

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES** **(English Version)**

**Third Session**  
**(Eleventh Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

*(Vol. VI contains Nos. 1 to 10)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
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CORRIGENDA TO LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Tuesday, November 26, 1996/Agrahayana 5, 1918 (Saka)

<u>Col/Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
15/12(from below)	SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH	SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH
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74/15(from below)	SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL	SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL
124/9(from below)	7371.65	7371.95
129-130 (Statement) 12 (from below)	4.32	4.37
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**LOK SABHA**

Tuesday, November 26, 1996/Agrahayana 5.  
1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at One Minute Past  
Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, some statements were made by the hon. Prime Minister and some responsible persons regarding the actual figures and the figures sent to the Government of India by the Government of Andhra Pradesh ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we support the demand of Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh and would like this matter to be taken up first. It is a very serious matter. Since it is a worst human tragedy, we want it to be taken up first ... (Interruptions)

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH : Sir, some statements which were purportedly made by the hon. Prime Minister and some responsible persons regarding the figures sent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to the Government of India for assistance had cast aspersions on the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. It is very unfortunate. So, I would request that this matter should be discussed immediately or else the Prime Minister should come forward and clarify the matter.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : In this matter, we support all the Members of Telugu Desam and of Andhra Pradesh. You must agree with the fact that it is the worst human tragedy ever happened... (Interruptions)

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH : It was a human tragedy. The Report had already been sent by the State Government. It is very unfortunate that some derogatory statements were made by responsible persons. This is not fair. Let the Prime Minister come forward and clarify the matter. When a responsible Chief Minister had sent the figures, it is unfortunate that the Prime Minister and some responsible persons chose to make certain statements casting aspersions on him, as per the news item in some of the national dailies.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the demand raised by the hon'ble Members of Andhra Pradesh, is genuine. Though the issue regarding Uttar Pradesh is very important, it can be kept in obedience and a discussion on the natural calamity may be taken up first.

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH : The Prime Minister himself had said that it is a natural calamity and now how can the hon. P.M. dispute the figures as per some hon'ble Members versions appeared in Newspapers. Let the Hon'ble Prime Minister clarify it.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, how this situation can be tackled when the Union Government has failed to deal with it. We, while giving priority to the natural calamity of Andhra Pradesh, make a demand to take up this issue first for discussion. While highlighting the failure of the Union Government in handling this problem we would like that the people of Andhra Pradesh should be provided relief immediately.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, the entire House is concerned about the people of Andhra Pradesh. The Government has been very callous. We do not want to send an impression that the House is also not concerned. For the time being we are agreeable to leave Uttar Pradesh issue for tomorrow and since Andhra Pradesh case is a natural calamity, we would like to discuss it immediately. You may suspend the Question Hour, if necessary. We are agreeable to it.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI (Hyderabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important issue, it should be taken up first. The entire Andhra Pradesh has met with devastation. All the roads have been destroyed and there is no way to go there.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : The Government has failed in handling the situation and providing relief... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. In the List of Business for today, in Item No. 6, immediately after laying the Papers on the Table of the House, the Minister for Agriculture will make a statement.

Since the Business Advisory Committee had agreed to have a discussion on the calamities in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa under Rule 193 and one of them

has also been listed for today, we will club it together and immediately after the Minister's statement, we can discuss.

Since this matter is very urgent, I would like to give time to as many Members as possible on this issue. If the House approves we may suspend the Zero Hour today and immediately after the Question Hour we will discuss it. Last week also we did not have any Question Hour. So, I think it is not fair to do away with the Question Hour today also. Immediately after the Question Hour, the Papers will be laid on the Table of the House and the Minister of Agriculture will make a statement and the House will start discussion on the Andhra Calamity.

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY (Kurnool) : Sir, we have no objection about that. Our only objection is with regard to the statement made by the hon. Prime Minister about the evaluation... (Interruptions) Since the Prime Minister has said that the estimated loss due to cyclone is much less than what it is, our objection is on that... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have understood that but even that will come when the Minister makes a Statement. Everything can be pointed out at that time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, we fully agree with your suggestion, but I would like to get a clarification from the Minister of Agriculture. Our Members are also very much worried about the drought situation in Orissa. Are we going to discuss it together with the Andhra Pradesh situation or separately? We do not mind, if it is agreed to be discussed separately.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, we have agreed to have a separate discussion on the Orissa situation also.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : If it is agreed, then we can have it immediately after Question Hour tomorrow or day after.

MR. SPEAKER : I will see to it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Kindly give priority to Orissa also.

MR. SPEAKER : We have agreed. We are discussing it immediately after the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the matter is settled, we will have Question Hour.

11.07 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Loss due to Flood/Heavy Rains

\*61. SHRI M. SELVARASU :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh and some other States have been severely affected due to heavy rains/flood since August, 1996;

(b) if so, the names of districts in each State severely affected;

(c) whether any Central team has visited these areas;

(d) if so, the details of the loss of human lives, crops, animals, property etc. suffered by each State as per the report of the team; and

(e) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for relief and rehabilitation works to each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### STATEMENT

(a) to (e). According to information received from the State Governments, parts of 17 States and one Union Territory were affected by cyclones, heavy rains and floods in varying degrees since August, 1996. In response to requests for additional assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief, Central Teams have visited the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to assess the situation and requirements of relief and rehabilitation. A Statement indicating the details of loss of human lives and animals, damage to crops and houses and funds released by the Government of India from the Calamity Relief Fund/ National Fund for Calamity Relief to the affected States is at Annexure-I. A list of affected districts in various States is given at Annexure-II.

## ANNEXURE - I

State	No. of human lives lost	No. of Livestock lost	Damage to Huts/Houses (No.)	Damage to Crop Area (In lakh Ha.)	Central Share of CRF released (Rs. in crores)
1. Andhra Pradesh	1574	66694	718080	17.95	93.140
2. Arunachal Pradesh	15	1256	330	0.06	3.960
3. Assam	38	372	7848	2.00	28.133*
4. Bihar	207	66	66955	7.14	29.228
5. Gujarat	117	1962	54575	4.28	
				0.15	18.790
6. Himachal Pradesh	45	2250	5774	2.58	15.158
7. Jammu and Kashmir	58	9534	24521	0.46	14.780
8. Karnataka	239	4787	104199	0.50	23.543
9. Kerala	159	-	18729	0.39	41.550
10. Madhya Pradesh	48	344	7075	0.14	28.733
11. Maharashtra	198	38	2899	-	38.363
12. Punjab	13	1	26	-	30.458
13. Rajasthan	138	6438	119241	2.10	134.280
14. Tamil Nadu	75	88	40222	0.05	33.383
15. Uttar Pradesh	352	1279	70858	6.78	70.380
16. West Bengal	48	84	203987	0.83	38.490
17. Sikkim	6	-	20		3.530
18. Pondicherry	18	-	6000	0.008	

\* Note : An additional Rs 21.00 crores has been released for Assam from the National Fund for Calamity Relief.

## ANNEXURE - II

*Names of the Flood/Cyclone affected districts*

## 1. Andhra Pradesh

1. Visakhapatnam
2. West Godavari
3. Krishna
4. Guntur
5. East Godavari
6. Nellore
7. Chittoor
8. Kurnool
9. Cuddapah
10. Ananthapur
11. Mahabubnagar
12. Warangal
13. Khammam
14. Srikakulam
15. Vizianagaram

16. Prakasam
17. Karimnagar
18. Hyderabad
19. Adilabad
20. Medak
21. Nalgonda
22. Nizamabad
23. Rangareddy

## 2. Arunachal Pradesh

1. Lohit
2. East Siang
3. West Siang
4. Tawang
5. West Kameng
6. East Kameng
7. Lower Subansiri
8. Upper Subansiri
9. Upper Siang
10. Dibang Valley

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1. Dhemaji
  2. Dibrugarh
  3. Tinsukhia
  4. Darrang
  5. Lakhimpur
  6. Sivasagar
  7. Jorhat
  8. Dhubri
  9. Bongai Gaon
  10. Goalpara
  11. Barpeta
  12. Nalbari
  13. Kamrup
  14. Sonitpur
  15. Nagaon
  16. Kokrajhar
  17. Golaghat
  18. Morigaon

### 4. Bihar

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1. Sheohar
  2. Sitamarhi
  3. East Chaparan
  4. Samastipur
  5. Supaul
  6. Saharsa
  7. Khagaria
  8. Kishanganj
  9. Pakur
  10. Madhubani
  11. Katihar
  12. West Chaparan
  13. Purnea
  14. Muzaffarpur
  15. Gopalganj
  16. Darbhanga
  17. Araria
  18. Madhepura
  19. Bhagalpur
  20. Nalanda
  21. Hazaribagh
  22. Vaishali

23. Begusarai
24. Bhojpur
25. Saran
26. Munger
27. Buxer
28. Patna
29. Lakhisarai
30. Sahebganj
31. Shekhpura

### 5. Gujarat

1. Mehsana
2. Jamnagar
3. Kheda
4. Surat
5. Bhavnagar
6. Junagarh
7. Surendranagar
8. Valsad
9. Ahmedabad
10. Rajkot
11. Sabarkantha
12. Bharuch
13. Panchmahal
14. Banskanta
15. Kachchh
16. Amreli
17. Dangs
18. Vadodara
19. Gandhinagar

### 6. Himachal Pradesh

1. Kangra
2. Shimla
3. Mandi
4. Solan
5. Sirmaur
6. Bilaspur
7. Kullu
8. Hamirpur
9. Una
10. Chamba
11. Kinnaur
12. Lahaul & Spiti

### 7. Jammu and Kashmir

1. Srinagar
2. Budgam

3. Baramulla
4. Kupwara
5. Anantnagh
6. Pulwama
7. Doda
8. Udhampur
9. Kathua
10. Rajouri
11. Jammu

#### 8. Karnataka

1. Raichur
2. Bijapur
3. Bangalore (Urban)
4. Mysore
5. Dharwad
6. Bellary
7. Dakshin Kannada
8. Bidar
9. Tumkur
10. Kodagu
11. Kolar
12. Bangalore (Rural)
13. Hassan
14. Gulbarga
15. Uttar Kannada
16. Chickmagalur
17. Chitradurga
18. Shimoga
19. Mandya

#### 9. Kerala

1. Kasargod
2. Idukki
3. Cannanore
4. Kozhikode
5. Thrissore
6. Wyanad
7. Thiruvananthapuram
8. Kottayam
9. Kollam
10. Palghat
11. Malapuram
12. Ernakulam
13. Pathanamthitta
14. Alappuzha

#### 10. Madhya Pradesh

1. Bhind
2. Morena
3. Rajgarh
4. Chhatarpur

#### 11. Maharashtra

1. Nashik
2. Ahmednagar
3. Solapur
4. Sangli
5. Jalna
6. Beed
7. Latur
8. Osmanabad
9. Nanded
10. Nagpur
11. Amravati
12. Buldana
13. Dhule
14. Satara
15. Aurangabad
16. Akola
17. Thane
18. Ratnagiri
19. Mumbai City
20. Mumbai Upnagar
21. Raigad
22. Sindhudurg
23. Pune
24. Chandrapur
25. Parbhani
26. Wardha

#### 12. Punjab

1. Amritsar
2. Hoshiarpur
3. Gurdaspur
4. Patiala
5. Mukatsar
6. Firozpur
7. Moga

#### 13. Rajasthan

1. Jodhpur
2. Jaisalmer
3. Nagaur
4. Hanumangarh
5. Alwar

6. Tonk  
7. Jhunjhunu  
8. Bharatpur  
9. Bikaner  
10. Dholpur  
11. Ganganagar  
12. Jaipur  
13. Sikar  
14. Ajmer  
15. Paran  
16. Bundi  
17. Jhalawar  
18. Kota  
19. Swai Madhopur  
20. Banswara

**14. Sikkim**

1. Gangtok  
2. North Sikkim

**15. Tamil Nadu**

1. Nagapatinam  
2. Trichi  
3. Villupuram  
4. Thanjavur  
5. South Arcot  
6. Chengaloattu  
7. Madras  
8. Coimbatore  
9. Nilgiris  
10. Pasumpon Muthuramalinga  
11. Thevar  
12. Dindigul Anna  
13. Thiruvannamalai  
14. Tirunelveli

**16. Uttar Pradesh**

1. Allahabad  
2. Hardoi  
3. Barabanki  
4. Varanasi  
5. Agra  
6. Mathura  
7. Firozabad  
8. Rai Bareilly  
9. Fatehpur  
10. Mirzapur  
11. Ghazipur

12. Bhadohi  
13. Ballia  
14. Partapgarh  
15. Bahraich  
16. Maharajganj  
17. Gorakhpur  
18. Gonda  
19. Pithoragarh  
20. Basti  
21. Kheri  
22. Sidarthnagar  
23. Azamgarh  
24. Bijnor  
25. Farrukhabad  
26. Padarauna  
27. Faizabad  
28. Unnao  
29. Muzaffar Nagar  
30. Hamirpur  
31. Banda  
32. Jalaun  
33. Aligarh  
34. Etawah  
35. Badaun  
36. Etah  
37. Haridwar  
38. Haridwar  
39. Kanpur Dehat  
40. Sonbhadra  
41. Ambedkar Nagar  
42. Saharanpur  
43. Pauri Garhwal  
44. Uttar Kashi  
45. Chamoli

**17. West Bengal**

1. Jalpaiguri  
2. Cooch Behar  
3. Darjeeling  
4. South Dinajpur  
5. Malda  
6. Hoogly  
7. Nadia  
8. Murshidabad  
9. Burdwan  
10. Midnapur

**18. Pondicherry**

1. Yanam

SHRI M. SELVARASU : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the cyclone has affected not only Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu but also the Union Territory of Pondicherry. The Yanam district in Pondicherry has been fully affected by this cyclone, but the Central Government has not sent any team to visit this district. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Pondicherry Government has been given any financial assistance from the Government relief measures, if so, the details of the funds sanctioned, if any.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already given in my reply a State-wise list of the districts which are affected. It is a fact that some parts of the Union Territory of Pondicherry have also been affected.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is, has any central team visited Pondicherry?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : The whole report has not come yet, so the team has not gone so far, but we are ready for it.

SHRI M. SELVARASU : Has any assistance been given to them?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : As far as assistance is concerned, there are two funds. One is the State Calamity Fund and the other is the Calamity Relief Fund. As far as the Calamity Relief Fund is concerned, it is upto them to spend it and whenever they ask for it we will release it.

SHRI M. SELVARASU : What is the estimate of damage caused by the recent cyclone in Andhra Pradesh made by the Central Team that visited Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, the Central team is yet to go there but in order to have an inquiry about the damage caused to coconut and horticulture land, we sent a team. One of the members of that team was a Director in the Agriculture Department. They have all inquired into it. A full report has come and we have assessed the damage and the relief to be given; that I will tell you later on.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether the Government contemplate to install a new radar system which could forecast the cyclone. We have an old system here. The State Government is responsible for this devastation. Had the equipments of new radar been installed, the devastation on such a large scale would not have taken place.

Secondly, I would like to state that the relief and assistance provided by the centre is very less. Roads have been damaged there. You should increase the amount of relief. You have provided this relief in the form of an expenditure. Whether the Government contemplates to increase the relief amount? You are requested to increase the relief amount and install new equipments so that the natural calamities could be

forecast. The old equipments are out of order. The Government is responsible for it and they should admit it.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, efforts will be made to modernise the technology to the best possible extent. We have requested the world Bank to conduct a study in this regard and let us know about its outcome. We are ready to install the latest equipment available anywhere in the world which could forecast the cyclones or other calamities. As per the technology available with us, we had so far been providing information through satellite. On the insistence of the State Government we had also been giving advance information through T.V. and radio. Still, the tragedy took place. No system has been developed in science so far which could prevent cyclone. The Army can be stopped but the cyclone cannot be stopped. Yesterday only, I had requested the scientists from Asia and Pacific countries to find a way out to cope up with such eventualities. They would try their best to send latest information in this regard as soon as possible. We are also trying to broadcast information in this regard for common people. Something has been done in this regard but we assure you that we would make efforts to do it on a large scale.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : I did not ask about the measure to stop the cyclone. I asked whether you were going to install the latest equipments which have already been developed? We have old equipments here. The Government is aware of the mid-air collision. It occurred because we don't have modern equipments. Is the Government not responsible for it? The Government provides relief in the form of an expenditure. The Prime Minister says it is a national tragedy.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is enough. No more.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : It is a matter of concern that the Government is providing relief in the form of an expenditure.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, would you like to reply?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already replied to it.

[Translation]

We are ready to upgrade the modern technology available with us. We have also taken help of the existing satellite for dissemination of information. You should not say that we are not doing anything.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : I am requesting you to install new equipments.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : How can we install the equipment which has not been developed in science so far. We are utilising the technology available with us. We are also taking help of the World Bank and seek your cooperation in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : It is certainly a tragic incident. Therefore, a full discussion on this issue will be held after question hour is over.

[English]

Since we are discussing it...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, attention should also be paid towards the destruction caused in other States.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, this question relates to other states also... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is that whether the Union Government will provide assistance for natural calamity only after the survey? This calamity has claimed 1600 lives in Andhra Pradesh, 200 in Maharashtra and 200 in Bihar. My suggestion is that the Union Government should provide assistance to the kith and kins of the persons who died in the natural calamity.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the existing provision, immediate relief is provided from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Rupees fifty thousand are provided immediately after receiving information. This amount is very less and it should be increased. We will consider it. Secondly, the State Government also provides assistance but for compensation... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : After the death of a person... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : You were talking to him. I have already replied to the point. I said that there is a provision to provide Rs. 50 thousand immediately from Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Some State Governments provide Rs. 50 thousand and some Rs. 25 thousand from their Calamity Relief Funds. This is the position as per the existing provisions. For this purpose, a committee is already there. This committee had considered the above amount about 4-5 years ago. We have asked the committee that we want to update it. The committee will work in that direction and action will be taken as per the recommendations of the committee.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bihar had been badly affected by the devastating flood a few days ago and I had accompanied the hon'ble Minister when he surveyed the flood situation. Thirty one districts of Bihar have been affected by the flood. A study team from the Centre had gone there to take stock of the situation and it has submitted its report. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to how much amount, except the relief amount allocated under plan head, will be provided to Bihar and the time by which this relief is likely to be provided? The Government has given an assurance to the farmers of Bihar to provide a compensation of Rs. 500 per hectare and the hon'ble Minister even publically announced that it would be provided very soon. That amount has not been paid so far. I would like to know the time by which it will be provided to them. Whether the Government is making any arrangement to provide some amount to the poor from the Calamity Relief Fund for repairing their huts damaged by the flood?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the question of providing compensation of Rs. 500 per hectare to farmers is concerned, I have not announced it for Bihar only. About 8-10 days ago, I had written a letter to hon'ble Members in this regard and Rs. 20 crore in total have been provided so far. It has been mentioned in that letter to provide Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 as input assistance to farmers and this amount was provided by Centre to the State Governments. We have released funds to the State Governments. You should contact the State Governments for payment.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister in his statement has mentioned several districts of West Bengal as recently flood-affected areas. These districts mostly include the districts right from Cooch Behar to Malda of North Bengal. Is it not a fact and whether the Minister is aware or not that due to the slow progress of the completion of Tista Canal Project in North Bengal and due to the backwater flow from Bangladesh to this border, the floods have become a chronic problem in this region? Will the Minister take a special care to have joint meeting with the Water Resources Minister to see that Bangladesh backwater coming into the border of North Bengal is sealed by proper culverts and the Tista Canal Project is expedited? Otherwise, this has become a chronic Flood issue of North Bengal. Will the Minister have a meeting with the Water Resources Minister?

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the report which has been presented is about land erosion. The matters relating to village cut-off or rehabilitation come under the jurisdiction of my Ministry and the remaining under the Ministry of Water

Resources. If you wish, I can convey your point to the Department of Irrigation. A joint meeting of the Central and State Governments can be held. We are concerned with providing relief. We are ready to sit together and discuss the things.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Did you have a meeting? Unless you know the problem of Water Resources Ministry, how will you solve the problem? This flood has become a chronic problem. It is not a flood by natural water. Everyday Bangladesh water comes. Tista Canal is not complete. That is why this flood is there in North Bengal.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Hon. Member, flood is not under me. If you are affected by flood, I would come to your assistance.

MR. SPEAKER : Flood is not under the Minister; only cyclone is under the Minister!

11.19¾ hrs.

### WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM IRAN

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, 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. Ali Akbar Nateq Noori, Speaker of the Majlis of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other Members of the Iranian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other hon. Members of the Delegation are :-

1. H.E. Mr. Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh
2. H.E. Mr. Yahya Ale-Ishag
3. H.E. Mr. Seyed Reza Taqvi
4. H.E. Mr. Javad Ardeshir Larijani
5. H.E. Mr. Mohamand Baqer Nevisi
6. H.E. Mr. Ahad Qazaei
7. H.E. Mrs. Marzieh Sediqi
8. H.E. Mr. Ale' Eddin Broujerdi
9. H.E. Mr. Alinaqi Khamoushi
10. Mr. Karbasian
11. Mr. Abrishami

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 25 November, 1996. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the

President, the Parliament and the friendly people of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Many persons have died in Madhya Pradesh due to starvation ... (Interruptions) In Chhatisgarh, thousands of families are facing this problem.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You can bring it later. We are having a full debate after this.

(Interruptions)

11.21 hrs.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS - Contd.

[Translation]

#### Relief to New Sugar Mills

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\*62. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new sugar mill owners were given seven years relief on the levy sugar by the Government under their incentive scheme;

(b) whether the Government have withdrawn the said relief;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to review their decision;

(e) if so, the time by which the mill owners are likely to be given the said relief again; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) to (f) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) To facilitate augmentation of the Licensed capacity the new sugar mills licensed during 7th Plan Period (1.10.1985 to 30.9.1990) were given relief on the levy sugar for a period of 5 years and 7 years respectively depending upon whether the sugar mill was situated in High Recovery Area or Other Recovery Area. Thereafter, new sugar mills licensed upto 31st

March, 1994 are being given relief on levy sugar under Sugar Incentive Scheme announced on 10th March, 1993 for 8 years in High Recovery Area and 10 years in Other recovery Area.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f). Question does not arise.

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that the relief on levy was being given to the sugar mills licensed till March 31, 1994. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether relief under sugar Incentive scheme will also be provided to new mills which have been given license during 1995 and 1996? If so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, incentive has been given till March, 1994. I have already stated in my reply that the period of incentive given to the sugar mills licensed during 1.10.85 to 30.9.90 situated in high recovery area where sugar content is more than 10 percent, has been revised upto 8 years and for low recovery area, upto 10 years. Thus, all the factories licensed till March 31, 1994 have been given incentive and outstanding amount is still being paid. There is no new proposal at present.

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister knows very well that the sugar mills generally start crushing sugarcane in the first week of October every year but due to arbitrary stance adopted by the Indian Sugar Mills Association, the crushing of sugarcane this year started on November 22, 1996. As a result, sugarcane farmers could not sow wheat in their fields. Due to this arbitrariness, not only the farmers but the country has also suffered. The mill owners created hurdles in growing 20 million more wheat. The hon. Governor had fixed the price of sugarcane at Rs 76 per quintal. The mill owners have made up their mind not to pay the prescribed price to the farmers as they do not write the price on slips issued to farmers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would sanction vacuum pan to small Khandsari units to quell the arbitrariness shown by the Sugar Mill Association? If so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned about opening sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh. About 117 sugar mills should have been opened by now. However, 61 sugarmills have started functioning. Only yesterday, I wrote to the Governor of the State to take steps for opening the remaining sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh. I think the remaining sugar mills will be opened soon. So far as installation of vacuum Pan is concerned, I will consider the suggestions given by the hon. Members.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of sugar mills which had put up their claims for incentives in 1994 and the number out of them particularly those in Orissa, which have got incentive.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have clearly stated in my reply that the question regarding Orissa should be asked separately and I shall send the information in this regard to the hon. Member.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. ble Minister has replied to the question asked by my friend. But the Important point is that they are giving relief to mills while Rs.500 crore are still to be paid to sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh. The Kanpur Sugar Works and Champaran Sugar Works fall under his Ministry. At present, three sugar mills of Champaran Sugar Works are not functioning. The hon. Minister has written a letter to the hon. Governor. I would like to know whether Kanpur Sugar Works under this Ministry will start functioning or not because Rs.17 crore are outstanding against it? Further, when the other three sugar mills of Champaran in Bihar, which do not fall under his Ministry, will start functioning and the time by which the sugar farmers will get their dues.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the three sugar mills come under the Department of Textiles. Therefore, I have already referred the matter to them. It does not fall under the jurisdiction of my Department...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rs.500 crore are to be paid to farmers and the Kanpur Sugar Works has to make a payment of Rs.17 crore. I want to know whether the outstanding amount will be paid or not and whether new sugar mills will be opened or not?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : It is not related to the main question. It is not a question regarding making payment of sugarcane, but a question of providing incentive. Whatever questions the hon. Members ask, I will reply to them in the light of the facts available with me. It is not related to the main question. I have already told that the Department of Textiles looks after the management...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Rs.500 crore are still to be paid...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : You had called my name...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : That is enough, please...

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am making a submission to you. When we ask a question of the hon. Minister of Agriculture, he says 'cyclone' is under his charge, 'flood' is not. When we ask a question of the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, he says: "Sugar mills are under the Ministry of Textiles and, therefor, I cannot answer. I can answer about sugar production. "This is a very real difficulty. The Members will ask all possible questions. How are we to find an answer?"

Otherwise, the Government will slip away from every possible question.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Jaswant Singh is a senior and sagacious Member. I would like to tell him that management aspect of all the three textile mills of Champaran and the mills in Kanpur is looked after by the Department of Textiles but the sugarmills are controlled by my Ministry. The Ministry of Food looks after the matter relating to release of free sale sugar. Further, imposition of levy is also taken care of by the Ministry of Food. The management comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Textiles... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : I would like to tell the hon. Minister that he had appointed the Chairman and he is misleading the House... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down when I am standing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I am on my legs.

I think hon. Member Shri Jaswant Singh has raised a very valid point. As far as practicable, the Ministers should have information for the questions which are relevant. If they do not have the question/answers with them, I think they can anticipate and collect the information from their sister Departments. If they do not have anything, they can always collect the information and pass it on to the hon. Members. That is what we normally do.

[Translation]

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : As per the sugar procurement and distribution policy, some percentage of sugar is released for sale in the open Market and the remaining is distributed under Public Distribution system. I would like to suggest that as wheat is distributed through dealers after it is supplied to district headquarters by the Government, sugar should also be supplied to far-flung areas in the similar way. You have godowns for wheat at the level of district headquarters, sugar-cane also be stocked in those godowns. Due to this policy, the people living in hilly areas and far-flung areas like Guraiya, Maulaband, Tikwal in Kashmir Valley will get sugar easily. Will the hon. Minister bring necessary changes in the policy or find a way out which may help common people in getting sugar easily and controlling the black marketing of sugar in the open market?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : In respect of the question raised by the hon'ble Member I would like to say that under the Public Distribution System, sugar is distributed at a standard price of Rs.9.05 per kg throughout the country... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that sugar is being sold at a rate of Rs.16 per kg in Uttar Pradesh... (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : If you do not want to listen to me it is better that I take my seat.

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to the reply being given by the Minister

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : First, I would like to say that today the price of sugar in open market is 60 paise less than the rates prevailing some days back and I presume that with the release of sugar quota in free market, the prices of sugar will come down by Re.1 per kg. So far as marketing of sugar is concerned, I would like to say that sale of sugar under Public Distribution System is under the control of State Governments. The Union Government is only responsible for allocation of sugar quota and the distribution is the responsibility of State Governments... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : The price of sugar in open market in Uttar Pradesh is Rs. 16 per kg and at present, Uttar Pradesh is under the rule of Union Government... (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The hon'ble Member can give me in writing. If he has any complaint regarding hilly region and I will certainly write to the State Governments for inquiry into the matter... (Interruptions)

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : You have allotted a subject for Zero Hour but there is no Zero Hour today... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : After Shri Ramalingam asks the question, I will allow you.

(Interruptions)

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, not only in the private mills but in the cooperative mills also lot of sugar costing crores of rupees is lying in the mills. The Central Government has not given any quota and so they are not able to sell or release it. The mills are not able to deliver the money to the sugarcane producers. Now in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh lots of farmers are waiting for the money after sending the sugarcane to the mills. The next season of cutting is also coming.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Yes Sir, Is the Ministry going to give any special quota to the mills to take all the stock that is lying with the cooperative mills and private mills? Is there any idea to have an emergency release now? Will the hon. Minister answer the question?

MR. SPEAKER : He will answer.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though this question is not related to the main question but for the information of the House, I would like to say that departmental Committee has been constituted, which has three Members. This Committee is looking into this matter and I would like to add that this time, there is not sugar mill against which payment of farmers is due and from which free sale sugar has not been released. We have started releasing quota in accordance with the production capacity of sugar mill. I will send the list of the sugar mills along with the information regarding quota released to them, if the hon'ble Member wants to get detailed information.

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue was to be taken up during Zero Hour but as a question has come up on this subject, it should be discussed. I would like to make two three points in this regard. I have already apprised the hon'ble Minister and also written a letter to him that payment of farmers is due on Gauri Bazar Sugar Mill for the last three years. The Hon'ble Prime Minister had given an assurance in this august House that orders for 50 percent payment of dues were being issued but so far, payment has not been made. Rs.46 crores are due on sugar mills in Pudrauna and Deoria districts. It is a serious issue and we seek your permission for a discussion on this subject under rule 193.

In respect of the natural calamity in Andhra Pradesh, I would like to say that on this issue we all are with the the hon'ble Minister. It is not going to help the farmers if you pass on the responsibility to the Textile Minister and he passes on to Agricultural Minister and then Agricultural Minister will try to again pass it on to you. It is not an ordinary thing because the Government have purchased sugarcane from the farmers and no payment has been made to them even after lapse of three years. I would like to know as to when this payment which is due for more than two years on sugar mills is likely to be made and by when the rest of payments would be made? Whether any time-bound programme is likely to be formulated for it?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already told that this question does not relate to the main question but for the information of the Members I would like to tell that Rs.900 crores were due on mills in Uttar Pradesh and out of Rs.450 crores have been paid during last two months and the process is on for the payment of the remaining balance.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may please consider this issue to be discussed under rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER : Please give notice for it.

[English]

### Drought in Orissa

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\*63. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that several districts of Orissa have faced a severe drought situation during the current year particularly after the month of June, 1996;

(b) if so, the names of districts adversely affected along with the loss of lives, crops etc. suffered in each district;

(c) whether the Government have provided any Central assistance for these districts to meet the problem during the current year;

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

(e) whether any request for the enhancement of such assistance has been received; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (f). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). According to reports received from the Government of Orissa, based on the Crop cutting assessments, 13664 villages in 20 districts of the State have sustained crop loss of 50% and above the to inadequate rains. An Annexure indicating the numbers of such villages in the 20 districts is enclosed. In the remaining 8 districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Gajapati, Ganjam, Khurda, Puri, Sambalpur & Sundargarh, 8306 villages have sustained crop loss of 50% and above, on the basis of eye estimation. In respect of reported deaths the State Government has been requested to enquire into the matter.

(c) and (d). Government of India have already released its entire Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of Rs.36.76 crores for 1996-97 including advance release of the 4th instalment of Central share of Rs.9.19 crores. Government of India do not make any district-wise distribution of the CRF allocations. Following the visit of Prime Minister, more funds have been released for poverty alleviation and employment generation purposes.

(e) and (f). Government of Orissa have submitted a Memorandum indicating requirement of Rs.585.80

crores for drought relief measures in various sectors. A Central team has visited the State on 17-20 November, 1996 to assess the requirement of relief, based on

whose report, further Central Assistance, if any, will be considered to be released.

### ANNEXURE

S. No.	Name of the District	Total No. of Blocks in the Distt	No. of Blocks affected	Total No. of Gram-panch-yats in the Distt.	No. of Gram-panch-yats Affected	Total No. of Villages in the Distt.	No. of Villages having sustained crop loss of		
							50% to 74%	75% and above	Total
1.	Angul	8	8	180	142+2	1922	351	936	1287
2.	Bolangir	14	14	241	241+3	1783	1088	703	1791
3.	Baragarh	12	11	193	141+1	1208	116	710	826
4.	Cuttack	14	12	262	86	1865	244	83	237
5.	Dhenkanal	8	9	172	142+3	1221	19	328	347
6.	Jajpur	10	9	242	41	1781	24	30	54
7.	Jharsuguda	5	5	60	57+2	356	250	25	275
8.	Kandhamal	12	12	144	52+1	2515	1102	93	1195
9.	Nabarangpur	10	1	148	13	897	48	1	49
10.	Nayagarh	8	8	143	141+2	1694	91	1509	1600
11.	Nauapada	5	5	93	59+1	659	156	68	224
12.	Sonepur	6	6	80	56+3	959	283	390	673
13.	Boudh	3	3	58	51+1	1156	13	1019	1032
14.	Deogarh	3	2	52	15	867	41	-	41
15.	Rayagada	11	6	140	58	2691	305	191	496
16.	Kalahandi	13	12	195	92+1	2201	174	98	272
17.	Keonjhar	13	13	244	168+3	2133	306	95	401
18.	Jagatsinghpur	8	2	181	14	1391	70	7	77
19.	Kendrapara	9	1	205	3	1567	2	1	3
20.	Mayurbhanj	26	26	316	316+1	3827	1678	1016	2694
Total		198	165	3352	1888+24	32693	6361	7303	13664

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Hon. Speaker, Sir, for 30 years, coastal Orissa has been intermittently suffering from drought while another part of Orissa suffers from floods every alternate year. But unfortunately, this year out of 30 districts, according to the memorandum of the State, 26 districts are affected with severe drought and according to the Crop Cutting Report, the Minister has indicated, that out of more than 50,000 villages, there is no crop at all in 26,000 villages. So, if we have a political debate on this, we cannot solve the problem of Orissa. I am born in a drought affected village.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question?

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I have just given the infrastructure. The hon. Minister has visited Kalahandi, Bolagir, Bhawanipatna and Mahabra. Another place which has been left out is Padampur sub-division of

Baragarh. All these places intermittently suffer from drought.

But this year the whole State is severely affected by drought. So, for short term the *ad hoc* grant will not solve the problem. The hon. Minister Shri Chaturanan Mishra has visited the State day before yesterday.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question? The Minister will not answer your question if you go on like that.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, I am not asking more questions. It is the misery which I am highlighting. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the amount that the Government of India is going to give and whether the cabinet is going to envisage a long term action plan shortly. It was there during the Congress regime in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir

and Koraput. I want to know whether that will be extended to more drought prone areas in the State.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that the situation in Orissa is serious and it will take a dangerous turn by January because at that time, the problem of feeding 50-60 people would arise. We have discussed this issue with the Members of all the political parties. Rs. 216 crore have been provided to State Governments for making necessary arrangements and ensure that there would be no starvation death. It is our utmost concern. We have seen that due to shortage of water people have not taken bath for ten days. We have made arrangements for rig machines with the help of Private sector to provide water in those areas which are facing shortage of drinking water. The State Government has cooperated with us and given assurance of making necessary arrangements. Earlier, the things were not going smooth but now the work has been taken up and I hope that this problem would be tackled properly. I would like to tell the House that terms of reference of the Tenth Finance Commission should be expanded so that problems of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh could be dealt with. For this we required time and I would like to say that Rs.216 crore have been provided in advance to make necessary arrangements. A Central team has visited the area and it is likely to submit its report by tomorrow. We will examine it and try our best to provide sufficient assistance for it. I assure you that there would be no starvation deaths.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is related to it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot do like this. It is his right to ask the second supplementary, not yours. But please remember that we are going to have a full-fledged discussion on this issue, on the floor of the House. So, you do not have to speak about all the infrastructure that you have in your mind.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : No, Sir, I am not asking anything about the infrastructure. To solve the drinking water problem, the private sector people in the neighbouring States are not willing to cooperate to dig tubewells. So, I want to ask the hon. Minister whether he will take the help of the Ministry of Water Resources which is doing the work of digging deep exploratory tubewells and its organisation which has its headquarters in Ghaziabad to depute more than 1,000 rigs to Orissa so that the drinking water problem can be solved.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the discussion held with the Chief Minister, some of the rigs belong to State Government had about 26 rigs

have been taken from private sector. We will try our best to provide rigs and if the hon. Members could suggest anything in this regard, they are welcome. We all will work collectively and if the need be, we will deploy forces and not let the people die due to starvation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kunturkar, is he absent?

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. It is not going on record. I have called Shri Chandra Shekhar.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have said that we are going to have a discussion on it. All of you will get a chance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has taken a very positive attitude towards the problem of Orissa. The Orissa problem is very critical and is going to turn very serious in the coming few months. I think, it is not only that you should give assurances, but as the hon. Minister has said, all the resources of the Government and private organisations should be pooled and a cohesive effort is needed to avoid famine conditions which are already, in a way, operating in Western Orissa. I think, the Government will take immediate steps through the help of the Ministry of Water Resources and if necessary through the Ministry of Defence to have the borewells so that people do not die of water shortage, not water shortage but thirst. It is not only a question of providing food to them but water has become scarce in that State. I have read the statement of the hon. Minister and I praise him for the real appreciation of the situation. But I am sorry to say that I do not see the response commensurate with the statement of the Minister. Will the Minister see that the Cabinet takes the same serious view about Orissa?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I am discussing this matter in the Cabinet and also with the Prime Minister. As a former Prime Minister, you yourself know that that the Prime Minister had adequate powers and the Minister of Agriculture has smaller powers.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : You have enough powers.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : But I must be very frank with you that it has the advice of the Prime Minister to call a meeting for discussing the Orissa issue specifically. I assure the hon. Member and also the House that whatever is possible, would be done.

You give me suggestions. Rather I can tell that it is a very complicated issue. It relates to the middle classes. They do not go to the fields for work. As you know, the work that is available is under the Employment

Assurance Scheme and all these things. They cannot go to the Fields of others. Similarly, the male members also coming from middle class farmers and others will not like to go to the fields of others to work there. What I am trying to devise is that they can work in their own fields so that at least the male members could get the work. I have asked the Chief Minister to consult the women's organisations to find out what type of handicrafts and other things they can do and I am ready to provide cheap money and marketing facilities also. If the hon. Members can suggest anything - what could be done for the wives of the middle classes also - to help in this hour of famine like situation, then I will be very much obliged to them and I assure prompt action.

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is going to declare the drought prone areas of Orissa as 'national calamity' and whether the Government is considering to provide special funds to eradicate the drought situation permanently from the backward districts of Orissa like, Bolangir, Kalahandi, Dorpur, Phulwani, Dimapur and Padampur to save the lives of the poor people of these areas.

MR. SPEAKER : Good. It should be pointed like this.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Yes, Sir. It is a fact that drought is a permanent guest of Orissa.

Therefore, something must be done to keep out that guest. I am thinking of some permanent solution since Kalahandi, Bolangir or rather that entire belt is suffering from drought. I do not know for how many decades, but so far as I could recollect, for the last four or five decades... (Interruptions) I am hearing about this national calamity, but there is no Act to declare it as a national calamity. If it is my saying, I have already said it; if it is the Prime Minister's saying, he had already said it. What I am trying to tell you is that within the limits of the Tenth Finance Commission, this question cannot be solved and, therefore, extraordinary measures are to be taken. I assure you that I will do my best to see that this repeated drought does not come there. So, something has to be done for that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : This question relates to Orissa but it is equally important for Uttar Pradesh. Betel leaf is grown on a large scale in Pali and Mahuwa areas of Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh. This crop has been destroyed this year. Around 10 lakh people are engaged in this work.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This question specifically relates to Orissa.

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : In reply to this question, the hon. Minister of Agriculture has said that

no specific Act had been enacted to declare an area as natural calamity affected. We have seen recently that Andhra Pradesh has suffered a huge loss due to natural calamity. Our country faces natural calamities every now and then. I would like to know from the Government as to whether there is any plan to make a permanent arrangement to deal with such a situation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister had already given the answer. He said that he was thinking of some permanent solution for it.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Madhya Pradesh is adjacent to Orissa.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you going outside the scope of this question? This question specially relates to Orissa. Your question is not allowed.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What has been done or what should be done, it does not make question.

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, questions regarding the Kalahandi area of Orissa are being raised here but starvation and famine are not confined to a particular geographical limit. Oriya speaking people live in Raigarh and Sarangarh districts of Chhatisgarh region which is adjacent to Orissa.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a specific question relating to Orissa.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : In the beginning itself, I had said that the issue was being debated in the House and you could have your say when given a chance to speak.

[English]

#### Deaths due to Air Pollution

+  
\*64. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have studied the recently published report of the Centre for Science Environment's magazine Down to Earth, according to which every year in just six Indian cities 40,000 people are dying due to air pollution, 7500 of them in Delhi;

(b) if so, the other salient features of the said report;

(c) the results achieved by various measures undertaken to contain the growing environmental pollution; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to revamp the Environmental Pollution Control Programme so as to make it more effective?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(b) The other salient features of the report of the Centre for Science and Environment magazine "Down to Earth" include the following :

The report estimates that environment damages amounted to a total of about Rs. 34,000 crores per year or 4.5 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product in 1992.

The report estimates health costs of air and water pollution and economic losses occurring due to degradation of croplands and grazing lands as also due to deforestation. It has also calculated the losses to the Indian economy because of reduced opportunities for international tourism revenue.

The report shows water degradation accounts for health costs worth Rs. 19,950 crores every year which is 59 per cent of total environmental costs.

The report estimates the total health costs resulting from air pollutants to be Rs. 1,810-7,357 crores per year.

The report estimates land degradation to account for between 4.0 per cent and 6.3 per cent productivity loss in total agricultural output every year which amounts to Rs. 5,250 crores to Rs. 8,400 crores.

The report reveals economic losses due to reduction in international tourism to the tune of Rs. 497-991 crores per year.

(c) and (d). The measures taken by the Government to contain environmental pollution and the results achieved are as follows :

The Government has formulated a comprehensive Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution which envisages integration of environmental and economic

aspects of development planning. lays stress on preventive aspects of pollution abatement and promotion of technological inputs to reduce industrial pollution.

- Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
- Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas.
- Custom and excise duty exemptions are provided to the industries for pollution control/monitoring equipment.
- A scheme for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants in clusters of small scale industrial units is under implementation. About 60 CETPs have been approved which are at various stages of construction.
- To promote pollution prevention in small and medium scale industries, the Government has initiated the following projects :
  - Project on establishment of Waste Minimisation Circles in clusters of small scale industries.
  - Project on establishment of National Cleaner Production Centre at National Productivity Council.
  - Emission standards for 39 categories of industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
  - Out of a total number of 1551 units belonging to the 17 categories of highly polluting industries, 1259 industries have already installed adequate facilities for pollution control to comply with the stipulated standards. 112 units have been closed down. Regular monitoring is being carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards and legal action is being taken against the defaulters.
- 24 problem areas have been identified in the country for abatement of pollution. Action plans have been prepared in respect of 14 areas and they are in various stages of implementation.
- Ambient air quality standards have been notified in the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and in the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These include standards for major air pollutants for different areas such as residential, industrial and sensitive areas.
- The Central Pollution Control Board is monitoring the levels of air pollutants in all

the major cities and towns through a network of 290 ambient air quality monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (NAAQM) Network. The data helps understand the trends in air quality. Monitoring of ambient air quality of the major air pollutants indicate that pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide are within the prescribed limits in most of the cities. Annual average concentrations of suspended particulate matter in the ambient air of a number of cities particularly some areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Lucknow are beyond the prescribed limits. The levels of particulate lead in Delhi after the introduction of now-lead petrol and subsequently unleaded petrol is showing a decreasing trend.

Tighter emission standards were introduced on 1-4-1996 for all categories of petrol and diesel vehicles and is to be made stricter from 1-4-2000. This would help introduce cleaner vehicles involving upgradation of technologies to reduce emissions from vehicles.

The Central Government has advised the various States to enforce the standards for emissions from on-road vehicles and create awareness amongst the general public on various aspects as maintenance of vehicles, health effects of vehicular pollution and preventive measures for violation of emission standards for on-road vehicles.

Low lead petrol had been introduced in the 4 metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai w.e.f. June 1994. Subsequently unleaded petrol was introduced in the abovementioned 4 cities on 1-4-1995.

Major vehicular pollution surveys have been carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board in 12 major cities in the country. The surveys have helped understand the level of pollution in these cities and recommend suitable abatement measures for its implementation and control.

The Government is implementing a major plan of action for introduction of unleaded petrol and catalytic converter fitted vehicles, introduction of low sulphur diesel for cleaner diesel vehicles in a phased manner. Fuel quality standards for petrol and diesel have been notified.

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : I have gone through the statement of the hon. Minister and I am asking my first supplementary. I would like to know

whether the Ministry, at any stage, had studied the causes for water, air and environmental pollution mainly responsible for deaths in six Indian cities.

If so, what are its findings and what steps have been taken to combat this situation?

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked as to whether any study had been conducted in this regard. The main causes for air pollution in cities are gases discharged by vehicles and fuel used by industrial units. As per the study conducted regarding Delhi, C.P.M. pollution of houses in Delhi in 1994 was 328 in exterior region and 354 in interior region what should have been 7 is 12.5. Similarly in industry, it is 20.7 instead of 80. N.O.X. which should have been 7 is presently 28.3. In an industry it should have been 80, whereas it is only 29.8.

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking my second supplementary... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : The hon. Minister has given an ambiguous reply to the question. It should be clarified.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : In whatever way you want to understand, you understand it.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the most fearsome problem of water pollution which has, at present, gripped the North and South 24 Parganas and other cities nearby West Bengal. If so, how does he propose to meet the situation and afford necessary relief to the affected residents thereof?

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question relates to pollution but the hon. Member has also raised the issue of water pollution. I would like to say something about 24 Pargana. In June 1991, there was a report regarding arsenic pollution in ground water in West Bengal. In this report, recommendation was made by the Members to tap deep aquifers for the purposes of drinking water and the tubewells containing arsenic... (Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : The Members are not able to understand the reply being given by the hon. Minister. I feel that an Half-an-Hour discussion should be conducted on this issue. Today, pollution has become a serious problem specially in Delhi.

MR. SPEAKER : It will create confusion further.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : You please ask the Minister to reply this question properly and you kindly allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this issue.

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : I am also in favour of an hour discussion instead of Half-an-Hour discussion because it is a serious issue. It should be discussed in detail so that opinions of Members could be got on it. Member can also ask questions on air pollution.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Sir, Shri Rajesh Pilot is a former Minister of Environment. He is supporting that Party. So, he should stand up and clarify the answer!

12.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Handique, quickly put a question in half a minute. If you want an answer, just put a one-line question.

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to an estimate, transport contributes 10 per cent of the SPM load in Delhi while 80 per cent SPM emission is attributable to industrial power generation. May I know from the hon. Minister whether his attention has been drawn to Justice Kuldip Singh's judgment for controlling air pollution to keep off one-third of the total vehicles? I would like to know whether the Government accepts the suggestion and if not, what alternative measures the Government are thinking to take.

MR. SPEAKER : I cautioned you.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Sugar Production

\*65. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of sugar has fallen short of the target;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) the contribution of sugar by States towards the Central pool, State-wise;

(d) the quantity of sugar proposed to be exported this year; and

(e) the action being taken by the Government to boost the sugar production?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e). There has been a surplus production of sugar. Against the domestic off-take/requirement of about 130 lakh tonnes during the sugar season 1995-96, the

production of sugar was 164.29 lakh tonnes (Provisional). The sugar industry ended the sugar season 1995-96 (as on 30.09.1996) with a closing stock of nearly 81 lakh tonnes as against more than 53 lakh tonnes in the previous year, on 30.09.95.

There is no Central Pool of sugar and as such the question of States' contributing to it does not arise. In the new sugar year, effort would be made to export as much sugar as possible in view of the fact that sugar supply position is very very comfortable.

### Environmental Clearance to Power Projects

\*66. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no environmental clearance is necessary for the power projects upto Rs. 1000 crore enblock without considering their environmental impact;

(b) whether no environmental clearance is necessary for the power projects upto Rs. 1000 crore in future;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if not, the measures proposed to ensure environment protection by all power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Modalities for delegation of powers to State Governments for according environmental clearance to power projects are under finalisation.

### Foreign Aid to banned Organisations

\*67. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the banned organisations in the country continuously receiving foreign aid on a large scale;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating names of the banned organisations receiving foreign aid;

(c) the purposes for which the aid is utilised by these organisations; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d). Government does not have any reports about organisations, declared as 'Unlawful associations' under the Law, continuously receiving foreign aid on large scale. However, there have been reports, from time to time, of the flow of illegal funds to various secessionist and militant organisations including banned organisations through clandestine channels. The Government and the security agencies are continuously making efforts to contain such

possibilities through sustained vigilance and operations against various secessionist and militant organisations in different parts of the country.

### Pricing Structure for Foodgrains

\*68. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a report has been submitted by the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) on the pricing structure for the foodgrains procurement;

(b) the view of the CACP on the policy of staggered purchases with a graduated price structure for the foodgrains procurement; and

(c) the policy being followed at present by the Food Corporation of India and the extent to which it is in line with the report of CACP?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The CACP in its report on Price Policy for Rabi crops of 1995-96 season expressed the view that a system of staggered procurement with graduated price structure would not only create more distortions in marketing and pricing system but would also make food management more difficult and costly in the medium term. The Government had agreed with the observations of the CACP and decided that only the minimum support prices be announced.

(c) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures foodgrains (wheat, paddy and coarsegrains) from the farmers at the minimum support prices announced by the Central Government. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale by farmers at specified centres are brought by the FCI in close collaboration with State Governments and their procuring agencies. The producers have option to sell their produce to FOI/State agencies at support price or in the open market as is advantageous to them. The rice is collected by way of statutory levy on rice millers and rice dealers. The percentage of levy is fixed by State Governments.

### Open Market Sales of Wheat and Rice

69. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the details of discretionary powers exercised by the officials of Food Corporation of India for open market sales of wheat and rice;

(b) whether open auctions for its stocks at various depots are not held;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce open market sales scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) While the policy matters like the prices, ceilings on open sale of Wheat and Rice (Domestic) are decided by the Government, operational matters such as Statewise releases are fixed by the FCI. A three-member committee headed by SRM, Food Corporation of India (FCI) decides the names of purchasers alongwith the quantity of wheat to be sold to the purchasers in a month.

(b) and (c). FCI does not conduct open auctions for its stocks at various depots. Open sale of Wheat and Rice is undertaken, inter alia, to exert a sobering influence on the market prices without jeopardising the Public Distribution System. On relevant/practical consideration Government has decided to undertake open sale of Wheat and Rice on prices above the Central Issue Price but below the FCI's economic cost.

(d) and (e). Open Market Sales Scheme for domestic use for Wheat and Rice is already in vogue since October, 1993 and January, 1994 respectively.

### Irregularities in NDMC

\*70. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the accounts of NDMC have not been audited for over the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken to audit the accounts of all the Departments of NDMC and to lay the findings thereof on the table of the House; and

(d) the position of audit vis-a-vis MCD?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). The Concurrent Audit Party has been over the years conducting the audit of accounts of various deptts./units of the NDMC under the overall supervision of the Examiner, Local Fund Account, Delhi Administration but there has been a delay in the preparation of annual audit reports. The last annual audit report was issued in 1989 and this pertained to the year 1985-86. The Examiner, Local Fund Account has attributed this delay, inter alia, to the shortage of staff.

(c) Consequent upon the enactment of the New Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994, a Chief Auditor has been appointed recently under section 33 of the said Act. The Chief Auditor is charged with the statutory responsibility of examining and auditing the accounts of the Council and is required to deliver to the Council.

as soon as may be after the commencement of each year, a report of the entire accounts of the Council for the previous year. It is expected that once the staff and infrastructural support for the Chief Auditor is finalised, yearly audit of receipt and expenditure will be done as per schedule. A proposal to provide necessary support is under consideration of the Council. There is no provision in the said Act for placing a copy of the audit report before Parliament.

(d) According to the information received from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the accounts relating to non-plan expenditure of the General Wing of the Corporation have been audited upto 1994-95. The accounts for the year 1995-96 are under audit.

### Special Courts for SC/ST

\*71. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up special courts for providing speedy justice in cases of atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which such courts are likely to be set up in each State/Union Territory; and

(d) the total Central assistance proposed to be given by the Union Government to assist the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in setting up special courts for the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 already requires the State Governments to specify for each district a Court of Sessions as a Special Court to try offences under the Act. However, a proposal to amend the Act so as to provide, inter alia, for mandatory establishment of exclusive Special Courts in each district, subject to exemption or clubbing of districts with the concurrence of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, is also undergoing consultation with the State Governments and others concerned.

(d) Under an existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments on a 50:50 basis (100% to the UT Administrations) for the measures undertaken by them for the implementation of the Act. As such, the State Governments and UT Administrations would be eligible for matching Central Assistance for the expenditure incurred by them on setting up Special Courts, the quantum of which would take into consideration the annual proposals made by them in this regard.

### Development of Rainfed Areas

\*72. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the specific measures taken and resources extended for the development of rainfed tracts which constitute 70 percent of the total crop area;

(b) whether effective use of irrigation facilities both existing and potential, has been augmented and tapped for the greater yield; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A number of steps have been taken to develop rainfed tracts in the country. These include implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and externally aided projects. A list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented during Eighth Five Year Plan along with funds released during the last 4 years is given in Statement-I attached.

A list of externally aided projects along with the amount spent so far in respect of each project is given in Statement-II attached.

(b) and (c). The schemes implemented for augmentation of irrigation facilities have helped in augmenting the utilisation of irrigation potential in the country from 22.60 million ha. in 1950-51 to 76.7 million ha. in 1993-94. This has consequently resulted in increase in agricultural production in the country. The increased irrigation potential along with other measures has helped in increasing foodgrain production from 171.04 million tonnes in 1989-90 to 192.00 million tonnes in 1995-96.

### STATEMENT - I

*Amount Released for Development of Rainfed Farming under Centrally Sponsored Schemes*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Releases during the last 4 years of 8th Plan (1992-93 to 1995-96)
1	2	3
1.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRAs)	733.33
2.	Watershed Development Project for Control of Shifting Cultivation Areas in North-Eastern India.	26.02

1	2	3
3.	Soil Conservation in catchment of River Valley Projects (RVP)	220.70
4.	Soil Conservation in catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR)	106.22
5.	Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)	629.75
6.	Desert Development Programme (DDP)	311.91
7.	Integrated Wastelands Development Project (IWDP)	164.49
	Total	2192.42

### STATEMENT - II

Amount spent for Rainfed Farming under Externally Aided Projects

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Cumulative Expenditure
1	2	3
1.	<i>World Bank Aided Projects :</i>	
(i)	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Plains)	113.87
(ii)	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills)	148.81
2.	<i>Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) Assisted Projects</i>	
(i)	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project in Karnataka.	9.90
(ii)	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	3.92
(iii)	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu	0.24
(iv)	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Koraput, Orissa	1.92
3.	<i>European Economic Community (EEC) Assisted Projects :</i>	
(i)	Integrated Watershed Management - Project, Bhimtal, Uttar Pradesh	8.39
(ii)	Integrated Watershed Management Project, South Bhagirathi, Uttar Pradesh.	19.55
(iii)	Integrated Watershed Management Project, Doon Valley, Uttar Pradesh	10.36

1	2	3
4.	<i>KFW (German) Assisted Project :</i>	
	Integrated Watershed Development Project, Maharashtra	6.10
5.	<i>Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) Assisted Projects :</i>	
	Participative and Integrated Development Watershed (PIDOW) Project in Karnataka.	3.10
	Total	326.16

[Translation]

### New Varieties of Wheat

\*73. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed three new varieties of wheat

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of increase likely to take place in the wheat-production as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Council has developed three new varieties, namely, PBW 343, UP 2338 and WH 542 for replacement of HD 2329, which covers large area in Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh, but has become susceptible to diseases.

(c) The new varieties also have slightly higher yield potential (3-5 qtls/ha) as compared to the currently popular varieties.

The popularisation of the new varieties will help in accelerating the growth rate for productivity and production.

[English]

### Oilseeds Cultivation

\*74. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to increase areas under the oil seeds cultivation;

(b) if so, the new areas proposed to be brought under the oilseeds cultivation in the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of projection made for the oilseeds production for the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). There is a scope to increase area under oilseeds specially under Soyabean, Sunflower, Rapeseed and Mustard through sequential cropping, inter-cropping, replacement of low economy crops and as substitute crop in problematic areas/situations. The area expansion possibilities exist in the State of Orissa, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and North Eastern States of the country during Ninth Five Year Plan. However, no area targets have been fixed as yet.

(c) The production target of Oilseeds for the Ninth Five Year Plan, has not yet been fixed by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission has so far fixed targets of 26 million tonnes for oilseeds production upto the year 2000 AD.

[Translation]

#### Closure of Hot Mix Plants

\*75. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has given orders for the closure of some hot mix plants in Delhi or has given instructions to the Central Pollution Control Board to examine the air pollution caused by these plants.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of hot mix plants of Delhi examined so far by the Central Pollution Control Board and the findings thereof; and

(d) the action taken so far or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A statement is attached.

#### STATEMENT

Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated October 10, 1996 has directed 43 hot mix plants to re-locate/ shift to any other industrial estate in the National Capital Region (NCR). The Court has further directed that these hot mix plants shall close down and stop functioning and operating in the city of Delhi with effect from February 28, 1997.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, has submitted a report in respect of 43 hot mix plants. According to the Report, the process emissions from

hot mix plants contain particulate matter and sulphur dioxide besides poly aromatic hydrocarbons, most of which are proven carcinogens. Therefore, as Expert Committee of the CPCB has categorized hot mix plants as hazardous industry.

Many of the hot mix plants belonging to Government as well as the private sector are located near residential areas and, therefore, such installations may pose severe health risk to the inhabitants nearby (Lal Kuan, Rangpuri, Mehrauli, Khyalla). The maintenance of most of the hot mix plants is poor.

The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has constituted a "Unified Single Agency" to facilitate shifting/relocations of the hot mix plants. The Agency includes the Chief Secretaries of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi and the Member Secretary of the National Capital Region Planning Board. A "Single Window Service" has also been functioning with the Commissioner of Industries, Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi as Chairman for the benefit of the industries falling under 'B' category and which have been ordered to shift out of Delhi by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

[English]

#### Project Tiger

\*76. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :  
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the fund sanctioned and released to different Tiger Reserves during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount of foreign assistance received for the Project Tiger-during each of the last three years;

(c) the increase or decrease in population of tigers and other big-cats so far during the plan period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the proper preservation and development of Tigers and other wild life in those Reserves during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Two statements-Statement-I showing the funds released under the "Project Tiger scheme" to various Tiger Reserves during Eighth Five Year Plan and Statement-II giving the specific steps taken by Government for the preservation of tigers in the country, are enclosed.

(b) Two externally aided projects - Forestry Research Education and Extension Project (FREEP) and India Eco-development Project were initiated in 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively. During 1994-95 and 1995-96, an

amount of Rs. 9.59 lakhs and Rs. 0.76 lakhs was released under FREEP. Rs. 194.13 lakhs in 1995-96 was released to different States under India Eco-development Project.

(c) The All India Census of Tigers and Leopards is done once in every four years. The population of tigers and leopards, as estimated during the last two census, are :

	Tiger	Leopard
1989	4334	6767
1993	3750	6828

For lions, the census is carried out once in every five years. The figures in 1990 is 284 and in 1995, is 304.

#### STATEMENT - I

S.No. Name of the Tiger Reserve	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	(Rs. in Lakhs)
					1996-97 (upto 31 10.96)
1. Corbett (Uttar Pradesh)	29.245	67.7750	57.950	62.860	35.000
2. Palāmau (Bihar)	55.696	54.2000	51.500	62.100	24.000
3. Simlipal (Orissa)	45.693	46.5200	69.385	50.125	17.000
4. Kanha (Madhya Pradesh)	61.301	65.8900	65.385	76.873	35.000
5. Manas (Assam)	38.836	36.3821	42.325	55.650	—
6. Sariska (Rajasthan)	45.700	50.5210	45.500	52.485	31.500
7. Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)	46.779	55.2700	51.085	61.285	31.625
8. Bandipur (Karnataka)	24.397	35.1960	46.750	60.330	—
9. Sunderbans (West Bengal)	30.615	36.5860	36.930	45.705	16.000
10. Melghat (Maharashtra)	44.147	36.7130	44.475	45.363	20.000
11. Periyar (Kerala)	46.862	46.7300	16.673	28.065	16.000
12. Indravati (Madhya Pradesh)	20.871	23.2430	32.350	15.000	—
13. Namdhapa (Arunachal Pradesh)	27.274	32.0080	34.540	35.874	—
14. Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh)	28.485	23.9400	32.604	33.780	20.000
15. Valmiki (Bihar)	—	—	—	—	12.250
16. Nagarjunasagar (A.P.)	20.076	25.2700	26.381	27.360	08.000
17. Buxa (West Bengal)	37.525	47.7220	50.610	44.460	19.000
18. Kalakadmundanthurai (TN)	29.630	40.8650	29.120	24.480	14.000
19. Pench (Madhya Pradesh)	6.920	28.0760	45.905	28.056	03.100
20. Tadoba-Andhri (Maha.)	—	—	18.635	06.900	08.000
21. Banhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh)	—	7.8950	8.985	12.050	—
22. Dampa (Mizoram)	—	—	—	13.450	08.360
23. Panna (Madhya Pradesh)	—	—	—	09.000	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>642.052</b>	<b>760.8021</b>	<b>797.998</b>	<b>841.241</b>	<b>318.835</b>

#### STATEMENT - II

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

(iii)

A network of 441 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1.48.000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. The Govt. of India have also launched the "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" in the years 1973 and 1991 respectively to give impetus to the conservation of these wild animals. Financial assistance is provided by the Central

Government under various centrally sponsored plan schemes, including the Project Tiger and Project Elephant Schemes, for development of National Parks and Sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.

- (iv) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife animals reaches them.
- (v) International Trade in Endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The trade in ivory is totally banned.
- (vi) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.
- (vii) International coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995.
- (viii) A "Tiger Crisis Cell" has been set up in the Ministry to suggest improvement in the management of tiger bearing areas of the country.
- (ix) The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
- (x) Steps are being initiated to set up "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas.
- (xi) A Protocol has been signed with the Govt. of Peoples' Republic of China to coordinate bilateral issues concerning tiger conservation and to check smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bones and other parts of its body; and
- (xii) Steps have been initiated by the Government to establish the 'Global Tiger Forum' for strengthening international cooperation to curb poaching of tiger and to coordinate efforts for the conservation of tiger and its habitat throughout the tiger range countries.

*Translation]*

#### **Subsidy on Export**

\*77. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are providing any

subsidy to the small farmers whose products are exported to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that this subsidy is cornered by the middlemen instead of the farmers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that this subsidy reaches the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). No subsidy is provided to small farmers, whose products are exported to other countries. However, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEEDA) provides financial assistance to exporters including farmers who are registered as exporters with APEEDA.

*[English]*

#### **Scrapping of Articles 356 and 249**

\*78. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received suggestions from Jammu and Kashmir Government and other State Governments regarding scrapping of Articles 356 and 249 of the Constitution of India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). During the second meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15th October, 1996, divergent views ranging from amendment of article 356 to its abolition were expressed. No views were expressed in the said meeting about the scrapping of article 249. However, the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, while speaking on article 356, said the following in regard to article 249 :

"In 1984 our duly elected Government was dismissed by the former Governor and soon thereafter he felt no constraint in issuing ordinances one after the other. It was he who recommended to the President of India (during the President's rule) to apply article 249 of the Constitution of India. The Governor had no authority or mandate to take such a major step. He had no Council of Ministers to advise him and surely he could not have exercised any legislative authority as a Governor under President's Rule...I cited this example to show how far Governor can go in dislodging a duly elected Government and then run the administration as his personal perceptions dictate".

It was decided in the second meeting of the Inter-State Council that a Standing Committee of the Council would examine, inter alia, the issue of Emergency Provisions including article 356 in detail and submit its report within three months of its constitution. The report of the Standing Committee shall be discussed in the next meeting of the Council after which the views of the Council shall be forwarded to the Government for consideration and further necessary action. The constitution of the Standing Committee is under consideration.

### Sugar Development Council

\*79. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the members and objectives of the sugar Development Council;

(b) the number of meetings held by the Council during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) the details of recommendations made by the Council during 1995-96; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The names of the members and the objectives of the Development Council are given in enclosed Statements I and II respectively.

(b) During 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 only one meeting of the Council could be held. The Development Council for Sugar Industry was reconstituted on 4.6.1993 and the meeting of the reconstituted Council was held on 23.12.1993. The term of the Council expired on 3.6.1995. It was reconstituted on 23.2.1996. A meeting of Development Council is being held on 26.11.1996.

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

### STATEMENT - I

*The names of Chairman, Member-Secretary and Members of the Development Council for Sugar Industry.*

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1. Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Food, New Delhi. | (Chairman) |
| 2. Shri Shankarrao D. Kale.<br>(Member, Lok Sabha).                     | Member     |
| 3. Shri Abhay Pratap Singh.<br>(Member, Lok Sabha).                     | Member     |
| 4. Shri Shivajirao G. Patil,<br>(Member, Rajya Sabha)                   | Member     |

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 5. Joint Secretary to the Government of India, incharge of Sugar in Ministry of Food, New Delhi.   | Member-Secretary |
| 6. Chief Director, Directorate of Sugar, New Delhi.  | Member           |
| 7. Director, National Sugar Institute, Kanpur.   | Member           |
| 8. Director, Vasantdada Sugar Institute, Pune.   | Member           |
| 9. Director, Sugar-cane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore.  | Member           |
| 10. President, Indian Sugar Mills Association, Sugar House, 39, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.   | Member           |
| 11. Chairman, National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd. 'Vaikunth' (IIIrd Floor), 82-83, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.  | Member           |
| 12. Executive Director, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Bank of Baroda Building, 16, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.  | Member           |
| 13. Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Secretariat of Industrial Approvals, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Industry, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi-11 | Member           |
| 14. Managing Director, National Cooperative Development Corporation, 4, Siri Institutional Area, Hauz Khas, New Delhi.   | Member           |
| 15. Joint Advisor, Industry and Minerals Division, Planning Commission, Yojna Bhavan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.  | Member           |
| 16. President, Uttar Pradesh Khandsari Sugar Manufacturers Association, B-92, Gandhi Nagar, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh.  | Member           |
| 17. Shri Mustaq Ahmed, Lohia Nagar, Muzaffar Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.   | Member           |
| 18. Shri Satyavir Singh Chaudhary, Chaudhary Travels, Akashdeep Hotel, Near Bus Stand, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.   | Member           |
| 19. Shri Bijendra Singh 'Munnu' Village and Post Office Khatouni Ballia (Uttar Pradesh)  | Member           |
| 20. Shri Surendra Singh, Harjoli Jat, Haridwar, Uttar Pradesh.   | Member           |

21. Shri O.P. Chaudhary, Rampur Member  
(Barounsa), Sultanpur,  
Uttar Pradesh.
22. Shri Shyam Lal Tyagi, Advocate Member  
District Court, Sonapat (Haryana).
23. Prof. C. Narasimhappa, 522, Member  
Vth Main, P.J. Extension,  
Davangere (Karnataka).
24. Shri Srikant Shirale, 112, Sagheer Member  
Bungalow, Opposite Police Ground  
Model Colony, Pune - 16  
Maharashtra.

## STATEMENT - II

*The objectives of the Development Council are as under*

1. Recommendation of targets for sugar production/formulation of standard specifications/guidelines to the specifications for plant and machinery or sugar factory incorporating the latest technology.
2. Through its Standing Research Advisory Committee, various research projects are recommended for funding through the Sugar Development Fund. Such projects are aimed at improving the technical efficiency of the factories, as also the yield and quality of cane.
3. Through its Standing Advisory Committee on Sugar Standards, ISS grade samples are being prepared each year conforming to specifications prescribed by BIS.
4. Act as a forum for review of Government policies with regard to the sugar industry and make suitable recommendations for the consideration of Government.

