States is of great concern;

(e) if so, the States which are facing financing crisis; and

(f) the decision now taken by the Government to provide full assistance to the State according to their demand and get them out the current crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN

SHOURIE): (a) to (c) A statement giving State-wise details of approved Plan outlay during the first three years of the Ninth Five Year Plan is enclosed.

Under the existing guidelines of the Planning Commission, the normal Central Assistance is given to the States to the full extent if the total Plan expenditure does not fall below the originally approved/ revised outlay and the expenditure of earmarked sectors/schemes does not fall below the approved outlay for the same. In case of non-achievement of total outlay/earmarked outlay, a proportionate cut in normal Central assistance is affected. In case of special category States, they are allowed to use up to 20% of normal Central Assistance to meet their Non-Plan gap and cuts in Central Assistance are

applied keeping the above in consideration.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. Most of the States are facing financial crisis. In order to overcome this crisis, Planning Commission has been impressing upon the States to generate higher levels of own resources, inter-alia by improving the performance of State level enterprises, increasing tax and non-tax revenues and also by containing non-plan expenditure so that sufficient funds are available to finance the Plan. Various suggestions have also been made to improve the design and implementation of the projects/schemes for better output, the details of which are covered in the Ninth Plan Document which has been placed in the Parliament House Library.

Statement

Annual Plans - 1997-98 & 1999-2000 - Originally Approved Outlays - States

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State	Annual Plan 1997-98 Approved Outlay	Annual Plan 1998-99 Approved Outlay	Annual Plan 1999-2000 Approved Outlay
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3579.55	4678.95	5480.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	600.00	625.00	665.00
3.	Assam	1510.28	1650.00	1750.00
4.	Bihar	2268.42	3768.74	3630.00
5.	Goa	230.56	291.34	281.19
6.	Gujarat	4509.62	5450.00	6550.00
7.	Haryana	1576.04	2260.00	2300.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1008.00	1440.00	1600.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1551.81	1900.00	1750.00
10.	Karnataka	4153.59	5353.00	5800.00
11.	Kerala	2851.10	3100.00	3250.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3718.15	3700.00	4004.00
13.	Maharashtra	8393.19	11600.73	12162.00
14.	Manipur	410.00	425.00	475.00

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	382.00	400.00	465.00
16.	Mizoram	290.00	333.00	360.00
17.	Nagaland	291.00	300.00	315.00
18.	Orissa	2529.46	3084.43	3309.17
19.	Punjab	2100.01	2500.00	2680.00
20.	Rajasthan	3514.42	4300.00	4750.00
21.	Sikkim	220.00	237.00	250.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	4004.90	4500.00	5250.00
23.	Tripura	439.91	440.00	475.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	7246.57	10260.00	11400.00
25.	West Bengal	3907.62	4594.85	5787.00

Khadi and Village Industry Commission

2185. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industry Commission has opened several centres in different States in the country;

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

(c) the cost setting up of the above centres; and

(d) the profit and loss incurred by the Commission during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of trading centres is given in enclosed Statement.

(c) The total cost of setting up of these trading centres is Rs. 9616.29 lakhs.

(d) The profit/loss incurred by these trading centres for the last three years is as under:

Year	Loss
1996-97	28.35
1997-98	65.76
1998-99	159.57

Statement

S.No.	Centre/Unit Name (Khadi)
1	2
1.	K.G. Bhawan, New Delhi
2.	K.G. Bhawan, Calcutta
3.	K.G. Bhawan, Bangalore
4.	K.G. Bhawan, Goa
5.	K.G. Bhawan, Bhopal
6.	Khadi Trading R.O., Kohima

1	2	1	2
7.	K.G. Bhawan, Bhubaneswar	39.	Cocoon Purchase, Bhopal
8.	K.G. Bhawan, Ernakulam	40.	Export Promotion
9.	K.G. Bhawan, Barmer	41.	R.O. Agartala Marketing
10.	K.G. Bhawan, Burdwan	42.	Irwin Road Building
11.	K.G. Bhawan, Itanagar	43.	Silver Jubilee Celebration
12.	Trading Operation, Srinagar	44.	K.G. Bhawan, Hyderabad
13.	K.G. Bhawan, Lucknow	45.	Central Vastragar, Bhubaneswar
14.	K.G. Bhawan, Vizag	46.	Special Programme, Raebareli
15.	K.G. Bhandar, Radhanpur	47.	C.S.P., Raebareli
16.	A.T. Supplies, Mumbai	48.	Muslin Silver Godown, Calcutta
17.	R.O. Rishikesh Marketing	49.	Sunderban Area Development, Calcutta
18.	DTE of Instrumentation	50.	Trading Operation, Imphal-HBA
19.	DTE of Cotton	51.	R.O. Agartala-HBA
20.	DTE of Wool	52.	Haridwari Kambal Purchase, Meerut
21.	R.B.D.O., Barmer	53.	K.G. Bhawan, Shillong
22.	Trading Operation, Shimla	54.	K.G. Bhawan, Sayani Road
23.	Trading Operation Pithorough	55.	C.S.P., Sehoré
24.	R.O., Siliguri V.I. Marketing	56.	C.S.P., Etah
25.	Gram Shilpa, Darjeeling	57.	K.G. Bhawan, Patna
26.	Trading Operation Andaman	58.	DTA, Calcutta
27.	Khadi Trading, Jagdalpur	59.	Muslin Silver Godown, Patna
28.	R.O. Palanpur	60.	Six Spindle, Calcutta
29.	K.G. Bhawan, Aizawl	61.	Gramshilpa, Bhopal
30.	Muslim Silver Godown, Hyderabad	62.	C.S.P., Saharsa
31.	Cocoon Purchase, Patna	63.	Special programme, Jagdalpur
32.	C.S.P., Bhubaneswar	64.	C.S.P., Bangalore
33.	Trading Operation, Imphal	65.	Cocoon Purchase, Bhubaneswar
34.	R.O., Silvassa	66.	C.S.P., Hazipur
35.	K.G. Vastragar, Ahmedabad	67.	Raw Material Bank, Calcutta
36.	R.O. Rishikesh-HBA	68.	Noida Project
37.	R.T.C. Kannimangalam	69.	Cocoon Purchase, Ranchi
38.	C.S.P., Kuttur	70.	R.O. Siliguri—HBA—Marketing

