

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. V contains Nos. 21 to 30)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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(English Version)

Wednesday, September 11, 1996/Bhadra 20, 1918 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, September 11, 1996/Bhadra 20, 1918 (Saka)

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

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Before initiating the question hour, I request you that if you agree, there should be not more than Six Supplementaries in every question. If there is a rare case, we will see it. I want that you get chance to ask supplementaries on maximum questions.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Six Supplementary questions could be enough, if I am included in that!...(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Those Six Supplementary questions should be allowed from all sides of the House, I think...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You should not doubt it.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

LPG Consumption

*541. SHRI O.P. JINDAL :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have estimated the quantity of annual LPG consumption in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated total quantity of LPG required for commercial and domestic consumption during the year in the country;

(c) whether LPG produced from indigenous sources is insufficient to meet the LPG requirement of the country and LPG is imported from abroad also;

(d) if so, the quantity of LPG supplied from indigenous sources and imported separately, during 1993-94, 1994-95, and 1995-96; and

(e) the amount of subsidy given by the Government per cylinder on the imported and indigenous gas ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total estimated quantity of LPG to be supplied to the consumers of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies during the year 1996-97 is 4232 TMT. No separate estimation of the LPG requirement for commercial consumption is made which is supplied in both packed and bulk.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The indigenous production of LPG in 1993-94, 1994-95, and 1995-96 was 2699 TMT, 2858 TMT and 3246 TMT respectively, whereas the imports for the same years were 410 TMT, 592 TMT and 683 TMT respectively.

(e) The estimated subsidy on a domestic LPG cylinder of 14.2 kg is Rs. 62.55 at present.

[Translation]

SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my first supplementary is that keeping in view the increasing demand of LPG, by what time we will be able to produce maximum LPG to fulfil our requirements so that we may not have to import it. What measures government is taking in this direction ? What steps the government is taking in the next two years so that we may be able to remove its shortage by producing LPG in the country itself.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, as on 1.4.1996, the demand is 4232 TMT. The indigenous production is 3107 TMT and the import is 1195 TMT. The hon. Member has asked as to when will we be able to be self-sufficient. The present indigenous capacity is 3.1 million metric tonnes. It will be increased to 6.87 million metric tonnes by the year 2001 AD. BY 2001, we will be self-sufficient.

[Translation]

SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my second question is this, what steps the government is taking for the people living in villages particularly the poor people of backward caste who have either no LPG or feeling shortage of it ? Whether the poor people are not entitled for it ? Can't quota not fixed for them ? The influential persons managed to get LPG and the man who has no means, field, land, does not get. Quota of LPG should be fixed for them. You should give special attention in this direction because our Prime Minister is more sympathetic towards the poor.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your question has finished.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, we have planned for marketing of LPG in the rural areas. I have already stated about the improved availability in the country. It is planned to introduce LPG in the rural areas also. Initially, LPG would be introduced in the rural areas adjoining the major cities and villages with a large population, where opening of new distributorships has been planned by the oil industry from 1996-97 onwards so that after saturation of LPGs demand in the urban areas, LPG is introduced in the adjoining rural areas.

Further, oil companies have also been instructed to study the feasibility and viability of new LPG distributorships in towns with a population of 10,000 and above, including adjoining villages falling within a radius of 15 kilometres.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in reply to the question, the government has stated that the Government gives subsidy of Rs. 62 and 55 paise on a cylinder. As per newspapers report there are 2.50 crore LPG consumers in the country who mostly live in cities. We would like to know from the government the number of humble farmers and the poor out of those who have got LPG connections. This government talk of farmers, the poor and the Prime Minister also says that he is a humble farmer. The government should tell how many humble farmers and poor there are out of this 2.50 crore consumers. The government is spending Rs. 62.55 paise per cylinder for the upper middle class and the rich people. They have capacity to spend money then what is the justification for it ? In this poor country when only 2 per cent people have got LPG connection then what is the justification of giving Rs. 62.55 paise as assistance from the exchequer ? We would like to know from the government if there is no justification for it, then whether the government is ready to end this subsidy or not ? If not then what is the reason ?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned that the hon. Prime Minister, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, is a farmer. It is definitely so. I am proud to say that I am also a farmer. I belong to the farmer's community...(Interruptions). We are proud to say it.

He wanted to know the percentage level of the farmer's community or the low salaried people, that is, low income groups. Out of 2,57,00,000 connections given, the poorer sector gets only 3.8 per cent.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What is its justification ?
...(Interruptions)

[English]

Sir, I seek your protection.

[Translation]

The percentage of poor people who get LPG is three percent and the rest LPG has gone to 97 per cent rich people. This government call itself a government of poor and says that they are the government for the protection of the interests of the farmers. Then what is the justification of giving subsidy of Rs. 62.55 on a cylinder? We had asked the question of justification. And you are replying what is its justification ? What is the reason that the poor people are bearing the burden ? There are 2.50 crore connections. The government had itself told that there are 297 lakh connections. The subsidy is Rs. 62.55 paise on one cylinder. Now you can calculate that every year Rs. 1300-Rs. 1400 crore are being given from government exchequer to the rich people. The United Front government calls itself a government of poor and farmers who have only 3 percent connection. What is its justification. This we want to know ?...(Interruptions)

The subsidy may be discontinued, it may be discontinued for all...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please let him reply.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before the hon. Minister reply, I would like to raise a point of order.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is no point of order in Question Hour. You can have only clarifications.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : One point of order can be raised in the question hour. Today is a day for reply by the Prime Minister. You can see today's question list. The Prime Minister comes in the House to reply only one day out of five days.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is no point of order in a question hour. You can ask clarification if there is any.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You regard it clarification.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : O.K., you can ask.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Today is a Prime Minister's day for giving reply...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have said that there is no point of order in Question Hour. If she wants some clarifications, let her have it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The Prime Minister comes in the House only one day out of five days and he is absent today. I would like to ask whether he has taken permission to remain absent otherwise it is a contempt of the House that he is absent on the day when the Prime Minister has to reply. This is my clarification.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Other Ministers are there to reply on his behalf.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : No, he can not remain absent without permission. If he has not taken permission then it is a contempt of the House. Every Minister who wants to remain absent, takes prior permission from you...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It is a collective responsibility of the Council of Ministers.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let him reply.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The Prime Minister cannot remain absent without taking permission from you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No permission was taken from me...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The presence of the Prime Minister is necessary.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Anyway let him reply. He is competent to reply.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Has he taken permission from you for absence in the House ? If he has not taken permission then he cannot remain absent...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let me have my say.

[Translation]

Today is the Prime Minister's day. He should be here. But what is the reason that he could not come. The Minister will tell and also reply to the question.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, it is well within the ambit of my portfolio. The Prime Minister may be having lot of preoccupations. I am here to take care of the situation...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You cannot use the words 'may be'.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, we are not satisfied with his answer that he may be having lot of pressure of work...(interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you have got any information about the programme of the Prime Minister, you may inform the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Jenaji, you tell.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : House should be given priority.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the matter ends as he has come.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : It is nowhere convention in the world that the Prime Minister present himself to reply to the question.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Today is his day...(Interruptions) You advise him. Today is his day...(Interruptions) We do not demand that he should come five days. But when one day out of five days is Prime Minister's day then he should be here...(Interruptions) Today is his day. Please tell him that today is his day.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down for a minute.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Question hour is the own time of Members...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let me have my say.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Why are you not sitting down ? Please sit down. Sushmaji, please sit down.

[Translation]

And such convention is there in any country or not.

[English]

Please sit down.

[Translation]

And in any country the convention is there or not. It is in India.

[English]

That's all.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Why do you not listen to me ? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is competent to reply. You need not help him.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, I have nothing to add to this. The Prime Minister was on his way to the Parliament House. The Minister in charge of Petroleum Ministry was replying to the supplementary that was asked.

Sir, we were also in the Opposition and on many occasions, the Prime Minister was not present in the House even during the Question Hour. But never in the past, was this type of an uproar made for the absence of the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition. This has never happened in the past. It is unfortunate that a senior Member is raising this issue.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I am surprised that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is saying this. The Prime Minister is always there in the House whenever there is Prime Minister's day and if he has to go, he takes prior permission for it. I am surprised at the knowledge of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I am sorry. had...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I am sorry for your knowledge as the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.

[Translation]

When there is day for the Prime Minister, he remains in the House.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : You may be new in the House but I am not.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You may be new in this House. I was a Member of the Upper House also.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : What is written here, this requires from him...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us close this issue now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, this has never happened in the past...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, please listen to the reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, the hon. Member Shri Nitish Kumar has just now asked as to why the prices of LPG have been subsidised...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : This is not required anywhere...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now please close this issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, if there is any consensus, if there is any unanimous consensus about the withdrawal of the subsidy, I think the government would be glad enough to consider the same thing.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, it was not the decision of the House; it was the decision of the Government. The Prime Minister is here. Kindly request him to answer this question as to why LPG prices have been subsidised...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : If there is any consensus on this...(Interruptions) what about the BJP Members ? Let us have a consensus...(Interruptions) If we could arrive at a consensus, the Prime Minister is here and he is competent to decide it on the floor of the House itself...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : No, no, I am not talking about the BJP or the Janata or any other Party...*(Interruptions)* I am talking on behalf of the poor people of this country...*(Interruptions)* The Government is providing a subsidy of Rs. 52/- per LPG cylinder. Why is the subsidy being given to the upper sections of the society ? What is this ? ...*(Interruptions)* The Government is giving subsidy to the upper sections of the society. The Prime Minister is here and he should respond to this question...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Nitishji is opposing the subsidy which the government is giving on LPG. In this very House when the government raised the price of LPG some days back, Nitishji was protesting why the prices have been increased. It means Nitishji at that time...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You are wrong. At that time...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Sir, I am on a point of clarification...*(Interruptions)* Sir, he is misleading the House. When the Prime Minister was replying to the debate on 'Rise of petroleum products', I raised this issue at that time also...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sit down Nitishji. It is right.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Nitishji...*(Interruptions)* why subsidy was given. I would like to know from the government that the LPG gas which was distributed in the rural areas is very less in number...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed him only.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : The Government is telling three percent.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government that you are giving subsidy on the LPG whereas 98 percent people are not getting any fuel. What are you doing in this respect ? The present situation is such that people are not getting wood and there is no other mean for fuel. Besides, I would like to ask whether you want to divide rural and urban areas and fix quota for rural areas that so much percentage will go to the rural areas and so much percentage to urban areas ?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, so far as subsidy is concerned, there is no discrimination between the rural and the urban areas.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, would like to say to the government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has given reply. Please sit down.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : The House will appreciate that since there is no alternative to the domestic gas, the common people, the middle class people, the urban people and the weaker section people use LPG.

[Translation]

The rich use domestic gas. The poor dose not get it.

[English]

I do not want to mention this discrimination. I would like the House to recall that during the Congress Government, the excise duty was reduced from 60 per cent to 30 per cent so as to give subsidy to the domestic gas because of the larger interests of the common people. There are certain areas, like the Defence, where you cannot curtail your Budget. Similarly, you have to give subsidy to the fertilisers. You cannot withdraw subsidy from the domestic gas, as the interests of the common people are involved in it. I would request you to give more and more opportunities to the rural areas also.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I welcome the suggestion of hon. Kumari Mamata. As it is, the subsidy on LPG has been reduced from Rs. 69.70 in 1995-96 to Rs. 62.5 in 1996-97. We are gradually reducing the subsidy. I welcome her suggestion. The matter is of concern for all of us. We will definitely take into account her suggestion.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Nitish Kumar while explaining about the LPG supply mentioned a very vital point. He said that about 97 per cent of the people, who have LPG connections, are the rich people. By saying so, a wrong message has been given to the country as if those who are using the LPG are necessarily the rich people. I would rather say that they are the helpless people. I do not know the percentage of the rich people who are having the LPG connections. The Government must be knowing it. The fact is that it has been supplied to the common people, particularly to those who are staying in the cities and have no other alternative source of cooking gas. My only worry is, so much of gas is being wasted. We should utilise all the gas available and provide it to all, whether they are 'kisans', urban or rural people. We should not have this discrimination. We have

to find out the ways as to how best we can supply LPG to all the people. For that purpose, as hon. Kumari Mamata has mentioned, why should we not reduce the excise duty on it so that the common people can get the advantage? The impression that only the rich people are using it should be removed altogether. The common people are getting its advantage. If 'kisans' are not given this facility, they should also be given this facility but that does not necessarily mean that those who are having this facility are the rich people. I would like to know the percentage of the rich people who are having the LPG connections.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I can only say that about 3.8 per cent of the people living below poverty line are enjoying this facility.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next questions.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You had already agreed to have only six supplementary questions.

[Translation]

Six supplementaries have been asked. Now the next question.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have just agreed for six supplementaries.

National Council for Science and Technology

*542. PROF. *P.J. KURIEN : Will the MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Council of Science and Technology is popularising science and technology;

(b) if so, the details of the work being done;

(c) the achievement so far in this regard;

(d) whether such councils have also been set up in the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :
(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (e) National Council for Science & Technology Communication is popularising Science & Technology through a host of programmes. These programmes include developing, adapting and promoting diverse communication methodologies to popularise S&T in the country and inculcating scientific temper among the people. The

programmes include projects involving large number of common people, for example, the Bharat Jan Gyan Vigyan Jatha-1992, ECLIPSE 1995 programme; and the National Children's Science Congress. Through these programmes, it has been possible to reach large sections of society to create awareness. National Council for Science & Technology Communication executes its programmes in different States through State Science & Technology Departments and also through over one hundred Non-Government Organisations spread across the country. States also have their own State Science & Technology Councils who perform diverse functions including Science Popularisation.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I thank the hon. Minister for the Statement.

One of the main functions of the National Council for Science and Technology Communication is to inculcate scientific temper and scientific outlook among the people. Our Constitution provides that it shall be the duty of every citizen to develop scientific temper. But unfortunately now in this country the scientific temper and scientific outlook are on the decline.*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No side talks please.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You are the people who fabricate...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Why does he unnecessarily interfere ?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You know that the Marxists are dogmatic people, superstitious people...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : They are unnecessarily provoking Prof. Kurien. Why do they provoke him?...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I will stick to my question if they do not interfere. You please control him...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, please, Prof. Kurien.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Unfortunately this scientific temper and outlook are on the decline in the country. Even the scientists are not out of this. Of course, superstitions among the political leaders are on the increase. But it is clearly mentioned in the Constitution that it shall be the duty of every citizen to develop scientific outlook and a scientific temper. Therefore, it is the duty of the Government to devise programmes which will enable the people to develop a scientific outlook. I have gone through the programmes which have been chalked out by the National Council for Science and Technology Communication. The hon. Minister has given it in the Statement. They are mainly aimed at creating awareness and spreading science and technology.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please ask the question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I am coming to the question. It is a very important question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He is not asking any question.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Why do you worry about it ? Let the hon. Minister reply.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Therefore, we miss the thrust. The thrust of the programme should be to inculcate a scientific temper and a scientific outlook among the people.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would have a look at the whole programme and whether he is prepared to redevise and recast this programme so that the thrust will be scientific temper and outlook and discarding of superstitious.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I am very grateful to the hon. Member for asking this very important question and for giving a very high priority to the need for a scientific temper in the country.

The National Council for Science and Technology Communication, as the hon. Member knows, has programmes like the Bharat Jan Gyan Vigyan Jatha where a lot of people are involved in terms of promoting scientific attitudes. We also have the National Children's Science Congress. They take up specific scientific events, for example, the Eclipse so that a scientific approach towards the eclipse is created. We are now reconstituting the National Council for Science and Technology Communication. I agree with the hon. Member that this is an issue which we have to look into it in an unanimous way. I assure the hon. Members that if the hon. Members give any concrete proposals, I assure them that we will give them a very high priority.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I thank the hon. Minister for the reply.

Secondly, in the ministry's report it is said that two important ingredients necessary are communicators and development of software. He had admitted in the Report that adequate number of communicators have not been trained and proper software has not been developed. In view of that I would like to ask him whether he is prepared to consider a suggestion that these programmes be implemented through educational institutions in the rural areas so that the teachers in the schools and colleges can act as communicators. By doing so, university can save some funds and the colleges can also, in turn, get benefited.

Further, we talk about creation of awareness and ignore the contribution of ancient India towards science. Ancient India has great contribution towards science. You

are aware how SHOONYA or 'zero' came into existence. It was an Indian contribution. Even the Arabic numerals are an Indian contribution. They were, transferred to Europe by Arabs. But their origin is India. But these things are not propagated. The people are not made aware of the contribution of ancient India towards science.

Will you include this subject also in the programme ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that in the programmes that are developed for both Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha as well as the National Children's Science Congress or the People's Science Network, a lot of emphasis is placed on creating software, on creating kits and on creating book. We have had this programme reviewed by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Qasim. We are planning to look into all those suggestions for making these programmes more effective.

We have also sponsored films. I will give you an example. There was a very popular film called **Bharat Ki Chhap**. You may recall that that does have an emphasis on ancient Indian science also. I would like to inform the hon. Member that we give very high priority to this. Recently we have released a drug called **Memory Plus** which is based on "Grandmother said, use Brahmi oil for cooling your brain". Our scientists have found out that Ducticimite which is a protein in Brahmi, when it is used on a particular part of the brain, it enhances memory. We have introduced that drug.

SHRI E. AHAMED : It should be made available first to the Members of Parliament.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, it will be the privilege of the Council of Science and Industrial Technology to give Memory Plus. I can personally say that having crossed the age of 55 it is a very useful drug. We are expecting to have a national and the world market. It has, in fact, been marketed. But it is very important that our people see the great strengths that we had, and our relations with environment. This is a part of our programmes. This is a programme in which all suggestions are welcome. We want more and more people, including schools and colleges to participate. I want to assure the hon. Member that both Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha as well as Children's Science Congress work through the schools. Once a year, we bring a lot of school children to Delhi. We organise a number of programmes. But I agree with him that a lot more can be done anti should be done. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, I have represented to the hon. Minister that Brahmi oil should be supplied to the marxists !

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has already mentioned it!

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.G. SWELL : If I am not mistaken, the Minister who has answered the question is a Professor as he suffers from all the ailments of Professors of lecturing instead of answering questions.

Having regard to our present situation, our security environment and our isolation in the United Nations on the CIBI, foremost in our minds should be science and technology and the development of our missiles.

We have developed Prithvi, although we have not integrated it with the Armed Forces. I do not know what the situation of Agni is. The greatest programme before us is to put our own satellite into the geosynchronous orbit. *(Interruptions)* Some time ago, there was a question of getting cryogenic engines or cryogenic technology from Russia, but we said that we would do it on our own. I would like to know what the progress is in the development of our own cryogenic technology.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, the hon. Member is quite right. I am a professor, in fact, I am an unashamed professor. I think, the kind of question that has been asked does need a detailed reply.

As far as the question on missiles and cryogenic rockets is concerned, I handle the parliamentary work related to Space separately and I want to assure the hon. Member that top priority is being given. However, if he likes, he can ask a separate question and we can give a detailed answer on that.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, I am raising a question which is a little fundamental in nature which pertains to this and I am very happy that a person of the caliber of Prof. Alagh is incharge of this Department.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the total cost that the country bears every year on science and technology generally and what the parameters are that we have laid down to find out the efficacy of this amount that we spend on it. I would also like to know whether we do any scientific audit. Do we do any social or technology audit-not the financial audit-to make sure that there is a relationship between the amount that we spend and the output that we get from this amount that we spend ?

Sir, the NGOs that the hon. Minister has mentioned are hundred in nature and are also involved in the mission that the Government is currently carrying on. I would like to know what the total percentage of expenditure is that these NGOs get out of the total Budget of the Government and what the amount we spend departmentally is. Are we planning to expand this programme, that is undertaken and as has been mentioned by Prof. Kurien, to rural areas where there is a possibility of receiving scientific approach more because of their wish to learn on these lines ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : As far as the scientific communication programme is concerned, last year we spent a little more than two crores of rupees. Most of it was spent through voluntary agencies, through schools and others because the Government itself does not spend much money on this.

We have not had a detailed audit done because the programme really covers millions, in fact, crores of children and other people are also involved in it. We have had assessments done on a partial basis and the results seem to be encouraging in the sense that the programmes do have an exposure on the people and a fairly substantial proportion of them seem to be influenced by the ideas given. But I must admit that these assessments are only in some selected urban areas.

I agree with the hon. Member that we need to concentrate more on rural areas, although he may remember that the Bharat Jan Gyan Vigyan Jatha really travels through areas and there were more than three hundred districts which were covered by it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the National Institute for Science and Technology Studies is doing very good work in regard to technological assistance to rural artisans. There is a State level Advisory Committee in the State of West Bengal and I happen to be the Chairman of that Advisory Committee. Previously, Prof. Nirmal Chatterjee was the Chairman of that Committee.

This programme is now confined to one district, that is, Bankura, where there are a large number of artisans. There are two such districts in our country. One such district is Bankura, where there are a large number of rural artisans.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether this programme can be extended to other neighbouring districts so that the rural artisans of those districts can be assisted in regard to modernisation of their technology by helping them with modern science and technology ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, the programmes for support to artisans are not a part of the science communication stream but there are a number of institutions in the Department of Science and Technology. The Department of Science and Technology itself gives support for that kind of research which makes technology available to small farmers. We have a number of research proposals which we have funded in the Eastern Region including the State of Bengal. Generally we are very supportive to extending technology to artisans and to small farmers. If there are any specific proposals, the Department will be very happy to look into them.

[Translation]

SHRI NANDKUMAR SAI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a question from the hon. Minister through you that the Scientific outlook prevalent in ancient India was described by sages in Shastras in many ways as there is rule to coruscate the sun after taking bath. Similarly Tulsi is planted with the same purpose. The plant of Tulsi is such that it emanates oxygen day and night. Are you taking any measure to propagate this type of Scientific outlook described in our old religious books so that the whole world is acquainted with this knowledge.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, the Delhi government is not giving power to Lok Sabha... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we give precedence to those who have undertaken research on this outlook and gave it a scientific touch. As the hon. Members know that some were mentioning Brahmi. We have started a research programme on it. We will do experiment with Dabur and Zhandu and try to bring before the world our strength of the ancient India. For this we have started work in the eighth plan and we will carry this work in the ninth plan also to increase this historical strength.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mantriji, I also would like to ask a supplementary. Can I, besides Tulsi, get information or such oil can be prepared which may prove helpful in maintaining decorum of the House.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next Question 543 (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Six supplementaries are already over.

[Translation]

The Seventh I have asked. Sorry.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : This is very important you are allowing...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have not allowed. We have shifted to the next question.

Counter Guarantees for Power Projects

*543. SHRI *SANTOSH MOHAN DEV:
SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Fast Track Power Projects involving Foreign participation for which counter guarantee has been given by the Union Government;

(b) the names of private projects not involving any foreign financial collaboration given counter guarantee so far;

(c) the amount of counter guarantee involved in each case;

(d) whether the Government have fixed any deadline to give counter guarantees to all projects put in fast track category;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Union Government have so far given counter guarantee to the following Fast Track power projects involving foreign participation :

1. Dabhol CCGT (740 MW) of Dabhol Power Company.
2. Ib Valley TPS (420 MW) of M/s. AES, USA.
3. Jegurupadu GBPP (216 MW) of M/s. GVK Industries.

(b) None.

(c) Dabhol : Liability of the Government for fixed charges and energy charges shall not exceed Rs. 1500 crores in a financial year subject to suitable adjustments on account of inflation, change in taxation and rupee devaluation. In case of termination of the Power Purchase Agreement by the Company, the guarantee will be limited only to the outstanding foreign debt which is further limited to US\$ 300 million.

Ib Valley : Liability of the Government for fixed charges and energy charges is limited to Rs. 667 crores in a financial year and on 1.4.1996 and each subsequent

year, this limit shall be increased by 5%.

In respect of termination payment, the liability is limited to foreign debt equivalent to the foreign equity.

Jegurupadu : There is no liability towards fixed charges and energy charges. The liability of the Government on termination is limited to outstanding foreign debt not exceeding the total equity of the project, which in terms of the power purchase agreement amounts to US\$ 77.7 million.

(d) to (f) : Government of India's counter guarantee to fast track power projects can be given after all conditions necessary for the guarantee are fulfilled by the concerned State Governments. The Government endeavours to issue the counter guarantee as soon as the conditions are fulfilled.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has mentioned about three projects, namely Dabhol, Ib Valley and Jegurupadu which have been cleared. In this House, in 1995, the then Government said that there were eight projects for counter-guarantee and the other projects are Godavari GBPP, Zero Unit of NLC, Mangalore TPS, Visakhapatnam which is in Andhra Pradesh and Bhadrawati. As the Power Secretary has declared in one of the Conferences that by September 1996 all these projects will be cleared, may I know from the hon. Minister as to what the present position of the other projects is which came from various foreign investments as well as internal investments ? How many more projects are still being kept pending before the Government and how long will it take to clear it ?

Secondly, day before yesterday I saw a news item. It said that the Government had declared that projects within Rs. 1000 crore will be automatically cleared by the State Government. I have seen another statement which said that now-a-days Independent Power Projects will come directly to the Central Electricity Board instead of being routed through other organisations. I am saying it from the news item. I would like to know whether it is a fact or not. If it is a fact, it is a good thing. We encourage you. So, let us know what the position is.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Member has mentioned so far only three power projects were given clearance. Regarding Jegurupadu, it is already issued on 4-9-1996. Regarding Spectrum Tessra, they have withdrawn the counter-guarantee. Regarding Visakhapatnam Thermal Power

Station, which is in Andhra Pradesh, the amended PPA dated 17-8-96 was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 26-8-96 and it was recently sent to the Central Electricity Authority for MOU and scrutiny on 30-8-1996. Regarding Neyveli Zero Unit in Tamil Nadu, this was communicated on 3-9-1996. The imposition of guarantee, charge of four per cent and revision of liquidity damages in favour of NLC are non-negotiable. Regarding Mangalore Thermal Power Station, the officials are meeting. Official discussion is going on. Regarding Bhadrawati Thermal Power Station which is in Maharashtra, the MOU was reminded on 23-8-96 and on 6-9-96 it was requested to expedite their comments. On 23-8-96, we have requested the Government of Maharashtra and the Maharashtra State Electricity Board to furnish the tariff schedule and certify the deviation from Government of India tariff notification, if any.

Regarding Dabhol, counter-guarantee has already been cleared. The hearing has been completed and the judgement is awaited from the hon. High Court. Regarding Ib Valley which is in Orissa, the Government of India has already asked some clarifications on certain PPA related issues sought by the Government of Orissa and they have been conveyed to them. This is regarding Fast Track power projects.

As the hon. Member has said, recently the Government has announced the CEA clearance within Rs. 1000 crore. Since the introduction of power policy, we are regularly streamlining the guidelines of CEA. Recently through competitive bidding the projects which are sponsored by the State Electricity Boards and the State Governments, the limits are increased up to Rs. 1000 crore, i.e. roughly 250 megawatt.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Is it a fact that the present Government has given up the policy of MOU route and it is now going for the route of bidding ? If it is so, it is a good thing. Is it a fact ?

Sir, a long time is taken to clear any power project. What is the reason for delay ? There are two things, one is environment clearance and the other is availability of fuel. Fuel in this case is gas. There is no gas available now other than in the North-Eastern region for power projects. Second is coal and as long as coal is in the public sector the investment is not coming and as such coal is not available. There was a decision at one time that a captive coal mine will be given to the power projects so that they can have good coal for their projects. What is the present stage of that policy of the Government of India ?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, the MOU system continued till 18th February, 1995. The Government has given clear instructions in this regard. Due to lot of

criticisms from 1992 onwards and to maintain transparency, we requested in the month of October, 1993, the State Governments to consider the possibilities of competitive bidding only. After 18th February, 1995, the MoU system was scrapped. It is taken up through competitive bidding only.

As far as environmental clearance is concerned, recently the hon. Prime Minister has taken a review meeting with inter-Ministerial Secretaries and he constituted one high level committee for clearing the fast track projects under which the Cabinet Secretary and all the inter-Ministerial Secretaries are there. One committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary to hon. Prime Minister which will look after the clearance of all the projects. Moreover, we have written to the Ministry of Environment to give us technical guidelines and they are constituting a committee to give more powers to the State Governments.

As far as fuel linkage policy is concerned, we have written to the concerned Departments to consider the policy decision and it is under consideration.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Sir, I am pleased to see from the reply that the counter guarantee issue has not been totally closed. But in 1995, when the Government of Assam had approached the Government of India for counter guarantee for Amguri gas-based thermal power project, the Government of Assam was told that no counter guarantee was going to be extended beyond the eight fast track power projects.

Now, I find from the reply that the question is open and if that was so, then, perhaps, injustice was done to Assam at that time, which had accepted and reconciled to the decision that only richer States will be given counter guarantee and poorer States are expected to remain in darkness. That is the policy of the Government and we have accepted it. But, now, the question is that counter guarantee arises from the assurance of a minimum guaranteed post-tax return of 16 per cent on capital given by the Government of India. Now, 16 per cent return on capital at 68.5 per cent plant load factor and again an additional 0.07 per cent for every additional one per cent P.L.F. above 68.5 per cent may work out to return of even 30 per cent. And with padding of the costs for equipments and also of pre-operative experience and interest during construction, financing charges, etc. being very high with all that, the return to the investor could be as high as 60 per cent and if you take pre-tax, then it will be something like one hundred per cent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please put the question.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : This return is very high by any standards I would like to know whether the Government is going to extend the counter

guarantee to fast track projects and to other IPPs based on this formula only or they are thinking of reviewing the formula because other projects which will not be given the counter guarantees will be deprived of this assurance. Then they would expect a higher return, to cover higher risks. Secondly, the need for counter guarantee arises because of doubt on the liquidity of the SEBs to pay to the IPPs for power supply.

Now, this position of liquidity arises because of the severe financial crisis being faced by the State Electricity Boards. The crisis is attributable to low plant-load factor high transmission and distribution losses, low recovery of revenue and above all below-cost tariff structure. No amount of artificial props will help the country to solve the power crisis until and unless you make the Electricity Boards viable. Therefore, the least that is to be done is to do something to upgrade about the tariff structure.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude. Only five minutes are left in the Question Hour.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : What is it that you are doing to prevail upon the the State Governments and the State Electricity Boards to improve the tariff structure to a more remunerative level.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA): Sir, with regard to counter guarantee, the then Government had agreed to give the counter guarantee to only about eight fast track projects. So far as the MoU system is concerned, in February, 1995 the then Government took a decision that the MoU system should be scrapped and the open bidding system should be introduced. It was done because of criticism from various circles including media who tried to find fault with the MoU system that there is no transparency. Because of that, that system was scrapped and the open bidding system has been introduced.

Our senior Member Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has asked whether there is any change of policy on this issue so far as the New Government is concerned. Yes, the only change from the old policy is to empower the State Governments to clear the power projects upto Rs. 1,000 crore and they should not come to the Central Government. I will tell you very frankly. Whatever may be the intention of the Central Government, whatever may be the advantage of the economic liberalisation, the benefit was actually unable to reach the common man.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Why should they ever come to the Central Government ?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Please hear me. I do not want them to come to the Central Government. That is why I am saying this. At that time the investors themselves had no confidence because the situation was

like that. I do not want to blame the previous Government. When I was here, the then Government headed by Shri Chandra Shekhar pledged 25 tonnes of gold. I do not want to go into the details of all those things. It was well known to everybody as to what was the economic situation of the country then. So, at that time, the investors did not want to come because the Electricity Boards were in the red and the economic situation of the States was so bad and the country's economic situation was also in a crisis.

At that time the investors wanted some guarantee from the Government of India. Otherwise they did not want to invest here. On account of that, for eight projects which come within the period of one year after the announcement of the power policy, the Government of India has agreed to give counter guarantees for these eight fast track projects.

Sir, I would like to make myself clear. The intention of the Government is to see that these projects should be expedited as quickly as possible. I do not want to blame any Department of the Government of India here. The procedure is cumbersome. It will go to the Environment Department, it will go to the Central Electricity Authority and it will go to the Department of Economic Affairs. Like that, this itself is going to consume a lot of time. We do not want this type of procedure. We want to simplify it. That is why, tomorrow, I think, the legal notification is going to be issued so far as empowering the State Governments to clear projects upto Rs. 1,000 crore is concerned. There is no need to send these projects upto Rs. 1,000 crore to the Central Government for clearance.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, we appreciate that. No power project should come to the Central Government. We appreciate your stand about Rs. 1,000 crore. Even if there is a project of Rs. 10,000 crore the State must be asked to clear it. Why should it come to the Centre at all ? There is no need for the Centre to clear it and justify it...*(Interruptions)* I am not objecting to your policy. I am saying that you go upto Rs. 10,000 crore limit. Do not take it in your hands...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : If it is going to help us, we will examine that. Whether your suggestion is going to further improve, I will examine that. The purpose of taking this decision is only to help the States to see that the power projects are cleared.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

State Electricity Boards

*544. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the power consumption rates chargeable by different State Electricity Boards as compared with those agreed upon with private foreign and Indian power generating companies;

(b) whether the State Electricity Boards have made out a case for enhancement of electric supply rates on this ground, with respect to domestic, rural and commercial power supply;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the Government's response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The tariff for sale of power to various categories of consumers is fixed by each State Electricity Board taking into account various technical and commercial factors including the pooled cost of generation and supply and purchase of power etc. The tariff for sale of power from private, foreign and Indian Generating Companies would be fixed, on completion, in accordance with the principles and norms laid down in the Government of India's Tariff Notification for Generating Companies. It is, therefore, not possible to compare the tariff rates for consumers chargeable by SEBs with that of private foreign and Indian Power Generating Companies. The power consumption rates chargeable by different SEBs as on date are enclosed as statement.

(b) No, Sir. As per the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 the SEBs/State Governments are empowered to fix the consumer tariff on their own.

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

STATEMENT

Statement Showing Power Consumption Rates Including Electric Duty in Different SEBs - 1996-97

Sl. No.	States	Domestic	Commercial	Agricultural	Industrial
1.	Andhra Pradesh	111.00	261.00	4.75	270.00
2.	Assam	105.00	315.00	150.00	214.18
3.	Bihar	137.00	449.00	29.09	209.99
4.	Gujarat	169.50	376.40	61.22	271.59
5.	Haryana	171.00	255.00	55.10	255.00

Sl. No.	States	Domestic	Commercial	Agricultural	Industrial
6.	Himachal Pradesh	61.00	155.00	65.00	165.00
7.	Karnataka	150.00	390.00	2.00	247.17
8.	Kerala	77.00	313.00	14.21	116.57
9.	Madhya Pradesh	75.00	230.00	36.73	277.71
10.	Maharashtra	116.10	312.00	22.96	308.99
11.	Meghalaya	85.00	176.00	56.00	156.07
12.	Orissa	98.75	265.00	70.00	306.58
13.	Punjab	133.25	267.00	45.91	231.00
14.	Rajasthan	105.00	232.50	41.96	255.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	90.00	330.75	0.22	288.53
16.	Uttar Pradesh	120.00	263.63	47.29	282.16
17.	West Bengal	104.43	251.90	87.00	274.40

[Translation]

Irregularities in IAY

*545. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several irregularities have been committed in Indira Awas Yojana;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof for the last three years; and

(c) the number of persons against whom action has been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) to (c) State Governments were asked to report irregularities committed, if any, in the implementation of Indira Awas Yojana. However, except Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands who have furnished 'nil' information no State has so far reported any such irregularities having been committed. This Ministry had received some complaints from Members of Parliament regarding irregularities committed in the selection of beneficiaries and corrupt practices being indulged in by some official. These have been referred to the concerned States for appropriate action. Besides, Members of Parliament have pointed out before various for a such as Consultative Committee and

the Standing Committee, general issues about irregularities relating to poor quality of construction, engagement of contractors in construction of IAY houses and misutilisation of funds. While specific complaints are always referred to the concerned DRDAs/State Governments for inquiry and appropriate remedial action, the Ministry monitors the implementation of IAY through periodic progress reports, reviews, CAG's observations, evaluations and its own mechanism such as the Area Officers Scheme through which Officers of the Ministry designated as such for specific districts/States carry out sample inspection to see whether the scheme has been implemented in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry. In addition, the Ministry has recently issued instructions to the State Governments to set up Monitoring and Vigilance Committees at the block, district and the State levels to monitor and exercise vigilance over the implementation of various rural employment schemes. Among others, Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies, besides ex-MPs and MLAs are members of such Committees.

[English]

Production of Processed Fruits

*546. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase production of processed fruits;

(b) whether the Government propose to promote fruit processing industries at village level;

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

(d) the number of Food Processing Training Centres functional, State-wise and location-wise;

(e) criteria adopted for choosing the location for setting up the training centre; and

(f) the extent to which it will help in generating additional employment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c) In order to promote processing of fruits, particularly at village level, the Government has been taking various steps to provide policy support, facilitation, consultancy etc. In addition, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various developmental plan schemes, which include support for backward linkages, for marketing, R&D etc. One of these

plan schemes relates to setting up of food processing and training centres, which are primarily meant for providing training to the village level entrepreneurs.

(d) While no State-wise targets have been fixed, assistance has been provided to various State Government organisations, cooperative/ voluntary organisations, including non-Governmental organisations etc. At present, 58 such centres are reported to have already become functional. The details are enclosed as statement.