### New Pricing Policy for Fertilizers

'80. SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new Pricing Policy for fertilizers has adverse impact on the indigenous fertilizer manufacturing Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interest of the indigenous fertilizer manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):  
to (c). At present, urea is the only controlled fertilizer

in respect of which subsidy is paid under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS). The policy parameters for the 6th Pricing effectives from 1.4.1991 are valid upto 31.3.1997. Based on a combination of norms and actuals, RPS provides for a post tax return of 12% on net-worth. The overall capacity utilization of the urea plants has shown a steady improvement in the last 3 years to attain a level of 96.7% in 1995-96.

### Cell for North-East Region

554. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to create a separate cell to monitor the developmental activities of the North-East region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). There is already a Division in the Ministry of Home Affairs dealing exclusively with the North-Eastern Region. The Prime Minister himself is taking keen interest in the developmental activities of the said Region. A cell for the North-East is being created in the Prime Minister's Office. This cell would monitor and coordinate the implementation of various initiatives announced by the Prime Minister regarding the North-East.

[Translation]

### Reservations for SC/ST

555. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of various categories reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are lying vacant in the various Departments and Undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees of various categories working in Departments and Undertakings under his Ministry have been promoted in addition to the new recruitment made on some posts during the last three years;

(d) if so, details of the recruitments and promotions made on various posts in various categories during the said period, year-wise

(e) whether the recruitment of SCs/STs has been made in accordance to the reservation rules and the SC/ST employees working there have been promoted in accordance with the reservation rules; and

(f) if not, the action being taken by the Ministry for filling up the vacant reserved posts in various categories

and for promoting the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees in accordance with the reservation rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Research and Development in Agriculture

556. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent for the purpose of research and development in Agriculture during each of the last three years. State-wise;

(b) the details of the research work being pursued in various Institutions in the country during the current year, 1996-97; and

(c) the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The amount spent on agricultural R and D by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during the last three years are given below. State-wise details are not available as some of the ICAR Institutions have their sub-centres scattered in many states.

Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1993-94	441.99
1994-95	494.17
1995-96	521.88

(b) and (c). Please see Statement enclosed

### STATEMENT

*The details of Research work being pursued and Achievement made by ICAR Institutions*

The salient achievements are maintenance of 130000 accessions in Indian National Gene Bank, collection and evaluation of diversity in agri-horticulture plants and their exploitation, identification/release of number of varieties of different crops including horticultural plants of fruits and vegetables, identifying promising biological control measures for insects and integrated pest management strategy, development of technology for the production of disease free seed, post harvest technologies and equipments, finalization soil maps of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Punjab, identifying important cropping systems, fabrication of a hydraulic conductivity meter for estimating the conductivity of compressed mud blocks development of good operated cotton giving measures for small samples, groundnut

pod grader and spherical fruit grader, equipment package for honey extraction, water chestnut decorticator and chestnut sheller and process for quick cooking rice, diversified urea of lac preparing writing/printing papers, solar driers for onions location specific surface and subsurface techniques for drainage.

In animal science 2.5 lakh straws of 47 Friesian bulls have been frozen. Bharat Merino Sheep with 9 percent survival and 85 percent lambing has been identified. For improvement programmes 123 sheep have been supplied to breeder.

Hen house production of 275 eggs by ILM 90 is still a record at Random Sample test for the country. simple reliable and efficient test DOT, ELISA has been developed for detection of *Theileria* infection under field conditions. A number of processes have been developed for milk products e.g. manufacture of low cholesterol mozzarella cheese, cheese spread power rusgulla mix, whey based mushroom soup power instant mix for pizza etc.

In fisheries major achievements are establishing running water aquaculture system consisting 27 Cister of 10 M3 capacity with control flow rate upto 20l/sec fabrication of low cost family operated backyard hatcheries for seed raising of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* achieved a record production of about 0.84 lakh fry of endangered Himalayan mahseer.

The Council has established a network of 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in which all the transfer of technology programmes of ICAR have been integrated for impart on-farm training in different aspects of agriculture, animal science and fisheries and allied vocations. During the year about 2.51 lakh farmers, farm women and rural youths were trained in various aspects of agricultural production through extension activities of KV including field days, Kisan Melas/Goshties, group discussions, exhibitions, women fair, clinical camp, video and film shows and radio and TV coverage. Technologies are generated through chain of institutions and projects to meet the requirements of farm community.

A major achievement in Agricultural Education setting up of Computer centres which would be linked through ARIS programme and scientists would be connectively to worldwide literature. Twelve girls hostels and 8 boys hostels have been constructed, about 100 faculty teachers from SAUs provided assistance in international conferences to interact with scientists overseas in selected important areas. Board of Management of Central Agricultural University constituted and foundation stone for College of Veterinary Science under the university laid. For advancing training sources established 36 Centres of Advanced Studies under different disciplines. Under World Bank assisted National Agricultural Research Projects strengthening the regional research capabilities of SAUs, 131 scientists were trained in computer operation.

support provided to 120 Zonal Research Centres and 201 scientists were also trained abroad in specialised areas. Another World Bank Project "Agricultural Human Resource Development" was launched on August 14, 1995 in first phase Agricultural/Veterinary universities of in which Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu are participating.

To promote objectives of ICAR in international arena, DARE cooperates with agricultural related foreign institutes/organisations through foreign-aided projects/MoUs/Workplans, financial/technical assistance and participation in international seminars/conferences. The major projects launched during the year include World Bank assisted projects viz. (i) Agricultural Human Resource Development Project (ii) Sustainable Rainfed Agricultural Development Project with Japanese assistance under World Bank's aegis.

Short term and long term trainings were provided to foreign nationals under different training programmes e.g. Colombo Plan, Nepal Aid Fund, Indo-Iranian Work Plan, FAO etc. About 84 candidates joined different programme of SAUs and ICAR Institutes.

[English]

### C.I.S.F. Personnels deployed in Public Undertakings

557. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of CISF personnels deployed in various public undertakings unit-wise with duration of deployment;

(b) the amount spent by the respective public sector undertakings annually on account of such deployment; and

(c) the details of the criterion or justification of such deployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached

(c) CISF is deployed based on the need i.e. assessment of manpower is made with reference to induction norms already prescribed for this purpose.

### STATEMENT

S.No	Name of the PSUs	Date of Induction	Strength	Expenditure of PSUs during 1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	HFCL Haldia	08.01.72	249	1,29,34,945
2.	HFCL Namrup	13.09.75	225	1,06,59,439
3.	FCI New Jalpaiguri	15.05.72	107	65,81,894
4.	KCC Khetri	08.10.71	398	1,85,20,338
5.	BALCO Koreba	05.10.73	260	1,15,04,961
6.	HFC Haldia	22.09.71	433	2,29,26,849
7.	ASP Durgapur	20.09.70	552	3,04,24,419
8.	IPCL Baroda	17.07.72	581	2,84,43,887
9.	NIL Jadavpur	19.09.71	43	17,37,624
10.	DVC Dankuni	09.02.83	110	55,58,249
11.	BRPL Bongaigaon	16.11.76	333	77,87,980
12.	SAIL (SY) Paharpur	04.09.77	91	49,61,839
13.	NPPCL Nagaland	25.02.77	78	55,00,960
14.	CPP Cachar	15.09.82	184	94,13,889
15.	FSTPP Farakka	15.06.81	617	2,95,93,875
16.	SMPL Vadinar	01.12.81	99	50,35,415
17.	KSTPP Korba	02.12.81	420	2,00,27,281
18.	DVC HQrs Calcutta	01.01.82	57	33,91,038
19.	DTPS Durgapur	02.03.82	384	2,23,29,575
20.	R NMP Nawagaon	07.03.83	224	1,11,14,412
21.	ECL Seetalpur	15.07.83	1274	8,77,05,976

1	2	3	4	5
22.	OIL Duliajan	18.02.85	1143	5.91.50.039
23.	BTPS Badarpur	01.01.85	365	2.01.06.780
24.	SMPL Rajkot	10.12.86	192	93.60.810
25.	RHSTPP Rihaind	15.01.85	389	1.51.13.537
26.	IOC Shakurbasti	22.09.86	473	2.47.00.582
27.	DESU Delhi	05.06.87	84	48.20.290
28.	THKP Banbasa	23.11.87	120	60.76.045
29.	ONGC Hazira	15.08.88	217	1.06.09.540
30.	BCPP Korba	15.04.88	117	46.77.480
31.	ONGC Nazira	13.03.88	1178	5.86.33.765
32.	IISCO Burnpur	10.11.89	1043	4.96.86.296
33.	ONGC Jerhat	30.07.89	777	3.13.87.758
34.	DHEPP Deyang	06.04.94	169	1.22.69.440
35.	CLZS Chittorgarh	10.08.91	142	64.17.671
36.	GAIL/LPG Vijaipur	07.06.93	177	73.61.843
37.	NLCL Neyveli	18.05.94	216	1.83.72.446
38.	FCI Ramagundum	08.12.71	164	98.00.000
39.	MFL Manali	25.11.70	122	66.48.346
40.	MFL Agnigundala	15.12.71	40	21.41.718
41.	DIOM Donamalai	01.01.72	73	35.14.904
42.	KION Kiriburu	24.04.70	113	47.94.841
43.	MIOP Meghataburu	21.04.72	133	51.91.724
44.	KIOCL Kudremukh	15.01.77	313	1.60.23.464
45.	SAIL Polancho	01.11.82	54	31.23.135
46.	NMPT Manglora	15.04.80	165	82.23.594
47.	BSL Bokaro	02.11.69	1946	9.63.33.365
48.	BSP Bhitai	15.10.71	1915	7.46.60.958
49.	DSP Durgapur	03.08.70	2012	8.55.12.782
50.	RSP Rourkela	08.11.71	1890	8.00.97.658
51.	TSP Tungbhadra	05.09.72	40	17.90.451
52.	SSP Salem	01.03.73	250	1.11.58.040
53.	MRL Manali	15.02.73		1.03.25.032
54.	HZL Visag	14.11.74	163	65.53.906
55.	ITI Palghat	19.02.76	82	41.04.931
56.	RSTPP Ramagundum	29.03.81	431	2.23.86.402
57.	NRSA Balanagar Hyd	03.07.85	85	46.41.500
58.	BSHE Chamba	15.07.85	131	67.48.610
59.	NFC Hyderabad	24.07.87	393	1.93.40.031
60.	BSO (S/Y) Durgapur	01.07.87	29	11.33.861
61.	ONGC Madras	28.06.87	76	43.24.865
62.	SPC Kovvur	04.11.87	35	29.66.748
63.	KLM Jabalpur	21.10.87	80	32.22.587
64.	BHEL Hyderabad	12.04.80	443	1.87.48.331
65.	AGPP Kota	30.12.88	153	78.63.168
66.	AGPP Etawah	07.12.88	201	1.05.40.905

1	2	3	4	5
67.	PGCIL Moga	01.07.89	61	26.34.233
68.	THDC Thehri	02.07.90	94	51.47.989
69.	ONGC Ahmedabad	28.06.91	270	1.27.37.574
70.	HZL Bhilwara	10.07.81	103	52.55.213
71.	HEP Uri (J and K)	10.04.92	409	2.60.85.458
72.	BOM Bolani (RSP)	02.04.85	160	72.22.430
73.	IFFCO Aonla	25.5.94	22	129 75.85.041
74.	NNP Maysore	01.11.94	37	20.85.005
75.	NJPCL Jhakri	02.09.94	63	40.85.933
76.	GAIL Etawah (Pata)	10.05.95	25	17.69.141
77.	IIFCO Phulpur	23.07.95	13	16.77.696
78.	FCI Debhaghat	13.10.70	63	36.20.311
79.	FCI Gaya	20.04.71	55	24.41.115
80.	FCI Mokamha	13.10.79	70	39.34.790
81.	PCI Phulwarrisarif	20.04.71	38	28.44.406
82.	BNP Dewas	03.02.72	286	1.83.14.942
83.	IG Mint Hyderabad	01.03.80	156	86.29.242
84.	TPT Tutikorin	16.9.71	203	1.07.58.128
85.	MAPP Kalpakam	25.09.72	437	2.18.70.458
86.	VSSC Thumba	17.11.71	684	3.14.75.873
87.	ALK Neemuch	11.06.70	46	27.05.587
88.	GOF Gazipur	06.11.70	22	118 56.11.970
89.	HRP Haldia	21.10.70	172	94.96.751
90.	IDPL Hyderabad	-	-	-
91.	MCF Hassan	06.12.82	37	19.44.170
92.	SHAR Centre	16.04.73	496	2.68.00.045
93.	IOC Barauni	20.09.73	374	1.61.28.283
94.	BKPL Barauni	01.01.82	23	10.49.518
95.	SPM Hoshangabad	15.06.75	369	1.73.68.679
96.	GOF Neemuch	06.11.70	53	28.67.846
97.	SAC Ahmedabad	08.04.76	105	53.37.034
98.	IOC Guwahati	14.01.77	331	2.03.34.273
99.	FBP Farakka	03.02.77	580	2.65.85.262
100.	NWP Talcher	07.11.77	31	15.40.514
101.	BRL Ahmedabad	04.08.76	35	18.10.245
102.	ISRO Bangalore	15.04.85	159	78.86.117
103.	ITI Mankapur	15.04.85	207	87.98.745
104.	KSTPP Kehalgaon	04.07.87	366	1.69.24.015
105.	PPL Paradip	11.03.80	149	76.10.262
106.	HWP Manuguru	14.12.67	235	1.07.44.946
107.	ONGC Nersapur	05.08.88	76	41.99.569
108.	PTPS Patratu	17.05.89	338	1.11.30.000
109.	NTPC Dadri	12.02.85	328	1.10.06.071
110.	SCCL Sri Rampur	06.05.91	1871	5.40.57.459
111.	ONGC Mahasana	17.06.91	333	1.44.14.844

1.	2	3	4	5
112.	UTPS Ukai	23.07.92	270	81,29,095
113.	APEP Salgoni	27.12.92	42	22,58,281
114.	APKP Alwayi	18.08.84	21	9,78,922
115.	RIL Industries	05.11.95	117	20,00,000
116.	TTPS Talcher	03.06.95	35	45,41,913
117.	FCI Gorakhpur	08.08.72	113	88,00,000
118.	NFL Bhatinda	18.06.75	211	99,50,118
119.	NFL Panipat	08.03.76	202	1,13,14,024
120.	BMT Srinagar	16.12.71	97	30,86,941
121.	HIL Delhi	27.04.72	55	41,46,899
122.	ITI Naini	11.10.71	227	1,09,87,109
123.	MAMC Durgapur	20.09.70	250	1,20,00,000
124.	BOGL Durgapur	05.11.70	32	13,04,055
125.	TTPP Tanda	10.04.85	216	61,49,229
126.	BPCL Naini	09.11.74	101	59,32,382
127.	BHEL Jhansi	29.09.75	165	73,60,322
128.	Alimco Kanpur (W/D)	-	-	1,78,335
129.	BHEL Haridwar	28.12.75	536	2,55,29,886
130.	IOC Mathura	02.10.85	546	2,32,42,433
131.	IDPL Rishikesh	26.03.77	145	44,58,565
132.	SSTPS Shaktinagar	30.07.79	425	2,19,46,171
133.	HZL Udaipur	17.02.80	132	62,37,341
134.	BHEL Bhopal	18.11.81	687	2,66,36,751
135.	IDPL Gurgaon	01.06.82	45	19,73,037
136.	RDM Udaipur	22.09.82	115	55,58,105
137.	PTPP Parichha	20.05.83	322	1,53,29,070
138.	OTHPP Obra	16.04.89	686	2,17,51,603
139.	ATPP Anpara	01.12.85	438	1,12,26,610
140.	SHEP Salai	15.07.85	328	1,31,86,417
141.	ITI Raibareli	18.01.85	185	67,74,849
142.	Zawer Mines	15.02.85	145	76,18,086
143.	HMT Ranibag	10.12.84	94	41,01,943
144.	NTPC Sidhi	16.12.85	425	2,01,34,785
145.	IOC Faridabad	10.08.85	51	25,55,830
146.	ONGC Dehradun	10.10.86	148	74,86,797
147.	PTPS Panki	15.06.84	285	1,50,50,877
148.	RHEP Pipri (Rihand)	28.11.87	136	41,16,569
149.	FGUTPP Unchahar	30.11.87	438	2,05,67,032
150.	TSL Naini	08.02.88	145	60,00,000
151.	DHEP Dulhasti	01.12.91	562	3,31,07,054
152.	LPG Gail Lakwa	04.08.93	55	25,66,416
153.	FACT (CD) Cochin	21.04.70	162	1,43,11,964
154.	HFCL Barauni	08.06.78	147	72,90,664
155.	FCI Sindri	12.01.72	313	167,00,000
156.	FCI Talcher	13.03.72	135	87,00,000

1	2	3	4	5
157	HFC Durgapur	02.02.72	156	86.58.133
158	FACT (UD)	01.04.73	341	1.56.16.267
159	NFL Nangal	15.04.73	267	1.30.03.530
160	P & D Sindri (W/D)	-	-	-
161	BCCL Jharua	11.09.72	3700	24.05.97.682
162	CCWO Dhanbad	21.04.72	288	1.37.84.885
163	RCP Rakha	15.12.71	84	33.08.631
164	UCIL Jaduguda	19.05.72	155	79.63.037
165	BRL Ramgarh	15.10.75	48	22.64.859
166	PPT Paradeep	11.03.88	476	1.83.74.940
167	HZL Tundu	22.12.75	68	27.28.297
168	HIL (UDL)	14.04.93	64	41.57.917
169	IDPL Muzaffarpur	15.06.89	29	3.00.000
170	CTPS Chandrapura	17.01.92	332	1.76.02.769
171	Nalco Angul	01.05.73	546	2.40.43.350
172	HZL Sargipalli	19.01.87	54	30.62.023
173	NFL Vijayapur	05.02.85	187	1.01.53.815
174	BLSM Bhawnathpur	25.04.85	103	50.58.048
175	RCF Bombay	01.11.69	341	2.13.12.046
176	DMP Panna	07.01.72	74	39.97.685
177	DIP-S Bacheli	10.01.73	136	67.98.666
178	BIOP-DEP-14 Kirdul	05.05.73	162	73.49.501
179	CPT Calcutta	21.02.71	1245	6.47.94.925
180	Cochin S/Yard	01.03.71	144	85.25.804
181	CPT Cochin	01.03.71	440	2.25.87.432
182	MPT Goa	03.03.71	256	1.20.85.407
183	MPT Madras	31.08.72	716	3.44.50.805
184	MDL Madras	15.09.72	31	13.85.126
185	VPT Visakhapatnam	25.08.71	713	3.37.69.129
186	HEC Ranchi	20.11.71	1004	-
187	IOC Baroda	20.05.72	446	1.99.96.318
188	HOC Rasayani	08.04.73	180	87.93.325
189	RIL Pimpri	26.08.75	64	31.39.967
190	ONGC Bombay	21.02.78	552	2.82.21.025
200	SAIL/HSY Vizag	04.09.77	35	16.42.485
201	SAIL/EY Vizag	04.09.77	47	25.10.883
202	HIL Rasayani	15.03.80	103	51.88.785
203	HTPP Harduaganj	18.06.83	376	88.21.024
204	VSP Visakhapatnam	10.08.83	925	5.43.72.904
205	JNPT Shiva Bombay	01.12.84	231	1.11.55.069
206	MDL/EY-Bombay	17.09.84	203	95.93.394
207	LIL Thane Bombay	16.01.85	85	44.47.308
208	MDL NY Bombay	15.05.85	42	16.51.073
209	RCF Thal	04.07.75	155	85.77.991
210	HPCL VR-Vizag	20.11.87	185	88.04.995

1	2	3	4	5
211.	HPCL Bombay	14.12.88	233	1,25,29,909
212.	JLM Jaggayapet	24.08.87	55	24,75,487
213.	IPCL Negethane	01.11.81	365	2,08,62,036
214.	BTPS/DVS Bokaro	20.09.89	335	1,73,62,609
215.	KGPP/NTPC Surat	10.08.89	150	69,99,953
216.	BPCL Bombay	30.03.90	200	1,05,60,976
217.	ONGC Ankleswar	25.06.91	176	94,27,024
218.	BDL Kanchanbagh	04.03.93	151	77,46,365
219.	CHAMRA Hydro Electro	31.03.94	86	47,10,347
220.	NTPC/JGGPP Jhanoor	05.07.94	73	34,77,943
221.	HPCL/BP	20.09.94	34	18,07,494
222.	KPP Surat	16.06.86	220	1,26,08,872
223.	NAPP Narora	16.05.85	290	1,78,30,969
224.	SCL Mohali	08.06.78	112	64,41,835
225.	IPBHEL Jagdishpur	20.10.86	61	22,65,540
226.	NALCO Damanjodi	22.08.86	422	1,90,39,944
227.	RAPS Kota	10.02.88	477	2,67,43,004
228.	HNL Kottiyam	10.02.88	185	92,62,285
229.	BDL Bhanur	15.05.89	199	99,46,465
230.	ONGC Tripura	19.02.90	192	1,70,74,197
231.	LPG Tikrikalan	03.02.90	137	57,11,791
232.	National Museum	01.05.90	60	41,67,267
233.	MPT Majia	11.07.93	108	82,38,532
234.	NTPC Kaniha	03.09.91	229	1,42,08,604
235.	NPC Kaiga	10.11.92	138	51,18,771
236.	BTN Mines	26.07.92	74	35,02,617
Total			66522	320,07,79,559

### Assistance to Fishermen

558. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide assistance to motorise traditional craft of fishermen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount earmarked for the scheme during 1995; and

(d) the amount of assistance is being given to the Kerala State under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 'Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries', a component namely, 'Motorisation of Traditional Craft' being implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan provides for subsidy as follows:-

50% of cost of In-board Motor (IBM) limited to Rs.12000/- and 50% of cost of Out-Board Motor (OBM) limited to Rs.10000/-.

The subsidy is shared equally between the Centre and the States. In the case of Union Territories, the entire subsidy component is met by the Centre.

(c) An amount of Rs. 450 lakhs was earmarked under this component during 1995-96.

(d) A sum of Rs. 99.12 lakhs has been provided to the Government of Kerala towards Central share of subsidy under this component so far upto 1995-96 during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

### Shortage of Urea in Andhra Pradesh

559. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh is facing acute shortage of urea;

(b) if so, the total allocation of Urea made to Andhra Pradesh during last three years;

(c) whether short supply of urea has adversely affected the prospects of Kharif crop there; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap between demand and supply of urea?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c). The table below gives the allocation, availability and consumption of urea in Andhra Pradesh during the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and Kharif 1996 season :

(:000 tonnes)

	Allocation	Availability	Consumption
1993-94	1907.69	2051.08	1717.18
1994-95	2010.01	2034.82	1791.24
1995-96	2142.34	2213.88	1828.45
Kharif 1996	1047.31	1026.40	991.38 (Estimated)

As the table above indicates the availability was adequate to support the consumption in each of the years.

(d) The gap between demand and supply of urea is bridged through imports. The indigenous production of urea is being augmented through further investment in expansion of the capacity through retrofit and revamp of the existing plants to reduce the dependence on imports.

[Translation]

#### Welfare Schemes in Rajasthan

560. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes being implemented in Rajasthan for the last three years under the schemes run by the Ministry of Welfare;

(b) the amount of money provided for these schemes alongwith the targets and achievements thereunder, year-wise;

(c) the number of persons and families benefitted under these welfare schemes;

(d) the details of the welfare schemes received from the Rajasthan Government;

(e) the time by which decision is likely to be taken thereon;

(f) the names of the institutions in Rajasthan provided grants under 'CAPART' during last three years; and

(g) the amount of money provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (g). The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

[English]

#### Parking of Vehicles

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

(a) whether parking of vehicles is not permitted by the Delhi Traffic Police in front of the Kendriya Bhandar near the Parliament House Reception Office;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to shift the traffic police control room from there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). There is no general restriction of parking of vehicles in front of Kendriya Bhandar. However, a limited restriction is imposed from security point of view at the time of movement of VVIPs.

(c) There is a police booth near the Kendriya Bhandar which is primarily used for security purposes when the Parliament is in Session.

#### Supply of Drugs by Super Bazar

562. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Bungling at Super Bazar left CGHS coffers empty by crores", appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated August 26, 1996;

(b) if so, whether a case of massive over charging in the supply of drugs from Super Bazar to Central Government Health Scheme Dispensaries had come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the full details thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter; and

(e) the measures taken to tone up the accounts Department and the Purchase Departments to ensure that there is no delay in the proper maintenance of accounts?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is an old case and relates to 1989-90. The matter has been referred to Super Bazar.

(b) to (d) The Super Bazar, Delhi has informed that the matter is being enquired into by their Vigilance Department.

(e) The Super Bazar has informed that they are computerising their accounts and purchases to tone up the work in this regard.

### National Grain Council and National Sugar Pricing Board

563. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :  
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a National Grain Council and a National Sugar Pricing Board;

(b) if so, the constitution, functions and objectives thereof; and

(c) the time by which these bodies are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) The National workshop on "Quality Control & Grading System of Foodgrains in India" held on 30.10.1996 at New Delhi recommended, inter alia, establishment of a National Foodgrain Council. Govt. has not taken a decision thereon.

There is no proposal to set up a National Sugar Pricing Board.

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

### Highway Robberies and Other Crimes

564. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received reports regarding the highway robberies, stealing of vehicles and crossing over of the goods to the neighbouring countries;

(b) whether the Government have been urged to set up a cell to deal with such crimes; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the concern of the State Governments. However, on issues relating to cross-border crime, the Central Government also interacts with the neighbouring countries.

### Cases Handled by CBI

565. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the cases CBI handled during the last two years, crime-wise;

(b) the number and details out of these cases where charge-sheets are yet to be filed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in filing the charge-sheets case-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Bhopal Gas Tragedy

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

(a) the number of compensation courts functioning in Bhopal for disposing of cases of Bhopal Gas Tragedy;

(b) whether the number of courts have decreased in comparison to earlier; and

(c) the time by which a separate court for each of the 66 wards of the Bhopal city is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS : (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, at present 37 courts are functioning. Office of the Welfare Commissioner has informed that setting up of additional courts is depending upon the availability of judicial officers from the High Court of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) As the work of disposal of claim cases has been completed in some wards, the Presiding Officers from those courts could also be allocated the work relating to other wards where the courts may not have been set up.

[English]

### Environmental Tribunal

567. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up Environmental Tribunal soon;

(b) if so, the main objectives of setting up of such a Tribunal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995 has been enacted to provide for strict liability for damages arising out of any accident occurring while handling any hazardous substance and for the establishment of a National Environment Tribunal for effective and expeditious disposal of cases arising from

such accidents, with a view the giving relief and compensation for damages to persons, property and the environment and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(c) The Tribunal will be set up soon.

### Clearance to Irrigation Projects

568. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of major, medium and small irrigation projects from Orissa pending forestry clearance; and

(b) the present position of those projects and the time by which they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). A Statement showing names of major, medium and small irrigation projects of Orissa pending under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 alongwith their status is enclosed. As and when complete details are received in respect of a proposal it is processed expeditiously for a final decision.

### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the project	Status
1.	Manikot M.I.P. in Dhenkanal district	Under process.
2.	Baghua M.I.P. in Nayagarh district.	Under process.
3.	Ambkhol nallah M.I.P. in Phulbani district.	Under process.
4.	Dabuka nallah M.I.P. in Ganjam district.	Under process.
5.	Bargaon nallah M.I.P. in Sundergarh district	Site inspection report awaited.
6.	Dharuagoth Irrigation Project in Angul district.	Site inspection report awaited.
7.	Pipalapanka Dam Project in Ganjam District.	Site inspection report awaited.

### Inclusion of Caste in S.T. List

569. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received recommendation from Bihar Government to include the Puran Caste in the Scheduled Tribes list; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of Bihar recommended the inclusion of the Puran Community in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Bihar after considering representations regarding their socio-economic conditions and the views of a committee set up by the State Government which examined a report of the Tribal Research Institute on the Characteristics of the community. The Committee had found Puran to be akin to Bedia, which is already specified as a Scheduled Tribe in relation to the State of Bihar and to have a population of around 10,000.

### Supply of Foodgrains to Gujarat

570. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the quota of sugar, wheat and rice released to Gujarat during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 was far below the requirement of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have been receiving communications from the Gujarat Government to increase the quota of these items to enable the State Government to meet the demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). No Sir. The position of allocation/lifting of foodgrains and sugar, in Gujarat during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto September 1996) are as under :-

(in 000 tonnes)

Year	Wheat		Rice		Sugar	
	Allo.	Off. take	Allo.	Off. take	Allo.	Off. take
1994-95	642.00	379.90	414.00	187.50	196.62	*
1995-96	835.50	424.90	409.00	208.60	206.13	*
1996-97 (upto Sept. 96)	321.00	297.40	177.00	144.20	108.24	*

\* Offtake is 100%.

Thus the offtake is much less than the allocations.

(c) to (e). Recently, Government of Gujarat had requested vide letter dated 19.9.1996 for increase in allocation of wheat from 53500 MTs to 70000 MTs and rice from 29500 Mts to 35000 MTs every month and additional allotment of 20000 MTs of wheat for September. The State Government has again vide letter dated 16.11.96 requested for increase in allotment of wheat to 70000 tons of wheat. Such communications are considered in the monthly meetings of the Inter-Departmental Committee on allocation of PDS Commodities. The requests from Government of Gujarat were considered in the monthly meetings held on 18.10.96 and 19.11.96. The allotment for the month of December 1996 was increased to 60000 MTs of wheat and 35000 MTs of rice. The allotment of wheat for the month of January 1997 has been further increased from 60000 MTs to 65000 MTs.

#### Import of Edible Oil

571 SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Government have imported edible oil during 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(b) if so, the quantum of edible oil imported and the value thereof during the said period.

(c) whether the Government also propose to import edible oil during the remaining period of the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity of edible oil imported by the Government for the Public Distribution System (PDS) during the financial years 1995-96 and 1996-97 and the CIF value thereof year wise, has been as under :-

Year	Quantity (in lakh MT)	Value (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	2.02	445.56
1996-97*	1.49	295.50

\*Upto 31.10.1996

(c) and (d). Presently the Government has not proposal to import edible oil during the remaining period of the current financial year in view of easy availability position of edible oils in the country.

[Translation]

#### More Rights to States

572 DR RAMESH CHAND TOMAR  
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :  
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Government propose to concede more rights to States especially to Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the reasons therefor.

(c) whether the Government propose to concede more rights to other States also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (d). The Government has already stated that it is in favour of maximum autonomy for the State of Jammu & Kashmir. However, it is not possible or feasible to indicate details in this regard at this stage.

The Government is in favour of devolution of powers and decentralisation of authority in political, administrative and economic spheres. At the second meeting of the inter-State Council held on 15th October, 1996, the Council recognised the need for comprehensive steps towards decentralisation of powers in the realm of Centre-State relations and endorsed the commitment in the Common Minimum Programme to reform Centre-State relations in the light of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.

[English]

#### More Powers to States

573 SHRI ANNASAHID M K PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Chief Ministers meeting recently held at Delhi discussed the major issue of transfer of more powers to the States, disbanding of Central sectors schemes and transferring funds thereunder to the States to formulate and implement schemes of area specific benefit within set priorities and grant of more autonomy to the States.

(b) if so, the details of agenda discussed and consensus arrived at.

(c) details of follow up action taken/proposed to be taken on the issues on which consensus was arrived at; and

(d) the details of progress made so far in delegation of more powers to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The following was the agenda for the second meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15.10.1996 :

- (1) Consideration of 179 recommendations of Sarkaria Commission on which there was a consensus in the Sub-committee of the Inter-state Council and adoption of resolutions;
- (2) Methodology for examination of 44 recommendations of Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Financial Relations. 11 recommendations on which there was no consensus in the Sub-committee and 1 recommendation relating to Centre-State relations in the sphere of education;
- (3) Methodology for examination of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission relating to Emergency Provisions including Article 356; and
- (4) Appointment of High Level committee

A copy of the recommendations adopted at the second meeting of the Inter-State Council is enclosed as Statement.

As decided by the Inter-State Council, the following steps have been taken;

- (1) All the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations have been requested to send their comments/views on the 179 recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee and also on any matter of relevance;
- (2) Proposal for constituting a Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council is under consideration.

### STATEMENT

Recommendations Adopted at the second meeting of the inter-State Council Held on 15.10.1996.

1. The Council welcomed the convening of the second meeting and congratulated the Prime Minister and the Home Minister for initiating the much delayed dialogue on the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations. It recognised the need for comprehensive steps towards decentralisation in Centre-State relations and endorsed the commitment in Common Minimum Programme to reform Centre-State relations in the light of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission.
2. The Council recommended that there should be a standing Committee of the Council for

consultations and processing of matters for the consideration of the Council.

3. The Council took note of the work of the Sub-committee in its meetings. 179 recommendations finalised by the Sub-committee were broadly endorsed and the Government was urged to initiate action to implement these recommendations as quickly as possible. At the same time, in view of the reservations expressed by some of the Chief Ministers, they are free to convey the same as well as any matter of relevance to the Inter-State Council Secretariat within one month so that their views can be further considered by the Standing Committee of the Council.
4. As envisaged in the notification constituting the Council meetings of the Council will be convened three times a year as notified earlier. The Standing Committee of the Council may meet as often as necessary.
5. The Standing Committee will process all matters pertaining to Centre-State relations before they are taken up for consideration in the Inter-State Council. It will provide continuity of discussions and also undertake monitoring of the implementation of decisions taken on the recommendations of the Council.
6. Based upon past experience and judicial pronouncements, continuance/amendment of Article 356 requires to be further examined so as to prevent its misuse.
7. Having regard to the current fiscal situation in the country in the Centre and in the States and with regard to national economic policies the structure of Centre-State financial relationship needs to be examined afresh and up-dated with a view to promoting decentralisation.
8. The council recommended that the Standing Committee would review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission especially the vital question of devolution of financial powers from the Central Government to State Governments and the examination of changes required in Article 356 of the Constitution. The Committee will be required to give its report within three months and the same will be considered immediately thereafter by the Council.
9. Observations and proposals made by the Members of the Council at this meeting, would also be referred to the Standing Committee for their consideration and report to the Council.

10. The Standing Committee may, if necessary, invite experts and persons eminent in specific fields to have the benefit of their views while deliberating upon the related subjects.
11. After the 73rd and 74th constitution Amendment Acts, decentralization of resources, powers and responsibilities to Urban and Rural Panchayat Raj institutions have become very important. The Council recommends adequate devolution in this respect from the States to Local bodies.
12. Regional Development boards and other regional development arrangements within the State require to be fully strengthened wherever necessary and made operational with full delegation of financial and executive powers. The State Governments would be fully involved in making these arrangements and in the exercise of powers under Article 371 of the Constitution.

[Translation]

#### Sale of Cow-Products

574. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite a complete ban on cow slaughter in Madhya Pradesh, cow-products such as toffees, chewing-gum, futtella and metas are available openly in markets, and

(b) the preventive steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### Review of Capital Punishment

575. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
DR RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute any Commission for reviewing the capital punishment, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Prices of Essential Commodities

576. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of basic commodities like cereals, pulses, sugar, fruits, vegetables, edible oils, milk, etc. have highly increased during the past six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the hike in prices of basic commodities and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Variations in the Wholesale Price Index of some of the basic commodities during the last six months ending October 1996 are given below.

Commodity	Variation (per cent)
Cereals	11.1
Pulses	0.5
Vegetables	21.8
Fruits	-6.5
Sugar	0.8
Milk	2.0
Edible Oils	3.3

(c) The reasons for the increase in the prices of some of the essential commodities can be attributed to the hike in the prices of petroleum products, gap between demand and supply and seasonal factors.

(d) Government has accorded the highest priority to the control of prices of essential commodities. Apart from certain long term measures to increase the production of essential goods, imports under Open General Licence (OGL) of items which are in short supply like edible oils and pulses are encouraged to augment the total availability of these items. Some of the commodities are also supplied through the Public Distribution System and Cooperative Stores at below market prices. Stringent actions are being taken against hoarders and black marketeers and other indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act etc. by the State/UT Governments.

[Translation]

### Corruption in NDMC

577. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of MPs who submitted written complaints to Prime Minister and Home Minister regarding allegations of corruption against the former Chairman-cum-Administrator of NDMC;

(b) the number of cases of contempt of court pending in the High Court and Supreme Court against the former Chairman;

(c) the number of Income-tax raids, conducted, in this regard and the details thereof;

(d) whether any legal action has been taken against the said official against whom charges have been established; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) A written complaint was received last year from a Member of Parliament containing some allegations of corruption against the former Chairperson, NDMC.

(b) According to information received from NDMC, there are eight cases of contempt pending in the High Court of Delhi in which the said officer has been named as a respondent. However, no case of contempt is reported to be pending against him in the Supreme Court of India.

(c) No such raid was conducted against the officer.

(d) and (e). None of the allegations made against the officer has so far been established to warrant any punitive action against him.

### Vehicles to U.P. Police

578. SHRI CHATRAPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of various types of vehicles provided to the Uttar Pradesh Police personnel in Uttar Pradesh, along with the district-wise details thereof;

(b) whether each police station in the State is provided with at least one vehicle (Jeep); and

(c) if so, the number of police stations not provided a jeep so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Under the scheme for modernisation of State police forces, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments, for acquiring vehicles for police forces. However, 'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects, it is primarily for the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to decide on the types of vehicles to be acquired

depending upon their local requirements. No information with regard to the number and types of vehicles provided to the Police Stations in districts is compiled by the Central Government.

### Environment Policy

579. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced or propose to announce any Environment Policy to check the pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of rules and regulations issued so far to check the pollution completely at its origination point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Government of India had announced the Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution on 26 February, 1992. A comprehensive approach has been taken to integrate environmental and development aspects in the Policy Statement. Stress is laid on preventive aspects for pollution abatement and promotion of technology to reduce industrial pollutants. The objective is also to integrate environmental considerations into decision making at all levels. To achieve this, steps have to be taken to :

1. Prevent pollution at source;
2. Encourage, develop and apply the best available practicable, technical solutions;
3. Ensure that polluter pays for the pollution and control arrangements;
4. Focus protection on heavily polluted areas and river stretches; and
5. Involve the public in the decision making.

(c) The major rules and regulations issued so far to check pollution are detailed as under:

- (i) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;
- (ii) The Water (prevention and control of Pollution) Rules, 1975;
- (iii) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
- (iv) The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Rules, 1978;
- (v) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;
- (vi) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1982.

- (vii) The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) (Union Territories) Rules, 1983;
- (viii) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
- (ix) The Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986;
- (x) The Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989;
- (xi) The Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989; and
- (xii) The Manufacture, Use, Import, Export & Storage of Hazardous Micro-Organisms Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells Rules, 1989.

[English]

#### **Banned Toxic Wastes**

580. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :  
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :  
DR. A.K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some countries and corporations producing banned toxic wastes are trying to get 're-defined' the hazardous wastes listed under the Basel Convention;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to block such an attempt at the International Fora?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Security to VIPs and VVIPs**

581. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual cost being incurred by the Government in providing security to VIPs and VVIPs; and

(b) the amount being spent on NSG and SPG annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The total cost incurred by the Delhi Police, NSG and SPG on the security of VIPs/VVIPs during 1995-96 was about Rs.62 03 crore.

(b) Amount spent on NSG and SPG during 1995-96 is given below :

NSG	-	Rs. 52.06 Crore
SPG	-	Rs. 32.89 Crore

#### **SC/ST and OBC Commissions**

582. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) The vacancy position of the Members and the Chairperson of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Commission and Backward Classes Commission alongwith the date from which these vacancies are lying vacant;

(b) the reasons for not fulfilling these posts in time;

(c) the time by which all these vacancies are likely to be filled up; and

(d) the criteria being followed to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) There is no vacancy in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission, but there are, however, vacancies in the National Commission for Backward Classes as given below:

Name of the Post	Since Vacant
Chairperson	23-8-96
Member (Social Scientist)	23-8-96
Member (Persons having special knowledge in matters relating to Backward classes)	18-8-96
-do-	15-9-96
Member Secretary	14-11-96

(b) There has been some delay as the Ministry is making efforts to nominate capable and committed persons in the Commission.

(c) No time-frame can be given in this regard.

(d) The following criteria adhered to for filling up these posts :

- (i) a Chairperson who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court.
- (ii) a Social Scientist;
- (iii) two persons who have special knowledge in matters relating to Backward Classes; and
- (iv) a Member-Secretary who is or has been an officer of the Central Government in the rank of a Secretary to the Govt. of India.

[Translation]

**Horticulture/Fishery Schemes in Maharashtra**

583. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of horticulture, fruit bearing trees plantation and fisheries schemes implemented in Maharashtra during the last three years; and

(b) the funds provided by the Government for these schemes during the said period, separately?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A statement indicating the name of schemes and amount provided to the Government of Maharashtra during the last three years is attached.

**STATEMENT**

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Central assistance released		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
<b>A. Fisheries :</b>				
1.	Providing Fishery Harbour Facilities at Minor Ports.	675.00	1110.00	1167.02
2.	Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries	175.44	268.65	0.95
3.	Development of Freshwater Aquaculture	Nil	30.00	26.00
4.	Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development	4.00	24.19	22.04
5.	Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulations Act	Nil	10.00	240.00
6.	Inland fisheries Statistics	5.47	1.31	2.50
7.	Welfare of Fishermen.	Nil	Nil	25.00
<b>B. Horticulture</b>				
1.	Development of Commercial Floriculture	36.60	6.00	-
2.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	Nil	Nil	0.75
3.	Development of Mushroom	23.00	29.50	Nil
4.	Development of Cashewnut	99.77	144.18	343.26
5.	Development of Tropical, Arid & Temperate Fruits	82.80	136.65	165.00
6.	Development of Root & Tuber Crop	14.00	0.55	Nil
7.	Development of Spices	32.60	88.00	80.00
8.	Development of Vegetables	22.38	19.58	14.96
9.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture	595.31	1263.00	2117.25
10.	Development of Betelvine	3.13	4.53	1.08
<b>C. Indian Council of Agricultural Research :</b>				
1.	Biotransformation of Straws into food and feed through pleurotus cultivation.	1.80	0.81	0.82
2.	Popularisation of oyster mushroom cultivation among small farmers in rural areas	1.56	0.97	0.98
3.	Development of bacterial wilt resistant varieties of brinjal & tomato suitable for Konkan.	2.81	1.58	1.65
4.	Network project on promotion of hybrid research in vegetable crops	7.32	6.34	3.37
5.	Evaluation of medicinal plants under Konkan conditions	2.65	1.16	1.18
6.	Scheme for improvement of Kokum (Garcinia indica choicy)	1.44	0.95	0.96

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Standardization of Hort. Techniques and genetics improvement of strawberry under plains of Maharashtra	4.03	1.26	1.27
8.	Pest management in pomegranate with special reference to shot hole borer Mealy bugs and fruit sucking moths	0.68	0.59	0.71
9.	Preparation of wine from Pomegranate Juice	4.15	1.16	1.17

[English]

### Ganga Yamuna Action Plan

584. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :  
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN :  
SHRI PINAKI MISHRA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds earmarked for Ganga-Yamuna Action Plan in the Eighth Plan for the stretch of rivers:

(b) the main features of both the plans:

(c) whether hazardous and chemicals effluents from the chemicals and other factories still fall into the rivers at different points:

(d) if so, the details thereof and the mechanism for monitoring the quality and levels of pollution and the progress made in achieving objectives of the Action Plan, Statewise; and

(e) the time by which the plans for cleaning of Ganga and Yamuna are likely to be completed and cost of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) An amount of Rs.143.24 crore for the Ganga Action Plan and Rs.100.03 crore towards the 50% Central share in the Yamuna Action Plan has been earmarked in the Eighth Plan.

(b) The Ganga Action Plan is a fully Centrally funded scheme whereas the capital cost of the Yamuna Action Plan is to be shared equally between the Central and the respective State Governments of Haryana, Delhi and U.P. Pollution abatement works have been taken up in 25 large towns along the Ganga in the States of U.P., Bihar and West Bengal and 22 towns of the Yamuna in the States of Haryana, Delhi and U.P. The Action Plans envisage such works as interception, diversion and treatment of sewage and construction of low cost toilets, crematoria and bathing ghats. The industrial pollution from gross polluting industries is controlled and monitored under the existing Environmental laws.

(c) and (d). Out of the 68 gross polluting industries identified under the Ganga Action Plan, 55 have installed effluent treatment plants, 12 have been closed down and one has changed the process of manufacture and as such does not require any effluent treatment plant. Gross polluting industries along the Yamuna are monitored by the respective State Pollution Control Boards. Water quality monitoring of the rivers Ganga and Yamuna is carried out every month to assess the pollution due to the discharge of domestic and industrial waste water. Action against the defaulting industries is taken by the respective State Pollution Control Boards under the existing Environmental Laws.

(e) The estimated cost of the Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans is Rs.462.04 crore and Rs.479.56 crore respectively. These Action Plans are targetted for completion by 31.3.1997 and 31.3.1999 respectively.

### Concession for Coastal Development

585. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have refused to grant the Maharashtra Government any concession on the coastal development-sought in its Coastal Zone Management Plan;

(b) if so, the details of concession asked for by the Government of Maharashtra; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c) Government of India have approved the Coastal Zone Management Plan in accordance with the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification dated 19.2.1991. The request of Government of Maharashtra for categorisation of some areas in Greater Bombay and New Bombay and New Bombay as CRZ-II was examined by the Central Government. After examining, the Maharashtra Government was asked to set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Government for identification and the demarcation of the proposed CRZ-II areas, as per the guidelines laid down by the Central Government.

### Outstanding dues of Sugarcane Growers

586. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :  
SHRI SOHAN BEER :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister had ordered the Government of Uttar Pradesh and other States to clear the outstanding dues of the sugarcane growers;

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

(c) whether the orders of the Prime Minister have been implemented;

(d) if so, the details thereof, Statewise;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether some State Governments are facing resource crunch and have sought financial assistance from the Union Government; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) to (g). The Hon'ble Prime Minister had reviewed the

position of cane dues on 29.6.96 (and thereafter on 13.7.96) expressing his concern over pending cane arrears to the tune of about Rs.900 crores in U.P. He had desired that against outstanding balance of Rs.900 crores, the payment of 50% should be made by 31st July, 1996. Since then all-out efforts were made including mobilization of the machinery at all levels and regular monitoring. As a result, a total payment of Rs.456 crore was made by 31.7.96.

The resources for the above payments have been arranged by a number of means including :

- (i) Revaluation of existing sugar stocks in accordance with the revised guidelines of Reserve Bank of India.
- (ii) Payment of differential levy sugar prices by Govt. of India.
- (iii) 75% freesale quota on the production achieved during 15.4.96 to 31.5.96.
- (iv) 100% freesale quota on production achieved during 1.6.96 to 30.9.96.
- (v) Internal resources generation by sugar factories

Latest State-wise position of cane dues may be seen in the Statement enclosed.

### STATEMENT

Statement Showing the Statewise position of Cane prices payable, price paid and balance outstanding for cane purchased during 1995-96 season upto as well as Arrears of cane price as on 30/09/96

(Figures in lakh Rs.)

State	Total Price payable for cane purchased during 1995-96 upto 30/09/96	Cane price Paid upto 30/09/96	Balance cane Price Payable as on 30/09/96	Age of Balance Price Payable over total payable	Arrear or Cane Prices As on 30/09/96 or the Latest available Date		No. of Factories Repo- pres- ent	
					1994-95	1993-94 & earlier		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab	49005.26	43544.83	5460.43	11.14	0.00	0.00	8	22
Haryana	35775.39	33981.94	1773.95	5.01	11.05	0.62	3	11
Rajasthan	2232.43	2031.81	200.62	8.99	0.00	0.00	1	3
West UP	112113.33	104338.43	8071.81	7.13	0.00	1.04	18	26
Central UP	139241.60	129094.85	10146.45	7.29	0.00	177.1	26	46
East UP	62777.96	53185.16	9592.80	15.28	314.66	125.87	23	44
Total UP	314432.59	286618.49	27814.10	8.85	314.66	303.92	67	116
Madhya Pradesh	6775.07	4460.39	2314.68	34.18	0.25	0.61	3	9
South Gujarat	63582.33	57759.23	5823.10	9.16	0.00	0.00	7	12
Saurashtra	4902.92	4719.23	183.69	7.75	3.55	0.00	3	6
Total Gujarat	68495.25	62478.46	6006.79	8.77	3.55	0.00	10	18
South Maharashtra	141866.78	141449.64	417.14	0.29	0.32	0.61	22	31
North Maharashtra	38639.94	36829.43	1809.51	4.68	24.45	9.60	16	40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Cent. Maharashtra	106295.70	105546.05	749.65	0.71	48.00	4.20	22	40
Total Maharashtra	286801.42	483825.12	2976.30	1.04	72.77	14.41	60	111
North Bihar	27586.32	23333.44	4252.88	15.42	925.18	492.47	13	26
South Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.38	0	3
Total Bihar	27586.32	23333.44	4252.88	15.42	925.18	511.85	13	29
Assam	439.15	429.49	9.66	2.20	0.00	0.82	1	3
Andhra Pradesh	48615.35	45264.18	3411.17	7.01	1.21	0.00	21	37
Karnataka	67458.92	60086.97	7371.95	10.93	1223.45	0.00	16	31
Tamil Nadu	96081.40	87369.73	8717.67	9.07	31.83	0.38	22	32
Kerala	434.55	22.02	112.53	83.63	0.00	0.00	1	3
Orissa	4249.68	4197.91	51.77	1.22	0.00	0.07	4	8
West Bengal	709.84	474.33	235.51	33.18	0.00	1.37	2	2
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	1
Pondicherry	3948.44	3948.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.66	2	2
Goa	1316.65	1316.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
All India	1014113.91	943393.90	70730.01	6.97	2583.95	836.71	241	439

### Afforestation Programme

587. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has extended aid for carrying out Massive Afforestation Programmes in our country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places where new programmes are being carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) World Bank has provided financial assistance for implementation of forestry projects, which includes afforestation as a component in West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. A statement giving details of the forestry projects under implementation with World Bank assistance is enclosed.

### STATEMENT

Name of the Project	Total cost (Rupees in crores)	Project period	Total area to be covered under the project including afforestation Component (area in '000 ha.)
1	2	3	4
Forestry Development Project, West Bengal	114.70	1992-93 to 1996-97	228

1	2	3	4
Forestry Sector Project Maharashtra	431.51	1992-93 to 1997-98	369
Andhra Pradesh Forestry Project	353.92	1994-95 to 1999-2000	355
Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project	245.94	1995-96 to 1998-99	235

[Translation]

### Research on Waste

588. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the recent decision taken by the Central Government, the limit of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) for the polluted waste of liquor factories will remain 30 miligram per litre as was before but the waste generated from the liquor factories of UP does not come upto the standard even after treating it completely;

(b) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research is conducting research to know the extent to which this waste will be useful for irrigation;

(c) if so, the time by which the results are expected; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) As notified in April, 1996, the standard for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) for

disposal of distillery effluents into inland surface water is 30 milligram per litre as was earlier notified in 1987. Earlier, the distillery effluent was allowed to be used after primary treatment for irrigation purposes. This provision has been withdrawn vide notification in April 1996, to avoid any adverse impacts on surface and ground water.

(b) to (d). A research project has been assigned to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) to ascertain the effects of distillery effluent on crops/land/ground water due to such effluents for irrigation purposes. The findings are awaited.

### Procurement Policy

589. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
DR. RAMAKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government would review the procurement policy keeping in view the less procurement of foodgrains particularly wheat;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c). The procurement policy of the government has several components like minimum support price, quality specifications, imposition of levy on millers/traders etc. While no major shift in the procurement policy under the minimum support price operations is contemplated, keeping in view the relevant factors, the minimum support price of wheat for the 1996-97 rabi crop, to be marketed in the 1997-98 rabi marketing season, has been increased by Rs.35, from Rs.380 to Rs.415 per quintal. It is expected that this attractive increase in the MSP will entice the farmers to produce more wheat.

### Reservation for Dalit Christians

590. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer the reply given on July 25, 1996 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1796 and state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided to extend the reservation benefits to the Dalit Christians; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). Scheduled Caste converts to Christianity are at present eligible for reservation benefits applicable to OBCs by virtue of their inclusion in the Central lists of OBCs in relation to twelve States/UTs. The matter of recognition of Scheduled Caste Converts to Christianity as Scheduled Castes is under consideration. Such recognition would entitle them to reservation benefits applicable to the Scheduled Castes.

### Milk Production in Kerala

591. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for Central and World Bank assistance to increase the milk production in Kerala keeping in view the gap between production and requirement of the milk; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). Kerala state was covered under the Operation Flood II & III projects which were implemented as a central sector Plan scheme with the assistance of the World Bank and the DEO. There is also a North Kerala Dairy Project that is being implemented with the assistance of the Swiss Development Corporation.

### High Level Review Committee

592. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No.2124 replied on July 30, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the High Level Review Committee has since taken any decision according to the terms of reference laid down therein;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

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

(d) whether Government propose to give these awards from the ensuing Republic Day or Independence Day; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e). The High Level Review Committee, constituted to go into the guidelines for the Padma Awards and certain

other aspects, has since submitted its report. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration by the Government. Further necessary action in the matter will be taken in due course.

#### Grant-in-aid to Non-Government Organisations

593. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of non-government organisations and institutions in Bihar who applied for recurring and non-recurring grants-in-aid for Rs. five lakhs and more than ten lakhs during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) details of the organisations and institutions out of the above whose applications were rejected; and

(c) the reasons for rejecting the same alongwith breakup thereof, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Sugarcane Development Cess

594. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sugarcane Development Cess has been collected at the rate of Rs. 14/- per quintal by the Government;

(b) if so, the amount collected during the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) whether the amount given in the form of loan for various items from this fund during the past years has been recovered; and

(d) if so, the amount of recovered loan deposited in this fund during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) Under the Sugar Cess Act, 1982, a cess at the rate of Rs. 14/- per quintal is being collected on all sugar produced by any sugar factory in India.

(b) Amount collected during the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount Collected
1993-94	165.47
1994-95	143.64
1995-96	172.40

(c) and (d). The amount of loan disbursed in 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96 is as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount Disbursed
1993-94	115.28
1994-95	63.53
1995-96	55.06

The amount deposited in the fund after recovery during years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as under:

(In Rupees)

Year	Total
1993-94	47,61,97,815
1994-95	48,18,00,561
1995-96	34,31,23,830

#### Drought in Madhya Pradesh

595. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the situation arising out of drought in Madhya Pradesh particularly in the Chhatisgarh region; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government to provide relief so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL & HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh based on preliminary assessment, 21 Talukas of 8 districts in the State are facing serious drought conditions.

(b) Madhya Pradesh has a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of Rs.51.08 crores for 1996-97 for undertaking relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. Three instalments of CRF amounting to Rs.28.73 crores have already been released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during the current year.

#### Tampering of Electricity and Water Bills of NDMC

596. SHRI I.D. SWAMI :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has unearthed a multi-crore embezzlement scam in the New Delhi Municipal Council involving the tampering of electricity and water bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the guilty officials;

(e) whether the accounts of the NDMC have been audited during the last four years; and

(f) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (f). During the course of investigation so far, it has come to light that NDMC had granted a contract for computerisation of electricity/water bills to M/s. Software Consultants India Pvt. Ltd. in 1985. In 1992, this firm was also awarded the contract for collection of these bills from the consumers.

2. For this purpose 4 counters were opened at Parliament Annexe, Kidwai Nagar, Palika Bhawan and Gole Market in 1992 and later on more centres were opened at Bengali Market, Kaka Nagar, Nirman Bhavan, Palika Kendra.

3. Since the billing and collection of electricity and water bills were assigned to the same agency, it used to collect full amount of the bills from the consumers, issue computerised receipts and simultaneously enter these receipts in the computers. After daily collections, some persons of the agency used to copy the entries of daily collection stored in the computer in a separate computer file and thereafter resort to at random manipulations of the collection entries in this file by reducing the amount actually collected from different consumers. Thus, difference of the actual collection and the amount shown in the manipulated collection statement, that was being submitted to the NDMC alongwith the cash collected on the next day, was being misappropriated.

4. The Computer file containing actual collection was used for the purpose of issuing the next bills to the consumers so that no arrears would get reflected in the bills of the consumers. Only the bills of the private consumer were being manipulated.

5. Although the manipulated statements alongwith reduced cash were deposited with the NDMC cash section on the next day, the statement showing actual collection was used to be deposited at end of the year with the Rent Section of the NDMC, and the two were never tallied by the concerned sections of the NDMC. This encouraged/enabled the agency to perpetuate the fraud over a long period.

6. Investigation has so far revealed that by way of the above mentioned modus operandi the owner of the agency had misappropriated a sum of Rs.6 crores approximately from March 1996 to 27th September, 1996, when the fraud was detected. Starting with lesser amount, the misappropriation in the later stages appears to be to the tune of approximately Rs.30 lakhs per

month. Further investigation in this scam is still in progress and NDMC has been requested by the CBI to conduct a special Audit for helping the CBI in ascertaining the full amount misappropriated by way of this fraud

7. The audit of accounts of NDMC was required to be conducted by the Examiner, Local Fund Account, Delhi Administration under Punjab Municipal Act 1911. The Concurrent Audit party of Government of NCT of Delhi have been carrying out audit of various departments/units of NDMC over the years. However, the annual audit report, as required in respect of annual accounts of NDMC have not been issued by them. The last annual audit report was issued in 1989 for the year 1985-86.

8. According to the Examiner, Local Fund the Shortage of staff was one of the major factors which led to delay in finalisation and issue of annual audit reports.

#### Assistance to Cultivators of Fruits, Vegetable and Flowers

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

(a) whether the Government have provided any assistance to the cultivators of fruits, vegetables and flowers;

(b) if not, reasons for not giving proper assistance for the cultivation of these items;

(c) the plans of the Government to provide commercial facilities and assistances for boosting the production of these commodities and to improve the position of India in this field in the World so that the foreign exchange earnings of the country increase;

(d) the action being taken by the Government to popularise these items in the World market; and

(e) the names of countries competing with India in the World on this count?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Government is providing substantial assistance for improving production, productivity and quality of horticulture commodities and for enhancing export. In addition support is also provided for 100 percent export oriented units (EOU) through soft loans and for building infrastructure facilities. Subsidy on air freight, brand promotion, publicity, packaging, etc. is also provided. Improved facilities are being developed for handling of perishable commodities at the Delhi and Mumbai airports.

(e) The main competitors are Chile, Pakistan, Phillipines, Colombia, South Africa, Australia and Israel for fruits; China, Turkey, Thailand, Phillipines, Israel and South Africa for vegetables and Kenya, Israel, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Morocco for floriculture respectively.

### Coastal Management Plan

598. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties resulting from the Coastal Management Plan of the Ministry of Environment imposing severe restrictions on construction work in coastal areas;

(b) whether representations have been received from State Governments to remove restrictions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Some State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have represented to the Central Government about the difficulties in implementation of Coastal Zone Management Plans, particularly with regard to withdrawal of ground water, mining of sands and No Development Zone for rivers and backwaters.

(c) It has been decided to constitute a committee to look into selected issues raised by the State Governments.

### Cleansing of Rivers

599. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken up the rivers for cleansing under the Central Government Scheme and the progress made thereunder;

(b) if so, the details of rivers taken up;

(c) whether representation has been received to include river Chaliyar in Kerala under this scheme, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Government had approved in July 1995, a National River Conservation Plan to take up pollution abatement schemes in 46 towns located on the polluted stretches of 18 rivers in 10 States of the country at an estimated cost of about Rs. 772 crore. The details of various components of the National River Conservation Plan, state-wise, town-wise and river-wise are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d). A representation had been received from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri E. Ahamed for inclusion of river Chaliyar in Kerala under this scheme. The Hon'ble Member of Parliament has been requested to take up the matter with the Government of Kerala. A copy of the letter addressed to the Hon'ble Member of Parliament has been forwarded to the Government of Kerala.

### STATEMENT

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/Towns	River	Total cost including cost of land	Contribution of States
1	2	3	4	5
1.	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		5379.00	2689.500
	1. Mancherial	Godavari		
	2. Bhadrachalam	Godavari		
	3. Rajamundry	Godavari		
	4. Ramagundam	Godavari		
2.	<b>Bihar</b>		3222.03	1611.015
	5. Ranchi	Subarnarekha		
	6. Jamshedpur	Subarnarekha		
	7. Ghatshila	Subarnarekha		
3.	<b>Gujarat</b>		9869.89	4934.945
	8. Ahmadabad	Sabarmati		

1	2	3	4	5
4.	<b>Karnataka</b>		2699.79	1349.895
9.	Shimoga	Tunga (Krishna)		
10.	Harihara	Tungabhadra (Krishna)		
11.	Bhadravathi	Bhadra (Krishna)		
12.	Davanagere	Tungabhadra (Krishna)		
13.	K.R. Nagar	Cauvery		
14.	Kollegal	Cauvery		
15.	Nanjangud	Cauvery		
16.	Sri Rangapatnam	Cauvery		
5.	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		10659.47	5329.735
17.	Indore	Khan		
18.	Ujjain	Kshipra		
19.	Burhanpur	Tapti		
20.	Mandideep	Betwa		
21.	Bhopal	Betwa		
22.	Vidisha	Betwa		
23.	Jabalpur	Narmada		
24.	Seoni	Wainganga		
25.	Chapara	Wainganga		
26.	Keolari	Wainganga		
27.	Nagda	Chambal		
6.	<b>Maharashtra</b>		11733.39	5866.695
28.	Karad	Krishna		
29.	Sangli	Krishna		
30.	Nasik	Godavari		
31.	Nanded	Godavari		
7.	<b>Orissa</b>		2484.77	5866.695
32.	Cuttack	Mahanadi		
33.	Talcher	Brahmini		
34.	Chandbali	Brahmini		
35.	Dharmshala	Brahmini		
8.	<b>Punjab</b>		22937.61	11468.805
36.	Ludhiana	Satluj		
37.	Jallundhar	Satluj		
38.	Phagwara	Satluj		
39.	Phillaur	Satluj		
9.	<b>Rajasthan</b>		1393.68	696.840
40.	Kota	Chambal		
41.	Keshorai pattan	Chambal		

1	2	3	4	5
10.	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		3820.00	1910.000
42.	Kumara palayam	Cauvery		
43.	Bhawani	Cauvery		
44.	Erode	Cauvery		
45.	Trichy	Cauvery		
46.	Palli Palayam	Cauvery		
(A)		Total :	74199.63	37099.81
(B)	State share on 50 : 50 basis		37099.81	
(C)	Add 5% of cost of works only towards expenditure on establishment Research & Development and Monitoring		3009.22	
(A+C)	total estimated cost (74199.63+3009.22)		77208.85	
(D)	Central Share		40109.03	

### Irregularities in I.V.R.I.

600. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the complaints regarding alleged irregularities in purchase of foreign journals in Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzat Nagar, Bareilly, and

(b) if so, the nature of irregularities noticed and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The investigation of R.C. 22(A)/95-CBI/LKO PURCHASE OF FOREIGN JOURNALS is being conducted by the CBI, Lucknow. The relevant record for the purchase of foreign journals during 1987 to 1994, has been sent to CBI for necessary action. As a follow up reply, the concerned CBI office has recently informed that the matter is still under investigation.

[English]

### Cane Pricing Policy

601. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cane stock with the farmer are mounting year after year in the sugar producing States because of un-realistically cane prices fixed by the State Government rendering sugar mill unviable while Khansari units purchase cane at much lower price than fixed by the State Government;

(b) if so, the position of cane stock and prices fixed/revised during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received representations from the Sugar Producing State

Governments/Associations/Federation of Sugar Mills regarding evolving of rationalistic/pragmatic sugarcane pricing policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the details of comprehensive action plan worked out to resolve the issue of cane pricing/stock in the interest of healthy growth of the sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b). During 1994-95 the production of sugarcane was 2712 lakh tonnes as compared to 2297 lakh tonnes in 1993-94. Cane production for 1995-96 is estimated to be about 2673 lakh tonnes.

In spite of the fact that the Central Government fixes Statutory Minimum Price of Sugarcane payable by sugar factories to cane growers, the State Governments also announce their own State Advised Prices which is payable by the sugar factories located in the respective States Advised Prices of cane are very high which create difficulties for the sugar industry in the State. The State Advised Prices of sugarcane in respect of some of the sugar producing states may be seen at the statement attached.

(c) to (f). The views of State Governments, The National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories and Indian Sugar Mills Association have been considered by the Govt. with regard to sugarcane pricing policy. The question was first considered in the meeting of the Sugar Ministers of the State Governments held in February, 1994 when it was decided to constitute a committee of the Sugar Ministers of five major sugar producing States (U.P., Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu) under the Chairmanship of the Sugar Minister of U.P. This Committee submitted its report in April, 1995 recommending, inter alia, constitution of a National Pricing Board for the purpose. The question of

setting up of this Board was considered in the Conference of Sugar Ministers of all the sugar producing States held on 6.5.1995. It was decided in that Conference to obtain detailed views of all the Sugar producing states before constitution of the proposed Board. All the State Governments were accordingly requested to furnish their views in this regard to this Ministry. Views of the Government of Maharashtra are awaited.

### STATEMENT

*Range of State Advised Prices of Sugarcane in Some of The States*

(Rs. per Quintal)

State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
U.P.	50 to 61	66 to 70	70 to 74
Bihar	53.50 to 56.50	66 to 70	71 to 75
Punjab	58 to 62	68 to 72	73 to 77
Haryana	56 to 60	66 to 70	70 to 75
Rajasthan	50 to 54	57 to 66	64 to 67
Karnataka	45 to 65	60 to 70	58 to 72

### Backlog of SC/ST posts

602. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the backlog of SC, ST and OBC posts in the Ministry of Home Affairs and its subordinate/attached offices;

(b) steps taken by the Government to fulfil this backlog; and

(c) the time by which the backlog is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The backlog of reserved vacancies in the Ministry of Home Affairs and its attached/subordinate offices is 374 for Scheduled Castes and 514 for Scheduled Tribes.

A special Recruitment Drive has been launched for clearing the backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This drive will end on 31.3.1997.

Information relating to the Other Backward Classes is being collected.

[Translation]

### Looting of Buses

603. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a U.P. Roadways night service bus plying from Delhi to Vageshwar (district-Almorah, U.P.) was looted on its way during the month of October,

1996 and subsequently the robbers were killed in the police encounter;

(b) whether the night service buses plying from Delhi to various places of Uttar Pradesh have become the victims of robberies during the last one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to stop such incidents and relief provided to the victims; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

### National Watershed Development Project

604. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :  
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds released by the Central Government under National Watershed Development Project for the rainfed areas during the last five years, State-wise;

(b) whether all the State Governments have utilised the Central assistance to the satisfaction of the Union Government;

(c) if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to review the scheme and issued any guidelines in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Statement showing the statewise release and utilisation of funds during the last five years under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) is given in the statement enclosed.

The utilisation of funds in some States has not been satisfactory. The main constraints for slow utilisation of funds by the State Governments are delay in receipt of funds by the implementing agencies, and implementation involving a number of line Departments

(d) and (e). The Government reviews the scheme from time to time through the meetings of National Watershed Development Policy and Implementation Committee (NWDPIC), National Reviews, Regional reviews and State Level Reviews and issues guidelines to the States on the basis of the reports received.