1	2
71.	R.O. Siliguri Production Unit
72.	C.S.P. Dausa
1.	C&B Workshop Dahanu
2.	R.O., Siliguri
3.	Bee-Keeping, Pithoragarh
4.	V.I. Trading, Pithoragarh
5.	Splints and Veneers, Kashipur
6.	PCIPI Sonapur
7.	Polyvastra Trading, Madras
8.	Fibre Industry, Mumbai
9.	Bee-Keeping, Chandigarh
10.	Charmashilpa, Lucknow
11.	Polyvastra, Hyderabad
12.	HMD, Thrippunithura
13.	Gramashilpa, New Delhi
14.	HMPL Mumbai
15.	Pilot Agarbatti, Ahmedabad
16.	JBCRI, Wardha
17.	Polyvastra, Calcutta
18.	Neo Soap, Mumbai
19.	Polyvastra, Mumbai
20.	Charmashilpa, Bhubaneswar
21.	V.I. Trading Jagdalpur
22.	Neo Soap, Dimapur
23.	Ambar Saranjam, Ahmedabad
24.	PCPI, Mumbai
25.	V.O.I., Mumbai
26.	C.V.P.I., Khanapur
27.	Palamgur, Mumbai
28.	DTE of C.M.I.
29.	B.C.C.F.C., Kamal
30.	T.E.S.C. Dehradun

1	2
31.	Bee-Keeping, Meerut
32.	N.C.E., Mumbai
33.	Village Leather, Mumbai
34.	Bee-Keeping, Mumbai
35.	V.O.I. Stocking Loan, Patna
36.	B.C.C.F.C., Agra
37.	Polyvastra, Bhopal
38.	Charmashilpa, Meerut
39.	U.N.D.P. Leather, Ambala
40.	T.C.P.C. New Delhi, Veg. Oil
41.	T.C.P.C. New Delhi—PCPI
42.	T.C.P.C. New Delhi—Neo Soap
43.	Honey Trading, Calcutta
44.	Charmashilpa Aizawl

[English]

Agro and Rural Industries Development Bank

2186. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up the Agro and Rural Industries Development Bank on the lines of Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) We already have an elaborate banking infrastructure.

Terrorists Activities by Islamic Fundamentalists in Britain

2187. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the 'Times of India' dated January 17, 2000 under caption "front companies in U.K. funding militants";

(b) if so, whether Islamic fundamentalists in Britain had established a network of front companies and bogus societies to work undetected for militants and fundamentalist Muslims operating in Kashmir and other places abroad;

(c) if so, whether the Government have had any confirmation of the report; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to prevent such organised terrorism engineered from U.K. and other Islamic countries?

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

(b) British media reports suggest that Islamic fundamentalist groups in the U.K. have set up front commercial companies and charities for raising funds for the purposes of supporting Islamic extremist activities in different countries.

(c) We do not have any independent confirmation of these media reports.

(d) These and similar activities are the subject of ongoing discussions with the British Government who have assured us of their full cooperation in combating the scourge of the terrorism.

THE SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

11.29 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned till Fourteen of the clock.

14.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given notice for

adjournment motion...(*Interruptions*) Decision has not been taken thereon so far...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Arrah): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, the way the Government has been formed in Bihar...(*Interruptions*) The provisions of the constitution have been violated...(*Interruptions*) At the instance of the Union Government...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Today is the International Women's Day. There is a tradition to refer this matter in the House. It has been done in the Upper House also. One or two Members from both the sides can speak. Let me call Shrimati Margaret Alva to speak on it.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: That is why we have decided to elect a woman as Chief Minister in Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are not allowing her to speak on women's day.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Shrimati Rabri Devi, who was entitled to be summoned by the Governor to Raj Bhavan, was never called ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is the International Women's Day and you are not allowing a lady Member even to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, my heart goes to Bihar where a lady has been deprived of her right...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please allow her to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KHEL SAI SINGH (Sarguja): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, injustice has been done in Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Today is the International Women's day.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI VAIKO (*Sivakasi*): Sir, Shri Dasmunsi has instigated the Members to create hulla gulla in the House...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (*Jalore*): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, a woman has not been allowed to become the Chief Minister...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Here also you are not allowing to make her point.

...(*Interruptions*)

14.04 hrs.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (*Canara*): Today is the International Women's Day. On behalf of the Members of this august House I wish to greet, through you, Sir, not only our sisters in the country but also women around the world.

Sir, for ages women have been contributing to the development of society, Particularly in our country women have had great achievements to their credit yet, despite Constitutional guarantees, legislation and many social reform movements women are discriminated against. They have been left behind whether it be in the case of literacy, inheritance of property or powers and positions in society, family or in Government.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (*Ponnani*): Are we called to form the Government?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Let me come to that.

[*Translation*]

Lady members should also be given an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, extraneous matters may be avoided, please.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I would like to say that there is a great gap between the *de jure* and *de*

facto status of women in our country. Legally we have rights, but if we look at it in real life, woman realises what discrimination exists. I do not wish to come with a litany of our grievances today. We come on this day to say that women need to be recognised in their families, in society, in all fields of work and particularly, in the field of decision making.

We were the first in the world to experiment with reservation for women in our local bodies, the Panchayats. This has brought ten lakh women into elected bodies around the country and empowered them to participate in the political decision making processes. This is a great contribution of Rajivji and it was in his memory that this was actually passed in 1992 when we came back to power under Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. These women have achieved a great deal of, if I may say so, empowerment. I do not say all of them have been perfect. But I think they have shown that given an opportunity, women can contribute and achieve something.

The Women's Reservation Bill is still pending before Parliament. I do realise that most of you get nervous the moment we mention it. But I would like to say that every change and every movement always creates a sense of insecurity. But I believe, hope and pray particularly as a tribute to our late sister Geetaji who struggled so much for this Bill that on this International Women's Day we could make a commitment that in one form or the other we would bring women into decision making processes in our political life.

We have seen the noise and heat in this House over the last few days. If there had been more women, I think there would have been less noise and less heat generated. I must also say that while we are talking about women's right to participate in political decision-making bodies, it is unfortunate that the former woman Chief Minister of the State was not allowed to come back and take oath in Bihar. But we do hope that better sense will prevail and that for the future women will find a place in all fields of public life.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (*Delhi Sadar*): To bring that particular woman, you should save your party. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (*PROF. RITA VERMA*): For how long will you stop the women from speaking...(*Interruptions*) Let her speak...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA: Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, today is the International Women's Day and I congratulate all on this occasion. I wish that the entire House should greet all the women of the country on this occasion and a message should go out from this House that we are with them and steps will be taken for their betterment. This is not the time for petty politicking and petty sniping. Therefore, I would like to make my points by rising above petty sniping and petty politicking. Whenever we talk about reservation for women either the temper run very high in the House or we take it very lightly. I agree that we have to empower the women particularly when our Government have decided to observe this year as the women empowerment year.