(e) The location of such training centres is proposed by the implementing agency on the basis of availability of raw materials, other infrastructural facilities like buildings etc. Government of India approves such proposals from Central Government organisations, State Governments/ Organisations, Non-Governmental organisations, educational Institutions etc. on the merits of each case in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Plan Scheme.

(f) This scheme aims at creating entrepreneurship at village level and this training will provide hands-on experience to the trainees who can thereafter set up their own units, which would result in generating additional employment.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of Food Processing & Training Centres Functioning

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of FPTCS already opened	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	10	Ranchi, Angara, Gumla-2, Gotra, Torpa-2, Dumka, Sahibgunj, Baradwari
2.	Haryana	2	Gurgaon-2
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Shogi
4.	Karnataka	2	Habbal, Hulkoti
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Satpura
6.	Mizoram	4	Sairang, Vaivength, Khawzaawl, Chhingchhip
7.	Orissa	10	Kashiharipur, Nayagarh-2, Sundergarh-2, Koraput, Parlakhemundi, Gajapati, Khurda, Dhenkanal
8.	Tamil Nadu	1	Tiruppattur
9.	Uttar Pradesh	15	Lucknow-2, Meerut, Palia, Saharnpur, Faizabad, Deoria, Gorakhpur, Allahabad-4, Basti, Sitapur, Sultanpur

1	2	3	4
10.	West Bengal	8	Baruipur, South 24-Parganas, North 24-Parganas, Howrah, Jhargram, Belpathasi, Malda
11.	Delhi	1	Rajputna Rifles, Delhi-Cantt.
12.	Assam	3	Jagi, Rangiya, Bonda.
Total:		58	

Rural Electrification Corporation

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

(a) whether the financial outlay for the Rural Electrification Corporation has been drastically reduced for year 1996-97 in comparison to previous years;

(b) if so, the reasons and justification thereof;

(c) whether the State of Bihar and Orissa are going to be severely affected due to reduction in plan outlay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The funds provided for Rural Electrification Corporation through budget during 1996-97 vis-a-vis 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as follows :—

(Rupees in Crores)

Head	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Budgetary Support	316	348	348
Minimum Needs Programme	160	175	175
Kutirjyoti	5	25	25
External Assistance through Budget	10	67	50
Total	491	615	598

In addition to budgetary support, provision is also made for raising funds through extra budgetary sources such as Market Borrowings and Government Guaranteed Bonds. The provision for raising such funds is yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission for the year 1996-97.

(b) The marginal reduction of Rs. 17 crores in budgetary allocation for 1996-97 as compared to 1995-96 has been on account of expected lower utilisation of DECF funds for System Improvement and Small Hydel Schemes.

(c) and (d) Rural Electrification programmes are formulated and executed by the SEBs/State Governments according to the priorities fixed by the State Governments and the availability of financial and other resources. The Annual Plan size for rural electrification is decided by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Governments/SEBs at the time of Working Group discussions. The Plan allocation for rural electrification programmes for the States of Bihar and Orissa are yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

Poverty Line

*548. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the percent of families below the poverty line during the last ten years, year-wise, together with the limits of poverty line;

(b) the impact of various schemes launched from time to time to bring the people above the poverty line;

(c) whether the schemes have not produced the desired results, and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) The Planning Commission estimates number and percentage of people below the poverty line based on the quinquennial household consumer expenditure survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The latest estimates of poverty are based on the Consumer Expenditure Survey of 1987-88 (43rd Round). According to this, 25.49 per cent of the population live below the poverty line in 1987-88. The full results of NSS Consumer Expenditure Survey of 1993-94 (50th Round) are under process. The poverty lines in Rural and Urban areas for the last ten years are as follows:

Year	Poverty Line	
	(Rs) Monthly Per Capita Expenditure	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
1984-85	108.04	124.66
1985-86	114.10	131.65
1986-87	122.26	141.07
1987-88	132.04	152.35

1	2	3
1988-89	143.75	165.86
1989-90	154.26	177.99
1990-91	170.25	196.44
1991-92	193.89	223.72
1992-93	210.62	243.01
1993-94	229.14	264.38

(b) to (d) A number of Income and Employment Generation Programmes, such as Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, Nehru Rozgar Yojna and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna are being implemented by the Government. In addition, special component plan and Tribal sub-plan are being implemented for the benefit of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes families respectively. The implementation and the impact of IRDP and Rozgar Yojna have been evaluated by a number of organisations and also monitored by the Government. The programmes have had positive impact on the incomes of beneficiaries. As a result of continuous monitoring of the poverty alleviation programmes, measures are taken from time to time make these programmes more effective.

Bagasse based Power Projects

*549. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received Project Reports for setting up bagasse based power projects from sugar factories;

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

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) 20 project reports aggregating to 202 MW surplus power generation capacity have been received from sugar factories in 7 States/U.T for setting up of bagasse based cogeneration projects. State-wise details are enclosed as Statement.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of bagasse based cogeneration project reports received from sugar mills are given below

S.No.	State/U.T.	No. of Reports	Surplus Power capacity (in MW)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	7.50
2.	Karnataka	3	31.00

S.No.	State/U.T.	No. of Reports	Surplus Power capacity (in MW)
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1	11.50
4.	Maharashtra	6	84.10
5.	Pondicherry	1	8.40
6.	Tamil Nadu	5	41.00
7.	Uttar Pradesh	3	19.20

13 bagasse based cogeneration projects have already been established by sugar mills in three States, aggregating to a surplus power generation capacity of 42 MW. A capacity of 49 MW is at an advanced stage of implementation. Further progress by sugar mills will depend upon finalisation of equipment, necessary statutory clearances, financial closure, signing of Power Purchase Agreement with the State Electricity Boards, etc.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award

*550. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA :

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item regarding irregularities in awarding the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for 1995 appearing in the 'Statesman' dated November 16, 1995 and the 'Economic Times' dated June 20, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government/CSIR propose to take steps to ensure that this award is given only to those scientists who undertake work in India so as to promote technical/scientific work in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both the news items pertained to the Bhatnagar Prize in Physical Sciences for the year, 1995 given by CSIR to two Scientists. The news item in Statesman reported that the rule concerning eligibility of the award namely "that the Award be given to Scientists for research contributions made in India, primarily during the five years preceding the year of the prize" was flouted in this case.

The news item in Economic Times reported that while resolving the controversy, CSIR had not honoured the

assurance that it gave to the Hon'ble Delhi High Court, to set up a new Committee to go into the Awards issue afresh. The facts are that to resolve the controversy, CSIR had constituted a new High Powered Committee with the approval of the then Vice-President, CSIR consisting of experts who were not already members of the Advisory Committee which had recommended the awards earlier. The new High Powered Committee considered afresh all the nominations and recommended that the award be given to Dr. M. Barma, who fulfilled all the eligibility criteria. CSIR did honour its commitment to the High Court to set up the new Committee.

(c) CSIR will ensure that the award is given only for research contributions made primarily in India during the five years preceding the year of the prize.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Crude Oil Production

*551. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether crude oil production during 1996-97 lagged behind previous year's level;

(b) if so, the production of crude oil during 1996-97 upto July 31, 1996 and the percentage of shortfall in production in comparison to 1995-96;

(c) the reasons for the shortfall;

(d) the target of production of crude oil fixed for 1996-97; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (d) Crude oil production target for 1996-97 is 36.312 MMT. The production during April to July 1996 was 10.650 MMT which is around 10% less than the production of 11.833 MMT during the corresponding period of the previous year. The reasons for shortfall in production are—

— Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of BRBC, especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behaviour, not in conformity with earlier predictions.

— Subdued activities in ERBC due to continued adverse operating conditions.

(e) Various steps taken to increase indigenous production of crude oil are—

(i) Development of new fields and additional development of existing fields.

(ii) Implementation of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) Schemes and extension of some EOR schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.

- (iii) Implementation of certain specialised technology such as extended reach drilling, horizontal and drain hole drilling.
- (iv) Obtaining the services of international experts wherever considered necessary.
- (v) Maintenance of reservoir health through workover operations, pressure maintenance methods/stimulation/artificial lift operations.
- (vi) Encouraging the participation of private/joint venture companies in the oil exploration and development programmes.

[Translation]

Rate of Realisation for Power

*552. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rate of realisation for power is only 20 percent all over the country;

(b) the rate of realisation in agriculture, industry, small-scale industry, Railway sector, separately;

(c) whether there is a threat to the economy going haywire because of low rate of realisation; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps the Government propose to take to increase the rate of realisation and to prevent the theft of power ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) During 1994-95, average rate of realisation from sale of power from various Sectors is given below :

Agriculture	19.43 Paise/unit
Industry (including heavy, medium and small scale)	221.43 Paise/unit
Railway	254.33 Paise/Unit

(c) No, Sir. The average rate of realisation during 1994-95 was of the order of 86%.

(d) In order to improve the rate of realisation, measures such as recovery of arrears in instalments, disconnection of power supply, filing of cases in the Court and settlement of disputes through Negotiation Committee are taken. As regards preventing the theft of power, several measures have been introduced which, *inter-alia*, include installation of energy meters and setting up of special vigilance squads to conduct surprise raids for detecting pilferage of energy. Theft of electricity has also

been made a cognizable offence under Section 39 of Electricity (Supply) Act, 1910.

The Ministry of Power has been advising the State Governments to improve recovery of arrears by taking measures as stated above.

[Translation]

Requirement of Power for Delhi

*553. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated overall requirement of power for Delhi by the year 2000 AD;

(b) whether part of (a) above is likely to be met from the Northern grid;

(c) whether part of (a) above is to be met from the local power stations;

(d) out of (c) above the availability as per the existing power plants;

(e) whether plans have been approved for meeting the balance requirement;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As per the Report of the 14th Electric Power Survey Committee of the Government of India, the projected peak demand in Delhi by the year 2000 A.D. is 3179 MW.

(b) to (d) The additional power requirement of Delhi is proposed to be met partly from additional local generation and partly from Delhi's share in the Central power stations located in the Northern Region. The capacity available at present for meeting Delhi's power requirement is as follows :—

	Installed Capacity
(i) Delhi's own generation	592.5 MW
(ii) Badarpur Thermal Power Station	705.0 MW
(iii) Delhi's share in other Central stations in the Northern Region	1587.0 MW

(e) to (g) DESU has prepared an Action Plan (1995-2000 AD) for effecting fiscal and functional improvements, which envisage structural reorganisation and revamping of various wings of DESU so as to turn it into a more efficient body. It, *inter-alia*, includes new capacity addition, maximising generation from existing units, strengthening T&D System in Delhi, adoption of better demand

management and energy conservation measures. According to information received from Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, DESU has also made a few alternative proposals, of a general character, for privatisation of power distribution in Delhi which are at a preliminary stage of examination by the Government of Delhi.

Member of Parliament Local Areas Development Scheme

*554. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme in the country during 1993-94 to 1995-96 were fully utilised;

(b) if so, the details of funds allocated during each of the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 alongwith the details of percentage of funds spent during each year of the said period;

(c) whether reasons have been ascertained for delay in the implementation of the scheme approved by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of suggestions given for removing these obstacles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :
(a) and (b) The details of the funds allotted during each of the last three years is given below :—

Year	Funds released by Govt. of India (Rs. Crores)
1993-1994	37.8
1994-1995	771.0
1995-1996	764.0

As the funds released under the scheme are non-lapsable, an M.P. can utilise the funds released in a year, during the subsequent years but within the term of the Lok Sabha or the term of Rajya Sabha membership. The percentage of expenditure corresponding to each year release is, therefore, not available. However, of the total funds released by the Govt. of India in these three years, (Rs. 800.7 Crore) 51% have been spent.

(c) and (d) The expenditure incurred so far under the scheme falls short of the actual release, indicating

slow progress. Some of the main reasons for this are the following :—

- (i) Late release of funds in earlier years.
- (ii) Revision of guidelines in December, 1994.
- (iii) Application of model Code of Conduct of the Election Commission in certain States like Bihar in December, 1994.
- (iv) Late receipt of recommendations/non-receipt of recommendations from the MPs concerned in certain cases.
- (v) Late intimation/non-intimation about the choice of districts by some Rajya Sabha MPs.
- (vi) The Scheme being new, the District Collectors took some time to understand the full implications of the Scheme.

However, the implementation of the scheme has gained momentum during 1995-96.

Suggestions for improvements in the scheme as and when received are considered and if necessary instructions, clarifications are issued with a view to accelerating the pace of implementation of the scheme.

Deep Sea Fishing—Legal Opinion

*555. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the 'Hindu' dated 13 August, 1996 under the caption "Government seeks legal opinion on deep sea fishing;"

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations made therein and facts of the matter;

(c) the present status of the proposal;

(d) whether the Government will formulate a comprehensive fisheries policy that will ensure sustainable fisheries, survival of traditional fishing communities and development of indigenous entrepreneurial skills; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Review Committee on deep sea fishing policy constituted by this Ministry had submitted its report on 8th Feb., 1996. The recommendations of the committee were examined in consultation with other Ministries/departments including Ministry of Law (Deptt. of Legal

Affairs). In case of Recommendation No. 1 of the committee, which suggested cancellation of all permits issued for Joint Venture/Charter/Leasing/Test Fishing subject to legal processes, Department of Legal Affairs have advised that permits/permissions can be cancelled only on the grounds of violation of the MZI Act, 1981, Rules 1982, orders issued under the Act and terms and conditions of the permit/permission. They have, therefore, advised that each case has to be examined individually for cancellation of permit/permissions in this context. Based on the comments received from various Ministries, this Ministry has initiated the action to obtain decision from the competent authority on the recommendations of the Review Committee on deep sea fishing policy. The need to formulate an amended deep sea fishing policy to exploit the fishery resources in the EEZ without jeopardizing the interests of traditional fishermen has also been kept in view.

Haldia Petroleum

*556. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Industrial Finance Corporation of India has approved a loan for the Haldia Petroleum mega project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the loan is likely to help improve the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) As informed by M/s. Haldia Petrochemicals Limited. In June 1996 they have received sanction from all the financial institutions including Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the full amount of term loan of Rs. 950 crores for the Cracker Project. The share of IFCI reported by the company is Rs. 125 crores.

CSIR — Research Centres

*557. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

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

(a) the total plan and non-plan budget of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) during 1995-96.

(b) the fund allocated to different research centres, State-wise;

(c) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has proposed to expand its areas of activities;

(d) if so, the programmes drawn up by CSIR in that regard for the remaining period of Eighth Plan and for Ninth Plan also;

(e) the emphasis proposed to be laid by CSIR on Research and Development aspects; and

(f) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (f) A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

(a) Budget of CSIR during 95-96 was —

(Rs. in crore)

GOVERNMENT GRANT	
Plan	Rs. 160.00
Non-Plan	Rs. 251.68
Total	Rs. 411.68
Internal Receipts Utilised	Rs. 33.69
Grand Total	Rs. 445.37

(b) The funds allocated to different research centres State-wise are :—

LAB. INSTT.	ACTUAL EXP. DURING 1995-96
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ANDHRA PRADESH

CCMB	11.27
NGRI	12.16
IICT	18.50
TOTAL	41.93

ASSAM

RRL-JORHAT	8.71
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BIHAR

CFRI	13.34
CMRI	9.44
NML	12.79

TOTAL	35.57
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GOA

NIO	11.41
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GUJARAT

CSMCRI	6.71
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HIMACHAL PRADESH

PALAMPUR CX.	3.47
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JAMMU & KASHMIR

RRL-JAMMU 8.67

KARNATAKA

CFTRI 13.09

NAL 29.81

TOTAL 42.90

KERALA

RRL-TRIVANDRUM 5.32

MADHYA PRADESH

RRL-BHOPAL 4.92

MAHARASHTRA

NCL 20.24

NEERI 10.64

TOTAL 30.88

ORISSA

RRL-BHUBNESWAR 6.83

RAJASTHAN

CEERI 9.66

TAMIL NADU

CECRI 11.41

CLRI 14.31

SERC-MADRAS 4.89

MADRAS COMPLEX 1.17

TOTAL 31.78

UTTAR PRADESH

CBRI 8.25

CDRI 14.23

CIMAP 7.65

IIP 10.95

ITRC 6.57

NBRI 9.34

SERC-GAZ. 2.29

TOTAL 59.28

WEST BENGAL

CGCRI 11.06

CMERI 12.98

IICB 8.07

TOTAL 32.11

UNION TERRITORIES**DELHI**

CFB 3.58

CRRI 5.92

INSDOC 5.78

NPL 19.63

NISCOM 5.35

NISTADS 2.96

CSIR (HQ.) 46.02

TOTAL 89.24

CHANDIGARH

CSIO 10.39

IMT 5.59

TOTAL 15.98

GRAND TOTAL 445.37

(c),(d), (e) & (f) R&D programmes and activities of the National Laboratories of CSIR are drawn up based on the S&T needs of the socio-economic sectors of the economy such as Health; Food; Energy; Environment; Housing and Construction; Industrial Development; Rural Development.

The programmes for 1996-97, the terminal year of the VIII Plan, have been consolidated in these sectors to realise the desired objectives set for the Plan. The emphasis is thus *inter-alia* on programmes for development of antimalarias, osmotic dehydration of fruits, flow improvers for Assam crudes, hazardous waste management, design of dwellings for seismic regions, HFC 134-A, novel zeolites, improvements of farm implements.

For the Ninth Plan programmes the emphasis has been proposed on scientific industrial research and development that maximise the economic, environmental and societal benefit for the people of India. The programmes have been drawn up on the following sectoral basis:

Aerospace, Biology and Biotechnology, Chemicals, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Earth Resources and Natural Hazards Mitigation, Ecology & Environment, Electronics and Instrumentation, Energy, Food & Food processing, Housing & Construction, Information Products, Leather, Machinery & Equipment, Minerals, Metals and Materials, Rural Development, Exports of R & D and Services.

Alternate Source of Fuel

*558. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any R&D carried out for alternate source of fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether molasses is being developed as an alternate fuel in countries like Brazil; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to develop this source ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Indian Institute of Petroleum and Indian Oil Corporation (Research & Development Centre) have conducted studies which revealed that substitution of petrol to a limited extent is possible by using petrol

blends containing upto 3% methanol or 5% ethanol without any modification in the engine design.

Gas Authority of India Limited, IBP Company Limited and Indian Institute of Petroleum have carried out studies for use of compressed natural gas as substitute for petrol/diesel in vehicles with suitably modified engines.

On the initiative of the Ministry, since February, 1993, Gas Authority of India Limited has been implementing an experimental project for supply of compressed natural gas to petrol vehicles in the cities of Mumbai, Delhi and Baroda. Till date, 3179 petrol fuel vehicles have been converted for use of compressed natural gas. Gas Authority of India Limited is at present operating 13 CNG dispensing outlets at retail outlets of oil companies for supply of compressed natural gas to the converted vehicles.

(c) It is learnt that Alcohol obtained from molasses is used as a fuel in Brazil.

(d) The Govt. have constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Food for techno-economic feasibility study of admixture of ethanol with petrol.

Bio-Gas Plants

*559. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI JAG MOHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of problems have arisen in regard to the operation of 1600 community, institutional and night-soil based bio-gas plants;

(b) whether quite a few plants have become dysfunctional;

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

(d) the remedial measures, if any being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) About 30 per cent of the community institutional and night-soil based biogas plants set up so far have been reorted to be dysfunctional mainly due to management problems as per the State-wise information given below :—

State	Number of dysfunctional plants
Andhra Pradesh	38
Gujarat	52
Haryana	4
Karnataka	4

State	Number of dysfunctional plants
Madhya Pradesh	38
Maharashtra	122
Punjab	104
Tamil Nadu	9
Uttar Pradesh	75
Others	30

(d) The remedial measures being taken since 1993-94 include : provision of one-time financial assistance for revival and repair of non-functional plants, reduction in the amount of Central subsidy to increase stake of beneficiary community or institution, involvement of non-Government organisations and entrepreneurs in the management of plants and technical and training support through Regional Biogas Development and Training Centres.

ONGC Fund Mobilisation

*560. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whethet ONGC is likely to face shortfall of about Rs. 8000 crores in its massive Ninth Plan fund mobilisation target to finance its expansion schemes and execute its planned project;

(b) whether the ONGC expects to meet 80% of the Ninth plan i.e. 1997-98 to 2001-2002 fund requirement through internal resource generation;

(c) if so, the manner in which remaining gap is proposed to be filled up;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to mobilise additional funds to meet the expansion schemes and also planned projects; and

(e) to what extent the projects are likely to fall short of funds target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. As per the draft Ninth Plan proposal of ONGC, the tentative shortfall is likely to be of the order of about Rs. 5000 crores as against the proposed plan outlay of about Rs. 23393 crores.

(b) Based on the current level of producer prices of oil and gas, ONGC expects to fund about 78% of its projected outlay for the Ninth Plan period out of internal resources.

(c) and (d) The shortfall is proposed to be funded by an optimal mix of debt and equity, depending upon the prevailing market conditions.

Sl. No.	State/Town	Approved Cost	Total Release of Central Assistance								Grand Total of Central Release	Expenditure Reported upto March 1996
			6th Plan	7th Plan	1990-91	1991-92	8th Plan			1994-95		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
6th Plan												
1.	Hassan	82.590	35.210	4.790	—	—	—	—	—	—	40.00	83.030
2.	Chitradurga	108.645	26.420	24.635	—	—	—	—	—	—	51.055	115.480
3.	Tukkur	118.794	27.390	27.527	—	—	—	—	—	—	54.917	111.830
4.	Raichur	74.650	15.000	21.280	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.280	58.330
5.	Hospet	54.840	13.800	11.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	24.800	29.870
6.	Chaknapatna	94.433	20.990	23.949	—	—	—	—	—	—	44.939	77.760
7.	Kanakpura	94.233	14.060	21.920	—	—	—	—	—	—	35.980	55.320
8.	Nagadi	75.237	15.490	16.990	—	—	—	—	—	—	32.480	81.030
9.	Kuknabad	94.903	26.590	11.700	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.290	57.460
	Holenarsipur	78.210	23.500	13.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.500	66.480

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11.	Sagar	98.212	28.350	14.600	—	—	—	—	—	—	42.950	87.115
12.	Sahapur	117.012	22.680	30.870	—	—	—	—	—	—	53.550	148.826
13.	Jankhandi	79.960	4.780	31.630	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.410	58.680
14.	Khushal Nagar	51.720	24.500	1.360	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.860	49.380
15.	Ranibenkur	77.700	22.990	15.860	—	—	—	—	—	—	38.850	51.820
16.	Karkala	63.830	3.500	20.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	23.500	33.480
	Total	1364.969	325.250	291.111	—	—	—	—	—	—	616.361	33.480

7th Plan

17.	Chikkaballapur	75.240	—	23.000	—	10.000	—	—	—	—	33.000	55.220
18.	Ramanagaram	145.240	—	26.000	—	—	—	—	—	20.00	46.000	51.110
19.	Sirsi	111.430	—	15.000	—	15.000	—	—	—	—	30.000	33.750
20.	Harihar	89.950	—	36.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.000	21.180
21.	Sindhanur	78.780	—	37.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	37.000	49.950
22.	Kollegal	78.830	—	34.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	34.000	39.540
23.	Gokak	92.050	—	22.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	22.000	36.030
	Total	671.520	—	193.000	—	25.000	—	—	—	20.00	238.000	286.780

1990-91

24.	Basayakalyan	71.220	—	—	15.000	—	—	—	—	—	15.000	10.470
25.	Kolar	118.270	—	—	18.000	—	—	—	—	—	18.000	25.520
26.	Udupi	66.650	—	—	17.500	—	—	—	—	—	17.500	32.570
27.	Shikaripur	100.820	—	—	18.000	—	—	—	—	—	18.000	28.520
	Total	356.960	—	—	68.500	—	—	—	—	—	68.500	97.080

1991-92

28.	Malavalli	112.740	—	—	—	10.000	—	—	—	—	10.000	18.080
29.	Rabakavi Bahahatti	104.880	—	—	—	10.000	—	—	—	—	10.000	11.790
30.	Dandeli	125.350	—	—	—	20.000	—	—	—	—	20.000	36.000
31.	Chiniakani	177.565	—	—	—	20.000	20.000	—	—	6.00	46.000	82.640
32.	Chikmagalur	90.300	—	—	—	20.000	—	—	—	—	20.000	20.610
	Total	610.835	—	—	—	80.000	20.000	—	—	6.00	106.000	169.120

8th Plan

33.	Tiptur	149.123	—	—	—	—	20.000	—	—	—	20.000	4.980
34.	Gowribioanur	131.954	—	—	—	—	20.000	—	—	—	20.000	26.650
35.	Badani	89.686	—	—	—	—	18.000	—	—	10.00	28.000	38.530
36.	Gurukikal	47.450	—	—	—	—	10.000	—	—	6.00	16.000	18.980
37.	Soundatti	187.500	—	—	—	—	20.000	—	—	—	20.000	2.100
38.	Byadgi	79.550	—	—	—	—	12.000	—	—	—	12.000	15.450

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
39.	Karvar	280.000	—	—	—	—	20.000	—	—	—	20.000	10.460
40.	Bidar	278.720	—	—	—	—	—	17.000	—	—	17.000	3.350
41.	Haveri	118.220	—	—	—	—	—	14.000	—	—	14.000	5.100
42.	Bellary	578.000	—	—	—	—	—	35.000	—	50.00	85.000	57.140
43.	Madhugiri	95.940	—	—	—	—	—	12.000	—	—	12.000	—
44.	K.R. Nagar	90.860	—	—	—	—	—	11.000	—	—	11.000	—
45.	Ilkal	184.580	—	—	—	—	—	22.000	—	—	22.000	—
46.	Kippaki	262.120	—	—	—	—	—	30.000	—	—	30.000	12.42
47.	Doddaballapur	231.220	—	—	—	—	—	25.000	—	—	25.000	—
48.	Bailkongal	299.950	—	—	—	—	—	25.000	—	—	25.000	—
49.	Mudalgi	200.000	—	—	—	—	—	25.000	—	—	22.000	—
50.	Mulbagal	186.300	—	—	—	—	—	22.000	—	—	22.000	—
51.	Lingasugur	184.820	—	—	—	—	—	22.000	—	—	22.000	—
52.	Manoyya	957.660	—	—	—	—	—	—	57.00	—	57.000	—
53.	Bijapur	687.670	—	—	—	—	—	—	41.00	—	41.00	—
54.	Laxmeshvar	163.650	—	—	—	—	—	—	20.00	—	20.00	—
55.	Shiggadn	83.500	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.00	—	10.00	—
56.	Savakur	154.600	—	—	—	—	—	—	19.00	—	19.00	—
57.	Gadag-Betgeri	945.300	—	—	—	—	—	—	55.00	—	55.00	—
58.	Aottur	100.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.00	—	12.00	9.00
59.	Malur	199.500	—	—	—	—	—	—	24.00	—	24.00	—
60.	Shorapur	155.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	19.00	—	19.00	—
61.	Kundapur	194.290	—	—	—	—	—	—	23.00	—	23.00	—
62.	Stolaghatta	133.900	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.00	—	10.00	—
63.	Arasikere	181.290	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.00	27.00	—
64.	Muksur	187.630	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28.00	28.00	—
65.	Gajemdragad	201.910	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30.00	30.00	—
66.	Sira	200.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30.00	30.00	—
67.	Bangarpet	150.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22.00	22.00	—
68.	Koppal	214.910	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13.00	13.00	—
Total		8586.783	—	—	—	—	120.000	260.000	290.00	216.00	886.000	214.160
Grand Total		11591.067	325.250	484.111	68.500	105.000	140.000	260.000	290.00	242.00	1914.861	1933.391

[English]

Paucity of Funds in Food Processing Industries

5107. SHRI MANIKRAO HODIYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food Processing Industry is facing paucity of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on the sector;

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c) It is reported by Indian food industry that the problems of shortage of credit and higher rate of

interest, are common to all food industries. These problems are accentuated in the case of food processing industries because of the seasonality of production and higher risk factors.

Since the growth of the Food Processing Sector depends upon several factors such as availability of raw material, the right type of technology and availability of funds etc., information on the specific impact of paucity of funds on the industry, is not available. The possible remedial measures for overcoming this problem include strengthening of the Appraisal Departments in financial institutions, setting up of more branches of the Banks in different parts of the country and fixing of different norms for repayment schedules in respect of food processing industries, etc.

Killing of Lawyer

5108. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any investigation has been made into the abduction and killing of lawyer and human rights activist Jalil Andrabi in Kashmir in March, 1996;

(b) if so, the findings of the investigation;

(c) whether the perpetrators of the crime have been arrested and brought to justice; and

(d) if so, whether the Government and Human Rights Organisations have also expressed their concern about the incidence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) Mr. Jalil Andrabi, Advocate was way-laid near Peer Bagh (Srinagar) and abducted by unidentified gunmen on 08.03.1996 while he was travelling in his car alongwith his wife and daughter. Immediately after the incident, Mrs. Rifat Ara Andrabi, wife of Mr. Andrabi reported at Police Station, Saddar, Srinagar that they were stopped near Peer Bagh by some army personnel and that Andrabi was picked up from the car. On further probing by the Police personnel, Mrs. Andrabi has stated that some unidentified armed abductors had used a private taxi for whisking away her husband. A report was immediately entered in the Police Station on 08.03.1996 and efforts were made to locate Mr. Andrabi. Army mentioned in Mrs. Andrabi's report, were asked to intimate whether he was picked up by them and was in their custody. Army authorities categorically denied that they had arrested him or he was in their custody. In view of this and other statements of Mrs. Andrabi, FIR u/s 364/365 RPC (Kidnapping/

Abduction) was registered in the police station and the search was further intensified.

Meanwhile, a Habeas Corpus Petition was also filed in the J&K High Court on 09.03.1996 by the High Court Bar Association in this regard. Union of India through the Chief of Army Staff, State of J&K through Additional Chief Secretary (Home), Rashtriya Rifles and Director General of Police, J&K had been made respondents. The respondents filed affidavits denying that they had anything to do with the abduction. Rashtriya Rifles categorically denied the allegation saying that the area was outside the area of their operation. Neither any member of the Rashtriya Rifles was present at the spot at around that time nor did any member of them apprehend or receive him in custody.

Under orders of the High Court, a Special Investigating Team has been constituted under a Senior Superintendent of Police and the search for Andrabi was intensified. While the investigation was in progress, the dead body of Mr. Andrabi was recovered from the Jhelum river by local residents. Post mortem was conducted by a team of doctors constituted by the Principal, Medical College, Srinagar, as per directions of the High Court. The post-mortem report has been made available to the investigating team. The High Court has also directed that the Special Investigating Team should not take instructions from any authorities except the High Court and that it should not reach any final conclusion without first making a report to the Court. In view of this, the post-mortem report is not available for comments. The High Court, has been informed by the State Government that payment of relief would be made to the next of kin of the deceased as per the existing rules of the Government and that the Government does not intend to appoint any other Judicial Commission to probe the case since the investigation is already being monitored by a Division Bench of the High Court. The investigation by the Special Investigation Team is continuing and the matter is sub-judice in the State High Court.

Mars Planet

5109. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scientist of NASA in USA have made a conclusion that life exists in Mars;

(b) if so, the perception of Indian scientists in this regard;

(c) whether the Indian Government propose to encourage such research in the country; and

(d) if so, steps taken/propose to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) While the scientists of NASA, USA are yet to confirm the existence of life on Mars, their recent studies based on the analysis of the Antarctic meteorite sample indicate the possibility that life could have existed on Mars in the early period of the planet's evolution.

(b) Indian scientists involved in research on origin and evolution of life are following these new developments and continue to study a number of possibilities of origin of life in the universe.

(c) & (d) The scientific issues related to the origin of life on earth and other planets are already being investigated at a number of research institutions and universities in the country. Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Space Sciences (ADCOS), the Department of Space (DOS) has been sponsoring brainstorming sessions, workshops and meetings where scientists from various disciplines discuss the global status of research in the field and propose new research activities to be taken up by Indian scientists.

Non-Conventional Energy Sources—West Bengal

5110. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the potentiality to generate power from Non-Conventional Energy Sources in West Bengal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has supported a number of resource assessment and feasibility studies to assess the potential and to develop projects for generation of power from Non-Conventional Energy Sources in West Bengal. A potential of about 120 MW has already been assessed for small hydro power generation in the State. Ten wind monitoring stations have been taken up in the State to identify suitable sites for wind power projects. Three biomass resource assessment studies have also sponsored to estimate the potential of taluka-level biomass based power generation. Regarding the potential of solar energy, the State receives about 2600-2800 hours of bright sunshine and about 1700 KWh/m² of Global solar radiation per year.

Commercial Complex

5111. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has been building commercial complex;

(b) if so, the places where these commercial complexes are being set up;

(c) whether some Commercial Complexes are proposed to be set up at Vasant Kunj which is being opposed by the local residents; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to select alternative sites for these commercial complexes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The DDA has reported that the Master Plan of Delhi provides for five tier system of commercial complexes, i.e.,

- (i) Central Business & Sub-Central Business Districts;
- (ii) District Centre;
- (iii) Community Centre;
- (iv) Local Shopping Centre; and
- (v) Convenient Shopping Centre.

All these shopping centres are distributed for assigned population in different zones/areas. A list of commercial complexes being developed is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) A commercial complex is proposed to be developed at Vasant Kunj Phase II on an area of about 65 hectares out of a total area of 315 hectares. DDA has invited objections/suggestions through public notice dated 19.5.96 on the overall land-use plan of the Scheme. No objection/suggestion has been received so far. All relevant factors will be taken into account before a final decision is taken in the matter.

STATEMENT

Tier system of Commercial Complexes are as under:

1. CENTRE BUSINESS DISTRICT & SUB-CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICTS :

CBD Shahadara.

2. DISTT. CENTRES — 29 NOs.

As per Master Plan there are 29 Distt. Centres. 21 Nos. are within the Urban area and 8 Nos. are proposed in the urban extension area.

— Nehru Place, Rajendra Place, Bhikaji Cama Place, Janak Puri Place, Laxmi Nagar Place, Shivaji Place, Jhandewalan Place, Netaji Subhas Place (Wazirpur Distt. Centre), Saket Place, Shalimar Place, Shastri Place, Mayur Place, Mangalam Place, Rohtak Place, Khyber Place, Paschimpuir Place, Jahangir Puri Place, Dilshad Place, Loni Place, Auchandi Place.

— Whereas, 8 Nos. of Distt. Centres are yet to be identified in the urban extension area.

3. COMMUNITY CENTRES — 122 Nos.

82 Nos. are within the urban area and 40 Nos. are within the urban extension area.

29 Community Centres have been developed and 33 Community Centres are in the Planning stage and the rest are yet to be planned.

4. LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRES — 212 Nos.

Whereas, 149 LSCs, have been planned or under progress of completion, 63 No. of LSCs are yet to be planned.

5. CONVENIENT SHOPPING CENTRES — 497 Nos.

442 Nos. of CSCs, have either been completed or under planning and development stage, 55 Nos. of CSCs are yet to be designed.

Ambedkar Awas Yojna

5112 SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Dr. Ambedkar Awas Yojana was sponsored by the DDA in 1989 by which Registration for MIG, LIG and Janata Flats were booked in DDA.

(b) if so, the number of flats allotted under this scheme, category-wise and the number of flats pending to be allotted;

(c) whether the DDA is considering to allot MIG and LIG flats very soon;

(d) if so, by when, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The DDA has reported that the number of allotments made under the Ambedkar Awas Yojana and the backlog of the registrants as on 30.8.96 is as under :

Category	Allotment Made	Backlog
MIG	1302	4926
LIG	2655	6729
Janata	2988	all covered

(c) to (e) Allotment of flats is a continuous process. During the 1995-96 DDA has allotted 117 LIG/MIG flats to the registrants of Ambedkar Awas Yojana. During the current Financial year, 535 MIG flats have been allotted under this scheme so far.

Features of Ocean Development

5113 SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the scope and salient feature of Ocean Development;

(b) the details of the perspective plan of the Government for Ocean Development;

(c) the target fixed for achievement of Ocean Development in the current financial year; and

(d) the amount of revenue earned by the Government during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Ocean Policy Statement enacted in 1982 in the Parliament offers the following scope on Ocean Development

- (i) Creation of basic knowledge and information about the various natural resources available in the sea
- (ii) Mapping of living resources and assessment of availability of minerals in the deep sea
- (iii) Development to technology for harnessing of ocean resources including ocean energy
- (iv) Promotion of research and development in basic sciences and development of specialised manpower in the ocean sector
- (v) Protection and preservation of marine environment
- (vi) Development of data base in ocean science & technology

In order to fulfil the objectives outlined in the Ocean Policy Statement, eight major programmes are operational at present. The names of these programmes and their salient features are :

(i) Antarctic Research :

Annual Scientific expeditions to Antarctica to conduct research in various fields like

Meteorology, Atmospheric Sciences, Biology, Geology, Geophysics etc., are being undertaken with the participation of several Academic and Research Institutions in the country. So far 15 expeditions have been launched in addition to two special expeditions.

(ii) *Deep Seabed Mining :*

India is allotted a mining site of 150000 sq. km. in the Central Indian Ocean by the International Sea Bed Authority for exploration and exploitation of polymetallic nodules. These nodules, present at the depth of 5000 meters and beyond contain commercially valuable metals like copper, cobalt and nickel. Assessment of polymetallic nodule resources in the mine site, development of technology for mining and extraction of metals from the nodules and Environmental Impact Assessment study for mining are in progress.