## STATEMENT

Statewise details of funds released and utilised during last five years under "National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Area" (NWDPRRA)

Rs. in lakhs

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92					1992-93					1993-94					1994-95					1995-96					Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
		Release	Expendi- ture	Release	Expendi- ture	Release	Expendi- ture	Release	Expendi- ture	Release	Expendi- ture	1991-92 to 1995-96 Release	Expendi- ture																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1120.00	956.24	1238.00	876.31	1462.00	697.51	636.55	717.46	-	653.04	4456.55	3900.56	2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18.00	9.79	18.00	4.00	21.70	5.60	80.00	21.73	138.00	62.82	3.	Assam	350.00	39.50	350.00	220.18	460.00	193.51	535.00	213.66	512.00	250.12	2207.00	917.05	4.	Bihar	780.00	2.47	130.86	32.25	-	100.26	435.00	41.10	-	116.36	1345.86	292.44	5.	Goa	17.00	3.08	2.73	1.64	-	2.61	-	0.24	46.00	3.16	65.73	10.73	6.	Gujarat	1180.00	734.66	1180.00	510.34	1370.00	653.15	1073.94	744.69	-	1408.29	4803.94	4051.13	7.	Haryana	240.00	-	28.55	34.35	-	96.25	-	122.62	55.00	123.99	333.55	377.21	8.	Himachal Pradesh	80.00	7.19	80.00	27.85	-	132.71	575.00	355.35	265.00	297.82	1000.00	820.92	9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.00	7.81	60.00	67.02	192.00	46.02	-	153.79	118.00	114.31	430.00	388.95	10.	Karnataka	1420.00	916.79	1380.00	1803.29	3150.00	1854.19	1524.81	1795.23	476.00	1521.67	7950.81	7891.17	11.	Kerala	300.00	415.30	300.00	300.00	1360.00	360.00	180.00	180.00	-	326.10	2140.00	1581.40	12.	Madhya Pradesh	2600.00	681.41	980.05	1229.27	1900.00	1520.45	500.00	1977.22	1977.00	3703.84	7957.05	9112.19	13.	Maharashtra	2590.00	444.09	742.67	2258.85	2000.00	2301.23	3100.00	4709.09	3290.00	3906.43	11722.67	13619.69	14.	Manipur	15.00	14.34	73.00	19.26	-	40.11	80.00	80.19	75.00	95.00	243.00	248.90	15.	Meghalaya	25.00	14.05	28.00	43.75	100.00	-	-	-	55.00	26.67	208.00	84.47	16.	Mizoram	10.00	7.85	66.00	21.26	398.00	144.75	319.77	376.96	-	240.76	793.77	791.58	17.	Nagaland	25.00	24.01	28.00	30.94	306.00	75.45	250.00	-	-	488.50	609.00	618.90	18.	Orissa	775.00	365.01	772.19	1283.33	1750.00	945.26	1250.00	1028.06	1580.00	1801.46	6127.19	5423.12	19.	Punjab	95.00	78.35	120.00	65.43	120.00	165.39	115.00	-	-	77.36	450.00	386.53	20.	Rajasthan	1940.00	750.81	2350.00	1464.01	1900.00	2084.87	1900.00	2452.00	2855.00	3500.50	10945.00	10254.19	21.	Sikkim	25.96	25.95	70.00	39.71	108.00	71.82	110.00	79.90	10.00	78.71	323.96	296.09	22.	Tamil Nadu	508.11	123.41	84.89	681.17	1664.00	761.91	700.00	748.07	420.00	720.44	3377.00	3035.00	23.	Tripura	35.00	-	35.00	35.00	60.00	35.00	95.00	84.67	-	62.09	225.00	216.76	24.	Uttar Pradesh	1150.11	961.08	1300.00	1107.54	1450.00	1178.74	2295.00	2288.04	2215.00	2213.00	8410.00	7748.40	25.	West Bengal	540.00	23.24	91.24	163.30	-	256.96	400.00	414.94	1157.00	595.20	2188.24	1453.64	26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.47	0.08	0.50	-	10.00	-	-	1.94	-	0.59	10.97	2.61	27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	25.00	3.92	21.00	23.20	50.00	32.14	96.00	59.26	Total	15899.54	6607.28	11519.69	12320.05	19785.00	13745.78	16118.07	18594.01	15236.00	22379.27	78558.30	73646.39

[Translation]

**Urea Scam**

605. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT :  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

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

(a) the latest position of the investigation made in the Rs.133 crore urea scam;

(b) the names of countries and banks in which the scam money is deposited;

(c) whether Government are making efforts to get back this money and the steps taken so far in this direction;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a Bank Guarantee was furnished by the foreign firm as a security against the advanced payment of Rs. 133 crores;

(f) if so, the amount of Bank Guarantee and whether the said Bank Guarantee has been encashed; and

(g) if not, the kind of security taken from the foreign firm by the Government as a security for the advance payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) The irregularities in the matter relating to the contract signed by M/s. National Fertilisers Ltd. (NFL) for supply of 2 lakh metric tonnes of bagged urea are under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The CBI is engaged in conducting the investigation in India as also in various other countries.

(b) The amount involved was credited to the account held by M/s. Karsan Ltd. with Pictet Bank, Geneva, Switzerland.

(c) and (d). Government of Switzerland has been requested to freeze the amounts available in the account of M/s. Karsan Ltd. with Pictet Bank, Geneva and any other connected accounts. The Government of Switzerland has also been requested to seize the amount and repatriate the same to India.

(e) No. Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Instead of a Bank Guarantee issued by an international bank of repute outside India, M/s. Karsan Ltd. had offered to provide a first class Lloyds Insurance cover for non-performance and non-delivery of the contracted quantity of urea, which cover was eventually not provided.

[English]

**Security to Former Prime Ministers**

606. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons getting S.P.G. protection;

(b) whether the relatives of the former Prime Ministers are getting the protection of S.P.G.;

(c) the number of security persons deployed for the purpose; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred for providing S.P.G. protection during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) 29 protectees are entitled to SPG cover. Of these SPG protectees two are residing abroad and get the cover during their visits to India. Protection of four of such protectees will be taken over by SPG soon.

(b) As per the Act, only Prime Minister, former Prime Ministers and members of their immediate family which include spouse, children and parents get the SPG protection. No other relatives are entitled to SPG cover.

(c) 1188 persons have been deployed for active security duty of the SPG protectees. Besides, 1074 personnel are engaged in technical, communication, supervisory and other support services.

(d) Total expenditure incurred for providing SPG protection from 1994 to 96 is as follows :

1994-95	-	2404.87 lakhs.
1995-96	-	3289.56 lakhs
1996-97 (upto Oct. 96)	-	1715.93 lakhs.

**Export of Wheat and Rice to Pakistan**

607. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has requested the Government to supply wheat, rice and sugar in order to tide over the difficult food situation in that country this year;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal indicating the cost and quantity thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) to (c). The High Commission for Pakistan in India had indicated Pakistan's interest in importing wheat and sugar from India and made certain enquiries regarding specifications and other details. But, no formal request for supply of wheat, rice or sugar has been received. However, M/s. Indian Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd., which is the agency for

undertaking export of sugar under the provisions of Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958 had participated in the tenders floated by Trading Corporation of Pakistan. A Government of Pakistan undertaking and their tenders were accepted against which a quantity of 2.33 lakh tonnes of sugar was supplied to Pakistan. Besides this, a quantity of 31,342 tonnes of sugar has also so far been supplied by M/s. Indian Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd., against contracts entered into by them with private traders.

#### Forest Land for Devosam Board in Kerala

608. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :  
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala has asked for providing adequate forest land for Davosam Board for the development of Sabarimala temple;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The State Government of Kerala had earlier submitted a proposal under the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 115.60 hectares of forest land in district Pathanamthitta for providing amenities to pilgrims of Sabarimala Temple. The proposed forest area formed part of Periyar Tiger Reserve. While the proposal was under process, the State Government in December, 1995 forwarded another proposal involving 20 hectares of forest land for the same purpose. The proposal was examined by the Ministry and also discussed with nodal officer, State Forest Department, Kerala, in May, 1996. As per the discussion held with the Nodal Officer, certain suggestions were made for the consideration of the Kerala State Government which include preparation of a master plan for the area already in possession of Travancore Devaswam Board in the main premises of temple to replace dilapidated structures with multi-storey structures and to explore the possibility of creating parking facilities at Plappalli, Nilackal and Rajanpara areas which have already been brought under plantation to avoid clearing of pristine natural forests in presently proposed Chakkayam area. In the absence of complete details from the State Government, the question of taking a final decision on the proposal does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Assistance/Loan to States

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

(a) the details of the amount given to each state

during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 as assistance and as loan by his Ministry, scheme-wise;

(b) the names of the States which have not fully utilized the amount during the said period;

(c) the details of unutilized amount with each State; and

(d) the reasons for non-utilization of this amount?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

#### Non-Payment of Subsidy

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

(a) whether due to non-clearance and non-payment of subsidy on fertilizers to small SSP units, Sarda Fertilizers of West Bengal and other SSP units have been closed or are facing closure, thereby throwing hundreds of employees to unemployment; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the government to make payments of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). Prices of all phosphatic fertilizers including Single Super Phosphate (SSP) have been decontrolled with effect from 25.8.92. All admissible claims of subsidy in respect of SSP units including M/s Sarda Fertilizers, for the period prior to 25.8.92 have been cleared and payments made.

Under the scheme of special concession on decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, payments are made on the basis of claims certified by the State Governments. An amount of Rs.6.99 lakh has been paid to M/s Sarda Fertilizers during 1996-97 as per the certified claims received.

#### Wildlife Week

611. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the specific programmes and schemes launched during the wildlife week;

(b) whether any comparison of the wild life census figures especially with respect to endangered species was made and schemes launched to preserve and promote such species; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The wildlife week is observed every year starting from 2nd October to coincide with the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. As in previous years, the Prime Minister's message on the eve of wildlife week, was widely circulated. The State Governments were requested to organise various wildlife awareness generation programmes involving the relevant departments, non-governmental organisations and the youth. Nature camps and group visits by school children to nearby national parks and sanctuaries and zoological parks were organised. The mass media was utilised for spreading the message of wildlife conservation. In Delhi, the National Zoological Park Organised the main function on behalf of this Ministry, wherein various activities like painting competition, essay writing, clay and mask modelling, wildlife cartoon drawing, wildlife quiz, fancy dress competition and wildlife photography contests were organised.

(b) and (c). Census of major species of wild animals is conducted periodically by the States and not specifically during the wildlife week.

The comparative figures of the last 2 census in respect of the major endangered species is given below:

S. No.	Name of Species	Year	
		1989	1993
1.	Tiger	4334	3750
2.	Leopard	6763	6828
3.	Elephant	17635 Min. to 24090 Max.	22796 Min. to 28346 Max.
4.	Rhinos	1591	1566 (1995)
5.	Lion	284 (1990)	304 (1995)

Although no new schemes were launched during the wildlife week by this Ministry, all the ongoing central sector and centrally sponsored schemes for wildlife conservation were continued.

[Translation]

#### Irregularities in Sindri Fertilisers Plant

612 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI  
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding the irregularities in Sindri Fertilisers Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the Indian Fertilisers Workers Union has demanded a C.B.I. inquiry into the working of Sindri Fertilisers Industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c). A number of complaints containing allegations of financial irregularities in the Sindri unit of the Fertiliser Corpn. of India Ltd. were received. These were examined to assess whether there was a prima-facie case warranting a further probe. None of the allegations could be substantiated by facts.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Attack on Elderly Citizen

613. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of attacks on the elderly citizens and couples in Delhi have been increasing;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the last one year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). 24 cases of attacks on elderly citizens/couples have been reported in Delhi during the period from 1.11.95 to 31.10.96 as against 25 such cases reported during the corresponding period from 1.11.94 to 31.10.95. The details of such crimes are as under :

Crime Head	1.11.95 to 31.10.96		1.11.94 to 31.10.95	
	Alone	Couple	Alone	Couple
Murder	11	2	16	5
Dacoity	2	-	1	1
Robbery	6	-	1	-
Hurt (Grievous)	2	-	-	-
Culpable homicide (u/s 304 IPC)	1	-	-	-
Attempt to culpable Homicide (u/s 308 IPC)	-	-	1	-

(c) The steps taken to prevent/reduce such crime are as under :

(i) A Senior Citizens' Security Scheme is in

vogue under which senior citizens are identified, beat-wise and division-wise in every police Station. Beat staff of the Police Stations visits these senior citizens to offer them advice on security measures that should be taken.

- (ii) During the beat and division patrolling, special vigil is maintained around the residences of senior citizens.
- (iii) The antecedents of servants and others employed by elderly persons are verified.
- (iv) The Chowkidars of the area have been briefed to keep an eye on the residences of this category of persons.

### Illegal Entry of Sri Lankan Citizens

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

(a) whether some Sri Lankan citizens living in Delhi illegally without any valid documents were arrested in July, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the manner in which they entered India;

(c) whether these citizens have since been deported to Sri Lanka, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Delhi Police arrested 10 Sri Lankan citizens on the 11th July, 1996 from a hotel where they were found to be staying without valid travel documents. During investigation, it was found out that they had reached Delhi on their way to Canada from Sri Lanka. They had travelled by ship to Madras and from Madras to Delhi by air.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Since all the accused are facing trial in the court, they could not be deported. They were, however, released on bail in September/October, 1996 under the orders of the court. Look out cards in respect of them have been opened by the Foreigner Regional Registration Office (F.R.R.O.) to prevent their escape from the country.

### Environmental Development Schemes

615. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased state :

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake the environmental development schemes in wild life centres in the country with the assistance of World Bank and Universal Environmental Fund.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the norms adopted for the selection of Wild Life Centres for implementing the development schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The India - Eco-development Project, with assistance from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the International Development Association (IDA) is in the final stages of clearance. The project covers 7 wildlife protected areas, namely Buxa National Park (West Bengal), Gir National Park (Gujarat), Nagarhole National Park (Karnataka), Palamau National Park (Bihar), Pench National Park (Madhya Pradesh), Periyar National Park (Kerala) and Ranthambore National Park (Rajasthan). The total cost of the project over a 5-year period is US \$ 67 million. The project will support eco-development activities in and around the selected protected areas to reduce the negative impacts of human activities on these areas. In addition, another eco-development project with assistance from IDA is under implementation in the Great Himalayan National Park (Himachal Pradesh) and Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (Tamil Nadu) with a total outlay of US \$ 5.3 million over a period of five years.

(c) Selection of project sites has been done on the basis of their biodiversity values and the availability of infrastructure and capacity to implement such projects.

### Prices of Wheat and Rice

616. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA :

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the main reasons for increase in domestic prices of wheat and rice despite the bumper crops; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to check the domestic prices of wheat and rice?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The increase in prices of wheat and rice in the open market is due to the following factors :-

(i) Periodic Increase in Minimum Support Prices of Wheat and paddy for 1996-97 Rabi and Kharif Seasons

(ii) Increase in transport cost on account of hike in petroleum products

(iii) Lower production of wheat in 1995-96 by 3.1 million tonnes

(iv) Holding back surplus stocks at the village level in anticipation of higher prices in lean months;

(v) Holding back of stocks by exporters/traders anticipating higher prices.

(b) A constant watch is kept on the production levels and stocks of foodgrains and efforts are made to have sufficient stocks of foodgrains in Central Pool to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains. Open sale of wheat and rice is undertaken to curb the inflationary trend in the market. Central issue prices of wheat and rice for PDS/RPDS have not been increased after 1.2.1994.

### Committee on Agricultural Production

617. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARJ :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted an export committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to give suggestions for increasing the agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the other members of the said committee and details of their specialisation in the agriculture sector.

(c) whether the committee has started its work; and

(d) if so, the time by which the committee would submit its report to the Government and details of the other assignments entrusted to the committee inter-alia suggestion for increasing the agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Names of other members of the Committee are indicated at statemnt attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Committee is expected to submit its report within a period of six months of the date of its constitution. As per terms of reference the Committee is to suggest ways and means for increasing productivity in the less productive areas, which *inter-alia* includes parameters for indentifying low agricultural producing areas, research and extension programmes, marketing of agricultural produce etc.

### STATEMENT

#### Names of the Members of the Committee

1. Dr. Murlil Manohar Joshi  
Member Lok Sabha.
2. Shri Satrugan Prasad Singh.  
Member Lok Sabha
3. Shri Chitta Basu  
Member Lok Sabha
4. Shri Mehboob Zahedi  
Member Lok Sabha
5. Shri Tariq Anwar  
Member Lok Sabha

6. Shri S. Ramachandra Reddy  
Member Lok Sabha
7. Shri Som. Pal  
Member Rajya Sabha
8. Shri Parag Chaliha.  
Member Rajya Sabha
9. Shri Narendra Kumar Pradhan  
Member Rajya Sabha
10. Dr. Diwakar Jha (Agro-Econ.)  
DLF Qutub Enclave, Gurgaon, Haryana.
11. Shri Goripathi Narasimha  
Raju Yadav (Representative NGO)  
Gudur, Distt., Krishna (A.P.)
12. Dr. Atul Anjan (Representative)  
of Rural Interests)  
A-265, Pandara Road, New Delhi.
13. Dr. M.G.K. Menon
14. Shri J.N.L. Srivastava.  
Addl. Secretary, Deptt. of  
Agriculture & Cooperation.
15. D.D.C. (Crops), ICAR.
16. Joint Secretary (Crops)                      Member  
Deptt. of Agriculture                              Secretary  
and Cooperation.

### Forest Land for Airport

618. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought permission for taking over about 1300 acres of land belonging to the Forest Department for the construction of the International Airport near Devanahalli, Karnataka; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After examination of the proposal, certain essential details pertaining to item-wise work to be carried out over forest land, lay out plan, cost benefit analysis for the project etc. have been found lacking. The State Government has been requested to furnish the lacking details on 8.7.1996. In the absence of the complete details from the State Government the question of taking a final decision on the proposal does not arise.

### Training to Women in Agriculture profession

619. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the kind of education/training imparted to women in rural areas in the matters of modern techniques of agriculture and other allied professions;

(b) the agencies through which such training is imparted; and

(c) the response to those schemes in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) (i) Skill oriented training in agriculture and allied areas is being imparted to women farmers of the rural areas.

(ii) Theoretical know how followed with practical demonstrations are organised either at the Institutional level or at the village level.

(iii) These are supplemented with hand on practices at the training centres or at the farmer's fields under the supervision of trainers.

(b) The trainings are imparted through

- Central Institutes viz. Commodities Training Centres, EEIs, ATCs.
- State level Institutes, Farmers Training Centres, Gram Sevak Training Centres, Gram Sevika Training Centres, Rural Development Training Centres.
- ICAR Institutes/Zonal Research Centres/Regional Research Centres.
- Krishi Vigyan Kendras, NARP Centres, Krishi Gyan Kendras.
- State Agricultural Universities.

(c) There has been an overwhelming response to such trainings from the women farmers throughout India including U.P. and Bihar.

[Translation]

### Drought in Uttar Pradesh

620. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not declaring all the districts adjacent to Rai Bareli and Sultanpur Constituencies as drought hit;

(b) the total amount allocated so far to these districts during the Eight Five Year Plan for drought (relief) by the State Government and Centre and the total revenue and 'Aampasi' waived off;

(c) whether a Committee was constituted on the complaints from people and investigations revealed that ordinary rain gauge were substituted with a broader rain-gauge there so as to record low rainfall;

(d) whether the Government have got it inquired into to identify the culprits responsible for changing the rain-gauge; and

(e) the action taken by the Government so far against guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Since there was no drought in Rai Bareli and Sultanpur areas or in the districts adjacent to Rai Bareli and Sultanpur there was no question of declaring any of the districts as drought affected in the current year.

(b) The Central Government has not given any additional assistance for drought relief to Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan period. The Central Government contributes 75% of the Calamity Relief Fund allocated to the State on the basis of the recommendations of the Ninth and Tenth Finance Commission. The State Government incurs expenditure on drought relief from the Calamity Relief Fund as may be required. The State Government does not have any information on total revenue and 'Aampasi' waived off.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

### Production of Sugarcane

621. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for sugarcane production in each State during 1996-97; and

(b) the estimated production likely to be achieved in each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The State-wise target and likely production during 1996-97 are given in enclosed statement.

### STATEMENT

*State-wise break-up of proposed National target and likely production of sugarcane during 1996-97*

		(In lakh tonnes)	
S No.	State	Target	likely Prodn.
1	2	3	4

1	Andhra Pradesh	152	138.5
2	Assam	22	14.8
3	Bihar	95	56.4
4	Gujarat	120	120.0
5	Haryana	95	90.0
6	Karnataka	240	255.2
7	Kerala	7	5.0
8	Madhya Pradesh	22	28.5
9	Maharashtra	385	403.8
10	Orissa	55	15.7
11	Punjab	90	90.0
12	Rajasthan	15	10.2
13	Tamil Nadu	275	273.8

1	2	3	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1155	1198.3
15.	West Bengal	12	12.0
16.	Others	10	6.3
All India		2750	2718.6

[English]

#### Production Cost of Coconut

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

(a) the method being adopted by the Government to collect the data to fix the cost of production of the coconut;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the cost of production of coconut during this year and the past three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the data used and the criteria followed in ascertaining the cost of production during each of these years;

(e) whether the support price was being fixed on the basis of cost of production; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the support price fixed during each of these years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e). The data on cost of production collected under "Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Production of Principal Crops in India" are used by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in recommending the minimum support prices. The scheme deals with only the field and coconut being a perennial crop is currently not covered. However, a decision has now been taken to conduct a special study on cost of production of coconut in Kerala from 1997-98.

While recommending the minimum support prices, the C.A.C.P., inter-alia, takes into account several factors like demand and supply, trends in market prices, inter-crop price parity, international market price situation, effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, terms of trade, etc.

(f) The minimum support prices of Copra fixed during the last four years are as under :

Year	(Rs. per quintal)	
	Million Copra	Ball Copra
1993	2150	2350
1994	2350	2575
1995	2500	2725
1996	2500	2725

#### National Poultry Development Board

623. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set a National Poultry Development Board in the country; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). A proposal to constitute a National Poultry Development Board is under the consideration of Government. Details are being worked out in consultation with State Governments and other Departments of the Government of India.

#### Inter-State Council

624. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter-State council in its recent meeting held in October has decided to frame guidelines for the imposition of President Rule under Article 356 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, whether the guidelines have since been worked out; and

(c) if not, the time by which the same would be worked out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The issue of Emergency Provisions and Article 356 was discussed in the second meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15.10.1996 and it was decided that a Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council would examine, among others, the issue of Emergency Provisions including Article 356 in detail and submit its report within three months of its constitution. This report of the Standing Committee shall be discussed in the next meeting of the Inter-State Council after which the views of the Council shall be forwarded to the Government for consideration and further necessary action. The constitution of the Standing Committee is under consideration.

#### Protected Forest Areas

625. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :  
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tripura Government had sent proposal to dereserve the protected forest areas and a part of

reserve forest areas to ensure the settlement of Jhumias and Agricultural Labourers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). No proposal from the Government of Tripura to dereserve the protected forest areas and a part of reserve forest areas for settlement of Jhumias and agricultural labourers is pending with this Ministry. However, a proposal was received for settlement of Tribal Jhumias in 1983 and accordingly dereservation of 67.70 ha. of forest land was approved by Government of India in 1987.

### Compensation to 1984 Riots Victims

626. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have paid Rs.84.61 crore as compensation to the next of kin of those killed in the 1984 riots;

(b) if not, the reasons for undue delay in disbursement of compensation claims; and

(c) the time by which all such claims are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The High Court of Delhi in Civil Writ Petition No.1429/96 on 5th July, 1996 directed the Government of NCT of Delhi that widows and families of persons who lost their lives in 1984 riots at Delhi be paid a sum of Rs.3.5 lakhs (Rs. 2 lakhs with interest quantified at Rs.1.5 lakhs) after adjusting the amount, if any, paid to them as ex-gratia grant or compensation. The High Court further directed the State to constitute a committee to disburse the amount of compensation quantified as above after their proper identification within the period of four months.

In pursuance of the said directions of the Court, the Government of NCT of Delhi had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Delhi for scrutiny of all the claims presented in this regard.

Since many of the claimants were staying outside Delhi and had not submitted their applications, the Government of NCT of Delhi prayed to High Court for extending the time limit for implementation of its order. The High Court has extended the time limit by four months i.e. upto 5.3.97. Accordingly, the Government of NCT of Delhi has extended the last date for receipt of claims upto 30.11.1996.

### Assessment Report on Worli-Bandra Link

627. SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received

Environment Impact Assessment report on Worli-Bandra link project from Maharashtra;

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

(c) the time by which the clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). A proposal for construction of first phase of Worli-Bandra link project was received for environmental clearance from the Bombay Metropolitan Region Development Authority. After examination of this proposal it was decided that unless a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment study was carried out keeping in view the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991, it would not be possible to accord environmental clearance to the project. The project proponents were informed accordingly.

(c) A decision on environmental clearance is taken within 90 days of receipt of complete information from a project proponent.

[Translation]

### Cases of Corruption

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

(a) the names of Ministers, Members of Parliament, Ex-Ministers and Ex-Members of Parliament against whom the cases of corruption are under process in different courts;

(b) the number of cases being investigated by the CBI; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Central Government to check recurrence of corruption cases and also to see that public representatives do not get corrupted in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Cyclone in Orissa

629. SHRI SYDIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether scores of fishermen and a large number of fishing boats lost in the recent storm in the Orissa waters.

(b) whether the Government of India is going to set up three relay stations of AIR at Sompeta, Kakinada and Nellore to cover the shadow regions beyond Orissa and Andhra Pradesh border in order to give weather bulletin to the fishermen; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The coastal areas of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh including Sompeta, Kakinada and Nellore fall within the coverage zone of the High Power Transmitters at Cuttack, Vijayawada and Vishakhapatnam and FM Transmitters at Puri and Behrampur.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Functioning of Sugar Mills

630. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been issued to all the sugar mills particularly in Uttar Pradesh to start functioning from the month of November, 1996;

(b) whether it has been ensured that the work of sugar mills is not interrupted as a result thereof during the crushing season;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir, the appointed day for the sugar year 1996-97 under the Sugar Undertakings (Take Over of Management) Act, 1978 has been notified on 3.10.1996.

(b) to (d). Yes Sir, the Government of all sugar producing states have been directed to ensure strict compliance.

### Arrears due to Sugarcane Growers

631. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large sum of the sugarcane growers is outstanding on account of last crushing season against the sugar mill owners;

(b) if so, the total amount of arrears outstanding by the end of September, 1996, State-wise.

(c) whether such amount of arrears often remain outstanding against the sugar mills by the end of every crushing year;

(d) if so, the amount outstanding against the sugar mills in September 1993, September, 1994 and September, 1995 separately, State-wise; and

(e) the value of total sugarcane sold to the sugar mills during the said years, separately?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). On the basis of the information furnished by sugar mills in the country, the arrears of sugarcane price relating to the season 1995-96, payable to cane growers as on 30th September, 1996 on an All India basis, were Rs. 707.30 crores representing 6.97% of the total amount payable. A Statement showing state-wise position of the above cane price arrears as on 30th September, 1996 is placed as statement -I attached.

(c) The amount of arrears at the end of crushing year depends upon various factors such as volume of cane purchased, price of sugarcane, financial position of the mills etc.

(d) and (e). A statement showing the total cane price due for Sugarcane purchased by the mills and arrears cane price as on 30th September of the season 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is placed as Statement-attached.

### STATEMENT

*Details of Sugarcane Price relating to the season 1995-96, outstanding as on 30.9.96*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	States	Sugarcane Price Arrears
1.	Punjab	5460.43
2.	Haryana	1793.95
3.	Rajasthan	200.62
4.	Uttar Pradesh	27814.10
5.	Madhya Pradesh	2414.68
6.	Gujarat	6006.79
7.	Maharashtra	2976.30
8.	Bihar	4252.88
9.	Assam	9.66
10.	Andhra Pradesh	3411.17
11.	Karnataka	7371.65
12.	Tamil Nadu	8717.67
13.	Kerala	112.53
14.	Orissa	51.77
15.	West Bengal	235.51
16.	Nagaland	0.00
17.	Pondicherry	0.00
18.	Goa	0.00
	All India	70730.01

## STATEMENT-II

Details of Total Price of Cane purchased and the Arrears Payable as on 30th September of the season

S.No.	State	Relating to the seasons 1992-93		Relating to the season 1993-94		Relating to the season 1994-95	
		total cane price due for cane purchased	Arrears of sugarcane price payable	Total cane price due for cane purchased	Arrears of sugarcane price payable	Total cane price due for cane purchased	Arrears of sugar-cane price payable
1.	Punjab	20985.94	87.74	20641.06	2.10	24370.16	39.89
2.	Haryana	16290.74	80.91	17247.91	38.52	23434.32	192.62
3.	Rajasthan	988.57	0.87	855.38	2.02	1178.26	129.16
4.	Uttar Pradesh	128278.69	3081.45	153955.90	1993.38	240668.88	6680.46
5.	Madhya Pradesh	2572.41	193.82	2085.25	47.83	3734.88	278.62
6.	Gujarat	31269.24	79.41	49807.88	63.40	45061.20	155.06
7.	Maharashtra	123515.65	724.04	155798.77	828.13	253433.86	1079.83
8.	Bihar	15483.05	1892.47	15336.98	703.68	25296.35	2069.31
9.	Assam	409.61	0.00	267.45	0.00	410.83	0.01
10.	Andhra Pradesh	23911.96	167.25	30724.23	799.74	50454.02	928.27
11.	Karnataka	38941.92	958.33	44993.45	1405.48	65769.39	3395.31
12.	Tamil Nadu	41804.73	379.97	57935.84	240.35	112204.20	3558.16
13.	Kerala	190.54	9.01	107.88	44.23	279.68	0.71
14.	Orissa	1518.07	0.08	1236.34	0.00	2658.20	0.00
15.	West Bengal	240.31	0.08	323.45	0.17	760.70	0.33
16.	Nagaland	141.23	42.45	82.13	24.42	0.00	0.00
17.	Pondicherry	2012.52	0.01	2137.89	0.00	4027.13	1.18
18.	Goa	638.55	0.00	452.74	0.00	1296.71	0.00
All India		447193.73	7697.89	553990.43	6193.45	855038.77	18508.92

### Scholarship to Rural Agriculture Development Officers

632. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme for deputing Rural Agriculture Development Officers for getting higher education in the field of agriculture and awarding scholarship to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether instructions have been issued to State Governments in this regard; and

(d) the rate of scholarship for graduation/post graduation courses in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Central Sector Plan Scheme on higher training leading to B.Sc. (Ag)/B.Sc. (H.Sc.)/M.Sc. (Ag)/M.Sc. (H.Sc.) degrees is in operation since 1978.

(c) Yes. Circulars are issued every year to all States/UTs. Departments of Agriculture/Horticulture/Animal Husbandry and State Agricultural Universities requesting them to select/nominate/admit their candidates in respective State Agricultural Universities.

(d) (a) B.Sc. (Ag)/B.Sc. (H.Sc.) are paid stipend @ Rs. 400/- per month per candidate and Book Grant @ Rs. 750/- per year per candidate.

(b) M.Sc. (Ag)/M.Sc. (H.Sc.) are paid stipend @ Rs. 500/- per month per candidate and Book-Grant @ Rs. 1000/- per year per candidate.

### Tragedy on Amarnath Yatra

633. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work related to investigation of Amarnath tragedy has since been completed;

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

(c) whether the family members of the persons who died in Amarnath tragedy have been paid ex-gratia amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are thinking of making all arrangements to make this pilgrimage not only safe and pleasant but also attractive for the tourists; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in this regard or are contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (f). Dr. Nitish Kumar Sen Gupta, Enquiry Officer appointed to investigate into Amarnath Yatra Tragedy and suggest measures to ensure proper and adequate arrangements to meet such eventualities in future is yet to submit his report. The Government, however, have issued elaborate directions to the concerned State Governments for disbursement of ex-gratia relief to relatives of deceased pilgrims through District Collectors who are the nearest Government functionaries for aggrieved relatives.

[English]

#### Performance of ICAR

634. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the annual budget of I.C.A.R. is rupees 800 crore;

(b) whether despite this, the farming community is neither convinced, nor impressed with the performance of Council;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to evaluate the working results of the Council vis-a-vis benefits to the farming community of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has constituted Social Audit Committee for some of the important research programmes for evaluating the benefits of these technologies to the farming community.

#### Performance of Drugs, Chemicals and Fertilizer Units in Maharashtra

635. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of number of PSUs in Drugs, Chemicals and Fertilizer sector in Maharashtra is gradually deteriorating over the past 5-10 years for

want of adequate financial support and wrong policies of the Government;

(b) if so, furnish the details of performance profile of Public sector Undertakings in Maharashtra. Undertaking-wise for the past five years, year-wise vis-a-vis target set and achieved in terms of standard indicators with reasons for lower performance;

(c) details of comprehensive action plan for revival/modernisation/expansion/new projects/diversification/upgradation of the PSUs in Maharashtra; and

(d) present status of the proposals and implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Performance of Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., (HAL) Pune, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, (RCFL) Bombay and Maharashtra Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., (MAPL) Nagpur in the last 2-3 years has not been satisfactory. RCFL has planned various modernisation, upgradation expansion and diversification schemes involving an investment of about Rs. 400 crores. In compliance with the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, MAPL has made a reference to the BIFR for determination of the measures which shall be adopted with respect to the company. HAL has prepared an action plan for revival involving better capacity utilisation and marketing efforts, improved inventory control systems, sale of surplus land and rationalisation of labour force.

#### Inadequate Security Arrangements at Tis Hazari Courts

636. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Tis Hazari Courts which have been both national and international focus are totally lacking in the adequate security arrangements;

(b) whether the Asia's largest lower courts, which are frequented by about one lakh people every day, have become the 'soft target' for the anti-socials as well as terrorists;

(c) whether only when any important politician appears in court, the policy concentrate on the particular court only while others remain ignored; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). A Police Post with a strength of 27 police personnel is located in Tis Hazari Court premises to deal with normal law and order situation. It is as a

result of constant vigil of the police personnel deployed there that no untoward incident has taken place despite a large number of persons visiting the Court premises every day.

(c) and (d). Whenever a protected person is scheduled to appear in any of the courts located in the premises, additional police force is deployed keeping in view the threat perception about the said person. This is not, however, done at the expense of normal security arrangements for other courts.

### Deployment of Para Military Forces

637. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the position of outstanding owed by the State Governments for deployment of para-military forces is worsening over the last three years and has assumed critical proportions;

(b) if so, the details of outstanding during the last three years as on October 30, 1996, state-wise;

(c) whether the problem has been reviewed

recently at the highest level and decision taken for realisation;

(d) the details regarding recruitment made during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the additional manpower requirement of BSF, CRPF, ITBP, CISF and NSG for the current year with estimated cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Owing to revision of rates for deployment of Para Military Forces the outstanding dues from various States have gone up.

(b) A Statement-I is enclosed.

(c) The position is being reviewed by the Government of India on a regular basis and the States have been requested to clear the dues immediately.

(d) A Statement-II is enclosed.

(e) Government have approved raising of one Bn each in CRPF and BSF during the current financial year at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 68.53 crores which will be incurred over a period of 4-5 years.

### STATEMENT - I

State-wise Statement Indicating Outstanding dues as on 30.10.96.

(Rupees in Crores)

S.No.	Name of State	BSF	CRPF	CISF	ITBP	Total
1.	Assam	5.76	32.41	-	-	38.17
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5.21	23.67	0.12	0.69	29.69
3.	Bihar	-	-	-	0.08	0.08
4.	Delhi	-	53.15	60.07	-	113.22
5.	Haryana	0.05	-	-	-	0.05
6.	Kerala	-	0.06	-	-	0.06
7.	Karnataka	-	-	0.07	-	0.07
8.	Punjab	28.70	191.26	5.74	1.38	227.08
9.	Rajasthan	-	1.39	0.03	-	1.42
0.	Tamil Nadu	-	23.83	1.22	-	25.05
1.	Uttar Pradesh	0.04	43.63	4.13	0.42	48.22
2.	West Bengal	-	4.32	1.32	-	5.69
Total		39.76	373.77	72.70	2.57	488.80

### STATEMENT - II

Statement regarding Recruitment made during the last three years, Statewise

#### I ITBP

S. No.	Name of the State	1993	1994	1995
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	19	-	35
2.	Andhra Pradesh	-	18	208

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	30	-	10
5.	Delhi	8	-	79
6.	Gujarat	-	-	-
7.	Goa	-	-	-
8.	Haryana	1	-	3
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	334	30
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	215	202
11.	Kerala	-	-	4

1	2	3	4	5
12. Karnataka	-	-	-	99
13. Maharashtra	-	-	-	17
14. Madhya Pradesh	1	-	-	-
15. Manipur	9	-	-	-
16. Meghalaya	-	-	-	-
17. Mizoram	-	-	-	-
18. Nagaland	-	-	-	-
19. Orissa	-	-	-	144
20. Punjab	128	-	-	661
21. Rajasthan	-	-	-	60
22. Sikkim	-	-	-	-
23. Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	35
24. Tripura	20	-	-	-
25. Uttar Pradesh	69	515	-	134
26. West Bengal	-	-	-	25
Total	293	1082	-	1746

**II BSF**

1. Assam	209	323	-	189
2. Andhra Pradesh	208	395	-	508
3. Arunachal Pradesh	23	-	-	6
4. Bihar	786	584	-	487
5. Delhi	170	67	-	97
6. Gujarat	129	195	-	448
7. Goa	2	4	-	17
8. Haryana	178	64	-	150
9. Himachal Pradesh	10	78	-	28
10. Jammu and Kashmir	430	206	-	413
11. Kerala	139	183	-	209
12. Karnataka	257	393	-	483
13. Maharashtra	89	297	-	732
14. Madhya Pradesh	138	334	-	543
15. Manipur	22	25	-	29
16. Meghalaya	25	19	-	14
17. Mizoram	-	3	-	-
18. Nagaland	37	38	-	3
19. Orissa	198	210	-	262
20. Punjab	120	100	-	201
21. Rajasthan	168	398	-	524
22. Sikkim	1	2	-	-
23. Tamil Nadu	297	465	-	407
24. Tripura	20	142	-	28
25. Uttar Pradesh	455	1107	-	1034

1	2	3	4	5
26. West Bengal	-	294	766	752
Total	-	4405	6458	7564

**III CRPF**

1. Assam	-	207	168	165
2. Andhra Pradesh	-	865	412	158
3. Arunachal Pradesh	-	1	-	-
4. Bihar	-	501	830	317
5. Delhi	-	71	146	100
6. Gujarat	-	336	192	214
7. Goa	-	4	-	-
8. Haryana	-	-	150	44
9. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	113	65
10. Jammu and Kashmir	-	21	168	79
11. Kerala	-	-	113	153
12. Karnataka	-	264	364	175
13. Maharashtra	-	645	401	428
14. Madhya Pradesh	-	623	466	228
15. Manipur	-	73	24	92
16. Meghalaya	-	3	-	1
17. Mizoram	-	-	-	-
18. Nagaland	-	88	-	10
19. Orissa	-	297	385	97
20. Punjab	-	-	68	83
21. Rajasthan	-	649	182	126
22. Sikkim	-	4	-	-
23. Tamil Nadu	-	314	569	185
24. Tripura	-	-	-	14
25. Uttar Pradesh	-	187	682	364
26. West Bengal	-	456	452	115
Total	-	5609	5885	3213

**IV CISF**

1. Assam	-	50	200	100
2. Andhra Pradesh	-	190	-	-
3. Arunachal Pradesh	-	10	-	-
4. Bihar	-	124	50	-
5. Delhi	-	7	-	-
6. Gujarat	-	208	150	-
7. Goa	-	-	-	-
8. Haryana	-	-	-	-
9. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-
10. Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	50
11. Kerala	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
12. Karnataka		182	100	-
13. Maharashtra		687	-	-
14. Madhya Pradesh		482	300	-
15. Manipur		15	-	-
16. Meghalaya		15	-	-
17. Mizoram		21	-	-
18. Nagaland		18	-	-
19. Orissa		109	100	-
20. Punjab		-	-	-
21. Rajasthan		357	50	-
22. Sikkim		-	-	-
23. Tamil Nadu		304	-	-
24. Tripura		15	-	-
25. Uttar Pradesh		171	-	-
26. West Bengal		249	250	-
Total		3214	1200	150

### Open Door Policy

638. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the reaction of the Government to the criticism of its Open Door Policy by NDDB in its Annual Report:

(b) if so, the details of precautions/steps taken to ensure that the National Milk Grid does not get adversely affected due to Open Door Policy for the multinationals:

(c) whether the Government are considering appropriate changes/revision in the Open Door Policy in the Dairy as well as oil seeds sector: and

(d) the details the fresh initiatives taken/proposed to be taken in the public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). Setting up of dairy plants in the country is subject to grant of registration by the registering authority under the provisions of the Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992 issued under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1995. The registration is subject to, among other things, availability of marketable surplus milk in the proposed milkshed. All dairies whether set up by Indian companies or multinationals are governed by this Order. The Order provides for preferential treatment to co-operatives.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Does not arise in view of answer to (a) and (b) above.

[Translation]

### Foodgrains Productions

639. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :  
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of foodgrains whose production was low against the targets fixed during 1995-96:

(b) the extent upto which the production was low foodgrains-wise: and

(c) its impact on the buffer stock?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The foodgrains whose production was low against the fixed target during 1995-96 include Rice, Coarse Cereals and Pulses.

(b) The levels of target production and extent of shortfall from target for various foodgrains during 1995-96 are shown as under :

Crop	Target	Production	(Million Tonnes)
			Absolute increase (+)/ Decrease (-) over target
Rice	80.00	79.46	(-) 0.54
Wheat	60.00	62.62	(+) 2.62
Coarse cereals	36.50	29.95	(-) 6.55
Pulses	15.50	12.97	(-) 2.53
Total Foodgrains	192.00	185.00	(-) 7.00

(c) The stock position of foodgrains as on 1st October, 1996, was lower to 197.00 lakh tonnes as compared to the corresponding position of 299.46 lakh tonnes in 1995.

### Freedom Fighter Status

640. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to accord the status of Freedom Fighters to the members of Ajad Hind Fauj or their widows:

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor: and

(d) whether the Government are aware of the number of such freedom fighters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). Under the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, ex-INA personnel who had offered a minimum imprisonment/detention of six months outside India during the freedom struggle are eligible for the purpose of grant of samman pension as freedom fighters. Their widows who have not since remarried are also eligible for family pension on the strength of the sufferings undergone by their husbands. No separate statistics are being maintained about the number of participants in a movement. However, pension has so far been granted in 22,044 cases of ex-INA personnel and their spouses covered under the provisions of the above said scheme.

[English]

### Reservation for Disabled Persons

641. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister affirmed the Government's commitment on reservation of posts for the disabled on the Independence Day;

(b) if so, the number of persons so far recruited in the Government of India including Public Undertakings; and

(c) the total number of mentally retarded persons and persons suffering from maladies so far provided posts?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is awaited from Department of Personnel and Training and Department of Public Enterprise.

(c) Although there is no reservation in jobs for mentally Handicapped Persons, the information about the number of persons including Handicapped in the various Registers of Employment Exchanges is awaited from Directorate General of Employment and Training.

### Prices of Rifampicin

642. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reduction in the price of Rifampicin (anti-tuberculosis drugs) were recommended much earlier whereas the final decision in this regard was taken much later during the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this matter;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the formulators of the said anti-tuberculosis drug were also involved in a number of frauds, causing heavy loss to the Government exchequer;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(f) the action taken by the Government against such formulators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c). There has been no inordinate delay in reducing the price of bulk drug Rifampicin and formulations based thereon as the Rifampicin Policy for 1995-96 was under consideration during this period which had a bearing on the announcement of Rifampicin prices. The Rifampicin policy was first announced in June, 1995 and correspondingly the price of bulk drug Rifampicin was reduced from Rs. 5695 per kg. to Rs. 5220 per kg. Subsequently, prices of the ceiling packs of Rifampicin formulations were reduced on 6.11.95 and those for non ceiling packs were reduced on 5.10.93 respectively.

(d) and (e). No such instances has been brought to the notice of the Government so far;

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Misuse of Funds

643. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether special Central assistance for the 'special component plan' to Government of Bihar has been discontinued since 1994-95 on the ground of misuse of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the details of complaints received regarding misuse of funds by various NGOs during the last three years; and

(e) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). Release of grants to Government of Bihar Under Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for SCs was stopped since 1994-95 as it was detected from the details of utilisation of the Special Central Assistance during 1990-91 to 1993-94, furnished by the Government of Bihar in May 1994 that about Rs. 70.50 crores out of the Special Central Assistance released to the State Government from 1989-90 to 1993-94 was not utilised by it for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. The State Government was asked to make available all the

amounts of Special Central Assistance to the welfare programmes for the target group and was informed that no further fund would be released to it till the full amount of SCA lying in the Civil Deposit is released and utilised for the purpose for which it was meant. The CAG has been requested to conduct a special audit of funds given to Government of Bihar under various Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for SCs and STs.

As per the latest information from the Government of Bihar received in September 1996, the State Government have released all the amounts of SCA lying in the Civil Deposit and utilised during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 upto 19.9.1996. However, it is further observed that a sum of Rs. 6.40 crores is still lying unutilised with the State Government. Similarly the information as to whether the funds released from Civil Deposit have actually been utilised by the developmental agencies in accordance with SCA guidelines is also not available. The State Government has therefore been asked to give further clarifications/detailed information on the utilisation of funds so that a final decision could be taken in the matter.

(d) and (e). The NGOs against which complaints have been received and action taken thereon are given below :

1. Complaint regarding misuse of funds by an organisation called Pandit Bachhan Panday Mahila Vikas Sansthan Gopal Ganj, which is getting grant in aid for implementing welfare scheme for SCs was inquired into by the concerned District Magistrate and was found that the grant given to this organisation is being mis-appropriated. Therefore no further grant is being released to this organisation. Another complaint received against this organisation regarding misuse of funds given to it under the scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse prevention is being investigated by the Government of Bihar.
2. Complaints received against two organisations namely (1) Harijan Adivasi Mahila Seva Sansthan, Distt. Purnia, and (2) Mental Retarded and Psychological Sufferers, Patna, regarding misuse of funds given to them for handicapped welfare, were got examined and these NGOs have been asked to refund the Govt. grant with interest.
3. Grant-in-aid to one organisation called Indira Gandhi Samaj Sevashram, Patna, for running an Old Age Home was stopped from the second instalment of 1995-96, as the CAPART has blacklisted it. No specific complaint has been received against this NGO with reference to the running of the Old Age Home with financial assistance from the Govt. of India, Ministry of Welfare.

[English]

### Payment Terms between Super Bazar and Suppliers

644. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the payment terms between the Super Bazar and suppliers;

(b) the number of bills pending for payments to the suppliers and the amounts thereof and since when these bills are pending;

(c) whether the Super Bazar is not maintaining payment terms and the payments to the suppliers are delayed unduly long;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure timely payment to the suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a), (c) and (d). The Super Bazar, Delhi has informed that they are normally making payments to the suppliers as per the agreed payment terms, which vary from supplier to supplier. The period of payments generally range between 3 days and 45 days. Some times payments have to be delayed on account of late realisation of credit sale proceeds from the Govt. offices and other organisations.

(b) As per the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi the total number of bills to be paid to the suppliers as on 20-11-1996 is about 2000 involving about Rs. 8.00 crores. Receiving bill, processing it and making payment is a continuous process. By this process pending period of bills varies from 1 day to 45 days as per term of the payment. However, due to delayed recoveries of dues from Govt./Semi-Govt. offices and/or on account of objections during processing, payment of some bill gets delayed.

(e) It has been reported by the Super Bazar that to improve the financial management, they are trying to improve sales, introduce computerisation for effective recovery of credit sales and taking inventory control measures like weeding out the less popular brands.

### Construction of Godowns in Andhra Pradesh

645. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent a proposal for construction of godowns to PDS under the Revamped Public Distribution System areas;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been considered by the Government;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter; and

(d) if not, the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal of Government of Andhra Pradesh for financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for construction of godowns for PDS under Revamped Public Distribution System areas was considered in the Standing Finance Committee in its meeting held on 11th October, 1996.

(c) The Committee has approved financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh to the tune of Rs. 124.20 lakhs for construction of 16 godowns with a capacity of 5000 MTs. Sanction for release of funds have already been issued vide letter No. 21/43/95-PD. I dated 24th October, 1996.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Sales of Super Bazar

646. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the annual sales of the Super Bazar during each of the last three years including 1996, so far;

(b) the year upto which the accounts of the Super Bazar have been audited;

(c) the details of the shortcomings/irregularities noticed in their accounts by the auditors; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) According to the information furnished by Super Bazar, their annual sales during the last three years are as follows :

1993-94	Rs. 115.20 crores
1994-95	Rs. 130.15 crores
1995-96	Rs. 136.54 crores
1996-97	Rs. 63.00 crores (upto April-Sept., 96)

(b) Accounts of Super Bazar have been audited upto 1995-96.

(c) According to the information furnished by Super Bazar, major shortcomings/irregularities pointed out by their auditors are as follows :

(i) Stock shortage

(ii) Suggestion about item-wise control instead of value control of stock. (iii) old outstanding dues in Sundry Debtors. (iv) not getting approval about the credit limit from Registrar. (v) maintenance of records in respect of fixed assets. (vi) disowning of liabilities of Rs. 11.78 lakhs by the concerned party from the Patel Nagar branch against purchase of goods.

(vii) Bank reconciliation.

(d) Management of Super Bazar has reported that appropriate action has been taken in respect of all the items.

[Translation]

#### Rice Growing Areas in Gujarat

647. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of rice producing areas in Gujarat particularly in the tribal and backward areas of the State;

(b) whether any Rice Research Centre has been set up or proposed to be set up by the Government in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Rice producing areas in Gujarat are covered in the districts of Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Bharuch, Valsad, Dangs, Gandhinagar, Kheda, Mehsana, Panch Mahals, Sabarkantha, Surat, Junagadh and Surendranagar, out of which Panchmahals, Valsad, Surat, Vadodara, Bharuch and Sabarkantha are particularly in tribal and backward areas of the state.

(b) and (c). There is one rice research centre located at Nawagaon under Gujarat Agricultural University. The Centre has an annual plan budget of Rs. 7 lakh for 96-97 and VIIIth plan budget of Rs. 28.76 lakh.

[English]

#### Investigation for Gold Plating Urea Plants

648. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Urea plants under investigation for gold plating" appearing in the Financial Express, New Delhi dated 14th October, 1996;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the final decision taken by the Government on the incorporation of a cap on the payments to gas-based fertilizer units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of assessment of the installed capacity of urea plants was under the consideration of the Government for quite some time. A Technical Committee has been appointed for undertaking an in-depth examination of the issue.

(c) No such decision has been taken.

### Interim Relief to Bhopal Gas Victims

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

(a) whether the duration of monthly Interim Relief of Rs. 200/- being paid to the Bhopal Gas Victims has been extended;

(b) if so, the date of extension;

(c) whether the duration for providing Interim Relief to one lakh additional persons would also be increased in the similar manner as has been done earlier for the five lakh persons in respect of whom the decision to provide Interim Relief w.e.f. March 1, 1992 has already been taken; and

(d) if so, the last date for providing Interim Relief to such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) to (d). Yes, Sir, the date has been extended upto May, 1997 and this benefit has also been extended to additional one lakh persons.

### Harassment to Tribals

650. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is compulsory to submit the Caste-certificate of the parents or grand-parents alongwith their certificate by the tribals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Halba tribals in Maharashtra are being harassed by the Authorities to submit the caste certificate of their parents and grand-parents along with their certificate; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to remove such compulsions?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). Central Government guidelines to the State Governments and UT Administrations stipulate that the competent authorities should undertake proper verification before issuing

Scheduled Tribe certificates including, inter-alia, with regard to whether the applicant and his/her parents actually belong to the community claimed, so as to ensure that only genuine persons are issued such certificates.

(c) and (d). The Government of Maharashtra have reported having clarified to the concerned authorities that Scheduled Tribe certificates can be issued to applicants claiming to belong to the Halba community if they submit their father's certificate and any other documentary evidence to the satisfaction of the competent authorities. The clarifications dated 2.7.1996 and 31.7.1996 were issued following a complaint that Scheduled Tribe certificates were not being issued to such applicants unless certificates of their parents as well as grand-parents were produced.

### IPCL Projects

651. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Limited has any plan to make new investment in its projects;

(b) if so, the details of the projects in which IPCL has made investment in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the proposal mooted by IPCL to set up new projects and to expand its existing units in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c). Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) has plans to invest in the approved new and expansion Projects totalling Rs. 4233 crores approximately during 8th Plan period. Out of this approved amount, about Rs. 2583 crores is likely to be spent during 8th Five Year Plan period and an amount of Rs. 1651 crores will be spent during the 9th Five Year Plan period as spill-over from the 8th Plan. The details of the projects in which IPCL made investment in 8th Five Year Plan are given in the Statement enclosed.

Other new proposals of IPCL for implementation during 9th Five Year Plan period are in the formulation stage.

### STATEMENT

		(Rs. in Crores)
S. No.	Name of Projects	Estimated cost approved
1	2	3
1.	<b>Gandhar Complex</b>	
	Cas Cracker to produce 3 lakhs TPA of Ethylene with down stream products such as HDPE, MEG, EO, VCM, PVC and Chlor Alkali.	3485

1	2	3
2.	<b>Baroda Complex</b>	
	(i) Polypropylene	199
	(ii) Polybutadiene Rubber	149
	(iii) Butadiene Revamp	44
	(iv) Naphtha Revamp	20
3.	<b>Nagothane Complex</b>	
	(i) Ethylene Expansion	86
	(ii) HDPE Expansion	250
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4233</b>

[Translation]

### Indo-Dutch Project

652. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of officials of Netherland had come in September, 1996 to make a review of the Indo-Dutch Project in Kanpur;

(b) if so, the reaction, suggestions and information provided by the team on Indo-Dutch Project; and

(c) the details of the action to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) A joint review and monitoring team visited Kanpur in September, 1996. This team made a review of the implementation of Institution and Community Development Project in Kanpur and Mirzapur and review of the preparation for Ganga Action Plan Support Project to be funded in future in Kanpur. They held discussions with local city officers and with the U.P. Government Officers in Lucknow.

(b) The Mission has prepared a draft side letter for the Kanpur South Ganga Action Plan Support Project under Ganga Action Plan Phase II for a value of Dutch Guilders 46 million.

(c) The draft side letter was subsequently received from the Netherlands Embassy in India. Incorporating the minor suggestions from this Ministry and U.P. Government, the draft side letter has been sent to Ministry of Finance for exchange between the two Governments to start the project.

[English]

### Sub-Standard Goods of ISI Mark

653. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

receives every month a number of complaints regarding marketing of sub-standard goods bearing ISI mark by the manufacturers;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received during the last six months;

(c) the outcome of the investigations made by the Government into the matter; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to check the marketing of sub-standard goods by the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). BIS receives, on the average, 8 to 9 complaints every month regarding the quality of ISI marked products. The details of complaints received from 1st April to 15th November, 1996 are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). In case, the complaints are established during the investigations made by the BIS, redressal of complaints are arranged through the concerned manufacturers. After a license is granted to a unit for use of Standard Mark, a surveillance of the licensee unit is maintained by BIS by way of surprise periodic inspections. To ensure that the quality of ISI marked products is consistently conforming to the relevant Indian Standards, samples are also purchased by the BIS from the market and got tested in its laboratories. In case deviations/discrepancies are found, the licensee is advised to improve upon its manufacturing and testing process, failing which action is taken against the licensee which may include stoppage of marking and even cancellation of its licence.

Regarding marketing of sub-standard goods with ISI Mark by organizations not having valid BIS licence, enforcement action is taken by the Bureau as per the provisions of the BIS Act, Rules and Regulations. A Separate Enforcement Department exists in the Bureau for monitoring and coordinating enforcement functions.

### STATEMENT

Complaints received from 1st April to 15th November, 1996.

(a) Complaints received	68
(b) Complaints established	36
(c) Complaints not established	22
(d) Complaints under investigation	10

### Production of Spices

654. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :  
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the specific steps taken to increase the production of spices; and

(b) the total production of different kind of spices in each State during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) For increasing production and productivity of spices following steps are taken up under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Programme for Development of Spices which is being implemented with an outlay of Rs. 125.00 crores during 8th Plan :

1. Production of quality planting materials of high yielding varieties and their distribution to farmers;
2. Establishment of field demonstration plots in the farmers' fields to popularise high yielding varieties and improved cultivation practices;
3. large scale adoption of integrated plant protection measures to combat fatal diseases;
4. Area expansion programmes and rejuvenation of unproductive gardens;
5. Establishing model gardens in non-traditional areas;
6. Encouraging organised marketing, product diversification, etc; and
7. Transfer of technology to the farming community.

(b) State-wise estimates of total production of spices during 8th Plan available for the years 1992-93 to 1994-95 is given below :

(in thousand tonnes)

State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	580	743	729
2. Arunachal Pradesh	17	19	19
3. Assam	15	15	15
4. Bihar	23	16	13
5. Gujarat	209	143	220
6. Haryana	13	11	12
7. Himachal Pradesh	2	1	1
8. Jammu and Kashmir	1	1	1
9. Karnataka	160	197	179
10. Kerala	113	111	115
11. Madhya Pradesh	143	155	177
12. Maharashtra	119	120	117
13. Manipur	4	4	4
14. Meghalaya	44	45	57
15. Mizoram	11	13	13
16. Nagaland	5	2	3
17. Orissa	195	209	209

1	2	3	4
18. Punjab	20	17	18
19. Rajasthan	293	316	249
20. Sikkim	23	7	7
21. Tamil Nadu	158	212	161
22. Tripura	5	6	6
23. Uttar Pradesh	53	52	56
24. West Bengal	79	78	84
25. Others	4	7	1
Total	2289	2500	2466

### Separation of Judiciary from Executive

655. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether judiciary has not been separated from executive in some of the States in spite of the directive provided in the Article 60 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details of such areas and the States along with reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the said provision of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 has sought to ensure the separation of the judiciary from the executive on all India basis by providing for a new set up of criminal courts. The extent of applicability of the Code is governed by Section 1 of the Code read with the relevant provisions of the Constitution. The provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 which seeks to separate the judiciary from the executive do not extend to the following States/Areas:

1. The schedule areas of Andhra Region are in the districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari and West Godavari and erstwhile Bhadrachalam and Noogur taluks of Khammam district, which were previously in East Godavari District. In the Telangana region, in the districts of Adilabad, Warangal Mahabubnagar and Khammam districts (excluding Bhadrachalam and Noogur taluks);
2. Arunachal Pradesh - whole of the state;
3. Assam - In the two hill districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar;
4. Meghalaya - The tribal areas of the State. Separation of Judiciary from the executive extends only to the cantonment and the 'normal' areas of Shillong town.

5. Mizoram - The tribal areas of the State - Phased separation of judiciary has already been taken up by constituting separate Judicial Service and separate Courts buildings.
6. Nagaland - The whole of the state - The State Government decided on 05.7.94 to separate the judiciary from executive and steps are being taken to implement the decision.

### Protection of Life of Fishermen

656. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Government policy to protect the lives of the fishermen going in for deep sea-fishing; and

(b) the steps taken to protect them from this danger?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The policy of the Government envisages protection of the fishing community from the vagaries of the climate and accidents through various suitable measures. In pursuance of the above policy following measures have been taken by the Government to protect the lives of the Fishermen Community :

(i) Under the Merchant Shipping Act 1958, as amended in 1987, every Indian fishing vessel when going to sea from any port or place in India, is required to be provided :

- if the vessel is of twenty-four metres or more in length and is operating beyond the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade I and a certificated mate of a fishing vessel;
- if the vessel is of twenty-four metres or more in length and is operating within the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade II and a certificated mate of a fishing vessel;
- if the vessel is of less than twenty-four metres in length and is operating beyond the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade II and a certificated mate of a fishing vessel;
- if the vessel is less than twenty-four metres in length and is operating within the contiguous zone, with a certificated skipper grade II;
- if the vessel has a propulsion power of 750 KW or more, with at least one engineer of a fishing vessel, who shall

be designated as chief engineer and one engine driver of a fishing vessel:

- if the vessel has a propulsion power of 350 KW or more but less than 750 KW, with at least one engineer of a fishing vessel who shall be designated as chief engineer;
  - if the vessel has a propulsion power of less than 350 KW, with at least one engine driver of a fishing vessel who shall be designated as engineer-in-charge.
- (ii) It has been made mandatory for all fishing vessels plying in or proceeding to sea, to have the prescribed life saving appliances and fire fighting appliances.
- (iii) The Indian Meteorological Department has a well established organisational set up for observing, detecting, tracking and forecasting cyclones and issuing cyclone warnings whenever a cyclonic storm develops in the sea

### Gangotri Glacier Belt

657. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :  
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :  
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report of recent survey by the Environmental Scientists captioned "Perennial Gangotri to Perish, predicts survey", appearing in 'Pioneer', dated November 1, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any action plan to arrest the process of weathering of the Gangotri Glacier belt; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Environmental Clearance

658. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to

empower the State Governments to grant environmental clearance:

(b) if so, whether any norms have been prescribed for the purpose:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the guidelines issued to the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Modalities for delegation of powers to State Governments for according environmental clearance to power projects are under finalisation.

#### **Inclusion of Certain Communities in the STs List**

659. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) the details of the requests received from the State Governments for inclusion of some more Tribes in the list of Scheduled Tribes during the current year.

(b) action taken by the Government of India on each of such request.

(c) whether Sagaras of Visakhapatnam District had also demanded for including them in the list of Scheduled Tribes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Recommendations have been received during the current year from the State Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu for the inclusion of two communities as Scheduled Tribes.

(b) These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

(c) Representations have been received for the inclusion of Uppara (Sagara) community in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) These representations are being considered in consultation, inter-alia, with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Drug Addicts**

660. SHRI R. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of drug addicts registered in the Welfare Centres in the year 1994-95 in comparison to 1986-87;

(b) the reasons for enormous increase of the drug addicts; and

(c) the strategy proposed for the prohibition and drug prevention?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) According to the available information, the number of drug addicts registered with the Drug Deaddiction/Counselling/Rehabilitation Centres, financially assisted by the Ministry of Welfare, during the year 1994-95 in 376 Centres was 3,12,118 as compared to 1627 in 7 Centres in 86-87.

(b) The increase in the number of drug addicts registered with the Deaddiction/Counselling Centres over the years can largely be attributed to the manifold increase in the number of Centres and the positive impact of awareness generated by the programmes of prohibition and drug abuse prevention implemented by the Government which has motivated more and more drug addicts to come forward for treatment.

In the absence of any nation wide survey with regard to the extent to the drug abuse problem in the country, it is difficult to establish that the number of drug addicts is increasing in the country. However, different studies undertaken indicate an increasing trend in drug abuse.

Peer Group pressures, curiosity, industrialisation/urbanisation, mounting tension, weakness of the joint family system are some of the apparent reasons which have rendered individuals vulnerable to social maladjustments and deviance such as alcoholism and drug abuse.

(c) The Ministry is implementing the Scheme for Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention since 1985-86 wherein financial assistance is given to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for running Drug Awareness, Counselling and Assistance Centres and De-Addiction-cum-rehabilitation Centres. This Ministry is strengthening the awareness building, preventive education programmes for drug demand reduction and expand Counselling, De-addiction and Rehabilitation Centres.

#### **India Eco-development Project**

661. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) the progress made under the proposed World Bank aided India Eco-development Project, so far;

(b) whether there is a controversy among the expert over planning, implementation and formulation of objectives of the project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the controversy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) World Bank has approved the funding of the Project on the 5th September, 1996 and Agreements have been signed on 30th September, 1996 between the World Bank and the Govt. of India. Governments of Bihar, West Bengal, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, where Project is to be implemented.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The details of the controversies raised and the Government's reaction thereon, is given in the Statement enclosed.

### STATEMENT

*The main controversies raised by a group of experts are as under :*

- (1) Adopting a model of expenditure of about 4-5 crores per protected area per year when current level of investments is only 5-10 lakhs per area a year.
- (2) Such high investment around protected area fringe will lead to congregation and migration of people to the fringes of protected area from areas of low investments.
- (3) Out of 500 protected areas such a huge investment is being done only in 7 areas. This will create a sense of deprivation within the fringe dwellers of other areas leading to apathy if not antipathy in terms of conservation of other protected areas.
- (4) With so much investment in equipment, office functioning and infrastructure, we are going to create urban facilities in the set up of protected areas breaking age old balance of nature and natural set up of protected area.
- (5) Certain items of activities specially economic activities which are aimed towards uplifting the economic status of the fringe dwellers, is heavily tilted towards rural development.

Government do not consider these points controversial for the reason the concept has been developed on the basis of the report of the task force appointed by Indian Board of Wildlife in this regard in 1983. Activities undertaken or proposed to be undertaken in the project have been in line of activities listed in the E.F.C. Memo approved for National Eco-development Scheme.

The seven protected areas are pilot sites for implementation of Eco-development Project where investment may appear very high, but the actual expenditure comes to Rs. 2000 per family per annum

which is just enough to meet the basic needs of fringe dwellers.

The investment on infrastructural development including construction and consultancies has been proposed as per the need of each areas. Successful implementation of this model is likely to attract more financial aids from outside which will enable us to cover more areas in future.

### Development of Horticulture

662. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :  
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise estimated land under horticulture as on June, 30 1996 and the details of estimated horticulture produce with percentage increase in land, production and investment made during the last five years;

(b) the details of the schemes executed for the promotion of horticulture and floriculture during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise along with progress achieved thereunder in each State during the said period;

(c) the amount allocated for the implementation of these schemes by the Central Government during the said period, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to allocate extra funds for the promotion of horticulture produce;

(e) if so, the details thereof, produce-wise; and

(f) the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken to provide improved post harvest infrastructure for the horticulture produces?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Estimated land under horticulture as on 30th June, 1996 is not available. Latest information on area and production of major horticulture crops is given in Statement-I enclosed.

The details of percentage increase in land and production of horticulture crops between 1991-92 and 1993-94 is given in Statement-II enclosed.

The Central releases made during the last five years to various States for horticulture development is Rs. 520.94 crores.

(b) The information is being collected and will be furnished.

(c) Statement-III is enclosed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Government are providing funds for the setting up of post harvest infrastructure facilities like

cold storages, packing and grading centres, retail outlet transport vehicles etc. in cooperatives, corporate sect NGOs and Public Sector Organisations.