I would like to appeal to my male colleagues that we should not adopt an aggressive attitude on this issue and it should not be made a matter of ridicule. I want to make it very clear to every one that we are not against you. You are our colleagues and we will jointly work for nation building. We do not want to curtail your rights in any way. We are merely demanding our rights from you. Therefore, I would like to appeal to this entire House that we should forget our petty political rivalry and the matter of providing 33 per cent reservation to the women should be considered seriously and positive steps should be taken in this regard..(Interruptions) Please have patience...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let me give priority to woman members.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA: Please listen to me patiently, I shall conclude early.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please, Shri Buta Singh, please hear her. I am giving preference to lady members.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA: Please do not take it lightly, be serious.

Hon'ble Deputy Sepeaker, Sir, through you I would like to appeal that sometimes it is said that women candidates in sufficient number will not be available. When male candidates in enough number are available, then there is no reason why women candidates in the same number will not be available. Many times it is reported in the media that a woman sarpanch was coating her house with cowdung and was feeding her child on her lap. No woman feels insulted in coating her house with cowdung rather it enhances her prestige. If a woman feeds her child on her lap it does not show in any way that she is not intelligent. Being a mother it is her duty to feed her child which she performs very well despite several challenges before her. Therefore, it is not correct to say that husbands of the women sarpanches perform the duties of the office of sarpanch on behalf of their wives. We all are holding higher offices and we have got a team of advisers. If the husband of a lady sarpanch advises her in some matters it does not shows that she is not intelligent. Similarly when we have got a team of advisers it does not mean that we do not have wisdom. For this why that woman is ridiculed by saying that her husband or some other person is helping her in performing her duty. It should be left to the wisdom and discretion of that woman whether she accepts her advise or not. The first generation which gets power may not work according to our expectations but the next generation performs much better. Therefore, I appeal to the entire House that the time has come to show solidarity with us to pass the women reservation Bill in this session itself. We should support each others cause. ..(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH (Bikramganj): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the occasion of women's day today.

I greet all women of the country on the occassion of the International Women's day. I pay my homage to Late Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee who always fought for the cause of the poor and for the rights of the women. Today we are debating an issue relating to women in the House. When the issue of reservation comes up we talk about giving only 33 per cent reservation to the women. Women form half of our total population and we talk about giving only 33 per cent reservation to them. It means that we are giving only 15 per cent reservation to women's be it the Lok Sabha or Legislative Assembly. We forget how a woman living in a village is earning her livelihood and how she is taking care of her children. She works in the field throughout the day and the picks up fuel wood on her back and goes to sell that in the market to get food for her children. As such if we talk about giving reservation to only 15 per cent population then how will we be able to do justice with the women. Shrimati Rabri Devi was

the Chief Minister of Bihar. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee who is heading the Union Government and Shri L.K. Advani who is the Union Home Minister have put undue pressure on the governor of Bihar to keep her at bay from occupying the post of Chief Minister of the state for the second time. Thus democracy and the constitution have been trampled upon and the leader of the minority group has been appointed the Chief Minister of the state. Despite all this you are talking about the women here in the House. The ex-women Chief Minister of Bihar was representing the entire society. Half of our population is less educated. Shrimati Rabri Devi is one of the rural women folk who are to be benefited under social justice but she has not been allowed to become the Chief Minister and it is common knowledge that these people have imposed their own Chief Minister on the people of Bihar. Tremendous pressure was put on the governor of Bihar. We were having the majority and our group was the largest group despite all this our leader has not been allowed to become the Chief Minister. As such these people have allowed horse trading in Bihar. The members of the Legislative Assembly are being abducted.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Kanti Singh, please confine your speech to the International Women's Day. Do not make it a controversial issue now. Try to conclude now.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: I am raising the issue regarding women. You should listen to the facts. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir criminals are pressurising MLAs to cast their votes in favour of a particular party and threatening them that otherwise they would harm their families. Under such circumstances, MLAs are terrified there. I therefore, demand from all the members to condemn such pressurising of MLAs by criminals. A conspiracy is being hatched there to lure MLAs of our party for Rs. 1 crore each. They are hatching conspiracy against a women. They do not want that Rabri Devi should again become Chief Minister of Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not raise Bihar issue and conclude now.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: They are raising the issue regarding empowering women and I am also on the same subject. I appeal in this House that lady Member of our Party *i.e.* Rabri Devi should be made Chief Minister of Bihar because the people of the state have given verdict in favour of her party.

[*English*]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): Respected Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving this opportunity. Today is March 8, the first International Women's Day of this century and this new millennium. But I feel that there is not much change between the last International Women's Day and this International Women's Day because the issues concerning women are still pending with us and no initiative is taken by this Government to solve the problems of the women of this country.

We, the women, are united cutting across all the barriers of caste, creed, religion and political barriers. We stand united for the cause of women and also through that the cause of our nation. The great comrade Lenin has said that the developmental degree of a nation is judged by the status of women of the nation. If that is the principle by which we are going to judge India, then we are far behind. I think we are still in the feudal age because in certain parts of the country, at the Governmental level, steps are being taken to lag or drag the women far back into the feudal society.
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Here you are not allowing them even to speak.

..(*Interruptions*)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: This kind of intolerance is going on.

As far as reservation of women in all decision-making bodies is concerned and if we go by the present statistics, all will agree that we do not have even ten per cent of representation for women in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and also in the State Assemblies. Here, we have only 49 women Members, that means, it is less than ten per cent of the total 543 Members. The total population is one hundred crore. Actually out of that women are more than half, that is, more than 50 crore. Still when we ask for 33 per cent of reservation, not as a final solution for the problem but only as a starting point, the Government does not show any political will. If the present Government at the Centre has any political will — which I hope it will start developing — then of course, this problem of giving 33 per cent reservation to women can be easily solved because everybody knows the number game, that is, as to how many Members the leading ruling party, the BJP have; as to how many Members the leading opposition party, the Congress have; and as to how many Members the Left Parties have. If all these are put together, definitely there will be more than two-thirds of the majority. We can easily manage the majority. The only matter

[Prof. A.K. Premajam]

which is lacking is the strong political will on the part of the Central Government, which is led by the BJP.

As far as the women's problems are concerned, as per the National Sample Survey and as per the UN Report—India had opened up to the open Market and liberalisation of economic policy—India has seven crore more people who have become poverty stricken and if that statistics is taken as the basis for anything to be judged, more women have become poorer and more children are also starving for their basic necessities.

Food security actually is a human right. Unless there is food security, how can we have the right to live? Here, this particular Central Government during the present Budget had cut down all subsidies on food. This measure of the Government alone will make the women poorer and women subject to very grave poverty and this has to be solved. Unless this is solved, there will not be any development in the nation. Unless this problem is solved, you will not be able to take the nation into this new millennium, which everybody is boasting of.

Ever since the new economic policy has been started, seven crore more people have become poorer. This is the statistics, not by me, but it is a National Sample Survey statistics and also of the UN Report.