(iii) *Exploration of Marine Living and Non-living resources :*

The Fisheries Oceanographic Research Vessel Sagar Sampada undertakes studies on assessment of marine living resources. The Oceanographic Research Vessel Sagar Kanya undertakes multi-disciplinary oceanographic research and studies for assessment marine of non-living resources.

(iv) *Coastal Zone and Island Programmes :*

The programmes being undertaken are : Oceanography through remote sensing, monitoring of marine pollution, monitoring of sea level rise, development of shore to boat communication system, Fish-finder cum GPS System, and Prawn culture in islands. A scheme on Ocean Data buoy to facilitate continuous collection of oceanographic data from instrumented buoys is planned from 1996-97. Coastal community programmes for pilot scale demonstration of pearl culture using onshore facilities has been initiated during 1996-97.

(v) *National Institute of Ocean Technology :*

In order to focus attention on the development of ocean related technology in key areas of ocean sector, a National Institute of Ocean Technology has been established at Madras. The institute undertakes programmes relating to development of technology for harnessing wave energy, seabed mining, marine instrumentation and coastal studies on mission mode.

(vi) *Basic Research and manpower development :*

Projects to conduct basic research in marine science are sponsored in Universities and R & D institutions. Research Fellowships and assistance to Universities and R & D institutions are given to facilitate manpower development in several

ocean related programmes. A national project on the development of drugs from the sea with the participation of national laboratories, medical institutions and universities is in progress.

(vii) *Information and Awareness :*

A National Ocean Information System is operational to collect, store and disseminate ocean related data in the country. Programmes such as organisation of exhibition and fairs, establishment of oceanarium to create awareness on oceans and ocean life are being undertaken.

(viii) *International Co-operation and programmes :*

The Department is servicing the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea which was ratified by India in June, 1995 and actively participates in several international and regional programmes relating to oceans and the Antarctic Treaty System.

(b) The Perspective Plan of the Government for Ocean Development include :—

- (i) Launching of Annual Expeditions to Antarctica for promotion of research in the fields of atmospheric, earth, biological and environmental sciences and human physiology.
- (ii) Continuation of survey of Polymetallic Nodules in the Central Indian Ocean Basin and State-wise development of technology for mining of nodules and extraction of metals from nodules.
- (iii) Application of satellite techniques for study of oceans and ocean characteristics.
- (iv) Monitoring of marine environment, particularly to understand the trends of increase and decrease of pollutants in the coastal waters and development of mathematical knowledge to understand the diffusion and dispersion of pollutants.
- (v) Development of drugs from marine organisms
- (vi) Development of technology for shallow bed mining, extraction of energy from waves and development of marine instruments like tide gauges, GPS-cum-Fish Finder, remotely operated vehicles, etc.
- (vii) Development and deployment of ocean observing system like moored and drifting data buoys.
- (viii) Operationalisation of National Marine Data Centres to collect, store and dissemination of ocean related data generated by R&D institutions and Universities.
- (ix) Mapping of marine living resources in the EEZ and studying the relationship between oceanographic parameters and abundance of fishery resources.

- (x) Acquisition of research vessels to render support to the ocean developmental programmes in the country.
 - (xi) Strengthening of infrastructural support in Universities and R&D institutions to promote basic research in various fields of ocean science & technology.
 - (xii) Delineation of Continental Shelf to fulfil the obligations under Law of the Sea Convention.
 - (xiii) Development of technological aids for integrated coastal and marine area management.
 - (xiv) Assessment of marine biodiversity.
 - (xv) Development of mathematical models for understanding the ocean dynamics, impact of sea level rise, ocean related climate models, etc.
 - (xvi) Exploration of living resources of the southern ocean including krill.
 - (xvii) Establishment of infrastructure for Antarctic research, Ocean observing systems and Ocean dynamics, Integrated coastal zone management.
- (c) The target for achievement of various programmes of Department of Ocean Development for the year 1996-97 are as follows :—
- (i) Launching of 16th Scientific Expedition to Antarctica.
 - (ii) Continuation of survey and polymetallic nodules in the Central Indian Ocean, stage-wise development of shallow bed mining system and pilot plant campaign for extraction of metals from the nodules.
 - (iii) Continuation of dissemination of potential fishing zone information to 174 fishermen societies; development of coastal west-land maps for Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and A & N islands.
 - (iv) Monitoring of pollution levels at 77 locations along the coastline of the country.
 - (v) Completion of construction of 2 Coastal Research Vessels proposed to be used for pollution monitoring studies.
 - (vi) Testing of new turbine installed in the wave energy plant at Vizhimjam, Kerala and refinement of technology developed for extraction of power from waves.
 - (vii) Continuation of installation of modern tide gauges to collect data on sea level.
 - (viii) Execution of Phase-II of the Shore-to-Vessel Communication System in the States of North Goa, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep.

- (ix) Development of GPS-cum-Fish Finder and distribution of prototype to selected fishermen for testing.
 - (x) Operationalisation of 14 National Marine Data Centres.
 - (xi) Initiation of Phase-III of programme on Drugs from the Sea for evaluation of bioactive substances extracted from the shortlisted organisms.
 - (xii) Continuation of funding of R&D projects to Universities and award of Fellowships under Manpower Development Programme.
 - (xiii) Initiation of a programme on Delineation of Continental Shelf.
- (d) The Department of Ocean Development does not earn revenue.

Satellite Data

5114. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new national resources information system based on satellite data regarding land use, ground water management, health care and waste land mapping among other things would be evolved soon;

(b) if so, the date by which such a system would be evolved;

(c) the details of the plans drawn up for the use of such a system in the integrated mission for sustainable development;

(d) the specific system set up to enable the field workers in rural areas to use remote sensing data at the village level; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) & (b) Under the Integrated Mission for Sustainable Development (IMSD), the high-resolution data from Indian Remote Sensing Satellite-1C (IRS-1C) are being used to prepare different thematic maps namely landuse, soils, groundwater potential, slopes, surface water bodies, wasteland etc. for 174 districts in the country. The map information is linked with other conventional and socio-economic information namely demography, facilities, working force etc., and is being organised into a Natural Resources Information System (NRIS) using special software tools like Geographical Information System (GIS).

The Natural Resources Information System is presently being generated for 28 districts and 4 States and is planned to be expanded, in a phased manner during the 9th Plan period, to cover all the districts and States.

(c) The information system, so organised, is expected to serve as a Decision Support Tool by State and local

level authorities and will be useful for generating the action plans of IMSD and also for monitoring the impacts of implementation. Further, the database can be used for developmental planning at district/taluk/panchayat level.

(d) and (e) The design of the information system is tuned for supporting the various functionaries within each district/taluk/panchayat having an easy-to-use interface for querying and obtaining information. Functionaries in the rural areas, supported by each State Remote Sensing Centre, will find it possible to use the satellite data and the thematic maps, alongwith socio-economic information for developmental planning at grassroot level.

Power Purchase Agreement

5115. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) per unit consumption rate as settled in Power Purchase agreement by ENRON in Maharashtra, Cogentrix in Karnataka and Hyundai in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) whether the Government propose to have a minimum and maximum per unit consumption rate slab fixed by Central Electricity Authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is a contract between the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and the independent power producers (IPPs) and usually covers the modalities for purchase/sale of power negotiated between the two parties. The PPA lays down the principles of fixation of tariff and the time of generation of electricity and does not specify the actual cost of generation. The actual tariff could be worked out only on completion of the project based on the completed capital cost, approved financial package & terms and conditions of the PPA which have to be in line with the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 & notifications issued thereunder

(b) No, Sir

LPG Agencies

5116. SHRI B. DHARMAKISHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated new schemes to allot petrol/diesel outlets and LPG/SKO Agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Expenditure Incurred in National Capital Region

5117. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the implementation of the National Capital Region Plan upto 1995-96.

(b) the amount provided for in respect of the current financial year;

(c) the real gains from this Plan-the decongestion and dispersal of population, industries and other business establishments, Central Government Offices and those of the various public sector undertakings to the ring towns; and

(d) whether the Government propose to launch a similar plan for Calcutta also, which has become very much over-crowded and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The funds released by NCR Planning Board for implementation of National Capital Region Plan upto 1995-96 is Rs. 215 crores.

(b) The details of funds provided during the current financial year are as follows :—

Budgetary support	Rs. 40.00 Cr.
Re-ploughing of internal resources	Rs. 37.00 Cr.
Contribution by the NCT of Delhi	Rs. 5.00 Cr.
Total	Rs. 82.00 Cr.

(c) The regional Plan-2001 contemplates deflection of about 20 lakh people from Delhi to other parts of NCR by the year 2001. The Plan has recommended a policy of strict control for creation of employment opportunities within NCT of Delhi. It will be too early to estimate real gain in terms of population deflection/decongestion, dispersal of economic activities at this stage.

(d) No, Sir. It is for the State Government of West Bengal to consider the matter

Liquefied Natural Gas

5118. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India (GAIL) is finalising a \$10 billion project to import liquefied natural Gas (LNG) from West Asia;

(b) if so, the broad features of this project;

(c) the manner in which the proposal is likely to be actualised and the capital outlay involved therein;

(d) the names of the likely potential partners, which have been identified by the GAIL; and

(e) the nature of the infrastructure envisaged for the transportation and re-gassification of the LNG at receiving stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The Gas Authority of India Limited is examining the feasibility of importing LNG for the Southern States. Ennore and Mangalore have been identified as possible locations for the import terminals. Initial imports at the two places could be 2.5 million tonnes per annum. The sources of LNG are yet to be firmed up. GAIL has proposed the formation of a joint venture company with IOC and ONGC as major partners to put up the receiving terminals including storage and re-gassification facilities at an estimated cost of around Rs. 3000 crores.

Research in Atomic Energy

5119. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in which and particularly in the field of agriculture the research in atomic energy is being applied in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to open a centre for providing the above services to the farmers in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) Nuclear Energy, in the form of radiation and radioisotopes, is being widely used for agricultural research and development. The main applications are in the following areas :—

1. Development of improved varieties of crop plants such as pulses, oilseeds and other cash crops by inducing genetic variability in seeds by irradiation.
2. Improving fertilizer use efficiency for different soil types.
3. Following the fate and persistence of pesticides and heavy metal pollutants in crops soil and plant products.
4. Improving animal health and production by use of radiation attenuated vaccines.

(b) and (d) There is no proposal with the Government to open any centre for providing such services in the

country. This is because the benefits of research in this area are made available to the farmers at large, through existing institutions like State Agricultural Universities, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and other institutes of the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR). For example, several types of seeds and crop cultivars, developed by mutation breeding are distributed through the State and National Seeds Corporation. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has developed 21 high yielding crop varieties of oil seeds, pulses and cereals produced from radiation induced mutants. These have been released for commercial cultivation by the farmers all over the country.

One of the black gram varieties, TAU-1, is estimated to occupy over 90% of the total area under cultivation of black gram in Maharashtra. The variety titled TAG-24 of groundnut accounts for 9.3% of the total allocation of groundnut breeder seed production for kharif 1995. Research using gamma radiations is also carried out for genetic improvement of banana. Tissue culture derived plants of banana have been distributed to the banana growing farmers through the Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation.

Government Accommodation

5120. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated new norms for allotment of Government accommodation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the same is likely to be effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The allotment of General Pool residential accommodation is made as per the provisions of Allotment of Government Residences (General Pool in Delhi) Rules, 1963. No new norms have been formulated, amending the provisions of the Allotment Rules.

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

Amount spent on Samadhi

5121. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the average amount spent annually on the samadhi of National leaders including former Prime Ministers and Presidents situated in New Delhi, maintained by CPWD;

(b) whether the amount spent on 'Samadhi of Dr. Rajendra Prasad' is comparatively very low; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The average amount spent annually by the C.P.W.D. on the samadhis on National leaders in New Delhi is Rs. 1,99,42,735/-.

(b) and (c): The samadhi of Dr. Rajendra Prasad situated in Patna is under the charge of the Government of Bihar. As such it is not possible to make any comparison between the expenditure incurred on the samadhis of national leaders in Delhi and that on the samadhi of Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

Urban Projects of Rajasthan

[Translation]

5122. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects for sanitation, supply of drinking water, development of Kachhi Bastis and slum areas in the urban areas in Rajasthan lying pending for clearance with the Union Government;

(b) the amount provided for the implementation of such projects in Rajasthan during the last three years along with the names of the projects and the cities for which it was provided;

(c) whether any projects for Rajasthan have been cleared or approved during the year 1995-96; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No project for sanitation, supply of drinking water, development of Kachhi Basties and slum areas in urban areas in Rajasthan is lying pending for clearance with the Government.

(b) During the last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (As per 1991 Census) water supply projects for 18 towns have been approved for Central assistance at an estimated cost of Rs. 1607.38 lacs and an amount of Rs. 496.94 lacs has been released during the last three years. These eighteen towns are Antah, Sarwar, Baswa, Deogarh, Galiakot, Kherli, Mahuwa, Dhariwad, Bali, Takhatgarh, Kaithoon, Pokharan, Shahpura, Sunel, Viratnagar, Amet, Chhaper and Nawacity.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Under the AUWSP, schemes for providing water supply for eight towns have been approved during 1995-96 for Central assistance. The details are enclosed as statement.

STATEMENT

Project Sanctioned During 1995-96 in Rajasthan under Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)

S.No.	Name of Town	Sanctioned date	Project cost
1.	Kaithoon	Dec., 95	78.20
2.	Pokharan	Dec., 95	106.20
3.	Shahpura	Dec., 95	78.60
4.	Sunel	Dec., 95	80.20
5.	Viratnagar	March, 96	78.00
6.	Amet	March, 96	164.00
7.	Chhapar	March, 96	195.00
8.	Nawacity	March, 96	114.60
Total			895.50

[English]

Self Financing Housing Schemes

5123. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Self Financing Housing Schemes announced by the Delhi Development Authority since beginning, Scheme-wise;

(b) the number of applications received, Scheme-wise;

(c) the number of successful applicants, Scheme-wise;

(d) the number of unsuccessful applicants carried over to subsequent schemes;

(e) the number of unsuccessful applicants who withdrew their registration deposits, Scheme-wise; and

(f) the details of price range for Category III flats allotted in South Delhi charged by the DDA from first scheme onwards till current one, Scheme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) Details of the Self Financing Scheme announced by DDA so far, along with number of persons registered under each

Scheme, are as under :—

Scheme	Year of Announcement	No. of Registrants
SFS I	1977	2743
SFS II	1978	4393
SFS III	1979	3616
SFS IV	1981	8615
RPS	1981)	3242
RPS	1983)	
SFS V	1982	34631
SFS VI	1985	17805
SFS VII	1994	2783
SFS VIII	1995	3436
SFS IX	1996	

(Still open the last date for receipt of applications is 20.9.96).

No separate record of allotments made under the Individual Schemes has been maintained by the DDA. A total number of 41,085 allotments of flats have been made under all the Self Financing Schemes so far.

(d) The DDA has reported that there is no system of carrying over of unsuccessful applicant to the subsequent Scheme. However, upto SFS VI, an option was available to the applicant to apply under a subsequent scheme if he/she was not successful for allotment in a particular Scheme. From SFS VII onwards, this option has been discontinued with and if the applicant is not successful, his/her registration money is refunded.

(e) The DDA has not maintained any separate Scheme-wise record in respect of unsuccessful applicants who withdrew their registration deposit. Eight SFS Schemes have already been closed and most of left out registrants have taken the refund of registration amount.

(f) The approximate price range of category III flats allotted in South Delhi from the first allotment till the current year is as under :—

Year	Disposal	Cost (in Rs.)
1982	1,52,900	to 1,73,900
1983	1,75,600	to 1,82,500
1984	1,61,900	to 1,77,000
1985	2,10,100	to 2,39,400
1986	2,13,500	to 2,20,700
1987	2,83,800	to 3,09,200
1988	2,48,400	to 3,73,100
1989	2,96,900	to 3,58,500

Year	Disposal	Cost (in Rs.)
1990	3,04,700	to 3,10,500
1991	3,35,300	to 4,07,200
1992	5,18,100	to 5,25,400
1993	5,81,700	to 6,35,800
1994	8,20,400	to 8,75,200
1995	8,57,200	to 8,65,200
1996	Nil	Nil

[Translation]

Master Plan

5124. SHRI BACHI SINGH 'BACHDA' RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to implement the Master Plan in Delhi stringently; and

(b) the action taken against those found violating it during the three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has taken the following steps for the implementation of the Master Plan in Delhi :—

- Formulation and implementation of various developmental policies, planning norms and land use plans for different areas of Delhi which includes development of lands under various land use/projects, special area (Walled City and Karol Bagh), Zonal Development Plans, Sub-city Projects, Selected Special projects, etc.
- The MPD-2001 provides for a comprehensive development code for permits/sanctions which are being followed by DDA and by other local agencies also.
- The DDA has taken up the Mid Term Review of the Master Plan in the year 1994. For this purpose a Steering Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Delhi Urban Arts Commission for review of the Master Plan for Delhi and enhance its effectiveness.

(b) The details of prosecution launched in the M.M. Court for violations during the last three years under Section 14 and 29(2) of Delhi Development Act, 1957 are as follows :—

1993-94	—	481
1994-95	—	502
1995-96	—	9

Delhi Development Authority has booked 385 cases in its area during the last three years against violation of sanctioned building permits as per Master Plan/Unified Building Bye-laws under Section 30, 31 and 31A of Delhi Development Act, 1957.

Supplying of Naphtha

5125. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State :

(a) whether IOC has been supplying Naphtha to ESSAR (Gujarat) for their power generation plant of credit;

(b) whether ESSAR has been unable to stick to the payment schedule as agreed to between them and ICC;

(c) if so, the accumulated outstanding till date and the chance of recovery by the IOC; and

(d) the action initiated by the IOC to realise their outstand from ESSAR and with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The IOC and M/s Essar Power Ltd., Hazira have entered into an agreement for supply of NGL/ Naphtha. On the request of the Government of Gujarat and back up guarantee from the Gujarat State Electricity Board, the IOC agreed to extend five days credit to M/s. Essar Power Ltd. during July, 1996.

(c) The amount outstanding against M/s. Essar Power Ltd. as on date is Rs. 11.63 crores.

(d) The IOC has put M/s. Essar Power Ltd., on cash and carry basis for future supplies. They have assured payment of the outstanding amount of Rs. 11.63 crores by September, 1996.

Demand for EMD

5126. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report published by this Ministry under National Register of Foreign Collaboration, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, estimated the demand for EMD during 1992 is around 9000 TPA;

(b) if so, whether the demand has grown year by year till 1996 as envisaged by the Department;

(c) if so, the measures taken by the Government to meet the demand so far; and

(d) the demand-supply gap at present in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide (EMD) is an item which does not require compulsory licensing for its manufacture, and its demand-supply position and demand estimates are not being monitored. National Research Development Corporation, a public sector enterprise of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research is making efforts for commercialisation of indigenously developed EMD technology by providing support through equity participation, consultancy etc. to industry.

Smokeless Chulhas

5127. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of smokeless chulhas upto 1996, subsidised by the Government, State-wise;

(b) the total amount of subsidies disbursed so far;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the subsidy amount per chullah in the light of scarcity of the fire wood as well as the L.P.G.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) State-wise information on the total number of improved chulhas installed upto the year 1995-96 under the Central Sector Scheme "National Programme on Improved Chulhas" is enclosed as statement.

(b) A total sum of about Rs. 150 crores was released, *inter-alia*, for Central subsidy during the period 1983-84 to 1995-96 Under the National Programme on Improved Chulhas.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

STATE-WISE NUMBER OF IMPROVED CHULHAS INSTALLED DURING 1983-84 TO 1995-96 UNDER THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON IMPROVED CHULHAS

State/U.T.	No of improved chulhas set up (in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	20.70
Arunachal Pradesh	0.30
Assam	3.40
Bihar	9.20

State/U.T.	No of improved chulhas set up (in lakhs)
Gujarat	9.30
Goa	1.00
Haryana	8.10
Himachal Pradesh	5.70
Jammu and Kashmir	3.00
Karnataka	11.40
Kerala	5.50
Madhya Pradesh	20.50
Maharashtra	16.80
Manipur	0.50
Meghalaya	0.10
Mizoram	0.20
Nagaland	0.10
Orissa	11.20
Punjab	8.50
Rajasthan	20.60
Sikkim	0.40
Tamil Nadu	19.00
Tripura	0.20
Uttar Pradesh	28.20
West Bengal	12.10
A&N Islands	0.30
Chandigarh	0.20
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.10
Daman and Diu	0.01
Delhi	2.40
Lakshwadeep	0.10
Pondicherry	0.20
Others*	8.10
TOTAL	227.41

Central Investment in Assam

5128. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the Central investment made in Assam during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

* Include National Dairy Development Board, Anand; All India Women's Conference, New Delhi; Khadi & Village Industries Commission, Bombay; etc.

(b) whether the Central investment in the State is declining; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/being taken to increase the said investment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) : Central investment is made for the country as a whole keeping the National priorities in view. It is neither planned nor accounted State-wise. Keeping in view the National priorities, any proposals in this regard, as and when received will be considered on merit.

Leakage of Question Papers

5129. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of leakage of Question Papers of various examinations conducted by the Staff Selection Commission during 1994, 1995 and so far in 1996;

(b) the number of examinations cancelled on this account; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop leakage of question papers and to fix responsibility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Four.

(b) Three, out of which one was cancelled only in respect of candidates who appeared in some of the centres.

(c) The entire procedure for conduct of examinations has been reviewed and security arrangements strengthened to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

Allotment by DDA

5130. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA has collected 90% of the cost of the flats of the Category III of the Sixth Self Financing Scheme in Dwarka/Papankalan from the people to whom they were allocated, if so, the reasons for the delay to provide them flats;

(b) the time by when they would be provided flats; and

(c) whether these flats would be entrusted to the allottees before the DDA is venturing for commercial shops and flats under Seventh Self Financing Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that process of allotting flats to those who have paid 90% of the estimated disposal price has already been started. So far specific allotments of category III flats have been made in two sectors of Dwarka viz. Sector 3 & Sector 19. Specific allotments in other sectors/pockets would be made as soon as the flats are completed and services become available.

(b) Final demands are being raised to the concerned applicants to whom specific allotments have already been made. Possession of flats in these cases will be given on receipt of the payment and on completion of the prescribed formalities. In other cases, where payment of 90% of the estimated price has been received, specific allotments of flats are expected to be made within one year subject to availability of services.

(c) Possession of flats to the allottees of 6th SFS is to be given in all cases on completion of flats and also of the prescribed formalities by the concerned allottees. Allotments made under other schemes will not affect the process of allotment under SFS VI.

Amendment of DDA Act

5131. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 962 dated August 7, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the suggestions to help amend the DDA Act have since been received from the Members of Parliament from Delhi, to check/curb unauthorised construction, encroachment and misuse of premises;

(b) if so, whether the DDA Act has been amended; and

(c) if not, the measures taken by the Government to amend the Act keeping in view the alarming pace of unauthorised construction, conversion of residential dwellings into business complexes and encroachment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The suggestions from the Members of Parliament from Delhi have not yet been received. The Government is already

seized of the matter to amend Section 29 of the Delhi Development Act with a view to curb unauthorised constructions in areas falling under the jurisdiction of DDA.

Clearance to Project

5132. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a detailed report on Midvairna Project to his Ministry for obtaining loan/credit assistance from World Bank to augment the future sources of water supply;

(b) whether the project is pending for want of clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(c) if so, since when and the steps being taken for early clearance of the project; and

(d) the time by which the work on the project is likely to be undertaken keeping in view the needs of growing population of Greater Mumbai ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Maharashtra and the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai have been requested to obtain the clearances of the Ministries of Environment & Forests, Water Resources/Central Water Commission, Planning Commission and the Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO). The matter has been under correspondence with the State Government since August, 1992. The State Government has also been requested to expedite the updated feasibility report, and environmental plans alongwith the requisite clearances.

(d) No definite time can be indicated at present in view of the various documents and clearances required to be furnished by the State Government and the project authorities.

Power Projects with Foreign Collaboration in Andhra Pradesh

5133. SHRI YELLAI AH NANDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Power Projects which have been set up with foreign collaboration in Andhra Pradesh so far, district-wise details thereof; and

(b) how many new power projects with foreign collaboration are under consideration of the Government for being set up in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise and

capacity-wise details thereof, for the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) : The following power projects for being set up in the private sector in Andhra Pradesh involving foreign investment have been cleared by the Government:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	District	Promoter
1.	Visakhapatnam TPS	1040 MW	Visakhapatnam	Ashok Leyland National Power U.K
2.	Jegurupadu GBPP	216 MW	East Godavri	GVK, USA
3.	Godavari GBPP	208 MW	East Godavari	Spectrum, USA

The first unit of Jegurupadu CCGT has already been synchronised on 4.7.1996.

In addition, interest has been expressed by foreign companies for setting up of following power projects in Andhra Pradesh :—

1.	Jagurupadu-II CCGP	235 MW	East Godavari	GVK India Ltd
2.	Krishnapatnam 'A' TPS	500 MW	Nellore	GVK Industries Ltd
3.	Krishnapatnam 'B' TPS	500 MW	Nellore	BESICORP Int Power USA
4.	Ramagundam	500 MW	Karimnagar	BPL Group

Processing of Banana

5134. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are planning to start any industry for processing the tapioca and traditional banana available in South;

(b) if so, likely location thereof;

(c) the other measures taken to preserve and market the above item all over the country by the Government; and

(d) the assistance given to the State Government in this regard during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) : Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any industry.

(c) The Ministry is operating certain Plan Scheme under which financial assistance is provided to State Government organisations/Assisted/Joint Sector companies/Voluntary organisations/Cooperatives etc. for setting up/upgrading of food processing facilities, marketing support, setting up of cold chain, etc.

(d) No proposal seeking financial assistance in this regard has been received during the last three years.

Drinking Water in Assam

5135. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Assam has sent any schemes to meet the drinking water requirement of urban population of Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme which provides for Central assistance of 50% for water supply schemes in towns having population less than 20,000 (As per 1991 Census), the Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board (AUWSP & SB) has forwarded the water supply schemes for Namroop town during 1994-95. The same was approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 135.31 lakhs and an amount of Rs. 26.06 lakhs was released for the said scheme.

During 1995-96, out of 11 towns recommended by the State Level Selection Committee (SLSC), the AUWSP & SB submitted detailed project reports for seven towns namely; Sonari, Pallashbari, Bilasipara, Savithebari, Nazira, Gossaigaon and Lakhipur for a total project cost of Rs. 1813.91 lakhs. These DPRs have been examined and technical comments were conveyed in November, 1995 to AUWSP & SB. However, the Board has not responded to these observations so far.

Forestry and Horticulture under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana

5136. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agricultural land belonging to Aikshendra College, Bhing, District Bahreich (U.P.) had been assigned during the year 1992 for development of forestry and horticulture under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in execution of the said project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the year 1992-93, a project for development of forestry and horticulture amounting to Rs. 18.61 lakhs was sanctioned. This project was completed within the time specified for the project.

(c) Does not arise.

RGNDAM

5137. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made an assessment of the extension of drinking water facilities under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission;

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

(i) the total outlays envisaged for the Mission;

(ii) the number of villages covered under this Mission upto 30 June, 1996;

(iii) the number of village still to be covered;

(iv) allocation and utilisation of funds during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint about miscarriage of the projects undertaken under this Mission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.7.1996, there are 71524 Not Covered(NC) habitations and 325797 Partially Covered (PC) habitations in the country.

(i) The total outlays under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during 1996-97 is Rs. 1100 crores.

(ii) As on 30.6.1996, 921378 villages/habitations have been fully covered (FC) with safe drinking water.

(iii) 71524 Not Covered (NC) habitations are still to be covered with safe drinking water.

(iv) A Statement showing allocation release and utilization of funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during last three years is enclosed as statements.

(c) : No such information has been received in this Mission.

(d) : Do not arise.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Crores)

State/UT	(1993-94)			(1994-95)			(1995-96)		
	Allocation	Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Release	Expenditure
Andhra Pradesh	41.240	46.240	41.240	46.440	46.440	40.650	60.270	63.80	48.22
Arunachal Pradesh	77.460	7.460	5.176	8.420	8.420	8.081	10.92	10.92	6.98
Assam	13.700	13.700	18.120	14.220	19.492	20.000	18.45	22.45	18.45
Bihar	48.560	48.560	22.217	54.690	28.045	38.403	70.99	35.50	22.74
Goa	0.840	1.340	0.837	1.290	1.290	2.061	1.70	2.55	0.85
Gujarat	26.560	29.560	18.584	30.390	30.390	41.048	35.35	37.35	29.76
Haryana	16.520	18.310	15.817	20.080	20.398	21.113	13.22	15.22	12.40
Himachal Pradesh	8.330	10.330	8.041	9.420	9.585	11.262	11.87	16.33	16.94

State/UT	(1993-94)			(1994-95)			(1995-96)		
	Allocation	Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Release	Expenditure
Jammu & Kashmir	23.030	18.888	28.586	25.990	36.390	39.408	33.26	38.15	27.17
Karnataka	35.120	37.120	36.791	42.720	44.077	40.584	55.44	65.44	58.79
Kerala	19.280	21.270	13.165	21.720	21.720	10.864	28.19	29.19	31.83
Madhya Pradesh	45.640	48.000	49.730	51.420	50.335	49.460	66.73	66.73	40.86
Maharashtra	54.380	54.880	43.741	61.820	61.820	59.434	80.23	74.75	588.81
Manipur	3.080	3.080	2.962	3.090	3.090	3.745	4.01	4.01	3.31
Meghalaya	4.200	4.200	5.787	4.200	5.328	4.126	4.30	2.21	5.59
Mizoram	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.360	2.464	2.361	3.07	3.40	3.09
Nagaland	4.220	3.890	0.909	4.220	0.000	0.237	4.22	2.11	1.80
Orissa	21.600	23.600	21.625	24.340	24.832	27.709	31.59	33.76	32.48
Punjab	6.880	8.880	11.308	7.750	8.750	9.624	10.06	15.06	9.49
Rajasthan	68.860	71.290	84.738	82.220	82.310	83.753	66.08	69.08	73.12
Sikkim	3.720	3.720	3.720	3.720	4.650	3.720	3.72	5.72	5.71
Tamilnadu	32.680	34.700	30.906	36.820	42.356	37.191	47.79	52.62	33.74
Tripura	3.500	3.500	3.944	3.500	8.990	7.662	3.80	7.60	10.20
Uttar Pradesh	76.480	76.472	69.652	86.160	86.160	74.060	111.82	113.34	109.44
West Bengal	29.520	29.520	22.344	33.260	28.245	37.817	43.17	34.96	34.95
A&N Islands	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.380	0.000	0.000	0.44	—	0.00
Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.25	—	—
D&N Haveli	0.200	0.300	0.000	0.220	0.250	0.000	0.15	—	—
Delhi	0.220	0.197	0.177	0.250	0.000	0.000	0.29	—	—
Lakshadweep	0.100	0.400	0.350	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.12	—	—
Pondicherry	0.400	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.130	0.190	0.30	—	0.10
Daman & Diu	0.950	0.965	1.093	0.130	0.000	0.000	—	0.60	0.40
Total	800.270	622.732	543.960	681.600	675.957	674.566	821.80	822.85	697.79

Housing Scheme by DDA

5138. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been

drawn to the floating of yet another housing scheme by the Delhi Development Authority of 'Expandable' houses 1996;

(b) whether this is a new scheme altogether or it is a scheme to dispose of the expandable houses already

constructed of which there is no takers, for allotment to the registrants of New Pattern Scheme, 1979;

(c) whether the DDA has started yet another novel scheme to charge the prices of flats as per locations from the New Pattern Scheme, 1979;

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

(e) the number of registrants still waiting for allotment of flats category-wise under NPS 1979 and by which date they are likely to be allotted the flats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This scheme has been formulated to dispose of about 3500 expandable houses lying vacant. The houses are partly built up having scope for future expansion by the allottees. These houses were offered to the registrant of New Pattern Registration Scheme (NPRS), 1979, but they requested for allotment of regular LIG/MIG flats instead of expandable houses.

(c) and (d) : The DDA has reported that the expandable houses are located in Dwarika, Narela, Rohini and Kondli Gharoli where LIG/MIG flats for registrants of NPRS 1979 have also been constructed. Prices of each category of flats are worked out in accordance with the approved policy. The discount facility provided under the Expandable Housing Scheme 1996 to the applicants paying full cost of the flat is not applicable to the allotment made under NPRS 1979.

(e) The backlog of registrants under NPRS 1979, who are yet to be offered flats, is 31,204 (12919 under MIG category and 18285 under LIG category). DDA expects to allot flats to all the wait listed registrants in a land period of about two years subject to availability of land and infrastructural facilities.

Urban Basic Services for the Poor

1539. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when the urban basic services for the poor, slum dwellers and other poor people was initiated in the

National Capital and the percentage of the expenditure to be shared by the Centre and the Delhi Government;

(b) the allocation made by the Centre for providing urban basic services in Delhi since the inception of the programme. (year-wise);

(c) the actual utilisation of the allocation made by the Centre and out of the share of Delhi Government (Year-wise);

(d) the areas covered under the programme and the reasons for shortfall, if any, in the utilisation of the fund; and

(e) the existing machinery in monitoring and coordinating the progress of the programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The scheme of Urban Basic Services for the poor (UBSP) was initiated in the National Capital in 1990-91. During the years 1990-91 & 1991-92, this scheme was 100% funded by the Central Government. Since 1992-93, the funding pattern is in the ratio of 60:40 between the Centre and the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) and (c) : The required information is enclosed as statement.

(d) 13 Nos. Jhuggi Jhonpuri Clusters as per list annexed at Annexure II are covered in the scheme of Urban Basic Services for the Poor. There is an unspent balance of Rs. 18.57 lakhs as on 31st March, 1996. The Scheme is a need-based one, being implemented with community participation, for filling gaps in the basic services being provided by other sectoral programmes. The expenditure under the scheme is, thus, related to the needs of the community and the unspent balance of previous period is carried forward. Hence, there is no shortfall as such.

(e) As reported by the Government of NCT of Delhi, the progress of the programme is consistently monitored and co-ordinated at the level of Project Director and Chairman, UBSP with the assistance of Project Officers and Assistant Project Officers who monitor the progress at the field level.

STATEMENT

Annexure-I

Sl. No.	Year	Central assistance provided	Utilisation of Central funds as reported by NCT of Delhi (Rs. in lakhs)	Utilisation of funds of recd. from the Delhi Govt.
1.	1990-91	46.20	6.38	Not applicable (100% central share)
2.	1991-92	44.00	8.50	-do-
3.	1992-93	30.65	20.00	State share not provided
4.	1993-94	—	24.60	-do-
5.	1994-95	—	24.21	-do-
6.	1995-96	11.00	29.59	-do-

Annexure-II

S. No.	Zone	Name of A.P.O.	No.	Area	Household	No. of H/H per APO
		Sh./Ms.				
1.	South	Sneth Dutt	1.	North of Rly. Colony, Tughlakabad	2280	2280
2.	South	Gurpreet Kaur	2.	Alaknanda	2877	2877
3.	West	R.K. Singh	3.	Chunna Bhatti, Kirti Nagar	1200	2300
			4.	Nehru Camp, Kirti Nagar	1100	
4.	West	Bimla Devi	5.	C-28, Janak Puri	3060	3060
5.	Central	Karamvir Singh	6.	Rajiv Gandhi Camp, Nehru Stadium	2300	2300
6.	Central	I.A. Khan	7.	Ambedkar Basti, R.K. Puram	998	2100
			8.	Shastri Mkt., Moti Nagar	1102	
7.	North	Lachaman Singh	9.	Aruna Nagar, Majnu Ka Tilla	1487	2687
			10.	Old Chandraval, Majnu Ka Tilla	1200	
8.	North	Saroj	11.	K-Block, Jahangirpuri	2250	2250
9.	East	Arun Tandon	12.	Jawahar and Shastri Mohalla, Patpar Ganj	2275	2275
10.	East	Narender	13.	Block-17 to 21, Kalyan Puri	2120	2120

Farm Houses in Delhi

5140. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have laid down or fixed any norms for the construction/development of a Farm House in Delhi including the height of the boundary wall thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any cases have been noticed regarding violation of the norms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The norms for construction of Farm Houses in Delhi are given in the Annexure.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) : 185 cases regarding violation of the norms have been noticed by MCD. One of the Farm Houses involved in the violation of the norms viz. Pawan Sharma Farm at Rewala Khanpur has been demolished and action will be taken under Section 343 and 344 of DMC Act, 1957 in all other cases by MCD.

STATEMENT

Policy/Norms for Construction of farm house in Delhi

Farm houses are allowed in the rural area zone where land-use is agricultural green as per MPD-2001. The following norms have been prescribed for construction of dwellings in Farm Houses.

1. Size, Coverage & Height of Farm Building will be as under :

Sl. No.	Size of Farm	Maximum floor area of dwelling units	Maximum height of dwelling units
a. 1.	Oha. and above but less than 2. Oha.	100 sqm	Single storeyed maximum height 6m.
b. 2.	Oha. and above	150 sqm	Single storeyed maximum height 6m.

2. Set back in dwelling houses from boundary line of the property is required 15 mt.

3. Where property abutts on Urban road the dwelling house building should be set back from the centre line

of that road by 60mt. where property abutts a village road the building set back from the centre line of that road should be 30mt.