### STATEMENT-I

Information on area and production of horticulture crops

S.No.	Name of the States		Area in h		
			Fruits	Vegetables	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	539925	6006030	154457	142002
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24670	50266	17217	8011
3.	Assam	100587	1166423	206257	193187
4.	Bihar	295612	3711557	913970	1361019
5.	Delhi	922	9581	25334	46389
6.	Goa	11200	100260	72	32
7.	Gujarat	117473	2251076	114500	186990
8.	Haryana	16761	123300	75260	115500
9.	Himachal Pradesh	182304	325477	38325	53700
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	123923	867528	32900	35370
11.	Karnataka	242201	4196935	215293	434308
12.	Kerala	303123	1878572	243932	278955
13.	Madhya Pradesh	68256	1315210	181114	255130
14.	Maharashtra	372639	5776120	225492	273762
15.	Manipur	21165	110000	4291	3300
16.	Meghalaya	25435	236500	25436	23807
17.	Mizoram	10211	43668	5635	4510
18.	Nagaland	5867	55968	8664	10764
19.	Orissa	201215	1490200	774978	798353
20.	Punjab	81766	727981	102500	172137
21.	Rajasthan	20864	95005	67332	36316
22.	Sikkim	8720	21557	7544	4691
23.	Tamil Nadu	179596	3620616	170922	430904
24.	Tripura	46815	325550	31950	320853
25.	U.P. (Hills)	179200	469511	84000	717853
	U.P. (Plains)	304847	3010529	624408	1035992
26.	West Bengal	138640	1458123	470300	485850
27.	Andaman and Nicobar	3716	16015	3307	1887
28.	Chandigarh	125	793	310	872
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	707	7100	1522	1356
30.	Daman and Diu	396	3375	48	86
31.	Lakshadweep	217	478	241	12
32.	Pondicherry	976	18151	2553	2337
	Total	3626184	39478593	4829864	6509491

*Area and Production of Cashew in India  
(1994-95)*

State	Area : '000 ha. Production : '000 MT	
	Area	Production
Kerala	156.2	119.20
Karnataka	75.3	28.40
Goa	47.5	10.96
Maharashtra	58.2	24.96
Tamil Nadu	97.2	22.00
Andhra Pradesh	73.3	58.70
Orissa	60.6	37.20
West Bengal	7.0	3.28
Others	1.9	0.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>577.20</b>	<b>321.64</b>

*State-wise area and Production of Coconut during  
1994-95*

State	Area ('000 ha.)	Production (Million nuts)
1. Andhra Pradesh	86.6	1181.4
2. Assam	17.3	116.5
3. Goa	24.6	118.0
4. Karnataka	259.8	1345.4
5. Kerala	900.7	5303.0
6. Maharashtra	8.2	178.6
7. Orissa	38.4	219.5
8. Tamil Nadu	272.8	3311.4
9. Tripura	9.4	4.7
10. West Bengal	21.6	274.4
11. A and N Islands	24.4	85.4
12. Pondicherry	2.1	31.8
13. Lakshadweep	2.8	26.3
<b>All India</b>	<b>1668.7</b>	<b>12196.4</b>

**STATEMENT-II**

*Increase in Area and Production in Horticulture Sector*

Commodity	1991-92		1993-94		Area-Lakh hectares Production-Lakh tonnes.	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
Fruits	28.70	286.3	39.40	394.7	37.3	37.9
Vegetables	51.30	585.30	48.20	650.90	(-) 6.0	11.2
Spices	20.05	19.00	23.23	23.77	15.9	25.1
Coconut (Million nuts)	15.29	65.00*	16.32	79.95	6.7	23.0
		(10.079)		(12335)		(22.4)
Cashew	5.33	3.05	5.65	3.48	6.0	14.1
Areca nut	2.10	2.43	2.30	2.75	9.5	13.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>122.77</b>	<b>961.08</b>	<b>135.10</b>	<b>1155.55</b>		

\* 10043 million nuts equal to 6.5 million tonnes.

## STATEMENT - III

## Horticulture Division

## Agencywise Report on Release of Funds upto 1994-95

Agency Name	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		Total	Total in Unspent as on 1-4-96	
	Unspent	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.	Uti.	Rel.			Uti.
Andhra Pradesh	6.50	166.65	145.32	260.41	167.55	606.50	203.90	860.59	227.52	466.08	815.04	1327.12	2539.66	1559.33	807.20
Arunachal Pradesh	4.79	16.67	2.71	45.77	32.77	89.92	61.98	153.99	150.05	115.13	103.91	176.04	480.95	351.42	72.85
Assam	1.45	22.74	13.55	48.75	30.51	81.01	14.50	62.03	73.35	39.26	46.10	86.86	267.17	178.01	77.23
Bihar	8.50	52.10	23.88	50.79	17.99	196.71	27.47	0.40	0.00	8.88		90.91	318.63	69.34	748.04
Goa	0.78	18.23	14.77	39.59	38.35	108.45	37.28	178.01	109.08	140.44	120.06	242.61	586.75	319.54	165.96
Gujarat	8.34	221.15	214.33	431.21	250.43	203.29	232.80	347.03	94.26	54.45	101.02	432.08	1265.97	892.84	372.63
Haryana	1.11	16.18	18.24	79.323	51.91	181.12	111.03	214.72	173.63	177.59	173.50	160.2	671.95	528.31	141.64
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	132.75	0.00	150.57	18.29	181.80	123.96	109.96	77.55	26.75	136.14	155.58	615.27	300.94	300.83
Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	30.25	0.00	104.74	6.71	145.78	5.63	142.46	159.03	533.74	360.59	550.11	1181.13	531.96	430.01
Karnataka	1174	112.81	117.10	422.54	379.16	771.78	491.53	1086.25	898.27	1485.29	1683.36	1186.01	4067.98	3569.42	310.99
Kerala	3.23	522.97	447.83	857.37	877.88	1034.81	1067.94	2398.78	2013.90	1801.74	2200.41	2191.28	7351.67	6607.96	10.94
Madhya Pradesh	0.78	120.83	110.05	203.91	192.67	312.31	184.90	419.28	279.67	497.09	229.13	578.15	1568.10	996.33	557.87
Maharashtra	13.02	424.76	100.45	275.76	401.03	909.59	675.40	1694.89	1301.90	2722.30	2183.66	1764.15	6259.14	4662.44	1377.88
Manipur	5.49	11.17	1.50	25.06	13.46	41.13	32.22	117.13	65.69	162.69	97.97	123.36	371.61	210.84	151.83
Meghalaya	0.00	11.17	5.02	19.04	10.13	41.86	10.22	74.88	39.50	48.92	62.20	57.11	203.67	127.07	65.80
Mizoram	2.14	12.57	8.41	19.28	9.17	62.02	34.39	55.13	77.41	70.88	138.11	72.77	228.99	267.49	45.47
Nagaland	0.00	8.88	1.02	23.40	7.58	35.99	31.68	61.37	61.87	101.29	104.71	54.28	239.51	206.86	24.07
Orissa	10.43	46.04	22.28	62.52	35.90	278.00	64.29	298.57	183.89	386.47	289.89	396.22	1161.06	596.75	485.71
Punjab	0.73	41.14	32.11	109.18	21.12	158.24	85.67	128.25	176.34	212.28	140.66	258.2	659.80	455.90	193.90
Rajasthan	0.00	92.74	40.00	140.15	87.02	137.09	56.11	206.12	89.11	147.92	245.00	243.41	740.20	517.74	206.78
Tamil Nadu	0.55	188.54	144.13	311.13	316.82	623.63	406.03	769.90	863.88	1222.41	948.46	924.32	3284.76	2679.32	436.84
Tripura	0.41	13.66	4.70	22.08	5.18	37.94	10.17	63.46	45.75	52.88	31.08	59.05	193.15	96.88	93.55
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	144.44	20.51	204.32	100.68	305.40	233.14	344.98	194.97	93.36	50.60	191.58	1092.50	699.90	492.60
West Bengal	0.64	25.57	0.20	37.73	10.98	185.01	20.56	23.95	52.90	37.57	28.40	131.02	326.89	113.04	197.63
Sikkim	0.00	6.62	6.86	23.98	26.18	62.23	9.58	131.41	61.13	49.28	115.11	67.12	280.30	218.86	54.66
Andaman and Nicobar	0.00	14.83	8.41	24.14	16.25	39.41	9.99	56.16	14.01	30.73	19.27	41.15	173.15	67.93	97.34
Chandigarh	0.00	0.83	0.00	1.50	0.00	39.46	1.50	9.21	1.50	2.50		3.5	53.50	03.00	50.50
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.83	0.00	6.50	0.47	18.07	1.54	11.63	1.17	29.38		17.77	68.01	03.18	63.23
Daman and Diu	0.00	0.75	0.75	6.50	6.50	18.07	8.73	16.91		16.41		17.7	60.26	15.98	62.66
Delhi	0.00	2.65	1.59	11.17	3.66	50.99	10.16	32.66	4.72	37.00	9.50	35.56	134.47	33.13	104.84
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.25	0.00	5.00	0.00	17.94	0.00	12.69	0.00	19.25	45.97	22.68	58.73	45.92	9.16
Pondicherry		5.00		8.73	0.50	35.51	22.30	13.96	21.72	15.50	1.00	21.3	29.20	45.52	33.18

**Essential Commodities  
(Special Provisions) Act, 1991**

663. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 is going to expire in September, 1997;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the Act is undemocratic and ruthless due to which the consumers and traders face great difficulties;

(c) whether the Government have received representation from some Members of Parliament as well as from "Federation of All India Foodgrains Dealers Association", Delhi that the period should not be extended;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Representation are received from time to time from Members of Parliament and trading community for repealing the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981. It is stated in these representations that this Act was promulgated when there was an acute shortage of foodgrains in the country and that as at present, there is no shortage of any essential commodity in the country, there is no need for the Act.

(d) and (e). The Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act was promulgated to enable the State Governments to ensure quicker disposal of cases under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 in the Courts and also to take stringent punitive action against the offenders. Its further extension or otherwise will be decided in due course in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

[Translation]

**Cooperative Sugar Mills in Maharashtra**

664. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Co-operative Sugar Mills functioning in Maharashtra and the number out of them which are financially sound;

(b) the number of mills against whom the Government loan is outstanding;

(c) the reasons for difference in the prices of sugarcane paid by the sugar mills to the farmers at

various places though the expenditure incurred by the farmers on production of sugarcane is same at various places:

(d) whether the Government propose to ensure payment of equal price for the sugarcane by all sugar mills to all sugarcane growers at the various places; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) In the state of Maharashtra, there are 106 installed sugar factories in the cooperative sector out of which 104 mills were functioning during the season 1995-96 (Oct. to 1995 to Sept. 1996). Central Government does not maintain statistics relating to financial soundness of sugar mills.

(b) Out of the sugar mills in the country, there is only one sugar mill in Maharashtra (Jijamata SSK Ltd shakarnagar, Distt. Puldana) against whom Central Government loan is outstanding.

(c) The Central Government notifies the zonewise statutory minimum prices payable for sugarcane relating to each sugar season. Some of the State Governments advise higher prices for sugarcane.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

**Scam in NDMC**

665. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBI has unearthed a multicore embezzlement scam in the New Delhi Municipal Council;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to evaluate the working of the Council to find for itself as to the number of other departments where such conditions prevail;

(d) whether there are hundreds of shops in the NDMC markets that need to be regularised and even the monthly licence fee is not being taken from many of them; and

(e) if so, whether there is any proposal to enquire into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is given in the attached statement.

(c) The New Delhi Municipal Council has recently appointed a Chief Auditor under section 33 of the New

Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994. The Chief Auditor is charged with the statutory responsibility of examining and auditing the accounts of the Council for which purpose he is given access to all the records and correspondence relating to the accounts.

(d) and (e). The shops in the NDMC markets are allotted under prescribed procedures. The question of regularisation arises only when there is a change in the allottee, etc. In all such cases the allotment is regularised after ensuring that the applicant fulfils the prescribed criteria. No largescale pendency of such cases has been reported. The licensees/license holders who fail to make the payment of monthly license fee in accordance with the demands raised are served with notices and action as required under the NDMC Act is taken.

### STATEMENT

During the course of investigation so far, it has come to light that NDMC had granted a contract for computerisation of electricity/water bills to M/s. Software Consultants India Pvt. Ltd in 1985. In 1992, this firm was also awarded the contract for collection of these bills from the consumers.

2. For this purpose 4 counters were opened at Parliament Annexe, Kidwai Nagar, Palika Bhawan and Gole Market in 1992 and later on more centres were opened at Bengali Market, Kaka Nagar, Nirman Bhavan, Palika Kendra.

3. Since the billing and collection of electricity and water bills were assigned to the same agency, it used to collect full amount of the bills from the consumers, issue computerised receipts and simultaneously enter these receipts in the computers. After daily collections, some persons of the agency used to copy the entries of daily collection stored in the computer in a separate computer file and thereafter resort to at random manipulations of the collection entries in this file by reducing the amount actually collected from different consumers. Thus, difference of the actual collection and the amount shown in the manipulated collection statement, that was being submitted to the NDMC alongwith the cash collected on the next day, was being misappropriated.

4. The Computer file containing actual collection was used for the purpose of issuing the next bills to the Consumers so that no arrears would get reflected in the bills on the consumers. Only the bills of the private consumer's were being manipulated.

5. Although the manipulated statements alongwith reduced cash were deposited with the NDMC cash section on the next day, the statement showing actual collection was used to be deposited at the end of the year with the Rent Section of the NDMC. This encouraged/enabled the agency to perpetuate the fraud over a long period.

6. Investigation has so far revealed that by way of the above mentioned modus operandi the owner of the agency had misappropriated a sum of Rs. 6 crores approximatel by from March 1996 to 27th September, 1996, when the fraud was detected. Starting with lesser amounts, the misappropriation in the later stages appears to be to the tune of approximately Rs. 30 lakhs per month. Further investigation in this scam is in progress and NDMC has been requested by the CBI to conduct a Special Audit for helping the CBI in ascertaining the full amount misappropriated by way of this fraud.

[Translation]

### Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Maharashtra

666. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided to the Maharashtra Government for implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes to increase the agricultural production during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A sum of Rs. 342 crore has been released to Government of Maharashtra so far under various Plan Schemes for development of Agriculture during the Eighth Plan.

(b) The farmers benefitted from these schemes both directly and indirectly. Hence, it is difficult to quantify the number of farmers benefitted.

[English]

### Inadequate Equipping of ITBP

667. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY :  
SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement made by the Director General of ITBP expressing concern over the delaying in equipping the para-military forces, engaged in fighting proxy war situation with latest weaponry to counter the terrorists in sensitive parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received from them and the status of the proposals; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Upgradation of weaponry in para-military forces is

an ongoing process and there is always constant interaction between Heads of Para-military forces and the Central Government on such vital issues. Proposals to equip these forces with latest weaponry are considered as and when required and prompt decisions are taken on such proposals subject to the availability of funds and the weaponry both in the domestic and international markets and also the technical feasibility of such weaponry.

### Supply of Urea

668. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have despatched 52

percent of the urea targeted for the current financial year:

(b) if so, the position of urea supplied so far. State-wise: and

(c) the quantity of urea that will be supplied during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c). The demand of urea is assessed in the beginning of each of the crop seasons namely, Kharif and Rabi during the year. The State-wise ECA allocation and availability of urea with respect to the ECA allocation during Kharif '96 and Rabi '96-97 (upto Oct '96) is enclosed. The balance quantity would be supplied during the remaining period of the Rabi '96-97.

### STATEMENT

(Figures in '000 MTs)

S.No.	Name	Kharif 1996		Rabi 1996-97		Balance to be supplied during Rabi 96-97
		E.C.A. Allocation	Availability	E.C.A. Allocation	Availability As on 31.10.96	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1047.31	1026.18	1119.69	322.28	797.41
2.	Karnataka	569.94	547.10	397.43	123.40	274.03
3.	Tamil Nadu	403.82	356.61	543.95	164.51	379.44
4.	Gujarat	605.00	565.12	611.74	110.53	501.21
5.	Madhya Pradesh	557.20	566.57	566.21	144.24	421.97
6.	Maharashtra	1158.85	1093.07	638.77	212.65	426.12
7.	Rajasthan	495.00	476.15	715.00	173.47	541.53
8.	Haryana	537.90	545.80	737.00	179.97	557.03
9.	Punjab	998.51	963.58	1046.14	248.32	797.82
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2194.50	2198.71	2768.51	620.55	2147.96
11.	Bihar	725.36	761.52	714.63	185.40	529.23
12.	Orissa	364.00	277.18	187.20	88.20	99.00
13.	West Bengal	469.52	424.62	661.36	158.13	503.23
14.	Assam+N.E. States	111.50	99.18	99.17	17.43	81.74
15.	Others	209.32	168.60	176.28	29.75	146.53
Total		10447.73	10069.99	10983.08	2778.83	8204.25

E.C.A. = Essential Commodities Act

### Programme on Development Activities

669. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have adopted any programme to carry on development activities without

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Government gives clearance to major developmental activities with requisite environmental safeguards to minimize the adverse environmental effects under the Environment

[Translation]

### Area Under Forest Cover

670. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any survey for increasing the area under forest cover; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when such a survey was last made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Forest Survey of India does the work of assessment of forest cover of the country on a two year cycle using satellite data since 1981. Latest assessment of the period 1991-93 has been done by Forest Survey of India and published in 1996 as "The State of Forest Report, 1995". Following are the details of various surveys carried out :

(Area in sq. km.)				
S. No.	Assessment year	Satellite data period	Forest cover	Percentage to the geographical area
1.	1987	1981-83	642 041	19.52
2.	1989	1985-87	640 134	19.47
3.	1991	1987-89	639 182	19.44
4.	1993	1989-91	640 107	19.47
5.	1995	1991-93	639 600	19.46

### Development of New Information Technology

671. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have developed a new information technology to keep an eye on the criminals and to arrest them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred in the project; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). As a quick response service to detect crime, the

Government has created network viz. Crime-Criminal Information System, for collection, storage and dissemination of information on crimes, criminals and properties. Computers have been installed at 570 district headquarters (District Crime Records Bureau), 32 State/UT capitals (State Crime Records Bureau) and National Capital (National Crime Records Bureau). An expenditure of Rs. 27.92 crore approximately has been incurred on the project so far. Operating System has been loaded in all the computer systems. Computers have become operational. Database creation activity has also commenced.

[English]

### Infiltration from Bangladesh

672. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of infiltration of Bangladeshis has taken place in Orissa;

(b) whether the successive Governments of Orissa have paid attention to this grave problem;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to check the influx of the Bangladeshis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) A series of measures have been taken by the Government to curb the problem of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals into India. These measures include raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, increase in the number of outpost, Towers, provision of surveillance equipments etc. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh on various occasions. The progress of these measures is reviewed regularly at various levels.

[Translation]

### Old Age Homes

673. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of old age homes alongwith their locations constructed in Bihar during the financial year 1995-96;

(b) the number of persons getting benefits therefrom; and

(c) the names of voluntary organisations selected in Bihar for this work during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Ministry of Welfare does not provide grants for construction of Old Age Homes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

### Soil Testing Campaign

674. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to launch a campaign for the soil testing with a view to increase the rate of agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme formulated in this regard indicating the number of soil testing centres proposed to be set up in each State;

(c) the time by which the said scheme is targeted to be completed in the whole country; and

(d) the estimated total expenditure likely to be incurred on its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Government decided long ago to promote establishment of soil testing laboratories under a scheme called Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers wherein a component of giving assistance to State Governments to the tune of Rs. 8.65 lakhs for strengthening of each soil testing laboratory in their respective states. Government also introduced a new component since 1995-96 for taking up front-line demonstrations on soil test based crop response methodology jointly by State Governments on soil test based crop response methodology jointly by State Governments, ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities. 38 Soil Testing Laboratories have so far been strengthened under this scheme.

[English]

### Rain Fall in Orissa

675. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that more than 75 percent crops has been damaged due to scanty rain fall in Orissa particularly in Kalahandi and Naupara districts during the current year;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard alongwith the details of rain fall in these districts during the said period; and

(c) the financial assistance allocated and actually released for these districts in particular from Natural Calamities relief fund, so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). According to the information received from the Government of Orissa, out of 39.96 lakh hectares of Kharif paddy during the current year, 18.14 lakh hectares has been affected in varying degrees including 9.55 lakh hectares where the loss is more than 50 per cent due to inadequate rains. In Kalahandi district 98 out of 2201 villages and in Nuapada district 68 out of 659 villages sustained crop loss of more than 75 per cent.

(c) Orissa has a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) allocation of Rs. 49.01 crores during 1996-97 consisting of a Central share of Rs. 36.76 crores and States share of Rs. 12.52 crores. Government of India have already released its entire share of Rs. 363.76 crores including the fourth instalment amounting to Rs. 9.19 crores in advance in view of the drought conditions. Following the visit of the Prime Minister an amount of Rs. 30.00 crores has also been released for poverty alleviation and employment generation purposes. A Central Team has also visited the State to make an assessment of the drought condition and of the need for additional assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief.

[Translation]

### Creation of Smaller States

676. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM :  
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy for constituting the smaller States;

(b) if so, the names of the States under consideration for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government propose to prepare a time bound programme in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e). The Government is in favour of devolution of powers and decentralisation of authority in political, administrative and economic spheres. No policy has been formulated for constituting smaller states.

[English]

### Closure of Polluting Industries

677. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court directed the Central Government on 28th August, 1996 to constitute an authority headed by a High Court judge within a month empowering it to order the closure of polluting industries, impose fines and order compensation.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the directions of the Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court in its judgement dated August 28, 1996 in Writ Petition No. 914 of 1991 - Vellore Citizens Welfare Forum versus Union of India and Others has directed that the Central Government shall constitute an authority under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and shall confer on the said authority all the powers necessary to deal with the situation created by the tanneries and other polluting industries in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Authority shall be headed by a retired judge of the High Court and it may have other members preferably with expertise in the field of pollution control and environment protection - to be appointed by the Central Government. The Central Government shall confer on the said authority the powers to issue directions under Sections 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and for taking measures with respect to the matters referred to in Clauses (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x) and (xii) of sub-Section (2) of Section 3. The Supreme Court had directed the Central Government to constitute the authority before September 30, 1996.

(c) In compliance of the Supreme Court order the Government has constituted the Loss of Ecology (Prevention and Payments of Compensation) Authority for the State of Tamil Nadu on September 30, 1996. The constitution of the Authority, as notified on October 12, 1996 is as under :

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| (i) Justice Shri P. Bhaskaran<br>(Retired Judge of the<br>Madras High Court)  | - Chairperson         |
| (ii) The Secretary, Government<br>to Tamil Nadu, Department<br>of Environment | - Member              |
| (iii) The Member Secretary<br>Central Pollution Control<br>Board              | - Member              |
| (iv) Dr. B.B. Sundaresan<br>(Former Vice-Chancellor,<br>University of Madras) | - Member<br>Secretary |

### Saving-cum-Relief Scheme

678. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to continue the Centrally Sponsored Saving-cum-Relief Scheme to remove the difficulties experienced by the marine fishermen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. Ministry of Agriculture has recommended continuation and it is pending for finalisation.

(b) Does not arise

### Development of Horticulture

679. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are working out a special action plan for the Horticulture development during the Ninth Five Year Plan in view of the huge export potential of Horticulture produce; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outlays proposed for the purpose under the Central Project Schemes in each State particularly in Maharashtra and Goa?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Statewise and Schemewise outlays are finalised after the plan outlays are communicated by the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

### Foreign Nationals in India

680. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign nationals staying in India without valid passport; and

(b) the action taken against them alongwith the period of their stay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Powers of the Central Government under the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 and the Foreigners Act, 1946 have been entrusted to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations with their prior consultation under Articles 258/239 of the Constitution. No data regarding

the action taken against foreigners under these enactments is centrally maintained. Central Government is aware of the problem of illegal infiltrators and has from time to time sensitised the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations and have requested them to launch special drives to identify, detect and deport the foreign nationals staying in India illegally.

### Krishi Vigyan Kendras

681. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning at present in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the technical and non-technical Staff is in full strength in these Kendras;

(c) if so, whether these Kendras are functioning smoothly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) There are two Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh; one at Ranichauri in Tehri Garhwal district and another at Pithoragarh in Pithoragarh district which are running under the administrative control of G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) With the support of the scientists and non-technical staff from the G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, the activities are carried on smoothly.

(d) The question does not arise.

### Representation from Other Backward Classes

682. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the State Governments are following the policy of reservation for other backward classes in services uniformly;

(b) if not, give the details the policy of reservation being followed by the State Governments;

(c) whether the candidates of backward classes have also been given due reservation in the various commissions also;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure proper representation?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Information available upto December 1995 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. As per the provision of NCBC Act, 1993 there is no reservation of backward classes in NCBC. However, Section 2(c) provides for appointment of two persons who have special knowledge in matters relating to Backward Classes.

### STATEMENT

#### *Percentage of Reservation to OBCs in Direct Recruitment in State/UT Services*

S.No.	Name of the State	% of reservation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25
2.	Assam	15
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
4.	Bihar	26
5.	Goa	2
6.	Gujarat	27
7.	Haryana	27
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
10.	Karnataka	32
11.	Kerala	40
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14
13.	Maharashtra	32
14.	Manipur	-
15.	Meghalaya	-
16.	Mizoram	-
17.	Nagaland	-
18.	Orissa	27
19.	Punjab	5
20.	Rajasthan	22
21.	Sikkim	21
22.	Tamil Nadu	50
23.	Tripura	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	27
25.	West Bengal	5
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-
27.	Chandigarh	27
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5
29.	Delhi	27
30.	Daman and Diu	27
31.	Lakshadweep	-
32.	Pondicherry	27

[English]

**Safeguarding Interest of Onions Growers**

683. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether thousands of tons of onions is being allowed to rot in various States due to lack of buyers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether farmers who made huge investments in cultivating onions are not receiving adequate returns; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The returns to onion growers are governed by market forces. Whenever the prices fall in the market, the Government of India implement Market Intervention Scheme to protect the interest of farmers under which Government procures the commodity to a specified quantity at a pre-determined price on the request of the State Governments. The procurements are made till the market prices are improved. This has been done recently in case of onion growers in Karnataka.

[Translation]

**Forestry Project in Madhya Pradesh**

684. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether social forestry project is being run in Madhya Pradesh and other States with the help of World Bank; and

(b) if so, the extent and nature of cooperation from villages sought in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) World Bank has provided financial assistance for implementation of forestry projects in West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) People's participation in various activities in the major thrust for implementation of these projects. Village forest committees have been constituted for participation in planning, implementation, protection and benefit sharing process.

[English]

**Foodgrains Production**

685. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared an Action Plan to achieve the target of 400 million tonnes of foodgrains production by the end of the Century; and

(b) if so, the cost and other details of the action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Import of Urea and DAP**

686. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Urea and DAP imported during the current year till October, 1996; and

(b) the amount paid per tonne for handling of imported urea and DAP to the contractors from different ports to the destinations during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) A quantity of 13.57 lakh tonnes of urea and 3.97 lakh tonnes of DAP has been imported during the current year upto October 1996.

(b) The weighted average amount paid per tonne to contractors for handling of imported urea from different ports to destinations during the last three years is given below :

Year	Amount (Rs/tonne)
1993-94	910
1994-95	1081
1995-96	1090

The handling charges paid for imported DAP during these years are not available as imports of DAP have been decanalised w.e.f. 17.9.1992

**Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958**

687. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has started a detailed examination of the controversial Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has received several complaints against certain provisions of this Act; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Commission is likely to give its report containing the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The National Human Rights Commission decided to undertake a detailed examination of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 on the basis of a petition received expressly on the matter. The Commission has called for the comments from the concerned Ministries for detailed examination/recommendations.

(b) The Commission has received a few complaints regarding Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958.

(c) The Commission has undertaken detailed examination of the Act and only after the examination is over, report/recommendation can be given.

### Illegal Activities on Border

688. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested on the Indo-Pak border in Gujarat and Rajasthan for illegal activities during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government are aware of increasing activities of the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) in these areas recently;

(c) if so, any assessment has been made in this regard; and

(d) the details of additional companies of paramilitary forces provided by the Union Government to these States to effectively tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Number of Persons arrested on Indo-Pak Border in Gujarat and Rajasthan for illegal activities are as under:

	1995	1996 (upto 18th November, '96)
Rajasthan	1662	903
Gujarat	72	226

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Assessment is being made from time to time and necessary remedial measures are being taken.

(d) In order to tackle the situation effectively Five additional battalions of BSF were raised during 1994-95 and deployed on the Rajasthan and Gujarat border.

### Support Prices of Agricultural Products

689. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of increase in the support prices of various agricultural products for the period from 1992-96, crop-wise;

(b) the rate of increase in the support price of copra for the said period;

(c) whether the support price of copra had not been revised corresponding to the increase in the support price of other agricultural products, and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the Minimum Support Prices alongwith increase effected, crop-wise, of various agricultural commodities including copra for the period from 1992-93 to 1996-97 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The CACP in its report of Price Policy for Copra for 1996 season recommended that the Minimum Support Price for both milling copra and ball copra be not announced and requisite price support to the growers be provided through market intervention/open market purchases of copra by the designated Central and State agencies during the peak marketing period of the 1996 season. However, keeping in view the interest of copra growers, the Government decided to continue procurement of copra at the MSP announced for 1995, i.e. for ball copra of fair average quality (FAQ) at Rs. 2725 per quintal and for milling copra of fair average quality (FAQ) at Rs. 2500 per quintal.

### STATEMENT

#### Minimum Support Prices

(Rs. per quintal)

Crop	Variety	Quality	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Paddy	Common	FAQ	270 (17.4)	310 (14.8)	340 (9.7)	360 (5.9)	380 (5.6)
Price Differential	Fine & S.F.		10.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	15.00-20.00
lowar			240 (17.1)	260 (8.3)	280 (7.7)	300 (7.1)	310 (3.3)
ajra			240 (17.1)	260 (8.3)	280 (7.7)	300 (7.1)	310 (3.3)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maize			245 (16.7)	265 (8.2)	290 (9.4)	310 (6.9)	320 (3.2)
Ragi			240 (17.1)	260 (8.3)	280 (7.7)	300 (7.1)	310 (3.3)
Wheat			330 <sup>Ⓐ</sup> (20.0)	350 (6.1)	360 (2.9)	380 (5.6)	415 (9.2)
Barley			260 (23.8)	275 (5.8)	285 (3.6)	295 (3.5)	305 (3.4)
Tur (Arhar)			640 (17.4)	700 (9.4)	760 (8.6)	800 (5.3)	840 (5.0)
Mung			540 (17.4)	700 (9.4)	760 (8.4)	800 (5.3)	840 (5.0)
Urad			640 (17.4)	700 (9.4)	760 (8.6)	800 (5.3)	840 (5.0)
Gram			600 (20.0)	640 (6.7)	670 (4.7)	700 (4.5)	740 (5.7)
Groundnut-in-shell			750 (16.3)	800 (6.7)	860 (7.5)	900 (4.7)	920 (2.2)
Soyabean	Black		475 (20.3)	525 (10.5)	570 (8.6)	600 (5.3)	620 (3.3)
	Yellow		525 (18.0)	580 (10.5)	650 (12.1)	680 (4.6)	700 (2.9)
Sunflowers seed			800 (19.4)	850 (6.3)	900 (5.9)	950 (5.6)	960 (1.1)
Rape and Mustard			760 (13.4)	810 (6.6)	830 (2.5)	860 (3.6)	890 (3.5)
Toria			725 (12.4)	780 (7.6)	800 (2.6)	825 (3.1)	
Safflower			720 (12.5)	760 (5.6)	780 (2.6)	800 (2.6)	830 (3.8)
Cotton	F-414/H-777		800 (15.1)	900 (12.5)	1000 (11.1)	1150 (15.0)	1180 (2.6)
	H-4		950 (13.1)	1050 (10.5)	1200 (14.3)	1350 (12.5)	1380 (2.2)
Jute	W-5 in Assam		400 + (16.7)	450 + (12.5)	470 + (4.4)	490 + (4.3)	510 + (4.1)
Sugarcane #			31.00 (19.2)	34.50 (11.3)	39.10 (13.3)	42.50 (8.7)	
Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil	F2 Grade	16.00 (8.5)	18.00 (12.5)	18.50 (2.8)	19.00 (2.7)	19.00 (-)
(Rs per kg)	Light Soil	L2	17.50 (19.4)	20.00 (14.3)	21.00 (5.0)	21.50 (2.4)	22.00 (2.3)
Copra	Milling	FA3	N.A.	2150 \$	2350 \$ (9.3)	2500 \$ (6.4)	2500 \$ (-)
	Ball		N.A.	2350 \$	2575 \$ (9.6)	2725 \$ (15.8)	2725 \$ (-)
Sesamum		FAQ				850	870 (2.4)
Niger Seed		FAQ				700	720 (2.9)

# For a basic recovery of 8.5% with a proportionate premium of every 0.1% increase above that level

+ TD-5 in Nowgong Assam.

N.A. Not Announced

St Steady

<sup>Ⓐ</sup> including Central Bonus of Rs. 25.00 per quintal

\$ For calendar years 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 respectively

Note (1) Figures in Brackets are the Percentage Increase in Production/Minimum Support Prices over the Previous Years  
(2) From 1991-92 figures relate to Minimum Support Prices.

[Translation]

### Cess on Sugar

690. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount collected as cess on sugar and transferred to the Sugar Development Fund, till date;

(b) whether funds had also been distributed therefrom;

(c) if so, the number of sugar factories advanced

loan from this fund during 1994-95 and 1995-96, State-wise;

(d) the amount disbursed during the said period State-wise; and

(e) the number of applications still pending alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The total amount collected as cess on Sugar (upto Aug., 1996) was Rs. 1871.50 Crores and an amount of Rs. 1656.00 crores has been transferred to SDF.

(b) Yes. Sir. Till Sept., 1996 Rs. 890.66 crores has been disbursed.

(c) and (d). As per Statement enclosed.

(e) As on date 14 applications for modernisation loans and 34 applications for cane development loans are pending due to non completion of the required formalities by the sugar Mills.

### STATEMENT

Number of Sugar Factories and Loan advanced from the Fund during 1994-95 and 1995-96, State-wise

S.No	State	1994-95		1995-96	
		No. of Factories	Amount	No. of Factories	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	63.77	1	45.36
2.	Bihar	1	387.00	3	543.60
3.	Gujarat	-	-	1	305.88
4.	Goa	-	-	1	23.72
5.	Haryana	-	-	2	125.73
6.	Karnataka	-	-	1	455.00
7.	Maharashtra	13	2319.39	7	1120.266
8.	Orissa	2	463.64	-	-
9.	Punjab	1	96.36	1	43.47
10.	Tamil Nadu	5	1007.56	1	25.96
11.	Uttar Pradesh	6	2015.01	8	2817.13
Total		30	6352.73	26	5506.116

[English]

#### Consumer Welfare Fund

691. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a Consumer Welfare Fund for the assistance of the voluntary organisations undertaking awareness generation, services and training programme for the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the types of consumer protection organisation assisted under the Consumer Welfare Fund and the manner of providing help to them;

(d) the details of financial assistance provided to the consumer protection organisation in Rajasthan during the last three years so far along with the names of such organisation;

(e) whether the proposals for grants to the organisations working in the field of consumer protection in the State are lying pending for clearance;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which the same are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) has been set up under the amended provisions of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) in 1992 with the overall objective to provide financial assistance to promote and protect the welfare of the consumers and to strengthen the voluntary consumer movement in the country particularly in the rural areas.

(c) Any agency/organisation, Village/Mandal/Samities level cooperatives of consumers specially of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, engaged in the consumer welfare activities for a period of three years and registered under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) or under any law for the time being in force are eligible to seek financial assistance from the Consumer Welfare Fund. Besides, any industry as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (14 of 1947) which has been engaged in viable and useful research activities for a period of five years which has made or is likely to make significant contribution in formation of standard mark of the products of mass consumption; State Governments etc., as provided in the rules, are also eligible to seek the grant from CWF.

(d) A statement containing the names of such organizations is enclosed.

(e) and (f). Six proposals received from Rajasthan are in process of examination.

(g) In view of large number of projects received from various states/UTs for financial assistance under

CWF, it is difficult to specify the exact time limit by which these proposals will be cleared. The clearance of such proposals is an ongoing process as the applications are examined in accordance with the guidelines framed under CWF Rules.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Sanctioned Amt. in Rs	Date of Sanction	Purpose of grant
1.	Rajasthan Mahila Kalyan Mandal Anandpura, Topdara, Ajmer-305001	68400.00	08.11.94	For organising workshops, camps, puppet shows and preparing publicity material
2.	Prachin Kathputli Kala Sansthan, B-55, Indrapuri Lalkothi, Yojana, Jaipur	67050.00	08.11.94	For organising 120 puppet shows
3.	Consumer Unity and Trust Society Jaipur	436500.00	08.11.94	For publishing consumer guides, training manual, studies/reports etc
4.	Ajmer Zila Gramin Upbhokta Samity, Masuda, Ajmer.	155250.00	31.05.95	For conducting consumer awareness camps and printing of literature
5.	Gandhi Nav Yuvak Mandal, Baman Baroda, Ganganagar City, Distt. Sewai Madhopur.	27000.00	17.11.95	For conducting consumer awareness camps
6.	Rajasthan Mahila Prishikshan, Udhyam & Vikas Sansthan, Jaipur.	18000.00	17.11.95	For conducting consumer awareness camps
7.	Maruti Seva Samiti Upbhokta Manch, 57, Loha Bazar, Udaipur.	45000.00	30.09.96	For organising competitions, training and cultural programmes etc.
8.	Banswara Sahkari Upbhokta Lok Bhandar Ltd., Banswara Distt.	67500.00	30.09.96	For preparing audio visual and printing material and for conducting awareness camps
9.	Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS), Jaipur	498600.00	30.09.96	For research documentation and consultation on UN guidelines.

#### Supply of Foodgrains to Karnataka

692. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the average monthly requirement of wheat and other foodgrains under the Public Distribution System in Karnataka;

(b) the average quantity of wheat and other foodgrains at present being sanctioned against the requirement thereof under PDS;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought enhancement of quota under PDS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the quota?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV)

(a) and (b). The monthly average allotment and offtake of wheat and other foodgrains under PDS/RPDS in Karnataka in the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 was as under :

(In '000 tonnes)

	Year	Allotment average per month	Offtake average per month
Wheat	1995-96	30.00	18.29
	1996-97	29.55	21.75*
Rice	1995-96	120.26	78.58
	1996-97	120.70	85.47*

\*Upto September, 1996

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The State Govt. of Karnataka have recently requested to raise their monthly wheat quota from 30,000 MT to 50,000 MT. The Inter-Ministerial Committee on Allocation to States has been apprised.

### Krishi Vigyan Kendra

693. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had sanctioned a Krishi Vigyan at Kunarukam Kottayam, Kerala.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, the Government has agreed in principle to establish a Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) at Kunarukam, Kottayam, under the control of Kerala Agricultural University.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has approached the Planning Commission for additional funds for establishment of new KVKs. Therefore, it is not possible to give exact time for establishment of KVK.

[Translation]

### Cattle Breeding Projects

694. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of the scheme regarding increasing the number of high breed she-calves produced every year and the achievements made thereunder;

(b) the annual expenditure being incurred on it;

(c) the names of cattle breeding projects functioning in the country along with their location and achievements under these projects;

(d) whether the Government made or proposed to make any appraisal of these projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A scheme 'Extension of Frozen Semen Technology', through which Central assistance is provided for strengthening of frozen semen infrastructure to facilitate genetic upgradation of cattle, is implemented by the Government. It is estimated that

31.86 million artificial insemination are done annually.

(b) The annual expenditure during 1995-96 was Rs. 528.96 lakhs and the total expenditure since the inception of the scheme in the 6th Five Year Plan is Rs. 4144.36 lakhs.

(c) There are 7 Central Cattle Breeding Farms under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying the details of which are as given below :

Name of Farm/Place	State	Breed/type of animals
1. CCBF, Suratgarh Dist. Sriganganagar	Rajasthan	Tharparkar
2. CCBF, Chiplima Dist. Sambalpur	Orissa	Red Sindhi, crossbred
3. CCBF, Dhamrod Surat	Gujarat	Surti Buffalo
4. CCBF, Alamadhi Madras	Tamil Nadu	Murrah Buffalo
5. CCBF, Andeshnagar Lakhimpur Kheri	Uttar Pradesh	Holstein Friesian, Crossbred
6. CCBF, Hasserghatta Bangalore North	Karnataka	Holstein Friesian
7. CCBF, Semiliguda Koraput	Orissa	Jersey

These farms have produced a total number of 1659 Bull calves till now during the 8th Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e). Specific targets have been fixed for bull production by the Central Cattle Breeding farms and the achievements are regularly monitored and reviewed.

[English]

### Illegal Migrants Determination by Tribunal Act, 1983

695. SHRI CHITTA BASU :  
SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for repealing/amending illegal migrants determination by tribunal act, 1983; and

(b) if so, the basis and nature of the contemplated amendment/repealing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. No decision in the matter has yet been taken.

[Translation]

### Special Task Force in Delhi

696. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Task Force has been constituted in National Capital Territory of Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the number of recommendations received by the Task Force so far;

(c) whether the Government have initiated action on these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The Lt. Governor of Delhi in whom the superintendence and control of Delhi Police vests constituted a "Special Task Force" under the control of the Commissioner of Police on the 6th September, 1996 for the purpose of investigating the cases of serious crimes like heinous crimes, land-grabbing, dispossession of property and the collusion and corrupt practices by public officials in this regard. This

"Force" is, therefore, essentially an investigating body. It has so far taken up investigation of one case of alleged illegal sale of Gram Sabha land in Village Nasirpur.

[English]

### Support Price for Agricultural Products

697. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the three varieties of paddy for the year 1996-97 kharif season;

(b) if so, whether the Government have increased the MSP for other foodgrains like wheat, etc. for the year 1996-97, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement showing Minimum Support Price alongwith increase effected over last year for the major agricultural commodities for the year 1996-97 is enclosed.

### STATEMENT

#### Minimum Support Prices

(Rs Per Quintal)

S.No	Commodity	Variety	1996-97	Increase in 1996-97 over 1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Paddy	Common	380	20
		Fine	395	20
		Super Fine	415	20
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jawar, Bajra and Ragi)		310	10
3.	Maize		110	10
4.	Wheat		415	35
5.	Barley		305	10
6.	Gram		740	40
7.	Arhar		840	40
8.	Moong		840	40
9.	Urad		840	40
10.	Sugarcane			
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	1180	30
		H-4	1380	30

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Groundnut-in-shell		920	20
13.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	510	20
14.	Rapeseed/Mustard		890	30
15.	Sunflower Seed		980	10
16.	Soyabean	Black	620	20
		Yellow	700	20
17.	Safflower		830	30
18.	Toria			
19.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil (F2 Grade)	19.00	-
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Grade)	22.00	0.50
20.	Copra	Milling	2500	-
	(Calender Year)	ball	2725	-
21.	Sesamum		870	20
22.	Nigerseed		720	20

### Paddy Procurement

698. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any change in the Gradation Policy of Paddy during the current procurement season;

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

(c) the total procurement of paddy by October, 1996 as compared to the corresponding period during the last year; and

(d) the reasons for shortfall in the paddy procurement this year, if any?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A quantity of 47.27 lakh tonnes of paddy has been procured for Central Pool upto 31.10 1996 in the current 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Season as against 47.21 lakh tons of paddy procured during the corresponding period in the previous season.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Recruitment of Constables

699. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in Khurja Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh where recruitments have

been made for constables in various Police Forces by the Government during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to conduct recruitments for constables in Central Police Forces in the rural areas of Khurja Parliamentary Constituency on the priority basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). Recruitment of Constables in Central Para Military Forces are conducted on State level basis and not Constituency wise. Annual vacancies are allotted to various States in proportion to the population ratio and centres for recruitment rallies are chosen keeping in view various aspects. Candidates from Khurja Parliamentary Constituency are eligible to apply against vacancies allotted to U.P. State.

[English]

### Abolition of the Post of Constable

700. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering the suggestion made by Shri J.F. Ribeiro, former Punjab Police Chief to abolish the post of Constable and keep the lowest rank post as Sub-Inspector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). No such suggestion is under consideration of the Government at present.

### Security to Prime Minister

701. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Government are planning to amend the Special Protection Group Act in order to restrict this elite security cover to the serving Prime Minister and members of his immediate family;

(b) if so, the details regarding the Special Protection Group cover provided to former Prime Ministers; and

(c) the details regarding the desirability of amending the Special Protection Group Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). There is no move at present to amend the SPG Act to restrict SPG security cover to the serving Prime Minister and members of his immediate family.

(c) Does not arise.

### Performance of Central Schemes

702. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide improved credit and other incentives and input support to small and marginal farmers in the country in general and in dry land areas in particular;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of central schemes designed to benefit small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if so, the details of achievements made thereunder during the last five years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c). A number of Schemes have been taken up by Central Government for agricultural development. These schemes help the farmers including small and marginal farmers both directly and indirectly. Guideline have been issued to State Governments from time to time to give the benefits of the scheme to the economically weaker sections among the farming community. These instructions are reiterated during discussions, review meetings, field visits etc. However, selection of farmers for implementation of the scheme is done by the State Governments. Since the benefits flow to the small and marginal farmers both directly and indirectly, it is difficult to give achievements in this regard.

As regards credit, schemes have been taken up for strengthening the cooperative credit institutions to enable them to disburse increased credit to farmers for purchase of inputs etc. A flexible line of credit in the

form of cash credit limit has also been introduced for the benefit of farmers.

### Concessions for Disabled Persons

703. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been any demand for special concessions for the hearing impaired children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to amend the provisions of Persons with Disabilities Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act, 1995 and

(d) if so, the time by which the act is proposed to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demand mainly pertains to ensure the admission of children with disabilities to normal Government and public schools, both aided and unaided. The amendment in the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 has been suggested to ensure this arrangement.

(c) Not at present. However, the Ministry is already giving grants for the purpose of running Special Schools for the hearing impaired children alongwith free/subsidised distribution of aids and appliances.

(d) Does not arise.

### Strengthening of State Pollution Control Board

704. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plans for strengthening the State Pollution Control Boards and set up a mechanism for continuous interaction between the Central and State Government in relation to afforestation, forest protection and other important issues concerning environments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a meeting of Chairman of all State Pollution Control Boards and State Secretaries of Environment was called to discuss important policy issues and work out action plan to tackle the problems;

(d) if so, the details of short term and long term strategies worked out and the Action Plan formulated in each State; and

(e) the important projects funded by/proposed for funding by the International agencies and their present status/achievements made thereunder, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN SHAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. To strengthen State Department of Environment/State Pollution Control Boards, Central Government is providing financial assistance under the on-going scheme "Assistance for abatement of Pollution". Financial assistance is also extended for specific studies/projects, procurement of equipment/instruments for laboratories etc. Apart from this, according to the existing guidelines, reimbursement of 75% of Water Cess levied by the States is also made available to the concerned State Governments for Pollution Control activities.

An interaction meeting was held in New Delhi during September, 1996 to discuss the environmental issues with the representatives of the State Governments/Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees. Some of the environmental issues discussed during the meeting are as follows :

1. Waste Minimisation in medium and small scale industries.
  2. Hazardous Waste Management.
  3. On-site and off-site emergency plans in respect of stronger impact and handling of hazardous chemicals.
  4. Environmental considerations in planning and Management of industrial estates.
  5. Shifting of industries from non-confirming areas to the designated industrial sites.
  6. Environmental statement.
  7. Installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP)
  8. Restriction on siting of polluting industries in critically polluted areas.
  9. Strengthening of State Pollution Control Boards.
  10. Zoning atlas for siting of industries.
1. Pollution Control in 17 categories of highly polluting industries and legal action against the defaulting industries.
  2. Environmental Impact Assessment Notification.
  3. Municipal and Hazardous Waste Management including hospital wastes.

Although, there is no formal mechanism of interaction with the State Governments regarding pollution etc. Meetings are held with the concerned Government Departments/Agencies on specific issues. The Principal Chief Conservators of Forests of five states and Forest Secretaries of five states are the members of the National Afforestation and Eco-development Board, who participate in the meetings of the Board.

The State Pollution Control Boards are being strengthened with the external aid being made available

by bilateral and multilateral funding agencies. The State Boards of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Karnataka are covered under the World Bank aided Pollution Control and Prevention Projects. The State Boards of Orissa, Himachal Pradesh are being funded under Norwegian assistance; Tamil Nadu and Karnataka under the Danish assistance; Kerala under the Netherlands assistance; West Bengal under Japanese assistance; Andhra Pradesh under Australian assistance and the State Boards of Delhi, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Assam and Central Pollution Control Boards are being strengthened under the German assistance programme.

### Full Time Governors

705. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of State where full time Governors have not been appointed;

(b) whether the Kerala has no full time Governor; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). At present, the Governor of Maharashtra is discharging the functions of the Governor of Goa, the Governor of Haryana is discharging the functions of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh, and the Governor of Karnataka is discharging the functions of the Governor of Kerala. Under article 153 of the Constitution of India, the same persons can be appointed as Governor for two or more States.

### Research Programmes on Embryo

706. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the time when research programmes on Embryo Transfer Technologies were initiated by ICAR at its different Institutes;

(b) whether the said research programmes had been economically viable;

(c) if so, the fund allocated and spent on this account including those from the department of biotechnology and other agencies; and

(d) the number of embryos produced and transferred to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

### De-Licensing of Sugar Industry

707. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :  
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish licence system for the sugar industry;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in his regard; and

(c) the merits of delicensing sugar industry both for the farmers and Public Exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c). The matter of delicensing of sugar industry is under consideration of Government.

### Community Forest Management

708. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the concept of Community Forest Management in protected areas as projected by a Dehradun based NGO has evoked the interest of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details of this concept; and

(c) the steps being taken to popularise it and put it into practice for providing Community Forest Management in different parts of the country with or without the aid of World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) On the advice of the World Bank, the Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra (RLEK), Dehra Dun has sent the report prepared by them on the subject to this Ministry for consideration.

(b) and (c). The concept largely combines the approaches being followed under the Joint Forest Management (JFM) and Eco-development initiatives which are already under implementation in various forest areas and wildlife protected areas respectively. However, the implementation of the suggested strategy in protected areas can only be done within the framework of the legal provisions under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

### Welfare Schemes in Orissa

709. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the welfare schemes being implemented by the Union of India in backward areas of Orissa for upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) since when these schemes have been started;

(c) whether the Union Government are monitoring the progress of these schemes; and

(d) if so, give the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). The welfare schemes being implemented for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State of Orissa including its backward areas alongwith the time since when these are being implemented are given in Statement enclosed.

There are no separate schemes being implemented specifically in the backward areas of Orissa for the upliftment of SC/ST.

(c) and (d). The schemes are being reviewed periodically and before and of each plan period. The schemes are further reviewed in the periodical meetings with the State Government implementing agencies and target groups and steps are taken to modify the scheme per the recommendations agreed upon during the meetings.

### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	The time by which these schemes is being implemented
1	2	3
1.	SCA to SCP	1980
2.	Assistance to Scheduled Castes Development Corporation	1978-79
3.	National Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribes Finance & Development Corporation	1989-90
4.	Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers & their dependents	1991-92
5.	Post-Matric Scholarships for SC/ST students	1944-45
6.	Pre-Matric Scholarships for the children whose parents are engaged in unclean occupations	1977-78
7.	Books Banks for SC/ST students	1978-79
8.	Girls Hostels for SCs	1961-92
9.	Boys Hostels for SCs.	1989-90
10.	Coaching & allied Scheme	1961-62
11.	Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST students	1987-88
12.	Implementation of PCR Atrocities Act.	1980-81
13.	Aid to Voluntary Organisations For SCs	1979-80
14.	Research & Training for SCs	1950-51

1	2	3
15.	Dr. Ambedkar Centenary	1990-91
16.	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan.	1990-91
17.	Aid to Voluntary Organisations STs.	1979-80
18.	Grant to aid to State Tribal Development Corp. for M.F.P. Operations.	1992-93
19.	Girls Hostels for STs.	1961-62
20.	Boys Hostels for STs.	1989-90
21.	Ashram schools in TSP Areas	1990-91
22.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas.	1992-93
23.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for the Development of ST Girls literacy In Tribal Areas	1993-94
24.	Research & Training	
(a)	Grants to Tribal Research institutes & Award to Research Fellowships	1950-51
(b)	Supporting Projects of All India or Inter State Nature for STs.	1950-51
25.	Investment in TRIFED	1987-88
26.	Price Support to TRIFED	1987-88
27.	Grant-in-aid to TRIFED	1987-88
28.	Development of Oils & Oilseeds	1987-88

### Inventory Holding in Super Bazar

710. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inventory holding of the Super Bazar including its Textiles Department is much higher than its sales;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of sales and inventory holdings in the last 12 months, month-wise and department-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to bring down the inventory holdings to 15 days requirement and close down the non-viable departments?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a), (b) and (d). According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi they are constantly monitoring the inventory holding in their textile Deptt. The inventory holding in this Deptt. has been brought down to Rs 50.84 lakhs in September, 1996 from Rs 64.84 lakhs in October, 1995.

(c) Statements-I and II giving the details of inventory holding in the various departments of the Super Bazar for the period October, 1995 to September, 1996, are enclosed.

### STATEMENT-I

S No.	Department	April 96		May, 96		June, 96		July, 96		August, 96		Sept 96	
		Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Grocery/ Toiletry	625.18	697.45	648.84	724.84	663.36	716.81	681.61	738.09	732.65	638.46	711.65	581.26
2.	Textiles	6.57	49.96	18.33	45.16	13.65	49.09	13.87	47.76	9.77	49.86	7.78	50.84
3.	Household	31.00	55.67	54.93	61.02	45.06	62.01	37.48	51.05	29.50	48.72	29.03	54.80
4.	Watches	4.85	8.20	3.31	7.60	1.31	6.94	1.64	7.89	1.66	7.62	1.75	5.93
5.	Handloom	11.14	18.54	14.22	19.34	13.69	24.10	16.02	21.38	13.74	17.36	15.30	27.47
6.	Books/ Stationery	63.30	71.47	64.21	70.72	47.86	67.44	86.08	58.31	81.00	67.06	72.09	52.70
7.	Office Automation	27.83	71.89	46.11	79.26	80.23	14.78	74.38	9.60	39.24	5.57	59.83	5.59
8.	Sports & Toys	1.02	4.37	0.99	4.24	0.90	3.15	0.71	3.97	1.17	3.65	0.62	3.05
9.	Footwear	8.92	19.88	13.77	14.23	10.43	14.67	11.63	14.53	11.21	13.38	11.07	11.40
10.	Readymade Garments	2.55	22.25	8.35	17.93	14.44	7.30	62.80	-39.34	5.31	-29.77	8.82	12.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	Medicine	79.39	97.42	91.12	109.70	87.06	114.51	87.92	107.02	90.13	119.06	86.59	106.22
12	Bicycles	5.59	6.29	8.77	8.25	8.97	8.77	10.39	10.61	8.76	8.59	13.02	5.65
13	Hardware/Paint	3.47	3.74	2.78	5.73	2.33	6.36	2.34	5.88	2.35	6.53	1.49	6.75
14	Fruit/Vegetables	5.19	0.09	5.43	0.25	4.46	1.13	2.67	1.13	2.36	1.20	3.03	0.67
15	Furniture	30.88	-	48.66	-	55.67	-	61.72	-	55.21	-	50.46	-
16	Candle	0.02	0.81	0.04	0.77	0.02	0.69	0.05	0.64	0.02	0.24	0.05	0.12
17	Crackers	-	8.36	-	8.36	-	8.36	-	8.36	-	8.36	-	8.36

\* on account of consignment sale

### STATEMENT-II

Statement indicating the details of inventory holding in the various departments of the Super Bazar, Delhi for the period October, 95 to September, 96.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Department	Oct., 95		Nov., 95		Dec., 95		Jan., 96		Feb., 96		March, 96	
		Sale	Invt	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt.	Sale	Invt	Sale	Invt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Grocery/Toiletry	683.12	739.37	671.97	752.90	733.62	740.47	656.19	690.10	656.45	697.40	673.86	588.66
2	Textiles	7.99	64.84	10.28	64.34	29.33	57.60	11.64	49.03	7.29	49.68	11.24	52.48
3	Household	33.76	66.82	34.83	62.46	34.60	66.52	32.88	61.33	25.94	57.47	63.06	47.68
4	Watches	4.20	11.41	3.13	13.23	1.91	10.55	2.55	10.42	3.82	9.32	2.84	8.08
5	Handloom	12.66	12.32	15.36	12.01	17.06	12.17	13.00	11.85	10.67	14.30	33.62	16.57
6	Books/Stationery	68.11	60.68	68.32	61.81	68.82	56.62	68.14	52.12	66.65	87.21	104.36	67.02
7	Office Automation	57.09	16.74	73.03	21.33	60.71	36.79	54.28	20.06	102.28	2.70	297.72	81.05
8	Sports & Toys	1.73	4.37	0.99	3.88	1.00	3.40	1.30	2.52	2.29	4.60	4.57	4.06
9	Footwear	11.99	25.05	12.62	26.25	12.51	23.87	12.62	23.86	13.36	22.66	15.26	20.90
10	RMGS(Readymade Garments)	9.75	22.71	25.21	20.11	32.04	18.98	19.95	20.36	11.09	23.87	8.89	20.24
11	Medicine	103.03	107.01	97.72	120.47	99.03	113.36	88.17	105.86	87.04	107.73	99.09	102.47
12	Bicycle	8.77	6.89	10.92	9.92	13.40	9.55	3.85	12.03	10.36	9.08	16.15	7.46
13	Hardware/Paint	3.27	6.08	19.18	6.70	5.42	6.80	7.68	6.17	4.70	6.33	16.36	6.04
14	Fruit/Vegetable	7.52	1.58	6.74	1.05	7.27	0.47	5.53	0.24	5.38	0.28	5.31	0.17
15	Furniture	77.52	-	74.36	-	122.98	-	84.15	-	108.49	-	277.16	-
16	Candle	4.57	1.01	0.27	0.95	0.15	0.81	0.13	0.73	0.09	0.82	0.28	0.80
17	Crackers	8.73	1.13	0.01	1.20	-	8.82	-	8.69	-	8.69	0.15	8.36

### Allotment of Forest Land

711. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.2072 on July 30, 1996 regarding allotment of forest land and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected:

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) if not, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No forest land has been allotted to private persons/industrial houses for afforestation on lease/ agreement.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Bhopal Gas Tragedy

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

(a) the number of claims of compensation settled out of six lakhs cases of claims filed and the number of pending cases out of them and the time by which these pending claims would be settled;

(b) whether some of the claims related to Bhopal Gas Tragedy had been settled by Lok Adalats whereas there is no provision in Central Act for the Constitution of Lok Adalats and disposal of the claims;

(c) whether keeping this in view all the cases will be taken up once again;

(d) whether there is any provision in the Central Act for giving new claims as no fresh claims have been invited by Lok Adalats and provisions of the Act have not been adhered to; and

(e) if so, the time by which work related to inviting fresh claims will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) According to information received from the Office of Welfare Commissioner, who is a sitting Judge of High Court, compensation Claims of about 4 lakh cases have been decided by the Courts set up under the provisions of Bhopal Gas Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985 and another about 1.20 lakh cases are expected to be decided by March, 1997 and the adjudication of the remaining cases will be taken up thereafter.

(b) and (c). The Welfare Commissioner has informed that as the Act does not debar the decision of claims cases through forum of Lok Adalats, only those are taken up for disposal through Lok Adalats for which the claimants give their consent.

(d) and (e). Notification under Section 4 of the Act inviting fresh claims from those victims who had not filed their claims earlier is expected to be issued by the Welfare Commissioner in the near future.

### Inter-State Council

713. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering reconstitution of the inter-State Council;

(b) if so, whether the guidelines given by the Sarkaria Commission in regard to Centre-State relations under the federal system are to be followed;

(c) whether the financial and administrative relations between the Centre and States and the role of the Governors will be clearly defined; and

(d) if so, the time by which?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MOQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal for the reconstitution of the Inter-State Council. However, in the second meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15th October, 1996, the Council recommended that there should be a Standing Committee of the Council for continuous consultations and processing of matters for the consideration of the Council. The Standing Committee will consider -

(i) Views of the State Governments on any matter of relevance to the Centre-State relations including the 179 recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee in view of the reservations expressed by some of the Chief Ministers during the second meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15th October, 1996;

(ii) Examine the continuance/amendment of article 356 of the Constitution of India upon past experience and judicial pronouncements; and

(iii) review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission, especially the vital question of devolution of financial powers from the Central Government to the state governments.

The Standing Committee will be required to give its report within three months and the same will be considered by the Council. The recommendations of the Inter-State Council will be sent to the Government thereafter for consideration and a final decision.

[English]

### Production of Cereals/Pulses

714. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the per acre yield of cereals and pulses in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether this yield has been up to the international Standards;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to boost the production upto the international standards?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A statement giving per hectare yield of cereals and pulses-State-wise for 1994-95 is enclosed.

(b) The comparative yields of cereals (with paddy) and pulses are as follows :

	(Kgs/hectare)	
	India 1994-95	World 1994
Cereals	2168	2830
Pulses	609	847

(c) The reasons for lower yields of cereals and pulses observed in the country in comparison to world level are attributed to differences in soil types/fertility, application of various inputs, cultivation practices, technological advances, agro-climatic conditions etc.

(d) To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains, the Government is implementing various crop production programmes, besides providing price and market support.

#### STATEMENT

*Per Hectare Yield of Cereals and Pulses - State-wise for 1994-95*

State	Cereals*	Pulses
Andhra Pradesh	2169	402
Assam	1340	546
Bihar	1561	833
Gujarat	1432	575
Haryana	2947	1064
Himachal Pradesh	1477	@
Jammu & Kashmir	1680	@
Karnataka	1398	382
Kerala	1898	1435
Madhya Pradesh	1224	714
Maharashtra	989	472
Orissa	1392	576
Punjab	3734	878
Rajasthan	1046	546
Tamil Nadu	2625	399
Uttar Pradesh	2094	858
West Bengal	2168	630
All India	1763	609

@ Crop being unimportant, yield per hectares has not been calculated.

Include yield of rice, wheat and coarse cereals.

[Translation]

#### Decanalisation of Sugar Export

715. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government's decision to decanalise sugar exports is likely to benefit the industry as we trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of increase in the export of sugar as a result thereof;

(d) whether some of the sugar mills have opposed this move;

(e) if so, whether they have submitted memoranda to the Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) (a) and (b). It has been decided to decanalise sugar export. India has become a major sugar exporter in 1995-96 season and to promote export, it is necessary to decanalise sugar export.

(c) It is not possible to quantify the increase in sugar exports as a host of factors including fluctuations in international sugar prices determine export decisions.

(d) and (e). The Indian Sugar Mills Association, apex body of the Sugar Industry, has petitioned the Government vide letter dated 19.9.1996 to reconsider its decision to decanalise export as, in their view, the objectives visualised by the Government are not likely to be achieved as long as the dual pricing policy of sugar continues.

(f) The sugar policy of partial control with a dual pricing mechanism is to continue for the present.

[English]

#### Sale of Foodgrains in Open Market

716. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI D.P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have revised guidelines for the sale of wheat, rice and other foodgrains in the open market;

(b) if so, the details of revised guidelines;

(c) the basic intention of the revision of guidelines;

(d) whether the State Civil Supply Corporations are likely to be involved in the sale of these foodgrains in the open market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) to (c). The Govt. sell only wheat and rice through FCI in the open market. With a view to ensuring fair and equitable open sale of wheat, revised guidelines on open sale of wheat were issued and made effective from 1.9.96. They include selection of purchasers by a Three-Member Committee consisting of (a) SRM, FCI of the Region (b) Director, Food and Civil Supplies or his representative and (c) Joint Manager (Accounts), on proper identification of the intending purchasers. A copy of the revised guidelines is annexed. A few changes were effected by FCI on operational grounds during the last festival season.

(d) and (e). State Civil Supplies Corporation are given preference in purchase of wheat and rice under open market sale scheme as may be seen at Para (iv) of guidelines on the Statement enclosed

### STATEMENT

#### *Guidelines on Sale of Wheat (Effective From 1.9.1996)*

Monthly Ceiling to be released by Govt.	(i) The existing stipulation that "Open sale in a State in a month shall not exceed the average of last four months' sale in the State; and that any sale beyond this limit in a State shall be specifically authorised by MD, FCI" stands withdrawn. Month-wise ceiling for sale of wheat is being made by the Department of Food Procurement & Distribution and this should continue.
MD, FCI, to earmark State-wise allocations	(ii) Open sale shall be conducted after keeping aside PDS requirements and other Government welfare schemes. MD, FCI, will communicate Statewise ceilings after considering the availability of stocks.
Limits on sale per month per purchaser	(iii) A ceiling of 100 MT (one hundred MT) and 200 MT (two hundred MT) foodgrains per buyer per month may be fixed instead of existing upper ceiling of 200 MT and 1000

MT for open sale from FCI godowns with capacity of 5,000 MT and more than 5,000 MT respectively per buyer per week. However, there shall be no quantitative restriction in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan for wheat kept in CAP storage; but the monthly ceiling fixed by the Government shall not be crossed.

Identification of purchaser to avoid fictitious sales

(iv) Intending buyer shall submit some form of identification such as Sales Tax, income tax, shopping and Establishment Act, Registration Certificate, to establish his genuineness to minimise sale in fake names. Preference in sale to State Civil Supplies Corporations will be accorded.

Diversion to export to be stopped

(v) SRMs shall be advised to ensure that no quantity of wheat sold under OMSS is diverted to export.

Cap Storage included in sale centre to expedite disposal of Wheat kept in open storage

(vi) On the recommendation of HLC of FCI, the open sales have been restricted to 173 districts headquarters godowns only. However, on the request of MD, FCI, the following relaxations have been agreed to by the Ministry :-

(a) Open sale of wheat can also take place from CAP storage

(b) In case there is no FCI godown in the FCI District Headquarters, the Zonal Manager can identify another godown within the concerned FCI district on the basis of its location by the side of railway station/highway. But, such a godown will not be in addition to the main depot (if any) location at FCI district headquarters.

Allottees and quantities to be decided by a Committee

(vii) A committee consisting of (a) SRM, FCI, of the region (b) Director, Food & Civil Supplies or his representative and (c) Joint Manager

(Accounts) will be formed to decide the names of purchasers alongwith quantity of wheat to be given to applicant(s) /intending buyer(s). For this purpose application will be received by the DM, FCI, from the intending buyers by 7th of each month alongwith 10% Earnest Money for the quantity indented. Concerned DM will ensure that the applications of the interning buyers are entered in a register kept in his office. These applications will be sent to SRM, FCI, for consideration of the Committee will be sent to District Manager, FCI, by 15th of the month, who will finally issue Release Orders to the purchasers by 15th of every month. The purchasers will have to deposit the full amounts (after adjusting END) as per the price in force on the date of delivery.

Transparency by displaying the names of purchasers on notice boards

(viii) A notice board should be prominently displayed in the office of DM, FCI, indicating clearly the tentative quantity available for sale, total stocks available and rates of open sale, alongwith a list of allottees. List of allottees should also be displayed prominently in the office of concerned SRM, FCI, and Director Food & Supplies.

(ix) In order to reduce difficulties and harassment, the purchasers should be advised to lift the stock from the nearest depot where stock of wheat is available

First in-First Out

(x) FCI should strictly enforce the policy of First in - First Out of foodgrains stocks in Food Corporation of India Godowns/Storage.

as reported in the 'Asian Age', dated October 7, 1996; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check de-notification of the National Parks and Sanctuaries endangering animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Some instances of illegal mining and industrial activities in protected areas have come to notice. Proposals for such projects submitted in some cases have been rejected and in others permission earlier given has been revoked.

(b) The State Governments are empowered under Section 26-A(3) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to alter the boundaries of national parks and sanctuaries only after a resolution to this effect is passed by the Legislature of the State concerned

#### Assault on Journalists

718. PROF AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some journalists were physically assaulted and abused by the BSP leaders recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made by the Government.

(c) if so, the details thereof the reaction of journalists in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). Delhi police have registered two criminal cases at Police Station Tughlak Road, New Delhi, one on the basis of complaint lodged by a media person and the other by in-charge Security of Ms. Mayawati, in connection with the incident reports to have taken place at the residence of Shri Kanshi Ram, Member of Parliament, on the 25th October, 1996.

Press Council of India had constituted a special fact finding Inquiry Committee to look into the incident of 25th October, 1996, but the Council subsequently decided not to proceed with the inquiry in view of the objections raised by the media persons.

#### De-Notification of National Parks

717. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining and industrial activities are being carried out in the protected forest areas

#### Training Centres in Gujarat

719. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched a scheme

to start alternative employment to the educated unemployed youth belonging to SCs and STs:

(b) if so, the criteria being followed in this regard:

(c) whether Government have given approval to open only three commercial training centres in Gujarat State whereas the approximate population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State is about one and a half crore; and

(d) the steps being taken to open more such training centres in the Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d). The Government of Gujarat have reported that there is no scheme for starting commercial training centres specifically for educated unemployed youth belonging to the SCs/STs. However, there are several schemes of Government of India for providing vocational guidance and training to persons from the SCs/STs. These include, inter alia, a scheme of Vocational Training Centres in tribal areas for unemployed tribal youth introduced in 1992-93 under which Ministry of Welfare have approved assistance to the Gujarat Government for two, five and three Centres in 1992-93, 1994-95 and 1996-97 respectively, on the basis of proposals received from the State Government; and (b) a scheme of the Ministry of Labour under which a Coaching-cum-Guidance Centre has been set up at Surat, which provides educational and vocational guidance to educated unemployed SC/ST jobseekers, and also imparts training in shorthand and typing to them. These are not commercial centres.