Another factor which I want to bring before you is that if you take the total workforce in this country, women make up two-thirds of it. But how much do they earn? They actually earn only one-third of the total income and the property owned is only one-hundredth of the total property. This is the condition of women in this country. And we boast of the new century and the new millennium. Where are we going to take our nation if this is the way we are going to develop our country?

I conclude by saying that democracy had been massacred and thereby actually the right of women had been denigrated. I make reference to Shrimati Rabri Devi. The verdict of the people had been shattered to the ground. It is a shameful thing.

I also request the Government that the best homage we can pay to our Late Geeta Mukherjee is actually by passing the Women's Reservation Bill. I have told earlier that it is only the starting point, it is not a solution. At least we must make a start in this new century and new millennium and on this day I hope the Government will show the political and the mental strength to see that this Bill is passed during the Budget Session.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of all the women I congratulate this House,

the nation and the whole world on the occasion of Women's Day and pay my homage to Geetaji who used to raise the issues concerning the women. The women of backward and vulnerable sections of the society who have suffered a lot have awakened now. I would like to begin with a couplet:

“Band Hothon ka tha sabab koi,
Vaqt aya hai hum bhi bolenge.”

Khuranaji, you need to wake up from your slumber. Rights to women have increased continuously since independence. In 1920 Mahatma Gandhi wrote in 'Harijan' that independence and democracy have no meaning unless the person standing first and last in the queue do not enjoy equal rights. But women were not included in this queue and at that time Mahatma Gandhi gave a call to women to participate in the freedom struggle. Later on constitution was framed and women were given equal rights and Five Years Plans paved way for women welfare, women empowerment and women awareness. Women have been successful in achieving their goals to a great extent till Ninth Five Year Plan. Gandhiji was sensitive towards women's problems and the same was the approach of Rajiv Gandhi who gave a new idea that this freedom would be incomplete if women were not given right to take decisions in political arena.

Today, especially I would like to thank this House which has majority of male Members. We were 6 per cent at that time. But with the passage of Bill regarding Panchayat, Nagar Palika and Nagar Parishad new horizons were thrown open for us. Now we have entered the 21st century yet a question haunts me continuously. This year on the occasion of 15th August when I came down after hoisting the national flag, I found a woman there with a child on her lap and a girl child in accompaniment. She was served sweets on the occasion of Independence day. She was surprised and looked towards me as if she was asking the meaning of freedom. She also appeared to be thinking whether proper child care facility, education and health facilities would not be provided to her children. Even so many years after independence, the women in villages have to fetch drinking water from a distance of 5-6 miles? This question haunts me if this is the meaning of freedom?

For so many years the Congress Government worked for empowering women and given them various rights through Five Year Plans. Today, we need to think over this aspect and should make efforts to further empower women. The Government has tried to increase budgetary allocation by 20 per cent on education of women so that women could get education. This issue should be considered seriously.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need to look at this aspect by rising above party affiliations. We need education. Though in government services women get salaries equal to men but even today the women in unorganised sector do not get salaries equal to men, this anomaly needs to be removed. Today we require health facility for women and children. UNO has decided to celebrate the next year as an 'year of peace'. We want to ensure our participation in it. Women is also mother and her home is temple, mosque, gurudwara and church for her and she prays for welfare and well being of entire family. She would never wish that her children, husband or brother should die. She can never imagine that any other women may lose her husband, children or brother in communal violence or war. Thus women have to contribute a lot during the next year which is the year of peace. Just now someone from the backside has said that Members are not allowed to make their points. What does that mean? Are we not Members? Do we not hold same status? In the end I would like to repeat the story of Aphigenia.

Once there was femine in Greece. People of that country decided that so long as the most beautiful girl was not sacrificed they would not be able to get out of the ditches of famine. Aphigenia was selected for sacrifice. She was 13 years old. She was being taken for sacrifice and while chanting mantras the priest was saying that altars, places of worship would be dedicated to her as she was being sacrificed for the sake of religion and her country. She was asked her last desire before sacrificing. At first she refused to say anything but on reaching the last step suddenly she changed her mind and said that in coming time women should also be considered human beings, they should not be treated like commodities. I feel that the same would have been the reply of khadija bi, Mariam, Ahilya, Panchali, Kunti and Sita to this question. Though it is very difficult but the House should be committed to it and make efforts for creating awareness among women about their rights. Now I conclude with a couplet:

Abhi tevar kahan badle hein inke,
abhi bhi apna dour hai inkalabi ka,
Abhi bhi sehra hai tapish baaki hai,
abhi mausam kahan gulab ki gulabi ka.

But I am hopeful that such time would come because now our male dominated society has understood that we cannot make any progress in the 21st century without giving due share to women. Optimum development cannot be made and political achievements will remain incomplete without participation of women. Therefore we should take pledge that development of nation is synonym to the development of women as Mahatma Gandhi had also

said. Once again while paying homage to Gitaji we should take pledge to make collective efforts for the development of women and I am hopeful about it.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Sir, I am very grateful to the Chair. I am also grateful to this hon. august House and all the hon. Members. Of course, today is the International Women's Day. I congratulate all the women in this country and also all over the world and convey our best wishes. At the same time, on behalf of the Indian women, I convey our best regards to our brothers in our country and also all over the world.

I did not join politics as a woman politician. I started my political career by joining the students' movement. I do not feel that there is any discrimination between men and women. I feel that wherever we are able to work together, there only our society and our system will get developed. I feel that almost all the women Members of Parliament in this august House are from 'general' seats. But in the interest of women, I feel that the Bill seeking reservation to the extent of 33 per cent of the seats should be passed in this House unanimously because we do not want to create a division among the women. But we have to think over this matter irrespective of the caste to which we might belong to. We are united. The biggest achievement of this country today is that we are all Indians and we are together. Unity in diversity is our origin. That is why we feel that there should not be any discrimination between men and women.

At the same time, we feel today that the dropout rate among the female children is very high. The Government has widened its scope for helping such children in their level of education up to the higher secondary level. From our side also, we do whatever is possible. We give concession to the girl child up to the 12th class so that she could go to school and college. At the same time, I feel that the Central Government, every State Government and all the political parties should work together to give real empowerment to the women. It should not merely be on paper but it should also be from the practical point of view. Today, I very much remember Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. She is not alive but she always fought for the Women's Bill.

Of course, we are happy that there are so many political parties which are headed by women, who are leading their parties and the country. So, we have developed, but we have to develop more. That is why, today, we are happy that at least after seven days, because of women the House is on and we are

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

discussing something. We conveyed our message to the women. This is the real message to the country. This is the real privilege of women and we are proud of it.