4. Approach road should be a shrai-aam of which at least 12'-0" width should be metalled surface (W.B.M.).

5. When the approach road serves more than one farm house than the minimum right of way shall be 18.2mt. (60'-0")

6. As per policy of the department Right of way (R.O.W.) of the road other than village road shall be 60'-0" and in case of village road, R.O.W. of the road is maintained as 100'-0" by taking equal widening on either side of the road. In case where R.O.W. of the road is indicated the same is ensured.

7. No dwelling unit should be built within 400mt. of the right of way of any National Highway.

9. Basement shall be permitted to the maximum extent of ground floor coverage.

9. For various components of farm building specifications will be followed as per BBLs for residential buildings.

10. Boundary Wall-The requirements of the boundary wall is given below :—

(a) Except with the special permission of the Authority, the maximum height of the front compound wall shall be 1.5 m. above the centre line of the front street.

(b) The rear and side compound walls shall not have height more than 2.2m above the central line of the service road in case it exists; otherwise 2m shall be measured above the central line of the front street. In the case of row-housing scheme, the front boundary wall shall include the portion of the side boundary walls from boundary line to building line.

(c) In case of a corner plot of height of the boundary wall shall be restricted to 0.75 m for a length of 5m on the front and side of the Intersections and the remaining height of 1.5m shall be made up of railings.

(d) However, the provisions of (a), (b) & (c) are not applicable to boundary walls of Institutional buildings like jails, sanatoria, hospitals industrial buildings like workshops factories and educational buildings like schools, colleges, including the hostels.

(e) No building boundaries shall be surrounded by barbed wire fence, prickly pear or other objectionable plant or milk hedge.

Note :— The above provision shall not apply to the buildings/areas where boundary walls are

forbidden or specific height has been recommended by the Authority or as per comprehensive plan/Zonal plan/Master Plan regulations.

People Below Poverty Line

5141. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Shri S.R. Hashim, Member Secretary of Lakdawala Committee constituted by the Government in 1989 has proved wrong the Government's claim that the people living below poverty line was only 19 percent during the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that according to this Committee the percentage of people living below poverty line is about 37;

(c) if so, whether Government have found out any reasons to establish that the estimates of Shri Hashim were not based on facts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated official figure regarding the people living below poverty line before the commencement of Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Prof. S.R. Hashim, in his Radha Kamal Mukherjee Memorial Lecture delivered on 23.5.1996 at New Delhi, has mentioned the percentage of the people below poverty line as 37 per cent in 1993-94 as against 19 per cent that had been estimated by the Planning Commission on the basis of the half sample data from the 50th round of the National Sample Survey Organisation's quinquennial survey on the Household Consumer Expenditure.

(b) The data necessary to estimate the percentage of people living below the poverty line in 1993-94 by the methodology suggested by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee) are not available.

(c) and (d) : The difference between the two estimates is due to the difference in the methodology of estimation.

(e) Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty using quinquennial survey data on Household Consumer Expenditure released by the National Sample

Survey Organisation (NSSO). The latest estimates of poverty is available for the year 1987-88, based on the Household Consumer Expenditure data collected in the 43rd round of NSSO. The full results of NSSO consumer expenditure data of 1993-94 are under process.

Buildings on Agricultural Land

5142. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 2151 dated December 21, 1994 regarding residential buildings on agricultural land and state:

(a) the number of cases out of 4335 cases final orders to reconvert the said land to agricultural use under section 81 Delhi Land Reforms Act 1954 have been passed so far and the details thereof; and

(b) the number of cases in which vacant possession of land has been handed over to the concerned gram sabha, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that out of 4335 cases, final orders in 2714 cases have been passed under Section 81 of the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 to convert the said land to agricultural use.

(b) In 35 cases either the built-up properties have been sealed or possession has been taken over by the Gram Sabha. The remaining cases are held up because of pending court cases and other legal formalities.

Foreign Funds to Terrorists

5143. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any concrete evidence has been found about the flow of foreign funds to finance terrorism and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir during the past three years; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether notices were issued to certain secessionist leader of Kashmir in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some foreign funds had come to Kashmir for reconstruction of the holy shrine or Charar-e-Shrief, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken to check the flow of foreign money for subversive activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) There have been reports of various secessionist leaders and organisations in Jammu and Kashmir having received large sums of money from diverse channels and sources in contravention of law, including reports about the receipt of funds for the Shrine at Chrar-e-Sharief. Notices have so far been issued to 46 individuals and 24 organisations under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA). Action on these notices, as also for violation of the provisions of Foreign Exchange and Regulation (Act) (FERA) and other relevant laws is being taken by the concerned agencies.

It will not be in the interest of ongoing inquiries/ investigations to disclose more details at this stage.

[Translation]

Transport Duty

5144. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the transport duty is being charged from the Rajasthan State Government to carry the nitrogen gas upto the plant which is used as inert gas for the Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Plant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken so far to fix the prices of gas at reasonable rate for this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Transportation charges are payable for the natural gas being supplied to the Ramgarh Thermal Power Plant of which nitrogen gas is a component.

(c) The Ramgarh Power Plant is entitled to a reduction in the gas price on account of lower calorific value. A discount of 15% has been allowed in addition to the above reduction.

[English]

Land Oustees

5145. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NHPC acquired agriculture land for the setting up of Loktak Power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the compensation has been paid and rehabilitation of such land oustees has been completed; and

(d) if so, the criteria adopted by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agricultural land to the extent of 244.18 acres was acquired between 1971 to 1979 through the Government of Manipur under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 for setting up of Loktak Power project.

(c) and (d) Full compensation as decided by the Government of Manipur was paid to be owners of the affected land by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation.

[Translation]

Representation of Muslims

5146. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to give adequate representation to Muslims in Government services and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution provide, *inter-alia*, for equality of opportunity to all citizens in matters relating to employment under the State. Various measures for improving recruitment of minorities, including Muslims, are envisaged under the 15-Point Programme for welfare of minorities. Some of the salient follow-up steps initiated in this regard are :—

- (i) nomination of a member belonging to minorities on Selection Committees/Boards for making recruitment to Group 'C'/'D' posts;
- (ii) arrangements for imparting pre-recruitment training to the minorities;
- (iii) giving wide publicity to vacancies in Government sector in Urdu newspapers;
- (iv) monitoring the intake of minority community in recruitment;
- (v) undertaking special drives in minority areas for recruitment to Central Police forces; and
- (vi) inclusion of certain Muslim communities in the list of Other Backward Classes for whom reservation in Govt. jobs has been provided.

[English]

Release of Amount for Member of Parliament

5147. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount, year-wise, released by the Government as grant to the Member of Parliament;

(b) the actual expenditure incurred, year-wise; and

(c) the manner in which the expenditure is monitored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The amount released to the District Collectors by Government of India year-wise under the Member or Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), is given below :—

Year	Amount released by GOI (Rs. Crores)
1993-94	37.8
1994-95	771.0
1995-96	764.0

(b) The funds released under this scheme are non-lapsable. An MP can utilise the funds released in a year during the subsequent years but within the term of the Lok Sabha or the term of Rajya Sabha membership. The expenditure corresponding to each year's release is, therefore, not available with Department of Programme Implementation. However, as per the information received from the majority of the Collectors, the actual expenditure incurred so far, since the inception of the scheme, has been Rs. 800.7 Crores (51%).

(c) The expenditure is monitored through progress reports which are obtained periodically from the District Collectors.

[Translation]

Assistance for Drinking Water

5148. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have received proposals from the State Governments for financial assistance to provide drinking water;

(b) if so, the details the are of, State-wise and the action taken thereon;

(c) the funds sanctioned to each State during 1996-97 for drinking water schemes;

(d) whether any foreign assistance including World Bank assistance has also been provided to the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Allocation under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme to various States is made in accordance with the fixed criteria. The funds allocated to each State during 1996-97 for rural drinking water schemes is shown in the enclosed Statement-I. The State Governments of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh have requested for additional assistance. The request of additional assistance will be considered depending upon the savings available at the end of the financial year.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The details are enclosed as the Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Statement indicating the allocation position of ARWSP for 1996-97.

(Rs. in Lakhs)		
Sl. No.	State/UT	Allocation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6618
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1200
3.	Assam	2026
4.	Bihar	7795
5.	Goa	189
6.	Gujarat	3882
7.	Haryana	1451
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1303
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3652
10.	Karnataka	6087
11.	Kerala	3095
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7327
13.	Maharashtra	8810
14.	Manipur	440
15.	Meghalaya	472
16.	Mizoram	337

Sl. No.	State/UT	Allocation
17.	Nagaland	422
18.	Orissa	3468
19.	Punjab	1105
20.	Rajasthan	7256
21.	Sikkim	372
22.	Tamil Nadu	5247
23.	Tripura	418
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12278
25.	West Bengal	4740
26.	A&N Islands	25
27.	Chandigarh	Nil
28.	D&N Haveli	15
29.	Daman & Diu	10
30.	Delhi	30
31.	Lakshadweep	Nil
32.	Pondicherry	20
All India		90090
		DDP
1.	Gujarat	315
2.	Haryana	990
3.	Himachal Pradesh	28
4.	J&K	36
5.	Rajasthan	3181
Total		4500

STATEMENT-II

Details of ongoing projects for rural water supply and sanitation with multilateral and bilateral assistance

Sl. No.	Agency	No. of ongoing projects	Aggregate project cost (Rs. in crores)	No. of villages covered
1.	Nether lands	12	307.12	4,320
2.	World Bank	2	951.20	2,300
3.	Demark	4	61.19	1,017
4.	Germany	2	729.94	1,439
5.	United Kingdom	1	54.29	210
Total		21	2,103.73	8,762

Norms for Backward Area

5149. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the norms prescribed for declaring any area as a backward one;

(b) the names of the areas/districts of Gujarat State which have been declared backward during the last five years as on date and the number of areas/districts out of them which are tribal dominated;

(c) whether Chhota Udaipur constituency also fulfils all the conditions for declaring it a backward area;

(d) if so, whether Union Government propose to declare Chhota Udaipur constituency a backward area or the matter is under their consideration; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Planning Commission has not prescribed any norms for declaring any area as backward. However, for the purpose of allowing certain tax concessions to industrial undertakings set up in notified backward districts, Ministry of Finance had set up a group to identify backward districts whose report has been submitted recently.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Tehri Power Project

5150. SHRI KISHAN LAL DILER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on Tehri Power project approved by Planning Commission in 1972; and

(b) the amount spent out of the sanctioned amount so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Tehri Dam Project was originally accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission in June, 1972 for implementation by the Government of Uttar Pradesh with an installed generating capacity of 600 MW (4 × 150 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 197.92 crores. The construction

work on the project commenced in 1978. The installed generating capacity of the Tehri Dam Project was subsequently revised to 1000 MW in 1983, to provide for its operation as a peaking power station to suit the system requirement, at a revised estimated cost of Rs. 1065.80 Crores (1983 price level).

Keeping in view the requirements of power for the Northern Region, and the inadequacy of funds with the State Government, it was decided in November, 1986 to implement the project as a joint venture of Government of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh and for this purpose, the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) was set up in 1988. The scope of the project was also enlarged to implement a Hydro Complex (2400 MW) by including Koteshwar Dam and Power House (400 MW) and a Pump Storage Plant (1000 MW) as a Central Sector scheme.

The Tehri Hydroelectric Project State-I (1000 MW) was approved by the Government of India in March, 1994, for implementation by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) at an estimated cost of Rs. 2963.66 Crores. The associated Transmission system costing Rs. 371 Crores would be implemented by the Power Grid Corporation of India.

An expenditure of Rs. 1078.29 crores (Provisional) has been incurred by THDC on the project upto July, 1996.

Polluted Water Supply

5151. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the death of a number of persons including children in Uttar Pradesh particularly in district Ghaziabad due to consumption of polluted drinking water;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any concrete steps to avoid the recurrence of such incidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No such information has been received from the State Government.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has informed that the measures normally taken by the Health Authorities to prevent water borne diseases are :—

(i) Provision of safe drinking water.

(ii) Improvement of food and personal hygiene.

(iii) Safe disposal of human excreta.

(iv) Appropriate health education.

(v) Surveillance and monitoring.

(vi) Distribution of chlorine and ORS packets etc.

[English]

Ring Railway in Bangalore

5152. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a persistent demand from the people of Karnataka to construct a ring railway for Bangalore city; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) & (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Survey and Settlement Operation

5153. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken survey and settlement operation in different States;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of villages covered under the survey and settlement operation in Orissa and other State during the Eighth Plan; and

(d) the steps taken to complete the land records as early as possible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government of India have never taken up Survey Settlement Operation in any State/Unit Territory as the same is within the exclusive, administrative and legal jurisdiction of the State Governments. Some States have statutory provision for conducting revisional survey settlement operations periodically, while some States do not have such provision. However, updation of land records does not exclusively dependent on survey settlement operation, as the updation of land records is a continuous process and the same is done by the authorised field-level revenue officials through mutation,

occasional correction of village maps, revision of RS map and settlement documents through consolidation operation etc.

This Ministry however, provides financial assistance supports the programmes taken up by the State/UTs for updation of land records, and computerisation of the same, by providing financial assistance through two Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

This Ministry, however, does not monitor performance programmes of different States as regards to survey and settlement operation, which is a continuous regular feature of the general revenue administration of some States, conducted through concerned State Governments Directorates/ Commissionerate.

Special Package to State Electricity Boards

5154. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a request has been made by Chambers of Commerce and Industry to the Prime Minister to ask power Ministry to evolve a special package to State Electricity Boards for on going projects languishing for want of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether huge losses suffered by SEBs and non-participation of private sector in power sector has posed threat to country's economic development;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir,

(c) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) .

Non-Conventional Energy Sources Projects

5155. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether two pilot projects under Non-conventional Energy Resources giving coverage to each household were sanctioned for Sardar Block and Spiti Block of tribal areas of Mandi Parliamentary Constituency in the year 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the funds sanctioned, year-wise, expenditure involved and the number of beneficiaries covered under these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No pilot projects under Non-Conventional Energy Sources for coverage of each household were sanctioned for Sadar and Spiti blocks during 1991-92. However a National Pilot Project under Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) was sanctioned for Spiti block during 1994-95. The Government of India had sanctioned Rs. 10.0 lakhs during 1994-95 and Rs. 5.00 lakhs during 1995-96. In addition the State Government provided Rs. 8.0 lakhs during 1995-96. An expenditure of Rs. 16.05 lakhs has been incurred during these two years. 651 beneficiaries were covered during 1994-95 and 958 during 1995-96 under National Project for IREP.

Petrol Pumps

5156. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol pumps directly run by oil companies in Bihar;

(b) the details of profit and loss made by these companies in the operation of these petrol pumps during each of the last three years; and

(c) the efforts made by these companies to provide better service to the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No retail outlet dealership is being operated directly by oil marketing companies in Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Oil Industry is constantly endeavouring for upgrading customer service at the retail outlets in terms of quantity/quality assurance of products, customer interaction through customer services cell, improvement in basic facilities like free air, water, etc., and infrastructure directly at company outlets and through dealer subsidy incentive programme so as to motivate the dealers to extend better services at retail outlets.

World Bank Aid to Madhya Pradesh

5157. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any scheme to eradicate poverty with World Bank aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of assistance sought and the response of World Bank in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Government of Madhya Pradesh have not sent any scheme to Planning Commission for eradicating poverty with World Bank Aid. However, Government of India and the World Bank have agreed to take up a District Poverty Initiatives Project (DPIP) for assisting district level initiatives for poverty alleviation in selected districts of Madhya Pradesh among districts of other three States.

(b) DPIP is a Project which aims to create conditions for sustainable development through increasing local institutional capacity and strengthening district-level planning. Promoting decentralisation, strengthening community participation and ensuring sustainability are to be the guiding principles of this project. The project has three components: the first one Area Development is to focus all interventions related to land upgradation and proper utilisation of natural resources. The second component is establishing social funds which would allow for swift and efficient response to demands for implementation of small projects at village level. The third component capacity building will aim at improving the skills of relevant personnel and strengthening Government and civil institutions.

(c) The likely credit amount in this Project is about US\$ 500 millions.

[Translation]

Setting up of a Sub-Station

5158. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction of 33 K.V.A. sub-station under Naunapur A-Feeder in Sujaur village, Pukhraya Tehsil of Kanpur Dehat in Uttar Pradesh has been stopped; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir. The construction of the said sub-station at Naunapur had not started and hence the question of its stoppage does not arise.

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Acquisition of Hyderabad House

5159. SHRI K.S. RAYADU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount paid by the Union Government to the Government of Andhra Pradesh as compensation for acquiring Hyderabad House;

(b) whether Union Government have provided any alternative piece of land in Delhi, in lieu of Hyderabad House to the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the area of the land; and

(d) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been given possession of that land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No monetary compensation has been paid to the Government of Andhra Pradesh in lieu of Hyderabad House.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. A plot of land measuring 7.56 acres has been allotted to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, out of which 6.26 acres has since been handed over to the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Indira Awas Yojana

5160. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRIMATI M. PARVATI :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to involve MPs and other public representatives in the implementation of Rural Development Schemes particularly in Indira Awas Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The Government is implementing its rural development programmes, particularly Indira Awas Yojana through District Rural Development Agencies/Zilla Parishads. As per the guidelines, all M.Ps, MLAs and MLCs of the district are the members of the Governing Body of DRDA. Two ex-MPs and two ex-MLAs are also members of the Governing Body of DRDA by rotation in alphabetical order for one year each.

[Translation]

Persons below Pover Line

5161. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons living below poverty line in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of families brought above the poverty line by providing assistance to them;

(c) whether the funds earmarked for this purpose have been misutilised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Planning Commission estimates number of people below the poverty line at National and State level on the basis of quinquennial survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The latest estimates of poverty are based on the quinquennial survey held in 1987-88 (NSS 43rd Round). According to this, 18.37 million persons in Maharashtra lived below the poverty line in 1987-88.

(b) There is a three-pronged attack on poverty, i.e.

(i) acceleration of economic-growth, (ii) human and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and asset-building for the poor. The main among these programmes are the Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for the Educated Unemployment Youth. The entire effort at development and all the programmes have a combined affect on poverty alleviation. As a result, the incidence of poverty in Maharashtra has come down from 27.58 per cent in 1983-84 to 25.05 per cent in 1987-88.

(c) Some complaints regarding irregularities in the implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana have been received from some States/UTs including Maharashtra in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employments.

(d) The complaints are immediately forwarded to the concerned State Government for taking appropriate remedial action.

Accommodation to Journalists

5162. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names and the number of the Press Reporters who have been allotted quarters by the Government during the last five years;

(b) the period of waiting list for the Press Reporters; and

(c) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government to solve the accommodation problem of Press Reporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) During last five years allotment to following 14 Press Reporters has been made :—

S.No.	Name	Address	
1.	B.P. Shukla	B-14,	Andrews Ganj Extn.
2.	C. Mishra	B-11,	-do-
3.	D. Shukla	E-16,	-do-
4.	N. Chakraborty	N-8,	-do-
5.	P.K. Pushkarna	H-6,	-do-
6.	R.R. Prabhu	A-11,	-do-
7.	S.R. Kumar	C-11,	-do-
8.	V. Sanghi	C-12,	-do-
9.	Vijay Shankar	A-12,	-do-
10.	V. Rajgopal	C-14,	-do-
11.	Y.B. Mathur	B-15,	-do-
12.	R.C. Pandit	D-6,	Tilak Lane
13.	Vithal Bhai Patel	A-33,	Nanakpura
14.	S. Jagran	J-4,	Andrews Ganj Extn.

(b) No waiting list is maintained in respect of allotment to be made to Press Reporters. Allotments are made on the recommendation by the Screening Committee in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(c) A total of 120 Units are available for allotment in the Press Pool. There is no proposal to increase the Press Pool in view of shortage of accommodation in the General Pool.

Representation from Retired Persons

5163. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received by the Government from persons who retired prior to April 1, 1995 not before July, 1993 to extend the benefit retrospectively from July, 93 as decided in O.M. No. 7/2/93-P&PW (F) dated September 19, 1993 that the rate of DA will be added to pay for calculating gratuity equivalent to 20% of basic pay; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Representations were received by the Government from persons who retired prior to April 1, 1995 for extending the benefit of O.M. dated October 19, 1993 retrospectively.

(b) The Government has, through that order, decided that in the case of Central Government employees who retire or die on or after 16.9.1993, twenty percent of the basic pay would be treated as dearness pay for reckoning emoluments for the purpose of retirement gratuity & death gratuity only under the C.C.S. (Pension) Rules, 1972.

Potable Water

5164. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide potable water on priority basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target fixed with regard to providing potable water to all in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) Water supply being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to plan, execute and maintain water supply schemes.

However, to supplement State Government's efforts, a Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme for towns having population less than 20,000 (As per 1991 Census) has been introduced, with effect from March, 1994. Under this programme cost between the Central Government and the State Government is shared in the ratio of 1:1.

As per the 1991 Census there are 2151 such towns having a total population of 23.4 million. It has been estimated that an amount of Rs. 2348 crores, would be required to cover all the towns. Against the above, the allocation made in the Central Sector for the Eighth Plan

is Rs. 50.00 crores. Upto 31.3.96, 204. Water Supply Schemes at a cost of Rs. 161.63 crores have been sanctioned. Since the progress of the scheme depends on generation of detailed project reports by the State Government, their technical viability and availability of resources, it is difficult to indicate the target date for the completion of the programme.

[English]

Construction of Bridges

5165. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposal regarding construction of bridges on rivers in the country particularly in Orissa under consideration of the Union Government; and

(b) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) There is at present no proposal in this Ministry regarding construction of bridges on rivers in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation

5166. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned 'we won't go even if there is a bloodshed' appearing in the "Times of India" dated April 10, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

[Translation]

Posts Reserved for OBC

5167. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of notified posts for the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 for three services of Central

Secretariat and the number of post therein reserved for OBC's separately;

(b) the number of posts out of the above filled up on merit relaxation basis from the candidates of OBC's; and

(c) whether the Government propose to fill up the rest of the reserved posts by giving any relaxation for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) The policy laid down in this regard is followed for the three Secretariat Services also, according to which the vacancies reserved for other Backward Classes, which remain unfilled are to be carried forward as such for a period of three recruitment years or till the vacancies are filled by OBC candidates, whichever is earlier.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of the Service	Grade	Year of recruitment	Total No. of vacancies reported to UPSC/SSC.	No. of vacancies reserved for OBC	No. of OBC candidates recommended.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Central Secretariat Services (CSS)	(i) Section Officers Grade	1993	66	**	—
			1994	50	13	13
			1995	81	16	Nominations awaited
		(ii) Assistants Grade	1993	429@	92	92
			1994	242	62	39
			1995	Vacancies to be notified.	—	—
2.	Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service (CSSS)	(i) Steno Grade 'D'	1993	426@	**	—
			1994	519@	94	69
			1995	544@	118	118
		(ii) Steno Grade 'C'	1993	—Direct Recruitment not made		
			1994	-do-		
			1995	— vacancies to be notified		
3.	Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS)	LDC	1993	1045	**	—
			1994	771@	138	139
			1995	Vacancies to be notified	—	—

** No reservation could be provided as the process of recruitment had been initiated before the reservations for OBCs came into force.

@ This includes the cushion for probable drop outs in general category.

[English]

Petroleum Products

5168. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of oil, natural gas and other petroleum products produced and consumed during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the production of these items have increased year by year in the past; and

(c) if not, the steps Government have taken or proposed to take to increase the production of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Irrigated Land

5169. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that acreage of irrigated land in Tribal Sub-plan is same after coming in effect of the Forest Protection Law, 1980;

(b) if so, the steps taken for increasing it;

(c) whether it is a fact that only check Dam/Lift Irrigation is fit for it; and

(d) if so, the provisions being made for it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Substantial investments for development of irrigation through major and medium schemes in Tribal areas were made by the respective States ever since the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) was introduced in 1974. 35 TSP projects were completed upto the end of Sixth Plan (1980-85). The actual benefit to the tribal area was of the order of 94.51 thousand hectares. Another 20 medium TSP projects were completed upto the end of Seventh Plan benefitting tribal area of 42.43 thousand hectares. During 1990-92, another 14 medium TSP projects were completed benefitting 58.85 thousand hectares tribal areas. Benefit from 141 on-going projects including those which

have been spilled over to Eighth Plan and the projects taken up during Eighth Plan to tribal areas would be about 1525.71 thousand hectares when completed. Thus, acreage of irrigated land under Tribal Sub-Plan after coming into effect of Forest Protection Law 1980 has not remained the same.

(c) and (d) Check dams are generally rain water harvesting structures adopted in the upper catchment in the forest areas and hills, the natural habitat of tribal population. Lift irrigation schemes are planned and approved based on their techno-economic viability in appropriate areas. Irrigation under the Consitution is a State subject. The responsibility for investigation, planning, formulation, execution and maintenance including funding of all typed irrigation projects/schemes primarily rests with the concerned State Governments.

[English]

Clearance to Projects

5170. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects submitted for approval by the State Government of Goa to the Planning Commission during the last three years till date; and

(b) the present status of these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No project received from Government of Goa is pending approval in the Planning Commission.

Urban Development Projects of Karnataka

5171. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some urban development projects of Karnataka are lying pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the projects have been approved by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which these are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Urban Development projects in the State of Karnataka are assisted under the scheme of Infrastructure

Development in Mega Cities and Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT). Under both the schemes, approval of projects is delegated to State Level Sanctioning Committees. Accordingly, no approval of project is necessary from Government of India.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Schemes in Uttar Pradesh

5172. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the drinking water supply schemes sent to the Union Government by the Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether all these schemes have been granted approval;

(c) if so, the allocation made therefor; and

(d) the steps taken for the implementation of the said schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has forwarded 71 water supply schemes at a total project cost of Rs. 6082.82 lakhs during the last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP), which is applicable to towns having population less than 20,000 (As per 1991 Census). So far 69 schemes at a total project cost of Rs. 5858.67 lakhs have been sanctioned and a Central share of Rs. 2929.33 lakhs has been released. The details are enclosed as statement.

Water supply schemes in respect of Pukharayan and Purwa towns at a total project cost of Rs. 223.65 lakhs are under technical scrutiny.

(d) As per the information received from the State Government, water supply schemes for Tirwaganj, Talgram, Hastinapur, Sasni and Singhai Bharuara have been completed so far. Work is reported to be in progress in respect of other schemes.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of Town	Sanctioned Dt./ Mon/Yr	Project Cost
STATE : UTTAR PRADESH			
1.	Karhal	March '94	106.90
2.	Hastinapur	"	116.35
3.	Jalali	"	77.25
4.	Jattari	"	100.60

S. No.	Name of Town	Sanctioned Dt./ Mon/Yr	Project Cost
5.	Harduaganj	March '94	57.30
6.	Kheragarh	"	75.20
7.	Haldaur	"	91.00
8.	Umarikalan	"	66.70
9.	Ndhawlikalan	"	36.00
10.	Raya	"	78.00
11.	Marehra	"	34.90
12.	Achnera	"	67.90
13.	Sairsi	"	75.55
14.	Ghibore	"	57.65
15.	Tulsipur	"	97.50
16.	Golabazar	"	54.40
17.	Mehnagar	"	78.50
18.	Jiyanapur	"	56.10
19.	Azmatgarh	"	48.00
20.	Ghughuli	"	79.20
21.	Reoti	"	77.50
22.	Sikanderpur	"	86.70
23.	Karari	"	83.34
24.	Bansdih	"	83.00
25.	Chandauli	"	85.00
26.	Bakewar	"	63.60
27.	Lakhna	"	43.80
28.	Kulpahar	"	81.80
29.	Jhinhak	"	81.20
30.	Bithoor	"	46.20
31.	Naraini	"	54.50
32.	Tirwaganj	"	71.20
33.	Talgram	"	53.30
34.	Nawabganj	"	48.50
35.	Neotini	"	15.70
36.	Mohan	"	49.20
37.	Sandi	"	65.00
38.	Pali	"	59.20
39.	Islamnagar	"	68.40
40.	Singhai Bharora	"	86.50
41.	Katra	"	103.00
42.	Bazpur	"	86.20
43.	Bilariaganj	Jan '96	64.70
44.	Ramnagar	"	75.70

S. No.	Name of Town	Sanctioned Dt./ Mon/Yr	Project Cost
45.	Sankargarh	Jan '96	157.80
46.	Ghorawal	"	87.60
47.	Sidhaur	"	58.80
48.	Chopan	March '95	133.50
49.	B.B. Nagar	"	68.30
50.	Daygala	"	74.60
51.	Faridpur	"	59.50
52.	Usawan	"	72.50
53.	Saurik	"	81.00
54.	Harriya	"	62.40
55.	Hariharpur	"	63.00
56.	Bansgaon	"	81.20
57.	Bikapur	"	101.50
58.	Sarai Akil	"	98.98
59.	Dudhi	"	156.70
60.	Pali	"	63.80
61.	Oran	"	59.00
62.	Risia Bazar	"	86.15
63.	Narendernagar	"	240.50
64.	Chamba	"	537.80
65.	Jhalu	"	80.50
66.	Adri	"	60.30
67.	Kaladungi	"	121.90
68.	Atsu	"	79.80
69.	Hargaon	"	83.30
Total :			Rs. 5858.67 Lakhs

[English]

Drinking Water in Allahabad

5173. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 2331, answer given on July 31, 1996 and state :

(a) the reasons for under utilisation of funds in 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) whether instances of diverting of funds to other purposes have come to the notice of the Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon by the Union Government and State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) The Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam is implementing the Rural Water Supply Schemes in the State. The required information is being collected from the Organisation and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Southern Refineries

5174. SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Southern Refineries is likely to be shifted out of Kerala;

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

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to ensure production in the interest of future industrial development in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) M/s. Southern Refineries Ltd., a private sector company manufacturing lubricants and mineral oils located in Kerala, have informed that a few local people want to interfere in the recruitment of personnel, and having failed in this attempt, they (the local people) are creating obstructions in the functioning of the factory alleging pollution from the factory. Unless the State Government takes a firm stand, M/s. Southern Refineries will have no option other than shifting the unit outside Kerala for its survival.

(b) and (c) The Government of Kerala is concerned with this matter.

Oil/Gas Agencies

5175. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
SHRI L. RAMANA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation had advertised for filling up of backlog allotment of Oil/Gas distribution agencies for scheduled caste and scheduled tribe candidates in Andhra Pradesh in the month of December, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the locations of agencies, the number of applications received;

(c) the action taken so far; and

(d) when the final selections are to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited advertised 11 retail outlet dealerships under SC/ST category in

Andhra Pradesh in December, 1995, as per details given below :—

Sl. No.	Location	District	Category	No. of applications received
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ramayampet	Medak	SC	95
2.	Between Boowenpally & Miyapur (NH-9)	Rangareddy	SC	182
3.	Bacchanpet	Warangal	SC	66
4.	Rampachodavaram	E. Godavari	ST	27
5.	Between Pichatur & Kuppedu Vill. on Puttur-Mangalapuram Road.	Chittoor	SC	27
6.	Cuddapah Town	Cuddapah	SC	40
7.	Kalluru	Khammam	SC	82
8.	Kaikalur	Krishna	SC	73
9.	Putrela	Krishna	SC	54
10.	Tripuraram	Nalgonda	SC	59
11.	Addanki	Prakasm	SC	75

(c) and (d) Selection of dealers will be made after the selection system is reactivated.

[Translation]

Development Projects

5176. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the development projects started in various towns/cities/sub-urban centres under Khurja Parliamentary Constituency during the last three years, till date and the amount spent thereon, separately;

(b) the details of the various projects being undertaken in NOIDA, Dadri, Khurja, Bulandshahar and Ghaziabad till date;

(c) whether these projects are likely to be completed as per their scheduled time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Indian Talents

5177. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have contemplated any scheme to attract Indian talents in Science and Technology from abroad;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Government has been taking measures from time to time to minimize not only the outflow but also to attract scientists and technologists trained abroad to return to India with a view to utilizing their intellectual brilliance and creativity. Some of these measures are as follows :—

1. Assisting non-resident Indians for setting up industrial units in this country.
2. Provision for temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the Scheme of Scientists' Pool with the intention of minimising the delays before a final job is secured by an NRI Scientists.
3. Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to scientific institutions to improve working conditions of scientists.
4. Invitation to distinguished professional men and women of Indian origin settled abroad, for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of science and technology.
5. Special recruitment procedures such as a Quick Hire Scientists Fellow Scheme in the CSIR System.
6. There is a scheme called Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals under Government of India-UNDP Umbrella Programme, which seeks to utilize the expertise of the NRI Scientists. This scheme has benefited the country through visitation of 575 NRI's to date. With a view to giving further filling to this initiative, a new Programme has been signed by the Government of India and UNDP at an outlay of about 1 million US dollars for a period of three years.
7. Senior Scientists of CSIR have been additionally given the responsibility of meeting brilliant Indian scientists working in universities/research

establishments abroad during their visits there with a view to bringing them back for limited or longer periods.

Tool Kits to Rural Artisans

5178. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any programmes implemented to provide improved tool kits to rural artisans;

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

(c) the allocation of funds and achievements under the programme during the last three years, year and State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) : Yes, Sir. The Scheme of Supply of Improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisans is being implemented since July, 1992 to provide improved toolkits to rural artisans.

(b) The Scheme of Supply of Improved Tool kits to Rural Artisans is a sub scheme of IRDP. Initially, it was launched in selected districts. Later, from 1995-96 it was extended to entire country except UTs of Delhi and Chandigarh. Under this scheme, artisans from different crafts except weavers, tailors, needle workers and beedi-workers, living below the poverty line are to be given improved tools to enhance the quality/quantity/marketability of their products and reduce their drudgery. The average cost of tool kit is Rs. 2000 and the unit cost is to be fixed by DRDA concerned. The artisans are required to contribute 10% of the cost of the tool kits as their contribution with the balance 90% being met as subsidy from the Government of India. The use of power driven tool kits upto the cost of Rs. 4500 has also been permitted under the scheme. Beyond this, it is to be linked to loan under IRDP. At the district level the DRDA is the nodal agency for implementation. The prototypes of improved tools in pottery, carpentry, black smithy, leather work, wood craft, metal craft and lacquerware have been developed by the National Small Industries Corporation, Regional Design and Technical Development Centre under the Development Commissioner, Handicraft and other organisations. If the State Governments feel that better alternatives to improve tools suitable to local conditions are available in their States, they are free to choose those models, subject to the approval by the State Level/District Level/Task Force/Technical Committee set up for the purpose.

(c) Given in the Statements I to III.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise Physical and Financial Achievement under the scheme of Supply of Improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisan (Year 1993-94)

S.No.	State/UTs	Allocation- Release (Rs. in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Target (Nos.)	Total (Nos.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	145.800	130.07	8100	8321
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.400	5.96	1300	585
3.	Assam	93.600	81.98	5200	5285
4.	Bihar	117.000	118.85	6500	6493
5.	Goa	9.000	9.00	500	501
6.	Gujarat	93.600	95.73	5200	6370
7.	Haryana	93.600	95.73	5200	4535
8.	Himachal Pradesh	44.622	26.34	2479	1496
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.200	20.89	3900	1161
10.	Karnataka	93.600	95.23	5200	5399
11.	Kerala	187.200	110.43	10400	6658
12.	Madhya Pradesh	232.200	91.86	12900	5105
13.	Maharashtra	167.778	135.11	9321	7496
14.	Manipur	23.400	23.40	1300	1447
15.	Meghalaya	9.000	4.59	500	324
16.	Mizoram	27.000	N.R.	1500	3261
17.	Nagaland	9.000	9.00	500	597
18.	Orissa	46.800	27.37	2600	1381
19.	Punjab	70.200	33.60	3900	2722
20.	Rajasthan	140.400	89.87	7800	5396
21.	Sikkim	9.000	27.00	500	500
22.	Tamil Nadu	117.000	123.32	6500	8766
23.	Tripura	18.000	45.18	1000	974
24.	Uttar Pradesh	351.000	388.49	19500	19593
25.	West Bengal	93.600	68.86	5200	3651
26.	A&N Islands	9.000	6.36	500	320
27.	D&N Haveli	0.000	1.00	—	57
28.	Daman & Diu	9.000	3.11	500	86
29.	Lakshadweep	9.000	1.26	500	77
30.	Pondicherry	9.000	12.22	500	590
All India		2322.000	1860.44	129000	109147

N.R. :— Not reported by the State Government.

STATEMENT-II

State-wise Physical and Financial Achievement under the Scheme of Supply of Improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisan (Year 1994-95)

S.No.	State/UTs	Allocation/ Release (Rs. in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Target (Nos.)	Total Achievement (Nos.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	265.986	250.90	14777	13939
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.000	18.63	500	1368
3.	Assam	36.000	19.32	2000	1118
4.	Bihar	216.990	113.19	12055	5267
5.	Goa	1.800	N.R.	100	N.R.
6.	Gujarat	180.000	179.48	10000	10788
7.	Haryana	27.000	18.95	1500	1350
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18.860	9.71	1048	551
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	90.000	24.22	5000	1346
10.	Karnataka	144.000	78.486	8000	3627
11.	Kerala	108.000	178.72	6000	8247
12.	Madhya Pradesh	343.92	198.28	19105	14500
13.	Maharashtra	180.000	149.65	10000	7767
14.	Manipur	4.500	4.50	250	250
15.	Meghalaya	9.000	3.33	500	126
16.	Mizoram	54.000	13.41	3000	1722
17.	Nagaland	54.486	54.11	3027	3002
18.	Orissa	108.000	57.25	6000	3443
19.	Punjab	90.000	45.05	5000	1644
20.	Rajasthan	144.000	39.03	8000	2342
21.	Sikkim	35.986	14.44	1999	802
22.	Tamil Nadu	126.000	109.00	7000	5169
23.	Tripura	18.000	33.70	1000	2021
24.	Uttar Pradesh	504.000	558.29	28000	57917
25.	West Bengal	126.000	106.80	7000	4705
26.	A&N Islands	0.000	N.R.	—	N.R.
27.	D&N Haveli	0.000	N.R.	—	N.R.
28.	Daman & Diu	0.000	0.85	—	71
29.	Lakshadweep	0.000	1.70	—	96
30.	Pondicherry	4.500	18.02	250	134
All India		2900.000	2291.016	161111	124519

N.R. :— Not reported by the State Government.