### Welfare Programmes

720. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued certain directions in July, 1996 to the State Government/ Union Territory Administrations to give special attention to the Welfare Programmes relating to the Welfare of Minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government have started complying with the said directions;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have reviewed or proposed to review the welfare related work of the State Government/Union Territory Administration; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. But the Ministry has, however, issued letters to all chief Ministers for their considered views and comments on various programmes embodied in the Common Minimum Programme for the upliftment of the weaker and deprived sections.

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

### Payment of Salary to Home Guard Employees

721. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Home Guard employees of Kanpur (U.P.) have not been paid the salaries/wages for last three months i.e. from July, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the Government is likely to make the payments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Revamped Public Distribution System

722. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of coverage made in the implementation of Revamped Public Distribution System since it was launched State-wise;

(b) whether the objectives of the Programme have been achieved;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to effectively implement the programme throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The scheme of Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was launched by the Prime Minister w.e.f. 1.1.92 covering all the Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Designated Hill Areas (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) blocks numbering 1775. A Statement showing the names of States and the number of blocks covered under RPDS is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) to (d). Statewise details of target for additional fair price shops, additional ration cards, elimination of bogus ration cards, creation of storage capacity, fair price shop to be covered under Doorstep delivery, number of fair price shop level Vigilance Committees in RPDS areas and the progress achieved as on 31.10.96 against each of these targets is given in the attached statements II, III, IV and V.

(e) The operational responsibility for implementing the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) is that of the State Government and UT Administrations. Central Government holds meetings with States/UTs for reviewing the functioning of the PDS including RPDS,

Suggestions and measures for improving the functioning of the PDS are discussed in these meetings. Financial assistance is provided to State Government/UT Administrations under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of Godowns and purchase of mobile vans/trucks for strengthening PDS infrastructure in RPDS areas.

### STATEMENT-I

*Number of Blocks covered under RPDS*

No.	State/UT	No. of Blocks covered under EAS/RPDS
1	2	3
1.	A.P.	155
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	56
3.	Assam	142
4.	Bihar	266
5.	Goa	-
6.	Gujarat	131
7.	Haryana	44
8.	H.P.	19
9.	J&K	80
10.	Karnataka	119
11.	Kerala	21

1	2	3
12.	M.P.	297
13.	Maharashtra	171
14.	Manipur	22
15.	Meghalaya	32
16.	Mizoram	20
17.	Nagaland	28
18.	Orissa	175
19.	Punjab	-
20.	Rajasthan	172
21.	Sikkim	04
22.	Tamil Nadu	89
23.	Tripura	19
24.	Uttar Pradesh	248
25.	West Bengal	128
26.	A & N Islands	02
27.	Chandigarh	-
28.	D & N Haveli	01
29.	Daman & Diu	01
30.	Delhi	-
31.	Lakshadweep	05
32.	Pondicherry	-
Total		2446

RPDS : Revamped Public Distribution System  
EAS : Employment Assurance Scheme

### STATEMENT-II

*Revamped Public Distribution System  
Progress in Implementation Upto 31.10.96*

S.No.	State/UT	1		2		3
		Additional PPS proposed	Opened	Additional Ration Cards Proposed	Issued	Bonus Cards Eliminated
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	316	362	nil	650000	59144
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	155	293	18310	13713	10513
3.	Assam	311	385	362578	12973	100383
4.	Bihar	1090	2469	296885	298885	1176361
5.	Gujarat	97	416	nil	351523	85946
6.	Haryana	387	412	nil	1279538	35193
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	18	nil	1794	99
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	123	260	21900	9400	nil
9.	Karnataka	403	1231	634199	933385	125003
10.	Kerala	nil	1201	nil	75493	8389

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1274	1276	476930	2955000	737058
12.	Maharashtra	2588	3395	350000	456000	120000
13.	Manipur	24	74	54449	65890	nil
14.	Meghalaya	16	426	193000	14758	9210
15.	Mizoram	23	99	3288	5784	10812
16.	Nagaland	20	24	30000	nil	
17.	Orissa	608	1362	nil	578407	24990
18.	Rajasthan	718	1079	106667	386839	76046
19.	Sikkim	400	2	nil	30000	207
20.	Tamil Nadu	11	12	3000	194886	470150
21.	Tripura	25	33	nil	18075	6110
22.	Uttar Pradesh	1141	3628	76255	841144	160970
23.	West Bengal	826	69	47437	101496	63224
24.	Andaman & Nikobar	12	22	nil	369	16696
25.	Dadra & Nagar H.	2	14	1000	5608	148
26.	Daman & Diu	3	1	nil	562	nil
27.	Lakshadweep	5	2	nil	nil	nil
Total		10580	18564	2675898	9279522	4376652

## STATEMENT-III

*Revamped Public Distribution System  
Progress in Implementation upto 31.10.96*

S.No.	State/UT	Additional Storage Capacity (in MTs)			Financial Assistance Sanctioned by Central Government for construction of Godowns Since 1991-92	
		Target	Hired	Created	Amount (Rs. lacs)	Capacity (Tones)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	nil	115000	nil	124.20	5000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11050	nil	4350	27.70	800
3.	Assam	nil	nil	nil		
4.	Bihar	22400	nil	8600	106.40	9000
5.	Gujarat	nil	14865	nil	212.42	9500
6.	Haryana	nil	nil	nil		
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2250	2000	1300		
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	7400	5450	1100	528.82	13950
9.	Karnataka	12200	4375	9800	132.00	8200
10.	Kerala	60000	nil	nil	41.50	2000
11.	Madhya Pradesh	136500	241670	11000	522.88	32000
12.	Maharashtra	40000	17000	6000	206.16	10442
13.	Manipur	2350	nil	nil	194.79	5000
14.	Meghalaya	15200	nil	500	40.00	2000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Mizoram	8000	nil	2060	183.71	7200
16.	Nagaland	1250	7340	nil	25.00	600
17.	Orissa	14500	13000	nil	208.00	13000
18.	Rajasthan	26500	nil	25550	175.66	14400
19.	Sikkim	3600	nil	nil	64.50	2600
20.	Tamil Nadu	2800	nil	nil	50.00	2480
21.	Tripura	1400	425	nil	30.00	1250
22.	Uttar Pradesh	37700	37716	nil	162.00	5400
23.	West Bengal	4400	nil	nil	96.46	6000
24.	Andaman & Nikobar	1650	nil	nil	46.00	1000
25.	Dadra & Nagar H.	500	nil	nil		
26.	Daman & Diu	nil	nil	nil		
27.	Lakshadweep	1700	nil	1200	7.50	500
Total		413400	458841	71460	3185.70	152322

## STATEMENT-IV

*Revamped Public Distribution System  
Progress in Implementation upto 31.10.96*

S.No.	State/UT	Total No. of FPSs in Identified Areas	No. of FPS under Door-Step Delivery	5	
				Financial Assistance Sanctioned for purchase of Vans since 1991-92 Amount (Rs. lacs	Vans (Number)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8233	8233	188.00	31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	919	919	120.00	25
3.	Assam	4117	4117		
4.	Bihar	9402	1854	40.00	10
5.	Gujarat	4738	776		
6.	Haryana	2074	2074	65.00	20
7.	Himachal Pradesh	171	64	240.00	41
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	642	10	265.90	52
9.	Karnataka	8174	8135	73.00	22
10.	Kerala	1530	1515	122.50	34
11.	Madhya Pradesh	7238	7238	280.00	70
12.	Maharashtra	13755	2500	470.00	117
13.	Manipur	604	604	120.00	30
14.	Meghalaya	3839	nil	26.00	7
15.	Mizoram	955	180	88.00	22
16.	Nagaland	269	nil	24.00	6
17.	Orissa	9432	nil	260.00	7
18.	Rajasthan	9257	9234	264.00	69
19.	Sikkim	253	54	16.23	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Tamil Nadu	2259	2259	76.00	19
21.	Tripura	514	nil	68.00	15
22.	Uttar Pradesh	10310	3681	100.00	25
23.	West Bengal	3840	nil	100.00	25
24.	Andaman & Nicobar	67	67	20.00	5
25.	Dadra & Nagar H.	73	nil	-	-
26.	Daman & Diu	71	nil	-	-
27.	Lakshadweep	35	35	4.00	1
Total		102771	53549	3030.63	721

## STATEMENT-V

*Revamped Public Distribution System  
Progress in Implementation upto 31.10.96*

No.	State/UT	Total No. of FPSs in Identified Areas	Number of FPS level Vigilance Committees constituted
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8233	Food Advisory committees for each FPS set up
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	919	Has reported that 551 FPS level committees formed.
3.	Assam	4117	4117 Functioning.
4.	Bihar	9402	All FPS level committees have been set up.
5.	Gujarat	4738	4133 FPS level committees have been set up.
6.	Haryana	3074	All Village FPS level committees have been set up.
7.	Himachal Pradesh	171	171 FPS level committees reported to be functioning.
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	642	Constituted at Panchyat level.
9.	Karnataka	8174	7937 FPS level vigilance committees set up.
0.	Kerala	1530	Constituted in all Panchayats.
1.	Madhya Pradesh	7238	18 district and 154 Block level committees constituted
2.	Maharashtra	13755	Village level committees set up.
3.	Manipur	604	417 FPS level committees functioning.
4.	Meghalaya	3839	3074 FPS level committees functioning.
5.	Mizoram	955	Has now reported that only 329 committees are functioning
6.	Nagaland	269	130 constituted and functioning.
7.	Orissa	9432	8904 committees set up.
8.	Rajasthan	9257	9234 FPS level committees set up.
9.	Sikkim	253	Gram Panchayat and district level committees functioning.
0.	Tamil Nadu	2259	All FPS level committees set up.
1.	Tripura	514	Sub-divisional level committee functioning, FPS level being set up.
2.	Uttar Pradesh	10310	5300 FPS level committees have been constituted.

1	2	3	4
23.	West Bengal	3840	Panchayat, Block and District level committees functioning.
24.	Andaman & Nikobar	67	8 Zonal committees set up and functioning.
25.	Dadra & Nagar H.	73	65 FPS level and 10 panchayat level committee set up.
26.	Daman & Diu	71	8 FPS Level Vigilance Committees functioning
27.	Lakshadweep	35	10 FPS Level Vigilance Committees Functioning Covering 35 FPS.
Total		102771	

[Translation]

### Assistance for Pollution Control

(Amount in Rupees)

723. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have formulated or propose to formulate any scheme to give assistance to the Delhi State Government to control the Industrial and Environmental pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of assistance provided for the purpose during each of the last three years and the head-wise details under which the Delhi State Government have spent this amount; and

(d) the details of the achievements made in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPTAIN JAI NARAYAN PARASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). There is no particular scheme to extend financial assistance to the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi to control industrial and environmental pollution. However, financial assistance is being given to Delhi Government (Department of Environment/Delhi Pollution Control Committee) for its strengthening to control industrial and environmental pollution. Under this scheme, financial assistance is extended to Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi for the component of staff salary of the technical cell of the Environment Department. Financial assistance is also extended for specific studies/project proposals, procurement of equipment/instruments for laboratory etc.

Apart from this, according to the existing guidelines, reimbursement of 75% of Water Cess is also made to Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi out of the total amount deposited with the Central Government.

(c) and (d). The details of amount of assistance provided to Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi

during the last three years for the prevention and control of pollution in Delhi, are as under :

Name of scheme	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
I. Assistance for abatement of Pollution:			
(a) Staff Salary	7,00,000	4,00,000	8,00,000
(b) Preparation of Status Report	2,50,000	-	-
(c) Setting up of Pollution Awareness & Assistance Centre	-	-	25,000
II Reimbursement of Water Cess			
	1,80,42,080	56,39,033	25,38,754

### Research work on Rice Production

724. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have entrusted the task to undertake research on rice by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and IRRI to boost country's rice production;

(b) if so, the details of the research work undertaken by these two premier institutes during the last three years; and

(c) the details of projection made by these institutes on the rice production by the end of the century?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is responsible to undertake research on rice to boost country's rice production. The main rice research institutes of the ICAR are Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack and Directorate of Rice Research (DDR), Hyderabad. In addition, rice research is carried out by several ICAR institutes and Agricultural universities.

The ICAR has a Memorandum of Understanding with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines for cooperation in research and training in rice. The activities undertaken under this collaborative research are exchange of scientific information, germplasm and breeding materials, published literature and conduct of collaborative germplasm evaluation and other research trials.

(b) ICAR-IRRI collaborative research activities have been very useful to the rice improvement programmes in India. The collaborative research programmes undertaken during the last three years include (i) Consortia for strategic and applied research on rainfed system; (ii) germplasm improvement for deep water rice; (iii) development of rainfed rice production in Eastern India; (iv) upland rice research consortium; (v) tropical hybrid rice technology; (vi) productivity and sustainability of the rice-wheat system; (vii) productivity decline of the intensive rice system; (viii) simulation and system analysis on rice production; (ix) gender analysis; and (x) biotechnology.

(c) The Indian rice research is oriented to attain a target of 95 to 100 million tonnes of clean rice in the country by the end of 2000 A.D.

#### **Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

725. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Krishi Vigyan Kendras in various States have been set up without approval of the respective State Governments;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to declare such Kendras as unauthorised, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) For setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), the concerned State's representative is associated in identification of site of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

local Management Committee meetings and in the recruitment of the staff for the KVKs.

(b) to (d). The question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Non-Registration of FIR's by Delhi Police**

726. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs has observed that complaints such as non-registration of FIRs, delay in the arrival of the police at the scene of crime and the general harassment of citizen by Delhi Police are on the increase;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which the police refused to register FIRs, the police arrived late on the scene of crime and harassment of citizens in the last one year;

(c) the action taken by the Government therein; and

(d) the number of FIRs registered in Delhi during 1996 giving the details of the matters on which those were registered and how many of the FIRs have been solved police station-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Department Related Standing Committee of Parliament on Home Affairs before which is the Commissioner of Police, Delhi had appeared in August, 1996 had made an observation that there were complaints of such nature against the police personnel.

(b) During the period from 1.11.95 to 31.10.96, the Delhi Police received 26 complaints concerning refusal to register FIRs, one complaint about the late arrival of the Police Personnel at the scene of crime and 143 complaints in respect of harassment of citizens.

(c) In cases where the allegations contained in such complaints were found to be established, appropriate administrative/departmental action was taken or initiated against the erring Police personnel.

(d) The requisite information, district-wise, is given in the attached statement.

## STATEMENT

Crime Head	North Cases		North-West Cases		Central Cases		New Delhi Cases		East Cases		North-East Cases	
	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. Dacoity	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2
2. Murder	30	23	92	68	35	25	7	3	40	27	56	44
3. Attempt to Murder	26	25	92	87	32	30	13	12	21	21	33	75
4. Robbery	74	67	70	54	51	46	18	13	27	23	61	39
5. Snatching	40	31	93	30	21	14	23	17	32	29	36	17
6. Riot	27	26	17	17	11	10	10	7	11	11	19	19
7. Hurt	189	166	362	313	131	123	45	37	204	180	297	277
8. Burglary	115	49	365	135	79	38	63	14	204	84	227	90
9. Theft	1778	525	2187	488	1233	371	1397	210	964	352	794	256
10. Other IPC	2801	2092	3150	3136	1917	1534	1461	886	1298	937	2045	1580
11. Total IPC	5080	3004	6370	3329	3510	2189	3037	1199	2803	1666	3620	2399
12. Local and Spl. Law	1169	1159	2559	2539	1628	1617	193	183	958	952	1048	1042
Grand Total												

Crime Head	South Cases		South-West Cases		West Cases		IGI Cases		Delhi Railway Police cases		Total Cases	
	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.	Rep.	Solv.
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1. Dacoity	8	5	3	2	1	1	1	1	6	6	25	20
2. Murder	70	42	38	31	70	63	-	-	8	3	446	329
3. Attempt to Murder	67	55	33	30	65	63	-	-	1	1	433	399
4. Robbery	102	70	40	27	29	26	-	-	20	16	492	381
5. Snatching	90	51	35	14	69	55	-	-	22	13	461	271
6. Riot	50	42	54	45	5	4	-	-	2	-	206	181
7. Hurt	268	219	164	142	361	344	2	2	8	5	2031	1808

	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8. Burglary	475	423	265	78	214	97	-	-	-	-	2007	706
9. Theft	4444	846	1403	301	1922	524	80	19	618	131	16760	4023
10. Other IPC	4288	2834	2516	1875	4015	3288	474	449	194	143	24160	17759
11. Total IPC	9862	4287	4551	2545	6751	4455	557	471	879	323	47021	25877
12. Local and Spl. Law	1050	1007	518	498	2598	2544	24	24	227	224	11984	11800
Grand Total											59005	37677

Note : In addition, the Narcotics and Crime Prevention Cell registered 12 cases during the reference period of which 11 have been solved. Similarly, 1 case has been registered by the Special Task Force in October, 1996.

### National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

727. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority created by an administrative order does not enjoy stationary authority and is only extended appendage of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices will continue to monitor the prices of bulk drugs;

(b) if so, furnish the details of justification for NPPA not being given the statutory status with independence in fixation of prices as envisaged under the new drug policy;

(c) the details of the functions assigned to NPPA and steps taken to ensure its early functioning;

(d) the total number of cases pending for price fixation, revision or rationalisation; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to ensure speedy disposal of the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c). The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has been created under the Drug Policy, 1986 as modified in 1994. The modifications did not stipulated that the NPPA should be a statutory authority. NPPA would be an independent body, as envisaged in the new Drug Policy. The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices is only a recommendatory body and does not monitor the prices of drugs.

(d) and (e). Price fixation/revision of prices of indigenously produced bulk drugs and formulations is done in accordance with the provisions of DPCO, 1995 and the prices are notified in the Official Gazette from time to time, which is a continuous process.

### Venue of Lakhubhai Pathak Case

728. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on September, 30, 1996 Delhi Police Commissioner decided to make an appeal to the Supreme Court next day for the change of venue of Lakhubhai Pathak trial case;

(b) if so, whether the Home Ministry had accorded its consent to the above action of the Police Commissioner; and

(c) if not, the reasons for by passing the Home Ministry which control the Delhi Police?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

### Streamlining of PDS

729. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :  
SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR :  
SHRI SURESH PRABHU :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether streamlining of the Public Distribution System from October onwards has been deferred;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether views of the State Governments were taken in this matter;

(d) if so, the States who offered their comments and whose views were incorporated in the programme; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his Independence Day address to the Nation on 15th August, 96 announced that 10 kg. of foodgrains would be provided every month to the poor families at half the normal price. The scheme was to come into operation from 2nd October, 1996, Gandhi Jayanti Day. However, in view of the election in Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir the scheme was deferred.

(c) Yes, Sir. The issue of streamlining the PDS was discussed in the conference of Chief Ministers on Basic Minimum Services held during 4-5 July, 1996. Keeping in view the suggestions of the Chief Ministers, a Conference of the State Food Minister's was held on 7th August, 1996 to discuss further the question of targeting the PDS.

(d) All States/UTs had participated in the Conference of State Food Ministers held on 7th August, 1996. The Conference unanimously endorsed the proposal for targeted PDS especially the provision of subsidised foodgrains to the population below poverty line and recommended that the Central Government might bring in this targeted PDS into force as soon as possible.

(e) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

### Deaths due to Starvation

730. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the starvation problem in Orissa and loss of lives as a result thereof during the recent months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for such situation occurring frequently in the State;

(d) whether the Government are also aware of the fact that the people suffering from starvation are not getting full assistance provided by the Central Government meant for drought/starvation;

(e) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Even though Government of Orissa have reported drought conditions in varying degrees in many parts of the State, due to deficient rainfall during South West Monsoon, 1996, it has not reported any instance of death due to starvation.

(c) As the State depends on rainfall for its crop production, a poor monsoon results in failure of crops and resultant drought conditions.

(d) No, Sir. Government of India is regularly monitoring and reviewing implementation of these programmes to achieve the desired level of targeting.

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

[Translation]

### Uniform Procurement Policy

731. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the absence of Uniform Procurement Policy in the country different varieties of agroproducts have been kept under different categories in different States;

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

(c) whether certain State Governments have drawn attention of the Union Government towards this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Government is following a uniform procurement policy. The Minimum Support Prices fixed for major agricultural commodities are uniformly applicable through-out the country. The prescribed specifications for procurement of foodgrains at Minimum Support Prices are also uniform all over the country.

(c) to (e). A representation had been received from Punjab Government about PR - 106 variety of paddy being accepted as Fine instead of Superfine. It has been clarified that although this variety of paddy is categorised as Superfine, in some cases, it may be accepted as Fine if the admixture of lower groups of paddy was higher than the prescribed limit.

[English]

### Smuggling of Arms

732. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge quantum of smuggled arms has been seized during the month of September, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of persons arrested so far; and

(c) the action being taken to stop smuggling of arms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Wheat Production

733. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agriculture scientists have worked out a comprehensive plan to raise wheat production in the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring more land under wheat production and to raise production thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main thrust points to raise wheat production during *rabi* 1996-97 are :

1. Greater emphasis on timely sowing (mid November) in all regions to enhance input use efficiency and achieve high productivity.
2. Replacement of old disease susceptible varieties with new improved ones. Attempts would be made to replace HD 2329 with PBW 343, WH 542 and UP 2338 in Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh; HUW 234, Sonalika and HUW 206 with Sonali, K 8804, Vishali, K 9006 and K 8962 in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.

3. Encouraging cultivation of superior export quality-durum wheat in Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Suitable varieties for this purpose are PDW 215, PDW 233 and WH 896 for Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh while Raj 1555 and HI 8381 are good for Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.
4. Other measures to increase wheat production and productivity include (i) application of zinc sulphate in light soils under the rice-wheat system in Punjab and Haryana @ 25 kg/ha and 10 tonnes FYM/ha; (ii) popularisation of Pantnagar Zero Tillage seed drill to sow wheat immediately after harvest of rice to ensure timely sowing and to reduce production costs; (iii) encouraging the cultivation of sunflower, chickpean, vegetable pea, potato, *rabi* maize, berseem etc. after every 1-2 cycles of rice-wheat rotation to break the monotony of the system in Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh to sustain high levels of productivity as also to control *phalaris minor* in severely infested fields.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. There is no specific proposal to bring more land under wheat production but efforts are being made to raise productivity to increase wheat production.

#### Fudging of Records by Police

734. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : 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 "Police officials fudged records, took booty home, alleges informer: CBI to probe bungling by Cops in 7yr. - old narcotics case" appearing in the *Indian Express* dated October 19, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the CBI has submitted its Report in this matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether similar type of cases have occurred in the past also;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure the non-recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The CBI, after considering the matter in depth in the light of earlier reports of inquiry conducted by a Sub Divisional Magistrate, etc., are, however, of the view that it is not a fit case for further investigation by the CBI, inter alia, on the ground that the police officer who had effected the seizure has since passed away.

(d) to (f). The CBI and Delhi Police have reported that no such case has come to their notice.

[Translation]

#### Atrocities on Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes

735. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of atrocities committed on Women, Children and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Backward Classes in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of women raped and beaten up nakedly, State-wise; and

(c) the number of persons arrested so far in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Available information relating to atrocities committed on women, children and scheduled castes/scheduled tribes during the year 1995 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) 18,880 persons were arrested for rape during 1994, as per latest available figures in this regard.

#### STATEMENT

*Incidence of Crimes Committed Against Women, Children, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes during the year, 1995.*

S.No.	State/UT	Women		Children	SCs	STs
		Total	Rape			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>States</b>						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9810	34	75	1764	165
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	81	24	3	0	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	1706	567	10	0	0
4.	Bihar	1042	351	29	221	35
5.	Goa	147	20	9	6	0
6.	Gujarat	4906	248	231	1724	486
7.	Haryana	1993	256	18	82	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	758	110	21	82	5
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	812	122	1	25	8
10.	Karnataka	5761	262	24	1171	96
11.	Kerala	31	244	15	696	185
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14883	3023	232	3979	1690
13.	Maharashtra	15378	1332	498	1622	505
14.	Manipur	97	10	1	1	2
15.	Meghalaya	44	16	1	2	2
16.	Mizoram	100	39	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	14	12	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	1722	515	18	329	143
19.	Punjab	593	91	14	8	4
20.	Rajasthan	7740	874	34	4111	1456
21.	Sikkim	49	3	0	33	40
22.	Tamil Nadu	7818	241	7	1293	40
23.	Tripura	255	74	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15411	1800	106	14205	105
25.	West Bengal	6384	787	165	11	0
<b>Union Territories</b>						
26.	A and N Islands	24	5	0	0	0
27.	Chandigarh	70	5	5	0	0
28.	D and N Haveli	15	1	0	0	3
29.	Daman and Diu	1	1	0	2	1
30.	Delhi	2288	335	69	6	0
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	52	2	5	24	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>102085</b>	<b>12204</b>	<b>1592</b>	<b>31387</b>	<b>5023</b>

### Killing of Human Beings by Wild Animals

736. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the incidents of killing of human beings by wild animals in the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any financial assistance is provided by the Central or State Government to the dependents of the victims;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The State Government of Uttar Pradesh provides to the dependents an assistance of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 5,000 when an adult or minor respectively is killed by wild animals. This Ministry also provides financial assistance to the States for this purpose under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Project Tiger and Project Elephant.

(d) Does not arise.

### Extinction of Wild Buffaloes

737. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a rare species of wild buffaloes found in Bastar (Madhya Pradesh) is on the verge of extinction; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Although the wild buffalo in Baster, Madhya Pradesh is an endangered species, it is not on the verge of extinction.

(b) The wild buffalo is included under schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 which gives it full legal protection against hunting and commercial exploitation. The species and its habitat is also protected in the Indravati National Park, Bhairamgarh Sanctuary and Pamed Sanctuary of Baster District in Madhya Pradesh which together have a population of 225 wild buffaloes as per the 1996 census.

[English]

### Pak Infiltrators

738. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Army foiled an attempt by Pakistan to subvert the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by arresting a number of Hizbul Mujahideen hard-core militants and recovering from them huge quantities of arms on the election eve and repulsing a group of Pak-infiltrators; and

(b) if so, the details of any other similar moves by the militants and Pak forces in Jammu and Kashmir during August-September, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). It is a fact that Pakistan and its protege militant groups made all possible efforts, including attempts to infiltrate armed terrorists into the State, to try and subvert and disrupt the process of the Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir. It is not feasible to pinpoint any particular operation of the Army to foil such designs. Coordinated arrangements and sustained efforts were made by the State Government and all the Security forces and agencies to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed. As a result, the Assembly elections in the State were conducted largely peacefully.

During the period August-September, 1996, 265 militants were killed, 164 were arrested and large quantity of weapons including inter-alia, 422 rifles, 184

pistols, 768 grenades and a sizeable quantity of explosives and ammunition were recovered from the militants.

### Consumer Protection Courts/Forums

739. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the consumer protection courts/forums have been set up at the State and District levels in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government renders any assistance to the States for setting up consumer protection courts/forums; and

(d) if so, the amount allocated to Rajasthan so far for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. One State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission at State level and 32 District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums at District level have been set up in Rajasthan under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(c) and (d). Central Government does not provide any assistance to the States for setting up of Consumer Courts/Forums. However, Central Government has sanctioned one-time grant to States/UTs to strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts. Under the scheme an amount of Rs. 1.69 crores has been provided to the State of Rajasthan so far.

### Relief to Fishermen

740. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide financial relief to fishermen during the lean months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of fishermen likely to be covered under the scheme; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to cover all marine fishermen under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The Saving-cum-Relief component of the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme, which was introduced during 1991-92, provided financial support to active marine fishermen during lean months in a year when no fishing activity is due to monsoon/closed season. The scheme?

implemented till 31st March, 1996 and extension is under consideration.

(c) For the Eighth Five Year Plan it had been targeted to cover 6.60 lakh marine fishermen under the Saving-cum-Relief component of the National Welfare of Fishermen scheme. Against this target 8.71 lakh marine fishermen were likely to be covered upto 1995-96.

(d) The scheme was being implemented in only 7 maritime State/Union Territories upto 1995-96.

[Translation]

### English Language in the Official Work

741. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is going to celebrate Golden Jubilee of its independence whereas the country is still facing dependence of English language in the official work;

(b) whether official language is not being used in official work for a long time and even the Supreme Court has adopted English as its legal language and the Public Service Commission has made English language as essential one;

(c) whether it is an insult of not only official language Hindi but also all Indian languages;

(d) whether it is not known that the official language of the country is Hindi or English and as per the constitution of India, English is the secondary language but in fact Hindi has become the language of translation; and

(e) whether there is any other independent country on the earth where a foreign language is being used even after fifty years of independence and where a dozen national and five international languages are being used simultaneously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Celebration of Golden Jubilee of independence is a matter of pride for any countrymen. It would not be proper to link this issue with that of the Official Language.

(b) No doubt, English has even upto today, maintained its dominance in official functioning, however, use of Hindi in official work is increasing gradually with incessant efforts of the Government. There are some long term recommendations on introducing use of Hindi in the Supreme Court in the fifth volume of the Report submitted by the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language; action is being taken to get the Presidential Orders passed on these recommendations. English is not compulsory in most of the Examinations conducted by UPSC.

(c) Hindi is the Official Language of the country and (d), Hindi is the Official Language of the country as per the constitution of India. Govt. of

India is conscious about the progress of Official Language Hindi and is making efforts for the progressive use of Hindi in Official work. It is a sort of compulsion to resort to translation during the transitional period.

(e) Circumstances of different countries are not the same with regard to language and therefore, comparison of one country with another can not be said to be significant.

[English]

### Agricultural Production Growth Rate

742. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the present growth rate of agricultural production as compared to the previous two years;

(b) whether there has been significant fall in the production growth rate in the post green revolution period and since the period from which the support price schemes for agriculture have been active;

(c) if so, whether it has also been noticed that while productivity growth rate has improved, the production growth rate has declined;

(d) if so, the reasons for such decline in production growth rate;

(e) whether price policy has not been accompanied by adequate policy aimed at education and training of the farmers in the use of modern technologies which has been responsible for insufficient use of inputs;

(f) whether agriculture extension services are also inadequate; and

(g) if so, the measures being undertaken to improve the agricultural growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The change over the previous year in Agricultural production index during 1995-96 was -0.8 percent in comparison to +0.5 percent and +3.5 percent in 1994-95 and 1993-94 respectively.

(b) to (d). The annual growth rate during the post-green revolution period (1967-68 to 1994-95), which almost coincides with the post-price support period, has been of the order of 2.87 per cent. The annual growth rate in productivity during this period has been 2.02 per cent. The low growth in 1995-96 is owing to abnormal weather conditions and low and imbalanced use of fertilizers.

(e) to (g). In order to make agriculture price policy effective, price support has been accompanied by various other measures including adequate supply of various yield increasing inputs and effective extension services to educate the farmers for adoption of modern technology. The extension services have been extended

over years in most of the States. Various crop production oriented programmes are being implemented to improve the agricultural productivity and growth rate of production in this sector.

### Ozone Busting Chemicals

743. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of projects alongwith their estimated cost approved by the Government to switch over from the ozone busting chemicals under Multilateral Fund created, under Montreal Protocol, during the last three years, Statewise;

(b) the actual progress of the ongoing projects against the targets set;

(c) the details of the proposals pending clearance, and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to expedite clearance and release of fund for each State;

(d) whether the Government have taken initiative to bring in a suitable legislation to ban the establishment of any new CFC producing and ODS using units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). Multilateral Fund created under Montreal Protocol approves funds on project basis. The funding being provided by the Multilateral Fund is project specific and is disbursed directly to the concerned industry for execution of the project. The assistance being provided is not routed through Govt. of India. Govt. of India scrutinises the project and recommends the eligible projects to the Multilateral Fund for final approval. One hundred and six projects for phaseout Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) for various industries under Foam, Refrigeration, Aerosol, Halons and Solvents sectors during last 3 years and 13 projects which have been recommended for funding are pending with Multilateral Fund for final approval.

Initially progress of implementation of projects was slow due to compliance of certain formalities between implementing agencies, industry and Govt. However, there has been a significant improvement.

(d) and (e). Separate rules under Environment Protection Act are under preparation.

### Dairy Processing Technologies

744. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of animal production and dairy processing technologies developed at NDRI during the last three years; and

(b) the number of these adopted by the farmers and entrepreneurs and the achievements made there under?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

### Price of Fertilizer

745. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the farmers of West Uttar Pradesh have been heavily affected by the rise in the prices of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the relief is proposed to be given to the farmers to save them from this crisis that emerged out of sudden increase in the prices of phosphatic fertilizers by the Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Immediately after the decontrolling of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers in August 1992, a concession of Rs. 1000 was introduced per tonne of DAP and MOP; Rs. 340 per tonne of SSP and Rs. 435-999 for various grades of complexes to cushion the impact of rise in prices. Realising that this concession has not sufficient, Government on 6.7.96 effected increase in concession from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 3000 per tonne of indigenous DAP; a concession of Rs. 1500 per tonne of imported DAP was also extended to which concession was withdrawn during 1993-94; from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500 per tonne of MOP, from a range of Rs. 435-999 to a range of Rs. 1304-2633 for various grades of complexes and from Rs. 340 to Rs. 500 per tonne of SSP.

[English]

### National Policy for Mentally Retarded Persons

746. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any national policy has been evolved for the rehabilitation of the mentally retarded persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Finance and Development Corpn. has been established for the parents of the mentally handicapped persons; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). National Policy on disability rehabilitation is under preparation.

(c) and (d). The action for operationalising the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation to promote economic development activities and self-employment for the benefit/economic rehabilitation of the handicapped persons is in progress. The proposal to set up a National Trust for the Welfare of persons with mental retardation and cerebral palsy is under process. The main task of the Trust will be to make arrangements for care and rehabilitation of the persons suffering from mental retardation and cerebral palsy; to provide aid and assistance to the organisations engaged in such care and to receive and manage the properties bequeathed for the purpose.

#### **New Projects for Orissa**

747. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some welfare projects of Orissa are pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the estimated amount involved in each of them alongwith the salient features thereof?

(c) the reasons for the delay in according approval to each of them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There are two projects i.e. (i) Arbhajharbhal Community Lift Irrigation Project-1994-95; and (ii) improvement of PWD Road from Jamardini to N.H. 6 Road in Angul District.

An amount of Rs. 627.82 lakhs was asked by the State Govt. for implementation of Arbhajharbhal Community Lift Irrigation Project out of the Additional Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan during 1994-95, vide their letter dated 13-3-96. In addition, Rs. 124.50 Lakhs has been asked by the State Govt. for construction of PWD Road from Jamardini to NH. 6 Road in Angul district. Both the proposals are pending from 13-3-96 and 15-6-96, respectively.

(c) and (d). Recently the Government have decided to discontinue the grants under additional Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub Plan and therefor, the projects will not be considered.

#### **Searches carried out by Delhi Police**

748. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of searches carried out in Delhi by the police during 1996 police station-wise;

(b) in how many cases did the police while conducting searches and making seizures not associate the independent witnesses of the locality;

(c) whether the investigating officer can make searches and seizures in areas not falling under the police station to which he is posted; and

(d) if so, under which section of the criminal procedure code?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Mining Licences in National Parks and Sanctuaries**

749. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether mining licences have been given/are being given in some areas earmarked for the National Parks and Sanctuaries; and

(b) if so, the National Parks and Sanctuaries where this situation has arisen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Letters from Members of Parliament**

750. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters received during 1996 from MPs regarding affairs of Super Bazar;

(b) the number of letters awaiting replies from Government and reasons for delay;

(c) the time by which replies to these letters be expected; and

(d) the action taken to avoid recurrence of delay?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). 14 (fourteen) letters have been received from the Members of Parliament during the year 1996 regarding the affairs of Super Bazar, Delhi.

(c) and (d). Super Bazar has been reminded to expedite their replies in this regard and the replies to the MPs will be sent soon after the receipt of the materials.

### Agricultural Export

751. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are providing any financial assistance to the State Governments to boost the export of agricultural produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether only 400 crore rupees have been spent out of the plan outlay of Rupees 1000 crores to improve the agricultural export;

(d) if so, the reasons and justification thereof; and

(e) the details of steps/action plan initiated by the Government to boost the export of agricultural produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. Government does not provide any financial assistance to State govts. specifically to boost export of agricultural produce.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). There is no separate allocation to improve agricultural export, the thrust however is to achieve higher levels of production.

(e) To boost the export of agricultural produce Government has taken a number of steps viz. simplification of inspection procedures, removal of quantity restrictions on some items, concessional credit, product development to meet international standards, extension of benefits under the scheme of 100% export oriented units/export processing zones to agricultural sector, air freight subsidy on selected floricultural/horticultural/fresh vegetables to specified destinations, provision of cold storage at airports, financial assistance to exporters under various schemes, participation in international trade fairs, arranging buyers-sellers meetings, organising market development campaigns, improving packaging and quality certification. The National Horticulture Board provides assistance for marketing, handling, processing and infrastructural facilities for domestic and export markets.

### Selling of Adopted Children

752. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India asked to State Government of Orissa for a report on the alleged involvement of Basundhara, a voluntary organisation in selling of children in the name of adoption;

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government of India in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). This Ministry has received a number of complaints and allegations from senior citizens of Cuttack as well as MLAs of Orissa Government stating that the organisation Basundhara is involved in malafide activities which inter-alia relate to selling of children in name of adoption. The State Commission for Women had also asked for investigation of the activities of placement agencies in Orissa including that of Basundhara. The Government has contacted the appropriate authorities under the Government of India to conduct an investigation of the activities of this organisation and submit a report which is awaited. The State Government has not been asked to submit a report. However they have been informed of the action taken by this Ministry.

### Late Arrival of Monsoon

753. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the late monsoon has adversely affected the Kharif crop particularly the staple crops like Bajra, Jowar and pulses such as Urad and Moong;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) whether due to dry spell the crop has also been affected in the Western Maharashtra particularly in Nasik, Ahmednagar and Pune districts in Aurangabad, and

(d) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d). Due to dry spells, the growth and development of crop was affected to some extent initially but the crops recovered later on by favourable weather conditions. The production is likely to be better than last Kharif season.

[Translation]

### Inter State Council

754. SHRI N.J. RATHWA :  
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :  
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :  
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :  
SHRI D.P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the sittings of Inter-State Council held so far and the suggestions made thereof;

(b) the details of the suggestions/requests made by the Chief Ministers which were accepted/rejected by the Government alongwith the suggestions/requests proposed to be taken into consideration:

(c) the time by which a final decision to implement these suggestions/requests is likely to be taken:

(d) the reasons for the delay in taking a final decision in this regard:

(e) whether any high level committees has also been set up to review the recommendations made by Sarkaria Commission in respect of the Centre-State relationship:

(f) if so, whether the Committee have submitted its report: and

(g) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (g). So far two meetings of the Inter-State Council have been held. The first meeting was held on 10th October, 1996 and the second meeting on 15th October, 1996. The Council, in its first meeting, decided to set up a Sub-Committee to examine the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations and also to consider wider aspects of Centre-State relations. The report of the Sub-Committee was to be considered at the next meeting of the Inter-State Council.

The Inter-State Council, in its second meeting, took note of the work of the Sub-Committee, particularly the 179 recommendations finalised by it. While it broadly endorsed the recommendations of the Sub-Committee, it also decided that in view of the reservations expressed by some of the Chief Ministers, the State Governments may send their views on any matter of relevance, including the 179 recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee, to the Inter-State Council Secretariat so that their views can be further considered by the Standing Committee of the Council proposed to be constituted. The Constitution of the Standing Committee is under consideration.

The Standing Committee would also review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission, especially the vital question of devolution of financial powers from the Central Government to the State Governments and the examination of changes required in article 356 of the Constitution of India. The Committee will be required to give its report within three months and the same will be considered thereafter by the Council. The recommendations of the Inter-State Council will be sent to the Government for consideration and a final decision.

In view of the recommendations of the Inter-State Council to constitute a Standing Committee, the proposal to constitute a High Level Committee stands dropped.

### Gobbling of Old Age Pension

755. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the incidents of gobbling up of old age pension of poor dalits in village Kegha of Kalyanpur Development block of Kanpur (U.P.):

(b) if so, whether the Government had asked to conduct an inquiry in the matter:

(c) if so, the result thereof: and

(d) the action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d). The Government is not aware of any incident of Gobbling of funds released as Old Age Pension under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) to the State of U.P. as such and to village Kegha of Kalyanpur Development Block of Kanpur District.

[English]

### Misuse of Funds by M.C.D

756. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received suggestions/requests from some hon'ble Members of Parliament from July 1, 1996 till date for making probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into the increase in crimes in Delhi and misuse of funds by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi:

(b) whether such suggestions or memoranda have also been received from certain social organisations of Delhi:

(c) if so, the details thereof:

(d) whether the Union Government have ordered or proposed to order for conducting probe into the said matters by the Central Bureau of Investigations;

(e) if so, the details thereof: and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Assistance for Natural Calamities

757. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :  
SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA :  
SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT :  
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to each State to deal with

various natural calamities like floods, drought, cyclones, hail storms etc. during 1996-97:

(b) the amount actually released to each State till date for the purpose:

(c) whether several State Governments have requested the Union Government to provide special assistance or to raise the amount of assistance to deal with the natural calamities during 1996-97:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e). A Statement indicating the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) allocation, funds released therefrom

and additional funds sought by various State Governments during 1996-97 for relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities is enclosed.

Additional funds over and above the CRF are provided to the State Governments from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) only in the wake of calamities of rare severity. For floods during 1996-97, Rs. 21.00 crores has been provided to Assam as additional assistance from the NFCR. It has also been decided to release Rs. 3.00 crores to Arunachal Pradesh and Rs. 7.00 crores to Bihar from this fund. The requests of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Sikkim are presently under consideration. In the case of requests from other States it has been decided that the calamities are not of rare severity warranting any additional assistance.

#### STATEMENT

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	State	Actual CRF	Central share	Central share released	Request for additional assistance
1.	Andhra Pradesh	124.19	93.14	93.140	2819.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.04	5.28	3.960	110.53
3.	Assam	50.01	37.51	28.133	415.51
4.	Bihar	51.96	38.97	29.228	168.92
5.	Goa	1.07	0.80	0.600	-
6.	Gujarat	139.60	104.70	104.700	282.00
7.	Haryana	25.05	18.79	18.790	43.36
8.	Himachal Pradesh	26.95	20.21	15.158	458.37
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	19.71	14.78	14.780	273.97
10.	Karnataka	41.85	31.39	23.543	-
11.	Kerala	55.40	41.55	41.550	312.83
12.	Madhya Pradesh	51.08	38.31	28.733	55.00
13.	Maharashtra	68.20	51.15	38.363	-
14.	Manipur	2.48	1.86	1.400	-
15.	Meghalaya	2.79	2.09	1.568	-
16.	Mizoram	1.27	0.95	0.712	-
17.	Nagaland	1.71	1.28	0.960	-
18.	Orissa	49.01	36.76	36.760	585.80
19.	Punjab	54.15	40.61	30.458	-
20.	Rajasthan	179.04	134.28	134.280	321.00
21.	Sikkim	4.71	3.53	3.530	43.92
22.	Tamil Nadu	59.35	44.51	33.383	-
23.	Tripura	4.49	3.37	2.528	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	125.12	93.84	70.380	429.79
25.	West Bengal	51.32	38.49	38.490	309.00

### Land Under Cultivation

758. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total arable land brought under cultivation in the country;

(b) the potential to bring more land under cultivation;

(c) the value lost due to non-cultivation of such land; and

(d) the steps proposed in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As per the land use statistics the total arable land was 166.07 million hectares for 1992-93 (latest available) i.e. higher by 19.20 million hectares over the arable land of 146.87 million hectares in 1950-51.

(b) The available culturable waste land (14.6 million hectares) has the potential for being brought under cultivation.

(c) No assessment about the value lost due to non-cultivation of such land has ever been made.

(d) It has been the endeavour of the Government to bring more area under cultivation through reclamation of culturable waste land and programme of afforestation and conservation.

### Jail Inmates Allegedly Hacked

759. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item titled "three Tihar inmates hacked off cell-mate's thumb", appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated October 11, 1996;

(b) whether the three inmates allegedly hacked off the thumbs of their cell-mate on the night of October 7, 1996 and flushed the same down the toilet;

(c) if so, whether the matter has been investigated and the culprits apprehended; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The three accused inmates are reported to have initially claimed that both the severed thumbs were flushed off in the toilet but later on severed thumb was recovered from outside the periphery area of the Jail boundary. A criminal case has already been registered against the three accused inmates. The Jail authorities have also placed two Jail officials under

suspension for alleged negligence of duty and departmental proceedings have been initiated against 5 officials including the two officials placed under suspension.

### New Techniques for Agriculture Sector

760. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government emphasised the need to make available modern technology to the farmers in remote areas and inaccessible areas to improve the production and to find opportunities for marketing their products to increase their income;

(b) if so, whether the Government have also called the agricultural scientists to take up the evolving appropriate technology needed by the small producers for enhancing their productivity, production and income;

(c) if so, whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the farming technology is likely to be upgraded during 1996 and onwards?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In our meetings with the scientists, emphasis is being laid on evolving appropriate technologies by the scientists which are further assessed and refined through adaptive trials to meet the requirements of farming community including small farmers. Guidelines have not been issued.

(e) Technology upgradation is a continuous process based on the feed-back and location specific needs of a particular area/region.

### Private Investment in Farm Sector

761. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow large private investment in the farm sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). There are no restrictions on private sector investment in agriculture. In fact, the Government is encouraging private investment in the farm sector by improving infrastructural facilities and credit support and creating a favourable price and trade regime.

### Drip Irrigation Scheme

762. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to Orissa for Drip-irrigation Scheme during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) whether the State Government has sought for increase in the allocation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any report was sought from Orissa on the utilization of funds;

(e) if so, whether the State Government has submitted the report; and

(f) the additional funds allocated to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The funds allocated to the State during 1994-95 and 1995-96 were Rs. 249 lakhs and Rs. 80.25 lakhs respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) No additional funds were allocated to the State.

### Latur Victims

763. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Money for Latur victims siphoned off" appeared in "Statesman", dated September 30, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have information about the exact amount of donation received from Indian and foreign donors;

(c) whether the rehabilitation work is still in jeopardy and the Union as well as State Government have failed to take any concrete measures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Programme (MEERP) is being implemented in a phased manner, with well established procedures for reporting, monitoring and accounting.

The Programme is reviewed at the highest levels in the State Government periodically. The World Bank Teams also regularly assess the progress of the Programme and utilisation of its credit.

(d) Does not arise.

### Non-bailable Warrants

764. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of non-bailable warrants issued by the Delhi Courts during 1996;

(b) the number of arrests made consequent to the issue of non-bailable warrants; and

(c) the number of cases in which the Higher Courts granted stay orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Public Distribution System in Hill Areas

765. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the storage and distribution system of consumer goods in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh is at the Gram Panchayat and Block levels;

(b) whether in the absence of adequate storage facility the people of hilly areas have to wait over a month for essential commodities like kerosene, sugar etc.; and

(c) if so, the arrangements being made to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Under the Public Distribution System only six commodities, viz. rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil, kerosene oil and soft coke are issued through the network of Fair Price Shops, numbering about 4.37 lakhs in the country, which are run by the co-operatives, State Civil Supplies Corporations or private retailers. These commodities are transported and stored at the State level by the Food Corporation of India, State Trading Corporation and oil companies and further storage transportation/distribution within the State is entirely the responsibility of the State Governments.

(b) and (c). No specific complaint has been received about people of hilly areas having to wait over a month for PDS commodities.

### Depletion of Ozone Layer

766. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the United National Agency's report regarding the increasing threat of skin cancer and cataract arising due to the depletion of ozone layer caused by several gases released from industries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Country Programme was prepared after detailed all-round consultation to provide assistance for funding the component of incremental costs including transfer of technology from the Multilateral Fund for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances. Steps have been taken to create awareness of the need to protect Ozone Layer and fiscal incentives have been provided for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) by Industries.

[English]

### Infiltration

767. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistani forces resorted to unprovoked firings across the borders and the LOC along Jammu and Kashmir during the recent assembly elections in the State besides perpetrating militancy, infiltration of militants and smuggling of arms;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period from 7th to 30th September, 1996 when the Assembly Elections were held in Jammu and Kashmir the number of such unprovoked firing incidents by Pak Forces along the Line of Control and International Border in Jammu and Kashmir was 184.

(c) Pakistani Forces resort to unprovoked and recurring firing across the International Border and Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir to facilitate infiltration of militants from across the border. Indian Forces counter such firings and are always in a state of readiness to thwart the evil designs of Pakistani Forces.

### Per Hectare Production of Coconut

768. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of oilseeds brought under the Technology Mission; and

(b) the per hectare production and productivity of coconut and oilpalm in the country particularly in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh respectively?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Oilseed included under the Technology Mission are Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Castor, Niger, Rapeseed and Mustard, Linseed and Safflower. In addition oil-palm has also been included.

(b) The per hectare production/productivity of coconut and oilpalm is as follows :

State	Coconut Production/ Productivity/ No. of Nuts/ha.	Oilpalm Production Productivity fresh fruit bunches Metric tonnes/ha.
Andhra Pradesh	13642	4.00
Karnataka	5179	3-4
Kerala	5888	5.85
Tamil Nadu	12139	Plantation still in vegetative phase.

Oil from the fresh fruit bunches is available from the 4th year and the production of oil is stabilised from 8th year onwards of the planting.

[Translation]

### Official Language Department in Home Affairs

769. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a Department of official language in the Ministry of Home Affairs for which the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs does not find time and as a result the reconstitution of Hindi Advisory Committee of any Ministry is not done in time and if it is reconstituted it does not sit four times in a year;

(b) whether the Hindi Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs has also not held its meeting four times in a year;

(c) whether none of the Departments even in exception, has been able to meet the targets fixed in the annual programmes regarding the progressive use of Hindi even during last 23-24 years;

(d) whether in contravention of the provisions of official language Act, dozens of equipments providing facility of working in English/Roman language have been installed and now the use of bilingual equipments is talked about but it is not known as to who, why, where, how and for whom it will be used while all the files are maintained only in English/Roman language;

(e) whether all the Ministries send their letters to Hindi speaking States in English and the Hindi speaking States are compelled to send their plans and budget in English language; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The work of the Department of Official Language like other Deptts. of MHA is executed by the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs. Generally, the tenure of Hindi Salahakar Samitties is three years. After expiry of the tenure, these are re-constituted. Concerned Ministries are required to hold four meetings in a year. Directions are issued from time to time to the Ministries for holding meeting in time.

(b) Two meetings of the Hindi Salahakar Samittee were held during the year 1995.

(c) In the Annual Programme, different targets are fixed for various items relating to progressive use of Hindi. Targets have been achieved in respect of some items and various Deptts. of Govt. of India are making efforts to achieve the targets of such items for which the same have not been achieved.

(d) There are standing orders to the offices of Central Govt. that all electronic equipments being purchased by the Offices, should have the facility of working in Devnagari script in addition to Roman script. Wherever the violation of these orders come to notice, the concerned offices are reminded to follow the orders. The use of these equipments is necessary for achieving the targets fixed in the Annual Programme.

(e) and (f). Plans and Budget proposals are prepared bilingually. No instance of compelling any Hindi speaking State to send the information relating to these only in English by any Ministry has come to the notice of the Government.

[English]

### National Human Rights Commission

770. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has asked the Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories to take steps to pass an appropriate resolution in their respective States authorising parliamentary legislation on prisons;

(b) if so, the main points referred to by the National Human Rights Commission in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have considered the views expressed by the Human Rights Commission in this regard;

(d) if so, whether Union Government are considering to convene a meeting of State Home Ministers to discuss the issue; and

(e) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be convened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Chairperson National Human Rights Commission forwarded a copy of Model Prison Bill drafted by the Core Group set up by the Commission to Chief Ministers of State Governments on 29.8.96 requesting that the appropriate resolution be passed by the State Legislature authorising the Parliamentary Legislation of Prisons in public interest in the light of the fact that "Prison" is a matter in the List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution and Parliament will have no authority to legislate unless action under Article 252 of the Constitution is taken by the States.

(c) to (e). Government have received a reference from the National Human Rights Commission in this regard only on 21.11.96. The matter is under examination.

[Translation]

### Loans to Poor Persons

771. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of poor persons provided loans by the Scheduled Caste, Women and Other Backward Classes Corporations during 1994-95 and the current year.

(b) the total amount disbursed as loan during the financial year 1995-96 and the current financial year, and

(c) whether the amount has actually been utilised by the poor persons for the purchase of those articles for which the same was meant?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The amount of loan disbursed and poor persons benefitted during 1995-96 and the current year is as follows :

#### 1. National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation

Year	Loan disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)	Persons benefitted
1995-96	2335.92	10071
1996-97 (upto 20-11-96)	1380.79	698

## 2. Scheduled Castes Development Corporation

Year	Loan disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)	Persons benefitted
1995-96	54202.30	396930
1996-97	(Figures will be available only during 1997-98)	

(c) Yes, Sir.

[English]

### Schemes for Aged Persons

772. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes and programmes to be launched by the Government on the World Elders Day;

(b) whether any habitation and travel facilities are proposed to be provided to the destitute aged persons; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide these facilities to the destitute aged women?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Employment to Disabled Unemployed Youth

773. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of unemployed youth among the disabled and non-disabled;

(b) the steps being taken to absorb the disabled persons in the gainful employment;

(c) whether remuneration paid to the disabled are less than that or paid to their counterparts in the non-disabled category;

(d) if so, the measures taken to rectify the imbalance;

(e) whether there is any proposal for providing special benefits, privileges or concessions to the relatives of the disabled; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) According to the information furnished by Directorate General of Employment and Training, out of 3,66,91,500 persons in the Live Register of Employment Exchanges 32,91,700 have been placed under employment upto 31.12.94. The corresponding

figures for the disabled persons are 3,40,304 and 52,859 respectively. The respective percentages of unemployment among the disabled and non-disabled are 84.47 and 91.03.

(b) Statement - I showing the steps being taken to absorb disabled persons in the gainful employment is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). No information is available. However, there is no provision of fixing different rates for disabled persons under Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(e) and (f). Statement - II containing brief write-up on such concessions by the Central Government is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT - I

- (i) In terms of Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, every appropriate Government shall appoint in every establishment such percentage of vacancies not less than three per cent for persons or class of persons with disability of which one per cent each shall be reserved for persons suffering from - (i) blindness or low vision; (ii) hearing impairment; (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy, in the posts identified for each disability. Even before the Act came into force, 3 per cent vacancies have been reserved for physically handicapped, 1 per cent each for the physical, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in Group C and D posts in Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings. Similar reservations have been given by some State Govts. Apart from this, age concession and relaxation in medical standards are also available to handicapped candidates.
- (ii) 41 Special Employment Exchanges and 47 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped in getting gainful employment. Besides, the Normal Employment Exchange also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment.
- (iii) Seventeen Vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to assess the residual ability of the disabled, arrange their training and place them in employment.
- (iv) Self-employment is promoted through the following :
  - (a) Allotment of vending stalls, kiosks and petty shops;
  - (b) Loans from Nationalised Banks at nominal rates of interest under differential Rate of Interest Scheme;

- (c) Allotment of public telephone booths;
- (d) Reservation in distribution of petrol pumps, kerosene depots etc.

### STATEMENT - II

#### *Concessions to the relatives/escorts of the handicapped*

##### 1. *Travel concessions :*

*Travel by Rail :* Escorts accompanying the blind/orthopaedically and mentally handicapped persons are eligible for 75% concession in the basic fare. This is in addition to the concession for the disabled persons.

- ##### 2. *Educational Allowance :* Reimbursement of tuition fees in respect of physically handicapped and mentally retarded children of the Central Govt. employees has been enhanced to Rs. 50/-.

##### 3. *Income Tax Exemption :*

#### *Deduction in respect of medical treatment of handicapped dependants*

An assessee who has incurred any expenditure for medical treatment (including nursing), of any handicapped dependant suffering from permanent disability (including blindness/mental retardation) having the effect of reducing his capacity for normal work, is eligible for deduction of Rs. 20,000/- from his income.

### Alternatives to Prison Sentences

774. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether conference of the Chief Ministers held at New Delhi on November 13, 1992 had recommended to explore the alternatives to prison sentences;

(b) if so, whether the Government had since then explored alternatives to prison sentences.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government has been advising the State Governments on improving various facets of Jail Administration including that of exploring alternatives to imprisonment. The Government is also interacting with the Law Commission on a proposal to amend section 53 of the IPC to provide for various alternatives to imprisonment such as community service.

### Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Horticulture Fisheries etc.

775. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes implemented in the fields of horticulture, fruits, plantation, fishery etc in Gujarat State particularly in the tribal dominated areas during the last three years till date;

(b) the funds made available by the Government for these schemes during the said period, separately;

(c) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research or any such research institutes has evolved any new technique for these areas; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to make the people aware about the same and to encourage them to undertake schemes in the said fields?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A statement indicating the name of schemes and amount provided to the Government of Gujarat during the last three years is attached.

(c) and (d). Technologies have been developed/evolved for production of fruits, medicinal and aromatic plants, etc. High-yielding selections in datepalm and banana have been made for further multiplication and distribution to farmers to improve productivity and quality. Improved varieties of fruits like ber, pomegranate, datepalm, aonla etc. have been introduced and popularised. Technology for raising fruit plantations on drylands under semi-arid conditions of Gujarat have been evolved and demonstrated by the Central Horticulture Experiment station at Godhra alongwith techniques to develop degraded land through hortipast-oral systems suitable for these soils. A large number of improved varieties of medicinal plants have been evolved along with package of practices suitable to Gujarat.

2. Use of drip irrigation for horticultural crops has been standardised for banana, lime, mango, etc. and a few vegetable crops. Similarly, technology for the use of greenhouses for production of off-season vegetables has also been developed.

3. Under the fisheries sector, the following activities have been undertaken :

(i) Conducted detailed studies on various reservoirs on Narmada and formulated strategies for management of fisheries conservation of changing eco-system of the river.

(ii) Developed pre-processing procedures and frozen storage characteristics for import varieties of fishes of Saurashtra Coast to

- enhance the value of the fish/fish product of domestic and export marketing.
- (iii) Developed management strategies for optimum exploitation of marine fish stock after detailed assessment of the population

dynamics of the commercially important marine fisheries resources of Gujarat Coast.

4. Central Government is providing assistance for demonstrations, trainings and for publishing of package of practices for disseminating the new technologies.

### STATEMENT

*Details of Central Assistance Provided to Gujarat State during the last three years*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Central Assistance Released		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
<b>A. Fisheries</b>				
1.	Minor Fishery Harbours	109.635	109.89	291.68
2.	Freshwater Aquaculture	17.00	17.00	-
3.	Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development	36.16	6.00	6.00
4.	Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries	233.00	361.76	323.24
5.	Welfare of Fishermen	-	-	67.02
6.	Strengthening of Inland Fish Marketing.	-	11.00	-
7.	Inland Fisheries Statistics	2.18	3.50	4.00
8.	Training and Extension	-	-	1.00
<b>Horticulture</b>				
1.	Development of Commercial Floriculture	1.00	0.65	7.50
2.	Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	-	-	1.05
3.	Development of Tropical Arid and Temperated Foods	60.72	40.00	-
4.	Development of Spices	25.46	22.00	37.85
5.	Development of Vegetables	12.99	03.13	06.80
6.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture	103.12	280.00	-
7.	Development of Betelvine	-	01.25	01.25

### Accounting System in Super Bazar

776. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Super Bazar has since been able to evaluate the usefulness of the decentralised accounting systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decentralised accounting system has only added to the miseries of the suppliers in getting their payments on time rather than helping them; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to revert back to the old system?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b). It has been reported by the Super Bazar that decentralisation of accounting system was introduced for better administrative control, monitoring of sales, reduction of expenses and timely payment to suppliers. This has helped them in this regard.

(c) Super Bazar has issued instructions to its Regional Distribution Centres (RDCs), Purchase Section

and Payment Section to process the bills within specified time schedule. implementation of which is reviewed by the management of Super Bazar from time to time. Normally Super Bazar makes the payment to the suppliers as per the agreed period of time.

(d) It has been reported by the Super Bazar that while introducing computerisation of accounts the accounting system will be reviewed.

### Subsidy in Agriculture Sector

777. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank is constantly putting pressure on India for discontinuing subsidy in the agriculture sector.

(b) if so, whether the issue was also discussed with the President of World Bank during his recent visit to India:

(c) if so, the details thereof: and

(d) the viewpoint of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The general approach of the World Bank towards subsidy in the agriculture sector has been that there is a need for a fresh look at continuation of the subsidies in view of impact on fiscal balance, declining investment due to resource constraints etc.

(b) and (c). There was an incidental reference to this aspect during the visit and meeting of the president, World Bank and his team with Agriculture Minister.

(d) All efforts must be made to improve productivity of the resource poor small and marginal farmers, who contribute nearly 80% of the total number of farmers by taking Science & Technology to them and the Government is committed to this.

### Dairying and Animal Husbandry Development Schemes

778. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where the schemes for development of Dairying and Animal Husbandry have been introduced with the foreign aid:

(b) the details of schemes indicating the achievements made thereunder so far: and

(c) the amount of foreign aid provided for these schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Sir, the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying has implemented three Foreign aided Projects viz., National Project on Rinderpest Eradication, North Kerala Dairy Project and Operation Flood. Of this the Operation Flood has since been completed.

Besides twelve Foreign aided Projects are implemented by the following States:

Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Sikkim.

(b) and (c). The details of the Projects which are implemented by the State Government along with the foreign aid received and achievements made are given in Statement-I & II. The details of State-wise releases of foreign funds and achievements under Operation Flood and North Kerala Dairy Project for Kerala are given at Statement-III & IV. The details about National Project on Rinderpest Eradication are being collected and will be placed shortly.

### STATEMENT-I

Name of Project	Foreign aid received during 1994-95
<b>Swiss Assisted Projects</b>	
Indo Swiss Project Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 291.55 lakhs
Indo Swiss Project Kerala	Rs. 54.34 lakhs
Indo Swiss Project Orissa	Rs. 70.67 lakhs
Indo Swiss Project Sikkim	Rs. 30.69 lakhs
Project on Livestock Policy Perspectives	Rs. 27.15 lakhs
<b>Danida assisted Projects</b>	
Livestock Development Project, Koraput, Orissa	Rs. 91.14 lakhs
Livestock Development Project Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu	Rs. 40.02 lakhs
<b>World Bank Assisted Projects</b>	
Agriculture Development Project (Animal Husbandry Component) Rajasthan	Rs. 167.27 lakhs
Agriculture Development Project (Livestock Component) Tamil Nadu	Rs. 877.38 lakhs
<b>EEC Assisted Projects</b>	
Sheep Development Project, Tamil Nadu	Rs. 19.06 lakhs
<b>FAO Assisted Project</b>	
TCP Project in Sikkim	Rs. 56.40 lakhs

**STATEMENT-II***Swiss Assisted Projects***Indo Swiss Project, Andhra Pradesh**

- a. An Andrological Laboratory has been set up.
- b. The project supplemented the ongoing activities of the State Department of Animal Husbandry.
- c. A cluster extension approach was successfully followed under the project.

**Indo Swiss Project Sikkim**

- a. Collection of information required for planning of the project with regard to milk production/marketing/consumption etc. was completed.
- b. The following pilot projects in respect of the sector were initiated :
  - (i) Pilot cheese processing unit
  - (ii) Bull production involving farmers

**Indo Swiss Project, Kerala**

- |   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| a. No. of farms assisted                              | : | 4                      |
| b. Production of frozen semen                         | : | 26 lakh dose per year  |
| c. Distribution of frozen semen                       | : | 16 lakh doses per year |
| d. Staff trained under Manpower Development Programme | : | 70                     |
| e. Officers trained abroad in specialised fields      | : | 7                      |
| f. Conduct of National Workshops/Seminars             | : | 3                      |

**Indo Swiss Project, Orissa**

- a. Extension and training programmes were introduced.
- b. An awareness of animal husbandry and dairy development activities was created in the project area.

**Indo Swiss Project Rajasthan**

- a. A base farm at Ramsar was established with stock of 300 breedable animals to provide 75 to 100 outstanding male kids.
- b. Studies were conducted on performance of goats at the village level.

**Livestock Policy Perspective Project**

- a. Study on situational analysis of the entire sector was completed.
- b. A National Workshop was held to discuss the findings of the Study.

*Danida Assisted Project***Livestock Development Project, Koraput (Orissa)**

- a. Cultivation of fodder was initiated in community land.
- b. Door-step Artificial Insemination services were introduced.

**Livestock Development Project, Pudukottai (Tamil Nadu).**

- a. 314 Link Worker Couples were trained in problems facing the livestock farmers, deworming of sheep and calves, delousing of sheep and goat and in vaccination of poultry.
- b. 6643 target farmers were trained.
- c. 2 Mobile Veterinary Units were established.
- d. Buildings were constructed to house the office, class rooms, laboratories, hostel, etc.

*World Bank Assisted Project***Agriculture Development Project (Animal Husbandry Component) - Rajasthan**

- a. 940 Gopal units and 150 units of voluntary youth were established for development of cattle through cross breeding/selective breeding.
- b. 9000 women farmers were trained in cattle development.

**Agriculture Development Project (Livestock Component) Tamil Nadu**

- a. A livestock cell to monitor production and distribution of frozen semen and liquid nitrogen to artificial insemination centres in Tamil Nadu was established.
- b. 10 additional frozen semen banks were established.
- c. Fodder inputs like grass seeds, fodder legume seeds, seedlings etc. were supplied to the farmers free of cost.

*EEC Assisted Projects***Sheep Development Project, Tamil Nadu**

- a. Infrastructural facilities including buildings for Project Management Office, disease investigation laboratory, sheep sheds etc. were created.
- b. Lamb mortality has come down and the fertility rate in the project area has gone up.

**F.A.O. assisted TCP Project in Sikkim**

- a. Five units of Jamunapari goat breeding centres were established at the field level.
- b. 80 units of poultry layer centres were established at the farmers level.

## STATEMENT-III

State-wise Release of Funds Under Operation  
Flood-II Projects

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No	Institutions	Year		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andaman Nicobar	0.44	0.00	0.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	994.78	426.11	457.86
3	Assam	0.21	0.09	0.00
4	Bihar	191.73	191.39	104.35
5	Delhi	89.27	341.84	1123.26
6	Goa	55.76	24.07	25.42
7	Gujarat	14014.86	7958.09	6305.35
8	Haryana	557.62	373.34	199.08
9	Himachal Pradesh	6.51	5.22	49.82
10	Karnataka	1097.67	508.76	979.24
11	Kerala	327.09	240.25	401.10

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	4.02	0.02	2.09
13.	Madhya Pradesh	46.64	(42.43)	461.22
14.	Maharashtra	46.87	178.62	2339.12
15.	* Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	* Mizoram	0.44	0.00	0.00
17.	* Nagaland	0.53	0.91	0.00
18.	Orissa	45.56	68.69	137.75
19.	Pondicherry	13.01	0.85	34.23
20.	Punjab	273.74	182.09	362.05
21.	Rajasthan	642.43	356.55	492.18
22.	* Sikkim	0.72	0.07	0.10
23.	Tamil Nadu	1754.29	569.87	596.66
24.	* Tripura	0.60	0.00	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1219.67	1861.67	2371.73
26.	West Bengal	1707.90	2658.61	1566.56

\* These states were not included in OF-III. However, some expenditure were incurred on manpower development, farmers induction programme and other developmental activities.