With these words, I would like to end by saying a couplet which I always used to say. Somebody may like it or may not like it, but today when Parliament has started, let us remember the Women's Day. I give my thanks to the Chair because you helped us a lot to say a few words in the House on this Day by ending the impasse that has been going on for the last so many days. What I want to say is:

'Mudai Lakh Bura chahe to Kya Hota hai'
Wahi Hota Hai Jo Manjure Khuda Hota Hai"

[*Transation*]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (Mohanlalganj): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the occasion of the International Women's Day and I congratulate the women folk of our country. I also congratulate our male community that they should be very happy that the women are discharging their social duties well besides taking care of their household. They should realise that they should not consider the women folk as their rival rather they should consider us as their good companion and they should cooperate with us in our advancement and I am sure that we will get their full cooperation.

As Shrimati Margaret Alva had said that with greater number of women members in the House the shape of the House would be somewhat different and the House would be comparatively much more peaceful. I fully endorse this. This is a particular occasion and I congratulate them on this auspicious occasion but there is one thing more which we should take into consideration and that point is whether the condition of our women is as per our expectation or not? Even today brides are being burnt for dowry and the shameful incidents like rape of the women is taking place even today. Such news are appearing in the news papers daily. This compels us to think whether we have been able to accord the honour and status to our women which we wanted to give them or not. Today it is the day when we should give a serious thought whether we have been able to accord the required status to the women in the society and whether there is a need to make further efforts to give the women the status which we have visualised for them. For this we need cooperation of our male colleagues and today we hope that you will cooperate in it and we will get your full co-operation in improving the condition of our women.

As hon'ble Shri Madan Lal Khuranaji has said that I should speak on women reservation Bill and I do not want to disappoint him. I will definitely speak on it but in addition to this I would like to say that the provision of reservation is being made to improve the political and economic condition of the women. The political and economic standing of the rural women is worse as compared to the women living in urban areas. If we are really concerned about improving the political and economic condition of the women then we will have to pay more attention towards the rural women and we will have to further strengthen their position. Hon'ble Minister of Railways Kumari Mamata Banerjee has rightly said that there is no need to divide the women into separate castes but I would like to say to Mamataji that it is a bitter truth that even today women are divided into castes and classes.

As for my identity, I am known as a dalit woman. Therefore, it is wrong to say that there is no caste or class of the women. Today women too are known by their castes as who is a Brahman, who is a dalit and who belongs to the backward class. Therefore, in view of this fact if we are really concerned about the upliftment of women then there should be reservation for women of every class for strengthening their position. Today in Bihar Shrimati Rabri Devi...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not raise that issue here.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Pradhan, please do not disturb.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: She is also a woman. You should keep in mind that she is also a

woman and you should forget it that she is the wife of Shri Laloo Prasadji. A woman was going to be the Chief Minister...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): Sir, we are not getting the translation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there no translation? It is there.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): There is no translation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am getting it checked please.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Finally, I would like to emphasise that the participation of women themselves is very essential in strengthening the condition of women with the cooperation of men. Therefore, no doubt men will cooperate us but at the same time the women should also undertake introspection and try to come forward for cooperation between women and women. With these words, I thank you very much.

[*English*]

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D' SOUZA (Nominated): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is a good omen that the Lok Sabha has started working again today on the International Women's Day. I join the other Woman Members of the House in greeting our women all over India. I also ask that the Women's Reservation Bill be passed, if possible, in this Session. While asking for women's rights, I feel that women cannot demand what is constitutionally not given to them. Therefore, we cannot ask that a former Chief Minister is asked to form the Government only because she is a woman. This will be a negation of women's rights. We cannot ask for rights that will take away the rights which the men legitimately deserve in this particular connection. Since the Common Civil Code is only a dream in India, I would request that the Christian Personal Law Bills which are pending be passed. Some laws are more than one century old. Certain laws regarding marriage, divorce, inheritance and adoption—all these laws discriminate against women. I request that new legislative Bills be introduced in Parliament in this Session. I also request that the Codification of Muslim Law be introduced to benefit the Muslim women.

Finally, the Government has made a commitment to the empowerment of the girl child. I feel that if the girl child is empowered, the country would be moving in the right direction, in the 21st century.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this chance to speak here. Sir, through you, I congratulate the entire women folk of the country and the world. Sir, I am standing here not to speak for the right of the women but seeing the reaction of the entire men folk, the hon. Members of Parliament who are sitting here, I feel that each and everyone is ready to extend their hand in support of the cause of the women. Sir, through you, I congratulate them.

Secondly, it is heard that half of the world's population comprises of women. Sir, if half of the population of the world cannot march forward with men, then we cannot call the world a proper place to live. So, I feel that the House will be agreeing with me if I say that they will support the cause of the women, especially, the Women's Reservation Bill which is the urgent necessity for the country.

This our country. We have a great tradition. We have got great women. To name, there are a few like Maitry, Gargi, Ahilya and Jhansi Ki Rani, etc. all these ladies had made their mark in different fields. As such, there is no doubt at all that women can really make a mark when they are given proper opportunities.

Sir, I feel that the hon. Members present here are ready to support the Bill. For our Party, the BJP, I think, we have got the largest women Members, nearly 20 Members.

I belong to the North-East. In that part, women are respected just like a Goddess. There is no killing of girls, there is no dowry death in that part and women are honoured like anything.

So, I feel and I request the hon. Members in the House that these conditions should be created in each and every part of the country so that we can really say that women have got great positions in this great traditional country.

I want to assert one point also here. I hope that in this new millennium women will surely get very good position and they will get very good chance to march forward. The sky should be the limit for their advancement.

[Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty]

So, again, I request through you, Sir, that each Member in this House belonging to different political parties will surely support of Constitution (Amendment) Bill providing 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament and State Assemblies.

Sir, with these few words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, today is the first International Women's Day of the first year of the new millennium. On this auspicious occasion I greet the women of the entire world and wish them my heart congratulations. India is the largest democracy in the world and in such a large democratic set up we are discussing the provision of reservation for women. Our government have introduced the Women Reservation Bill and we should pass that Bill unanimously. The International Women's Day is a festival and on this festival I would like to say to my women colleagues who spoke before me on this issue that I also associate myself with their views. I would like to say that whether women belong to backward class or they are educated or poor or they may belong to any State of the country, they all are women.

[English]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): Sir, there is no translation facility.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is there.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please bear with me. I am making arrangements.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA: There is no difference between the tribe of the women. Therefore, the women should not be divided on the basis of castes. They cannot be divided on the basis of religion and caste. They are one. Therefore, on the occasion of the International Women's Day I would like to appeal to my male colleagues that they should not try to divide the women of the country in the name of caste.