STATEMENT-III

State-wise Physical and Financial Achievement under the Scheme of Supply of Improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisan (Year 1995-96)

S.No.	State/UTs	Allocation	Releases (Rs. in lakhs)	Expendi- ture	Target (Nos.)	Total Achiev- ments (Nos.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	181.870	369.180	231.84	110104	11592
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.710	9.000	20.20	539	1024
3.	Assam	138.030	171.000	78.11	7668	5373
4.	Bihar	565.120	565.000	192.479	31396	10195
5.	Goa	0.770	3.600	N.R.	200	N.R.
6.	Gujarat	98.400	98.000	106.16	5467	5880
7.	Haryana	57.870	93.000	175.46	3215	8985
8.	Himachal Pradesh	31.200	31.500	N.R.	1733	N.R.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	8.010	0.000	30.60	445	1842
10.	Karnataka	151.940	151.000	78.43	8441	4132
11.	Kerala	89.630	128.500	157.85	4979	625
12.	Madhya Pradesh	364.840	360.000	Nil	20269	Nil
13.	Maharashtra	222.020	401.940	598.97	12334	29032
14.	Manipur	19.210	18.000	Nil	1067	Nil
15.	Meghalaya	19.080	18.000	18.63	1060	118
16.	Mizoram	0.430	0.000	28.952	24	1872
17.	Nagaland	18.780	40.500	24.44	1044	1186
18.	Orissa	334.330	308.080	160.59	18574	8586
19.	Punjab	63.150	63.000	164.69	3508	9135
20.	Rajasthan	202.800	201.600	145.00	11267	3814
21.	Sikkim	0.320	15.300	7.10	18	395
22.	Tamil Nadu	212.870	81.000	32.92	11826	1870
23.	Tripura	6.680	6.680	21.561	371	2835
24.	Uttar Pradesh	490.500	653.400	566.40	27250	28638
25.	West Bengal	211.730	203.400	26.60	11763	9693
26.	A&N Islands	0.190	4.820	1.41	10	229
27.	D&N Haveli	0.130	0.000	—	7	—
28.	Daman & Diu	0.060	0.000	0.38	3	Nil
29.	Lakshadweep	0.020	0.000	—	1	—
30.	Pondicherry	0.300	4.500	0.83	250	N.R.
All India		3500.000	4000.000	2869.542	194833	153655

N.R. :— Not reported by the State Government.

[Translation]

People below Poverty Line

5179. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that neither any programme has been devised for the upliftment of people living below poverty line nor any budgetary provisions have been made for this purpose during this financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which any such programme would be devised and by when funds would be granted to the States in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The major poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in the rural areas of the country are (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP); (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY); (iii) Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY); (iv) Million Wells Scheme (MWS); and (v) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). The major urban poverty alleviation programmes are (i) Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY); (ii) The Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP); and (iii) Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM's IUPEP). Budgetary provisions have been made for these programmes during the current financial year; on the basis of which funds have been granted to States.

[English]

Supply of LPG Cylinders

5180. SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Greater Mumbai, LPG dealers are receiving inadequate supply of LPG cylinders and the consumers have to face hardship;

(b) if so, the requirement of Greater Mumbai, consumers per month and the actual supply to dealers between January and June 1996; and

(c) the steps Government have taken for regular and adequate supply of LPG cylinders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The demand of existing consumers of LPG in Greater Mumbai who are enrolled with the distributors of Public Sector Oil Companies is, by and large, being met

in full. However, temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by supplies from bottling plants in adjoining areas and by operation of LPG bottling plants during extended hours and on Sundays and holidays.

Self Employment

5181. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide self-employment to ten lakh youth from the most deprived families in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the time-frame for its implementation;

(c) the total financial outlay on this programme;

(d) the means of funding this programme; and

(e) the agency would like to implement the programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Ministry of Industry is implementing special employment Scheme in Khadi and Village Industry Sector with the objective of creating two million jobs as recommended by the High Power Committee (HPC) under the Chairmanship of former Prime Minister.

(b) To achieve the goal of creating this number of job opportunities in the rural areas, following new schemes have been taken up—

(i) **125 Priority Block Programme** : To commemorate the 125th Birth Anniversary of the Father of Nation, this programme was launched on 2nd October, 1994. The scheme has been launched in full vigour with an objective of generating employment opportunities of 55,000 people.

(ii) **District Special Employment Programme** : The programme envisages employment generation for 5 lakhs people covering 71 districts throughout the country in 3 years' period, with a maximum employment generation for 10,000 persons per district.

(iii) **National Programme on Leather** : The programme envisages setting up of 200 projects by 1997-98 to generate employment for 2 lakh people. For the year 1996-97, 50 projects will be launched for providing sustainable employment to 50,000 artisans.

(iv) **National Project on Handmade Paper** : The programme is of 3 years' duration. It envisages

setting up of 460 new units providing direct employment to 26,000 rural people, of which over 10,000 will be women.

- (v) **National Programme on Beekeeping** : The programme is of 3 years' duration. It envisages setting up of 129 projects in 96 districts for generating employment to 50,000 persons.

(c) and (d) To achieve this objective, financial support of Rs. 5600 crores has been estimated out of which two third has to be met from the Institutional Finance and rest one third from budgetary support from the Government of India. Government of India has also provided guarantee of Rs. 1000 crores to enable KVIC for availing loans from a consortium of banks for implementation of the schemes.

(e) the nodal agency for these programmes in KVIC which gets the schemes executed through Non-Government Organisations/DRDA/good institutions registered with KVIC & State KVI Boards engaged in rural development activities.

Oil Terminals

5182. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether IOC proposes to construct oil terminals at Vijayawada Rajahmundry, Visakhapatnam, Kakinada and bulk depots at Peddapalli, Cuddapah, Nizamabad and Ongole; and

(b) when the projects are likely to be started and the target date for the completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the projects and their status are as under :

Location	Tankage	Status	Target date for Completion
1	2	3	4
Vijayawada	50,000 KL	Land acquisition in progress.	36 months after land take-over
Rajahmundry	29,000 KL	Land acquisition in progress.	36 months after land take-over.
Visakhapatnam	60,000 KL	Land is under identification.	36 months after land take-over.
Kakinada	60,000 KL	Land taken over.	End of 1999.
Peddapalli	7,200 KL	Land under identification.	36 months after take over of land.

1	2	3	4
Nizamabad	10,000 KL	Land under identification	36 months after take-over of land
Ongole	12,500 KL	Work in progress.	October, 1997.

[Translation]

National Social Assistance Programme

5183. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where National Social Assistance Programme has been launched;

(b) the names of the districts of Uttar Pradesh to whom funds have been released from 15th August, 1995 onwards, district-wise;

(c) whether the officers of Fatehpur and Banda districts have drawn money;

(d) whether the State and Central Governments have received complaints about drawing of money on bogus names;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any enquiry would be conducted in this regard;

(g) if so the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The National Social Assistance Programme is under implementation in all the States and Union Territories of the country with effect from 15.8.1995.

(b) The Statements I and II giving the names of the districts of Uttar Pradesh to which funds have been released from 15th August, 1995, onwards are attached.

(c) No complaint has been received regarding non-receipt of funds released to the districts of Fatehpur and Banda.

(d) No such complaint has been received so far.

(e) to (h) Does not arise.

STATEMENT-I

The Name of the Districts of Uttar Pradesh to Which NSAP Fund have been released from 15th August '95 onwards

RELEASES		1996-97	(Rs. in lakh)
Sl.No.	District	NOAPS	NMRS
1	2	3	4
1.	Agra	95.69	28.50
2.	Aligarh	114.45	34.15
3.	Etah	78.37	23.30
4.	Mainpuri	46.17	13.60
5.	Ferozabad	52.89	15.93
6.	Mathura	67.32	19.97
7.	Allahabad	170.71	50.94
8.	Fatehpur	66.36	19.69
9.	Pracapgarh	76.94	22.87
10.	Kanpur (Nagar)	84.16	25.00
11.	Kanpur (Dehat)	74.54	22.11
12.	Etawa	74.00	22.00
13.	Farrukhabad	84.6	25.32
14.	Faizabad	102.91	17.22
15.	Bahraich	96.18	28.65
16.	Gonda	123.57	37.04
17.	Sultanpur	88.96	26.49
18.	Barabanki	84.16	25.19
19.	Gorakhpur	105.79	31.84
20.	Basti	95.21	28.36
21.	Deoria	84.64	25.32
22.	Maharajanj	58.66	17.37
23.	Siddarthnagar	59.62	17.66
24.	Padrauna	69.72	20.70
25.	Azamgarh	109.64	33.14
26.	Mau	50.49	15.05
27.	Balia	78.86	23.44
28.	Jaunpur	111.55	33.30
29.	Varansai	100.98	30.24
30.	Mirzapur	57.71	17.22
31.	Gazipur	84.16	25.03
32.	Sonebhadra	37.51	11.15
33.	Bhadoi	67.32	20.11
34.	Lucknow	96.18	28.65
35.	Hardoi	95.21	28.51
36.	Sitapur	98.58	29.67
37.	Rai Bareli	80.79	24.03

1	2	3	4
38.	Unnao	76.46	22.87
39.	Lakheempur	84.16	25.02
40.	Jhansi	50.01	14.76
41.	Bandi	64.92	17.80
42.	Hamirpur	35.10	12.01
43.	Jalaun	42.80	12.59
44.	Lalicur	26.93	7.81
45.	Meerut	119.74	35.75
46.	Muzzafarnagar	98.58	29.53
47.	Bulandshannar	99.06	29.53
48.	Gaziabad	93.77	28.08
49.	Saharanpur	80.31	23.89
50.	Haridwar	39.43	11.72
51.	Bareily	98.58	29.38
52.	Badaun	85.11	25.32
53.	Shahjahanpur	89.24	20.71
54.	Pilibhit	44.72	13.31
55.	Moradabad	142.80	42.69
56.	Rampur	52.42	15.64
57.	Bijnaur	85.11	25.47
58.	Pauri Gariwal	24.04	7.09
59.	Dehradun	36.07	10.72
60.	Tehri Garhwal	20.68	6.07
61.	Chamoli	16.35	4.77
62.	Uttarkashi	8.65	2.46
63.	Nainital	22.60	9.70
64.	Almora	29.33	8.68
65.	Pithoragarh	10.20	5.79
66.	Udhamsingh Nagar	16.83	6.22
67.	Ahmedpur Nagar	—	13.75
68.	Mahoba	—	9.27
Total		4808.70	1447.21

STATEMENT-II

The Name of the Districts of Uttar Pradesh to Which NSAP Fund have been released from 15th August '95 onwards

RELEASES		1995-96 (Rs. in lakh)		
Sl.No.	Districts	NOAPS	NFBS	NMBS
1.	Agra	113.23	56.33	35.08
2.	Aligarh	135.71	56.33	42.03
3.	Allahabad	202.64	56.33	62.80

Sl. No.	Districts	NOAPS	NFBS	NMBS
4.	Almora	34.47	21.88	10.85
5.	Ambedkar Nagar			16.87
6.	Azamgarh	129.86	56.33	40.16
7.	Badaun	100.83	56.33	31.38
8.	Bahraich	119.07	56.33	35.29
9.	Balia	31.20	56.33	28.80
10.	Banda	76.67	43.33	21.85
11.	Barabanki	99.77	56.33	30.97
12.	Bareilly	116.73	56.33	36.15
13.	Basti	112.80	56.33	34.87
14.	Bhadoi	80.06	43.33	24.79
15.	Bijnaur	101.12	56.33	31.38
16.	Bulandshahar	117.36	56.33	36.36
17.	Chamoli	23.99	21.88	5.87
18.	Dehradun	42.26	43.33	13.21
19.	Deoria	100.54	56.33	31.09
20.	Etah	97.69	56.33	28.58
21.	Etawah	87.50	56.33	27.07
22.	Faizabad	122.63	56.33	21.22
23.	Farrukhabad	100.46	56.33	31.09
24.	Fatehpur	78.21	43.33	24.27
25.	Ferozabad	68.38	43.33	19.70
26.	Gazipur	99.51	56.33	30.77
27.	Ghaziabad	111.37	56.33	34.85
28.	Gonda	152.38	56.33	45.50
29.	Gorakhpur	126.25	56.33	39.21
30.	Hamirpur	60.38	43.33	14.94
31.	Hardoi	113.10	56.33	35.18
32.	Haridwar	51.55	43.33	14.52
33.	Jalaun	50.20	43.33	15.57
34.	Jaunpur	132.38	56.33	40.94
35.	Jhansi	58.88	43.33	18.39
36.	Kanpur Dehat	88.04	56.33	27.30
37.	Kanpur Nagar	99.56	56.33	30.87
38.	Lakheempur Kheri	99.61	56.33	30.97
39.	Lalitpur	35.87	21.87	9.53
40.	Lucknow	113.79	56.33	35.18
41.	Maharajganj	69.01	43.33	21.32
42.	Mahoba			11.48

Sl. No.	Districts	NOAPS	NFBS	NMBS
43.	Mainpuri	54.23	43.33	16.77
44.	Mathura	79.51	43.32	24.67
45.	Mau	59.55	43.33	18.40
46.	Meerut	141.97	56.33	44.39
47.	Mirzapur	68.25	43.33	21.12
48.	Moradabad	169.70	56.33	52.82
49.	Muzaffar Nagar	117.07	56.33	36.36
50.	Nainital	62.41	43.33	12.11
51.	Padrauna	82.28	43.33	25.44
52.	Pauri Garhwal	33.40	21.88	08.91
52.	Pilibhit	58.11	43.33	16.45
54.	Pithorogarh	23.33	21.88	57.39
55.	Pratapgarh	96.28	56.33	28.20
56.	Rae Bareilly	95.24	56.33	29.65
57.	Rampur	61.85	43.33	19.28
58.	Saharanpur	95.08	56.33	29.92
59.	Shahjahanpur	81.82	43.33	25.92
60.	Siddharthnagar	70.34	43.33	21.85
61.	Sitapur	117.67	56.33	30.03
62.	Sonebhadra	49.54	43.33	13.75
63.	Sultanpur	105.40	56.33	32.70
64.	Tehri Garhwal	23.91	21.88	7.60
65.	Udham Singh Nagar			7.81
66.	Unnao	90.60	56.33	28.13
67.	Uttarkashi	15.13	21.88	03.25
68.	Varanasi	120.10	56.33	37.15
Total		5727.83	3147.28	1777.92

[English]

Petrol/Diesel Outlets

5184. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies found indulging in malpractices in various parts of the country during 1995, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the details of the petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies whose licences have been cancelled and the action taken against them during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) The State-wise details of petrol/diesel retail outlets

and LPG distributorships found indulging in malpractices in the country during 1995, are given in the Statement attached.

(b) One retail outlet dealership in Gujarat and three LPG distributorships (one each in Gujarat, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh) were terminated during the said period.

Actions such as suspension of sales, issue of warning letters suspension of selling licences by the district authorities, imposition of penalties, etc. were taken against the other defaulting dealers/distributors.

STATEMENT

State-wise Details of Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets and LPG Distributors found indulging in Malpractices in the country

State/Ut.	Number of Retail Outlets found indulging in Malpractices	Number of LPG Distributorships Indulging in Malpractices
Andhra Pradesh	15	38
Assam	1	3
Bihar	10	22
Goa	1	1
Gujarat	71	33
Haryana	25	17
Himachal Pradesh	1	1
Jammu & Kashmir	—	2
Karnataka	14	14
Kerala	4	11
Madhya Pradesh	19	30
Maharashtra	35	41
Orissa	9	5
Punjab	48	19
Rajasthan	66	19
Sikkim	—	1
Tamil Nadu	12	8
Tripura	—	1
Uttar Pradesh	80	105
West Bengal	14	15
Chandigarh	—	6
Delhi	31	31

Freedom to Vigilance Departments of Government Undertakings

5185. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vigilance Departments of the Companies, Corporations and other Government Undertakings are under the administrative control of their respective Managing Directors; and

(b) whether they are required to investigate cases of corrupt practices of their superior officers and to report to the ministries concerned and the Central Vigilance Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONYAN) : (a) Yes, Madam.

The Chief Vigilance Officers in the Public Sector Undertakings, generally report to the Head of the Organisation.

(b) The Primary responsibility for the maintenance of purity, integrity and efficiency in his Organisation vests in the Secretary of the Ministry of the Head of the Department/Organisation. The Chief Vigilance Officers in these Organisations act as the special assistant to the Head of the Organisation in all matters pertaining to vigilance and provide a link between their Ministries/Departments/Organisations and the Central Vigilance Commission.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Supply

5186. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken to improve the drinking water supply in several areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) whether financial assistance from the World Bank and other foreign institutions/organizations is also being extended to the Government of Delhi for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER, OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The following steps have been taken by the Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking to improve the drinking water supply to the residents of Delhi :—

SHORT TERM MEASURES :

- (i) A 40 MGD water treatment plant at Nangloi is under construction. The work is likely to be completed shortly.
- (ii) Tenders have been reinvited for the construction of 20 MGD water treatment plant at Bawana.
- (iii) Two Ranney wells have been commissioned to augment water supply and the 3rd one is under flushing and trial run.

LONG TERM MEASURES :

An agreement has been signed between the Chief Ministers of the five riparian States, including Delhi, on 12.5.94 to share water from the river Yamuna. According to this agreement, Delhi will get 0.724 BCM (Consumptive) or 2000 cusecs of raw water on completion of Renuka, Lakhawar Vyasi and Kishau Dams on the river Yamuna.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Talcher Thermal Power Project

5187. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to take over the Talcher Thermal Power Station; and

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has already acquired Talcher Thermal Power Station with a capacity of 460 MW from the Government of Orissa with effect from 3rd June, 1995.

Metalization of Roads

5188. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :
SHRI ILIYAS AZMI :
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN Alias PAPPU YADAV :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise and year-wise allocation made for roads during the last three years;

(b) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh have been connected with roads so far; and

(c) the number of villages are yet to be connected by roads in Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) :

(a) Statement showing Plan outlay on roads and bridges (State Sector) is attached.

(b) and (c) The information is furnished in a Statement II attached.

STATEMENT-I*Outlay on Roads & Bridges (State Sector)*

(Rs. Lakhs)

	1993-94 Outlay	1994-95 Outlay	1995-96 Outlay
	1	2	3
States			
1. Andhra Pradesh	10424	8546	9096
2. Arunachal Pradesh	7757	0254	9431
3. Assam	5200	6200	10103
4. Bihar	24481	24481	17728
5. Goa	1460	1500	1750
6. Gujarat	7000	8417	10117
7. Haryana	2112	2258	2500
8. Himachal Pradesh	5400	6485	7065
9. Jammu & Kashmir	5740	6518	6581
10. Karnataka	5750	15050	12384
11. Kerala	5720	7000	9450
12. Madhya Pradesh	7300	7300	6276
13. Maharashtra	15292	22795	42655
14. Manipur	2855	2712	4125
15. Meghalaya	5260	5300	6800
16. Mizoram	2175	2175	2200
17. Nagaland	2260	2410	2710
18. Orissa	14380	18945	15183
19. Punjab	2500	2683	4710
20. Rajasthan	8100	13700	22000
21. Sikkim	1600	1440	1656
22. Tamil Nadu	11000	12327	15620
23. Tripura	1950	2034	2925
24. Uttar Pradesh	37141	39900	43800
25. West Bengal	3042	5928	11520
Total (States)	200699	234358	278487

1	2	3	4
Union Territories			
26. A&N Islands	1410	1482	1883
27. Chandigarh	40	45	45
28. D&N Haveli	200	295	368
29. Daman & Diu	189	213	254

1	2	3	4
30. Delhi	12445	13950	16675
31. Lakshadweep	70	75	82
32. Pondicherry	506	650	950
Total (UTs)	14860	16710	20257
Total (States & UTs)	215559	251068	298744

STATEMENT-II

Village Connectivity Under MNP Roads in the State of Uttar Pradesh (As on 31.3.1995)

Category with population	Total No. of villages (1981 census)	Villages connected upto 31.3.92	1992-93 achievement	1993-94 achievement	1994-95 likely achievement	1995-96 target	No. of villages estimated to be connected by the end of 1995-96	Balance to be connected —
1500 & above	15574	13450	79	81	50	93	13753	1821
1000-1500	13737	7513	109	87	175	200	8084	5653
Below 1000	83255	31661	224	601	370	207	33063	50192
Total	112566	52624	412	769	595	500	54900	57666

LPG Bottling Plant

5189. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a LPG gas bottling plant in Jalna District of Maharashtra;

(b) If so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) and (b) At present there is no proposal for setting up of LPG bottling plant in Jalna District of Maharashtra.

(c) Bottling plants are set up on the basis of techno-economic feasibility after taking into consideration the demand potential of packed LPG in the nearby consumption zones. Bottling plants are planned/based on the surplus/deficit bottling capacities in demand centres/States. The transportation cost economics is also

considered for locating bottling plants. Plants existing and planned by Industry will have adequate capacity to meet the requirement of Jalna and other demand centres of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Overseas Development Authority

5190. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for the sanction of the funds by the Overseas Development Authority for slums, roads housing for the poor and to upgrade the drainage facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTRY

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government had received three projects proposal in the year 1991-92 in respect of Nagpur, Pune and Nandad for seeking ODA (UK) assistance. However, besides the ongoing projects at Calcutta, Hyderabad, Indore, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam at that point of time, the ODA (UK) was not willing to take up any other additional projects.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the guidelines of 1991-92, the Government could support only one project for external assistance; therefor the Government of Maharashtra was requested to indicate their priority of the town from among Nagpur, Pune and Nanded. The State Government selected the town of Nagpur in Maharashtra. The draft agreement between the Union Government and the Federal Republic of Germany for the project is in its final stages of negotiation.

Petroleum Products

5191. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand and production of petroleum products during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the demand for these products are increasing very rapidly;

(c) if so, the projected demand of the Petroleum and Petroleum products by 2000 A.D.;

(d) whether the Government propose to meet the demand by resorting to large scale import of these products;

(e) if so, the foreign exchange likely to be involved for next two years; and

(f) the steps staken to achieve self-sufficiency in crude oil production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) and (b) The total demand and production of petroleum products during each of the last three years are :—

Year	Petroleum Products		% age increase in demand over last year
	Production (MMT)	Consumption (MMT)	
1993-94	51.084	60.812	3.2
1994-95	52.927	65.487	7.7
1995-96*	55.067	72.358	10.5

* Provisional.

(c) Projected demand of crude in terms of Refinery Crude throughput and demand of petroleum products by 2000-01 is assessed at :

(Fig. in MMT)
(Estimated)

Crude throughput	93.67
Petroleum products demand	106.8

(d) and (e) Foreign Exchange requirement for the next two years would depend upon :—

(i) Indigenous production of Crude Oil and Petroleum products.

(ii) International/Prices of Petroleum products.

(iii) The demand of POL for the next two years which is determined on the basis of yearly oil Economy Budget.

(f) Government have permitted private investment in the refining sector to increase the refining capacity.

Permission has been given to Indian and foreign companies to explore for hydrocarbons in India and for the development of some small sized oil fields and a few medium sized oil fields. This was done to accelerate the much needed pace for exploration in the country and for faster development of oil fields using the latest technology where applicable.

[English]

Foreign Assistance

5192. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up power projects in the country with the assistance of the Government of Japan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith capacity and locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan have appraised and recently signed the Minutes of Discussions for extending loan to the following power projects under 1996-97 loan package.

- (i) Dhauliganga Transmission System (Uttar Pradesh) & Jalandhar (Punjab) — Hamipur (Himachal Pradesh) Transmission System of Powergrid Corporation of India Limited.
- (ii) Strengthening of Transmission System of West Bengal.
- (iii) Renovation & Modernisation Plan of Umiam State I Power Station (36 MW), Meghalaya.
- (iv) Tural Hydro-Electric Project (60 MW), Mizoram.
- (v) Simhadri Thermal Power project Stage I (1000 MW), Andhra Pradesh.

Ministry of Power have recommended to the Ministry of Finance to pose for loan assistance from OECF of Japan for the following power projects for 1997-98 loan package :—

- (i) Transmission Scheme for evacuating power from Vishakhapatnam TPS (Andhra Pradesh).
- (ii) Transmission Schemes for evacuating power from Simhadri TPS (Andhra Pradesh).
- (iii) Tuivai HEP (3 × 70 MW) — (Mizoram).
- (iv) R&M of bandel TPS (4 × 80 MW) — (West Bengal).
- (v) Three small schemes viz. — R&M of Santaldih TPS (4 × 120 MW), Addition of unit each to Jaldhaka HEP Stage I (9 MW) & II 4 MW) and construction of intake and flume path at Rammam State-II (4 × 12.5 MW) (West Bengal).

Panel of Deputy Secretaries

5193. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the panel of Grade I of Central Secretariat Service Officers in the grade of Deputy Secretaries has not been finalised since 1993;

(b) if so, whether in the absence of same, Under Secretaries, eligible for promotion, have not been promoted;

(c) whether due to non-promotion of such officers, the existing vacancies of Deputy Secretaries have been filled up by Officers of the All India Services; and

(d) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies by promoting officers of the Grade of Under Secretaries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) On account of a legal dispute relating to the seniority list of section Officers'

grade, as also on account of the need for seeking legal clarification as to the modality for implementing the reservation provision in the Under Secretaries' grade, the Selection Grade Select List of the Central Secretariat Service could not be issued after 1993. The Selection Grade Select List for 1993 was a part list issued in October 1995 covering 24 officers. Out of these, 21 officers have already been appointed as Deputy Secretaries or equivalent.

The posts of Deputy Secretary in the Central Secretariat fall within the purview of the Central Staffing Scheme. Under this scheme, officers on offer for deputation from all the participating cadres—All India Services/Central Services Group 'A'/Central Secretariat Services—are considered for appointment against available vacancies.

Urgent steps have been taken to obtain a clarification under the law as to how the reservation principles are to be enforced in drawing up of the seniority list for the Under Secretaries grade.

Pension to Employees

5194. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases pertaining to employees of the Department of Industry or Directorate of Industries of Uttar Pradesh are awaiting settlement;

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

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Under the provisions of the Constitution of India, the State pensions are the concern of the respective State Governments. Therefore, the information as asked for is not available with the Central Government. However, the information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available.

Ratna-R Oil Fields

5195. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the award of Ratna-R series oil fields to the Essar-Premier Oil Combine was a predetermined exercise on part of the technical evaluation committee and the empowered committee;

(b) whether the said predetermined action of the two committees has cost the Government over US \$ 500 million;

(c) if so, whether any irregularities were involved; and

(d) if so, whether the CBI has been ordered to enquire into the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Housing Schemes with Foreign Assistance

5196. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to introduce housing schemes with foreign assistance is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which foreign assistance is likely to be utilised ;

(c) the names of the countries which have proposed to offer such assistance to the country together with their terms and conditions;

(d) whether such proposals have been received from indigenous firms; and

(e) if so, the terms and conditions thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) The following proposals for securing financial assistance for housing construction/upgradation activities have been posed to the various external aid/funding agencies; viz. KfW (German Bank for Reconstruction) and Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila.

HUDCO KfW VI

During the Indo-German Annual aid negotiation held in April, 1995, the German Government had committed DM 50 million assistance (including DM 30 million as grant) for HUDCO's EWS Housing Schemes. The project was formally posed to the German Government in December, 1995, and is awaiting their approval.

HUDCO KfW VII

A proposal seeking grant assistance of DM 10 million from KfW to Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), for financing 150 Building Centre and 40 Mobile Building Centres has been posed for inclusion

under the 1996-1997 aid allocation to India under Indo-German bilateral assistance. Reaction of the funding agency is awaited.

HUDCO-KfW VIII

Assistance in the form of grant/soft loan of DM 50 million from KfW to Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), for housing schemes for urban/rural Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), envisaging construction of 44,000 dwelling units and slum improvement/upgradation of 10,000 units, has been posed for inclusion under the 1996/1997 aid allocation to India under Indo-German bilateral assistance. Reaction of the funding agency is awaited.

HDFC-KfW III

A tentative proposal seeking financial assistance from KfW for construction/upgradation/extension of dwelling units in urban and rural areas and undertaking complementary infrastructure development projects, financing of income generation measures, financing of housing construction measures for slum dwellers and financing building centres, received from Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC) has been posed for consideration under Indo-German bilateral assistance. Reaction of the funding agency is awaited.

ADB ASSISTANCE TO TAMIL NADU HOUSING BOARD (TNHB)

A Project Profile seeking ADB loan assistance of Rs. 381.11 crores for construction of houses and development of infrastructure in 36 project towns has been posed to ADB. Reaction of funding agency is awaited.

Central Electricity Authority

5197. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to exempt power projects costing up to Rs. 1,000 crores from the scrutiny of the Central Electricity Authority; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have decided to raise the project cost limit for power projects awarded on the basis of competitive bidding from Rs. 400 crores to Rs. 1000 crores, for the purpose of requirement of Central Electricity Authority's Techno-economic clearance. The necessary notification is under process for issue.

Oil Fields

5198. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had given an oil field to six companies to extract crude oil on which the ONGC had discovered the crude oil by spending more than Rs. 1200 crores;

(b) the money taken by the Government and ONGC from these six companies for the allotment of the said oil fields;

(c) if not, the reasons for incurring the loss of this Rs. 1200 crores; and

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct some enquiry by any suitable agency to find out the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) to (c) No discovered oil field has been awarded to a consortium of six companies. However Government of India has awarded contracts for the development of 6 medium sized and 13 small sized oil & gas fields to various consortia. These fields have been awarded through international competitive bidding. In the bids, signature and production bonuses are biddable items and proceeds on these accounts go to ONGC. In addition, wherever the economics of the project so permits, there has been separate compensation for past costs incurred to ONGC.

(d) : CBI has initiated a preliminary enquiry in case of the award of contract for the medium sized discovered fields Panna-Mukta.

Common Minimum Programme

5199. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the minimum common programme announced by the present Government has not mentioned about the C.I.T. in this programme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the C.I.T. programme has been disbanded; and

(d) if not, the reasons for being no provision for allocation of funds under this programme in the Budget for the year 1996-97.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) It is not clear as to what C.I.T. means. In the

absence of clarity, Planning Commission is unable to answer the question.

Siachen River Basin

5200. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir in consultation with the Central Government had prepared a comprehensive project for training of river Siachen in Nubra (Ladakh) to prevent erosion and to save many villages on both sides of the said river and vast wooded forest and pasture lands in the Siachen river basin in the said valley;

(b) whether a sand model study had been carried out in Pune in the early 1980's to study the behaviour of the Siachen river erosions; and

(c) if so, the latest position of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Model studies are in progress in consultation with the CWPRS, Pune.

[Translation]

Houses for Weaker Sections

5201. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sought any financial assistance from Union Government for construction of houses for weaker sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the proposed financial assistance likely to be provided by 'HUDCO' in this regard during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The total demand for HUDCO loans for housing from various agencies in the State of Bihar during 1996-97 is Rs. 39.46 crores, out of which Rs. 22.06 crores is for EWS and Rs. 2.47 crores for LIG housing.

Depending on the past performance of the agencies in the State, recovery from beneficiaries and other relevant

factors, HUDCO has proposed to make a total loan allocation of Rs. 41.71 crores for the current financial year, out of which Rs. 25.09 crores is for EWS and LIG housing.

[English]

Public Sector Oil Companies

5202. SHRI R. DEVADASS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the market share of the four public sector oil companies viz. IOC, HPCL, BPC and IBP have been reduced from 90% in 1990 to 59% in 1995, due to the entry of multinationals;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to increase the market share of these four companies;

(c) the impact on profits due to reduction in the market shares; and

(d) the loss to the exchequer due to this reduction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir. The market share of the four public sector oil companies, viz., IOC, HPCL, BPCL and IBP has decreased from 91% in 1991-92 to 69% in 1994-95 only in the lube market, owing to the liberalization of the lube sector and the consequent entry of private parties including multinational companies. The decline in the market share of the public sector oil companies has only a very meagre impact on the total petroleum products market share of these companies.

(b) In order to make the public sector oil companies more competitive and enable them to regain their lost share of the lube market, the indigenous lube base oil pricing was made on import parity basis with effect from December, 1993 and now they are allowed to market lube base oils and lubricants at market determined prices as free trade products. The public sector companies are also competing in the market with improved services to the customers.

(c) The profits are not separately worked out for individual products. However, by taking suitable action on pricing, cost of manufacturing, etc., the public sector oil companies have ensured improvement in profitability on lubes.

(d) No loss to the exchequer is expected, since Government revenues in the form of statutory levies, like excise duty and customs duty, are equally applicable to the public sector oil companies and the private sector companies.

Loan to Farmers

5203. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN Alias PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the vegetable are grown by the poor small agriculturists;

(b) whether no provision have been made by the Government to provide them loan on priority basis and on subsidises rates; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to provide them loan on easy terms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) As far as the Ministry is concerned under IRDP, small and marginal farmers are given assistance which include both subsidy and bank loan for undertaking economic activities including those in the farm sector. Growing of vegetables can also be taken up as an activity under the IRDP.

[Translation]

Schools by Terrorists

5204. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the students of some schools, being run by the organisations involved in terrorist activities in the valley, are being imparted education to spread Terrorism right from their elementary classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has exposed our coming generation to the danger of being misled;

(d) whether this had endangered our peace, law and order situation; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the said schools ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) The Government is aware of reports of some schools being run under the patronage of certain secessionist/militant organisations such as Jamat-e-Islami, J&K etc. with the aim of indoctrination of the youth the State. The State Government has been regularly sensitised in the matter, and sustained pressure is being maintained on such organisations to contain their antinational activities. Efforts have also been made to reactivate and improve the functioning of the regular education institutions which would also *inter-alia* wean away children from such schools.

Sale of Cylinder and Store Division

5205. SWAMI SACHIDANAND SAKSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the sale of Balmer Lawrie Cylinder and Store Division, Mathura Unit to a private company;

(b) whether any pre-sale assessment of the moveable/immovable property of the Mathura Unit of Balmer Lawrie was made and if so, the amount thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the workers of the said Units and ensure their job safety ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Rs. 75 lakhs.

(c) The valuation was done by a reputed firm of Chartered Accountants who were asked to value the unit as a going concern.

(d) The sale was done as a going concern, stipulating the condition therein that services of all workmen will be transferred on existing terms and conditions, maintaining continuity of services in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(0) of U.P. Industrial Disputes Act.

Power Tariff

5206. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the power tariff in Delhi;

(b) whether there is a ban in use of air conditioners and neon light hoardings to reduce the consumption of power in Delhi;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that in Delhi places like Sukhdev Market, Kotla Mubarakpur, New Delhi, heavy machines like wading, compressor (to paint cars and scooters), service station air machine etc. are operated using domestic power;

(d) if so, the action taken against the persons resorting the power theft and for getting such industrial units closed; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be made theft free area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S.

VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal before the Ministry of Power of increasing the power tariff in Delhi.

(b) DESU has imposed restrictions on the use of air conditioning power load etc. during the evening (5.30 P.M. – 10.30 P.M.) peak hours, in view of shortage of power in Delhi.

(c) to (e) In the raids conducted during August, 1996, DESU had booked a few cases of power theft and misuse of power load in Sukhdev Market, Kotla Mubarak Pur, New Delhi. The consumers found to have indulged in misuse of supply are penalised by levying appropriate higher tariff with 50% surcharge. DESU continues its drive against power theft and other violations in its different areas in Delhi.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojna

5207. DR. BALIRAM :

SHRI LALIT ORAON :

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

SHRI B. DHARMABIKSHAM :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of the complaints regarding irregularities in the implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana in the concerned State;

(b) whether the State Governments have since informed the Union Government of the action taken therein;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) The nature of the complaints regarding irregularities in the implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana received from various sources generally relate to misutiliation of funds. Since the responsibility of implementation vests with the DRDAs/State Government such complaints have been referred to them for conducting necessary inquiry and for taking appropriate remedial action.