## STATEMENT-IV

## Achievements of some of the key components of Operation Flood in different States as on 31.3.1996

S.No.	Name of the State	DCS (No.)	Farmer Member ('000)	Milk@ Procurement (TKGPD)	Milk@ Marketing (TLRD)	Dairy Processing Capacities created (TLPD)	Milk Dairy Capacities created
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman Nicobar		Not Reported			5	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5311	714	585	620	2247	-
3.	Assam	122	2	5	8	60	-
4.	Bihar	2722	135	155	175	586	12
5.	Delhi	-	-	-	1096	1150	-
6.	Goa	155	16	23	49	75	60
7.	Gujarat	11430	1950	3157	1431	6660	393
8.	Haryana	2296	154	119	62	430	25
9.	Himachal Pradesh	178	15	12	15	30	-
10.	Jammu & Kashmir		Not Reported		-	10	-
11.	Karnataka	7193	1382	1206	1136	1805	34
12.	Kerala	1415	366	321	322	525	10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4215	211	179	247	1030	30
14.	Maharashtra	5807	1106	1896	1824	3940	-
#15.	Manipur		Not Reported		-	-	-
#16.	Mizoram		Not Reported		-	-	-

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
#17 Nagaland			22	1	1	1	-	-
18 Orissa			1060	72	56	89	125	-
19 Pondicherry			81	22	32	29	30	-
20 Punjab			6009	339	640	321	1410	99
21 Rajasthan			5128	370	420	232	1050	60
#22 Sikkim			122	4	5	5	15	-
23 Tamil Nadu			8158	1834	1369	1296	2421	70
#24 Tripura			80	4	2	5	10	-
25 Uttar Pradesh			9845	533	635	376	1140	60
26 West Bengal			1395	85	123	601	1510	10
Total			72744	9315	10941	9940	26264	989

DCS - Dairy Cooperative Societies

a - Average of the year 1995-96, TKGPD Thousand KG per day

TLPD - Thousand Litres per day, MTPD - Metric Tonnes per day

these states were not included in Operation Flood-III. However, some expenditure was incurred on manpower Development, Farmers' induction programmes and other developmental activities

### Pollution by Planes

779. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press newsitem captioned "Airlines vexed by pollution tax move", appearing in the Economic Times, dated September 3, 1996

(b) if so, whether the planes of various Airlines are the major pollution creator and are increasing pollution in the atmosphere; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to check pollution caused by planes in the atmosphere?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The newsitem appears to be based on a report published in London. The exhaust gases from aeroplanes mainly contain carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen. In accordance with the national and international laws regulating movement of aeroplanes, the airlines are required to comply with the prescribed emission and noise standards. Codes of practice for controlling noise from aeroplanes have been evolved.

### Food Corporation of India

780. SHRI I. D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the aims and objectives with which the Food Corporation of India was established;

(b) the extent to which the aims and objectives have been achieved;

(c) whether the FCI has been rendering its services as a middlemen instead of keeping the spiralling prices of wheat, wheat products and rice in the open market under control for the benefit of consumers;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor

(e) whether there is any proposal to activate the functioning of FCI to serve the consumers in a fullfledged manner;

(f) the number of cases in which the officials of FCI were found involved in overlooking their responsibilities during the last three years and during 1996 till date; and

(g) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The Food Corporation of India was set up in 1965 under the Food Corporation Act, 1964 in order to fulfil the following objectives for the National Food Policy of Government of India :-

(i) Effective price support operations for safeguarding the interest of the farmers

(ii) Distribution of foodgrains throughout the country for Public Distribution System; and

(iii) Maintaining satisfactory level of operational/ buffer stock of foodgrains to ensure National Food Security.

(b) The extent of success in achieving the objectives for which the Corporation has been set up can be

gauged at macro level by its growth in terms of geographical operations. stocks levels built up by procurement under Price Support operations and levy as also the role played from time to time in implementing the Food Security Schemes to the targetted groups and at the same time ensuring overall food security of the country. The following figures give the nature of growth in the activities of the Corporation :

(Figs. in lakh tonnes)

	1969-70	1995-96
<b>1. Procurement</b>		
(a) Rice	29.43	99.75
(b) Wheat	23.87	123.26
<b>2. Distribution</b>		
(a) Rice	1.06	115.01
(b) Wheat	1.59	122.25
<b>3. Storage Godowns</b>		
Capacity	47.90	264.10
<b>4. Movement</b>		
Qty. moved.	61.00	202.53
<b>5. Turn-Over</b>		
(Rs. in crores)	1265	25492
<b>6. (a) No. of regions</b>	14	19
<b>(b) No. of Districts</b>	104	173

(c) No Sir

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Constant efforts are made to monitor the functioning of FCI with a view to ensure that it discharges its responsibilities effectively.

(f) and (g) The number of FCI officials found guilty of omissions and commissions in discharging of their responsibilities and punishment awarded is as under :

Nature of Punishment	1993	1994	1995	1996 (Upto Sept'96)
1	2	3	4	5
(i) Dismissal/removal compulsorily retired	10	8	19	17
(ii) Reduction in rank.	27	26	19	21
(iii) Reduction in time scale of pay	38	28	50	32
(iv) Withholding of increment of pay/ recovery from pay.	397	331	252	256

	1	2	3	4	5
(v) Withholding of promotion.		1	18	23	2
(vi) Censure		190	164	91	109
		663	575	454	437

### Scavengers

781. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the matter of emancipation of scavengers from their ages old occupation and their rehabilitation during the first six months of the current year alongwith the comparative figures for the corresponding period of the previous year and

(b) the extent to which the involvement of Sulabh Andolan has helped in the process?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). The information regarding points (a) and (b) are being collected and will be laid down on the table of the house.

### Foodgrains Stock

782. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the food stock is sufficient to meet its requirement particularly of the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the total wheat and rice stock including buffer stock available with the each agency of the Government/State Governments at the end of October, 1996;

(c) whether this stock is more than the stock of the last year;

(d) if so, the quantity thereof, grain-wise and State-wise;

(e) the quantity of wheat and rice out of the above stock which is three years old?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir, the foodgrain stocks in the Central Pool at present are sufficient to meet the requirement of Public Distribution System.

(b) The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool at the end of September, 1996 i.e. as on 1.10.1996 were estimated at 9.34 million tonnes of rice and 10.36 million tonnes of wheat. Statements I and II showing state-wise stock of rice and wheat held by FCI and the State Govt. Agencies for Central Pool are attached. The total

minimum stocks to be maintained by the Public Agencies as per Buffer Stocking norms as on 1st October and the Actual stock position as on 1.10.96 (P) are as follows :

(In million tonnes)			
		Stock Actual as on 1-10-96	Buffer Norms as on 1-10-96
Rice	-	9.34	6.00
Wheat	-	10.36	10.60
Total	-	19.70	16.60

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Age-wise stock position of foodgrains is given below :

(In Million Tonnes) (more than three years old)			
2 to 3 years old			
Rice	-	0.91	0.58
Wheat	-	0.22	0.19

### STATEMENT-I

State-wise Stocks of Foodgrains with FCI as on 01.10.1996 (P)

(In '000 Tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Rice	Wheat	C.Grains	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	484.11	34.34	0.00	518.45
2.	JM(PO) Vizag	21.04	2.89	0.00	23.93
3.	Assam	107.75	17.23	0.00	124.98
4.	Bihar	65.82	100.27	0.00	166.09
5.	Delhi	32.29	92.36	0.00	124.65
6.	Goa	4.93	2.65	0.00	7.58
7.	Gujarat	185.94	405.37	0.00	591.34
8.	JM(PO)Kandla	20.54	6.69	0.00	27.23
9.	Haryana	210.12	240.61	0.00	450.73
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2.66	16.43	0.00	19.09
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.52	15.89	0.00	36.41
12.	Karnataka	147.45	36.45	0.00	183.90
13.	Kerala	291.18	58.97	0.00	350.15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	613.44	170.51	0.00	783.95
15.	Maharashtra	362.26	392.47	0.00	754.73
16.	Manipur	0.96	0.11	0.00	1.07
17.	Meghalaya	3.47	3.41	0.00	6.88
18.	Mizoram	1.67	2.82	0.00	4.49
19.	Nagaland	2.03	0.35	0.00	2.38
20.	Orissa	77.52	35.81	0.00	113.33
21.	Punjab	3084.09	1145.57	0.00	4229.66
22.	Rajasthan	332.67	331.64	0.00	664.31
23.	Tamil Nadu	355.54	83.92	0.00	439.46
24.	JM (PO) Madras	7.39	0.63	0.00	8.02
25.	Tripura	3.29	3.67	0.00	6.96
26.	Uttar Pradesh	596.46	421.95	Neg.	1018.41

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	West Bengal	174.07	107.78	0.00	281.85
28.	JM (PO) Calcutta	64.43	23.89	0.00	88.32
29.	Chandigarh	2.06	2.99	0.00	5.05
	Stocks in Transit	210.90	240.31	0.00	451.21
	Grand Total (All-India)	7486.60	3997.98	0.00	11484.58

(P) - Provisional  
 (Neg.) - Below 50 Townes  
 (Source) - FCI

### STATEMENT - II

*Stocks of Foodgrains in the Central Pool Held by State Government/State Agencies as on 1.10.1996.*

(In lakh tonnes)

State	Rice	Wheat	Total
Madhya Pradesh	3.48	0.00	3.48
Uttar Pradesh	4.65	1.00	5.65
Punjab	5.00	53.25	58.25
Haryana	5.00	9.37	14.37
Total	18.13	63.62	81.75

[Translation]

### Crimes

783. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : 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 "Nabbe pratishat hatyare to pakre hi nahi jaate", appearing in 'Nav Bharat Times', dated August 29, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any plan to arrest the culprits at the earliest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The news item captioned "Nabbe pratishat hayare to pakar main hi nahin aate" has come to the notice of the Government.

The news item is reportedly based on the report 'Crime in India 1994' published by the National Crime Records Bureau. However, the data contained in the said report have been wrongly interpreted in the news item. "Arrest Rate" have been mistaken in the news item as the percentage of persons arrested. The term "Arrest Rate" has been explained in the glossary of the

said report as number of arrests per lakh (100,000) of population.

12.01 hrs.

### PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

**Notification under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Memorandum of Understanding between National Seeds Corporation Limited and Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1996-97.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : I beg to lay on the table.

(1) Copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

(i) S.O.753(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st October, 1996 containing Order fixing the specification of the fertiliser for Potassium Chloride (Muriate of Potash) imported in India from Commonwealth Independent States Countries for a period of one year with effect from the 31st October, 1996.

(ii) S.O. 672(E) published in Gezette of India dated the 1st October, 1996 containing Order indicating the supplies of fertilizers to be made by domestic manufacturers of fertilizers to various States, Union Territories/Commodity Board during Rabi 1996-97 season.

[Placed in Library See No LT-644/96]

(2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English version) between the National Seeds Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No LT-645/96]

**Memorandum of Understanding between  
Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited  
and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers,  
Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals  
for 1996-97 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTAJENA):  
on behalf of Shri SISRAM Ola. I beg to lay on the  
table :

A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and  
English versions) :

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between the  
Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and  
the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers,  
Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals,  
for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No LT-646/96]

- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the  
Hindustan Insecticides Limited and Ministry of  
Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No LT-647/96]

- (3) Memorandum of Understanding between the  
Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited and  
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year  
1996-97

[Placed in Library See No LT-648/96]

**12.01¼ hrs.**

**COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**First Report**

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA (UJJAIN) : Sir, I beg to  
present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of  
the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (1996-97)  
and minutes relating thereto.

**12.01½ hrs.**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS**

**Thirty-fifth Report**

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Sir, I  
beg to lay on the table a copy of the Thirty-fifth Report  
(Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee  
on Home Affairs on the Companies (Amendment) Bill,  
1996.

**12.02 hrs.**

**MOTION RE: SIXTH REPORT OF THE  
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):  
I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Sixth  
Report of the Business Advisory Committee  
presented to the House on the 22nd  
November, 1996

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixth  
Report of the Business Advisory Committee  
presented to the House on the 22nd  
November, 1996

*The motion was adopted*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall take up item nos. 6 and  
11 together.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Ramtek) : What about Zero  
Hour?

MR. SPEAKER : We had agreed during the Question  
Hour that there would be no Zero Hour. Shri Chaturanan  
Mishra to make a statement.

**12.04 hrs**

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

**12.04¼ hrs.**

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

**Situation arising from Cyclone in Andhra Pradesh**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING  
THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND  
DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I seek  
leave of the House to make a statement on the situation  
arising from the severe cyclone in Andhra Pradesh on  
the 6th-7th November, 1996 and the relief rehabilitation  
measure taken by the Government.

A severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane  
winds struck the coast of Andhra Pradesh about 50  
kilometres south of Kakinada at 9.30 p.m. on the 6th  
November, 1996. The Indian Meteorological Department  
had been tracking the cyclone and had issued warnings  
to the State Government, Doordarshan and All India  
Radio from time to time of the likely course and landfall

of the cyclone. The cyclonic storm went through very rapid intensification from depression to severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane winds. After crossing the Andhra Pradesh coast, the storm moved in a West-North westerly direction, weakened into a deep depression and then into a low pressure area by the 7th evening, before fading out.

The cyclone has caused severe damage and destruction in East Godavari and West Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh. A total of 96 Mandals in four districts (East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Khamman) have been affected. According to the latest information available from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the death toll is 971, including 872 deaths in East Godavari, 98 deaths in West Godavari and one in Khamman district. 925 persons are still reported to be missing. 1,77,150 persons were evacuated and taken to 742 relief camps. The assistance of the Defence services was made available to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for rescue and relief operations. Food supplies were dropped in the inaccessible areas with the help of the Air Force. The Defence services rose to the occasion to come to help of the State and the affected people.

It is reported that 6.47 lakh houses have been partially or fully damaged. 935 medical teams have been deployed and 245 veterinary teams have also been pressed into service. The State Government has paid Rs. 3.52 crore as *ex gratia* assistance to the relatives of the deceased. Assistance at the rate of Rs. 50,000 per human casualty has been made available from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Essential commodities like rice and kerosene have been distributed to the affected people and an amount of Rs. 29.79 crore made available for repair of houses. Total cropped area of 5.11 lakh hectares has been damaged. The State Government has mobilized the whole administrative machinery for providing timely assistance to the affected persons.

Sir, the Prime Minister himself visited and made an aerial survey of the worst affected areas on Sunday, the 10th November. He also met with the Chief Minister and other representatives of the people at Visakhapatnam and Rajahmundry. In order to enable the Government of Andhra Pradesh to carry on relief and rehabilitation measures, an amount of Rs. 50 crore has been made available to the State Government. The Central Government had earlier released the fourth instalment of Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund in advance. The Government of India has been closely monitoring the situation and meetings of the Crisis Management Group in the Ministry of Agriculture were held on the 11th and 15th November to review the situation and arrange for all necessary assistance to State Government. The committee of Secretaries under the Cabinet Secretary also reviewed the position and the Cabinet considered the issue of immediate relief and assistance to the people of Andhra Pradesh. All arrangements have been made for restoring power supply and telecommunications. Fortunately, there was very limited damage to the National Highways and rail

communication was not disrupted. Teams have been deputed to assess the damage to coconut and other horticulture crops. Orders have been issued for procurement of paddy with some relaxation in the quality norms. Fifty thousand tonnes of rice have been released as *ad-hoc* allotment for the public distribution system. An additional allocation of 10,000 kilo liters of kerosene was also made for the affected areas.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh met me on the 19th November and handed over a Memorandum seeking central assistance of Rs. 2,143 crore. I assured him of all possible help. I have myself visited the cyclone affected area of East and West Godavari districts on the 21st November. The plight of the people who have lost their homes and their crops is heart-rending. After the visit, I met the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and representatives of all political parties at Hyderabad and discussed the situation and the steps taken for providing assistance to the people. A central team will shortly be deputed to the State to make a detailed assessment of the damage following the receipt of this Memorandum.

The cyclone has also severely affected life and property in Yanam, a part of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Eighteen deaths have been reported and 76 people are missing. The cyclone and rains have inundated 780 hectares of paddy and coconut and damaged public property. The Pondicherry Administration has taken all necessary measures for providing relief to the affected people. A Memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 68 crore has been received from the Union Territory Administration. A Central Team will be deputed to Yanam to make a detailed assessment of the damage.

I can assure the Members of the House that no efforts will be spared to assist the people of the affected areas in this time of suffering owing to severe natural calamity.

12.10 hrs.

## DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

### Situation Arising From Cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada): Sir, the statement made by the hon. Minister is incomplete and not at all encouraging. He has left out many details regarding the earlier cyclone in Andhra Pradesh, which hit the Rayalaseema area, Nellore and Prakasam districts. Also, the statement does not contain any ray of hope about what the Central Government would do except empty words like "the centre is closely monitoring and all possible help will be given". We are sick of hearing these platitudes.

The latest cyclone, rather it is called the hurricane now because the gale was 200 km.per hour, was the severest in recent memory. After the 1977 cyclone and the tidal wave in the Krishna District, this was the worst that Andhra has experienced. This was the sixth cyclone which hit Andhra coast since August 27-28, 1996. This year there were six cyclones in Andhra, two of them were very severe. Not only the two districts of East and West Godavari were severely affected, but also Krishna and Khamman districts were also partially affected. It would take at least twenty years for the farmers to recover from this shock.

The Minister has given just an outline of the damage. But if you go into the details, the damage appears to be much more. Even the deaths are not properly assessed. Though the official figures was 977 people died and 925 people missing, by all accounts the figure must be much more and nobody could assess the loss of human lives so far. The coconut trees fell down over an area of 30,000 hectares. This loss is irreparable because as you know once a coconut tree falls, it would take years for a new tree to state yielding fruits. Horticulture crops were also damaged. Coconut crop alone accounted for a loss of Rs. 300 crores. If you take the horticulture as a whole, the total loss was Rs. 4136 crore. The Minister has said that nearly 6.5 lakh houses were fully or partially damaged. Then there is a damage to paddy, sugarcane and other crops which accounted for nearly Rs. 400 crore. Then minor irrigation tanks, roads, water supply systems also were damaged over a large area. Then cattle, poultry, all these were also damaged. Thousands of fishing crafts and nets were either lost or damaged. The weavers suffered irreparable losses because their looms were inundated with the flood waters. A large number of village industries, artisans and tiny industries have suffered extensive loss. I do not know whether proper assessment has been made at all.

It is unfortunate that the figures given by the State Government which we feel inadequate are themselves being doubted by the Prime Minister as well as the Agriculture Minister. I do not know what mechanism the State Government had when they said 50 lakhs of coconut trees were damaged but the Prime Minister and the Agriculture Minister say that this damage cannot be so much. If it was not 50 lakhs of trees, how many trees could they count then? I do not know on what basis the Prime Minister could doubt the figures given by the State Government in the absence of a proper assessment.

As regards the precautionary measures taken, the Minister's statement says advance warning was given by the Meteorological Department. Though the records sometimes are doubted, how many days earlier the warning was given? The facts indicate that many fishermen, in fact hundreds or may be thousands, ventured into the sea even before the warning was given.

Though, for several days, a cyclone was expected, a warning was not given in proper time. This was not communicated to the affected people. You can not expect illiterate fishermen to the radio all the day and find out what was going to happen. There ought to be some mechanism to alert them. Either the village the village *sarpanch* could be asked to tom-tom that or an announcement could be made through mikes. Some message would have to be given to the innocent fishermen. Just saying that the message was continuously broadcast on the radio and television is not enough. Also, the response of the District Administration, as admitted by the Chief Minister, was not adequate because many of them did not reach the place for several days. The Chief Minister himself said that until he reached the place of occurrence, the district officials had not reached there. Some action was also taken against some officials and this may be justified too. Now they say that they have evacuated several lakhs of people but the records do not indicate that a Number of people have been evacuated. Otherwise, loss of lives would not have been so much.

As far as relief is concerned, though the state Government tried to do its best, the resources were limited and relief could not reach the people on time. Though small mercies were shown in the form of distribution of rice, etc., much more could have been done. There were complaints about the enumeration of the people who suffered. There were complaints of political discrimination in giving relief. Though some rice and kerosene were given and some money was also given for damaged houses, it is not enough. The small and marginal farmers were given only Rs. 1250 per hectare as input subsidy. That also is not enough.

Now, crop loans have been rescheduled and fresh loans have been sanctioned but there are still complaints that the rescheduling has not been communicated to the farmers. The shopkeepers have also suffered a lot and no compensation has been given to them. They say that an amount of Rs. 125 crore is needed for only providing relief. But the centre's assistance has been very limited and the state Government's response has not been adequate in the sense that they could not find the money and the Chief Minister himself has been saying that the centre has not been very kind to the State. He has also said that there was some reluctance on the part of the centre to come to the aid of the state Government. Though the Chief Minister had withdrawn the statement subsequently, he had gone to the extent of saying that Centre's attitude was very rigid and unhelpful and that also is reflected in the figures of assistance so far given.

The State Government has also failed to follow the Guidelines prescribed by the Cyclone Contingency Plan of Action prepared after the Divisema cyclone of 1978. The Government should have evacuated the people; deployment of relief personnel in vulnerable areas, supply of relief material and forceful evacuation of people from the low-lying areas, should have been resorted to but

that has not been done by the State Government in spite of the guidelines prescribed in 1977-78.

In respect of money spent so far, the annual total outlay for the Calamity Relief Fund for 1996-97 was Rs.124.19 crore, out of which the Centre has to give Rs.93.14 crore. The State has received some advance earlier and now only an amount of Rs.100 crore is available and the Government of India has released Rs.21 crore. The total is only Rs.121 crore. The State has already spent Rs.143 crore and nothing more is left with the State Government to spend on relief operations.

The Prime Minister has said at one place that this was a national calamity. I do not know what the definition of 'national calamity' is and by defining it as a 'national calamity' what advantages would accrue to the State. The term is being used very loosely that it should be declared as a national calamity. The Prime Minister himself said that, after his return to Delhi, The Prime Minister's office issued a clarification that there was nothing called 'national calamity' and that this term was wrongly used. Now, he is using the term, 'national grief'. I do not know what the meaning of these terms are. But the State Government has approached the Centre through a memorandum for an assistance of Rs. 2142 crore outside the CRF.

But I do not know how much the Centre is going to give. So far they have given Rs.50 crore as the hon. Minister's statement has indicated and nothing more. This is also by way of advance. They say that they are going to give something more for the removal of damaged coconut trees and other things. I think they are going to give Rs. 50 crore or so. I do not know whether it would be a grant or an advance. Whatever it be, the Centre must give the money as grant and not as loans and advances. Otherwise, the States would not be able to repay the loans. The hon. Minister of Agriculture himself has stated recently in a statement that the state Government should not go for loans because that would affect their annual plans. Therefore, they should not go for loans and advances, they should fend for themselves and they should find resources through other means. I do not know what he means by other means.

So far they have given 100 per cent tax exemption to the donations. That is a good gesture on the part of the central Government. But that is not enough because the donations are not coming to the extent we desire. For the construction of new houses which were damaged, that is about 6.48 lakh houses, the State Government needs about Rs. 1042 crore under the Indira Awas Yojana. The Coconut Development Board is there. I do not know for what purpose this Board is functioning. It has not come to the aid of the coconut farmers. Nothing has been done by the Board so far either to rehabilitate the area or to help the farmers.

The Prime Minister spoke about an Action Plan when he came to Andhra Pradesh on 10th November. He said that the Centre is evolving an Action Plan. He has not specified what that Action Plan is and what he

is going to do through that Action Plan. As I mentioned the Chief Minister and the State Government also expressed their dissatisfaction. The cabinet passed a resolution stating that they are rejecting the package which the Prime Minister has proposed and that will not help the State. There are some norms prescribed by the Tenth Finance Commission as regards the National Calamity Relief Fund. These norms require to be changed now because no State Government can meet a calamity of this sort without a massive aid from the Central Government.

As regards international aid, the World Bank, I believe, is coming in a big way to help the State. They have committed to give nearly Rs.380 crore so far at a nominal rate of interest as soft loan to be repaid in forty years. They are sending a team to India to assess the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs of the area. Mr. Heinz Vergin, Head of the India Country Department of the World Bank had mentioned that in 1990 when they gave \$ 200 million as aid to meet the cyclone damages, it was used very effectively and gave them encouragement to offer assistance again.

At that time, in 1977-78, the State Government utilised the aid very effectively. Recently also in 1990, this amount was used by the successive Chief Ministers very effectively. Therefore, the World Bank has no hesitation to come to the aid of the State. I believe that they are coming in a big way. The centre should guarantee this loan to whatever extent they can. If the Centre persuades them, they can give up to Rs. 1,000 crore. That is the duty of the Central Government and it should not be left to the State Government to negotiate. The Centre has to come in a big way in this regard.

Voluntary organisations also have in a massive manner to help the victims. Unfortunately, some beneficiaries are getting these relief materials. Some people are going to different areas and are grabbing these things. This is not being monitored properly. We have requested the Chief Minister also to monitor the aid being given by the NGOs. The Central Government employees have shown a good gesture by donating a day's salary which would come to about Rs. 200 crore. Various people have helped, including the Members of Parliament who have donated a month's salary. It is a good gesture on their part. I also suggest that the profit making public sector undertakings should come in a big way to help the State.

The States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Jammu & Kashmir have donated liberally; but other States have not responded properly. The State of West Bengal has also given Rs. 2 crore. Other State Governments also could come to the rescue of the people there.

Now, I have got some suggestions about what should be done there. The first is about the cyclone shelters which were built during the time of the earlier cyclones. They are all in disuse now, they are in a dilapidated condition, they are not used at all and they

are in a very bad condition. With a little amount of money, they can be reconstructed and brought to use. So, all these cyclone shelters must be strengthened immediately.

Similarly the communication networking the coastal areas must be improved so that warnings can be given in time. The cropping pattern in some of the affected areas could be changed. For example, in the case of coconut trees, the suggestion was to go in for a dwarf variety of coconut trees so that in times of cyclones and hurricanes, the trees would not fall.

Then, as we have been talking about, there should be a comprehensive crop insurance scheme. So far, the farmers are not getting any benefit whenever relief is given. Relief is given for reconstruction of houses, etc. But the farmer is not being compensated for the damage or loss he has incurred. For that, a comprehensive crop insurance scheme is necessary. We have been pleading in this House and in the other House, for a long time, that village should be treated as a unit for the purpose of crop insurance, but that has not been agreed to so far. In fact, even individual farmers should be able to insure or to go in for the insurance for his crops. Just like the Life Insurance Corporation is insuring for individual persons, the individual farmers should be able to insure the crops individually. Similarly, for fishermen and for the weavers, there should be a comprehensive insurance scheme for their benefit.

Then without reference to the norms, adequate assistance should be given to the damaged coconut trees, for the supply of fresh saplings and also for inputs. I believe, an amount of Rs. 250 crore is needed for this purpose alone. So far, they have offered only Rs. 50 crore for the removal of damaged trees, that too, lately.

In regard to houses, there should be pukka houses for fishermen, etc., in the coastal areas. Now we have seen that wherever pukka houses were there, the loss of life was minimum. Therefore, we should go in for a massive house building programme in the coastal areas.

Now, the FCI has agreed to buy the discoloured paddy in those areas. I appeal to the State Government that Cuddapah and Chittoor districts which were affected earlier must also be covered by this FCI scheme so that the paddy which is available in these districts could be purchased by them. Then, the relaxation for the purchase of boiled rice by the FCI should be extended to the whole State. As I said earlier, regarding giving warnings, the Village *Sarpanch* should be made responsible for communicating them to the people in the coastal areas. The weavers and other people should be given liberal package by the Centre in terms of house, improved loom and yarn.

The Coconut Development Board should be activated to supervise the rehabilitation measures in these areas. There should be a panel to monitor the distribution of aid. The Chief Minister has agreed to it,

The Prime Minister also, when we met him, was suggesting the constitution of a panel at the State level to monitor the distribution of aid so that charges of discrimination etc., will not be there. That has to be done quickly.

Earlier there was a suggestion that there should be Central stores at Guntur and at Vishakhapatnam so that whenever there is a cyclone or natural disaster like this, materials can be rushed immediately to the affected areas. That was the suggestion which was given earlier. There should be two Central Stores at Vishakhapatnam. That has not been done so far.

There was also a suggestion for the constitution of a National Institute for Disaster Management. That was thought of in 1990. But that has not been activated so far. Now, it is high time that we should have a National Institute for Disaster Management which will conduct research into all these natural calamities and come up with a comprehensive scheme for alleviating the sufferings of the people.

Of all said and done, the responsibility lies on the Centre. The Minister has rightly pointed that loans will not help the State and that it will take the State to a debt trap. You yourself said that it will affect the future plans also. So, The Centre must come to the aid of the State and if necessary rules must be changed. It is the Constitution and it could not be amended. These are rules framed by the Government and the Government can amend the rules and you must amend the rules also to come to the aid of the State. Andhra Pradesh is trying for more help and succour. I hope all section of the House will support this demand of the suffering people of Andhra Pradesh and come forward with liberal aid to State. Thank you.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for having given me the opportunity to express my views. I shall begin my speech from the point made by the Hon'ble Minister in the statement given by him in the House just now. He has stated that warnings were issued to the state Government about the impending storm time and again. In this context, I am reminded of a story. Although we are discussing a very serious matter. A very tragic incident has occurred and we will feel free after having discussed it in the House. But those who have lost their family members and have themselves survived will be haunted by the memories of this tragic incident throughout their lives.

A Husband and a wife were asleep when a thief broke into their home. The wife told her husband that a thief had broken into their home. At this, the husband replied that he was aware of it. Then the wife said that the thief had broken down the door and husband said that he was aware of that too. Then the wife said that the thief was stealing valuables and the husband replied that he knew that too. Thereafter the wife said

that the thief had left after stealing valuable and the husband's reply to that was that he was well aware of that too.

I would like to ask Hon'ble Minister that if the warning was given by the Union Government to the State Government, when was it given and whether the State Government had confirmed that it had received the warning. How much earlier, prior to this tragic occurrence, the warning was given and what sort of information was provided?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as you are aware that such incident have occurred in 1978 was much worse than this. At that time it was decided to develop a warning system in order to warn people in advance so that such a tragedy does not occur in future. Just now Shri Upendra made a very important point that warnings are received but our country is not as developed as U.S.A where every fisherman carries a small radio to get the latest information on weather forecast. Here people are unable to afford two square meals. Then how can we expect every fisherman to have radio? Hence how can such an information be passed on in time especially to the people living in coastal areas, cyclone-prone areas, coastal belt. In 1978 when such a tragedy had occurred, at that time also it was discussed. But whether any system was developed ever since? Such reports have been received that Union Government spent a lot of money to ensure that the information regarding the impending calamity is immediately relayed to people living in coastal belt and they are taken to safe places in time but what happened to the system is not known.

I do not want to say that the storm struck at the instance of Union Government. The Union Government is not responsible for the occurrence of storm. Even the State Government did not invite the storm to wipe out approximately fifteen hundred lives. Whenever accidents occur, any rail accident or natural calamity occurs we do not come to know about the actual number of victims because the number goes on increasing. The state Government gives a different figure, those who tour the accident site give some other figure and the press correspondents give an entirely different figure. Such a situation prevails after every accident and every time a different figure is given. About the Andhra Pradesh cyclonic storm, it was stated that more than one thousand people have been killed. But it was not known how many more than one thousand have been killed. Whether the figure was 1300 or 1500 is not known and may never be known in future also. When you had information regarding such a calamity with you, what arrangements did you make? As I said earlier every fisherman can not possibly possess a radio however warning can be given to them by beating of drums. You may argue that the system of giving warning by beating drums is very old but it has been practised earlier also as we do not have any other system. We should utilise the system of

beating of drums but we will have to make arrangements to develop a system for this purpose.

Mr. submission is that the members of all the political parties are seated here. I feel that we have become insensitive to such tragic occurrences and this is why we do not make any preparations to deal with such situations.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the incident of Latur earthquake occurred. Amarnath incident took place. Recently several people were killed in head-on collision of two aeroplanes in India. The voluntary organisations reached at the spot first which clearly means that there is no proper warning system in our country and we have no proper system to deal with the situation afterwards. The present state of affairs is very much akin to the story I related earlier that the thief came, committed burglary, went away, the wife kept on telling on her husband and he kept on lying in inert position. In this case the information regarding the storm was relayed however no attention was paid to it. If the information was given, when was it given? I would like to know the exact time and date in this regard.

Secondly, it is very unfortunate that no immediate arrangements are made. Even the disaster management is improper. After the recent air-crash, the voluntary organisations and amongst such organisations also, R.S.S. arrived at the spot first. Whereas the kind of arrangements that should have been made by the Government were not there.

It is very unfortunate. Just now we have got this information and as Shri Upendra said that World Bank is ready to give us 200 million dollars to deal with the aftermath of this tragic occurrence and for relief work. My submission is that if the Union Government is prepared to grant its approval to the proposal, then where is the need for the Union Government and Ministry of Finance? If such is the case, the States should be left free to have direct contact with the World Bank. Then where is the need to have a Central Government and a Ministry of Finance. In such a case there is no need to have any sort of financial management at the central level or the Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to read out an excerpt from the poem written by Khalil Gibran and I would like the Union Minister Shri Chaturanan Mishra to listen to it carefully. Although poem itself is very long, "vah rashtra Shram, dhikkar daya aur glani ka patra hota hai jis rashtra ko tukron mein bata paata hoorn, our har tukda apne ko ek alag rashtra samajhta hai".

If natural calamity has struck Andhra Pradesh and the Government gives it the permission to accept aid from the World Bank to deal with the tragedy, tomorrow some other state may seek such assistance. Then where would be the need to have a Central Government and Ministry of Finance at the Central Level. In such a case there is no need to have a Central Government or Ministry of Finance at the Central level.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request the Union Government and Hon'ble Minister to stop going around with a begging bowl in hands. If such a big calamity has befallen, it is a matter of national grief. But if the Government goes around with a begging bowl in hands, it would be a matter of natural shame to admit that we are unable to deal with the tragedy ourselves and that you should give us 200 million dollars as alms to enable us to deal the situation. The Union Government ought to discuss it with the state Government and find a way to deal with this serious situation. Right now just as has been agreed to, the Union Government would release an additional amount of Rs.50 crore for the State Government. This money would be given out of wage and means. Whether this money would be given as loan or as a grant? At such a time the Union Government should give the money to the State Government not as a grant because this loss is not just the loss of State. It is a national loss and if it is deemed a national loss, action should be taken at national level to deal with it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this regard I would like to submit and just as Shri Upendra was also mentioning that it has not been estimated as yet as to how many coconut trees have been uprooted. According to a report, 50 lakh coconut trees have been uprooted. Approximately five lakh acre cultivable land has been badly affected and it will take a lot of time to make it cultivable once again. Hence there should be some such arrangement that the cultivable land in the cycloneprone coastal should be insured. Similarly the vessels of fishermen and their boats should be insured as well so that in case of any mishap, their losses are adequately compensated.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the most important thing is that we admit that ours is the land of Lord Mahavir and Mahatma Buddha. We believe that ours is the land from where the message of non-violence, love truth and kindness was given and it is true that Lord Mahavir and Mahatma Buddha were born here. They gave the message of non-violence, truth, love and kindness to the whole world. But I myself have noticed that in a country like United States of America, about which it is sometimes alleged that it does not propagate truth, non violence, love and kindness, if an injured pigeon is found lying on the road, traffic is stopped and that injured pigeon is taken to the hospital. But I feel that our motherland, the land of Lord Mahavir and Lord Buddha does not possess the same level of human sensitivity as before.

All kinds of incidents keep on taking place in our country and we are very well aware as to where the incidents occur and which are the areas concerned. For example, earthquake occurred in Latur and at that time such sounds were emanating from the land and we had information in advance. The people from the neighbouring villages were reporting it. Very close to that areas is the area of Kandwa in Madhya Pradesh where such sounds have been heard. The farmers of

that area are reporting that they have been hearing such sounds which means that we do have knowledge of such eventualities. Our country is very large and that is why each season has different effects in various parts of the country. Our country comprises of several states and we have several seasons which is a matter of great pride for us but sometimes seasons do not augur well. At times different seasons bring in their wake various problems. We are aware as to what kind of calamity is likely to strike which area of which state in which seasons and when that calamity strikes, thousands are killed and losses amounting to crores of rupees are suffered but despite having the relevant information, the warning about the impending calamity is not given beforehand. In some of our neighbouring countries, 24 hours weather forecast channels are operating. They keep on going the latest information as to what kind of weather condition would prevail in which area and what kind of calamity is likely to strike which area.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this discussion could be relevant but would not be relevant in this context. We want India to progress and for this end, we organise such competitions as Miss World but do not we want our country to progress in the matter of such occurrences and in the face of such a large scale human tragedy? Do not we want our country to progress in the field of gaining advance information about such calamities before their occurrence. There are some incidents such as the Latur earthquake. Let us believe for a minute that it struck suddenly and it could not have been stopped but the meteorologists do get information about the cyclones. The intensity of cyclone may or may not be gauged but the meteorologists do come to know that a cyclonic storm is likely to strike. Immediate arrangements are not made primarily because the district administrative authorities such as Collector and S.D.M. of the cyclone prone districts and the coastal belt cyclone prone areas are not trained to handle the situation in case a calamity strikes. Whether their capability to deal with such calamities is kept in mind at the time of making their postings especially in such states. I have come to know that in East and West Godavari district which has been badly affected by the storm, the Collector and S.D.M. of the district were not present which means that they had no information about the Weather forecast Whereas Hon'ble Minister has stated that they had the information with them. The Central Government was aware of it then why was the District Collector not aware of it? When district administrative authorities are appointed in such cyclone prone area why is it not ensured as to whether they have the relevant training or not? also I would like to ask the Union Government and would like to submit as well that it would be a matter of national shame if we seek alms of 200 million dollars with a begging bowl in our hands to deal with this calamity. Shri Chaturanan Mishraji, our country has the capability to deal with such calamities. Please put communication into order. If there is proper communication between the Central

Government and State Government; if the financial management is proper, if the Prime Minister and the Government sincerely devote time towards saving the country and the poor in place of protecting their position, it would be far more beneficial. 1500 people have been killed now whereas in 1978, 15000 people were killed, hence apparently the present figure of 1500 casualties in 1996 appears to be far less than previous figure of 15000 killed in 1978. But just go and speak to the mourning widow or the orphan who has lost his parents or the mother who has lost his son as to what do they feel. So I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister about the measures proposed to be taken by the Union Government to deal with this situation. I have come to know that information about the storm was available 72 hours prior to its occurrence.

Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask Shri Chaturanan Mishra as to when did the Union Government get information and when was the information passed on to State Government. When did the Meteorologists come to know about it and when was the message relayed to the State Government. Please give me the exact time. Secondly, whether the 50 crores proposed to be given by the Union Government to the State Government would be given as loan or as grant? Thirdly, there are many farmers engaged in plantation of coconut in cyclone prone coastal belt. It is a matter of great misfortune for the country. I would like to deviate from the main issue once more. Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I remember the time when terrorism was at peak in Punjab. At that time also I had noticed that mostly poor people had been killed. The poor are always at the receiving end. On one hand they suffer because of the curse of poverty bestowed by God and on the other hand whenever such incidents occur, mostly the labourers, farmers, people belonging to dalit community and poorer sections are killed. In this storm also mostly those belonging to poor community have been killed. Fifty lakh coconut trees have been damaged. There would be so many families whose livelihood depended on those trees and because of this loss they would face starvation for a long time now. Hence I would like to know whether immediate insurance cover would be provided for cultivable land, coconut trees and the fisherman? When did you get the information about the storm and when did you pass the same to the State Government? Would you give fifty crore rupees to State Government as a grant or as a loan? What is the viewpoint of the Government about the talks held between the World Bank and the State Government and about the World Bank's offer of 200 million dollars as alms. Whether the Union Government is prepared to accord its approval to this proposal of begging for alms? please answer my questions. Thank you.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri K.S.R. Murthy.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA (Anantapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing a very serious issue. Please ask the Prime Minister to be here. Otherwise what is the use of this discussion?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Several Ministers are here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : The hon'ble Prime Minister should be present here.

[English]

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY (Cuddapah) : Will the Prime Minister be available only when Karnataka is discussed in the House?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Gentleman, not only the Minister of Agriculture but there are other Ministers also in the House.

(Interruptions)

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : What exactly is he, Sir? Is he the Prime Minister of the whole country, or is he the Prime Minister exclusively for Karnataka? ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your feelings will be conveyed. Please sit down.

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA : Rayalaseema has not been mentioned in the statement of the Minister...(Interruptions)

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Does the Prime Minister not have any responsibility to this House and the entire country? should he bother only about Karnataka?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): The Minister has not mentioned Prakasam and Nellore Districts.

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA : In the statement, the Minister has not mentioned Rayalaseema. He has not mentioned Anantapur District.

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : The statement of the Minister does not speak anything of Prakasam, Nellore and Cuddapah Districts.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to Shri Paswan. He wants to say something in this regard.

(Interruptions)

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : This Government is not interested in the country as a whole.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why do not you listen to him?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this matter was at sl.no. 11 in the list of business. So it was excepted that it would be taken up after three o'clock. The President of Finland is here. The hon'ble Prime Minister is with him and will take lunch with him. If the head of a state comes then the hon'ble Prime Minister has some responsibility...(Interruptions) Please listen first...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA : It is very unfortunate.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : If it is very unfortunate, what can I do? Please listen. The Prime Minister is busy with the President of Finland. He will come after three o'clock...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet): Andhra Pradesh is fully destroyed...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Yellaiah Nandi ji, you are a senior member...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : The cyclone occurred in two phases but the Government is talking about only one phase. The first phase occurred on October 19, and the second phase occurred on November 7. The Minister is not even bothered about the first phase. What exactly is this?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Your question is not that. Your question is this that the hon'ble Prime Minister should be present in the House. We also feel that being leader of the House the Prime Minister should be present in the House...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : They are not seized of anything that happened. The Central Government is not seized of the matter at all...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : The head of the state...(Interruptions)

[English]

Both the items will be taken up together. What can I do?...(Interruptions) I do not understand? The Minister concerned is here. The Home Minister is here. The Leader of the House is here...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): If the Hon'ble Prime Minister does not have time today,

you should have told at the commencement of the discussion and we could have fixed it for tomorrow...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY (Cuddapah): This Government is not responsive. This Government does not even know the damage which the cyclone has done to Andhra Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, let Shri K.S.R. Murthy speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Had you replied, the matter would have been ended...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Gentlemen, Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I respect your feelings.

[English]

Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is not correct, your feelings would be conveyed.\*

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : We donot want to have discussion until the Prime Minister comes...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please let someone speak.

[English]

Let Shri Murlhy speak...(Interruptions)

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : I want one clarification. Is the Government aware that the cyclone in Andhra Pradesh took place in two phases?...(Interruptions) Through you, we are asking the hon. Minister?...(Interruptions) The cyclone took place in two phases. They are just bothered about the second phase. They totally left the first phase high and dry?...(Interruptions) Is something wrong?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Chandra Shekhar wants to speak.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, everybody considers it as a national calamity. I think, on this question, we should not get ourselves divided. I do not know what was the understanding. But

if the Members feel so strongly that the Prime Minister should be present here, there is nothing wrong in it.

The other objection is that the first part of cyclone has been ignored in the Statement of the hon. Minister of Agriculture. That can also be included. There is no harm if the Prime Minister is busy up to 3 o'clock. We can take up this matter at 3 o'clock and let us discuss it at 3 o'clock. Why should we quarrel on everything? I do not understand...*(Interruptions)* Every member standing up with the House is not proper.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I shall request you that if the leader of the House has no objection, we can take up this matter at 3 o'clock when the Prime Minister is present. The Minister of Agriculture, before we start the discussion, can say a few words about the previous cyclone also. The matter will end there...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : It was not a cyclone, it was a depression followed by heavy rains in Prakasam and other districts. I had visited the places.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (Surendra Nagar) : Chaturanan ji, it seems that depression is prevailing here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Please listen...*(Interruptions)* It may not happen so ...*(Interruptions)* Let me speak...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

It was not cyclone, it was depression and due to that, there were heavy rains, which resulted in breaches.

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA : Depression?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Otherwise, you can consult the dictionary. But that is not the point ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to heavy rainfall the dam eroded and there occurred terrible flood as a result of which a number of fishermen and people living in coastal areas were killed...*(Interruptions)*... We have presented all the facts before you. We are ready for discussion at any time.

*[English]*

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : More than 400 people died in the first phase. Do you want to totally ignore them? Do you not have any concern for the 400 lives?

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : Sir, the Minister can make a supplementary statement.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can make that. But, you must know the difference between a depression and a cyclone.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Cyclone comes only after the depression.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I had been to Prakasam district. I had brought the report and all those things.

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : What about Nellore, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Guntur and Anantapur? Your statement has totally ignored them. I want that a supplementary note be added to it...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI : Thousands of people were drowned, houses were destroyed. Now you are discussing technical matters.

*[English]*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : The situation arising out of heavy rains and flood should be included.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : In your supplementary statement, you kindly include that.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I am ready to do that.

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY (Cuddapah) : This is not correct. More than 400 people lost their lives due to cyclone and crores of worth property had been lost ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This matter will be discussed at 3.00 p.m. By that time Prime Minister may also come. Some other business will be taken up at 2.00 p.m.

*[English]*

*Now the House stands adjourned for lunch to reassemble at 2.00 p.m.*

12.58 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.07 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at Seven Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock*

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of information.

[Translation]

When you told that till the hon'ble Prime Minister comes other agenda shall be taken up—then I was not present in the House. You gave such a ruling. I shall take only two minutes to discuss its repercussion. If we do this and after that take up matters under rule 377 then there will be no problem. This Constitution Bill is related to delimitation. This is a very important Constitution amendment Bill and all of a sudden discussion can not be started on this Bill. It would create some problem. I am the chief whip of my party and it is my duty to give the names of the members and see who shall speak first and who later

[English]

It would not have that serious consideration or discussion.

[Translation]

Therefore, I think that a solution should be found out and it is your duty to see what is that. Hon'ble Prime Minister is not present here, therefore there could not be any discussion and if discussion is started on an important subject like De-limitation Bill at this juncture then that discussion will not lie upto the mark. Therefore, I think that you must consider it again.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House should take a decision about it after taking up Matters Under Rule 377. Earlier it was also decided that there will be no zero hour. It was also decided that this matter may be taken up when the hon'ble Prime Minister comes at 3 o'clock. If you allow than we can have zero-hour first.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after Matter Under Rule 377, we can have zero hour upto 3 p.m. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Matters Under Rule 377 will not take much time. Then we can have zero hour.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, it will not be proper. The debate can continue and the Prime Minister is coming at 3 o'clock. The Finland President is here in Delhi.

He is busy there.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It all depends if he agrees.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : So it will not be proper to again have the Zero Hour at this stage.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please see, they have been given time at 3 o'clock those are not present here who had raised objection that until the Prime Minister comes they will not let the discussion start.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, those people who objected are not present here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, they are not here

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : This will be a wrong precedent. I do not mind for that but it is a wrong precedent.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Both may be wrong but we have to find out a solution.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : But he has announced that the debate will be taken up at three o'clock

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum) : He has raised a problem. It is all right. But the discussion can start on the Bill and the voting and other things can be taken up tomorrow. What is the difficulty in that?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The names of the persons have not come who will speak.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : The difficulty is that we have to field the speakers properly in comparison with the importance of the subject. When in the morning it was decided that the whole day the discussion would go on, naturally the speakers have to be fielded accordingly. This will be your problem and also our problem.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I sympathise with this position.

SHRI RAM NAIK : There is no question of sympathy. It is a question of how the proceedings should be conducted.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Why should your Party be so unprepared when you already acquainted with the listing of the Bill? (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : We can just speak like that (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : As a whole, this is a very important Bill.

SHRI RAM NAIK : We are prepared for the Bill. The Members whom we have told to prepare themselves are not here (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This was listed in the List of Business. Certain things happened in the

morning. That was in the List of Business. So you should have prepared yesterday itself.

SHRI RAM NAIK : No. I would not like to opine in the same line in which you are arguing because I feel that this is not maintaining the dignity of the House. We should be prepared when we should prepare. But the Member whom we have told to speak first, naturally is not here because it was decided in the morning.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He is not in the House.

SHRI RAM NAIK : He has to be.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Let the Minister speak.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The Minister can speak and then you take other things.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : The Minister can introduce the Bill.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The Minister can introduce the Bill.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : The debate should not continue.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The debate should not start.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : My point is, let there be no fractured debate in this serious matter like cyclone in Andhra Pradesh. There should not be any fractured discussion. We will go to another serious matter of Constitution Amendment Bill and immediately we will switch over to the discussion after 20 minutes or 30 minutes. It will not be proper also.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Considering matter as serious he had said that unless the Prime Minister this is present, they will not start the discussion. Considering the seriousness of the matter he has told so.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The point is that the seriousness has been given by the Prime Minister himself. The point was, suddenly it was decided... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : These arguments were given. This was also told that other Ministers are also sitting here. It is not necessary that the Prime Minister himself should be here, yet they had insisted that in his absence they shall not take up this matter.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You also gave a ruling that the debate on Andhra Pradesh cyclone will be taken up at three o'clock. So the Minister can move the Bill.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I will not say that. But the Minister is also not present.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : We will take up matters under Rule 377. It can be taken up. He says matters under Rule 377 can be taken up. Let us take up matters under Rule 377.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the time is left even after discussion Matters Under Rule 377 what matter shall be taken up discussing that time?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Please see, this Bill has to be discussed and the hon'ble Minister is not present here.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Minister is also not here.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The whole thing is, this was announced. This will be taken up. Therefore the Minister... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : Then we will also insist that the Cabinet Minister should be there. Let us not try to conduct the House like this. The Minister of Agriculture is not here. The debate will not continue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : After Rule 377, you allow us to raise certain important issues.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is what I wanted.

[Translation]

I have received notices for zero hour but it was decided in the morning that there will be no zero hour today.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : In the present situation, we have to revise the stand.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Well we shall take up zero hour after discussing Matters Under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : We are facing this situation because the hon. Speaker told in the morning that there would be no Zero Hour and you are revising the hon. Speaker's decision... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is because of this situation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Please take up first Matters Under Rule 377 and subsequently Zero Hour. That will be better... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What do you propose?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : Please take up Matters Under Rule 377. It should be followed by Zero Hour up to three o clock.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We are taking up Matters Under Rule 377.

14.16 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need for Early clearance of the proposal for creation of a separate Chhatisgarh State**

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE (Bilaspur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a long standing demand for the creation of a separate Chhatisgarh State in Madhya Pradesh. Keeping in view the demand a unanimous resolution was passed in the Vidhan Sabha for the creation of a separate Chhatisgarh state by separating Bilaspur, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Sarguja, Bastar, Shahdol and Durg districts from Madhya Pradesh and the same was submitted to the Central Government for approval. But no action has been taken by the State Government until now.

Therefore, the Central Government is requested to accord early approval for the creation of separate Chhatisgarh state.

- (ii) **Need to Set up an Export Processing Zone in Rajasthan**

[English]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar) : Sir, Rajasthan has a vast potential for exports covering engineering and electronic goods, readymade garments, textiles, carpets and darc, gems and jewellery, plastic and handloom, marble and granite and handicrafts. Despite this tremendous export potential, the contribution of the State to exports is only 1.6 per cent.

The State Government of Rajasthan has demanded several times to set up an Export Processing Zone in that State but due to some reason or the other, the request of the State Government has not been considered so far. Once the Export Processing Zone is set up in the State, it will go a long way in promoting exports from that State. The small scale and cottage industries as well as the major and medium industries producing these items would be given a boost in promoting their trade and industry.

As such, I demand that an Export Processing Zone be created for Rajasthan without any further delay.

- (iii) **Need to expedite the clearance of the proposals submitted by the Government of Gujarat Under Forest Conservation Act, 1980**

[Translation]

SHRI N.J. RATHWA (Chhota Udaipur) : Road and building Department, Mine Mineral Department and Electricity Department of Gujarat State have submitted a number of proposals regarding construction of roads in panchayats situated in backward and rural areas of Gujarat and for according permission for mining of minerals and for laying high tension - low tension line by the Gujarat State Electricity Board from Godhra in Panchmahals district to Chotta Udaipur in Barodara District to Forest and Environment Ministry of the Central Government under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. But no decision has yet been taken on these proposals, as a result of which the developmental works in rural areas of the State have come to a standstill.

The Central Government is requested to accord early approval to the proposals under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 received from the above mentioned Departments of the Government of Gujarat to the Union Ministry of Environment and Forest so that developmental works in the aforementioned areas of the State could be speeded up.

- (iv) **Need to fix minimum support price of Jute at Rs.2000 per quintal**

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Arariya) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, some years back the price of jute was Rs.15 to 22 per quintal. It has been selling at Rs. 600 to Rs. 750 per quintal for the last about two months. The hon'ble Prime Minister had announced in a public meeting in Kistranganj that the price of jute would be increased in the interest of farmers. I know that the cultivation of jute requires much labour, cost and time.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to raise the minimum support price of jute from Rs.1500 to 2000 per quintal to enable the farmers to recover the cost of cultivation also.

- (v) **Need to Improve the Conditions of National Highways in Assam Damaged Due to recent floods and Rains**

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : The National Highways in the State of Assam are in a very bad shape. Large Stretches of the Highways have been severely damaged, with big holes here and there. The long neglect in the maintenance work and the heavy rains and floods in recent times have damaged the National Highways. The National Highways in Assam are the lifelines of the road communications, not only for the State of Assam but also for the States of the entire North-East region. The precarious conditions of the National Highways

adversely affect the economy and the economic development of the entire region.

In view of the above, I would urge upon the Union Government to help the State Government of Assam in developing and improving the conditions of the National Highways on a priority basis and thus give a boost to the economic development of the North-East region.

**(vi) Need to Establish Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres along the West Coast of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu**

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : The Arabian Sea coast of Kanyakumari district is one of the major fish producing centres in the country. Fishermen in large numbers live there. They fully depend on fishing, which is their traditional and the only occupation. Now, the frequent sea erosion which occurs there, has washed away and damaged the natural landing and berthing places of fishing vessels which stand on the way to carry on fishing during monsoon season, and thus during this season for a period of five months, due to rough sea, mighty waves and cruel winds, they cannot operate their fishing vessels into the sea. The only protection to them from these adverse circumstances is the establishment of fishing harbours and fish landing centres along the west coast of Kanyakumari district to enable the fishermen to park, land and operate their fishing vessels. But fishing harbours and fish landing centres have not been established there. So, they go for fishing to the coastal villages of other States throughout the country where they are faced with stiff resistance, harassment and humiliation from local fishermen. So, their survival is threatened.

I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps for the establishment of fishing harbours and fish landing centres along the west coast of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu.

**(vii) Need to set up a Hostel in Ghaziabad (U.P.) for the students pursuing higher education**

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Ghaziabad district is an important industrial town and since long people of scheduled castes are living in the village of this district. There is a long standing demand for opening a Dr. Ambedkar students hostel in Ghaziabad because in absence of a students hostel people belonging to far-flung villages from the rural areas find it difficult to impart higher education to their wards and therefore, many children stop their education at primary level. They have to face financial difficulty in meeting the daily bus fare to and from the far flung villages and hiring rented rooms in city. Therefore, there could not be any increase in the percentage of education in the area. Therefore, the Central Government is requested to accord immediate approval for opening a Dr. Ambedkar students hostel in Ghaziabad.

**(viii) Need for early implementation of Rengali irrigation and OECF assisted Water Supply Projects in Dhenkanal District of Orissa to overcome drought situation**

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : Sir, the State of Orissa is now reeling under the grip of a severe drought. The State Government of Orissa has declared 12 out of 30 districts in the State as drought-hit districts on the basis of the first crop cutting report. But there are several more districts where drought of severe nature has been prevailing.

The situation in western Orissa is very critical. The people of the tribal dominated districts are fleeing to the neighbouring States in search of job.

The situation in undivided Dhenkanal district is also very critical as the district is facing an acute drought situation. The crop situation became worse in September due to scanty rainfall in Dhenkanal area. The rate of rainfall was only 30 millimetres. About 50 per cent of the people in that district depend on rain water for cultivation. But due to scanty rainfall 90 per cent of the farmers in Dhenkanal constituency are facing severe drought situation. So, the entire district and the area should be declared as drought-affected.

Unless immediate steps are taken to complete the Rengali irrigation project and also to implement the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund assisted water supply project in Dhenkanal it will be very difficult to control the drought situation. At the same time, I would urge the Union Government to provide adequate funds to all the drought-affected areas in Dhenkanal and other drought-hit districts in the State so that the labour intensive work and projects for the provision of drinking water are started on a war footing. Funds should be sanctioned to complete all the on-going projects in Dhenkanal constituency expeditiously.

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you as you have allowed me to raise a very important issue. In the morning, during Question Hour, some Members had raised the issue of sugarcane prices whereas the question was related to the sugar mills. At that time also, the hon'ble Minister of Food could not give a satisfactory reply. As far as I know, payment of Rs.7.5 crore of sugarcane growers is outstanding in Uttar Pradesh alone and the sugar mills in the entire Uttar Pradesh have started functioning in the last week of this month i.e. on 22th. However, some of these mills have not started functioning as yet. Farmers have suffered a loss for one month as their fields have not been vacated for the next crop. Besides this, sugar mills owners are gaining time in starting their mills. They are not ensuring that the entire crop of sugarcane will be purchased by them. All these things are

happening due to lack of farsighted policy of them. All these things are happening due to lack of farsighted policy of the Governments. As a result, the sugarcane producers, particularly in Uttar Pradesh are facing many problems and it seems that their condition is likely to be worsened in the coming time whereas it was considered that the sugarcane crop is a cash crop. Earlier, farmers used to get good prices for their sugarcane and their expenses used to be met with this money but now cost of production is increasing whereas the farmers are not getting good prices for their sugarcane. It seems that the central Government is certainly acting in connivance with the industrialists and it is not concerned about the problems of the farmers of the country. Though, the hon'ble Prime Minister considers himself as a well wisher of the farmers, yet he has also not resolved this problem. In spite of his promises made in the election manifesto and his visit to Uttar Pradesh, the problems of the farmers have remained unsolved.

Through you, I would like to urge upon the Central Government to find a firm and permanent solution to this problem. In case, the Government does not resolve this problem this year, sugar mills will not function next year and the farmers will certainly have to burn their sugarcane crop this year. The Government should ensure that the entire sugarcane crop will be purchased and the outstanding payment of the farmers will be made in this very season otherwise it will be very painful thing to the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. We have been raising this point continuously since this Government come into existence but it is unfortunate that the Government is not deciding any clear directives in this regard. I would like to submit to you that you should issue instructions to the Government in this regard and a clear picture of the case should be presented before the farmers of Uttar Pradesh as well as the whole country. Thank you very much for giving me time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will call names of those Members who have given the notices.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to raise a very important issue. Recently, houses of many people have been demolished in Delhi due to which they have become homeless and come on roads. These people are staging a 'dharana' on Janter-Manter road for the last 40 days. First of all, I would like to tell the Government that the land in question belongs to the Government of Delhi and the houses constructed on that land are 20-30 years old. The Government should have taken steps at the time when these houses were being constructed as it was Government land and all the concerned officers were present there and all the Departments were functioning. Why did the Government not stop it? The fact is that earlier, this land was sold by the landlords to the Government and when even after passing of 40 years, the Government did not make a use of this land, it was further sold to the poor people and they made their houses on the land and thereafter the Government had awakened. The Government has

demolished thousands of houses and as a result, thousands of peoples have come on roads and they are staging dharna on Janter Manter road for the last 40 days. Sir, my submission is whether the Government would assure the people who are staging dharna that no further demolition would be done and compensation would be given to those people whose houses have been demolished. Thousands of people, including women, children and youngsters are sitting on dharna. My submission to the Government is as to why the houses of poor people have been demolished when the Government claims that it is the Government of the poor and that it would protect the interests of the poor?...*(Interruptions)* I have said that the Government of Delhi is not able to protect the interests of the people. This is the State subject. I would like to submit that claim of the Central Government to be the Government of the poor should be put through its facings in this very House. If it is really a Government of the poor, it should ensure that it would not do such acts in future.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not repeat anything. Only those Members will speak whose names have been included in the list.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways Shri Ram Vilas Paswan went to Ahmedabad on 16th November...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not speak until your turn comes. When I call you, then only you speak. If I allow you to speak others will also start speaking.

*[English]*

Please sit down.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very necessary. The people are sitting on dharna for the last 40 days...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. No, it will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Please give directives to the Government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have you given notice? Please sit down.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Yes, Sir, I have given notice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your name has not appeared in the list.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways Shri Ram Vilas Paswan went to

\* Not Recorded.

Ahmedabad on 16th November and he made an announcement there that the Headquarters of Western Railway, which is at present in Mumbai, would be shifted to Ahmedabad. Mumbai is an important business and industrial city where a great resentment has emerged among the people after this announcement. I would like to tell the Government that keeping in view the fact that Mumbai is a business and industrial sector it should not act like this. If it is necessary, a new division can be opened at Ahmedabad but shifting of Headquarters from Mumbai would not be a good step. Besides this, my another demand is that a new zone may be made for suburban Railway which the Government is not doing. Instead Hqrs. of Western Railway is being shifted which is not correct. The people of Mumbai will strongly protest against this decision and we will also be compelled to launch an agitation. Therefore, my submission is that the Minister of Railways should discuss this issue with MPs of Mumbai before taking any step. Further, I urge upon the hon'ble Railway Minister to give a statement here in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as you are aware India, although has its problem of poverty, is a prestigious nation in the Comity of nations and it plays a very important role also in international affairs, particularly with regard to world peace. Many countries look forward to India for leadership in this respect. But it is a matter of concern that India suffered a very humiliating defeat in the recently held election to the non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council. It has very adversely affected our nation's prestige and dignity and definitely, that way the Government of India owes an explanation to the people of the nation through this Parliament.

Sir, we we given a different type of impression by the Ministry of External Affairs that India was enjoying a very comfortable position so far as this election was concerned. In respect of C.T.B.T. the Government of India took a very good stand and that also had its reaction in different quarters. The Government of India, particularly the Ministry of External Affairs should have been very careful so far as its assessment with regard to this election was concerned. I want to know why things had gone wrong. In the diplomatic sphere we failed so miserably that India could not succeed in this election; but we also got a very insignificant support from different nations and definitely it is humiliating for a nation of India's stature.

Therefore, it should not be taken lightly. We would like to know as to why it happened, what are the circumstances that led to this type of situation, who was responsible for this, what action is being taken and what is the attitude of the Government of India now towards this. This should be told to the nation in very clear terms, particularly to Parliament. So, I would request you to direct the Government of India to come forward with a detailed statement before the House about this matter.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of External Affairs has written a letter in this regard and he will make a statement on this issue. In the Business Advisory Committee also this was discussed and we can also discuss this issue here.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Let there be a discussion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There will be a discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 39 factories are engaged in the production of defence equipments in India in which lakhs of workers are working. For the past few years overtime has been stopped in these factories due to which condition of workers has worsened to a great extent. There are some employees who give loan to other employees and labourers of these factories at the rate of 10 to 15 per cent per month. The method of recovery of loan which these money-lenders adopt is very dangerous. On salary day, as soon as labour comes out of factory, money is snatched away from them due to which many labourers have committed suicide. In Jabalpur, 5 such incidents of suicide have come to the notice during the last one month. These money-lenders employees have created the same atmosphere all over the country.

I would like to submit that the Ministry of Defence should ponder over this situation and formulate a such policy so that money-lender employees can be expelled from service and labourers can be saved from committing suicide.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Sir, recently, heavy floods was experienced in Uttar Pradesh due to breaking of Gowardhan nullah of Rajasthan. Water was released into this nullah from Haryana also which caused devastation in Mathura, Agra and Ferozabad districts. The Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted an emergent and longterm scheme involving Rs. 300 crore for relief works but the Government has not given any funds for the completion of that scheme till today and has only asked to take measures for making ex-gratia payment from the Calamity Fund. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is facing financial crisis due to which no work has been started there on the emergent and longterm scheme so far. Due to lack of funds no relief work has started in the affected areas.

A culvert has broken near Mahua village on Agra Fatehpur-Sikari main highway. The construction work, the said culvert is included in the Eighth Five Year Plan. The estimates of it are pending with the Ministry of Surface Transport. Had the construction of culvert been completed, destruction would not have occurred in the villages of Agra. Due to the broken culvert water could not be channelised to the other side as a result

which hundreds of acres of land was submerged in water, the whole highway has been damaged due to floods as a result of which tourists and travellers are facing problem in passing through this highway and many accidents are taking place there every day.

Achhenada town in Agra has been badly affected. Civic facilities and all the systems have been paralysed. Heavy loss of life has occurred due to heavy rains in Agra city. All roads have been damaged and filth has spreaded in the entire city but no relief measures have been taken so far. I demand from the Government that financial resources may be made available to give relief to the affected people of Uttar Pradesh and to implement the emergent and longterm scheme. Besides this, the Government of Uttar Pradesh may be directed to implement this scheme as scheduled.

I would like to add further that the hon'ble Prime Minister had made an announcement in this very House that a team including a representative of Planning Commission would be sent to take stock of the situation created by unexpected floods which rocked the Eastern India, Mathura, Agra and Rajasthan etc. but no Central team has so far been sent to study the problems caused by floods in Mathura and Agra.

I would like to request the hon'ble Prime Minister that as per the announcement made in the Lok Sabha, Central team should be sent at the earliest so that long term measures can be taken. Today, situation is very serious there.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Delhi-Sardar) : Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the future of lakhs of labourers of Delhi is at stake. They are not able to think as to what they should do. During past days Supreme Court, in one of its decisions had directed 168 industrial units of Delhi to be closed down by December, 31 and these units were also advised to relocate or shift. They were also directed to continue to give the salaries to these labourers till their units are relocated or shifted or till one year. But I am sorry to say that those industrial units which had promised to relocate or shift are now going back upon their word and are not relocating their units. It was also decided that 68 percent of the lands which these industrial units are owning would be kept by the Government and remaining 32 percent of land could be used by them for constructing commercial buildings for which these were given FIR one and a half time more. But the labourers have been rendered jobless due to relocating of industrial units. They are very much puzzled to think how will they earn their livelihood?

As you know that the matter of land comes under Central Government. The Government of Delhi has been given inadequate powers. I would like to submit that the hon'ble Home Minister should give a statement here in this regard. A few days back I met the hon'ble Prime Minister but he did not give any satisfactory reply.

As per the Supreme Court order around one lakh industrial units in Delhi have been asked to shift out of

Delhi in the name of pollution. It was said that these units would be provided land out of Delhi but no land has been allotted so far. My demand is that the Central Government should carry out some changes in the Master Plan and if it is not possible then it should file a petition in the Supreme Court before 30th November, for the future of labourers.

In my constituency, Sadar there are 5 textile mills viz. Ayodhya Mill, Birla mill, silk mill, Swatantra Bharat mill and DCM. Labourers of all these mills are launching agitation for a long time and their demand is legitimate. If the Government do not consider about their future, it will create a very big problem. In my constituency, some small industrial units were located in the confirming areas and some in non-confirming areas. Those units which were located in the confirming areas, are not at fault then why these units are being shifted? My demand is that the Central Government should constitute a committee and review the matter and give a statement in the House as to what will be the fate of these labourers. These institutions are going to gain a lot because the open land which has been given to them is very costly today, it will be very beneficial to these institutions but the labourers will be rendered jobless.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In this regard, I would like to say that the judgement of the Supreme Court will have to be implemented and secondly, nobody will also want that pollution should be allowed to spread in Delhi. Therefore, one lakh industrial units which are being run in Delhi in small houses would have to be shifted out of Delhi. Therefore, the Government should make arrangements to ensure that the judgement of the Supreme Court is implemented, pollution does not spread in Delhi and labourers of these units are not rendered jobless. The Government should fix a time limit and find a way out to this problem.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, will the hon'ble Minister like to give a statement in this regard?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you as you have given me an opportunity to speak. I would like to draw your attention to those 100 Gram Panchayats of Aurangabad (Bihar) where famine situation has emerged today. The name of Bihar has been stated only because there is one more Aurangabad in Maharashtra also. The Aurangabad district of Bihar is a backward district where in 100 Gram Panchayats famine like situation has emerged due to lack of rains. The crops have dried up. There, people are pining for foodgrains. The seeds of rice had been sown but due to non availability of water, crop was dried up.