Hon'ble Deputy Sepaker, Sir, I would like to submit that it has been our long tradition that in all walks of life

women have proved their worth, they have proved good administrators. Ahilyabai Holkar, Razia Begam have been the best administrators amongst women. If we were to name a women administrator having Supreme qualities alongwith dignity of motherhood we can take the name of Rani of Jhansi Lakshmbai who tied her child on her back when she went to the battle field. She firmly stood that Jhansi could not be annexed. Woman like Maharani Padminibai has been in our country who prefer to sacrifice her life by embracing the flames rather than bowing to enemy. Not only this but there have been such women. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SOME HON. MEMBERS: There is no translation, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now it has started. Is it not coming?

AN HON. MEMBER: Now only it has come, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then please do not interrupt now and then.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA: Our country had women like Panna Dhai who sacrificed her son to save the life of a prince. As an icon of sacrifice and dedication, women have always given their contribution to the society.

To resolve the problems like dowry system, oppression, injustice and foeticide which are creeping in our society, men and women should work collectively. Therefore, I request you to pass the Women Reservation Bill in this session.

I cannot forget Geeta didi on this occasion as she had been the member of the Women Reservation Committee and had presented this concept with due insistence. I, therefore, would like to urge all of you to give due consideration to this Bill and to pass it immediately to honour the wishes of our sister Late Shrimati Geetaji. While concluding, I would like to give a message to the people who think about the welfare of the women by reciting a couplet:

"Abla Nahin kaha ja sakata ab Bharat ki Nari ko,
"Rakh Samajhna bhool bahut chhupi hui chingari ko."

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI (Kurukshetra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to pay my heartiest congratulations to all of you through this House

on the International Women's Day. History has witnessed the immense power and irrepressible capacity in women. Whenever the women has identified her hidden power, the women like Panna Dhai have become famous as a colossus of supreme sacrifice and bravery. Durga, Ahilya, Laxmibai are the symbol of valour. Sita, Savitri are known as a dedicated and virtuous wife and Razia Sultana as a great administrator. However, such women are very rare in our society. Often they have been deprived of such opportunities because for centuries they have been a subject of neglect and were treated as a second grade citizen in the male dominated society. They have never been given equal status and equal respect in the society. However, through this House, I would like to tell my sisters who are half of the population of our country that rights are never granted. Honour and prestige are never presented in a golden platter, one has to fight for it, one has to struggle for it. Had we not struggled hard, Britishers would not have left our country. 800 years old Moghul empire could be uprooted only because of the sacrifices made by lakhs of our countrymen. Therefore, our sisters have to struggle for their rights. They have to become strong because God helps those who help themselves. Darwin's theory also says that only the fittest species can survive on the earth. Weaker is eliminated by the strong. Therefore, they should grab the equal status in every field instead of demanding it. If women are given 33% reservation in politics, then they will automatically get the participation in other fields too. For the last few years, fruitful results have started coming for providing 33% reservation to women in District Panchayats, Municipal Corporation and Panchayati Raj Institutions. Circumstances are changing gradually. It is now very essential to provide 33% reservation to women in Parliament and State Legislatures where real power vests so that they may enact legislations to protect their interests. Women have proved their ability whenever given opportunity. They have moved ahead of men in respect of administrative capability. The names of Shrimati Mao Bhandamaikay, Shrimati Chandrika Kumartunge, Shrimati Khalida Jia from Bangladesh, Shrimati Benzir Bhutto from Pakistan, Margret Thachar, may be mentioned in this regard. Shrimati Indira Gandhi successfully ruled our country for 17 years. However, I would like to mention that these women have not struggle to get into the politics but they got it as their family tradition. If we want to enhance the participation of common women in politics, 33% reservation is necessary. I appeal to all my fellow members to rise above the party line and support the Bill not only in introducing it but also in passing the same. It will enable the women to have an equal participation in the country's progress in the 21st century. The inner voice of my fellow members is a witness to the fact that

our country could not progress without equal participation of the women in politics. My sisters are raising their voice that:

"Band hoton ka tha sabab koi,
Vaqat aa gya hai ham bhi Bolengey."

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today is the Women's Day and I would like to say something on it. Woman is kind and benevolent by nature. Woman is mother of all. She is Goddess Durga. However, it is regrettable that my fellow sisters are not in favour of reservation on cast basis. Why it should not be done? For the sake of their own convenience, men used to have a typical perception that there is no particular caste of woman. Man can marry women belonging to any caste. Men have committed atrocities on women as per their wishes. I would like to submit that India has a population of 100 crores and 50% of it are women. I would like to submit as to when there are 50 crore women, 33% reservation is totally inadequate; there should be 50% reservation for them so that they may live respectfully and with dignity. Women belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are more humiliated in the name of social custom which they have to bear due to unawareness of their rights. If they come out from their social bindings, they will be called as 'kulta' and 'kalankini' On the occasion of women's day, I urge that there should be 50% reservation for women in politics and services to ensure their proper participation in uplifting the society and it should be on the basis of their castes as scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, minority and backward class, so that they may be relieved for further torture and exploitation because I have been a victim of such type of torture and exploitation. Some women do not like to favour their fellow sisters. I have witnessed the injustice and atrocities being committed on women in the villages. They cannot approach the police stations as they are being humiliated there to and nobody is there to protect them. Police Administration too humiliate them and law is not in their favour. For the sake of their security, 50% reservation should be given to them. I urge my fellow members that the women should be given the participation on the basis of caste and not because of some pressure.

15.00 hrs.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Have you asked Shri Mulayam Singh ji?

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI: Shri Madan Lal Khuranaji, you are not aware of it. You should not think only about Delhi rather you should think about the entire country. You have divided the women of the country in the name of castes. Therefore, they should be given reservation on caste basis. If there is no caste of women in the country. Why do not you start keeping marital and social relationship with them. Rabri Devi is also a women and you have not allowed her to become Chief Minister. I on the occasion of the women's day demand that an opportunity should be given to Rabri Devi to become the Chief Minister again. You talk too much about the woman. Was Kusum Rai not a woman. She was the Chairperson of the commission for woman and you removed her from her post. You have scrapped that commission. You talk about the women is an eyewash. It cannot go on like this. If you want to give reservation to women then give it honestly and liberally otherwise leave it and say categorically that we are not in favour of giving reservation to the women. Why are you misleading the women of the country. I demand that...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude early.

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI: On the occasion of the women's day I demand that Rabri Devi should be allowed to become the Chief Minister.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a lot of noise in the House. Please hear her.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh): I will definitely finish my speech within two minutes as my sisters have already said so many things in this regard.

At the outset I would like to thank you for giving an opportunity to me to express my views on this matter.