Oil Storage Facility

5208. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Madhya Pradesh having oil storage facilities of Bharat Petroleum, Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum or all of them;

(b) the details of storage capacity;

(c) whether Shahpura Mitouni is one of these places;

(d) whether the benefits are reaching the local people from the said undertakings; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) and (b) The company-wise oil storage capacities of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. in Madhya Pradesh are given below :—

(Figs. in KLs)

Location	COMPANY		
	IOC	HPC	BPC
Satna	8868	3617	—
Sagar	10650	—	—
Singrauli	14286	—	—
Mangalia (Indore)	17373	—	15755
Ratlam	7274	6518	—
Nishatpura	21903	13517	7906
Gwalior	—	—	5330
Rairu (Gwalior)	14260	—	10929
Itarsi	10371	—	—
Bhittoni (Jabalpur)	23946	—	11884
Khandwa	6439	—	3600
Bhilai	7369	—	17116
Bilaspur	5492	2223	—
Bishrampur	3514	—	—
Raipur	—	13868	2808
Total	151745	75328	39743

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The oil storage depots at the above mentioned places in the State of Madhya Pradesh, have ensured the availability of petroleum products of mass consumption to the people of the area nearer to the consumption zones.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Supply of Bitumen

5209. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :
DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government for sufficient supply of bitumen and asphalt to the State;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the sufficient supply of the bitumen and asphalt;

(c) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that there is a long queue waiting for asphalt at the Koyali refinery during the working seasons resulting in long waiting of Tankers and loss due to waiting period;

(d) if so, whether any assessment for long waiting has been made in this regard;

(e) whether the loading capacity of bitumen at the refinery is sufficient in accordance with demand and the tankers in waiting; and

(f) if not, the steps Government have taken or proposed to be taken for the uninterrupted supply of bitumen at the refinery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The oil companies have been directed to meet the full requirement of the State.

(c) and (d) : Long queues are witnessed occasionally during the peak working season wherein the average waiting period is one to two days occasionally.

(e) and (f) : The loading capacity of bitumen at Koyali Refinery is more than the actual production. Till the expansion of Koyali Refinery, the production of bitumen cannot be increased as per the production pattern.

Brahmapuram Hydro Electric Project

5210. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given approval to Brahmapuram Hydro Electric Power Project in Kerala;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have imposed any conditions on KSEB;
- (d) if so, whether the conditions have not been fulfilled by the Kerala State Electricity Board;
- (e) the total power being produced by this project; and
- (f) the details of foreign funds if any, made available/offered for this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (f) No, Sir. However, Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic clearance to Brahmapuram Diesel Generating Plant (5 × 20 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 281.00 crores on 9.7.1993. This project was sanctioned by the Planning Commission on 2.9.1993 and is expected to be commissioned in 1996-97.

[Translation]

State Electricity Boards

5211. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are proposing to reorganise and revamping the State Electricity Boards to make them more viable and effective;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the work of reorganisation of the State Electricity Boards is likely to be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Government of India has emphasised in its various communications to the State Governments the need for reforms/restructuring of the State Power Sector. Besides encouraging the States to restructure their State Electricity Boards, the steps being taken to make the State Electricity Boards more viable include improving their generation reducing transmission and distribution losses, reducing establishment costs, promoting better management practices and project implementation capabilities.

- (c) Diagnostic studies aimed at improving the physical and financial performance have been initiated in several

States namely, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka. A new reform legislation namely, the Orissa Reform Act, 1995 has been enacted and made effective in the State of Orissa from 1.4.1996. A few other States, within whose competence this issue lies, are also considering taking similar steps.

[English]

Beneficiaries of Integrated Rural Development Scheme

5212. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the people on whose recommendations the beneficiaries of Integrated Rural Development Scheme are elected from among the people living below the poverty line;
- (b) the role of Members of Parliament in the selection of beneficiaries as prescribed by the Union Government;
- (c) whether the Union Government would issue instructions to the district magistrates of States regarding the selection of beneficiaries on the recommendation of M.Ps. from the survey list of people living below poverty line;
- (d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (e) Under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) the beneficiary families living below poverty line (BPL) are identified on the basis of a household survey which is conducted at the beginning of each Five Year Plan. From the BPL families identified in this preliminary survey the selection of beneficiaries is to be carried out in accordance with the guidelines in this regard, in the meeting of the Gram Sabhas which is to be attended by adult residents of village, non-officials, block officers, bank officers and supervisory personnel nominated by the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). The entire process of selection is therefore to be done in public and with total transparency. These guidelines are by and large being observed. After approving the list of beneficiaries the Gram Sabha sends it to Panchayat Samiti/Block Development Officer and DRDA, in whose governing body Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly are represented, for formal approval.

The Members of Parliament are not directly involved in the selection of beneficiaries. There is no proposal to

issue instructions to District Magistrates of States regarding selection of beneficiaries on the recommendations of the Members of Parliament from the survey list of people living below the poverty line.

Power Supply in Assam

5213. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been deterioration of power supply position in Assam as a result of some generating units of Assam have been under forced outage for long duration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of renovation and modernisation programme of the generating units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) During April-July, 1996, the energy requirement in Assam was 981.7 million units against which the availability was 864.0 million units which represents a shortage of 12.0%. The following units in Assam are reportedly on long duration outage.

Sl. No.	Name of the Station	Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Date of outage	Reasons for Outages
1.	Chandrapur	I	30	14.1.96	Capital maintenance.
2.	Bongaigaon	I	60	23.6.96	Puffing of Furnace
3.	Bongaigaon	II	60	26.7.96	Coal shortage.

(c) The physical progress of Renovation & Modernisation programme of generating units in Assam is as given below :—

Sl. No.	Name of the Power Station of ASEB	Activities Completed	Number of			Total Activities required for R&M
			Activities under Execution	Activities Pending	Activities dropped	
1.	Bongaigaon	15	15	6	4	40
2.	Chandrapur	3	11	3	0	17
3.	Lakwa	3	3	5	0	11
4.	Namrup	14	5	4	0	23
5.	Kathalguri & Goleky	19	0	0	0	19

Generation of Power

[Translation]

5214. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated additional power generating capacity in the country during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the quantity of power generated by the Central Power Project and the projects under State Governments, separately;

(c) whether the power generation cost of the Central projects is less than the cost of power generation by the projects under State Governments; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor along with the estimated average cost of the power generated by the Central Projects/State-run projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The generation capacity addition programme for the country during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 is 2868.50 MW and 3204 MW (Provisional).

(b) The quantity of power generated from April 1996 to July 1996 by the Central Power Projects and the projects under State Governments is 50313 MUs and 70417 MUs respectively.

(c) and (d) Different categories of projects are not comparable as the cost of generation of power projects depend upon the size of the station, type of fuel, location of the project, source of fuel date of completion of the project etc.

OBC Candidates

5215. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of OBC employees under various categories in the various ministries during the year 1995-96 are not according to the recommendations of the Mandal Commission;

(b) if so, whether some departments have kept the reserved posts vacant in violation of the Union Government's instruction in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The instructions issued in

pursuance of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission provide for reservation of 27 per cent of the vacancies in civil posts and services under the Government of India to be filled through direct recruitment for the OBCs.

(b) No specific violation of Union Government's instructions by any Department in this regard has come to notice.

(c) Does not arise.

Discretionary Quota

5216. KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish allotment of quarters under Minister's discretionary quota keeping in view the high scale irregularities in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint a high powered committee to look into each case of discretionary quota; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) Government have directed that all discretionary quotas hitherto enjoyed by the Ministers regarding out-of-turn allotments of Government accommodation stand abolished. In cases where it is considered absolutely necessary to make a small number of out-of-turn allotments of accommodation, guidelines/rules and terms & conditions to govern such allotments should be determined by Cabinet Committee on Accommodation. A specifically constituted Committee will process and recommend such allotments. Arrangements shall also be made for publication of the grant of such out-of-turn allotments made following this procedure every quarter.

[English]

Power Projects in Punjab

5217. SHRI DARBARA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals regarding power projects have been received by the Union Government from the Punjab Government for clearance and financial assistance for power projects during the last three years;

(b) the number of projects which have been cleared during the period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to clear all pending projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No proposal for power projects have been received from the Government of Punjab by the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Oil Fields

5218. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil fields in the country at present;

(b) the estimated oil reserves and for how long these oil reserves are likely to last; and

(c) the percentage of domestic requirement met from these reserves ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) A total of 194 oil fields/structures have been discovered in the country including those in the offshore.

(b) The estimated balance recoverable reserves of oil in the country as on 1.4.96 are of the order of 738.92 million tonnes. Based on the production level of 1995-96, these reserves are expected to last for about 21 years.

(c) As per OEB 1996-97, about 55.17% of crude oil requirement is estimated to be met from indigenous source.

[Translation]

Million Wells Scheme

5219. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wells to be dug in the country during the current year under Million Wells Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the number of SCs/STs likely to get jobs under the said scheme particularly in U.P.; and

(c) the funds allocated to the State Governments under the scheme during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Under the Million Wells Scheme (MWS) where wells are not feasible due to geological factors, the amount allocated may be utilised for other schemes of minor irrigation like irrigation tanks, water harvesting structures and also for development of lands belonging to small and marginal farmers. Therefore, no targets are fixed under MWS.

(c) The information is as per Statement attached.

STATEMENT**Resources Released Under MWS During 1993-94**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Central Share	State Share	Total Availability
1	Andhra Pradesh	5,908.82	1,477.21	7,386.03
2	Arunachal Pradesh	77.40	19.35	96.75
3	Assam	1,945.16	486.29	2,431.45
4	Bihar	11,589.94	2,897.48	14,487.42
5	Goa	83.63	20.91	104.54
6	Gujarat	2,169.01	542.25	2,711.26
7	Haryana	521.02	130.26	651.28
8	Himachal Pradesh	265.74	66.44	332.18
9	Jammu & Kashmir	377.22	94.30	471.52
10	Karnataka	3,967.52	991.88	4,959.40
11	Kerala*	1,497.20	374.30	1,871.50
12	Madhya Pradesh	7,487.34	1,871.83	9,359.17
13	Maharashtra	6,441.42	1,610.36	8,051.78
14	Manipur	99.21	24.80	124.01
15	Meghalaya	116.08	29.02	145.10
16	Mizoram	48.90	12.23	61.13
17	Nagaland	124.43	31.11	155.54
18	Orissa	4,793.44	1,198.36	5,991.80
19	Punjab@	392.23	98.06	490.29
20	Rajasthan	3,110.72	777.68	3,888.40
21	Sikkim	45.30	11.33	56.63
22	Tamil Nadu	5,341.48	1,335.37	6,676.85
23	Tripura	128.86	32.21	161.07
24	Uttar Pradesh	14,399.62	3,599.90	17,999.52
25	West Bengal	5,295.17	1,323.79	6,618.96
26	A & N Islands	45.81	—	45.81
27	D & N Haveli	24.87	—	24.87
28	Daman & Diu	14.65	—	14.65
29	Lakshadweep#	22.97	—	22.97
30	Pondicherry	44.84	—	44.84
	Total	76,349.38	19,087.34	95,436.72

Note:

* Permitted to Utilise 2/3rd of MWS Funds for IAY.

@ Permitted to Utilise the Funds for IAY.

Permitted to Utilise the Funds for Gen. JRY.

Resources Released Under MWS During 1994-95

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Central Share	State Share	Total Availability
1	Andhra Pradesh	6,503.99	1,626.00	8,129.99
2	Arunachal Pradesh	77.40	19.35	96.75
3	Assam	1,141.09	535.27	2,676.36
4	Bihar*	12,757.34	3,189.33	15,946.67
5	Goa	83.63	20.91	104.54
6	Gujarat	2,387.49	596.87	2,984.36
7	Haryana	573.50	143.38	716.88
8	Himachal Pradesh	265.74	66.44	332.18
9	Jammu & Kashmir	540.00	135.00	675.00
10	Karnataka	4,367.14	1,091.79	5,458.93
11	Kerala**	1,588.82	397.21	1,986.03
12	Madhya Pradesh	8,241.50	2,060.38	10,301.88
13	Maharashtra	7,090.24	1,772.56	8,862.80
14	Manipur	99.21	24.80	124.01
15	Meghalaya	116.08	29.02	145.10
16	Mizoram	48.90	12.23	61.13
17	Nagaland	124.43	31.11	155.54
18	Orissa	5,276.26	1,319.07	6,595.33
19	Punjab@	407.83	101.96	509.79
20	Rajasthan	3,424.05	856.01	4,280.06
21	Sikkim	45.30	11.33	56.63
22	Tamil Nadu	5,879.50	1,469.88	7,349.38
23	Tripura	128.86	32.21	161.07
24	Uttar Pradesh	15,850.02	3,962.51	19,812.53
25	West Bengal	5,828.53	1,457.13	7,285.66
26	A & N Islands†	45.81	—	45.81
27	D & N Haveli	24.87	—	24.87
28	Daman & Diu	14.65	—	14.65
29	Lakshadweep#	22.97	—	22.97
30	Pondicherry	44.84	—	44.84
	TOTAL	83,969.39	20,992.35	104,961.74

Note :

* Includes Rs. 6059.60 Lakhs Permitted to be utilised for IAY.

** Includes Rs. 1324.02 lakhs (2/3rd of MWS fund) permitted to be utilised for IAY.

@ Permitted to be utilised for IAY.

\$ MWS allocation permitted to be utilised for IAY in case of Nicobar district and for Gen. JRY in case of Andaman distt.

Permitted to be utilised for Gen. JRY.

Resources Released Under MWS During 1995-96

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No	States/UTs	Central Share	State Share	Total Availability
1	Andhra Pradesh	3,473.70	868.43	4,342.13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	29.02	7.26	36.28
3	Assam	1,143.53	285.88	1,429.41
4	Bihar	6,813.55	1,703.39	8,516.94
5	Goa	38.53	9.63	48.16
6	Gujarat	1,275.13	318.78	1,593.91
7	Haryana	306.30	76.58	382.88
8	Himachal Pradesh	122.43	30.61	153.04
9	Jammu & Kashmir	189.02	47.26	236.28
10	Karnataka	2,332.44	583.11	2,915.55
11	Kerala*	1,528.27	382.07	1,910.34
12	Madhya Pradesh	4,401.69	1,100.42	5,502.11
13	Maharashtra	3,786.82	946.71	4,733.53
14	Manipur	37.65	9.41	47.06
15	Meghalaya	42.20	10.55	52.75
16	Mizoram	22.53	5.63	28.16
17	Nagaland	57.33	14.33	71.66
18	Orissa	2,817.99	704.50	3,522.49
19	Punjab**	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Rajasthan	1,828.74	457.19	2,285.93
21	Sikkim	41.73	10.43	52.16
22	Tamil Nadu	3,140.16	785.04	3,925.20
23	Tripura	89.06	22.27	111.33
24	Uttar Pradesh	10,965.30	2,741.33	13,706.63
25	West Bengal	3,232.94	808.24	4,041.18
26	A & N Islands	16.56	—	16.56
27	D & N Haveli	4.16	—	4.16
28	Daman & Diu	6.76	—	6.76
29	Lakshadweep†	10.60	—	10.60
30	Pondicherry	10.32	—	10.32
	Total	47,754.81	11,938.70	59,693.51

Note :

* Includes Rs. 707.14 lakhs (2/3rd of MWS funds) permitted for IAY.

** Permitted to utilise the funds for IAY.

† Permitted to utilise the funds for Gen.JRY.

[English]

Residential Quarters/Plots to SCs/STs.

5220. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government to provide residential quarters/plots to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes by the Delhi Development Authority;

(b) the number of quarters/plots provided to them during the last five years, year-wise; and

(c) if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Reservation is provided by the DDA in the allotment of flats/plots to the registrants belonging to SCs/STs as given below:—

(i) For Flats — 17.5% for persons belonging to SCs.
7.5% for persons belonging to STs.

(ii) For Plots — 25% combined reservation for SC/ST

(b) and (c) The DDA has reported that the following number of flats/plots have been allotted to SCs/STs during the last five years.

Year	Flats	Plots
1991-92	272	No draw held
1992-93	1963	-do-
1993-94	2693	-do-
1994-95	2231	8
1995-96	1299	12

Employment in Agriculture Sector

5221. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any further assessment has been made by the Government regarding requirement of more capital investment in agriculture to give employment to the people;

(b) if so, the amount of capital investment required in this regard; and

(c) the manner in which resources would be mobilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE

AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Eighth Plan, recognising the need for agricultural growth for generating employment, proposed an allocation of 18.65% of total investment (at 1991-92 prices) in agriculture and allied sectors. The actual achievements in the first three years of the Eighth Plan are 11.76% in 1992-93, 12.35% in 1993-94 and 11.44% in 1994-95 (at current prices). The Common Minimum Programme of the United Front Government recognises the need to set up the rate of investment in agriculture. The exact magnitude shall be reflected in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

People below Poverty Line

5222. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons living below the poverty line in the country and the State-wise details thereof;

(b) the action taken by the Government to bring them above the poverty line during the last five years and the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the decline registered in the number of people living below the poverty line during the last five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Planning Commission estimates poverty on the basis of quinquennial consumer expenditure surveys conducted by the National Sample Organisation (NSSO). The latest estimates of poverty are available for the year 1987-88 based on National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure relating to 43 Round. The number of persons living below the poverty line in the country in 1987-88 and the State-wise details are given in Statement-I.

(b) A number of programmes are being implemented to improve the quality of life and income of the poor. These include programmes for raising income and generating employment opportunities such as Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS),

Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY). The programmes have had positive impact on the income of the beneficiaries. The number of families assisted in the major poverty alleviation programmes during the period 1992-93 to 1995-96 are given in Statement-II.

(c) The estimates of poverty for 93/94 will be presented based on full round NSSO 50th Round Data.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise Number of People Below Poverty Line in 1987-88

S.No.	States	No. of people below poverty line (Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	165.16
2.	Assam	37.44
3.	Bihar	278.12
4.	Gujarat	56.12
5.	Haryana	14.24
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3.49
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	7.81
8.	Karnataka	117.05
9.	Kerala	38.63
10.	Madhya Pradesh	195.71
11.	Maharashtra	183.67
12.	Orissa	119.61
13.	Punjab	9.59
14.	Rajasthan	84.31
15.	Tamil Nadu	152.23
16.	Uttar Pradesh	389.35
17.	West Bengal	142.60
18.	All India	2014.06

NB: (i) The number of persons below poverty line relates to the population as on 1st October, 1987.

(ii) the results are based on National Sample Survey on consumer expenditure relating to 43rd round (July 1987-June 1988)

STATEMENT - II

Assistance Under Major Poverty Alleviation Programmes

	IRDP	JRY	TOTAL EAS	
State/UT	Achievement			
	(Number of Families assisted)		(In Lakh Mandays)	
	1992—93 To 1994—95	1995—96	1992—95	1995—96
Andhra Pradesh	598643	122863	3220.65	592.07
Arunachal Pradesh	47613	14381	25.19	75.15
Assam	166169	58547	830.33	309.10
Bihar	824896	265525	4694.32	479.60
Goa	8100	2448	31.48	—
Gujarat	213985	55686	935.57	134.46
Haryana	85660	29771	133.38	101.95
Himachal Pradesh	23439	6750	111.02	10.11
Jammu & Kashmir	28284	13176	211.44	193.27
Karnataka	362527	119685	2094.15	478.31
Kerala	150509	43357	483.73	62.71
Madhya Pradesh	637385	210692	3393.61	803.06
Maharashtra	591999	181597	4127.23	558.65
Manipur	17149	2774	28.41	62.87
Meghalaya	11666	4534	31.81	9.69
Mizoram	11503	5085	22.02	91.14
Nagaland	9584	211	45.72	97.19
Orissa	393063	120669	2132.17	623.73
Punjab	81685	11786	101.15	—
Rajasthan	325732	92818	1696.76	611.13
Sikkim	3641	2843	39.86	25.33
Tamil Nadu	561096	150648	3746.37	363.60
Tripura	49529	14657	84.80	104.52
Uttar Pradesh	1203089	355916	6215.85	498.86
West Bengal	405235	161724	2075.15	380.40
Andaman & Nicobars Islands	3192	591	8.70	0.78
Chandigarh	0	0	—	—
D&N Haveli	974	274	7.75	0.37
Delhi	0	0	—	—
Daman & Diu	1128	89	2.37	0.48
Lakshadweep	337	18	7.85	1.46
Pondicherry	3671	1563	15.90	—
Total	6821483	2050678	36554.74	6669.11

STATEMENT - III

NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA

Year-wise Targets & Achievements for the Year 1992-93

Name of State/UT	S.U.M.E.		S.U.W.E.		S.H.A.S.U.	
	No. of beneficiaries assisted		Mandays of work generated (in lakhs)		Dwelling Units Upgraded	
	T	A	T	A	T	A
1. Andhra Pradesh	8645	25523	3.93	5.07	15316	45719
2. Bihar	3358	3732	5.14	27.63	13584	11130
3. Gujarat	1853	4765	1.61	3.09	7500	180
4. Haryana	1108	7435	0.98	0.96	2100	975
5. Karnataka	6456	14089	5.14	13.70	13067	8277
6. Kerala	3306	4890	1.94	0.17	5866	18079
7. Madhya Pradesh	7828	43787	4.39	10.98	13884	—
8. Maharastra	10589	18839	6.85	5.20	13800	—
9. Orissa	2216	4946	2.02	2.58	3817	4248
10. Punjab	2261	3985	2.05	0.93	4016	1513
11. Rajasthan	1969	4594	3.61	3.43	7967	—
12. Tamil Nadu	9512	19182	4.66	5.45	16000	30221
13. Uttar Pradesh	19229	59101	14.21	28.09	34100	25973
14. West Bengal	8483	15169	3.64	— 39.28	12200	23570
15. Goa	—	—	0.18	—	333	—
16. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	833	—
17. Assam	1589	1822	1.38	1.49	2667	6948
18. Himachal Pradesh	611	190	0.32	2.29	1666	—
19. Jammu & Kashmir	779	1695	0.46	1.70	2333	700
20. Manipur	333	395	0.20	— 1.13	1000	231
21. Meghalaya	217	119	0.26	0.65	833	—
22. Mizoram	167	—	0.11	2.67	500	—
23. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	1000	—
24. Sikkim	344	182	0.15	0.70	666	—
25. Tripura	288	330	0.11	0.44	500	—
26. A & N Islands	—	—	0.05	— 0.03	283	—
27. Chandigarh	—	178	0.06	0.16	500	—
28. D & N Haveli	—	43	0.04	0.08	283	—
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	0.13	— 0.80	283	—
30. Pondicherry	111	226	0.09	0.05	333	—
31. Delhi	800	1038	—	—	—	—
Total	92062	236855	63.74	76.27	177330	227764

T = Targets

A = Achievements

STATEMENT – IV**NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA***Year-wise Targets & Achievements for the Year 1993-94*

Name of State/UT	S.U.M.E.		S.U.W.E.		S.H.A.S.U.	
	No. of beneficiaries assisted		Mandays of work generated (in lakhs)		Dwelling Units Upgraded	
	T	A	T	A	T	A
1. Andhra Pradesh	14890	18175	3.70	2.38	15000	- 6133
2. Bihar	—	1987	4.10	6.76	13300	1985
3. Gujarat	2550	2630	1.29	1.31	7300	271
4. Haryana	1975	800	0.79	0.66	200	1760
5. Karnataka	4500	3345	4.09	9.96	12800	—
6. Kerala	4,000	5202	1.57	1.32	10000	41475
7. Madhya Pradesh	13500	32072	4.00	11.66	13600	—
8. Maharastra	11816	11917	5.44	—	13500	6200
9. Orissa	3805	1214	1.75	0.59	3800	- 68
10. Punjab	3908	3931	1.64	0.88	3900	1939
11. Rajasthan	5500	11749	3.15	2.06	7800	—
12. Tamil Nadu	17165	24418	4.30	3.15	15700	9046
13. Uttar Pradesh	33140	24813	12.52	28.48	33300	3506
14. West Bengal	5000	4368	—	—	11900	2000
15. Goa	150	440	1.34	—	300	—
16. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	800	—
17. Assam	630	1299	0.50	—	2700	—
18. Himachal Pradesh	275	—	0.33	0.16	1700	—
19. Jammu & Kashmir	800	91	0.44	0.06	2300	743
20. Manipur	380	2745	0.21	1.69	1000	154
21. Meghalaya	—	274	0.09	—	800	—
22. Mizoram	75	—	0.11	0.01	500	—
23. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	1000	—
24. Sikkim	230	16	0.11	0.03	700	—
25. Tripura	200	137	0.10	0.05	500	130
26. A & N Islands	100	177	0.01	0.11	200	—
27. Chandigarh	—	—	0.10	0.04	300	—
28. D & N Haveli	25	53	0.01	0.03	200	—
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	0.01	0.07	300	—
30. Pondicherry	—	160	0.06	0.71	300	—
31. Delhi	275	295	—	—	—	—
Total	125414	152308	50.84	72.17	177500	55996

T = Targets

A = Achievements

STATEMENT – V

NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA

Year-wise Targets & Achievements for the Year 1994-95

Name of State/UT	S.U.M.E.		S.U.W.E.		S.H.A.S.U.	
	No. of beneficiaries assisted		Mandays of work generated (in lakhs)		Dwelling Units Upgraded	
	T	A	T	A	T	A
1. Andhra Pradesh	10050	15510	2.11	1.61	13770	19976
2. Bihar	4450	—	2.74	—	12213	—
3. Gujarat	2450	1663	0.88	0.45	6738	57
4. Haryana	1610	2060	0.62	3.49	1967	—
5. Karnataka	4285	14048	2.70	—	11754	—
6. Kerala	4120	3279	1.20	1.09	5279	20740
7. Madhya Pradesh	10770	—	3.05	—	12492	—
8. Maharashtra	5360	7435	3.55	1.07	12410	—
9. Orissa	2570	—	1.05	—	3525	—
10. Punjab	3120	2670	1.30	0.91	3623	2790
11. Rajasthan	5230	9621	2.48	3.04	7180	—
12. Tamil Nadu	12160	12665	3.30	4.93	14393	5875
13. Uttar Pradesh	26440	35852	9.73	9.71	30556	—
14. West Bengal	4835	3042	2.55	12.41	10967	11611
15. Goa	75	—	0.08	—	246	—
16. Arunachal Pradesh	—	40	0.23	0.20	1375	—
17. Assam	1320	13572	1.46	1.37	2828	—
18. Himachal Pradesh	345	—	0.35	—	1475	—
19. Jammu & Kashmir	400	—	0.40	—	1721	—
20. Manipur	545	1651	0.42	0.41	984	—
21. Meghalaya	—	—	0.08	—	615	—
22. Mizoram	205	700	0.16	9.67	369	887
23. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	861	—
24. Sikkim	275	—	8.10	—	492	—
25. Tripura	205	33	0.16	0.26	369	130
26. A & N Islands	230	1	0.05	—	410	—
27. Chandigarh	145	21	0.09	0.16	205	—
28. D & N Haveli	50	14	0.03	0.01	205	—
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	0.05	—	410	—
30. Pondicherry	115	705	0.20	0.06	492	—
31. Delhi	830	79	N.A.	—	N.A.	—
Total	102190	124595	41.12	50.85	160024	62066

- Targets

- Achievements

STATEMENT – VI

*Physical Achievements under NRY.
1995-96 (upto 29-2-1996)*

Name of State/UT	SUME beneficiaries		SUWE Mandays (in Lakhs)		SHASU D.units		SHASU Mandays (in Lakhs)	
	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T
1. Andhra Pradesh	5701	10958	1.95	2.18	3199	1201	7.17	7.51
2. Bihar	14026	9283	—	2.80	9588	1017	3.10	6.37
3. Gujarat	1349	4397	0.63	1.22	—	483	—	3.02
4. Haryana	1725	1211	0.02	0.48	—	489	—	0.95
5. Karnataka	—	8664	—	2.75	—	947	—	5.94
6. Kerala	1282	2981	0.49	0.94	—	327	1.01	2.04
7. Madhya Pradesh	16019	7944	—	2.38	—	871	—	5.45
8. Maharashtra	10641	13736	20.02	3.62	—	1329	—	8.33
9. Orissa	6223	2800	3.91	108	3293	306	3.23	1.92
10. Punjab	1764	1106	3.08	1.01	4133	122	0.93	0.76
11. Rajasthan	9415	4889	1.93	1.92	—	535	—	3.35
12. Tamil Nadu	9857	11497	2.19	2.59	—	1084	—	6.79
13. Uttar Pradesh	20481	19328	8.55	7.53	—	2118	—	13.26
14. West Bengal	17567	10939	5.95	2.00	—	1021	21.05	6.41
15. Goa	10	111	0.73	0.09	—	61	—	0.12
16. Arunachal Pradesh	—	611	0.53	0.18	—	336	—	0.65
17. Assam	—	1276	1.36	1.13	—	703	—	1.37
18. Himachal Pradesh	1334	667	0.53	0.36	—	367	—	0.71
19. Jammu & Kashmir	1489	778	1.01	0.31	—	428	(-) 0.56	0.83
20. Manipur	—	444	—	0.33	—	244	—	0.47
21. Meghalaya	146	278	—	0.16	—	153	—	0.30
22. Mizoram	40	167	—	0.12	888	92	0.58	0.18
23. Nagaland	—	389	—	0.28	—	214	—	0.42
24. Sikkim	310	222	—	0.09	—	122	—	0.24
25. Tripura	22	167	0.12	0.12	431	92	1.80	0.17
26. A & N Islands	102	112	—	0.03	—	62	—	0.12
27. Chandigarh	135	55	0.10	0.04	—	31	—	0.05
28. D & N Haveli	37	55	—	0.02	45	31	—	0.05
29. Daman & Diu	213	112	0.25	0.06	—	62	—	0.12
30. Pondicherry	211	222	—	0.19	—	122	—	0.24
31. Delhi	—	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	122099	117001	53.35	36.09	21577	14970	38.31	78.14

A = Achievements

T = Targets

[English]

UNDP Report

5223. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to human development report of UNDP for 1996, 61.5% of the country's population is poor in basic capabilities;

(b) whether it is a fact that the poverty ratio in the country measured by the conventional head count ratio is 25.4 percent; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government to these divergent figures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) The Human Development Report 1996, published by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has introduced a multidimensional measure of human deprivation called the "Capability Poverty Measure" (CPM). The index is composed of three indicators viz. (a) capability to be well-nourished and healthy (b) capability for healthy reproduction and (c) capability to be educated and knowledgeable. The CPM in India for 1993 has been estimated as 61.5 per cent by UNDP. The CPM estimated by UNDP as 61.5 per cent does not mean that 61.5 per cent of the population is poor. There is no readily available methodology to obtain the percentage of people living in poverty by the CPM methodology.

(b) The incidence of poverty in 1987-88 has been estimated as 25.49 per cent by the Planning Commission.

(c) The Planning Commission's estimate of poverty and the CPM differ in their definition of deprivation among the population. They cannot be treated as substitutes.

Out of Turn Allotment

5224. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government employees who had to migrate to Delhi on transfer were allotted Government accommodation on compassionate and humanitarian grounds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have now decided to evacuate such employees from Government accommodation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Out-of-turn allotment on compassionate & humanitarian grounds was given to Central Government employees on various grounds including the grounds of transfer.

(b) No statistics have been maintained regarding the grounds on the basis of which the out-of-turn allotments were sought/made.

(c) and (d) The whole issue of out-of-turn allotments made during the years 1991-95 is sub judice.

[Translation]

Koyal-Karo Project

5225. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start the construction of 710 megawatt Koyal-Karo Hydel Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to release the total funds for the construction of this project during the current financial year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) The 710 MW Koyal Karo Hydro-electric Project in Bihar was entrusted to National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) for execution in August, 1980. Active start of the project was not possible due to continued local resistance. The NHPC has also not been able to mobilise funds for the Project. NHPC will have to rely on market borrowings and/or external assistance to meet a substantial portion of the Project cost which is presently estimated around Rs. 2,400 crores. The Project was posed for assistance of OECF, Japan, but the response of the OECF has not been favourable.

[English]

Housing Project

5226. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flats proposed to be constructed at Bangalore under National Games Housing Project;

(b) the amount of loan sanctioned by HUDCO for this purpose;

(c) the rate of interest and the repayment period;

(d) whether the construction of flats have been completed;

(e) if not, the time-frame fixed for it;

(f) whether all the flats have been allotted;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether HUDCO representatives are in the Committee to make allotment of flats; and

(if) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Under the National Games Housing Project 2534 flats are being constructed at Bangalore by the Karnataka Housing Board.

(b) HUDCO has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 270.00 crores for the implementation of the project.

(c) The loan has been sanctioned at 16% (gross) rate of interest with repayment period of 10 years, including the project period.

(d) the flats are being constructed in two phases. Out of 1406 flats to be constructed in phase-I, 1356 flats have been completed and the remaining are in progress. In respect of the 1128 flats in phase-II, work is in progress.

(e) to (g) As per the revised schedule the balance flats are expected to be completed by February, 1997 as per the indication of the borrowing agency, Karnataka Housing Board.

(h) and (i) No, Sir.

World Bank Assistance to Gujarat

5227. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has provided any assistance to Gujarat for water supply and sanitation projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the places where such projects have been undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes,

Sir. The World Bank had provided assistance of US \$ 72 million for the Gujarat Water Supply & Sewerage Project during November, 1982 to December, 1991. The World Bank had also provided assistance of US \$ 64.67 million for the Gujarat Urban Development Project during November, 1986 to March, 1995 which included water supply and sanitation. The names of the places covered under the respective projects are given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Names of Places provided with Water Supply and Sanitation Facilities in Gujarat Under the World Bank Aided Projects

GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE PROJECT

1. URBAN WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

Anand, Godhara, Nadiad, Bhavnagar and Jamnagar.

2. URBAN SEWERAGE SCHEME

Anand, Nadiad, Savarkundla, Rajkot and Ahmedabad.

3. REGIONAL RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

Pansina, Zamp, Lakhpat, Banni, Tharad, Deodar and Sabarmati.

4. INDIVIDUAL RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF VARIOUS DISTRICTS

Mehsana, Banaskantha, Junagarh, Anrela, Surendranagar.

5. NEW REGIONAL RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

Sabarmati Renovation W.S.S. and Narmada Bara Vibhag W.S.S.

GUJARAT URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

1. URBAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE PROJECT

East Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara and Anand.

2. REGIONAL RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

Una-Division, Kandla Gandhidham, Khadir, Bhadar and Okha Mandal.

3. INDIVIDUAL RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

850 villages.

Criteria for Allocation of Funds

5228. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state the criteria adopted by the Union Government for the sanction

of funds to the State for the Rural Development Schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : The criteria adopted by the Union Government for the sanction of funds differs from schemes to scheme, such criteria for Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM), are given below as examples.

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP):

IRDP is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented on a 50:50 basis by the Centre and the States. It is in operation in all the blocks of the country. Under this, Central funds are allocated to the States on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a State to the total rural poor in the country.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana :

JRY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented on a 80:20 basis by the Centre and the States. Under the Yojana, Central funds are allocated among the States/UTs according to their share of the rural poor. Further, the allocations to the districts within each State/UT are made on the basis of an index of backwardness which takes into account the proportion of rural SC/ST population in the district and inverse of agricultural production per agricultural worker with equal weights. 80 per cent of the funds allocated to each district are distributed to village panchayats by giving 60 per cent weightage to the SC/ST population and 40 per cent to the total population. The remaining 20% funds are retained at the district level for inter block/village works.

A small portion of funds under the JRY are allocated for undertaking special and innovative projects such as those aimed at prevention of migration of labour, enhancing of women's employment, special programmes through voluntary organisations for drought proofing and watershed development, etc.

Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) :

The EAS was launched on 2.10.1993 in 1775 identified backward blocks situated in drought prone, desert, tribal and hill areas in which the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was in operation. The EAS now been extended to cover 3206 blocks of the country in all States and UTs excluding Goa, Punjab, Chandigarh, Pondicherry and Delhi. The additional blocks include the new DPAP and DDP blocks, Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) blocks having a larger concentration

of tribals, flood prone blocks in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Jammu & Kashmir and blocks previously covered under the Intensified Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (IJRY). Under the EAS which is a demand driven scheme, no State-wise allocations are made. States can demand funds in consonance with demand for manual work during the lean agricultural season in the rural areas.

Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission

The Central funds are allocated to the States/UTs in accordance with the following criteria :—

- (i) 35% weightage being given to the rural population in the States/UTs;
- (ii) 20% weightage being given to the rural areas of the States/UTs;
- (iii) 20% weightage being given to the incidence of poverty; and
- (iv) 12.5% weightage being given in terms of areas and 12.5% in terms of population to meet the special requirement of State/UT covered under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) and special category hill States.

The total amount worked out for a State on the basis of (i) to (iv) above would be subject to matching provision being made by the State Government under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP).

Personal Computer

5229. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the present level of personal computer in the country and measures taken to promote and increase the level to atleast 10 per every 1000;
- (b) the target set up to reach that level; and
- (c) the measures taken to develop software in Indian languages, especially in Telugu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The present level of personal computers in the country is less than 1 per 1000 people.

The Government of India have taken the following measures to increase the level of personal computers (PC) penetration in the country:—

- (i) The Department of Electronics (DoE) has been encouraging computerisation in the Government.

The projects in this category include computerisation in the Income Tax Department, Customs, Sales Tax, Police Department, Bureau of Indian Standards, Ports/Airports, Railways, Banking and Financial Services.

- (ii) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has set up a facility providing for computerisation and networking through-out the country with NICNET for use by the Government agencies.
- (iii) The widely used applications such as electronic mail, bulletin boards and Internet applications such as World Wide Web (WWW) are being supported on Education & Research Network (ERNET), a network set up by the DoE.
- (iv) Public Wide Area Networks (WAN) like I-Net, RABMN have been implemented by the Department of Telecommunications. VSAT based networks have also been set up for WAN based domestic applications in the country, and international network connectivity and commercial internet services are also provided.
- (v) The DoE has also set up institutions for undertaking research and development in computer technology, applications and training in the area of computers. Some of these are: Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Electronics Research & Development Centres (ER&DCs), Centre for Electronics Design & Technology (CEDT) and National Centre for Software Technology (NCST).
- (vi) The Government has undertaken a programme of Technology Development of Indian Languages (TDIL) with the objective of development of information processing tools in Indian languages to enable use of computers in these languages.
- (vii) It has been proposed to increase computer penetration in the country to ten per thousand people by the year 2000/2001. Appropriate steps have been initiated in this regard.