Just now the hon'ble Minister was expressing serious concern about Orissa and looking very serious concern but I would like to say to him that drought conditions are there in 100 Gram Panchayats of my district. Since the Government do not make any comprehensive plan for such Gram Panchayats or

villages, these villages remain neglected. I, therefore, want to draw your attention towards these villages. I have also written in this regard. I would like to demand here also that these villages should be declared as drought affected areas, their land revenue may be waived off and relief measures be started there.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have given me an opportunity to draw the attention of the country, through this House, towards the main problem of my constituency. In my constituency also, all the industrial units have either been closed or being closed as per a judgement of the Supreme Court but there is an another aspect in it. When the judgement of the Supreme Court was being implemented in my region, it was also stated at that time that my region i.e. Agra, Ferozabad, Etah and Mathura would be provided with uninterrupted power supply for 24 hours in the form of alternative energy and all industrial units would be supplied gas uninterruptedly. But no industrial unit has so far been supplied gas and not to speak of providing power for 24 hours, even at my native place i.e. Ferozabad where the number of factories is the highest and these are running without any foreign assistance, the Government have given no help till today. Sometimes power is not supplied continuously for 24 days in that area.

Sir, through you, I would like to submit that if the Government implement first part of the judgement regarding closing of industrial units, it should implement the second part also which envisages that gas should be supplied regularly and power be made available continuously for 24 hours. Unless the second part of the judgement is implemented, the hope, which was raised by promising to set up gas based industries, among the lakhs of labourers who have been rendered jobless, will not be fulfilled. I am giving an example here. Lakhs of labourers have been rendered jobless in Ferozabad alone and foundry, Sari and other industries are not included in it. Therefore, through you, I would like to submit that the Government should implement the judgement of the Supreme Court there with immediate effect, set up small power stations at a distance of 10-20 kilometer and supply gas to the industries without any further delay.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the news which has appeared prominently in all newspapers of today and that is fodder scam of Bihar. Now-a-days no other news appeals in the newspapers other than scams. All the politicians and officers holding higher Offices are involved in corruption. Some of them have been exposed and others are yet to be exposed. Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that it should expose those people who are yet to be exposed. I would like to give a suggestion here that the C.B.I. may be directed to make an inquiry into the properties of the present Ministers,

former Ministers, Governors, I.A.S. and I.P.S. Officers and all judges. These people may be asked to submit a statement of their properties.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even Judiciary is not free from corruption today... A former judge has been arrested under FERA. Judges have no clear image so far as corruption is concerned and I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers are already involved in corruption. It is because our Ministers are also involved in corruption. If the leader of the country is involved in corruption, how can we prevent officers from indulging in it. It is a very serious issue, therefore, it should be considered seriously in the House. Supreme Court has exposed many corrupt leaders with the help of the CBI but our Government have not been able to expose even a single Minister and Officer till today. What are the reasons behind it? Is corruption not rampant in the country at present? But the reality is that corruption is prevailing in the country at present also. Why the Government are keeping mum? Our hon'ble Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji is sitting here. He is holding an important Department like Railway. Corruption might have been in that Department also. He should tell as to how many cases of corruptor have come to the notice and how many guilty officers have been punished?

Shri Jenaji is also sitting here. What are the reasons for which the Ministers do not consider even a single officer of their Departments involved in corruptions? Can they not fix a target to identify a certain number of corrupt officers every day and to bring them in the dock? Since we have to resolve to do away with corruption, therefore, all of us would have to make efforts. This has become an important issue before the people of the country. Now the situation is that if we come out wearing Khadi clothes, people taunt by saying that Sukhram is going. There was a time when khad was given respect but now it is facing disrespect. Therefore, the House and the Government should consider this important issue seriously. Please tell me what steps are being taken by the Government to do away with corruption?

I want to say one more thing. The Lokpal Bill is likely to be introduced soon. No judge is being associated with the preparation of this Bill. Today, justice is being sold in districts and it is being bought at a price by the rich and the poor are not getting justice. It is the Supreme Court only in which people still have faith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Some of the words spoken by you have been brought to my notice. I would like to go through them.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : I want a reply from the Government.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important matter. The Government of Pakistan have not issued visa to any Sikh living in Kashmir for the last four years. When our Sikh pilgrims who wish to visit Nankana Sahib, apply for visa, their applications are not entertained on the

pretext that they belong to Kashmir which is a disputed area. However, for the last thirty years, people of this area have been visiting Nanakana Sahib. But since the imposition of emergency there the Government of Pakistan are not allowing our Sikh pilgrims to visit the religious places there, particularly Nanakana Sahib. I would like to know the view of Central Government in this regard. The Government should try to solve this problem through International Fora so that atleast, our Sikh pilgrim could be allowed to visit Nanakana Sahib.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, we are glad that though our Prime Minister is very busy, he has visited northeastern States recently. Not only that, he has given a special package of Rs. 6100 crore or something to the people of the northeast. We are unlucky because we are from Barak Valley. We have not got anything except a railway line given by our Railway Minister in the Railway Budget.

But I had hoped that when we met the Prime Minister very recently, he would redress it. But one statement of the hon. Prime Minister has created a lot of unhappiness and confusion and also fear in the minds of the linguistic and religious minorities of Assam. The hon. Prime Minister has declared that they are going to repeal the IMDT Act. This IMDT Act is an Act which is not only to detect, delist or deport foreigners, but it is also a safety valve to protect the real citizens of India who are subject to harassment by the police.

15.00 hrs.

In any part of the country, if there is a foreigner, he is covered by the Foreigners Act, 1946. As per the Foreigners Act, 1946, the onus is on the person on whom the allegation is made to prove that he is not a foreigner, that he is an Indian. But under the IMDT Act, if an allegation is brought by a third party or by the Government, it is also their duty to prove that that person is a foreigner, that he has crossed over illegally, after 1971, without a passport, without a visa; or, if he had come in with a passport and a visa that he has been overstaying.

It also provides that once it is detected by the authorities, he or she would be deprived of becoming a voter for ten years from that date. Subsequently, they would be given nationality provided they fit into the other rules.

Now, I do not blame the Prime Minister. He was either wrongly briefed by his people or he was very keen to continue to get the support of the AGP, which is under pressure from the AASU which insists that the voters' list is not correct. Every time, they get elected with the help of a wrong voters list and they say that it is a wrong voters' list, that it must be reviewed and

recast. But they continue as MLAs and Ministers. This is the funniest part of it. We, the linguistic and religious minorities are subject to so much harassment because of such lists and the foreigners issue. We in the Congress party are totally committed in our stand that no foreigner who has come in after 1971 should stay in Assam, whether he is a Hindu or a Muslim. We have no objection but at the same time we are not willing to see that some instrument is given to the police authorities to harass.

In the past, when there was no Foreigners Act, no IMDT Act, even Assamese with Bhattacharjee, Dutta and Choudhury titles - which are also common among the Bengalis - were served with notices as foreigners. This is a fact. I am representing Assam in Parliament from the '80s. I would make a request to Shri Ram Vilas Paswan who has taken a special interest in the North-East. If there is any amendment to be made anywhere to give some help to the Administration or to the Tribunal, we can discuss that. We are not having a closed mind on that. But by repealing the Act itself or by making some major changes, the thrust of the IMDT Act should not in any way be adulterated. I want to make it clear that if you bring it, one hundred and forty Members of this Party will not vote for you. Our Party's Working Committee has taken the decision and we appeal to you.

I will not blame the Prime Minister. I have also been a Minister and I have also seen that sometimes officials wrongly brief Ministers. So, a similar situation might have arisen and we are ready to forget it. But let this not be pursued.

I am grateful to you for giving me a chance. There are allegations appearing in newspapers regarding Army excesses in Assam in finding out the terrorists. But terrorist activities must be stopped. Recently, Shri Adyani was also there in Assam. On both these issues, he and the Congress party have different views. But they have also said that harassment must be stopped. In the name of detecting ULFA, you should not harass the innocent citizens of the country. It is happening and it must be stopped. I would request Shri Paswan to have a discussion with the Minister of Home Affairs, who sometimes does not know the head or tail of it. He said the other day that it would be repealed and on the next day... (Interruptions) He was accompanying the Prime Minister. This is why I am saying this. He knows the North-East. I am sure he has not briefed the Prime Minister... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I only support the views expressed by Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we are resuming discussion under Rule 193. Shri K.S.R. Murthy was on his legs.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please speak. What do you want to say?

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : The views of our party should also be included.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please speak. What do you want to say?

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : So far as the question of repatriation of foreigners is concerned, there is lack of will power. It is only the politics of vote. They should be repatriated. The hon'ble Prime Minister has said there...(Interruptions)

The view of our party should also be included. We all welcome the announcement made there by the hon'ble Prime Minister. The law...(Interruptions) What is the definition of foreigners in this nation?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There will be no further discussion on this matter now.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : What is the definition of foreigners in this country?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now you have completed your point.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : No. No. you have not heard me fully. The definition of foreigners is the people who have migrated from Bangladesh or from Pakistan. The people living here are not foreigners. We are not against them but the people who came here from Bangladesh should be repatriated from here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Well, this is what he told.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : It concerns the country as a whole. We are not misguiding anyone. There could be no two opinion in this regard. We have a very clear opinion and anyone who is a foreigner should be repatriated from this country...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : It is a serious lapse. It should not be repealed...(Interruptions) This House is strongly opposed to repeal of the IMDT Act. This IMDT Act must never be repealed which was brought forward with a particular view...(Interruptions) Please allow me to say something.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have already spoken.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Not a single foreigner will be allowed to live in India and they should be driven out.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Well, you have made your point now. What more would you like to say?

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : We are talking about a very simple thing. The fact is that a large number of foreigners from Bangladesh

have migrated to India...(Interruptions) I want that the law enacted in this regard should be implemented.

15.06 hrs.

(Col. Rao Ram Singh in the Chair)

Foreigners from Bangladesh are migrating in a very large number. It is very necessary for our country to check their influx...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, please allow me to say a few words.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want to speak on the same subject?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : No. On the subject of ex-servicemen. The Deputy Speaker has already allowed me to speak. I am happy that an ex-servicemen like you is sitting on the Chairman's seat...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry Shri Rajesh Pilot there is nothing here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, the Deputy Speaker has already allowed me to speak.

• MR. CHAIRMAN : How long are you going to speak?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is on ex-servicemen. So, as an ex-servicemen I cannot say no if you want to speak on this subject.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, in 1971 when we were attacked by Pakistan, a lot of our soldiers sacrificed their lives. Just a week back I was in one of the villages. I have really felt that people have forgotten what sacrifices they have done to save the territory and integrity of this country in 1971. The Leader of the House, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, is present here. We faced the Pakistani aggression between 14th and 17th December of that year. For the remembrance of their sacrifice, we can do something like publishing of a postal stamp. We can also request the Chief Ministers to hold civic reception for those who really fought for the nation's sake in order to give them respect. It could be done by District Magistrates at district level and Chief Secretaries and Chief Ministers at the State level just to remember their sacrifice in a humble way. I think this could be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, the Government may like to consider the suggestion of Shri Pilot because whatever we have done for the welfare of the Ex-servicemen is not enough really.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Yes, Sir.

15.10 hrs.

SITUATION ARISING FROM CYCLONE IN  
ANDHRA PRADESH - CONTD.*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I would like to make this supplementary statement on heavy rains and flood in Andhra Pradesh from the 17th to 21st October, 1996.

A low pressure area formed over South-West and adjoining West-Central Bay of Bengal on 15th October, 1996. The low pressure area became well marked on 16th October, 1996 and it persisted over the sea up to 18th October, 1996. On 19th October, 1996 it moved inland and lay over Rayalaseema and adjoining areas, moving in a westernly direction. The low pressure gradually weakened on 21st October, 1996. During the period from 17th October, 1996 to 21st October, 1996 the State received widespread and heavy to very heavy rainfall all over South coastal and Rayalaseema districts of Andhra Pradesh.

2. The torrential rains caused enormous loss of human life, loss of livestock and damages to both public and private properties in the 11 affected districts of Andhra Pradesh. The worst affected districts are Prakasam, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chittoor, Anantapur and urnool. The average rainfall recorded in most of these affected districts ranged from 100 mm. to 317 mm. in these six days. The heavy loss and flash floods inundated a large number of villages. A number of medium and minor irrigation sources were breached and damaged. This had a cascading effect and caused major breaches to the medium and minor irrigation projects like the Lower Sagileru Project in Cuddapah and Rallapadu and Mopadu reservoirs in Prakasam district. The rains also caused large scale damages to National Highway No. 5 between Nellore and Ongole and to the railway tracks between Nellore to Ongole and at some other points between Vijayawada and Madras. The State Government has reported that the District Administration has taken prompt action in evacuating 1,37,314 people living in low-lying areas to safer places and accommodating them in 174 relief camps. Medical and para-medical teams were deployed in the affected districts. Two IAF helicopters, 10 Army boats and a large number of country boats or crafts and motor boats were also deployed for rescue and relief including providing food packets and drinking water to the victims in the marooned villages. The State Government has reported a total of 338 deaths in the affected districts.

3. The Prime Minister made an aerial survey of the affected areas on 21st October, 1996 and reviewed the relief measures initiated by the State Administration. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh also accompanied the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister

announced the release of Rs. 50 crore for taking up immediate relief and restoration measures. Of this, Rs. 23.285 crore was on account of the fourth instalment of Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund due on 1.1.1997, but released in advance on 22.10.1996, and the balance of Rs. 26.715 crore was on account of ways and means advance.

4. I myself visited the worst affected areas on 30th October, 1996. I have seen the plight of the affected people and have assured all possible assistance to the State Government.

5. The State Government has submitted a Memorandum in the last week of October, 1996 seeking Central assistance of Rs. 550.63 crore. A Central team was immediately despatched to the State on 28-30 October, 1996. The report of the Central team has been received. The National Calamity Relief Committee meeting under my Chairmanship on 18th November, 1996 has considered the issue and decided that since funds have already been released to the State, the issue of additional assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief will be considered along with the package of assistance to be made available to the State following the subsequent cyclone of 6-7 November, 1996.

This is what I have to say.

*[English]*

## RE: QUESTION OF REPEAL OF IMDT ACT

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, the Prime Minister is present here. As it is creating a law and order problem, let him say something since he is here. You may ask him if he is willing or not. If he is not willing, I cannot force him. It is upto him.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the Prime Minister wants to speak, he is most welcome to speak but otherwise, with the permission of the House, we would resume our discussion under Rule 193.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, Prime Minister wants to speak.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to clarify only one point as regards the IMDT Act of Assam. Your goodself knows and the whole House knows that I visited all the North-Eastern States for about six and a half days. During my visit, I tried to meet all the sections of the society including leaders of political parties, non-Governmental organisations, Governors, Chief Ministers, Ministers and student unions. Like that, I tried to meet all sections of the people during my visit to the North-Eastern States.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : What about the farmers?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : In Assam, one of the demands was to repeal this Act. Almost all political parties including the Government party want to repeal it. But the Jamait-e-Islam—one group—came in the last and requested me not to take any hasty decision particularly on this Act. I told them that in the present context, unless all political parties were going to cooperate, it was rather difficult for me to repeal any Act and that they also, knew the composition of the House and that the Government would consider the matter with the cooperation of all parties.

Sir, this issue was also raised by the Press in the Press Conference. A majority of the people wants to repeal this Act because the purpose is not served by this Act. This is one of the major contentions. Under this Act, a Tribunal has been constituted to identify the foreigners. I do not want to go into the details like the impact of this Act. Though they have identified about 3.78 lakh people as foreigners, ultimately, the Tribunal passed an order for about 1000 people to be sent back to Bangladesh. So, this is the net result.

I do not want to enter into the merits and demerits now but there is some controversy on this issue. Unless I take the entire House into confidence, the question of repealing this Act at this stage will not arise.

15.18 hrs.

#### SITUATION ARISING FROM CYCLONE IN ANDHRA PRADESH - CONTD.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, with the permission of the House, we would resume discussion under Rule 193. I believe Shri K.S.R. Murthy was on his feet and therefore, he may carry on with his speech.

SHRI K.S.R. MURTHY (Amalapuram) : Mr. Chairman Sir, we are grateful to the Prime Minister for having consented to be here while discussing this calamity which never happened in the history of our country. We are particularly happy because there are conflicting reports in the Press that the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister were not getting on well and the State of Andhra Pradesh is likely to suffer as a result of the misunderstandings that have arisen between these two dignitaries.

Sir, I belong to Amalapuram parliamentary constituency where six of the Assembly segments have been completely washed out, out of the seven Assembly segments. When the hon. Prime Minister visited Amalapuram, I had not been informed or told that the Prime Minister was landing. When the hon. Minister of Agriculture went on a visit, I had not been told. Courtesy demands that the Member of Parliament should be informed whenever a Minister or the Prime Minister visits that area.

Even if there is a last minute change, that change should be communicated to the hon. Member wherever he is.

Coming to the role played by the Meteorological Department, they had forecast a speed of 60 to 70 km. per hour whereas the actual speed was 220 km. per hour. If the speed of 220 km. per hour had been broadcast on the All India Radio and the Doordarshan and signalled the fact that several houses might fall, several trees might fall, people would have taken enough precautions to take their own whelter in places where they needed that shelter. This was not done.

The statement of hon. Minister of Agriculture mentioned that the technology was not available. The technology is very much available in countries like the United States and the United Kingdom. We all know that in 1977 a similar disaster took place in Diviseema. About 10,000 people had died. The Americans and Indians living in America saw through the satellite what had happened there. It is very unfortunate that even today the Government of India does not possess the technology which could forecast the speed, the technology which could show on the Television the course of the cyclone and the hurricane. We do see in America how the tornado travels from minute to minute. When this was happening Amalapuram, our great Doordarshan was telecasting a one-day cricket match. This only shows the interest we have in protecting the lives of these people.

Having said that, I must say about the deaths. The Government has forecast 971 deaths and 925 missing. But the local people say that these may be far exceeding 2,000. There has been no effort to search the reserve forests all around the areas where the fishermen had lived. The fishermen say that several bodies must still be lying in the reserve forests to which the Government has no access. Even after 10 days, a fishermen landed at Madras swimming from Amalapuram. He was swimming in the sea for full eight days. And even the Naval aircraft or any other aircraft never noticed him.

The Coast Guard aircraft could have given a signal. If they had gone over the sea, they would have detected all the fishermen, who were there, without radio facility. They could have warned them and said: 'Go back to the shore because a cyclone is likely to come and destroy your lives'.

The scale of relief which had taken place was good. But there is a lot of politicisation. A number of people say that because they belong to a particular party, though their houses have been destroyed, these have not been enumerated. It is very fortunate. We should have formed village level all-party committees even before the relief had been started. This was not done. The district level committees, Mandal level committees and village level committees should be formed immediately before the relief operation is started. When we met the Prime Minister, he was kind enough to agree that all such Committees should be formed. I would like to suggest for your consideration that even for the reconsideration that even for the reconstruction programme, which is of a tremendous magnitude of Rs. 2,000 crore, there must be a committee headed by the

local Minister. that is, Minister is in charge of the district. Let it consist of all the MLA's, MP's and all party leaders so that they can give a direction. The district administration should also have concern for the construction programme. Unless this is done, there are likely to be very many allegations that this has not been done properly.

I must tell you that in this country even today, no States has a scientific management of a disaster. Your Collectors are not trained. Your Mandal Revenue Officers are not trained. Your politicians are not trained. Let us go ahead with a training programme for all these people. Hundred points are necessary to be taken when a disaster strikes. This criterion should be observed by all these people. Unless this is done, our Ham-radio sets have completely gone out of order.

The police wireless system has become completely useless because of this cyclone. We have to think of rectifying this system.

Sir, in regard to the Calamity Relief Fund, I would like to say that my Chief Minister says that a sum of Rs. 164 crores, over and above what has been allocated by the Tenth Finance Commission, has been spent and he is estimating a loss of Rs. 6,000 crore and he is asking for a reimbursement of Rs. 2,000 odd crore.

Sir, you were kind enough to declare this as a national calamity. But what does it mean? National calamity, according to me, means, the nation must bear the expenses of the affected State. We are not disputing that there is no national calamity in Orissa. What happened in Orissa is also a national calamity. What I am saying is that whenever a national calamity occurs, the Government of India must take the responsibility of funding the entire State irrespective of the resources that are available. If the resources are not available within the Government of India, we must find the ways and means as to how we could go ahead. But please do not minimise the gravity of the situation. It is a national calamity and I would request the hon. Prime Minister to take it with all seriousness and see how we could get over this situation. The Tenth Finance Commission might have set certain rules for funding national calamities. But the power to amend the rules is in your hands. You must amend the rules; define what is a national calamity irrespective of what the Tenth Finance Commission have said about the outlines of the national calamity. We should go over and over so that the aspirations of the people are definitely met. Allow the NGOs to come in a big way and see that relief takes place in a very pucca manner.

Sir, coming to the issue of the worst affected houses, I would like to say that about six and a half lakh houses have been affected by cyclone - 50 per cent of them fully destroyed; 50 per cent of them partially destroyed. You may not be able to appreciate this fact but if you drive around those two districts then you will appreciate as to what a calamity has befallen them. Even pucca houses with Bangalore tiles have been blown off. You

can well imagine about the exact conditions of the thatched houses. Now, the loss has been estimated at Rs. 963 crore. The Central Government, for the year 1996-97, has Rs. 3,000 crore under the Indira Awas Yojana. I would request you to kindly divert Rs. 1,000 crore over to the State for this programme. We are suggesting that a sum of Rs. 22,500 may be given to those whose houses have been fully damaged and a sum of Rs. 10,000 may be given to those whose houses have been damaged partially. The total requirement for looking after this would be Rs. 1042 crore. Sir, the NGOs may be allowed to come in a big way. Kindly imagine as to how we could fund our programmes. I would like to suggest that whichever houses that are going to be built, not only in these two districts but in the entire coast, should be of RCC roof. There should be no house with Bangalore tiles because it is likely to be blown off in such cyclones. All houses of RCC slabs must be there otherwise they would not be able to withstand the cyclonic storms.

We are suggesting that we should go to the World Bank. It is a good idea. Construction of infrastructural inputs like the canals, bridges, roads, drains and houses could be taken up with their help, in case the Indira Awas Yojana does not permit the entire programme to be taken up.

Sir, agriculture suffered very bad damages. The paddy crop has been completely washed out. It was about to be harvested in a couple of days. The crop has been lost. The loss incurred is supposed to be around Rs. 396 crore. Sir, the Government is giving Rs. 625 per hectare for the agriculturists. This is not adequate. We would recommend that it should be increased to Rs. 1500 or so. The scheme of crop insurance is very outmoded. Under this scheme three Mandals are taken to evaluate the crop damage. We are requesting you to take the village as the unit so that all the farmers and their crops are covered in this. Sir, we would also like to request for reduction of crop cutting experiments from 16 to four. We would like to request you to ignore all the 260 crop-cutting experiments that have already been conducted before the cyclone. Kindly write-off all the loans which are below Rs. 10,000. The farmers are very poor. They would not be able to withstand this calamity unless we give this concession to them. Whatever loans that we are going to give them, let them be given that at a concessional rate of interest.

Sir, the economy of the entire East and West Godavari depends on coconut. All the coconut trees there practically have been destroyed.

Some of them have been completely uprooted; some of them have lost their crowns which give the yield of coconut. The loss is estimated at about Rs. 300 crore. We should supply fresh saplings. We should help them in removing the fallen trees. In the Union Territory of Pondicherry, the Government has already announced Rs. 230 per tree to help them in removing the fallen trees. Similar assistance must be given here also. For other horticultural crops also a lot of help is necessary.

There are three categories of coconut plantation. The first category is of a very small man who has five or six trees. Let him be paid Rs. 2000 per plant as was done by the ONGC at the time of the blow out of their rig. The second category is of farmers who have some acres of land. If you give them Rs. 15000 as loan plus Rs. 5000 as subsidy, they would be able to overcome the situation. There is the coconut Development Board under Government of India on which there is no representative from Andhra Pradesh. I do not know where those representatives are from.

A number of cattle have been lost. Poultry farms are totally destroyed. Weavers and fishermen are badly affected. The fishermen should be rehabilitated. They should be given new boats and new nets. Weavers should be given new looms and yarn. There are schemes under the Government of India which can be integrated with the demands of these two sections of people through which they would be able to live a happy life. Artisans, and small craftsmen need to be given bank loans. NABARD and other nationalised banks should be brought in a big way. The relaxations which the Government of Andhra Pradesh wanted as far as the specifications of the foodgrains from the FCI are concerned, should be accepted *in toto*.

Power is still far away from these people. Ninety-five percent of the telephone exchanges in these areas are not working. The Government should see that something is done immediately to restore these facilities immediately. Panchayati Raj Department has suffered enormously. Roads and drains have been washed out. Water supply system has come to a standstill because of lack of power supply. Unless generators are supplied, people in those areas will not be able to get drinking water. This particular area suffers from brackish water. There are six lakh people who had to drink salt water in the absence of potable water. Unless a project is prepared for looking after them there would not be much of a benefit for these people. Irrigation has suffered; roads have suffered; public health has suffered, and all aspects of life have suffered.

I would like to appeal to the House and the Chairman that the hon. Speaker lead an all-party team of the Members of Parliament to see and assess the situation there. I would like all the Members of Parliament to contribute their one month's pay towards cyclone relief work. I would also like to tell this House that an estimated Rs. 6000 crore loss can be helped by a grant of and Rs. 2000 crore by way of assistance is needed. If there seems to be any exaggeration, let the Government of India go and verify the situation on the ground. The magnitude of the loss is unimaginable. Such a thing never happened in the history of this country.

\*SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI (Khammam): Hon. Mr. Chairman, the night of November 6 turned out to be a night of doom for the people of coastal Andhra region. There was a cry of pain, anguish

and agony made by the Telugu mother who was caught in a dreadful and disastrous cyclone. This cry for help and request for a morsel of food for her hungry sons who have lost everything was heard by everywhere in the country. And, the country by and large has responded to that call for help which has emanated from cyclone stricken Telugu people. But Sir, the people in Andhra Pradesh doubt whether this call for help from them in their hour of crisis and need was heard properly by the Central Government and especially the Hon. Prime Minister. There is a feeling in the State that the Central Government has not responded adequately when a calamity of such magnitude struck the State. Whatever assistance that has been announced so far appears to be a mere jugglery of figures. The assistance in real terms is nowhere to be seen even in the statements made by the Government what to speak of the actual assistance already rendered. The spirit with which this calamity has been declared as a national calamity has been altogether missing in the Statements made on behalf of the Government. The quantum of aid announced so far does not reflect that spirit. And what is more significant is the fact that only a negligible amount of the total assistance announced so far is in the form of grants, the rest being in the form of either loans or advances. Even the State Government had commented that the Central assistance announced so far is to a large extent restricted to loans and advances and it is merely jugglery of figures. These statements made on behalf of the State and Central Governments are creating apprehensions in the minds of the people who are already suffering a lot. People are now worried more because of these statements and veering around the thought that there is no one in the Centre to rescue them in their hour of need. People had very high expectations from the United Front Government. Everyone thought that under the present dispensation, the State Governments would get full cooperation and help from the Central Government, more rights would be bestowed on the State Governments to make them strong and strengthen the federal fabric, steps would be taken to make the State strong and vibrant in economic sphere, and the recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission to strengthen the State-Centre relationship by delegating more powers to the States. Everyone in the country felt happy about the declarations that as a part of Common Minimum Programme pucca houses would be provided to the poor and potable water would be made available in every part of the country within a minimum period of 5 years. Against this background, now the people have come to think that the Government is not responsive enough even when they are in a distress, facing a crisis, what to speak of noble declarations under CMP. Added to this, there are certain statements which were purported to have been made by the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Union Agriculture Minister are creating more confusion in the minds of people of the State. Sir, this is not the time for personality clashes. Nor is the time for an ideological conflict. It is the time which calls for

\* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Telugu.

a united action. This is the time, when the Union Government is expected to rise above partisan and petty conflicts and respond adequately to the cries for help from the people who have lost everything in the recent calamity. This is our party's stand.

Sir, Andhra has suffered a huge loss in the recent calamity. Just a week before the hurricane devastated the entire coastal belt of the State. There was a cyclone which had already brought in equally extensive damage. Nine districts were affected in the cyclone of October. East and West Godavari, Guntur, Prakasam, Nellore, Kurnool, Ananthpur, Cuddapah and Chittoor were the districts which were affected very badly in that cyclone. The State Government had been submitting detailed Reports to the Central Government about the loss suffered due to these natural calamities. As though that was not sufficient, there was a hurricane which hit the State on November 6th at around 8 PM and continued upto 1 AM of 7th. Within those fateful five hours, it totally ruined the entire areas. Nothing has been left out. This hurricane which had a velocity of 220 kmph hit 50 kms of area with a population of 70 lakhs. Just now we have heard the House debating the point whether it was a cyclone or a depression or a hurricane. Experts say that if the wind velocity touches 90 kmph, then it is a cyclone. But in this case, the speed has been 220 kmph. This was treated as a hurricane. Whatever it might be, we have to take seriously the extensive damage that it has brought in 971 persons have died, 927 are missing. These are the figures quoted by the State Governments. People say that the actual number of the dead and missing is much more. 6,47,000 houses collapsed completely. The standing paddy crop in 4 lakh hectares and commercial crops in 1.43 lakh hectares got washed away. 20,000 cattle perished, Poultry suffered a loss as 2.20 lakh to birds died. 2438 fish farms were hit beyond redemption, 6505 fishing boats are missing. Thousands of fishermen depend on these fishing boats for their survival. Now with these boats missing, they have been thrown out of their employment. In addition to this, 4321 small boats are missing. The State Government has been trying its best to help the victims of this tragedy. The relief work is in full swing. It is true that there are some irregularities taking place at the lower rung in implementing the rescue and relief operations. The State Government is committed to carry out honestly the relief and rehabilitation work. Many Non Government Organisations are also assisting the State Government to provide relief to the victims. Several State Governments especially Kerala and West Bengal have also responded favourably and donated liberally.

Sir, I am proud to say that Hon. Members belonging to my party have contributed their one month salary to help the victims. But all this is not sufficient enough. In order to meet the crisis of such a magnitude the response should come from the highest level, i.e., the Central Government. Instead of responding to the call to help

rescue the people who have lost everything in this calamity, the Hon. Prime Minister has expressed his own doubts about the authenticity of the figures of the estimated loss. It is reported in the newspapers that the Hon. Prime Minister has commented that the figures of loss and damage are perhaps exaggerating. It is quite unfortunate. Sir, a cartoon appeared in a Telugu daily recently. In the cartoon, a peon in the office of the PM is telling the PM that he should not doubt about the number of fallen coconut trees as he was fast asleep when the plane was flying over the affected area during his aerial survey. It might be a cartoon. But people in the State may mistake it to be true. That is not a healthy sign. Therefore, it is time that the Hon. Prime Minister responds and responds adequately. It appeared in the news that the Hon. Prime Minister has expressed his doubts about the quantum of loss when several delegations including MPs' delegations belonging to various parties had called on him to apprise him of the situation and seek Central assistance. There is no basis whatsoever to doubt the figures of damage submitted to the Central Government. The Central teams were not deputed to the State for assessment of the loss. Hence, there is no basis whatsoever to doubt the figures submitted by the State Government. Similarly, the Hon. Agriculture Minister is reported to have said that the situation in Orissa is more serious than the situation in Andhra Pradesh which is reeling under a cyclonic effect. He is reported to have said the loss is much more in Orissa than in Andhra. I do not wish to debate the point as to which State has suffered more. I do admit that the situation in Orissa is equally grave, if not more. As urged by the Hon. Members a while ago, it should also be treated as a national calamity. We have to take all the steps that are necessary to help the people there who were hit by drought. As urged by the former Prime Minister Shri Chandra Shekharji this morning, the concerned departments should work on a war-footing in providing drinking water to the affected people in Orissa. We support the demand that the Central Government should release the required amount for that purpose. Similarly, you cannot ignore existing situation in Andhra Pradesh. But at a time when there is a controversy raging that the Central Government had been neglecting Andhra Pradesh in allocation of funds and meting out step-motherly treatment to the State, it is unfortunate that the Hon. Agriculture Minister has reportedly made that comment. It hurt the sentiments of Telugu people. It confirms the lurking doubts in the minds of Telugu people that the Central Government had been neglecting the interests of State Government, that step-motherly treatment is being meted out in allocation of funds, that Hon. Prime Minister is not bothered about the State in all matters including Almatti, that he has no cordial relationship with Shri Chandra Babu Naidu. These are the reasons, the people now feel, why the Central Government is not coming out with massive assistance to rescue the State from this grim situation. It is also unfortunate that the Hon.

Agriculture Minister has come out with the statements comparing the existing conditions in Andhra and Orissa. This particular statement has also contributed in worsening further the situation in Andhra. Hence the Central Government should come out with a statement immediately clearly mentioning the details of loss and the quantum of assistance it is prepared to render. The statement should categorically speak about quantum of assistance allaying the fears and offering solace to the cyclone affected people in Andhra. It is also appearing in news that rules are coming in the way of offering assistance. Rules are meant for serving the people. If the rules come in the way of serving the people, then the rules should either be amended or abandoned. But in the name of the rules, people should not be made to suffer. Even after declaring that recent hurricane in Andhra was a national calamity, it is really surprising to find that the rules do not permit assistance more than Rs. 50 crore to the affected area. Sir, when late Shri Tanguturi Prakashan Pantulu was the Chief Minister, he happened to visit a village. The people in that village demanded a road. The Chief Minister instructed the accompanying officials to take steps to construct the road as demanded by villagers. The officials have pointed out to him that the rules do not permit taking up of the construction of that road. The Chief Minister told the officers that "We were elected by the people and were meant to serve the people. If the rules come in the way of serving people, please do away with such rules. You change the rule if need be, not the needs to the people". That spirit is now missing in the functioning of the Central Government. When the Central Government quotes the rules which do not allow adequate assistance, are they speaking with the intention to help the people who were totally ruined by the natural calamity? Or is it that in the name of rules, the Central Government wants to skip its responsibility to help the needy.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Veerabhadram, will you please wind up?

SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI : Two minutes please.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Lot of other speakers are there.

SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI : I am the only speaker from my party. I will conclude within two or three minutes.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to make things clear. It should come out with a clear cut statement spelling out the details and the quantum of aid to the State. If the rules come in the way, efforts should be made to do away with such obnoxious rules. One thing that I want to bring to the notice of this august body and also the Hon. Prime Minister, whatever we may say here about rules, it is meaningless to speak about rules and regulations, our statutes and our Constitution to our illiterate, half-starving agriculture labourers who toil all the day to earn their bread, and

above all the same persons are subjected to unmitigated sufferings due to natural calamities. If you tell them about rules, they will ask, in turn, to change your rules. Construction of pucca houses to the poor and needy is one of the common minimum programmes. If the 6.47 lakhs of poor have lost roof over their heads due to the hurricane and beg for the reconstruction of their houses and when the CMP itself speaks about the construction of dwelling unit for such people, we cannot simply quote rules to express our inability to rebuild their houses and keep quiet. After all, under what rule did we include this programme in our CMP? Hence the time now has come to amend such rules. Let us help the people who are in a distressing condition even by doing away rules if need be. Now it appears that the World Bank is also willing to help us. Without the active cooperation of the Central Government, it is very difficult to get any assistance from the World Bank. I request the Central Government to declare in the House the losses suffered by the State, the quantum of assistance required for relief rehabilitation and reconstruction, and the quantum of assistance it is prepared to offer to assist the State in this gigantic task with all the facts and figures. In addition, the Central Government must also help rescue the assistance from various international organisations like World Bank. Also it should coordinate the efforts of various agencies like Coconut Development Board etc. The Coconut Development Board can supply sapplings and other things free of cost and thus help the farmers who grow horticultural crops. Similarly assistance from other agencies can also be had to rehabilitate the victims. Since this happens to be a national calamity, and if the rules do not permit us to go beyond a limit, then in those circumstances the Hon. Prime Minister should take initiative to influence the States and with his own influence and the influence of the Government, should make a concert effort to get the desired level of assistance from the NGOs and other organisations to help the State and its people to overcome the present crisis.

Thanking you Sir, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, the hon. Prime Minister has go to the Rajya Sabha at 4.00 p.m. so he would like to intervene at this stage.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : Sir, he should hear us.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is equally important for the Prime Minister to hear the Members of the Rajya Sabha also. He has been here for the last forty-five minutes. At 4 o'clock he has to go to the Rajya Sabha, so he would like to intervene... (Interruptions) We still have got one hour approximately left for this discussion. I will try to give everybody a chance to speak.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Sir, with your permission, I would just like to clarify one point. So far as the reply to this particular issue is concerned, I myself am going to reply to it. The hon.

Minister for Agriculture has already made a statement and if he wants to add anything more, he is free to do so. But what action we have taken, all these things are going to be replied by me after the debate is concluded.

The only point which I would like to clarify is that we are trying to estimate the magnitude of the damage that has been caused in the recent cyclone. To that effect there is some controversy but I do not want to be a party to that. Several delegations have met me in this context. I myself held the aerial survey and I do not want to tell all the details right now. At the time of reply I am going to say about my assessment to the whole situation.

One delegation came to me and said that the loss is around Rs. 15,000 crore; the Government has submitted a memorandum stating that the loss is around Rs. 6,000 crore; another delegation came to me and said that the loss is around Rs. 8,500 crore.

So, in their opinion they might have assessed the damage as Rs. 15,000 crore or Rs. 8,000 crore. The Government, in its opinion, has submitted a memorandum for about Rs. 6,000 crore. I only said to one delegation: 'The official team is also going. The official team is coming back and it will submit a report. Afterwards I can give my correct views on the quantum of loss.'

Please see, everybody has got his own views. Now I do not want to comment at this stage. Fifty lakh coconut trees have fallen. In two districts, as per one assessment, there are sixty lakh coconut trees and out of which, all have fallen. I have not gone to every garden...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. JAGANNATH : rose -

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Shri Jagannath, please wait for one minute. You can talk afterwards. I only said that each team went on making its own assessment. One team has assessed it as Rs. 15,000 crore. They have gone and issued a statement that the Prime Minister has no concern about the Andhra damage. Another team came to me. Everybody says that politics should not be mixed. But saying is one thing. This should not happen. That is all. The Government is equally concerned. So far as the accurate damage is concerned, till the official report comes, I cannot say anything. I will reveal every action taken by the Government up-till now in the evening when I am going to reply to this discussion...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA (Anantpur): The press is going on saying that the State Government is blaming the Central Government and the Central Government is not taking the responsibility...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : No, I am not going to say, 'I said, team'. Three teams have come to me. One team has said Rs. 15,000 crore; another team has said Rs. 8,500 crore and the Government's report is

Rs. 6,000 crore. So, I had to rely upon the official team. The official team is going to study the entire affected area and it will submit a report. Till then you have to wait...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : It was not the political parties who accused of lack of concern for those who suffered in the cyclone. It was the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh who has blamed the Centre for rigid and non-cooperative attitude...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Shri Upendraji, I can understand who are all doing politics. Please do not try to drag the issue further.

I have not named as to who has said Rs. 15,000 crore. I have not named as to who has said Rs. 8,500 crore. I have only said, 'delegations'. I have not said, 'Congress, Telugu Desam or another Telegu Desam'. I do not want to say the name of any party or parties. I have only said that the teams or the delegations met me and said what they have submitted in their memorandum. I have just brought them to the notice of this House.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Andhra Pradesh cyclone, which has to be renamed as hurricane because as per the international standards, when the winds were blowing at 220 kilometres per hour, it has to be treated as hurricane.

I also thank all the political parties for cutting across the party and for having supported our cause. I expect that the Central Government to be generous in allocating funds for relief and rehabilitation.

Cyclones are an inherent feature of Andhra Pradesh which has a coastline of 1,000 kms. Hardly a fortnight after the devastating cyclone hit the coastal East West Godavari in Rayalaseema district of Andhra Pradesh, the State administration is desperately trying to come to grips with the colossal dimensions of the havoc which, by any reckoning has few parallels. In its qualitative features like the wind velocity and destructive potential the 6th November visitation is ranked next only to the nightmarish episode of 1977, although the number of lives lost now - officially placed at over 900 is actually much more than thousand. Besides, 2,000 fisherman were feared dead when they were swept away by tidal waves in the Bay of Bengal in the recent Andhra Pradesh cyclone.

More than 6,48,474 houses including thatched huts were destroyed in East and West Godavari District. There were also heavy losses of livestock and crops were completely damaged and washed away. 3,36,000 hectares of paddy was lost; 4,4000 hectares of sugarcane was lost; Rs. 350 crore of coconut and cash crop were lost.

Train services, road traffic, power supply and communication networks had been completely paralysed in the two coastal districts. Seventy lakh people grappled

with calamity: 1385 villages were affected. The assistance of the Central Government is very meagre as the loss happens to be more than Rs. 6000 crore.

Even as the people were preparing themselves to face the onslaught of the cyclone that was forecast to descend on them around midnight, it caught them unawares by arriving around 6.00 PM. The two districts were plunged into darkness following a major power breakdown. Even when their roofs were being blown away, people chose to stay indoors rather than venturing out, for fear of getting blown away.

Konaseema, the cone-shaped estuary of the Godavari River, covers two districts, East and West Godavari. These areas are considered to be the rice bowl of the State. They faced the burnt of the fury. The region which is one of the more picturesque in Andhra Pradesh, was filled up with water and turned into a 'burial ground'.

According to the preliminary estimates, apart from the dead, thousands of people were feared to be injured, some of them seriously. Asbestos sheets which served as roofs were blown away as were electric and telephone poles. A microwave tower at Ravulapalem which was planned to withstand 200 Kms. per hour wind came grumbling down. That shows the magnitude of the burricane. About 6.505 boats, including mechanised ones, each with two or three fishermen on board, were reported missing.

The winds took tidal waves to a height of two metres and the waves swept across the coastal villages causing of pylons. The cyclone brought down electrical installations leading to a major power breakdown in the East and West Godavari districts.

The Calamities Relief Fund of Rs. 124 crore that was earmarked for Andhra Pradesh by the Tenth Finance Commission has run into negative balance with the onslaught of droughts and cyclones.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Jagannath, if I may very respectfully point out, that in a discussion, the speech is not normally read out. You can take points from your speech and then bring them out.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : With this magnitude of loss, we request the Central Government to generously help us by taking the following steps :

1. Additional Grant from National Calamity Fund.
2. One day salary from (a) Central Government Employees; (b) Public Sector Employees; and (c) Employees of Banks and Financial Institutions.
3. Loan assistance of Rs. 150 crore for power sector and rescheduling of the existing loans.
4. Lump sum grant of Rs. 50 crore from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

5. Twenty-four lakh tonnes of rice for the Public Distribution System in Andhra Pradesh without any linkage to the procurement.
6. Food Corporation of India to open Paddy Purchase Centres to procure paddy with relaxation.
7. Project for coconut plantation revival. Additional amount for tree and bank loan for fresh plantation.
8. Funds for road repairs: Rs. 18 crore for National Highways and Rs. 21 crore for State roads and buildings.
9. Family welfare dues from the Government of India amount to around Rs. 40 crore to be released.
10. Sanction of funds for rural roads (Rs. 55 crore)
11. Additional funds for E.A.S.
12. Additional funds for Rural Water Scheme.
13. Housing: Cyclone Housing Project with World Bank Aid (outlay of Rs. 350 crore); sanction of at least one lakh houses under IAY; and rescheduling of loans to LIC and HUDCO.
14. RADF - Assistance from BABARD.
15. Loan amount of Rs. 150 crore.

Sir, before I conclude, I would like to bring to the notice of this House that adequate precautionary measures were taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

16.00 hrs.

(Shri Basu Deb Acharia in the Chair)

Had the A.P. Government not taken adequate precautionary measures just like in the 1977 cyclone, the death toll would have been more than ten thousand. The State Government swung into action as soon as the impending crisis was forecast. The district administration was alerted in the threat zones. An alert had gone out to the Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam and Air Force Station, Begumpet. The Railway and State Transport Authorities were also warned about regulating traffic. A wireless communication network had been established between the affected areas and the State Headquarters. Warnings were issued to the population in the vulnerable areas. A total of 1,90,995 people were evacuated and housed in about 800 relief camps. But all these efforts were dwarfed into anonymity by the fury unleashed by nature. The cyclone which was stated to take a course got diverted five or six times and gone in different directions which surprised the people.

So, under these circumstances, I entirely disagree with the allegations made by some of the hon. Members here. Had the State Government not taken adequate

precautions, the death toll would have been much more, as in the 1977 cyclone.

So, I appeal to the Government of India to generously give us funds for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the cyclone hit victims of Andhra Pradesh.

Lastly on the 7th November, 1996, the hon. Chief Minister was there. He has established a mini Secretariat with a number of Secretaries monitoring the relief measures along with a team of Ministers, M.Ps. and M.L.As.

With these few words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM (Nalgonda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the cyclone which hit Andhra Pradesh this time, is not a new one. Similar cyclones had also taken place in this State in 1953, 1957 and 1977 due to which Andhra Pradesh had to suffer a heavy loss. When the cyclone hit the State in 1977, I was present. I had also visited East-West Godavari, Guntoor, Anantpur and Krishna etc. alongwith the general secretary of our party and MLAs of the State. I have come to know that as soon as the Prime Minister of the country heard about that tragedy, he immediately went there to take stock of the situation. The Chief Minister of our State had also visited several affected areas frequently and took stock of the situation. The Central Government and the State Government got surprised when they assessed the loss suffered by these districts but the assessments made by the Centre and State Government were different which created doubt among the people. If the assessment of the hon'ble Prime Minister somehow differs from the assessment of State Government, he can discuss it with the State Government. It is because of the fault finding attitude of the Central Ministers in regard to the State Government that such doubtful situation has been created and it seems that the Central Government is not co-operating us.

I would like to say something about the loss suffered by the State due to this cyclone. 12 districts of Andhra Pradesh are located alongwith the coast. Several districts of Rayalseema region had been affected due to occurrence of cyclone three times earlier. These districts have been suffering a loss continuously. In 1977, the then Minister had formulated a plan to construct a concrete wall along the coast in order to deal with the tragedy but it has not been implemented today.

I would like to say something about fishermen living along the coast. Thousands of fishermen live along the coast. They spend half of their life in the sea. Central Government have not taken any step so far for the safety of these people. Had the shelters been made to deal with the situation, where these people could have taken shelter and saved their lives on entering of water in these villages. There is a old shelter in a district

which can collapse any time and cause loss of life and property. Due to entering of the sea water in the Kakinada city, half of the city had submerged by water. The number of fishermen living along the coast is in thousands. That area is becoming a slum today. No safety measures are being taken to save these fishermen. Most of the killed are these fishermen. I went to a village called Balsu which is located close to the coast. I have come to know that 750 persons of that villages were killed in this cyclone. The fishermen of that village suffered a heavy loss. Their houses were washed away and now they have no place for living. They are being neglected whereas the Central Government and State Government and the contractors earn crores of rupees from aqua-culture only because of these people but nobody is ready to make concrete houses and shelters for them. In addition to a long term plan, and another scheme should be prepared for the benefit of those fishermen who live along the coast.

Discussion is going on about natural calamity here. The Central Government should compensate the loss suffered there. If Government do so, we will be able to get assistance from foreign countries also and thus, we can deal with this situation. Thousands of persons are living in that area. Their gardens and houses have been destroyed, as a result of that, they have become homeless now. The position has become such that coconut producing farmers can not stay there to carry out their works for the next 20 years any work there. The flow of sea water has destroyed them completely. Several hon'ble Members have expressed their views in this regard. Hon'ble Prime Minister has also expressed his concern over this Calamity but he should take some action immediately in this regard. I have visited that area but I did not see any officer of the Central Government there. In my opinion, the Central Government should have deployed there military personnels or para-military forces but the Prime Minister has conducted only aerial survey and finished his job. I think that he has ignored the situation. The Central Government should send its machinery there and release funds immediately. The Central Government is releasing a little and its way of giving assistance is not proper so, the Central Government should consider this problem seriously and hold discussion with the officers and representative of the State Government. Efforts should be made by the Central State Government jointly to resolve their differences. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am encouraged to participate in this unhappy discussion only upon finding my senior and esteemed colleague, a very senior member of this Government, Comrade Indrajit Gupta here. My intervention will be a very short one. But I do urge him, as a very senior member of this Government, even though the Minister concerned is not here, to please

reflect on my submission and for the Government to respond adequately.

The natural calamities are of no one's making. Our difficulty is not with the occurrence of the natural calamities. That is a collective disaster. The word, the phrase itself suggests that they are beyond our control... (*Interruptions*) It is only when the natural calamities are permitted to turn into, descend into man-made disasters that this House comes into functioning and into displaying its sense of responsibility. In this particular case of, may be, two cyclones - whether you actually call it a cyclone or do not call it a cyclone, is to engage in semantics, to play with words - two very major disasters occurred in Andhra in very rapid succession.

This House is not engaged in examining what the State Government did or did not do and what they did was adequate or inadequate. Our concern is limited to the role, function and duties and responsibilities of the Union Government. In examining that, I am persuaded to first quote from what the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, from whose party there are Members who are now part of this Government, said. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, not after the natural calamity but after he had done whatever he could do as Chief Minister, after he had come to Delhi and met the Government that he himself and his party are supporting and in response to what the Union Government, the Government that he supports, the kind of sustaining efforts that he found from this Government, this is what he was persuaded to say. I am quoting his words as reported. I may be in error in the exact phraseology, but I have no reason to doubt its veracity. The Chief Minister said :

"The inadequate response of the Central Government in the aftermath of the cyclone in Andhra Pradesh has exposed the imbalances in the federal structure."

I wish to address myself to these two aspects. The first is what he has found to be 'inadequate response' and the second one is 'imbalances in the federal structure' in regard to natural calamity which we then converted into a man-made disaster. The second thing is also equally important that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has said. These remarks are very stringent, very trenchant criticism of the Government that his own party is supporting.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : We are supporting from outside.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : They are not simply supporting they are participating in the Government. You are supporting, but not participating.

I do not know, in the face of calamity - when you yourself call it a calamity and when you say that it has been converted into a man-made disaster by the manner in which we have handled it - whether you are participating or you are supporting from outside, the

extent of guilt spreads equally. It is without doubt a calamity. If even now, you do not find it as a calamity, I do not know why you initiated this discussion. The second thing which is even a more trenchant observation on the function is :

"The rigid and non-cooperative attitude of the Central Government raises questions about its willingness, ability and preparedness to come to the rescue of the victims and the State Governments concerned."

These are not the ordinary statements. These are the statements questioning the Government's willingness, ability and competence. These are made in the face of two major catastrophes that certainly visited the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh in rapid succession.

What are the aspects involved? My colleague has earlier referred to them. The first aspect relates to a timely disaster warning. I know, Sir, starting from the very early efforts that we made in space technology - and the hon. former Speaker is also here who has handled that portfolio - we spent enormous talent and enormously talented Indians went into space technology, early warning systems and I do believe that so far as that aspect of the wherewithal is concerned, India is second to no one else in the world. The spare transponders that are available, the meteorological data can be collected by the space vehicles we have launched periodically over a period of time. They do enable India, Indian scientists and Indian Meteorological Department to collect early warnings about some of these kinds of natural calamities that might occur.

Therefore, the question that was asked in response to the Minister's statement that we broadcast over Doordarshan. All India Radio and through other channels that there was a storm coming acquires pointedness. She asked a question as to when actually and how the warning was given. She quite rightly said that the people do not move about with mobile radios or cellular telephones in coastal Andhra Pradesh so that they can be informed that a very severe cyclone that is likely to convert itself into a hurricane is about to hit the coast. This is a very relevant point and the Government owes it to us to answer both the aspect of non-utilisation of the existing early warning systems which are inherent in our space vehicles and satellites as well as the aspect of transmitting the information. To whom did the Government give that information? She quite rightly pointed out that the District Collector of the most severely hit district, upon being asked by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on the next morning, not on the night of the occurrence of the cyclone, said "All is well." He was not even in the district and he says that all was well. He did not even find it necessary to go to the district!

SHRI K.S.R. MURTHY (Amalapuram) : He was in Amalapuram. What the Chief Minister said about the District Collector is not correct.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I think it is a small point. I would much rather believe what the Chief Minister has said because after all the Chief Minister is responsible for the State. But that is not the point. I do not think the point was about the presence or the absence of the Collector. The point is about the timely warning and the response of the Union Government to give that timely warning.

The second aspect is about the disaster management. I think in the whole system of disaster management, it is in the management of a calamity that we almost always tend to convert it into a man-made disaster. It is in the efficiency, application, determination and the time taken in response to a calamity that this difference lies. Between the occurrence of the calamity and the response mechanism to it we convert a calamity into a man-made disaster. I will come to certain specific aspects of how we can improve this at least now for the future.

The third aspect is the fiscal component and in the fiscal component I am not going into a point that is already made which is about the proposal of going to the World Bank borrow long term funds. This is a very substantial point made by my colleague, the previous speaker Kumari Uma Bharati. But in the fiscal component let me just point out the systems that we adopt, three or four aspects to it and also about the whole system of sanctioning reliefs.

The disaster or calamity or whatever you may call it occurred in Andhra Pradesh on the night of 6th November, 1996 from 9.30 p.m. onwards. I would really like to know as to when did the first relief, as such from the Union Government find its way to Andhra Pradesh. Days pass and this whole system of evaluating a calamity that occurs, the overweighed bureaucratic procedures etc. go on and on. Calamity and consequent human suffering and tragedy that follow do not wait for bureaucratic file clearance. If we do not recognise this despite repeated calamities that have occurred in India and given the size and diversity of our land, they will unhappily and unfortunately continue to occur - then this is the kind of management of a disaster that we will continue to display.

I would be very happy if the Government actually responds to what is the thinking about these things.

Now the Tenth Finance Commission also took note of this particular aspect. Taking cognisance of the ground reality it then recommended the establishment of a National Fund for Calamity Relief. But as is our tendency, even the management of this Calamity Relief Fund has got tangled into all kinds of complicated bureaucratic and political consideration.

Let me quote just what the Tenth Finance Commission's report on this subject says. The Tenth Commission had expressed a hope and I am now quoting :

"That with the setting up of the National Fund for Calamity Relief, it would now be possible to tackle calamities of rare severity more effectively."

It is not saying 'totally satisfactorily'. It is content to say 'more effectively'. But what it says next moves me. What is more it says :

"We hope that the system recommended by us would also help create a sense of national solidarity in a common endeavour which would then abide beyond the period of distress."

This is only one judging criteria that I apply. Look at the response of this House to this calamity. All the Members from Andhra and not just simply from Andhra, others also, have found fault with the manner in which the Union Government has responded. Even in the face of calamity converted into a disaster, we have not been able to do what the expectation of the Tenth Finance Commission, which was to achieve national solidarity, at least, in the face of a calamity. We are unable and why are we unable? Simply, because of what the Chief Minister of Andhra earlier said - insensitivity and unwillingness. These are very severe words. The Government owes it to us to reply. Nothing short of a clear and categorical rebuttal of what the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has said read and examined in the light of what the Tenth Finance Commission has said could justify.

There are two or three other small points which I sincerely hope the Government would respond to. The first is the time lag. The time lag between the occurrence of a natural calamity. It is a part of the total disaster management. The time-lag between the occurrence of a natural calamity and its conversion into a disaster because of the absolutely laggard manner in which the Union Government moves into supporting it. Look at the time-lag involved - 6th of November to 26th of November. Twenty days have gone by and it has taken 20 days for the Union Government to come out with just Rs. 50 crore from ways and means as advance against the demand raised by the State Government of something like Rs. 2,140 and odd crore. Now, these 20 days are the most important days. These are the 20 days when you need money, when the State needs money and when immediate relief has to be provided. Human suffering does not wait for bureaucratic file clearance. The Government must share its thinking on this time lag.

The next thing I suggest is that please abolish this absurdity of study teams sent from the Central Government. At a certain level if I had anything to do with the administration of a State or running of State

Government. I would find it insulting. The same IAS officers in the State are not competent to examine a calamity or competent to come to a conclusion and decide what is to be done.

The same Indians elected to the Legislative Assemblies and coming into office in their respective States are not competent to take a decision on what immediate relief is to be provided. They have to be overseen by a study team comprising possibly of an unwilling Joint Secretary being sent against his wishes to go and examine the coastal districts of Andhra and come back in three days to tell us what has happened, what is the damage and how much money should be given. I think we have to rethink about this kind of a study team sitting as monitor upon the same service, the same administrative method or the same democratic method which have elected the Government. This is one single contributory factor both to time-lag as also to what the Chief Minister of Andhra has called about the federal structure. This is a very serious point that he has made. I would advise this House to take it seriously. This time-lag is caused by this methodology of an half-hearted and unwilling study teams.

I come to my final point. I think, the time has come even now after fifty years of Independence, fifty years of our actually having worked with this system, this Constitution - leave alone the other deficiencies that we find in its functioning because the debate today is confined to the calamity that has arrived upon the coastal Andhra, let us confine to Andhra and say that we have to even now work out a suitable mechanism for immediate sanctioning of that kind of financial support which provides the State Government, the necessary flexibility to respond in time. And here the Calamity Relief Fund is no longer working satisfactorily. You constitute a Committee of five Chief Ministers. What about the Chief Minister whose State is affected? He is not there? These five Chief Ministers meet and advance sanctioning from the Calamity Relief Fund. I do not want to go into the previous examples. When the previous Government was there, one of the hon. Ministers who was then holding the portfolio of the Minister of Agriculture, sanctioned from this Calamity Relief Fund monies which were really political sanctions, with the result, when the calamity really occurred in other States like Rajasthan etc., there was no money for flood relief, there was no money available to be given to anyone. Now because of this kind of playing with the Calamity Relief Fund for the partisan purposes, we have to, therefore, find altogether a different answer.

I did not really intend to participate in this discussion but for the fact that the discussion was wandering off into all kinds of by-lanes and channels. Therefore, I sought your permission and I am very grateful to you that you granted it. It is my earnest hope and request that the Government would respond to the points that I have made. I have not gone into the arithmetic of

human disaster - how many dead etc. I have raised points which are directly the responsibility of the Union Government. I think, it is the bounden duty of the Government to respond at least to these points because do not know that even after fifty years down the path of history of our independent functioning, if even now in the face of such human tragedies and calamities, we have to question whether the problems are in the management of the disaster, whether the problems are attitudinal, procedure, financial or whether the problems are actually of Governmental indifference. And I am inclined to think that it is really on account of the Government's indifference to human tragedy of this kind that we continue to face the problems of the kind that we are doing today in Andhra which have persuaded the Chief Minister of Andhra to criticise his own Government in the terms that he had.

[Translation].

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : The hon'ble Prime Minister has visited there but even the concerned Minister is not present here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has gone to the Rajya Sabha.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The concerned Minister is not present here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This issue is being discussed in the Rajya Sabha also, therefore, he has gone there.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is present but the Minister of Agriculture is not here.

[English]

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, about the recent devastating incidents affecting the State of Andhra Pradesh, the first one occurred in the month of October affecting the Rayalseema region, that is, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Chittoor, Kurnool, Nellore and Prakasam districts; and the second devastation of severe magnitude occurred on 6th of this month affecting the East and West Godavari districts. Due to this severe devastation and the lack of sensitiveness to these two incidents, more than 2000 people have died and lakhs of people have become homeless. And, it has caused a loss of more than Rs. 7,000 crore.

Let me thank the hon. Prime Minister for making a personal visit to both the affected regions, by aerial surveys along with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

The Prime Minister has said that the magnitude of this devastation is 'more than a national calamity' and at the same time the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has said that this devastation is 'a national calamity' and 'more than a national calamity'. It is simply evading of responsibility. Both the Central Government as well as the State Government are not taking any responsibility in regard to this calamity.

Here, it is my humble submission, Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you that the Government should provide fullest assistance to the affected people there.

In the first incident, the backward region of Rayalseema was severely affected. Due to this calamity, not only there has been loss of more than 400 people but also lakhs of acres of crops were damaged, especially the groundnut crop. The communication system, highway roads and the irrigation tanks have been severely damaged.

The entire country know the backwardness of Rayalseema region which is being affected by the severe drought for the last so many years. But in contract, this year it has been affected by floods.

Sir, it is my humble submission to the Central Government and the State Government not to make fuss about taking up responsibility of the affected people. They should simply take care of the affected people. They should try to bring back the normalcy in these affected areas.

I also request the Centre to please be generous in releasing adequate funds for the affected people in Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to repeat those points which have already been discussed in this House. But I would like to say that the Hon'ble Prime Minister realises that it is a national tragedy and when it is a national tragedy, the differences of opinion are being witnessed between the Centre and the State Government. As a result thereof, the people offering their voluntary help, have stopped to do so. The second thing is, since the science has made great progress in the field of technology and missiles, the people should have been given the information about the cyclone. Now it is being said that the hon'ble Minister has just stated that an announcement was made through T.V. and Radio in this regard. But infact, we have not been told as to when such announcement was made. Even the Minister concerned has not told us. I would only like to know that if such announcement was made then what were your officers doing there, why did they not stop the fishermen from going in the sea so that their lives could be saved?

Another point is that when in 1977, such cyclone had taken place, it was said at that time that now the direction of the cyclone had diverted towards Andhra Pradesh instead of Bengal and we should have taken precautionary measures but no such measures have been taken so far and as a result of that we have suffered such a big loss today. Today, I am compelled to say that I have witnessed piles of dead bodies lying there every where and nobody was available to remove those bodies as a result thereof foul smell was spreading everywhere. There were some children whose parents

had died and their houses were washed away. I would like to submit that the Government should provide immediate relief to those who are in trouble and the people rendered homeless should be rehabilitated.

A situation of starvation is increasing there. The track between Vijayawada and Calcutta which is 1000 kilometer long, has been damaged. No track is available to go to other State due to which trade operation has been affected. The Central Government should take steps to improve the condition of these tracks. Railway tracks have been damaged. Atleast these tracks should be repaired, first. The work in regard to assessment of loss due to this tragedy can be made later on. I would like to conclude my speech after mentioning that the people of Andhra Pradesh have come to know that the Union Government did not provide them the required assistance and that he is not the Chief Minister of Karnataka anymore and is the Prime Minister of the entire country while there is dispute in Andhra Pradesh over Almatti dam. People say that the Government is ready to provide money for raising the height of the said dam while it is not providing assistance to the cyclone victims and dislocated people. The Government just provides the meagre assistance of Rs. 50 crore and conducts an aerial survey that's all. I would not like to say more but the Government should have increased the amount after witnessing the devastating scene. But the situation has worsened and if any individual or any voluntary agency invokes upon the people or nation out of generosity, he is compared with a beggar with a begging bowl. It is strange argument. They do not understand that it is a national calamity. India also has helped the distressed people of the world. Our forces have established peace in the disturbed countries and sacrificed their lives. Therefore, saying it a begging is very strange. After all, it depends as to how one thinks. "Mujhe kahna nahin hai fikra ke liye, har pahar ki fikra juda hoti hai." I would like this problem to be solved as soon as possible and the work should be done immediately with patience. A joint team of State and Centre should be formed to undertake the relief work and provide assistance to the sufferers.

I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, already the matter has been discussed at length and the details of the calamity in respect of loss of life and huge loss of property etc. have been given. I would like to just say that this type of calamities are not new. About nineteen years back when a massive cyclone had hit the eastern coast, more than fifteen thousand people died along with the tidal wave. That was one of the biggest natural calamities of our country.

We have had many other such calamities also. In 1978, as you know, in West Bengal a massive cyclonic storm and flood had hit the State's economy. Thousands

of people lost their lives and about nineteen lakh houses were destroyed. Out of seventeen districts, sixteen were totally damaged; a large part of them had been destroyed also. Orissa experiences every alternate year such a cyclonic disaster.

Tamil Nadu has also had some such problems. Our experience is there. Our Meteorological Department has all the data of the last fifty to hundred years. They have all the information. But why are we not making ourselves efficient? We are not able to utilise the latest technology while facing such natural calamities. We know that in countries like Philippines and in several other foreign countries such natural calamities occur at regular intervals. But there the information system is much better; the people are informed much earlier, they are evacuated before much damage is done and they face the situation in a better way. Our disaster management system is still not much advanced though we have a lot of scientists and research institutes. There is a lot of communication gap and we are lacking in efficient management. In the coastal regions, this way, we are suffering every year or every alternate year. These are some of the points which our Government should ponder over: how could we utilise the latest technology, scientific research and get all the information on time; inform the people on time and face such calamities in a better way. We cannot stop the occurrence of calamities but we have to evolve methods whereby we can face them with the minimum loss.

They claim that the communication system has advanced. If our communication system has improved, at the same time, our development in other areas should be commensurate. In that region, we know, these calamities occur every year. Even the time of occurrence is known. It happens in May, and then in October or November. So, before it occurs, we have enough time to take precautionary measures. We have seen, in the recent case, as the report says, that evacuation is a big problem there because there are no proper roads. About forty per cent of the villages in that area have no all weather roads. So, if immediate evacuation is required, vehicles cannot move easily. That way, a problem is created. Then, we have seen that where there is a roof, that is where people live under a roof, the damage is less. That means huts and *kuchcha* houses are damaged more.

For this type of a cyclone prone area, the Government should have a masterplan so that we can face the cyclones easily. For that, adequate investment is necessary; proper planning is necessary and the latest technology should be utilised so that we can have a protected coastal region. There should be all weather roads and some better houses where the people can take shelter when such calamities occur. When these calamities occur, we discuss all these aspects in the House, in the Assemblies, in Parliament and funds are allocated but later they are all shelved. This is why these damages repeatedly occur. If we do

not have a comprehensive masterplan to face such situations, then, we have to discuss these issues every year and again and again we have to lose valuable human lives.

This is one of the major problems this Government should ponder over. As has already been mentioned and as you also know it is a national calamity and the entire nation should stand by the people of Andhra Pradesh. Such things happened earlier also. We have seen it Latur, Maharashtra during the times of earthquake and we have seen such things in Garhwal region also. When such major calamities occur, the whole nation, the Central Government, the State Governments and the common people should stand by the suffering people and help them to rebuild their houses and to go back to their normal life again.

One of the major sections of the society which suffers most is the fishermen community. They are the worst sufferers. Still one thousand are missing and among them most of them probably would be fishermen. They would never come back. When it is recorded as 'missing', they do not get any benefit. After fixing a time limit we should give the benefit to those missing people which is given to the kith and kin of the dead so that they can face this problem. These are the immediate steps that the Government should take which was put before us when our delegation visited the area.

We have placed the following demands before the State Government, the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister. Firstly, We should take a liberal view in this matter and we should not allow the rules to become impediments in giving them financial help. A liberal view should be taken by the House and by the Government while giving them grants. Secondly, we should take measures for the rehabilitation of those who were affected in order to revive their agriculture activity. Thirdly, the fishermen, as I have already said, are in great trouble. They should be given adequate assistance for they have lost their lives, boats and nets. All these requirements should be provided. Fourthly, there is massive destruction of plantation. That should be taken care of. Replantation of coconut and other trees should be undertaken so that they can revive their economic activity. Fifthly, paddy and other crops have been damaged. In some areas crops are totally damaged and in some other areas they are partially damaged. Those things should be purchased by the FCI. At least some benefit should go to the farmer, those who produce crops. As the crops have been damaged, the quality cannot remain better. So, it should be procured by the Government. Then, for the cultivation, necessary seeds and fertilizers should be provided to the farmers so that they can start the agricultural activity again.