Our Indian culture is 5000 years old and we have always worshipped the women in the form of dieties like Durga, Saraswati and Lakshmi. Today it is the International Women's Day and I on behalf of entire women folk of India am proud that we are celebrating this day as a festival. I want to say that the Bill to provide 33 per cent reservation to the women has been introduced in the House and most of the male members of this House are present here and I am of the view that it is absolutely necessary to pass this Bill without any discussion. It should be passed. It is my demand.

Second thing which I would like to state that we equate our country with our mother. There is no other country all over the world which equates its land with mother. It is the part of our culture. On behalf of the entire women folk of the country. I thank this House on this auspicious occasion. I wish that the Bill to provide 33 per cent reservation to women should be passed on this occasion because participation of women in power is essential. In the local self governing institutions we have experienced that women can be successful in politics and they can function well and they can also participate in governance and as such we should pass this Bill for providing 33 per cent reservation to women unanimously. This is my demand.

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful that you have allowed to express our views regarding reservation for women on the occasion of women's day. There is a saying in Gujarat which goes like this 'Je kar jhulawe parno, is jagat par shasan kare' which means that the hands which rock the cradle can also rule the world. When we talk about ruling the entire world by women we actually mean that we have faith in the power of women and in Gujarat the power of women is always expressed in the form of Durga and Saraswati. On the basis of that faith I am going to say one thing in the House that the women are playing a vital role in running our country. They are also playing a key role in maintaining the dignity of the society and its basic structure too. I would also like to say that man and woman are two wheels of a chariot which are running the society well and accelerating its pace. We have to accelerate that further. The woman power is going to handle the rein of the society well. She is capable of handling the entire social system. Therefore in view of the dignity of women, provision of reservation should be made for them. As far as reservation is concerned, in this regard I would like to say that it should not be treated as an alms for the women. We have seen their contribution in the Parliament and in the Legislative Assemblies. Through their sincerity they have proved their worth. They are hundred percent capable in handling the social affairs. Therefore, on the occasion of the International Women's Day all the members of this House should support this Bill recognising the dignity and dutifulness of the women.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, papers to be laid.

...(Interruptions)

15.07 hrs.

At this stage Shri Sukdeo Paswan and some other hon'ble members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

15.08 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): On behalf of Shri L.K. Advani, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the National Security Guard, Senior Personal Assistant (Group-'B' Post) Recruitment Ruels, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 9 in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 2000, under sub-section (3) of Section 139 of the National Security Guard Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1397/2000]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 20 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993:—

- (i) Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Memorandum of Action Taken on the Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission 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 1398/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): On behalf of Shri Ram Jethmalani, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (i) The Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Fourth Amendment) Rules,

1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 788 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th November, 1999.

- (ii) The Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 58(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2000.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1399/2000]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1400/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): On behalf of Dr. C.P. Thakur, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1401/2000]

- (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 1998-99.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1402/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): On behalf of Shrimati Maneka Gandhi, 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 Backward Classes Finance and

Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1403/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): On behalf of Shrimati Vasundhara Raje, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar), New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar), New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1404/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, under sub-section (3) of section 23 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1405/2000]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 24, of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the year 1998-99.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1406/2000]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coir Board, Kochi, for the year 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 17 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Coir Board, Kochi, for the year 1998-99.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1407/2000]

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 Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:—

- (i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (2nd Amendment) Rules, 1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 241(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th April, 1999 together with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 531(E) dated the 19th July, 1999.

- (ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (5th Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 172(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 1998.

(iii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (6th Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 176(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 1998.

(iv) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (5th Amendment) Rules, 1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 692(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 1999.

(v) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (11th Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 693(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 1998, together with a Corrigendum thereto (in Hindi version only), published in Notification No. G.S.R. 119(E) dated the 17th February, 1999.

(2) Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying of papers mentioned at (ii), (iii) and (v) of the item No. (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1408/2000]

(3) The Drugs and Cosmetics (Third Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 478(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th August, 1998, under Section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1409/2000]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the AIDS Prevention and Control Project, Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the AIDS Prevention and Control Project, Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the AIDS Prevention and Control Project,

Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1410/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): On behalf of Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad Patil, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi Prathmik Shiksha Mission, Bhopal, for the year 1993-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy to the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Prathmik Shiksha Mission, Bhopal, for the year 1998-99.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1411/2000]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi, 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 National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi, for the year 1997-98.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1412/2000]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1413/2000]

- (7) A copy of the Annual Account (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1414/2000]

- (9) A copy of the Annual Account (Hindi and English versions) of the Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for the year 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1415/2000]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Hamirpur, 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, Hamirpur, for the year 1998-99.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1416/2000]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maulana Azad College of Technology, Bhopal, 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 Maulana Azad College of Technology, Bhopal, for the year 1998-99.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1417/2000]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Warangal, 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, Warangal, for the year 1998-99.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1418/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 73(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 2000 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 60(E) dated the 27th January, 1994, issued under sub-section (1) and sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1419/2000]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): On behalf of Shri Ch. Vidya Sagar Rao, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 63(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 2000, under sub-section (3) of Section 30 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1420/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following 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 Seeds Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Seeds Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1421/2000]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1422/2000]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1423/2000]

(7) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1245(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 1999 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 574(E) dated the 20th August, 1996 under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1424/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Union Public Service Commission for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1425/2000]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): 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 Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, 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 1426/2000]

15.10 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Second Report

[English]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag): Sir, I beg to present the Second report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

15.11 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Action Taken Reports

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Communications:—

- (1) First report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Third Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1998-99) relating to Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
- (2) Second Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1999-2000) relating to Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
- (3) Third Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1999-2000) relating to Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications.

- (4) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirteenth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1999-2000) relating to Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications.

- (5) Fifth Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Sixth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding increase in Telephone tariff of Basic Telecom Services.

15.12 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM

Fortieth Report

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Fortieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport & Tourism on "Problems Faced by the Tourists/Passengers at the Airports in the Country."

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Animal Welfare Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): On behalf of Shrimati Maneka Gandhi: Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(1)(i) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Animal Welfare Board of India, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(1)(i) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the

members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Animal Welfare Board of India, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) **All India Institute of 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 Section 4(g) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, 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 All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(g) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, 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 All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: now, statement by Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh — absent.

Now, the House will take up the legislative business. Introduction of Bills.

15.13 hrs.

**ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES
(AMENDMENT) BILL**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): I beg to move that leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities act, 1955.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: I introduce the Bill.

15.14 hrs.

MOTION FOR INTRODUCTION OF BILL

**Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) and the
Companies (Temporary Restrictions on
Dividends) Repeal Bill**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): On behalf of Shri Ram Jethmalani: Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on dividends) Act, 1974*...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on Dividends) Act, 1974."