(c) The Government have initiated a number of projects under a programme of Technology Development of Indian languages, with the objective of development of Information Processing tools and promoting their applications in Indian languages. Thrust areas include development of Corpora, Machine Assisted Translation Systems, Human-Machine Interface Systems, Computer Assisted Learning & Teaching Packages, and Fundamentals of Natural Language Processing.

Under the above programme, Corpora of text in Telugu Language has been developed. Machine Assisted Translation System from Telegu to Hindi is being developed jointly by Central University of Hyderabad and IIT Kanpur.

Clearance to Kerala Project

5230. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested to the Ministry of Planning and programme Implementation for the clearance of various projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) No Project received from Government of Kerala is pending approval in the Planning Commission.

Problems faced by Coastal People

5231. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of pathetic conditions of people residing near the sea areas in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh in general and during cyclones occurring in the months of October and November every year in particular;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that the people residing in low level areas are shifted to major towns rescue measure every year in the month of November;

(c) if so, whether any study has been conducted to provide better facilities permanently instead of paying ex-gratia amount of the victims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have reported that they are fully aware of the living conditions of the people living near sea shore and low lying areas of Nellore District.

In order to improve the living conditions of these people, 728 pucca houses were constructed by Andhra Pradesh State Housing Corporation, Nellore under the Fishermen's Housing Programme.

(c) and (d) The District Administration conducted a study to assess the needs of the affected people living near shore and a particular type of house design has been planned. Cyclone shelters have been constructed

near shore areas to protect the people during cyclones. So far 119 cyclone shelters have been constructed in coastal villages of the Nellore district and 17 more cyclone shelters are proposed to be constructed in these areas. Based on the disaster warnings all precautionary measures are taken to mitigate the hardship caused by cyclonic disaster. Further, the State Government have taken efforts to provide house sites in the elevated places by acquisition of land, for rehabilitation of people living in low lying areas. Also the Non-Governmental Organisation are bearing 50% of the expenditure with the State Government towards constructions under Fishermen's Housing Scheme.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Power Sector

5232. SHRI CHITRASEN SINKU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide a loan of fifteen lakh American dollars to the Government for making the Power Industry in Bihar self dependent;

(b) if so, the details of the Projects to be started with the World Bank loan;

(c) the time by which the work on the said Projects is likely to be started;

(d) whether the Government propose to allocate power generation, transmission and distribution work to different companies;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government propose to dissolve the Bihar State Electricity Board after the implementation of the said Projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The World Bank has made available a project preparatory Facility (PPF) of US 1.5 million dollars to Bihar to undertake diagnostic studies for reform/restructuring the State Power Sector.

(c) to (d) The Government of Bihar have appointed consultants to conduct a study in two phases on restructuring of the power sector in the State.

(e) and (f) Government of Bihar has set up a Steering Committee under its Chief Secretary to take a view on the recommendations received by it of the first phase of the study which has been completed.

[English]

Central Electricity Authority

5233. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to streamline the functioning of the Central Electricity Authority;

(b) if so, whether the Committee on Tariff Regulation also propose to give its recommendations; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the extent to which the CEA would be made more functional ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Steps to streamline the functioning of the Central Electricity Authority have been initiated by the Ministry of Power.

(b) The Government have set up an inter-ministerial committee to study alternative tariff structures and suggest changes that may be necessary, with the ultimate objective of enabling availability of least cost power to the State Electricity Boards. The Committee is in the final stages of its deliberations.

(c) The recommendations of consultant in this regard are awaited, where after specific steps would be taken to bring about the requisite changes.

[Translation]

India Habitat Centre

5234. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total membership allotted by the 'India Habitat Centre' upto August, 1996;

(b) the details of criteria laid down for allotting membership;

(c) the reasons for acceptance of the applications of the persons who applied for membership alongwith the criteria on which the applications were accepted and the objectives of the institution in this regard;

(d) the time by which the said centre would be completed for utilisation by the members;

(e) whether in future the membership is proposed to be increased; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) (i) 6144 individual membership (ii) 163 Corporate membership.

(b) and (c) Applications received from the public are screened by the Sub-Committee of the Governing Body of India Habitat Centre (IHC) and membership is offered to such applicants who are expected to contribute to the Habitat objectives for which the centre is set up.

(d) It has been reported that though the facility centre is ready for commissioning, its utilisation depends on the outcome of the pending litigation.

(e) and (f) As the centre has yet to become operational, future membership cannot be decided at this stage.

Wasteland Development in Bihar

5235. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects sanctioned/approved under the wasteland development programme for Bihar;

(b) the details of the project pending for clearance and the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which these are expected to be given approval;

(d) the number of projects financed by World Bank under the Plateau/Waste Land Development Programme;

(e) the details of the projects currently under implementation; and

(f) the time by which the projects financed by the World Bank are likely to be implemented in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA) : (a) The details of the projects sanctioned/approved under the Wasteland Development Programme for Bihar since creation of Department of Wastelands Development in July, 1992 to 31.3.96 are given in Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Details of the projects pending for clearance with reasons therefor are given in statement II. Sanction/approval of projects depend upon their viability, conformity with the guidelines of the relevant scheme and availability of budget. No time-limit can be indicated for the approval/sanction of any project.

(d) to (f) Presently, no project financed by the World Bank specifically for the wasteland development is under implementation through the Department of Wastelands Development in the State of Bihar.

STATEMENT-I

State : Bihar

S.No.	District	Project period	Total Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Total physical Target (ha.)	Project Sanctioned to	Purpose
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
INTEGRATED WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCHEME						
1.	Chatra	1993-94 to 1996-97	138.45	1445	District Rural Development Agency	Wasteland Development and awareness raising.
2.	Lohardaga	-do-	248.66	2670	-do-	-do-
3.	Garhwa	-do-	114.21	1295	-do-	-do-
4.	Gaya	-do-	433.37	5470	-do-	-do-
5.	Nawada	-do-	288.37	3620	-do-	-do-
6.	Deoghar	1994-95 to 1997-98	331.60	4400	-do-	-do-

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
7.	Palamau	1993-94 to 1996-97	233.97	2705	-do-	-do-
8.	Vaishali	1995-96 to 1998-99	40.00	1000	Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa Samastipur, Bihar	-do-
Sub-Total			1828.63	22605		

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION AND TRAINING SCHEME

1.	Ranchi	1989-90 to 1992-93	12.62	135	Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke, Ranchi	Demonstration of Agroforestry models for development of wastelands.
2.	Ranchi	1995-96 to 1999-2000	20.795	110	Society for Rural Industrialisation, Ranchi	Demonstration & Development of vermiculture technology.
3.	Dhanbad	1994-95 to 1996-97	55.04	400	Bharat Coaking Coal Ltd., Dhanbad.	Reclamation of mine spoils.
4.	Samastipur	1994-95 to 1995-96	6.06	50	Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur	Wasteland Development through agroforestry models.
5.	-do-	1994-95 to 1998-99	32.45	405	-do-	Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur
Sub-total			126.895	1100		

Grants-in-aid Scheme

1.	Champaran	1992-93 to 1994-95	7.95	120	Shivani Vriksharopan Van Vikas Gram Samiti	Wasteland development and awareness raising
2.	Deoghar	1992-93 to 1993-94	1.51	42	Consortium of Human Fnlt. & Tech. Nature Assn. CHETNA	-do-
3.	Patna	1993-94 to 1994-95	3.53	91	ADITHI	-do-
4.	Deoghar	1995-96 to 1999-2000	27.52	600	Grameen Vikas Parishad	-do-
5.	Patna	1993-94	0.40	6	R.N. College, Deptt. of Botany	-do-

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
6.	Deoghar	1994-95 to 1998-99	16.18	491	Santhal Pargana Gramodyog Samiti	-do-
7.	Purnia	1992-93 to 1993-94	6.79	100	Purnia Zilla Samagra Vikas Parishad	-do-
8.	Pardih	1992-94 to 1993-94	5.38	120	Sarvodaya Seva Sangha	-do-
9.	Daltonganj	1994-95 to 1998-99	59.28	1140	Society for Hill Resources Management School	-do-
10.	Lohardaga	1994-95 to 1997-98	180	2550	DRDA, Lohardaga	-do-
11.	Patna	1995-96 to 1997-98	6.92	77	Bihar Relief Committee	-do-
12.	D. Deoghar	1995-96 to 1996-97	1.46	122	Santhal Pargana Vikas & Seva Sansthan	-do-
13.	Patna	1995-96 to 1997-98	6.92	77	Bihar Gramin Antodaya Vikas Parishad	-do-
14.	Khagaria	1995-96 to 1999-2000	12.40	150	Akhil Bhartiya Kanwariya Seva Sangh	-do-
15.	East Champaran	1995-96 to 1997-98	1.76	38	Gyan Sagar	-do-
16.	Deoghar	1995-96 to 1999-2000	27.52	600	Gramin Vikas Parishad	-do-
17.	Patna	1992-93 to 1993-94	4.57	60	Development Research Consultants	-do-
18.	Madhubani	1995-96 to 1999-2000	14.34	150	Mithila Udayamita Vikas Samiti	-do-
Sub-Total			384.43	6534		

STATEMENT-II

S.No.	Name of the Project/Agency/District	Reason
(1)	(2)	(3)
Integrated Wastelands Development Project Scheme		
1.	IWDP in Giridih District	Shortcomings communicated to the State Government. Reply awaited.
2.	IWDP in Rohtas (Sasaram) Distt.	-do-
3.	Project for Fish-culture in Purnea District	The project does not conform to the Guidelines
4.	IWDP in Palamau District	-do-
GRANT-IN-AID SCHEME		
1.	Gramin Nari Prerna, Dumka	Pre-appraisal report from DRDA awaited and VA has to remove the deficiencies.
2.	Bihar Seva Mandal, Lakhisarai	-do-
3.	Santhal Pargana Antyodya Ashram, Dumka	-do-
4.	Lok Chetna Abhikaran Kendra, Saran	-do-
5.	Singhbhum Gramin Unnayan Kendra, East Singhbhum	-do-
6.	Lok Shiksha Sansthan, Muzaffarpur	-do-
7.	Association for Wasteland Development, Koderma	-do-
8.	Bharat Navnirman Chetna Vikas Sansthan, Nalanda	-do-
9.	Bihar Pradesh Yuva Parishad, Palamau	-do-
10.	Gram Sabha Seva Sansthan, Dumka	-do-
11.	Paryavaran Jagriti Kendra, Begusarai	-do-
12.	Parmila Kalyan Samiti, Bhagalpur	Appraisal report from DRDA awaited
13.	Bihar State Forest Development Corporation, West Champaran	Consultation to be held With VA for revision of project.
14.	North Bihar Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Muzaffarpur	Under process
15.	Samta Gram Seva Sansthan, (district not mentioned)	-do-
16.	Society for Environment and Social Awareness, (district not mentioned)	-do-
17.	Ursuline Provincialate (district not mentioned)	-do-
18.	Purnia Zila Samagra Vikas Parishad, Purnia	-do-

(1)	(2)	(3)
19.	Vikalp, Jamui	-do-
20.	Lok Kalyan Parishad, Singhbhum	-do-
21.	Pravah, Deoghar	-do-
22.	Sri Durge Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Nabada	-do-
23.	Rashtriya Chakriya Vikas Vidyalaya, Ranchi	-do-
24.	Jan Seva Bharti, Madhubani	-do-
25.	Rashtriya Gramin Krishi Vidyapeeth, Saran	-do-
26.	Variksh Vikas, Palamau	-do-
27.	Santhal Pargana Gramodyug Samiti, Deogarh	-do-
28.	Mahila Seva Bharti, Jamui	-do-
29.	Lok Seva Bharti, Madhubani	-do-

[English]

Rent Arrears

5236. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Ex-Ministers, Ex-MPs and other VIPs who are still occupying Government bungalows/flats etc. unauthorisedly with the details of bungalows as on August 31, 1996;

(b) the details of dues outstanding against each of them till date;

(c) the names of MPs who are occupying bungalows of higher type to which they are not entitled and the steps taken to allot them bungalows to which they are entitled; and

(d) the steps the Government have taken so far to get the bungalows vacated from persons referred to in part (a) above and the outstanding dues recovered from each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) As per statement-I enclosed.

(c) As per Statement-II enclosed. Entitled accommodation is being offered subject to availability of appropriate type of vacancies with the Lok/Rajya Sabha House Committee and General Pool.

(d) Steps as per rules have been taken to get the bungalows vacated and to get outstanding dues recovered from each of them.

STATEMENT-I

Ex-Ministers/Ex-M.Ps and other VIPs who are Still Occupying Govt. Bungalows/flats as on 31.8.96

Sl. No.	Name S/Shri	Bungalow/flat No.	Amount of dues Rs.
1.	P.V. Rangayya Naidu	24, Willingdon Crescent	21,619/-
2.	Jagdish Tytler	2, Akbar Road	1,29,985/-
3.	Eduardo Faliero	6, Janpath	1,67,721/-
4.	Family of Late Shri M. Subbarama Reddy	AB-18, Mathura Road	1,03,298/-

Sl. No.	Name S/Shri	Bungalow/flat No.	Amount of dues Rs.
5.	Family of Late Shri Dinesh Singh	1, Tyagraj Marg	5,14,243/-
6.	Ram Dhan	12, Dr. R.P. Road	4,53,341/-
7.	M.C. Gupta	AB-17, Pandara Road	1,20,774/-
8.	Bandi Oraon	4-1 (MS), Shah. Road	1,12,951/-
9.	K.K. Tewary	C-1/24, Pandara Park	44,443/-
10.	Bhishma Narain Singh	C-1/1, Pandara Park	28,226/-
11.	Smt. Gurbachan Kaur	16, Windsor Place	34,224/-
12.	R.K. Takkar	C-1/5, Humayun Rd.	27,371/-
13.	Subodh Kant Sahay	C-1/2, Lodi Garden	2,34,558/-
14.	A.N. Jayram	AB-83, Shah. Road	43,632/-
15.	D.N. Dwivedi	1-B, Maulana Azad Rd.	96,360/-
16.	Smt. Amarjeet Kaur	B-2, B.K.S. Marg	3,23,946/-
17.	Smt. Kamla Kumari	B-6, B.K.S. Marg	44,371/-
18.	V.C. Shukla	9, Janpath	1,59,412/-
19.	B. Sankaranand	8, Tees January Marg	1,35,715/-
20.	K.P. Unnikrishnan,	9, Safdarjung Road	2,60,450/-
21.	P.K. Thungon	AB-3, Pandara Road	88,306/-
22.	Buta Singh	16, Ashoka Road	3,35,357/-
23.	Saifuddin Choudhury	14, Ashoka Road	1,39,931/-
24.	Saijan Kumar	7, Akbar Road	1,10,426/-
25.	Kamal Nath	7, Tughlak Road	1,15,781/-
26.	R. Prabhu	CI/8, Pandara Park	4,086/-
27.	Jagmeet Singh Brar	35, Lodi Estate,	65,081/-
28.	S. Jaipal Reddy	14, Akbar Road	1,56,751/-
29.	Digvijay Singh	5-7, Mahadev Road	99,588/-
30.	M.S. Bhat	1, Talkatora Road	65,878/-

STATEMENT-II

Name of the Members of Parliament Occupying Bungalows of Higher Type to which they are not entitled from General pool.

Sl. No.	Name S/Shri	House No.	Type
1	A.B.A. Ghani Khan Choudhury	12, Akbar Road,	VIII
2	George Fernandes	3, K.M. Marg,	-do-
3	Late Shri B.B. Mirdha,	3 Safdarjung Road	-do-

Sl. No.	Name S/Shri	House No.	Type
4.	Sharad Yadav,	9, Akbar Road	-do-
5.	Ashok Gehlot,	3, Tyagraj Marg	-do-
6.	Taslimuddin	2, M.L.N. Place	-do-
7.	Shiv Raj Patil	20, Akbar Road	-do-
8.	Kalp Nath Rai	36, Aurangzed Road	-do-
9.	Kamaluddin Ahmed	9, Ashoka Road,	-do-
10.	Madhav Rao Scindia,	27, Safdarjung Road	-do-
11.	Col Ram Singh	6, Ashoka Road,	-do-
12.	Ajit Singh	18, Akbar Road,	-do-
13.	G. Venkat Swamy	2, Jantar Mantar	-do-
14.	Rajesh Pilot	10, Akbar Road	-do-
15.	S.M. Dev	15, Ashoka Road	-do-
16.	Kumari Selja,	3, Sunehri Bagh Road	-do-
17.	Smt. Sukhbans Kaur	19, Safdarjung Road	-do-
18.	P. Upendra	11, Akbar Road	-do-
19.	Pranab Mukherjee	5, Ashoka Road	-do-
20.	Somnath Chatterjee	21, Ashoka Road	-do-
21.	Basudev Acharya,	4, Ashoka Road	-do-
22.	N.K.P. Salve	32, Aurangzed Road	-do-
23.	Matnag Singh	4, Kushak Road	-do-
24.	S.K. Shinde	23, Safdarjung Road	-do-
25.	H.R. Bhardwaj,	14, Tughlak Road	-do-
26.	M. Rajshkhar Murthy,	7, Tyagraj Marg,	-do-
27.	S.B. Chavan,	4, K.M. Marg	-do-
28.	K. Karunakaran,	9, K.M. Marg,	-do-
29.	M. Ramachandran,	4, South Avenue Lane,	Type VII
30.	Smt. Girija Vyas,	AB-96, Shahjahan Road	-do-
31.	K.P. Singh Deo	4, Lodhi Estate,	-do-
32.	Mallikarjun,	60, Lodhi Estate,	-do-
33.	P.J. Kurian,	AB-77, Shahjahan Road	-do-
34.	Capt. Satish Sharma	8, Safdarjung Lane	-do-
35.	Gurdas Dasgupta	24, Canning Lane	-do-
36.	E. Balanandan	8, T.M. Lane	-do-
37.	Jitendra Prasad	11-A, T.M. Marg,	-do-
38.	Vinod Sharma,	12, Tuglak Lane	-do-
39.	S.C. Agarwal,	AB-10, Dr. Z.H. Marg,	-do-
40.	V. Hanumantha Rao,	21, Willingdon Crescent	-do-
41.	Smt. Vijay Raje Sciendia	16, T.M. Lane,	-do-
42.	Iqbal Singh	34, Lodhi Estate	Type VI
43.	Jayant Malhotra,	3, M.L.N. Marg	-do-
33.	Smt. Vujayantiamala Bali,	CI/10, Lodhi Garden	-do-
45.	Kanshi Ram,	CI/11, Humayun Road,	-do-

Power Plant in Kolar

5237. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to set up a Thermal Power Plant in Kolar which is a very backward district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka has permitted M/s HMG Power (Kolar) Ltd., Bangalore to set up 100 MW DG Power Plant at Kolar, in the Private Sector. The Central Electricity Authority has accorded 'in-principle clearance' to this scheme, subject to certain conditions, to facilitate the company to proceed with various commercial and financial arrangements for this scheme.

Metro Rail in Delhi

5238. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is pending with the Government about the Metro Rail (underground) in Delhi; and

(b) if so the present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to introduce under ground Metro Rail covering a distance of about 11 Kms. from Central Secretariat to Vishwa Vidyalyaya via. Connaught Place, New Delhi Railway Station, Old Delhi Railway Station, ISBT and Old Secretariat.

(b) All requisite studies for the project have been completed and the proposal is awaiting Government of India's final investment approval.

Water Supply and Sewerage Project

5239. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether a project of Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project Stage II is sending with Union Government for final clearance;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) the level at which it is pending as on now; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Maharashtra Water Supply & Sewerage Project (State II) is pending with the Government of Maharashtra and the Maharashtra Water Supply & Sewerage Board for further compliance of the observations communicated by the Union Government. The matter has been under correspondence with the State Government since June, 1995. The State Government has been requested to expedite clearances of the Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO), Central Water Commission, Planning Commission, Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Forests Department of the State Government.

(d) No definite time can be indicated at present in view of the various clearances required to be obtained by the State Government.

Circular Railway

5240. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has received the proposal from the Ministry of Railways for completion of Circular Railway alongwith its double track and electricity of the entire stretch for Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has approved the scheme;

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

(e) whether the Government also propose to extend Metro Railway in Calcutta; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) In 1984, Planning Commission had received a proposal from Ministry of Railways for Calcutta Circular

Railway consisting of electrified double track from Dum Dum to Majerhat via Princepghat. Part I of the proposal consisting of unelectrified single line from Dum Dum to Princepghat at a cost of Rs. 35 crore was cleared by the Planning Commission.

A proposal for extension of Calcutta Circular Railway consisting of non-electrified, single line from Princepghat to Majerhat for a distance of 5.5 kms. costing Rs. 49.54 crores was received in Planning Commission in September, 1994.

Since the original proposal of double track and electrification was not being taken up by Railways which amounted to major modification on the original proposal, Planning Commission in October, 1994 suggested for a revised Techno-Economic Survey and cost benefit analysis. Ministry of Railways have communicated in February, 1995 that a Techno-Economic Survey including cost benefit analysis has been taken up.

(e) and (f): A proposal was received in the Union Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment from the Government of West Bengal for extending the Metro Railway in Calcutta from Tollygunj to Garia. Various issues relating to managerial and financial aspects of the project have been taken up by the Ministry with the State Government.

[Translation]

Karnal Refinery

5241. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to take steps for increasing the capacity of Karnal Refinery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of SC/ST employees working in Karnal Refinery;

(d) the number of OBC employees recruited by the Karnal Refinery as per the reservation for OBC's; and

(e) the reservation policy of the Government to recruit persons of OBC's in various refineries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) IOC's proposal for expansion of Panipat Refinery (earlier named as Karnal Refinery) is under process for 1st stage clearance.

(c) The details of SC/ST employees working in Panipat Refinery is as under :—

	SC	ST
Officers	24	13
Non Officers	7	—

(d) One candidate belonging to OBC has been recruited.

(e) The Policy for reservation in direct recruitment in favour of OBC candidates is being implemented in IOC.

[English]

Setting up of Power Projects

5242. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria being adopted by the Union Government for acceptance of offer to foreign companies to set up power plants in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total investment offered by the foreign companies in this regard during 1995-96 and the amount of investment out of it accepted by the Union Government;

(c) the location and time-frame for this power plant; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The policy formulated in 1991 to encourage private sector participation in the power sector is open to both Indian and foreign investors and applicable for setting up power projects anywhere in India, including in Tamil Nadu.

(b) No schemes for foreign investment for setting up power projects in Tamil Nadu have been cleared by the Government during 1995-96.

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

Housing for Weaker Sections

5243. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan sanctioned by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation to the State of Maharashtra for the construction of houses for the economically weaker sections during the last two years and the current financial year; and

(b) whether any other schemes from the State of Maharashtra are pending with HUDCO, if so, by when these are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The loan amount sanctioned by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) to borrowing agencies in the State of Maharashtra for the construction/upgradation of houses for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and during the current year, i.e. 1996-97, is as under :—

Year	Rs. (in crores)
1994-95	18.57
1995-96	2.33
1996-97	4.99

(as on 31.7.96)

(b) No scheme under the EWS category is pending with HUDCO. Details of other scheme received from the State of Maharashtra and in the pipeline of HUDCO, are given in the Statement attached. The sanction of schemes by HUDCO is a continuous process and depends on the completion of various appraisal formalities by the borrowing agencies.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Scheme Name	Loan Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
2.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
3.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
4.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
5.	LIG Repairs and Renewal Scheme at Jalgaon Distt.	198.00
6.	Construction of 650 Quarters for CRPF GR-IX at Amravati.	343.55
TOTAL		2333.55

* Scheme from Sl. No. 1 to 5 have been posed by Jalgaon Distt. Central Cooperative Bank Ltd.

** Scheme at Sl. No. 6 have been posed by Maharashtra Police Housing Welfare Corporation.

Wasteland Development

5244. SHRI B. DHARMAKISHAM :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise area of wasteland in the country at present;

(b) the total extent brought under cultivation during last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage corporate sector to involve in wasteland development;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, reasons therefor;

(f) the details of the projects cleared/approved under Wasteland Development Programme during 1995-96, State-wise;

(g) the details of the project not yet cleared/approved;

(h) the reasons therefor; and

(i) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be cleared/approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No precise information about the extent of wasteland is available for the country. The National Remote Sensing Agency has done the mapping for 241 districts. The total wasteland available in the mapped districts is estimated to be 35.65 ha. Statewise position is given in Statement-I attached.

(b) Information about the extent of Land brought under cultivation is not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. From 1994-95, a Central Sector Scheme, "Investment Promotional Scheme" for involving private sector in the development of wasteland, is under implementation. The scheme is designed to facilitate/attract/channelise/mobilise resources from financial institutions, banks, corporate bodies including user industries and other entrepreneurs for development of wastelands in non-forest areas belonging to Central and State Governments, panchayats, village communities, private farmers, etc.

Under the scheme, promotional subsidy/grant is provided subject to a maximum of Rs. 25.00 lakhs of 25% of the total cost of the project as approved and firmed up by the financial institutions/banks, whichever is

less. Besides, project formulation assistance for preparation of bankable/viable projects at the rate of 1% of project cost is admissible to generate projects.

(f) the scheme of the Department of Wastelands Development under implementation are : (i) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP); (ii) Technology Development, Extension & Training (TDET); (iii) Investment Promotional Scheme; and (iv) Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies. State-wise list of projects cleared/approved under these schemes of the Department of during 1995-96 is given in Statement-II enclosed.

(g), (h) & (i) Project pending under the scheme of the Department are given below :—

	Scheme	No. of projects pending
1.	Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP)	73
2.	Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies (GIAVA)	285
		358

The sanction/approval of projects depends upon their viability, conformity with the guidelines of the relevant schemes and the availability of funds. No time-frame/limit can, thus, be indicated for the clearance/approval of projects received.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wasteland Area of 241 Districts in India (in lakh ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48.813
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.620
3.	Assam	8.680

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wasteland Area of 241 Districts in India (in lakh ha.)
4.	Bihar	16.203
5.	Gujarat	20.989
6.	Goa	0.613
7.	Haryana	2.544
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5.051
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	9.832
10.	Karnataka	17.118
11.	Kerala	0.975
12.	Madhya Pradesh	69.714
13.	Maharashtra	38.323
14.	Manipur	5.351
15.	Nagaland	4.617
16.	Orissa	21.342
17.	Punjab	1.029
18.	Rajasthan	51.835
19.	Tamil Nadu	14.806
20.	Uttar Pradesh	14.904
21.	West Bengal	2.112
	Total States	356.471

Source : National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) - 1986-93; 1550,000 scale wasteland maps prepared from Landsat Thematic Mapper/IRS LISS II Data.

STATEMENT-II

1. IWDP SCHEME

Sl. No.	Title	Period	Project Targets	
			Physical (In Ha.)	Financial (Rs. Lakhs)
1.	IWDP, Kurnool (AP)	95-96 to 98-99	8300	332.00
2.	IWDP, Chittoor (AP)	-do-	500	20.00
3.	IWDP, Vaishali (Bihar)	-do-	1000	40.00
4.	IWDP, Gurgaon (Haryana)	-do-	5473	218.92
5.	IWDP, Idukki (Kerala)	-do-	10,080	403.20
6.	IWDP, Rajnandagaon (M.P.)	-do-	11,100	444.00
7.	IWDP, Zunobuto (Nagaland)	-do-	2,500	100.00
8.	IWDP, Ajmer (Raj.)	-do-	650	26.00

2. TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION & TRAINING SCHEME

Sl. No.	Title	Period	Project Targets	
			Physical (In Ha.)	Financial (Rs. Lakhs)
1.	Bamboo Plantation Project (Assam)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	200	14.08
2.	ORP for Dev. of Wastelands using Vermiculture (Bihar)	(5 years) 95-96 to 99-2000	R&D 110	20.725
3.	Role of Mycorrhiza in Bio-mass Production (Delhi)	(3 yesrs) 94-95 to 97-98	50	6.70
4.	Database on Wastelands (Delhi)	(1 year) 95-96	Database Study	3.00
5.	Agroforestry CRP & Training (Gujarat)	(4 Years) 94-95 to 97-98	300	35.805
6.	Agroforestry-ORP (Him. Pradesh)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	188	20.96
7.	Agro-forestry Project (Him. Pradesh)	(4 Yesrs) 94-95 to 97-98	150	10.47
8.	Transpiration Capacity of Selected Tree Species for & Bio-Drainage Irrigation Scheduling-Extn. (Haryana)	(3 years) 95-96 to 97-98	Research Project	4.518
9.	Evaluating Tree Plantation for Control of Salinity & Water tables. (Haryana)	5+2 = 7 yrs 90-91 to 96-97	Research	27.25
10.	Bamboo-Based Agroforestry Project (Karnataka)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	200	14.08
11.	Reclamation of Wastelands & Afforestation Project. (Karnataka)	(2 years) 94-95 to 95-96	20	3.72
12.	Agroforestry Models, for Extn. & Trg. (Kerala)	(3 years) 95-96 to 97-98	200	18.075
13.	ORP for Dev. of Wastelands using Vermiculture Technology (Maharashtra)	(5 years) 95-96 to 99-2000	Study 10	9.29

Sl. No.	Title	Period	Project Targets	
			Physical (In Ha.)	Financial (Rs. Lakhs)
14.	Bamboo Based Agroforestry Project (Maharashtra)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	200	14.88
15.	Agro-forestry Project (M.P.)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	120	15.615
16.	Bamboo-Based Agroforestry Project (M.P.)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	200	14.08
17.	Pilot Project on alternatives to shifting cultivation for development of non-forest wastelands. (Meghalaya)	(3 yrsrs) 95-96 to 97-98	42	5.30
18.	Agroforestry in wasteland areas in Kohima (Nagaland)	(4 yrsrs) 95-96 to 98-99	55	6.975
19.	Propagation of Selected Medicinal Plants of Aravalies through Tissue Culture Method (Rajasthan)	(3 years) 93-94 to 95-96	Research Project	5.398
20.	Jojoba Plantation Dhand & Fatehpur (Rajasthan)	(5 years) 94-95 to 98-99	120	197.17
21.	Agroforestry by ORP (Sikkim)	(3 years) 92-93 to 94-95	187	12.513
22.	ORP Integrated Land Management for Wasteland Development through Agroforestry & Livestock Production (T.N.)	(3 years) 94-95 to 96-97	600	58.077
23.	Bio-Pesticides and Feed Stock Models. (T.N.)	(3 years) 94-95 to 96-97	100	10.195
24.	Reclamation of Wastelands (T.N.)	(4 Years) 95-96 to 98-99	200	14.32

Sl. No.	Title	Period	Project Targets	
			Physical (In Ha.)	Financial (Rs. Lakhs)
25.	Integrated Dev. of Wastelands in Faizabad (U.P.)	(5 years) 1993-94 to 1997-98	210	25.12
26.	Agro-forestry ORP Phase-III (West Bengal)	3 years 93-94 to 95-96	100	4.60

3. INVESTMENT PROMOTION SCHEME

1.	Development of Horti. Orchard at Madurai Dist. (T.N.)	(5 years) 95-96 to 99-2000	14.3	20.73
2.	Horticultural Plantations (T.N.)	(5 years) 95-96 to 99-2000	26.0	24.20
3.	Development of Wastelands with Horticultural crops (T.N.)	(5 years) 95-96 to 99-2000	24.7	29.19

4. GRANT-IN-AID TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

Sl. No.	Name of the VA	District	Project period	Area to be covered (ha)	Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
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ANDHRA PRADESH

1.	Social Action for Integrated Development	Chittoor	1995-96 to 1999-2000	150	11,43,600
2.	Udaya Bhaskara Praja Seva Samiti	Cuddapah	-do-	70	2,70,480
3.	Rural Integrated and Social Education Society	Anantapur	1995-96 to 1998.1999	90	7,04,160
4.	Rural Education for Dev. Economic Environment Motivation (REDEEM)	Ranga Reddy	-do-	80	2,87,040
5.	Shanti Gramodhaya	Sangam	1995-96 to 1999-2000	138	10,15,680

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Name of the VA</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Project period</i>	<i>Area to be covered (ha)</i>	<i>Project Cost (Rs in lakhs)</i>
BIHAR					
6.	Akhil Bharatiya Kanwarra Seva Sangh	Khangana	1994-95 to 1998-1999	150	12,40,000
7.	Gyan Sagar	West Champaran	1995-96 to 1997-98	38	1,75,712
8.	Gramin Vikas Parishad	Deoghar	1995-96 to 1999-2000	600	27,52,000
9.	Mithila Udyamita Vikas Samiti	Madhubani	-do-	150	14,34,000
DELHI					
10.	Ruth Cowell Foundation	Delhi	1995-96 to 1996-97	24.5	2,16,188
GUJARAT					
11.	Institute of Studies and Transformation	Ahmedabad	1995-96 to 1997-98	75	4,43,800
HARYANA					
12.	Hindustan Greening and Welfare Society	Sonepat	1995-96 to 1998-1999	100	8,52,400
13.	PHD Rural Development Foundation	Rohtak	1995-96 to 1997-98	40	3,81,600
JAMMU AND KASHMIR					
14.	Paryavaran & Wasteland Development Coop. Society.	Jammu	1994-95 to 1998-99	80	7,11,805
KARNATAKA					
15.	MYRADA Chincholi Project	Gulbarga	1995-96 to 1999-2000	60	18,22,560
16.	Vikasana Institute for Rural Development	Mandya	1995-96 to 1999-2000	75	10,84,920

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the VA</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Project period</i>	<i>Area to be covered (ha)</i>	<i>Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
17.	Shri D. Devraja Urs Gramabhivrudhi	Mysore	1995-96 to 1999-2000	75	10,20,600
MAHARASHTRA					
18.	Jeevan Jyoti Charitable Trust	Parbhani	1995-96 to 1999-2000	150	6,93,600
19.	Foundation for Agro- Ecological Sciences	Pune	1995-96 to 1999-2000	150	13,23,600
ORISSA					
20.	Om Sri Sri Sidnya Patarni Yuvak Sangha	Dhenkonai	1995-96 to 1997-98	33	2,18,592
21.	Youth Service Centre	Angul	1995-96 to 1999-2000	100	7,13,920
22.	Palli Vikas Kendra	Dhankaval	1995-1996 to 1996-1997	18	1,19,232
23.	Akhil Bharatiya Adivasi Vikas Parishad	Bolangir	1995-96 to 1999-2000	150	9,93,600
RAJASTHAN					
24.	Gram vikas Navyuvak Mandal	Swaimadhopur	1995-1996 to 1999-2000	135	11,68,320
25.	The Social Works and Research Centre	Ajmer	1995-96 to 1999-2000	206	18,17,744
UTTAR PRADESH					
26.	Central Himalayan Rural Action group	Nainital Group	1995-96 to 1999-2000	750	69,45,200
27.	Swami Vivekanad Prakratik Kalyan Sanstha	Jalaun	1995-96 to 1999-2000	150	13,47,600

Projects under N.I.O.

5245. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects undertaken by NIO (Goa) during 1995 and 1996;

(b) whether NIO has any projects to cover Antarctica; and

(c) if so, the details of proposal and objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) NIO carried out 92 projects during 1995-96 and has undertaken 99 projects in 1996-97. These projects have been broadly directed towards developing knowledge base relating to Physical, Chemical, Biological, Geological, Geophysical, Engineering and Pollution aspects of the seas around India to assist in the national endeavour of exploiting the sea resources. In 1995-96, of the 92 projects there were 49 sponsored and consultancy projects, 8 grant-in-aid projects and 7 projects with international collaboration besides 28 inhouse projects. In 1996-97, of the 99 projects, 28 are sponsored and consultancy projects, 33 grant-in-aid projects and 10 with international collaboration besides 28 in house projects.

(b) and (c) A major project at NIO pertains to Antarctic research with the objective to investigate the basic aspects of polar life in relation to environmental variability and physiological and bio-medical potential.

Mass Rapid Transport System

5246. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether MRTS (Mass Rapid Transport System) is to be handed over to the Ministry of Railways; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The planning and coordination of projects relating to Urban Transport was assigned to the Ministry of Urban Development (now Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment) in 1986. The Ministry of Railways have not asked for any change in this arrangement.

Oil and Gas Reserves

5247. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched an accelerated exploration programme to discover oil and gas reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the places where such reserves has been discovered; and

(d) the further plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) In order to enhance exploration efforts and increase hydrocarbon reserves the Government launched an Accelerated Programme of Exploration (APEX) in 1994 involving an estimated expenditure of approx. Rs. 6500 crores. APEX has the following components :—

(a) Enhanced exploratory inputs.

(b) National Seismic Programme.

(c) Deep water exploration.

(d) Exploration in frontier areas.

(e) Acquisition of foreign acreage/farm-in.

(c) During the period 1994-96 oil and gas been found in about 29 locations spread over the States of Assam, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Eastern and Western offshore.

(d) The exploration efforts are planned to be intensified and accelerated through the national oil companies and participation of private companies/joint venture companies in exploration and development programmes.