Another thing which should be taken up immediately is this. A special employment generating programme should be initiated immediately so that those who have suffered - who are now unemployed, who are now

starving and who have a lot of problems now - are taken care of fully. Moreover, effective measures to stop any type of epidemic disease from spreading should be taken up.

Finally, we should instal short range weather forecasting centres in the entire coastal region, not only in Andhra Pradesh, but in other places like Cuttack, Contai, etc., where such things occasionally occur. So, short range weather forecasting centres with latest technological instruments should be set up and they should be utilised. The information about warning should immediately go to those people who need it; and we have to keep everything ready for evacuating them so that we can avoid loss of life and can face such calamities with minimum loss.

I hope that the Prime Minister and others in the Government will take care of all these demands and we further hope that we would face the situation in a much better way.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the statement given by the Hon'ble Minister this morning, it was stated that the Indian Meteorological Department had been keeping track of the cyclone and simultaneously warning the State Government from time to time about the likely course and landfall of the cyclone and these warnings were broadcast through Doordarshan and All India Radio also. I would like to have definite information from the Government as to when and how were the warnings given. Whether the warning was given through All India Radio or whether the Union Government or any department of the Union Government had given any warning to the Chief Minister of the State or his aide or to the Chief Secretary or any other official? The hon'ble Prime Minister should clarify it.

Secondly, I want to know whether you had broadcast it through All India Radio or whether the information was relayed to the Government in Hyderabad? If the information was given to Hyderabad, what action was taken thereupon in Hyderabad? Whether the Union Government have sought information from Hyderabad and if so, whether the Prime Minister felt the need to seek information in this regard when he went over to the State to conduct an aerial survey of the area and if so, we should also be given this information.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, thirdly, when we talk of administration, we take into account district level administration also. Four districts namely, East Godavari, West Godavari, Khammam and Prakasam have been affected. Out of these, two districts have been badly affected and one has been worst affected. I want to know as to what concrete steps were taken by the District Magistrates or the Collectors, who are the chief administrative authorities in the district?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the reason behind raising all these questions and seeking a reply from the hon'ble Prime Minister is not only to expose the guilty persons but I want a reply also because this is not the first time that such a calamity has occurred in Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has been facing such calamities frequently and every time, discussions have been taking place here. Though we have not been able to do something more this time, I feel the Government, after this discussion, will come out with a concrete programme to avoid such difficulties in future and it would be a great achievement.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, the politicians often take along a large number of people for staging demonstrations, public meetings and rallies. Any major political party the particularly the ruling party can manage to get a lakh or two lakh people to travel to any metropolitan city of the country within twenty four hours. The number of people affected by this calamity is a mere 1,72,150. It has been stated that these people were evacuated from the affected areas and taken to safer places. These 1,72,150 people belonged to two districts and if the Chief administrative officers of these district has been alert, more than one thousand people could have been saved from there jaw of death. The Government should have taken steps to take people to safer places. If the Government had taken the political parties into confidence and sought their cooperation, it would have been possible to take effective steps to protect the lives and property of people. So, I would like to know about the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in future.

Sir, secondly, what did the Union Government do after this tragedy? The Government's duty is not limited to issuing statements. I do not listen to the radio nor do I watch the television but I know that for last four-five decades, the news bulletins broadcast by All India Radio and telecast by Doordarshan Commence with the statements of the Prime Minister or the Ministers. Only the statements are given and the actual work done is rarely reported. I am not interested in as to whether the Prime Minister called it a national calamity or extra national calamity but, what I am interested in is the immediate action taken by the Government. He is the Chief Executive officer of the country. It is the question of the dignity of his office because he enjoys all the powers. When did he come to know about the national calamity and what steps did he take thereafter to alert the nation and inspire them to save the prople affected by this disaster and to offer relief? If the Prime Minister of the country does not take the initiative himself, the Chief Minister of the State concerned should raise his voice for immediate relief and if he also does not do so, they should not indulge in blaming others. Hence I want to know as to what steps were taken by the Government of India in the face of such a big disaster. The relief measures are being discussed. I have heard

the speech made by the hon'ble Prime Minister. He stated that different estimates have been put forth, i.e. twenty five hundred crore rupees, six thousand crore rupees, eight thousand crore rupees, even fifteen thousand crore rupees. Many people have submitted their representations and have made their own calculations. I do not know as to who is right and who is wrong because I have not read their representation nor do I have any knowledge about this. But so far as the action taken by the Government with regard to offering relief is concerned, it is totally negligible. The Government have given fifty crore rupees and that too in the form of wages and means. Only fifty crore rupees have been given out of the exchequer of Government of India, whereas Rs. 133 crore had been drawn earlier from the exchequer for misappropriating in the purchase of urea. According to their estimate, one thousand people have died in Andhra Pradesh whereas others maintain that the toll is much higher. If the Government did not want to pay heed to anyone, it should have at least listened to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Everyone agrees that two thousand crore rupees are required there. The fifty crore rupees have been given as a loan which will have to be repaid. We have asked the World Bank whether there is any possibility of a loan which could be repaid in instalments of forty years. I feel agitated that this House is discussing the possibilities twenty days after the occurrence of the calamity. The Government have not discharged its responsibility properly and has merely issued a statement that this is a national calamity. An attitude of indifference has been displayed towards the sufferers. I still request the Government to take the initiative in the matter.

Just now Shri Jaswant Singh said that such occasions awaken the spirit of national unity. There is no shortage of money in India. People are always prepared to make contributions in such incidents. You should observe this spirit in case such calamities strike smaller towns. This is the country from where Dr. Kotnis was sent to China to save the people there from difficulties. This is the land where a large number of young girls readily parted with their jewellery at the time India was attacked by China and these girls said that the country must be saved first and that they were ready to offer any sacrifice required for the purpose.

The programme of Michael Jackson is organised in Mumbai and people rush there and an amount of Rs. 20 crore was spent in a night. The number of persons buying the minimum ticket for Rs. 1500 runs in thousands. People have paid Rs. 15,000 for a ticket and had to undergo a lot of difficulties for getting it. One family purchased a special ticket for Rs. one lakh and fifty thousand. There is no dearth of money. Recently, a programme was organised in Bangalore for Miss World contest. The organisation, organising the programme had funds enough to pay Rs. two crore for police arrangements. I do not know exactly but I guess that about 20 crore rupees have been spent on the

programme organised in Bangalore. Our country has money to spend on all such programmes. On the other hand, Andhra Pradesh had fallen in the jaws of natural calamity people were dying but this country had no money for them. It is not only the question of money but there is lack of determination and sensitivity which is talked much in the country and which is required at every steps. It is not only the matter of Andhra Pradesh but today, nobody bothers about these heavenly virtues.

You deliver speech in Rome that you will supply foodgrains to the world within three years. I would like to request you to supply foodgrains to Kalahandi instead. But it cannot be done so because lack of sensitivity has become main basis of our life. We do only lip service we do not adopt it in our practical life. I would like to request the hon. Prime Minister to withdraw as much amount as he can from the exchequer and send it there not as wage and means nor as debt but as relief and assistance and as a compensation to the persons entrapped in the cyclone. I would not mention the name of Bihar and I would also not mention as to how the fund released from the exchequer is spent because it will mar the entire discussion. Whatever party may be in power in Andhra Pradesh, it has its limitations. The Government of any State has its limitations and the Union Government should know it. Therefore, you are requested to arrange for funds and also to advertise it through Doordarshan and Akashvani. The hon. Minister of Railways publish every day full page's advertisement even on inauguration of survey. The Government spends lakhs of rupees on such advertisements. Has the Government no funds for advertising that the people of the country should donate some money, atleast one day's or one month's salary for the persons entrapped in Andhra Pradesh? I want the hon. Prime Minister to make this appeal since the sensitivity is attached to all these things.

I would like to conclude my speech after raising one more point. A news appeared in the newspapers that the hon. Prime Minister, after meeting several delegations said to one of the delegations that he did not believe in details presented by them. He shall decide only after a Central Government team visits there and presents its report to him. When the Members of delegation asked the hon. Prime Minister as to why he does not send some financial assistance relying on the facts and data sent by the State Government, he replied that he was also a Chief Minister and he knows as to how the facts and data are prepared and sent. I would like to ask two questions in this regard. Firstly, how many times did you send this fake facts and data when you were a Chief Minister? It means, as a Chief Minister you have been doing all this and raise your eyebrows on the facts and data sent by the hon. Chief Ministers and say that you know everything. If I tell the actual data of damage done, everything will topple down here. Only one thing can topple down and that is your Government.

[English]

Everything will topple down. If I say what the truth is.

[Translation]

We would like to know as to how many times did you do such acts and secondly, tell the House as well as the country as to how much loss did the State suffer actually as per the reports given to you by the Central team?

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you will be happy to know that all the Members of Bharatiya Janata Party's Parliamentary group have donated their one month's salary to the victims of Andhra Pradesh cyclone...*(Interruptions)* Samata Party has also done so. Some hon. Members have just now mentioned the name of Gujarat where they manoeuvred to gain their ends but they did not mention the name of either Rajasthan, Delhi or...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL (Hooghly) : All the Members of C.P.M. in Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha have donated one month's salary.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : You all deserve congratulations. But the entire country wants to know whether the Union Ministers have donated their one month's salary or not? I want to say one thing in this regard as to how insensitive this Government has become?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Every Member of Parliament of the Congress Party has given in writing to donate one month's salary...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : This Government is insensitive to this issue and it is evident from the fact that there is Government of Janata Dal in Karnataka and Karnataka...*(Interruptions)* Please listen. One should be courageous enough to face the truth. Andhra Pradesh is neighbouring State of Karnataka which is being ruled by the hon. Prime Minister's party...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, like Shri George Fernandes, we did not make any advertisement but all the Ministers have decided to donate one month's salary.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : When?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Members of Parliament belonging to Congress Party have also done so but we do not make propoganda of it.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : A poet from Andhra Pradesh, Shri Dasharathji has composed a poem in Telugu, the gist of that poem is :

[English]

What can be done when the elements that sustain life, air and water turn to destroy us.

[Translation]

The post has described the pains and sufferings of millions of people through pessimism about devastations caused by cyclone every year or so in Godavari basin area of Andhra Pradesh, East and West Godavari districts and coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh. But it does not suit to your administration, administrators and today's scientists to show such insensitivity or disinterest on the occurrence of such a tragedy.

Telugu Desham Party is in power in Andhra Pradesh at present which is an ally of your Government. The neighbouring State Karnataka is being ruled by Janata Dal and there is Janata Dal's Prime Minister in Centre also. Hardly 20 days might have elapsed, tears of mothers and sisters of deceased persons might not have dried up, they are passing their days in all odds in open relief centres but the programme organised by some ABCL in form of Miss World Competition in Karnataka's capital Bangalore by spending crore's of rupees, exhibits the insensitivity of the Government.

This incident took place on 6th or 7th November. The Government of India did not declare it a national calamity till the November 13th. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Gujarat to Nagaland, our's is one nation. In it, if any art comes in grip of any calamity, it is experienced by all. In this devastating cyclone, more than 350 villages have been destroyed, more than two thousand people have lost their lives, more than four and a half lakh people have been rendered homeless and millions of people are bound to pass their nights in open relief centres. More than 15 lakh cocunut trees which were main sources of their livelihood, have been destroyed. The property, worth four thousand crores alongwith paddy crops in more than 7 lakh acres of land in East and West Godavari region have been destroyed. The Government is not declaring such a worst calamity as national calamity. The entire country would have experienced the sorrow's and sufferings of Andhra Pradesh. The Government could have telecast, broadcast and advertised this calamity and could have created a feeling in the minds of the people that it is a national calamity and the people of Andhra are not alone in this moment of suffering but the whole nation is with them. But this Government is always busy in political manoeuvring. There is nothing common in this United Front Government.

I would like to raise two-three points in this regard. This tragedy has not occurred for the first time. In 1977 and 1978 also such cyclone and devastation occurred there. Since then 18-19 years, have passed but were the roads constructed during this period? They say that information was telecast. The hon'ble Agriculture Minister has circulated a time-table when these informations were broadcast/telecast. I would like to ask him-since he belongs to rural area as to how many people hear radio or watch T.V. in villages? The

fishermen who go for fishing in boats, people living in jungles and coastal areas of East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Krishna, Khammam, people working in fields, living in huts cannot foresee the fall of calamity. Had the Government adopted the method of warning and alarming people through siren as was done during Pakistani or Chinese aggression, through newspapers, T.V. and radios and by beating drums or through relief volunteers, so many persons would not have lost their lives. Why was this not done? Whenever any such calamity occurs, we think that our duty is over when we have discussed the issue in the House and announced some financial assistance. Such a devastating cyclone had come in 1977. The Government did not undertake the repair works of 40 percent of roads which are at present in a very bad shape in Godavari after 1977. The people of that area should get information and there should be good roads so that at the time of need, they could be shifted to safer places. But 40 percent of the roads of that area cannot be used in all seasons. It was already known that there was heavy rains in October which claimed 300 lives. People were entrapped in flood, the roads were damaged and the same were damaged due to rains. Efforts were not made to shift the people to safer places. The area which is cyclone prone, experiences heavy rain fall, tide and wave generate several feet high waves in the sea, has 20 percent such areas where there are no road. The storms have been striking this area for so many years. Could the Government not make efforts to stop the tide by constructing a concrete wall along the coast while it was possible for them to construct big dams to stop and store the water.

The hon'ble Prime Minister often visits foreign countries. He might have heard about people living in the coastal areas of Florida, Phillipines and South America. The scientists of that country could have been contacted to know about the arrangements made there and accordingly arrangements could have been here also. It could have minimised the loss. The cyclones have been coming and will continue to come but the attention was not paid to the construction of a concrete wall along the coast. I would like to add one more point in this regard. We depend on radio and T.V. for dissemination of information but was any arrangement made to inform the persons killed about the impending danger in the form of storm? So long as any such arrangement is not made and we depend on radio and T.V. for warning and alarming, people will continue to die in such cyclones. Roads should be constructed and repaired. I would like to urge upon the hon'ble Prime Minister to convert Rs. 50 crore provided as loan to combat this national calamity into grant-in-aid. The total loss in that area is to the tune of Rs. four thousand crores. All the parties alongwith the Government of the State are requesting you to convert Rs. fifty thousand crores into grant-in-aid. The pucca houses should be constructed for such flood affected as well as cyclone

affected people whose houses have been destroyed because these houses are durable. You are requested to make schemes for the construction of houses under Indira Awas Yojana to minimise their loss. Millions of people are residing in relief camps under open sky. Proper arrangements should be made for them. It has been learnt that the persons whose houses have been destroyed have been given Rs. one thousand each. They will be provided Rs. one thousand immediately and 25 kilogramme rice will be provided to each family affected by the cyclone. Will rupees one thousand be sufficient for him to construct his house? What else will he be able to do with this meagre amount? Likewise Rs. 50 thousand are being provided to the family of each deceased. On the other hand family of the deceased who died in rail or air accidents are provided Rs. one lakh-two lakh or five lakh and on the other hand those who died in cyclone due to Government's negligence are given Rs. fifty thousand as compensation. The number of deaths increased because proper arrangements were not made for them and they were not alarmed in time. Therefore, the Government should increase the relief amount and make it available to the right person immediately so that they may get a sign of relief.

I express my condolence to the victims of this natural calamity and pray to God to embolden their families to bear this loss and hope that people will come forward for the help of cyclone victims and to bring them out of this crisis.

SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI (Tenali) : \*Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not feel it necessary to repeat all that has been said about Andhra Pradesh and its people who were subjected to a worst ever crisis by the recent cyclone. Already, Hon. Members who have been participated in the discussion have dealt with the subject at length.

The State was subjected to a cyclone which ruined many districts and brought the life to a standstill. Before the State could recover from the fury of this cyclone, there was yet another cyclone which has proved to be a doomsday for the State. Sir, in India, we consider Kashmir as most beautiful place. In South it is Kerala and in Andhra it is Konaseema which are known for beauty. The way a star adds beauty to the moon, the Konaseema region adds beauty and splendour to Andhra. All its beauty and glory were gone, gone beyond redemption, all within a matter of those five fateful hours. I pray God, the almighty, to not to subject my State or the country or for that matter, no part of our beautiful mother earth to such a devastating spell of nature's fury.

Sir, the moment our Hon. Chief Minister Shri Chandra Babu Naidu came to know about the cyclone and enormous damage it has brought in it fold, rushed to the affected one alongwith Government machinery. He

\* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

is camping there itself and personally monitoring all the rescue relief and rehabilitation work. He has instructed all the concerned who are involved in rescue and relief operations that there should be no petty considerations like party affiliations etc. or whether they had voted for them and who have or not should not be allowed to come in the way of extending help to the affected. He instructed that everyone who has suffered should be treated equally and with humanitarian consideration. He is leading from the front to extend help to all those who are surviving after losing everything they had. He has seen to it that all the basic minimum requirements are provided immediately without any loss of time in the areas devastated totally by hurricane. Sir, I am grateful to Shri Deve Gowda Garu, Hon. Prime Minister, of his visit. He made an aerial survey of the entire affected region.

Sir, the farmers in Andhra are now undergoing a harrowing time. They are now subjected to difficulties unknown to them hitherto. Their difficulties defy description. On one hand, they constantly face the fury of nature. On the other there will not be sufficient water in the canals, to quench the thirst of the withering crops. Either their crops get washed away due to excess rains, or there will be no rains sufficient enough to raise the crops. Added to this, there is that age old threat from the money-lenders. All the time, it is the farmer, who is a loser. They are leading a miserable life. But fortunately enough, the farmers in the Konaseema region are spared from these things to a certain extent. They were well off, at least to a certain extent. But one single night has brought all the misery and untold sufferings by the cyclone. The cyclone has not spared anyone now. It ruined everyone. Millionaires have become beggars in a matter of hours. The plight of these farmers is beyond description. It may well take 15 to 20 years for the affected farmers to limp back to normalcy. Sir, one of the basic needs of the man, after food, is clothing. Persons who are engaged in the production of cloth are the weavers. These people are exceptionally skilled workers. They are capable of weaving a cloth approximately 5 metres in length which could be folded and kept in a tiny match box. So much skilled are they. The cruel fate has made their lives miserable further. All the members of a family have to work hard in order to produce a saree. In spite of that much of effort, it is very difficult for them to make their both ends meet. The reason is that they get perhaps the lowest wages. In a small house, two or three families live together. These dwelling units do not have adequate ventilation. These people are living in unhygienic conditions. Added to their already existing miserable life, whatever they had, the so called houses collapsed and got washed in the recent cyclone. Many people have died because of the collapse of the houses. Their looms were broken. The yarn placed on the loom has also got damaged. There hardly remains anything. Thus

their livelihood was mercilessly snatched away by the cruel fate. Sir, they have to spend at least Rs. 7,000/- to purchase new looms and yarn. But the condition of these weavers is such that they cannot afford to secure and spend even Rs. 7/-.

The fishermen are yet another community which had to face the brunt of cyclone. Normally the fishermen are very poor economically, yet they are the people who feel extremely satisfied even if they get bare minimum necessities of life. Sir, it is the usual way of the world that when a person starts earning enough money, he or she goes acquiring property. One goes for the construction of a house, the other goes for acquiring some real estate. This is the normal practice. But, Sir, this fishermen community is quite different kind of a community. They do not leave the places where they live in and spend most of their time on sea waters. Sir, when we visited their area during last bye-election, they received us with warmth and affection. Sir, we were deeply moved when we heard the news that at least half of the thousands of fishermen who had ventured into the sea previous evening have not returned home and many of them have died.

The condition of minorities and other sections belonging to the middle class is not better. These are the very sections of the society who by and large abide and scrupulously follow their traditions. Now they are also subjected to many difficulties. Dalits and those who belonged to economically or socially backward communities are now totally out of gear. Their huts have collapsed and got washed away. The rout is total and complete in their case.

Sir, the State Government is trying its best to provide succor and relief to the people in the cyclone affected areas. But for coping up with the devastation of such a magnitude, the efforts of the State Government are too inadequate to do justice to the affected people. The Central Government is like mother and State Governments are like her children. Usually the parents bestow more attention on their weak children. But the attitude of the Central Government is not encouraging. Now the Government at the Centre has taken the stand that since the State has suffered heavy loss, they would somehow provide some negligible amount as assistance, and advising us to get the rest of the amount in the form of loans and advances. Should the assistance be delayed further, many people who need immediate help many succumb. Many people belonging to different political parties, different States, NGOs and the people from the rest of the world are coming forward and donating liberally to rescue the people in cyclone hit areas. We gratefully acknowledge their timely help and assistance. Sir, it is not my intention to criticise the Central Government. We are a part and parcel of Central Government. Criticising the Centre means criticising our own selves. Sir, when a mother finds her child crying, she will immediately leave aside the work she is doing,

however important it might be, and attend to the crying child.

It is not a healthy and encouraging attitude to leave the crying child to his or her own fate. Hon. Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowda knows the sufferings of the people. We need not particularly mention about the innumerable difficulties and sufferings to which the people are subjected.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA) : Please conclude. We have to conclude this debate today.

SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI : Sir, finally I would like to say one thing. I acted in a film called "Tulabharam". It was made in 4 languages. It was named as "Tulabharam" in Malayalam and Tamil languages. In telugu it was named "Manushulu maarali" and titled as 'Samaj Ko Badal Dalo' in Hindi. It was written by Comrade Topul Basi. In that film, I played the role of a girl who belonged to a well to do family and married a poor man. In course of time her husband dies. The days pass by, it becomes increasingly difficult even to feed her children. She could not withstand the miseries of life, she ends the lives of her children and her own life by consuming poison. Sir, that was a movie. But if the situation is allowed to drift by further by negligence of the Centre, the story becomes real in all these affected families and it may go out of hand and many lead to serious consequences.

Hence, before I conclude, as a woman I request you once again to treat us as your own children and not as step-children.

Thanking you, Sir, for the opportunity to speak, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) : Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you for the opportunity given to me to express our views on the important aspect of national calamity. On behalf of my party RSP, I am willing to place it on record that we sympathise with the people who are the worst affected and who have lost their lives and property.

Sir, I welcome the hon. Prime Minister's visit to this badly affected area in the first week of November, i.e. 6th and 7th of November. This visit indicates that the Government has an intention to stand by the poor people who have suffered much in this area because of the natural calamity.

But I am sorry to mention that money can never be compared with the loss of human life; money can never be compared with the loss of land and property and with the loss of crops. I think, there is no financial crisis but I am sorry to mention that this Government could not show any crisis management capacity. I beg to place on record that this is the failure of the Government.

If we read the statement given by the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Chaturanan Mishraji, you will see, I quote:

"The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh met me on the 19th November and handed over a memorandum seeking Central assistance of Rs. 2,143 crore."

This is the demand of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. In this statement we find that the Central Government is giving an assistance of Rs.50 crore only. Sir, with your kind permission, I beg to quote from the statement:

"In order to enable the Government of Andhra Pradesh to carry on relief and rehabilitation measures, an amount of Rs. 50 crore has been made available to the State Government."

This is a very meagre sanction. This is a very negligible sanction. This sanction of only Rs.50 crore to combat the situation does not exhibit the actual willingness of the Government to stand by the Sufferers. So, I beg to mention that this Government has absolutely failed to show their crisis management capacity and they have failed to show their calamity management capacity.

We are living in an age of science and technology. Super technology is also based on computer and electronics. With the advancement of science and technology, many things can be forecast earlier but our Information and Broadcasting Department had absolutely failed to respond to that situation. They could not give any prior intimation or any earlier information so that the people could save them, could manage the affairs. Actually the fishermen sailing on boats could manage the affairs but they could not do it because of the failure of the Information and Broadcasting Department.

I have heard many valuable speeches on this important topic. I do not want to continue my speech any more but I have an intention to urge upon the Government with a simple request that relief and rehabilitation measures be immediately taken up so that the whole Government, the national Government can stand by that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMBAHADUR SINGH (Maharajanj) : Sir during the month of October heavy rains and floods had caused widespread destruction in Andhra Pradesh and people of the State were still to overcome the tragedy when loud cries were heard and people were seen bewailing in that area which is known as the rice bowl of Andhra Pradesh. At that time, the whole nation was bracing up itself to celebrate Deepawali but the people of that area had lost everything.

Sir, the geographical area of Andhra Pradesh is such that it touches the Bay of Bengal in the East.

Maharashtra in the West, Madhya Pradesh in the North and Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in the South. This State has a vast coastal area which is generally a cyclone or storm-prone area. There could be no two opinion that it is the destiny of Andhra Pradesh. But no Government of this State has learnt a lesson from the experiences of past events. Sir, there are several other countries of the world which are surrounded by sea and Governments of these countries have constructed walls, dams and maintained a modern and effective information and broadcasting system to protect the people from these storms. But the situation is totally different here, leave aside construction of dams, the agencies responsible for collecting information and broadcasting weather report are careless. Though we have effective means like radio and T.V. transmission network for collecting information such incidents take place due to carelessness of the concerned department. The information collected by the Scientists is not released on time and if it is released, the employees of Meteorological Department take such information lightly and get it broadcast to complete the formality only. As a result of it people suffer losses in such incidents and we cannot take preventive measures which could have been taken if alerted in advance. This huge loss of property and lives could have been averted if there had not been carelessness on the part of the concerned department. No one puts one's life in danger deliberately. People would have become alert and protected themselves if they had got information that the storm was advancing at a speed of 200 miles per hour and tidal waves were rising upto 5 metres but they did not get any such information. The hon'ble Minister stated that the information was being broadcast from time to time while replying to this discussion the hon'ble Minister should let us know about the time when this information was given and the medium thereof. Whether the people were informed in advance of the impending cyclone or not?

Sir, in the end, I would like to make two three more points. The hon'ble Prime Minister has called it a national tragedy. If it is so, then the Central Government should make every effort to create awareness among people and seek financial assistance from them to tide over the situation. Rs.50 crore given as grant earlier is very meagre. It proves that the Central Government have no will power to provide relief to people of Andhra Pradesh affected by this cyclone.

I would also like to make a suggestion that a Committee should be constituted comprising Members of all political parties, social workers and voluntary organisations. Arrangements should be made for monitoring of funds provided for this work by the Centre as well as the State Government.

My third point is that the problem of laxity on the part of Meteorological Department should be addressed to for making this department efficient and the persons found guilty for this damage should be punished.

The hon'ble Member, Shri George Fernandes stated that hon'ble Prime Minister had admitted that he was not convinced of the veracity of the report sent by the State Government and he had assured that he would send his own team to inquire into the matter as he was aware of the fact as to what sort of reports were submitted by the State Governments. It means that hon'ble Prime Minister does not believe in the report submitted by the Andhra Pradesh Government and it is not credible. It clearly means that State Governments indulge in manipulation of facts in the reports. I want to ask whether the hon'ble Prime Minister, also indulged in such manipulations during his tenure as the Chief Minister? If it is so, then he would again indulge in such act and country will suffer a huge loss. Sir, I would request him to refrain from such a habit.

[English]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry) : Are we continuing the debate tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, the debate will be concluded today. So we will have to extend the time of the House by one hour and tomorrow, the reply will be there. So, all will be accommodated. Just after the Question Hour, the reply will be there.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : In case the reply is there tomorrow, then why do we extend the time of the House today?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is because we will have to accommodate so many speakers. There are a number of speakers.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : Let us continue the debate tomorrow without extending the time of the House today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will extend the time of the House by one hour. Let the discussion be concluded. Tomorrow, just after the Question hour, the reply will be there. Then there is a Calling Attention Motion also tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, We are debating here the cyclone tragedy in Andhra Pradesh under the rule 193. I have not gone to Andhra Pradesh but the news items published in various newspapers reveal that a large number of people have died and several others are in a deplorable condition. Thousands of people are still missing. No one knows of their whereabouts. People living in coastal areas are in very bad condition. Not only the people of Andhra Pradesh but the whole country is concerned over this tragedy. This is a national loss. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister has given a grant Rs.50 lakh when news about this tragedy reached Maharashtra and efforts are on to collect Rs.100 crore. It is our duty

and we will fulfil it. Even if five persons had died in Andhra Pradesh we would have considered a loss of five persons of the country. How we can live peacefully when these people are facing so many problems. We are not inculcating national feeling among the people and that is why we say that people of Andhra Pradesh are in distress.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon'ble Chaturanan Mishraji has given notice to know as to when this message was given and whether preventive measures were taken by the State Government in this regard? In this context, a question arises as to what means of communications were used to inform the people living in coastal areas? Was it T.V., radio or any other medium? It has been said that a message was broadcast in radio bulletin on 5th November at 5.45 that a cyclone was likely to hit the coastal area. Andhra Pradesh was hit by a massive cyclone earlier which had killed 15000 people. In spite of all this the Government of India did not take the required preventive action in this regard. We should think about the measures to be taken in such a situation. What is the use of crying over our unpreparedness? The important thing is to think about the action to be taken now to deal with the situation. So many persons have died, the surviving people have nothing to eat. There is nobody to support them. At this juncture, we can only raise sufficient funds for giving them relief. After this, we will forget all about it. What steps are you taking to prevent recurrence of this situation in future. We should think over it seriously and have a discussion on it as to what extent assistance is to be provided. What the Prime Minister has done and what should be done.

[English]

That piece of advice we should, no doubt, give. But, at the same time,

[Translation]

It is essential to see as to what steps we should take to prevent it. Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture has made a statement here. In this statement it has been mentioned that the Meteorological Department was keeping a watch on this cyclone and the State Government was being alerted from time to time regarding the possible direction and the intensity of the cyclone. This was also broadcast and telecast through All India Radio and Doordarshan. But we are not aware about all this.

[English]

Whether the messages that were sent to the people, had any effect, whether people were aware of those messages and whether the State Government had taken adequate precautions to remove all the people staying near the coastal areas and shift them elsewhere where they could get protection.

[Translation]

I do not know as to whether it was ensured. Four districts have been affected-East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Khammam. As per the information made available by the Andhra Pradesh Government, about 971 persons have died. The number of victims in East Godavari, West Godavari and Khammam district is 872, 78 and one respectively. I have received the information from the statement made by the Minister. In fact, we do not know the position as to how many persons have died, how many persons are not getting food and what difficulties are being faced by them.

[English]

This year we will be celebrating the golden jubilee year of our Independence.

[Translation]

When such calamities take place, we are faced with the problem as to whether the Government, really works for the people of this country? Every day we read in the papers that a number of persons have died. In such a large country 200 persons die every day. Some die in accidents and others in different ways. The value of human life is becoming cheap in our country. And this is the national calamity. The Government should give reply as to what steps are being taken to prevent this. What has happened is over. The need of the hour is to think on the measures to be taken to avoid recurrence of the problem in future.

We should keep this in mind that there is nothing wrong in my opinion, if the Prime Minister ask the State for the verification of the budget prepared by it. There is a crisis. Someone has said that in view of the requirement, it is not advisable to provide money blindly. The Prime Minister will have to work with responsibility. Otherwise, we would say that he has not provided the funds sought by us.

[English]

Please tell us whether you are going to countercheck the information that you have got. This will be the first question that will come in respect of anything.

[Translation]

This is how it is done. Have you counterchecked the information that has come to you? Every where this question is asked. On this, there was much criticism. But I feel that,

[English]

If he had done it, it was a right thing

[Translation]

But, it is not good to send only Rs. 50 crore when the amount sought was Rs. 2000 crore. I doubt if

Rs. 50 crore would be sufficient when the need is for Rs. 2000 crore. According to this statement, this amount is not even Rs. 50 crore. It is less than that. This is what I feel.

[English]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry) : Not even one rupee has come to us.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : According to them not even a single rupee has reached them. If it is so, it is very sad and it seems that we do not have a feeling of love for the people. We have no such desire for well being of the people. In view of the national calamity, they need help and financial assistance. The need is to see how we can help them and accordingly, we would have to act.

The second thing I want to say is that several coconut trees and the crops have been destroyed and a large number of houses have also been destroyed. There should be a discussion and deliberation on the programme we are going to take up to help them... (Interruptions)

[English]

This is the problem. No one takes the thing seriously.

[Translation]

They are talking among themselves. The seriousness of the matter should be kept in mind. We should be concerned about the steps the Government is going to take. We should know the time by which they would be provided houses, food and financial assistance... (Interruptions) You can sit outside and talk, we should be serious on this calamity. We should help the missing persons. The families of the deceased know that those who have died will not come back. What about those who are missing? But there is no hope that they will return. We should try to search for them. The families of the missing persons should also be given help. This I want to tell the Government in particular. And this would be evident from the steps to be taken for the affected people. It would better if the Government finds them. The Central Government has sent a special team there. This team has conducted a survey regarding the loss suffered. This information should be made available to the House. We should be informed of the nature of help to be given and the amount to be contributed by the States and Central Government. It is not sufficient to say that we have donated one months' salary. Mere discussion will not serve the purpose. This is a national calamity. Therefore, every one should render help. This is what I have to say.

[English]

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY (Cuddapah) : Sir, thank you for finally giving me an opportunity to speak.

Whatever that happened in Andhra - a depression or cyclone or hurricane or tidal wave - it can be called in many ways depending upon the severity in different places. The six of seven districts of the State of Andhra Pradesh were battered in two phases - first on the 19th of October and second on 6th and 7th of November. Many of my colleagues have elaborated on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Reddy, please wait.

Now it is six o'clock. Would the House like to extend the sitting by one hour so will reply that the discussion is concluded today and the hon. Minister of Agriculture will reply tomorrow just after the Question Hour? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY (Nizamabad) : Sir, we will have the discussion tomorrow... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can have the reply just after the Question Hour. There is a Call Attention Motion also for tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

18.00 hrs.

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Since the reply of the Minister is to come tomorrow, we can have an hour's discussion tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will have to accommodate a number of speakers who are there on the list.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : If possible, you may extend the House today... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can extend the House by one hour.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Hon. Speaker has said that everybody will be allowed to speak. We have given names of the Members whose constituencies are badly affected. They have come back from their constituencies. Unless they bring things before this House, it will create a difficulty. So, I request you to extend it today or allow Members to speak tomorrow. All the Members whose names are before you should be allowed to speak.

How many names do you have?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have got seven names.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It will take only one hour or one-and-a-half hours. We can complete it either today or tomorrow, whenever you want.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Tomorrow the matter relating to Orissa would be taken up.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Tomorrow, there is also a Call Attention Motion.

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Tomorrow, one hour can be accommodated. If necessary, the House can be extended by one hour tomorrow.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Let the debate be completed today. Tomorrow, I have to reply in Rajya Sabha also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister will have to reply in Rajya Sabha tomorrow.

Let the House be extended up to seven o'clock. Let us see if it is concluded by seven o'clock. Let the House be extended by one hour.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : The debate may be concluded today. Tomorrow, I will have to go to the other House also.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : The debate may be completed today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The problem is that the Minister will have to reply in Rajya Sabha tomorrow. If the discussion is stopped now and continued tomorrow and it goes on for one hour after the question Hour, then I think, there will be difficulty for him to reply in Rajya Sabha. So, let the sitting of the House be extended by one hour.

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Tomorrow, we can extend the sitting of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think all the Members would be accommodated.

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Many of my friends have elaborated on the various aspects of the damage. I want to make here one distinction. I would say that whether it has occurred as a result of October depression, as the Minister of Agriculture calls it, or the torrential rains, as the Minister of Agriculture calls it, this has happened in areas where drought is very common. In the districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool and Anantapur, drought is very common and every alternate year, we face the situation of drought. Sir, I tell you, the torrential rains which occurred in this area have breached many big tanks which irrigate 4,000, 5,000 or 6,000 acres of land. The tanks of Porumamilla, the tank by name Racheruvu, the tank by name Rallapadu and another big irrigation system called Lower Sagileru Project have breached.

18.04 hrs.

(Shri P.C. Chacko in the Chair)

Sir, these individual medium and minor irrigation tanks got breached because the surplus weirs which were to accommodate the excess water in any rain were not sufficient. The maintenance of these tanks was not attended to properly in the past few years and that was the reason why all these tanks breached. Sir, as you know, when the surplus weirs are not sufficient, the tank over-flows and when the earthen tanks, when the earthen bunds overflow, they cannot contain the

amount of water even for half-an-hour or one hour. So, big breaches occurred. There was so much of loss not only of human lives but also of cattle. Sir, one will have to only see it to believe the amount of loss that was caused on agricultural lands.

The land was eroded almost to the tune of 20 to 30 feet in each area. In many villages hundreds of acres of land got eroded beyond any repair. In some other areas it caused sand cast. This particular damage would have been definitely averted if only enough preventive measures were taken.

Sir, I do get confused with the nomenclature. I really do not know what to call it. Some said that this was a national disaster or a national calamity. The Prime Minister said: "This is more than a national calamity". The break-away Telugu Desam said, this is an international calamity. I am not going into the details of this nomenclature. But whatever it is, everyone has appreciated and that the entire nation has to come to the rescue of the situation and then only it can be called a nation. If every State is left to take care of itself or to mend itself, how can we be called a nation at all? In a calamity like this, every individual citizen of the entire nation has to rise to the occasion; not only the Central Government, but everybody in this nation has to stand up and say that we are all here to protect them - whether they belong to Andhra Pradesh, whether they belong to Karnataka, whether they belong to Pondicherry - everybody should say that we are all there to protect them. That sort of an attitude and that sort of a feeling or moral courage will have to be shown by everybody concerned.

Sir, I was mentioning about the disaster and how this disaster could have been really contained at least in respect of the loss to human lives if only proper care had been taken. In a place called Rallapadu, a tank got breached and more than 200 lives were lost just because of this particular tank breach alone. There is a system which has to be followed in similar cyclonic weather conditions. There is a department called Irrigation Department. This department has to positively monitor the situation. According to the Manual which is available with the State Government, the Officers of this department or the concerned engineers have to positively go on to the tanks wherever they are threatening to breach, they will have to indicate the severity of the breach that can occur and they will have to alert all the people in the concerned areas to be evicted from that particular area. The district revenue administration and the Irrigation Department have to positively take care of that. Unfortunately, since this was totally neglected, the tank of Rallapadu got breached and 200 lives were lost in this particular incident alone, without any doubt.

In Cuddappah district there is a big irrigation project called Somasila Project. This irrigation project is almost complete. But unfortunately the people in the submersion area have not been evicted completely

because no compensation has been fully paid to them. In 1994, during the then Congress Government, even the Congress Party MLAs agitated on the floor of the House, they sat in the well of the House and forced the then Congress Government to pay compensation upto the level of 315 contours, because till then that much of level was constructed in the dam. The programme was that in the next two years compensation upto the level of 330 contours will have to be paid, may be, at a cost of another Rs.35 to Rs.40 crore.

Sir, because the compensation was not paid, the local people were not evicted and in the meantime the torrential rains came. Over and above this, the management of Somasila Project has been kept in the hands of the Chief Minister because he wanted to release water to Madras city and he was very keen that water to Madras city will have to go positively. He had instructed the local officers that the gates of this dam shall not be opened until and unless he so advises. Unfortunately, there was not enough time for the officers to talk to the Chief Minister and the torrential rains came. Some tanks in the vicinity got breached and all the water rushed. The level of water rose not only to 330 contours but even above that and because of that heavy damage occurred in all the areas. You must only see to believe. Fortunately, in this particular area the damage occurred during the course of the day. All the people were anticipating this. They rushed to the nearest hills and that saved many lives. But while going, they could not carry the older people with them. It is very touching when they tell the tales of their own mothers and of their own grand mothers who could not be lifted up and could not be taken to the nearest hills. They were forcibly left there just to die. What sort of thing is this? Is it to be talked about only that whether this is a national calamity or just a disaster or that it is also a man made disaster? Sir, unfortunately, - I am not trying to blame anyone - the financial position of the State of Andhra Pradesh is so precarious that the Chief Minister has himself said that the State is bankrupt. They are not able to pay even the salaries of the employees. When such a disaster takes place and when the Chief Minister goes to the area, he is not in a position even to say as to when compensation will be paid to this particular area. He says that he will think of paying the compensation for these people who are to be submerged in the course of next two years. He has not even categorically committed. He says that in the next two years he will think of paying the compensation. Sir, this is the financial position of Andhra Pradesh. The poor man in going with a begging bowl to every State headquarters seeking money. My only request here is that the Central Government without mincing matters have to come forward to help the State. Their just saying that they will recommend to the World Bank is of no consequence. Let them take up immediate necessary measures. Let them start the process. Let them start spending the money. Let them get, at a later date, the

World Bank assistance or whatever assistance. Let that assistance be reimbursed to the Central Government for whatever money that has been spent by them. The amount of loss encountered by the poorer sections is really unimaginable. Most of our people live in small hutments. Almost every hutment is either partially or totally destroyed. Even today they are just living in the nearest hills or in the nearest forest areas. They are living in their carts along with whatever little household attachments they have.

Your own Common Minimum Programme says that in the next two to three years you will provide houses to everyone concerned. The Budget of Rural Development for this Five Year Plan is not going to be a small amount. It is around Rs. 60,000 crore. When that is so, constructing about six to seven lakhs of houses in all these five of six districts is not really an impossible thing for you. Please do so to save the poorer section of the people permanently from this devastation. This is absolutely essential.

So, Sir, it is my submission to the Government to please construct about six to seven lakh houses, as a part of their Common Minimum Programme.

Sir, there is another very important aspect which some of my friends have failed to mention here. It is about the insurance. The insurance portion - unfortunately, the so-called crop insurance - is not really a crop insurance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be brief.

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : But this insurance is only for the sake of the bankers who lend the money to these farmers. In any sort of a calamity, only the bankers' loan portion is being taken care of and the actual plight of the farmers is definitely not bothered about.

Therefore, it may request to the Government to please make this insurance a compulsory and comprehensive thing. About whatever the crop loss has been done, the Government of Andhra Pradesh says that they will give just about Rs 500 per acre. The amount of Rs. 500 is a pittance. I think, Rs.3,000 per acre must have been spent by the agriculturist to raise his crop. So, at least, Rs.3,000 per acre of compensation for this land is absolutely essential. And, not only that, due to land erosion, I am sure in many areas, the agriculturists will not be in a position to make their lands cultivable.

Therefore, the Government should see - whatever is the cost - that the lands are made cultivable again.

As far as the fishermen in the coasts are concerned, many people told me - when I visited them - that the insurance companies are not accepting their premiums. They are somehow or the other dodging and not insuring their motor boats and small boats. This is the main reason for all their problems.

Sir, I request, through you that the Government should please see to it, bring upon necessary pressure on the Insurance companies to see that this insurance is made mandatory. And, if need be, let the State Government or the Central Government pay the premium of insurance.

Sir, as far as the coconut trees are concerned, well, whether it is 50 lakhs or this way or that way, the Government must pay necessary attention to it so that the farmers are made to raise their crops again, by giving them free saplings, by giving them enough financial assistance in the course of next five or six years, till they are able to raise their coconut planting completely.

Lastly, I would like to mention that some sort of accountability will have to be fixed up. Thousands of lives have been lost due to this disaster. Many of my learned colleagues have said that if proper precautionary measures were taken, all these lost lives would have been saved. Whether the State Government is at fault, whether the Central Government is at fault or whether the Meteorological Department is at fault, proper accountability will have to be established. Anyone who is at fault - whether it is the Chief Minister or the State Government or the Central Government - whoever, whichever, however mighty or great he may be, he should be made accountable. And, proper action will have to be taken so that at least this sort of calamity or man-made disaster can be prevented to a large extent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, we have only 40 minutes left and we have eight more speakers. So, five minutes each will be given. I will be strict on that, please remember.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : Imposition of time-limit has started the moment I have risen to speak!

Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this subject. On behalf of my party CPI (M), I had been in a team to Kakinada and a few other places of Godavari delta after the devastation to see for ourselves the situation, to understand and to be with the people who are suffering as a result of this disastrous tidal wave and cyclone. The enormity of the damage and destruction warrant me not to enter into any politics in the matter. That is why I shall refrain from making any remarks on this aspect of the matter. But there are definite points to mention, there are definite points to elaborate and there are definite points to establish that this is a man-made disaster. It is not simply an officer of the Meteorological Department or the Broadcasting Authority who is responsible.

We have grown fifty years as an independent nation and we are going to observe the 50th anniversary of our independence next year. Three years later we will be entering into the 21st century. We know that human civilisation has developed encountering the onslaught

of nature, controlling it and utilising the forces of nature in favour of the mankind. Now we are a country entering into the 21st century, observing the 50th anniversary of our independence next year and we shudder to learn, shudder to understand and shudder to be informed that in the face of such onslaughts of nature we are helpless as yet. Without accusing each other, we as a body should rise up and take a vow that we shall build up a national consensus at the earliest to take a short term and a long term programme to prepare our country to meet the onslaughts of the nature. There are areas which are cyclone prone. There are areas which are prone to tidal waves sometimes. There are areas where occasionally it occurs once in ten or twenty years. That is accidental. But there are definite areas which we can call sensitive to such disastrous onslaughts of the nature because of the Bay of Bengal and other geo-physical reasons.

We had visited that area and found that drinking water was scarce. Drinking water was scarce there not because of the cyclone, but the problem was there perennially. We had observed that there were shelters for taking shelter during cyclones but these were all built when the number of inhabitants in those villages was simply five hundred or seven hundred and now the population has risen up to five thousand to ten thousand. Those shelters are now dilapidated and are insufficient to take care of the increased population in the villages.

There are countries which have taken care to grow forests in the coastal areas, evacuate the people and move them to a little distance beyond the coast so that the onslaught of a cyclone or tide hits the forest. So, such measures can be taken or shelters provided. It cannot be said that the people should not live in the coastal areas. People will live in the coastal areas; they will work there for their own survival and contribute to the country as well by prawn culture, production and trade of marine products, etc. That not only takes care of their livelihood; that take care of the Government exchequer as well.

We must stand united and accept the position that we are now helpless. It has been bound and established but we should not be in such a position in future. It is good that the Government of Andhra Pradesh is trying hard. It is correct that a State Government cannot just meet the necessities to bring about relief and rehabilitation on a disaster of such a dimension. The Government of India should come forward with help. There are hindrances by way of rules and regulations. These can just be modified or taken care of in a proper manner so that for exceptional cases these rules and regulations do not stand in the way if we have got the will, if we do not have the will, then rules and regulations will come up. If we have got the political will, if we have got the social will, if we have got the will and determination to meet a catastrophe in a united manner, then, the rules should sometimes be overruled.

I conclude with this point that in this matter, so far as relief and rehabilitation work is concerned, we should continue it. We should not abuse one another instead of taking part in the relief and rehabilitation work.

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, several persons were killed and excessive damages has been caused in great devastation by the cyclone storm that hit Andhra Pradesh on sixth November, at 9.30 p.m. About 14 districts and 96 blocks have been affected. The worst affected area is east Godavari, where 872 persons lost their lives. About 98 persons were killed in the west Godavari and about 6,47,554 houses collapsed and large number of persons have been rendered homeless. In east Godavari 4,32,715 and in west Godavari 2,14,839 houses were damaged.

The paddy crop covering about 3,46,810 hectares of land had been destroyed. Similarly coconut trees in 30,000 hectares of land have been uprooted. Another crop in 1,12,768 hectares of land was also destroyed. Crops covering about 4,89,578 hectares of land have been destroyed. Horticulture crops have also destroyed in about 30,000 hectares of land. About 19,823 cattle heads perished in this cyclone storm. Over two crore persons engaged in poultry have suffered loss. The fishermen have suffered loss of Rs. 6505 crore. And 2438 water tanks have been damaged. The loss suffered by the Government has been reported as Rs. 1500 million under Panchayati Raj System. The details of the loss suffered by various Government organisation has been reported as Municipality Board Rs. 1200 million, Electricity Board Rs. 1025 million the Irrigation Department Rs. 1000 million, the Animal Husbandry Rs. 424 million and the Fisheries Department Rs. 400 million. Similarly the loss in respect of roads and buildings is Rs. 234 million and other losses total Rs. 331 million. The total loss has been reported to the tune of Rs. 6184 million. But it is a matter of regret that the Prime Minister has sanctioned a little amount Rs. 50 crore for this purpose. Similarly the assistance given by the Prime Minister for the people of Andhra Pradesh is inadequate. It is a matter of deep regret and concern.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this a national calamity. It is not the time for criticism and counter criticism. It is a matter of great concern. Today the people of the country have to face this problem. The people should express concern and render help to the affected persons. But I think that there is no such atmosphere in the country. The Government should tackle the problem on a war footing. The Government should take it like an external attack. There is no such feeling in the Government. On the one hand the people of Andhra Pradesh are dying of starvation, they have been rendered homeless, large number of people are missing, parents of the children

are missing, people are crying out in pain, and on the other hand, our Government is organising 'Miss World' beauty contest in our country. Our Prime Minister is going on foreign tour and enjoying life with his family. It does not seem as if our Prime Minister and the Members of the Cabinet are sad due to this tragedy. I would like to inform the Government particularly the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Chaturanan Mishra, who belongs to a party of poor farmers and workers, that the poor farmers and workers are the worst affected persons in this cyclone storm, my suggestion is that all the political parties should go there and perform 'shram dan'. The Government and all political parties should contribute their utmost. I would like to suggest that even external assistance can be sought for this. There are several such nations whom we had helped in time. So we should seek their help in this calamity. As the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh is meeting the Members and the Ministers here, and seeking help, the Prime Minister, in the same way should try to seek help from various Heads of the nations. The countrymen, including school children, students, employees and officers, should come forward together to render help and assistance for rehabilitation of the affected persons of Andhra Pradesh. The officials should go there to share the sorrow and suffering of the people. My suggestion is that after the Winter Session of Parliament, the Prime Minister should call a meeting of all the Members and the Ministers and instruct them to visit the affected area to perform 'shram dan' there for fifteen days. Though this may not solve all their problems but they will get moral support. When all the Members and all the Ministers would perform 'shram dan', the people would forget their sorrows. It has been reported that there is discrimination in the distribution of relief funds as some unscrupulous persons are involved in this as a result thereof the needy and affected persons are not getting the relief. All the affected persons are not being treated as one. They are getting relief on the line of party affiliations. The Chief Minister of that State has asked for 19,932 tons of rice. This should be sent there by the Government. He has also asked for 14 lakh litres of kerosene oil. In addition to this arrangements should be made for supplying wheat, pulses, vegetables, clothes etc., and text books for the children because they have lost everything in the cyclone.

Now, I want to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister towards a serious matter. Hon'ble Minister is not paying attention towards the seriousness of the matter... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not waste time.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : While talking to other hon. Members, he can also listen to you. Please continue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : My suggestion is that the Government should send the gazetted officers in every village. They should not return back from there till the rehabilitation work is over. All the assistance being given there through the Non Governmental Organisations and also foreign assistance must reach the poor in a proper way. Hence my suggestion is that a gazetted officer be sent in each and every village to ensure relief operation work.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. It is a very good suggestion and the hon. Minister will take notice of that...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, you have made some good suggestions.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : There are a number of officers in the Government who have no work to do. From other States such officers should also be sent.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : We will send the Members of Parliament.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : The Members of Parliament are ready to go. The Ministers should also go. It is a national calamity.

With these words I conclude and urge upon the Government to release the amount of Rs. 2000 crore as demanded by the Andhra Pradesh State and foodgrains should also be made available for those people.

[English]

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry) : Sir, thank you very much for having given me an opportunity to speak.

Sir, Yanam happens to be a part of our Union Territory. It also happens to be in Andhra Pradesh and was the target of attack. It was not only the target of attack but also the most affected area in the whole of Andhra Pradesh in this catastrophe which has happened recently. I am just coming from Yanam where I had gone on a visit. Previously, I have seen two cyclones in Yanam when I was the Chief Minister but one cannot imagine the extent of damage this time when compared to those devastations. In fact, there is a lot of anxiety and also fear in the minds of the people which have not gone even after such a long time. I am thankful to the Andhra Pradesh Government because it has also helped us and the State Government also has done its best.

I would like to tell a very unfortunate factor in this august House, that is, Andhra Pradesh has been given at least Rs. 50 crore as initial payment but not even an

amount of Rs.5 has been given to the Union Territory of Pondicherry...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Your State did not ask...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : No, it is not so. On the other hand, as per the report of the Minister, it has been clearly said that the cyclone had also severely affected life and property in Yanam. And the Chief Minister has also given a memorandum seeking an assistance of Rs. 68 crore. This has been given.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Not yet...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : It has been given in your statement today.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I said that it would be...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : I tell you that the Chief Minister of our State had met our Prime Minister on the next day itself when he visited Madras and had given a memorandum. Then he said that he will look into the matter. If one remembers well, it had happened on the 6th and 7th and I had written to the Prime Minister on the 8th. I have written to the Minister of Agriculture. I have written to the Home Minister. I have got copies of those letters with me. The Prime Minister had acknowledged the letter and said that he would send my letter to the Minister of Agriculture immediately. But nothing has happened so far. Are we second rate citizens of this country? Please consider us.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That has gone to the notice of the Minister and the Minister may refer to it in his reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : It is a fact that I am just telling you. I had written a letter and the Prime Minister had acknowledged that letter. I will produce it before you...(Interruptions) What is most important is, it is disheartening that we have not got even one rupee. Others are asking for big things. But we are not asking for big things; we are asking for few. Why has it not been given? We do not know the reason. At least as first instalment he should have thought over it. My Chief Minister has given a memorandum asking him for Rs. 68 crore but you have not given even six rupees. I am just asking this from you. Why is there a discrimination? 'You' means your Government...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Farook, there is no time. You have made your point.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : My concern is this and I want to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that Yanam, among all the regions, is the worst affected. All industries have been ruined. More than 85,000 coconut trees have completely gone down. You must go and see the place. So many hectares of land is inundated. Water has come even to the level of ten feet high and got into

the ponds and wells. People do not have water even to drink. It was a tidal wave. 76 people are missing.

In my territory, the kith and kin of the people are being away in front of their own eyes. But we are not able to give relief to those 76 people who have been missing because of technical reasons. 'Technical' means that we do not know where they have gone. But so far, they have not come over there. What are we going to do about it?

I agree with all my good friends who have been there and spoken about it. It is a national calamity. I agree with their views and suggestions which have been made. If you give me time, I can give many suggestions. But my concern is, please try to give some immediate relief now from the Central funds pending a visit of the team which is going there. Please give something to our territory. Then, you go and see whether we deserve it or not. In fact, the loss is worth more than Rs. 1,000 crore.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and the Central Government that the industry has been closed completely. There is no electricity. Five thousands people are on the roads. Yesterday, I had a meeting with all the industry people. I told them that this is a calamitous period. Do not leave them. They say: "Our industry is not working. How could we pay them?" I told them that they must pay something to them. The bank has to come up with soft loans. Otherwise, you cannot revive the industry. So, a lot of things have to be done there. I am writing to you about it. But my main concern is: Try to release at least some money today from your side as an interim measure. That is what I would like to suggest. I can speak more about it. But because of paucity of time, I am not able to express all the things. I am happy that you have given me this opportunity. Please consider the matter.

\*SHRI K. SUBBA RAYADU (Narasapur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna districts in coastal Andhra Pradesh region are known as the granary of Andhra Pradesh. They supply quality rice to not only the entire State of Andhra Pradesh but also export rice to other parts of the country. The entire region was affected by the cyclones and excessive rains in the recent days. The successive natural calamities have reduced this fertile land of ours into a grave yard. Prakasam, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Anantpur and several other districts were very badly affected during the cyclonic storm a month ago. Andhra Pradesh, one of the few States in the country, which was made rapid strides in Agricultural sector. Andhra farmers can even compete favourably with the farmers of advanced countries like Japan. Such a State has now been reduced to a burial ground in the successive cyclones which affected the State in last few days. The Andhra farmers now feel crippled. Especially the recent cyclone has ruined the entire economy of the coastal belt. Life

in this region has come to a standstill. Lakhs of houses both permanent and semi permanent have collapsed. Electrical poles were uprooted. All the commercial crops have been washed away. The grain got discoloured. Sir, if any one looks up he would find only the sky and nothing else. Neither a branch of a tree, nor any roof top is visible. Everything has been washed away in the cyclone. Everything has been reged to the ground. The situation is grim and grave in the State. When the State has been facing a calamity of such a magnitude, which was also declared as a national calamity, the attitude of the Central Government towards the State has disappointed everybody. In an extraordinary situation like this when the country is at war when any external aggression takes place, or when a natural calamity such as the present one strikes, what should be the role of the Union Government? It is expected from the Union Government that it comes to the rescue of a State Government by extending a helping hand in a big way in extraordinary circumstances. Even now it is not too late for the Union Government to come to the rescue of State Government in Andhra Pradesh. It should announce the immediate release of required funds and rescue the people there.

Sir, I represent Narasapur Parliamentary constituency which happens to be the worst hit area. I may please be given some more time. We lost everything in the recent cyclone. Please permit me for at least 5 minuts more.

Sir, the farmers in the area raised their crops by spending the amount they got by pledging the Mangal Sutras of their wives. But all their effort has gone in vain. The standing crops are now lying in the field in a totally damaged condition. Sir, let me remind the present Government that when Shri V.P. Singh was the Prime Minister of the country, the loans of farmers upto Rs. 10,000 were written off. I take this opportunity to request the Central Government to write off the loans of the farmers in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh who have lost almost everything they had in the recent cyclone. The coconut growers too have suffered loss extensively. It takes nearly 15 years for a coconut tree to yield the nuts. For such a long time, they have to take care of those trees. Now lakhs of coconut trees were uprooted leaving the growers high and dry. Even to clear the debris the grower has to spend nearly 300 rupees. How can they get this money? Where can they get this money? Hence I request that the Central Government and its agencies like Coconut Development Board should come to the rescue of the coconut growers in the affected region in a big way. Free saplings should be supplied to them and an amount not less than Rs. 400 per tree should be given to these farmers, so that they can stand on their own feet again. Sir, people in the coastal have lost all their belongings in the recent cyclone. Some have lost their bread winners, some have lost their kith and kin, some have lost their dwelling units, some have lost their cattle, and some have lost

their belongings, grains, clothes etc. You will not find anybody in the region who has not lost something or the other in the cyclone. At least they used to have coconut trees in the past and now they have nothing. Nearly six and half lakh houses have collapsed in the recent devastating cyclonic spell. The Central Government should take steps to rebuild these houses under the Indira Awas Yojana. The fishermen work day and night, yet their earnings are too meagre, they are half-clad, hungry and have no roof over their heads. Whatever they had, they lost them in the cyclone. Thousands of fishermen are either dead or reported to be missing. They have lost their boats, fishing nets, etc. The Central Government should come to their rescue and help them in a big way so as to make them stand on their own feet once again. Similarly weavers have also lost everything. Their looms are now broken and even washed away in certain cases. The yarn is now in a totally damaged condition. Because of the loss of looms and yarn, the entire weaving community has been thrown out of employment. The Government of India should assist in a big way in rehabilitating them.

The estimated loss to the State in the recent cyclone is around Rs. 6126.45 crores. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a memorandum seeking Central Assistance of Rs. 2143.00 crores. Sir, these are the figures arrived at by responsible officials. It is not either Shri Chandra Babu Naidu or K.S. Rayudu who have submitted the figures. This was the result of the assessment of the loss after a careful study of the affected areas by the Government of Andhra Pradesh officials. It is really unfortunate that the Hon. Prime Minister is reported to have commented that the figures are exaggerated ones. That is not a fact. We too have a Government machinery at the State level as you have your own machinery at the Central level. After a very careful study of the affected area, the Government officials have assessed the damage and arrived at these figures. Hence it is not correct to say that these are inflated figures.

I appeal to the Central Government to come to the rescue of State Government by releasing adequate money for helping the people who had lost everything due to the cyclone.

Sir, I conclude my speech, thanking you for the opportunity you had provided for taking part in this debate.

[English]

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA (Nellore) : Respected Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

As the hon. Members of the House are aware, Nellore District in Andhra Pradesh, which is my constituency, has experienced very heavy rains from 13th to 19th October resulting in great devastation to human life and public utilities. People were caught in

the flood waters. Many houses collapsed and many houses were damaged. Official figures reveal that there were 23 deaths and 15,000 houses were damaged. Several colonies in low-lying areas, particularly those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as they are located there, were affected due to breaches to banks, canals, culverts, etc. The torrential rains caused heavy losses to the livestock, crops and other public properties. It was reported that about 53,450 acres of land got damaged and about 1000 cattle lost their lives. Taking all the damage in the District into account, the District Administration has estimated the loss to be about Rs. 84.45 crores.

I will also bring to the notice of the House that after the experience of the 1977 cyclone in the State, the then Government prepared a contingency plan of action for cyclone with clear guidelines from the Chief Secretary level to the Mandal Officer level as to how a natural calamity should be faced with measures such as preventive relief and rehabilitation. It also envisages setting up of a High-Level Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Sub-committees under the Liaison Officers etc. The High-level Committees were to meet in the month of September since the cyclones generally occur between the months of October and December every year. The State Government has to be blamed for not implementing these guidelines. Had advance steps been taken to evacuate the people to safer places, these many lives would not have been lost not only in Nellore District but in the other Districts as well.

Another feature of this cyclone and floods is that the railway network was totally damaged and the traffic was disrupted. Even a month after the heavy rains of October, normal running of trains was not restored and road traffic has also not resumed fully. I take this opportunity to inform the House that cyclone or floods occur in Nellore District and other coastal Districts in Andhra Pradesh in the months of October, November and December every year. These result in heavy losses to human life and public utilities. To restore normalcy, crores of rupees are spent towards relief and rehabilitation. Why cannot we, once and for all, take some concrete step to withstand such calamities to some extent.

19.00 hrs.

I would suggest some of the steps for consideration.

Distribution of house sites in upland areas as this is not being thought of at the time of land acquisition and distribution. Similarly housing for all poor irrespective of the caste, creed and religion. Housing should be ensured of qualitative construction.

Revetment to tanks and canals etc. has to be planned to avoid breaches. Ensuring proper drainage system is also essential. Cyclone shelters, strengthening of school buildings are required to be made on a priority.

The railway should also consider laying of upland route connecting Venkatagiri on the Gudur-Ranigunta line with Nadikudi-Bitragunta line (Bibinagar line). This will ensure an alternative route in case of disruption of traffic on the existing coastal lines between Vijayawada and Chennai.

Existing National Highway should be strengthened and a Super Highway should be constructed from Tada to Itchapuram as an alternative National Highway.

Central Stores should also be established at Nellore and Rajahmundry which are Central places in the coastal belt where necessary tools, implements and other modern equipment required to rush rescue and relief operations to the affected areas at short notice should be made available.

A comprehensive crop insurance covering all crops and plantations should be considered.

A National Institute of Disaster Management should be set up to study all aspects of natural calamities and up to date disaster awareness and management with the experiences gained. This centre can be located at a central place on the coastal belt.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are the more speakers. If the House agrees, we will finish the business in ten minutes...*(Interruptions)* One among the three speakers, Shri Anil Basu is not present...*(Interruptions)* Please bear with the House, we will finish the business in ten minutes.

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY (Nizamabad) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving this opportunity. I am from Nizamabad, Andhra Pradesh. Even though my area in Andhra Pradesh is not affected, still we feel the anguish and pain which our brothers and sisters of that region of Andhra Pradesh are facing today. No man can prevent this kind of disasters. But certainly today's technology to some extent can relieve. Unfortunately in India today, we do not have that technology. I do not have to give further examples. The recent air accident itself is an example. The international community has said that we do not have the proper equipment to monitor and the same thing happened with this kind of incidents too.

The other thing is that here we say natural calamity and then it turns out to be a national calamity. It is a national disaster. We can see in the rest of the world that any time a national disaster occurs it is the Central Government which comes to the total rescue of the States. It is unfortunate that at this hour, after 20 days, still the State and the Central Government are cursing each other saying that it is 'your' responsibility. To some extent they are fighting on the data itself. Unfortunately after 20 days, still to a close of a thousand people are missing. It is a disgrace to the State and the Centre. Still we are talking about monitoring and the numbers. To some extent, it was a general appeal. The appeal should have gone the very first day itself from the Prime

Minister. The moment the Centre has considered the disaster a national disaster, the appeal should have gone to the entire country, to some extent, to our neighbours also, asking for relief.

It is not just the responsibility of the State of Andhra Pradesh which should take care of it. No one is bothered about the figures. They are talking about 2000 or 5000 or 15000. There is no need to assess the damage. The first priority is to take care of the people and the damage and to rehabilitate the people, at this stage. It is 20 days after, the entire international community has seen the dead bodies lying in the disaster areas. If you cannot take care of the living people, let us take care of with respect, the dead bodies. I do not know whether to blame the Government of Andhra Pradesh or the Centre, but the dead bodies were left to the vultures.

This is an insult to human beings. When we talk in this House, we consider ourselves as the world's largest democracy. What we discuss or debate in this institution or the decision taken by this institution will have an impact not only in this country but also in the rest of the world. The decisions we take here, will have, to some extent, an impact on the future generations also. But how can we take a decision when the dead bodies are lying even many days after the cyclone hit Andhra Pradesh?

I want to make a few suggestions now. Firstly, the Prime Minister should come forward immediately and make a national appeal. Every citizen of India should feel the anguish and pain and come to the rescue of Andhra Pradesh at this critical hour. Secondly, he should make sure that the new technologies are made available to Andhra Pradesh. Now, I would like to quote the message which was broadcast over All India Radio on the 6th November at 6.37 hours :

"System moved slowly westwards and lies centred at 0230 hours of 6th November about 350 km. east of Machilipatnam and likely to intensify and crossed Andhra Pradesh Coast between Ongole and Visakhapatnam during night of 6th November."

This was a precautionary message. It should have been followed and taken seriously. One of my colleagues has said just now that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh took enough precautions with the result that the loss of human lives and properties was less. Had he not taken enough precaution, the disaster would have been still worse. I am not here to blame anybody but I will appeal to the Prime Minister at this stage to come forward and try to sponsor new meteorological equipment to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Let us hope that at least, from this hour onwards, the nation will carry the message from the Prime Minister which will definitely have some impact.

SHRI RAVINDRA CHITTURI (Rajahmundry) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart I stand before this

August House and say how badly the East Godavari and West Godavari districts were affected by cyclone.

In East Godavari District, 6,48,000 houses collapsed. We need about Rs. 1000 crore for rehabilitation. The Government of India should come forward and assist the people to rebuild their house under Indira Awas Yojana. There were about 1000 deaths due to house collapse, and 1000 fishermen are still missing.

As far as agriculture is concerned, the entire paddy crop has been washed out. Sugarcane crop in 44,000 hectares has been affected. Coconut crop in 29,100 hectares has been affected. The loss comes to about Rs. 3000 crore.

Standing crops of banana, vegetables, cocoa, mango, and cashew have all been badly damaged. The agriculture loans given to farmers should be waived and fresh loans at concessional rates of interest should be given to them. The crop insurance should be operated at village level and not for three Mandals put together.

Regarding animal husbandry, I would like to mention that poultry has been washed out and a lot of cattle have perished.

Weavers, whose looms have been badly affected, need to be rehabilitated as they have nowhere to go.

The relief given to the fishermen should be enhanced. New boats and nets should be supplied to them free of cost. The restoration work of power and telecommunication lines is not at all satisfactory. Though some important towns have been benefited, even today 75 per cent of the villages are without electricity and telephone.

The public water supply scheme which needs electricity for pumping water, has become non-functional in the absence of supply of electricity. So, the Government of India must rush extra teams to restore power supply immediately. The State Government must be helped adequately in the restoration of telecommunication immediately.

Since it has been declared as a national calamity, the Government of India should bear the entire expenditure without making any reference to the National Calamity Fund.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I thank all the hon. Members for their cooperation.

19.10 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the  
Clock on Wednesday, November 27, 1996/  
Agrahayana 6, 1918 (Saka).*

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