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are trying to draw your attention since afternoon...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have road-rolled all the matters as far as the laying of the papers on the Table was concerned...(Interruptions) Now, you have taken up an important business like the introduction of Bills...(Interruptions)

* Shri O. Rajagopal on behalf of Shri Ram Jethmalani sought leave of the House to introduce the Bill. Due to interruptions in the House, Lok Sabha adjourned for the day and Shri O. Rajagopal could not get leave of the House to introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is only introduction.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: But still you must know our views also on it...(Interruptions) It is because we are so charged on this particular matter, you cannot road-roll the introduction of the Bills in this way...(Interruptions) How can you do this?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Scindia, you are a Senior Member and you know the procedure about what you should do if you want to raise objection at the time of introduction of Bills.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, there is an Adjournment Motion pending...(Interruptions) We still have not received the decision about that...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The issue of Adjournment Motion is already cleared.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, No. Our colleagues have tabled an Adjournment Motion this morning and the hon. Speaker has not given his ruling on that...(Interruptions) and yet you are lecturing us here on...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Speaker has already disallowed that. That is what I have been told. I was not here in the morning.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, Bills cannot be introduced because the Adjournment Motion is still pending and you have totally ignored that ...(Interruptions) and you are lecturing on introduction of Bills...(Interruptions) I am very sorry to say this...(Interruptions) Introduction of Bills is not correct...(Interruptions)

You cannot get the Bills introduced in this fashion...(Interruptions) Introduction stage of a Bill is also an important stage. You cannot road-roll on this...(Interruptions) There is an Adjournment Motion pending...(Interruptions) our colleagues have tabled it and the hon. Speaker has not given his ruling on that...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the morning when the issue of the Adjournment Motion was raised, it was disallowed by the hon. Speaker.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, in spite of your allowing the laying of papers, we did not say anything...(Interruptions) But how can you introduce the Bills...(Interruptions) These are important Bills...(Interruptions) Introduction stage of a Bill is an important stage ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In case you want to raise objections at the stage of introduction of Bills, then you know the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You must tell us about the Adjournment Motion of our colleague...(Interruptions) It is most vital...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we asked for a division...(Interruptions) You were not prepared to listen...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, we had asked for a division...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will you please hear me?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleague has moved the adjournment motion. ...(Interruptions) Will you please let us know about the ruling?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We demand division on this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I have not said anything till now. The Bill has not been introduced properly because the introduction stage of the Bill is an important stage. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Scindia, you know that if you are opposed to the introduction of a Bill you have to give notice to the Chair. You have not given any notice. There is a procedure to follow. You cannot accuse the Chair without basis.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Then why are you seeking the leave of the House. Under what rule you are seeking leave of the House. Leave means that our opinion should also be sought in this regard. We could not say anything amidst the noise. Sir, introduction stage of any Bill is important...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Allow me to take the consent of the House for introduction.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I am on a point of order.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): This is a very important Bill. It cannot be bulldozed like this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not bulldozing anybody.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The idea is not that. The idea is that there is some resentment among the Members of this side. They are trying to express it in a democratic way.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk): You are saying that 'we are cooperating'. What sort of cooperation is this? You are not allowing the House to function for the last ten days...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am no one to bulldoze anybody here. I am going according to Rules. I am not bulldozing anybody. I am no one to do it. You are not even ready to hear what I am trying to say.

15.17 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sukdeo Paswan and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What I have done is, I have allowed the Minister to introduce a Bill. If the Bill to be introduced was to be opposed at the initial stage, you could have given notice. You said that I have bulldozed. I am not here to bulldoze anybody.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, the hon. Members are using the words 'roadrolling' and 'bulldozing'. It is not good. I do not think that such sort of words should be used.

[English]

Usage of these words for the Chair is very wrong. Please delete those words from the record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, since morning you have been witnessing as to what are the feelings of the members about Bihar? Hon'ble Prime Minister is not here. When a similar decision was given by the governor in Uttar Pradesh the hon'ble Prime Minister is not here. When a similar decision was given by the Governor in Uttar Pradesh the hon'ble Prime Minister went on hunger strike for a day against that decision of the governor to ventilate the message to the entire country that democracy has been strangled in Uttar Pradesh. ...(Interruptions) The Prime Minister was here and with the same feelings we...(Interruptions) The House was adjourned on this point.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When Shri Vajpayee went on a hunger strike then, the House could not function. What happened to them now? What did they do now?

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, are you allowing the members to speak on Bihar issue? The House is not functioning for the last ten days...(Interruptions) How you are allowing to them.

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, notice for Adjournment Motion is before the House. According to the Rules of Procedure of the House, before taking up the legislative business of the House, Adjournment Motion has to be disposed of.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): Sir, let us introduce the Bill first.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have also to speak on several important points.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: In the morning our colleagues have raised the question of adjournment because the order of the governor of Bihar...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Sir, you have allowed to Shri Pilot to speak.

[English]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): Sir, you have been kind to hear whatever they said. For the simple reason that you have been very generous, for the simple reason that you have been very kind, they are going on accusing you. This is a heavy price for kindness...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, I am on my legs.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members please go to your seats. Let me hear Shri Rajesh Pilot.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the morning when discussion was going on over the adjournment motion, we were listening to these people attentively. It could be in their mind.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Vijay Goel, let me hear Shri Rajesh Pilot.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Hon'ble Sir, Shri Scindia ji have raised the separate issue at the introduction stage of the Bill and you have also replied to that. Please come to Agenda...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have said that there are some Bills to be introduced.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: We had submitted our point before the Chair.

15.21 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Anwarul Mohammad Haque and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, 9th March, 2000 at 11.00 hours.

15.22 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, 9th March, 2000/
Phalgun 19, 1921 (Saka)*

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

...

Wednesday, March 8, 2000/Phalgun 18, 1921 (Saka)

....

Col./line	For	Read
11/2	(Ara)	(Arrah)
131,132/last	642103; 810548	629453; 806409
133/17	2256	2356
134/4 (from below)	1211	3211
137,138/9	7:6418	1:6418
143,144/8 (from below)	3323	1323
145,146/last	2413	1413
157,158/3 (from below)	14.8	14.6
173,174/8 (from below)	504.55	5004.55
195,196/7	240,72	240.72
212/14 (from below)	SHRI JITENDER REDDY	SHRI A.P.JITHENDER REDDY
293/17 331/25 345/28	SHRI BASANGOUDA R. (YATNAL)PATIL	SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)
381,382/5 (from below)	91.11	91.1
405/7	SHRI CHINDRA BHUSHAN SINGH	SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH
434/2	169.65	200.72
445/4 (from below)	SHRI PRAHLAND SINGH PATEL	SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL
522/8 (from below)	*TC	*TG
563,564/14	188	118
583,584/7	1353.78	1353.76
641	Add Gujarat 64	64 after 1st line from below.