[Translation]

Delimitation of National Capital Territory of Delhi

5248. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to delimit the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether schemes have been identified wherein the need of the participation of the private sector is felt; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) :

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

[English]

Solar Energy Technology Development Centres

5249. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Solar Energy Technology Development Centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) A Solar Energy Centre has been set up at Gwalpahari, District Gurgaon (Haryana) for research & development, testing, training and information dissemination on Solar energy technologies. In addition, the Ministry is also supporting six Regional Test Centres at Madurai (Tamil Nadu), Vallabh Vidyanagar (Gujarat), Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Pune (Maharashtra), Chandigarh (Chandigarh) and Calcutta (West Bengal) for testing of solar them all products and providing technical services to industries. Testing Centres for photovoltaic products have also been sanctioned for Calcutta, Bangalore and Trivandrum. There is no proposal at present for establishing any other solar energy technology development centre.

Hike in Rate of Flats

5250. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "shattered dream houses, GDA style", appearing in the "Times of India" dated August 23, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ghaziabad Development Authority has reported that the scheme under reference was

published in 1988; the rate at that time was estimated to be Rs. 75,000/- per flat. Presently, drinking water, electricity and two lifts (per tower) are available. GDA has also made suitable arrangement for lighting the common passage and keeping it clean. The Authority has constructed a Community Centre which also contains a separate hall for club facilities. Facilities are also available for indoor games such as bridge, billiards, table tennis, etc. Under the scheme health care, land has been allotted for nursing home and hospital; provision has been made for school. The housing complex has the facilities of State run health centre also. As per the report of GDA suitable provisions have been made for cable operators for providing Multi-channel T.V. facilities. The plants of 1988 showed a covered area of 240 sq. ft. where as under the present construction, covered area is 270 sq. ft.

GDA has reported that maximum development work of the apartments has been completed. Work on parking lights and drainage is under way. When the scheme was notified in 1988, the cost per flat was estimated to be Rs. 75,000/-. However, escalation of prices has taken place over the years.

Diesel Imports

5251. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has to reduce diesel imports and forced to pay hefty sums as demurrages due to port congestions especially at Madras and Haldia Ports;

(b) if so, the details of the demurrage charged paid by I.O.C. so far during this year; and

(c) the action, if any, proposed to be taken to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cogentrix Power Project

5252. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1000 MW Cogentrix thermal power plant has been given approval;

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

(c) whether the project had earlier been rejected by the scientists;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the grounds therefor;

(e) whether the project will result in the deforestation, river pollution and the displacement of the rural communities around Managalore;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether in view of the controversy generated by the project, Government propose to review it, and

(h) if not, the rationale behind it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Mangalore Thermal Power Project (1000MW) being promoted by M/s Mangalore Power Company has been accorded techno-economic clearance of CEA on 10.7.1996 at a total completion cost of Rs. 1580.89 Crores + US\$ 751.574 million subject to certain conditions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

(e) to (h) All the related environmental issues have duly considered by the Expert Committee for Thermal Power Projects set up by the Ministry of Environment & Forests prior to the Environmental clearance of the project and the necessary safeguard measures have been stipulated for implementation by the project authorities.

Generation of Power

5253. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total generation of power, (Hydel, Thermal and Nuclear) as of last year, State-wise;

(b) the present projects which are pending clearance;

(c) the total requirement of power in the country; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the power situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) State-wise/System-wise/Category-wise energy generation in the country during 1995-96 is given in the attached statement-I.

(b) State-wise details of project proposals under examination in CEA as on 31.7.1996 is given in the attached statement-II.

(c) During 1995-96, the energy requirement in the country, as per CEA, was 389721 million units.

(d) Various measures undertaken to improve the power supply in the country include expediting the commissioning of the new generation capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the

performance of existing power stations, reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses, implementation of better demand side management and energy conservation besides transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

STATEMENT-I

Name of the State System	Category	Energy generation (MU)
B.B.M.B.	Hydro	12004
Delhi	Thermal	6524
Jammu & Kashmir	Thermal	63
	Hydro	2887
	Total	2950
Himachal Pradesh	Hydro	4341
Haryana	Thermal	3067
	Hydro	233
	Total	3300
Rajasthan	Thermal	7839
	Nuclear	0
	Hydro	1405
	Total	9244
Punjab	Thermal	8228
	Hydro	3153
	Total	11381
Uttar Pradesh	Thermal	55262
	Nuclear	2751
	Hydro	5444
	Total	63457
Gujarat	Thermal	30717
	Nuclear	2251
	Hydro	738
	Total	33706
Maharashtra	Thermal	46142
	Nuclear	1552
	Hydro	4427
	Total	52121
Madhya Pradesh	Thermal	40723
	Hydro	2146
	Total	42869
Andhra Pradesh	Thermal	30398
	Hydro	7135
	Total	37533
Karnataka	Thermal	4718
	Hydro	10197
	Total	14915
Kerala	Hydro	6701
Tamilnadu	Thermal	29489
	Nuclear	1411
	Hydro	4726
	Total	35626

Name of the State/ System	Category	Energy generation (MU)	Name of the State/ System	Category	Energy generation (MU)
Bihar	Thermal	4404	NEEPCO	Thermal	346
	Hydro	294		Hydro	706
	Total	4698		Total	1052
Orissa	Thermal	3055	Meghalaya	Hydro	539
	Hydro	4382			
	Total	7437			
West Bengal	Thermal	20594	Tripura	Thermal	153
	Hydro	84		Hydro	40
	Total	20678		Total	193
D.V.C.	Thermal	6450	Manipur	Hydro	480
	Hydro	387			
	Total	6837			
Sikkim	Hydro	49	Arunachal Pradesh	Hydro	15
Assam	Thermal	1434	All India	Thermal	299606
				Nuclear	7963
				Hydro	72513
				Total	380084

STATEMENT-II

Project Proposals Under Examination in Central Electricity Authority As on 31. 07.96

Sl. No.	State	Name of Project	Executive Agency	Capacity (MW)	Remarks
A. STATE/CENTRAL SECTOR :					
A.1 : HYDRO SCHEMES :					
01.	Jammu & Kashmir	Parkhachik Panikhar St. I & St. II HEP	J&K Govt.	5 × 12 = 60	Replies to comments of CEA/CWC awaited.
02.	Jammu & Kashmir	Uri HEP St. II (Ph. I) (PDC, J&K Govt.)	J&K Govt.	4 × 70 = 280	Comments on legal executing agency F&C, C&P, power evacuation and civil works aspects have been sent to project authority for clarification.-Cleared from IWT.
03.	Maharashtra	Chikaldara HEP (pumped storage scheme)	MSEB	2 × 200 = 400	Replies to CEA/CWC comments on Irrigation Planning. cost engg. just received.
04.	Andhra Pradesh	Pulichintala Hep	APSEB	2 × 30 = 60	—
A.2 : THERMAL SCHEMES :					
01.	Uttar Pradesh	Anpara 'C' TPS	UPSEB	2 × 500 = 1000	CEA's IPC conveyed on 10.07.96
02.	Gujarat	Ghoga Lignite TPS	GPCL	2 × 120 = 240	In-principle clearance issued to GPCL on 22.7.94.
03.	Gujarat	Pipavav GTPP	GPCL	615	Alternate fuel based revised FR received.
04.	Gujarat	Coastal TPS	GPCL	1000	—

Sl. No.	State	Name of Project	Executive Agency	Capacity (MW)	Remarks
05.	Maharashtra	Uran GTPP Expn.	MSEB	400	Report submitted by MSEB for consideration of derating committee in CEA in 7/96.
06.	Andhra Pradesh	Simhadri TPS	NTPC	2×500 =1000	IPC issued on 13.3.96
07.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Metro COST St. I	NTPC	650	IPC issued on 31.3.96.
08.	Karnataka	Yelahanka DGPP Extn.	KEB	2×23.4 =46.8	Pending inputs are- i. Fuel linkage ii. Env. (Centre & State) iii. Sec. 29 of E(S) Act.
09.	Damodar Valley Corporation	Maithon R/B TPS	DVC	4×250 =1000	Pending clearances : i. Sec. 29 of E(S) Act ii. MOEF -Other inputs to be revalidated.
10.	Damodar Valley Corporation	Mejia TPS-II	DVC	2×210 =420	—
11.	Central Sector (ER)	Talchar STPS-II	NTPC	4×500 =2000	CEA's IPC conveyed on 31.3.96.

B. PRIVATE SECTOR :**B.1 : HYDRO SCHEMES :**

01.	Himachal Pradesh	Malana HEP	M/s. Rajasathan 2×43 Spinning & =86 Weaving Mill	CEA's IPC issued on 26.10.94
02.	Uttar Pradesh	Vishnuprayag HEP	M/s. JIL 4×100 =400	CEA's IPC conveyed on 9.9.94
03.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar HEP	M/s. Duncans 5×66 Industries =330 Ltd.	CEA's IPC issued on 30.3.96.

B.2 : THERMAL SCHEMES :

01.	Uttar Pradesh	Rosa TPP (Ph.I)	M/s. Indo-Gulf 2×250 Fertilizers =500 and Chemicals Corpn. Ltd.	CEA's IPC conveyed on 7.11.94.
02.	Gujarat	Jamnagar (near Sikka) TPP Ph.I	M/s. Reliance 2×250 Power Ltd. =500	CEA's IPC conveyed on 1.3.95.
03.	Gujarat	Surat Lignite TPP	M/s. GIPCL 2×125 = 250	IPC issued on 31.3.96.
04.	Maharashtra	Patalganga CCPP	M/s. Reliance 410 Patalganga Power Pvt. Ltd.	CEA's IPC conveyed on 30.03.96.
05.	Andhra Pradesh	Ramagundam Extn.	M/s. BPL Power 2×260 Projects (AP) =520 Ltd.	CEA's IPC conveyed on 6.2.96.

Crude Oil

5254. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge quantity of non-renewable source (gas) is wasted while extracting crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make it incumbent on producers of crude oil to create conditions for utilisation of gas;

(d) if so, the plan of actions in details;

(e) whether the Government propose to impose penalty for producing crude oil without utilising gas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The associated gas which is produced alongwith crude oil is utilised for a variety of purposes like captive power generation, artificial lift operations, extraction of value added products and supplied to GAIL for transportation, distribution and marketing to various consumers. However, some gas has to be flared due to technical reasons, fluctuations of consumers demand, not being commercially utilisable due to low pressure etc.

(c) to (f) Since the utilisation of associated gas depends on many factors like its economic viability, demand for gas from consumers, the existance of infrastructural facilities etc, it can not be made mandatory. However, several steps are being taken to maximise the gas utilisation. These are—

- (i) Creation of infrastructural facilities for collection, compression, transportation and distribution of gas
- (ii) Installation of underground storage systems to conserve gas
- (iii) Implementation of gas flaring reduction projects.
- (iv) Improvement of gas sales/utilisation through identification of consumers.

Allotment of Flats

5255. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applicants declared eligible for the allotment of category II flat in Mukherjee Nagar under SFS scheme V for which payment was to be made in four instalments;

(b) the date on which the specific draw of flats was held;

(c) the number out of declared eligible applicants who deposited all the four instalments to become eligible for specific draw of flats before the date of such draw;

(d) whether some applicants who had deposited all the four instalments were not included in the specific draw of flats;

(e) if so, the particulars of those applicants and the reasons for their non-inclusion in the draw; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that all such left out applicants who are otherwise eligible are allotted their flats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that allotment of 180 category II flats (out of a total of 188 flats constructed) has been made to the applicants of SFS V and other Schemes who were eligible for specific allotments of flats. Cases of few other applicants are under process.

(b) Majority of the flats have been allotted under two draws held on 31.3.94 and 16.2.95.

(c) to (f) Allotments of flats have been made only to those applicants who had paid four instalments within the permissible period. In one case of Sh. Girdhari Lal Agarwal, the flat could not be allotted despite the fact that he had paid all the four instalments because the applicant had not submitted the 3rd copy of the challan as required under the terms of allotment. The case is under process for allotment of a specific flat.

Cadre Policy Guidelines

5256. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether cadres of officers of the Indian Administrative Service have been changed since the year 1991 in relaxation of the cadre policy guidelines; and

(b) if so, the number of such cadre transfers and reasons therefor including the names of officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Inter-Cadre transfers are allowed under Rule 5(2) of IAS (Cadre) Rules, 1954. Under the policy, inter-cadre transfers to members of All India Services are allowed on marriage with another member of an All India Service. However, in exceptional cases, inter-cadre transfers have been considered on medical/personal grounds. A list of I.A.S. officers transferred to other her cadres since 1991 in relaxation of the policy is given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Name of the officer	Allotment year	Parent Cadre	Transferred	Year	Grounds
Maitreyi Das	1986	Sikkim	Maharashtra	1991	Personal
I. Rani Kumudini	1988	Jammu & Kashmir	Andhra Pradesh	1991	Medical
S.A. Tagade	1991	Kerala	Maharashtra	1992	Personal
R.N. Gupta	1979	West Bengal	Punjab	1992	Personal
Anita Bhatnagar	1985	Gujarat	Uttar Pd.	1993	Personal
S.K. Srivastava	1980	Manipur-Tripura	AGMUT	1994	Medical
A.H. Samoon	1993	Andhra Pradesh	Jammu and Kashmir	1994	Personal

NEC

5257. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study by the Institute of applied manpower research, Delhi sponsored by NEC was conducted for assessment of manpower requirements for the States of NE region (1985-2000AD); and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The information in being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Reservation Policy/Roster Implementation

5258. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) details of the judgement delivered by Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 7608 of 1995 dated 3rd August, 1995; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for proper implementation of reservation policy in the light of said judgement so far as position and seniority of SCs/STs in roster is concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R.

BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The judgement of the Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 7608 of 1995 deals with fixation of seniority as per reservation roster vis-a-vis merit panel, in the context of the rules of the Haryana Government.

(b) Union of India was not a party to the case nor were the relevant orders of the Central Government questioned. Hence, the question of revising reservation policy of the Central Government in the light of the judgement does not arise.

Audit of the Tehri Multipurpose Project

5259. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether no audit of the Tehri multipurpose project has been carried out by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India since 1988 despite the fact that over Rs. 1000 crores have been spent;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether in 1988 report, the CAG had expressed grave doubts about the economic viability of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Tehri Hydroelectric Project was originally approved for implementation by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Subsequently, it was decided to take up the execution of the Project in the joint sector and for this purpose, a joint venture company of Government of India and

Government of Uttar Pradesh, namely, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) was set up in July, 1988. The Tehri project was taken over by THDC in 1989. Since then, the audit of the Tehri Hydroelectric Project is being carried out by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and the Annual Reports of THDC alongwith audited accounts are being laid before the Parliament.

(c) The CAG's report of 1988 relates to the period when the project was being executed by Government of Uttar Pradesh as a State sector scheme. The information is, therefore, being collected and will be placed before the Table of Lok Sabha.

Irregularities in World Bank's Projects

5260. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the fact that lots of irregularities are going on in the Development works carried out under World Bank's projects in Kanpur. (UP);

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was carried out in this regard;

(c) if so, the results thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that Lok Ayukta, C.I.D. and Kanpur Development Authority are conducting enquiries in respect of certain World Bank project works in Kanpur. Whether or not there were irregularities in these development works will be known after completion of the enquiry proceedings.

New Integrated Employment Policy

5261. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new integrated employment policy to meet the scientific and technical manpower in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have in this context assessed the potential of in take of labour in Government and public sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Government have not formulated any new Integrated Employment Policy to meet the scientific and technical manpower in the country. However, the Department of Science & Technology has established in 1982 a National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB) to evolve various mechanisms and schemes for generating gainful self-employment avenue for the unemployed Science & Technology persons. The various schemes/programmes initiated by this Board are Organisation of Entrepreneurship Development Programme; Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps; establishment of Entrepreneurship Development Cells and Science & Technology Entrepreneur's Parks in and around academic institutions. The Board has also selected 13 backward districts of the country for generating avenues of wage/self-employment based on unutilised resources, demand, need and skills of the local people.

In the Planning Commission, the potential of intake of labour in Government and Public Sectors has not been assessed. However, the important strategies of the Eighth Plan to tackle mismatch between the demand and supply of labour including scientific and technical manpower *inter-alia* include skill development, creating entrepreneurship, revamping of training and educational system.

Wazir Commission

5262. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Wazir Commission has given its report on rationalisation of new administrative units including the new districts of Kishtwar Reasi, Samaba and Shopian;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing the recommendations of the said Commission especially when the Government had accepted the report in principle; and

(c) whether there is any move to implement the recommendations of the said Commission in the near future, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) According to the information made available by the State Government the Commission for Rationalisation of Administrative Units (Wazir Commission) submitted its report to the State Government on the 3rd January, 1984. The report had

been referred to various Committees and had remained under consideration of the State Government but no final decision was taken.

2. Keeping in view the nature of the issues involved, it is considered appropriate that a decision and action on the report is taken by an elected Government in the State.

[Translation]

Migration

5263. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item published in daily 'Jansatta' dated 26 July, 1996 under caption "Gaon Mein Nehi Aub Saharoon Mein Hoga Gariboon Ka Jamawada";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the village youths in large number are migrating towards cities in search of employment;

(c) if so, the assessment of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether it is also a fact that there is shortage of basic facilities of life in cities today besides the heavy shortage of houses;

(e) if so, the estimate of Government regarding the shortage of houses in the urban areas of the country; and

(f) the prospective plan of the Government to overcome this shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Volume of net rural-urban Migration for 1981-1991 is 23.70 per cent, of the growth of the population which has decreased from 36.06 per cent during the same period for 1971-81 (Table enclosed as Statement-I).

(c) 1981 Census Data indicates that youth, predominantly in the age group 15-40 years are migrating towards cities for purpose of employment. A sub set of Census data (1981) has indicated that amongst those who migrated from rural to urban areas and who gave employment as a reason for migration, 75% belonged to the age group of 15-46 years. (Table enclosed statement-II).

(d) & (e) : The rapid growth of urban population has led to increasing congestion and overcrowding, steady growth of slums and informal settlements and severe

pressure on civic services. The estimated housing shortage in urban areas, at the beginning of the Ninth Plan period, is 7.57 million dwelling units.

(f) It is proposed to take following steps to overcome housing shortage :—

(i) Step up in the institutional finance for housing both in formal and informal sectors.

(ii) Urban housing schemes for EWS through concessional credit from HUDCO.

(iii) To reduce the cost of construction, cost effective building materials and technology will be promoted by giving fiscal concessions.

(iv) Supply of serviced land will be augmented.

(v) Steps to remove various legal constraints in housing sector will be taken.

STATEMENT-I

*All India Components of Urban Growth,
1971-1981 and 1981-1991.*

Components	Population (millions)		Percentage share	
	1971-81	1981-91	1971-81	1981-91
Absolute increase	49.86	56.45	100.00	100.00
Natural increase	22.52	33.17	45.17	58.76
Net reclassification of new towns	9.36	9.90	18.77	17.54
Net rural urban migration, natural increase of inter-censal migrants and changes in municipal boundaries (residual)	17.98	13.38	36.06	23.70

Notes : 1. 1971-1981 estimates are made excluding Assam, and 1981-1991 estimates are made excluding Assam and Jammu & Kashmir. Jammu and Kashmir is a disputed territory, the final status of which was not yet been determined.

2. Based on final population results of 1971 and 1981 Censuses and provisional results of 1991 Census.

STATEMENT-II

Age group year	Rural-Urban		Urban-Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—14	105045 (4.69)	59836 (20.47)	60364 (3.88)	45300 (18.83)
15—19	253913 (11.32)	44001 (15.05)	89405 (5.75)	22621 (9.40)

Age group year	Rural-Urban		Urban-Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
20—24	524846 (23.41)	57583 (19.70)	239754 (15.43)	45862 (19.07)
25—29	480837 (21.45)	38820 (13.28)	330147 (21.24)	45305 (18.83)
30—34	309111 (13.79)	27951 (9.56)	271393 (17.46)	27261 (11.33)
35—39	215349 (9.60)	20407 (6.98)	198872 (12.80)	18262 (7.59)
40+	347635 (15.50)	42479 (14.53)	362921 (23.35)	35688 (14.84)
Age not stated	(5351 (0.24)	1229 (0.42)	1307 (0.08)	231 (0.10)
All ages	2242087 (100.00)	292306 (100.00)	1554163 (100.00)	240530 (100.00)

Source : Census of India, 1981 Series-I Migration Tables.

Note : Percentages have been given in parentheses.

[English]

Government-Employees Association

5264. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Employees Association have to fulfil certain conditions including verification of membership strength etc., with one year from the date of the recognition;

(b) if so, the details of associations who failed of fulfil conditions; and

(c) the provisions under which any extension has been granted to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir. Under the Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1993, all the conditions including the prescribed membership strength is to be fulfilled before recognition is granted, and not withing one year from the date of recognition.

(b) and (c) : In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Backward Areas

5265. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the States identified as economically and industrially under-developed;

(b) the criteria for allocation of plan and non-plan funds to the developed and under-developed States in the country; and

(c) the strategy, if any, formulated by the Government to attract private investment in under developed States for a balanced economic growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Planning Commission has not identified any State as economically or industrially under-developed. However, in the allocation of Central Assistance, there is a special dispensation for certain Special Category States which have a weak resource base, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. In addition, the modified formula for distribution of Central Assistance, approved by NDC in 1991, is weighted in favour of relatively economically under-developed States. Funds are also released by Government of India under Special Area Programmes to the States for supplementing their efforts to develop specified areas. Non-plan funds are released to the States on the basis of the recommendations of the Finance Commissions which *inter-alia* have taken into consideration the relative development of a State, while making their recommendations.

Also, for promoting industrialisation of backward areas in the States/UTs, the Growth Centre Scheme has been introduced meant to serve as magnets for attracting industries. In addition, the Government has already announced the New Industrial Policy to liberalise and overcome procedural hurdles for setting up industries. Tax holiday/Tax concessions are also allowed for new industrial units in selected States. The Government has also opened up a number of areas which were earlier reserved for investment by Public Sector to private participation particularly in infrastructural development. Finally, the States have their own Industrial Policies to attract investment for rapid development.

Infrastructural Development

5266. SHRI T.H. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether low level of infrastructural development in North-Eastern Region of the country, discourages private sector investment in the region for industrial development; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to encourage private investments in this region and the funds earmarked for 1996-97 in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The industrial development of a State which includes formulating appropriate policies and programmes for developing industrial infrastructure and for attracting private investment is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government helps the States including the North-Eastern states in this regard by way of transfer of resources under the revised Gadgil-Mukherjee formula, by way of investment in the Central sector project including infrastructure related ones, and spoons schemes and programmes particularly for developing infrastructure in the industrially backward areas of the States.

The total allocation of Central assistance to the North-eastern States during the period 1992-96 given below :—

	(Rs. Crore)			
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Assam	754.73	846.36	863.89	949.6
Arunachal Pradesh	247.60	277.49	306.87	413.8
Manipur	193.54	207.70	227.44	272.4
Meghalaya	172.82	183.50	236.85	227.9
Mizoram	161.49	177.48	206.57	248.3
Nagaland	163.88	186.45	217.44	250.4
Tripura	211.01	224.58	251.10	295.2

Growth Centre Scheme

With a view to promoting industrialisation of the backward areas in the country, the Government in June 1988 announced the Growth Centre Scheme. These centres, to be developed in an area of 400—800 hec. each, would have basic infrastructural facilities like power, telecommunication, water and banking to attract industries. Each centre would be developed at the cost of Rs. 25—30 crores and would be jointly funded by the Centre/States and financial institutions and market borrowings. The location of growth centre to the States has been made on a combined criteria of population, and the extent of industrial backwardness.

For more effective implementation of the scheme funding pattern of the Growth Centre scheme has been revised and it has been decided that the total expenditure of Rs. 30 crores per centre will be equally shared by the Centre and the State Governments.

The special category States (which includes North-Eastern States) will be permitted to go in for smaller Growth Centres or split the location of allotted Growth Centres into two or more suitable locations and to treat combined locations as one Growth Centre within the overall cost ceiling of Rs. 30 crores.

Rs. 0.50 crore and Rs. 13.50 crores had been released by the Central Government by December 1995 for setting up Growth Centres in Nagaland and Tripura.

Integrated Infrastructural Development Scheme

The Integrated Infrastructural Development Scheme for promotion of small scale industries in rural and backward areas in the States was approved in March 1994. The scheme envisages to set up about 50 IID centres during the Eighth Five Year Plan in those backward/rural areas which are not covered under the Growth Centre Scheme. The estimated cost of each project is Rs. 5.0 crores, to be shared between the Government of India and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in the ratio of 2:3. The share of the Central Government is in the form of grant and that of SIDBI, as loan.

No proposal has been received from any of the North-Eastern States for setting up of the Integrated Infrastructure Development project.

Export Promotion Industrial Park Scheme

In order to increase export from various parts of the country, Government of India have introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP), one each in 25 States. These parks equipped with infrastructural facilities of high standards and units set up in them will have obligation of at least 33 per cent of value of production for export. The Central Government will bear 75% of the capital cost subject to an upper limit of Rs. 10 crore per park.

During 1995-96, Rs. 2.34 crores and Rs. 5.00 crore had been released to the State Governments of Meghalaya and Assam respectively for setting up EPIPs.

Transport Subsidy Scheme

The scheme was introduced in July 1971, with a view to promoting industrialisation in hilly, remote and inaccessible areas. The scheme is applicable to all the industrial units (barring plantations, refineries and power generating units) located in North-Eastern region and other industrially backward States.

Under the scheme, subsidy ranging between 50 to 90% is admissible on the transport costs incurred for movement of raw material and finished goods from the designated rail head/ports upto the location of the industrial units and vice-versa. The scheme has been extended from time to time and was last extended from 1.4.1995 to 31.3.2000 vide notification dated 29.9.1995. A provision has also been introduced for making payments by the Government of India directly to the units in exceptional cases.

Upto March 1996, Rs. 147.27 crores had been reimbursed to the North-Eastern States under the scheme (Assam—Rs. 113.09 cr., Tripura—cr., Meghalaya—Rs. 7.24 cr., Mizoram—6.44 cr., Manipur—Rs. 2.76 cr., Arunachal Pradesh—Rs. 4.92 cr. and Nagaland—Rs. 8.60 cr.)

Formulation of New Norms for Backward Districts

5267. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new norms for identifying Backward Districts;

(b) whether any committee has been appointed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (e) Planning and Development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Planning Commission have not formulated any norms for the identification of the backward districts per se. However, the Government had appointed a Study Group for identifying backward districts for the purpose of allowing a five year holiday followed by tax concessions for another five years for the new industrial undertakings commencing operation in such districts during 1.10.1994 to 31.3.1998 under Section 801A of the Income-tax Act, 1961. The Study Group had submitted its report in October, 1994 which was later reviewed by another Study Group in the Ministry of Finance. The Review Group had recently submitted its report, which is under consideration of the Government.

Pipeline between Haldia and Barauni

5268. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether pipeline is being planned between Haldia and Barauni to transport crude oil;

(b) if so, the reasons/objectives thereof;

(c) whether above mode of transportation of oil will be cheaper in comparison with the transportation of crude oil by inland waterways; and

(d) if so, the advantages, both—financial and otherwise to be accrued by resorting to installation of pipelines between Haldia and Barauni ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Government have approved the proposal of IOC to lay a crude oil pipeline from Haldia to Barauni at an estimated cost of Rs. 952.95 crores, for augmenting the crude availability to Barauni Refinery. The analysis of transportation of crude by pipeline vis-a-vis Inland Waterways and other connected issues had already been carried out and only after techno-economic consideration, the project was sanctioned.

[Translation]

Import of Machineries for Hydro Electric Power Projects

5269. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of proposals/memoranda received by the Union Government from the Government of Gujarat regarding import of machineries for hydro electric power projects during the last three years and till date;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHAIR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Poverty in Tribal Areas

5270. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that even after nearly half a century since the country became independent, there still exists certain areas where poverty and starvation are still prevailing amongst tribals and other backward people such as in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether Government have identified such pockets and areas and the people afflicted with object poverty and starvation, if so, the details of the areas in Orissa and other States so identified; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ameliorate the living conditions of these people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The planning and development of an area within a State and allocation of resources for its development is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Government of India have been helping the States in alleviation of poverty through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes like IRDP, JRY, EAS, NRY as well as development programmes like DPAP, DDP, HADP, ITDP etc. The Government also proposes to strengthen the Minimum Needs Programme by making special allocations to the States to improve the quality of life of the people. As regards backward areas of Orissa, a long term action plan has been approved for 8 districts namely, Koraput, Rayagada, Naurangpur, Malgangiri, Kalahandi, Naupada, Bolangir and Sonepur with the objective of mitigating the extreme poverty in these districts.

Off-Shore Project

5271. SHRI JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of Off-Shore Project at Jellingham, District Midnapore, West Bengal;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the placement of order from O.N.G.C. to this Unit; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the smooth running of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Jobs to Kashmiri Youths

5272. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is considering the proposal to provide jobs to Kashmiri Youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the migrant youths of the State would also be provided jobs as per proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) State Government has been implementing a large number of schemes with a view to provide Self Employment ventures for the educated/uneducated youth of the State.

The State Government through the Plan mechanism provides employment opportunities for about 5000 people in Government sector. For uneducated unemployed youth, the schemes under implementation are Integrated Rural Development Schemes, other employment generation programmes like JRY/EAS. It is proposed to create 192 lakh mandays during the current year under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. The State Government is also implementing PMRY scheme under which 3100 units are to be covered during the current year.

2. A massive programme for employment for educated youth at a total of Rs. 66 crores envisaging direct and indirect employment for about 52000 persons has also been formulated by the State Government Under this scheme an outlay for the current year is Rs. 16 lakhs and 6200 units are proposed to be established to give employment to 12000 youth.

3. The migrant youth of the State are also eligible for these schemes.

Hydel Projects

5273. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether small hydel projects have been set up in different parts of the country;

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

(c) the total energy generated during the last three years, Project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) 183 small hydel power projects, upto 3 MW station, capacity, with an aggregate capacity of about 129 MW, have so far been set up in

23 States. The State-wise details are given in the attached statement.

(c) The total energy generated from these projects during the last three years is estimated to be about one billion units. As the projects are small, decentralised, and are located in remote areas, project-wise energy generation details are not regularly furnished by the concerned States.

STATEMENT

*State-Wise List of Small Hydel Project
upto 3 MW Capacity so Far*

S.No.	State	Projects**	
		No.	Capacity (MW)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	7.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29	19.15
3.	Assam	2	2.20
4.	Gujarat	1	2.00
5.	Haryana	1	0.20
6.	Himachal Pradesh	14	0.47
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	4.35
8.	Karnataka	5	4.70
9.	Kerala	3	0.52
10.	Madhya Pradesh	4	2.25
11.	Maharashtra	3	3.58
12.	Manipur	6	4.10
13.	Meghalaya	1	1.51
14.	Mizoram	9	5.36
15.	Nagaland	5	3.17
16.	Orissa	3	1.26
17.	Punjab	4	3.90
18.	Rajasthan	5	4.30
19.	Sikkim	14	9.66
20.	Tamil Nadu	3	4.75
21.	Tripura	2	1.01
22.	Uttar Pradesh	46	26.78
23.	West Bengal	5	7.46
Total		183	128.69

** As per Available reports of different SEBs/Agencies.

Chamera Power Project

5274. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to give 12% free power from Chamera Stage-I and Brasul Power Projects to Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the case of Chamera Stage-I Project, 12% free power is being given to Himachal Pradesh from 1.5.1994. Himachal Pradesh has also been given 12% free power from Baira Siul Project from 5.9.1994.

DWCRA

5275. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts included under the Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas so far in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of districts to be included in the scheme during 1996-97, State-wise;

(c) the assistance provided till date to the States for implementation of the said scheme, year-wise;

(d) the amount proposed to be provided for the remaining period of Eighth Plan under the scheme; and

(e) the State-wise achievements of the scheme during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) 504 districts of the country have so far been included under the DWCRA programme. The State-wise details are given in the attached Statement-I.

(b) As and when proposals for inclusion of new districts in the programme are received from the State Governments the same are approved for inclusion in the programme. During 1996-97, the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab requested for inclusion of 3 new districts each. These districts have since been included under DWCRA and are among the 504 districts covered by the programme so far.

(c) During 8th Plan and upto 9.9.1996, central assistance amounting to Rs. 13920.29 lakhs has been provided to the States/UTs under the programme. The year-wise details are also given in the attached Statement-I.

(d) For the remaining period of the Eighth Plan, an amount of Rs. 41.78 crores is proposed to be provided to the States/UTs under the scheme.

(e) The State-wise and year-wise achievements of the DWCR programme during the last three years are shown in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Coverage and Central Assistance provided to the States/UTs during Eighth Plan under DWCR Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the State and UTs	No. of Distts. covered	Central Assistances					Total
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1. Andhra Pradesh	22	85.84	271.18	1038.52	2024.23	1260.00	4679.77
2. Arunachal Pradesh	12	67.83	72.45	14.44	50.04	2.02	206.78
3. Assam	23	30.25	11.45	102.06	195.74	37.80	377.30
4. Bihar	50	75.70	108.43	224.14	303.41	7.56	719.24
5. Goa	2	3.34	5.68	1.31	4.70	—	15.03
6. Gujarat	19	53.43	78.55	15.60	173.83	30.62	352.03
7. Haryana	16	54.84	68.06	64.61	111.57	17.64	316.72
8. Himachal Pradesh	12	36.40	57.27	36.50	67.31	10.58	208.06
9. Jammu & Kashmir	14	23.23	26.29	98.39	91.50	11.34	250.75
10. Karnataka	20	56.78	87.17	92.83	161.64	40.32	438.74
11. Kerala	14	44.29	113.92	53.64	192.28	37.80	441.93
12. Madhya Pradesh	45	94.89	147.85	151.40	337.50	15.12	746.76
13. Maharashtra	29	70.65	65.45	89.25	314.50	115.92	655.57
14. Manipur	8	23.23	32.22	10.50	54.75	5.67	126.37
15. Meghalaya	7	11.44	23.13	30.30	53.63	7.56	126.06
16. Mizoram	3	11.11	34.39	13.67	18.20	3.78	81.15
17. Nagaland	7	36.99	40.40	16.73	36.42	8.82	139.36
18. Orissa	30	53.96	58.83	131.11	308.06	45.36	597.32
19. Punjab	17	55.57	30.30	83.00	126.64	28.35	323.86
20. Rajasthan	31	39.07	67.36	153.49	197.80	—	457.72
21. Sikkim	4	7.89	26.83	7.58	36.32	—	78.62
22. Tamil Nadu	22	72.43	48.83	77.50	342.45	96.39	637.20
24. Tripura	4	12.54	16.36	9.09	31.51	5.67	75.17
25. Uttar Pradesh	68	173.79	199.74	199.54	760.34	173.88	1491.29
26. West Bengal	18	39.34	65.35	82.97	149.38	—	337.04

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Union Territories								
1.	A & N Islands	2	5.32	—	—	9.39	—	1.71
2.	Dadra & N. Haveli	1	—	—	—	3.33	—	3.33
3.	Daman & Diu	2	2.02	—	—	4.00	—	6.02
4.	Lakshadweep	1	3.03	3.94	—	3.00	—	9.97
5.	Pondicherry	1	3.03	—	0.39	3.00	—	6.42
	Total	504	1248.23	1753.03	2794.00	6166.47	1962.20	13920.29

STATEMENT-II*Achievement under DWCRA programme during 1994-1995*

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Month	Total No. of Districts	No. of Districts Covered 94-95 (DWCRA)	Total No. of Districts covered (DWCRA)	Physical Target	Groups Formed	% of Groups formed	Membership					Total	Groups Started I.G.A.	% of I.G.A.	Members benefited
									S.T.	% S.T.	S.C.	% S.C.	Others				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Andhra Pradesh	03/95	23	4	22	734	25071	3415.67	58539	15.47	113735	31.37	201185	378460	15791	62.99	250900
2	Arunachal Pradesh	03/95	11	—	11	143	100	69.93	1171	100.00	0	0.00	0	1171	85	85.00	1057
3	Assam	03/95	23	7	23	908	934	102.86	2052	16.01	3592	28.03	7171	12815	214	75.76	2960
4	Bihar	03/95	50	7	50	1051	900	85.63	2455	18.34	5367	40.09	5564	13386	255	28.33	3790
5	Goa	03/95	2	—	1	20	26	100.00	0	0.00	76	19.49	314	390	26	100.00	390
6	Gujarat	03/95	19	—	19	247	315	127.53	748	17.36	820	19.03	2741	4309	2434	772.70	0
7	Haryana	03/95	16	3	16	469	412	87.85	0	0.00	1878	37.58	3120	4998	332	80.58	2770
8	Himachal Pradesh	03/95	12	1	12	243	362	148.97	1286	25.51	2114	41.94	1641	5041	349	96.41	0
9	Jammu & Kashmir	03/95	14	6	14	704	1036	147.16	711	8.20	599	6.91	7361	8671	133	12.84	1457
10	Karnataka	03/95	20	3	20	521	696	133.59	794	10.51	1909	25.27	4852	7555	633	90.95	6761
11	Kerala	03/95	14	—	14	182	753	413.74	191	2.27	1891	22.48	6329	8411	629	83.53	7462
12	Madhya Pradesh	03/95	45	14	45	1303	1442	110.67	3997	26.73	4824	32.25	6135	14956	503	41.82	6568
13	Maharashtra	03/95	29	6	29	899	1254	139.49	1535	14.82	5638	54.42	3187	10360	770	61.40	9198
14	Manipur	03/95	8	—	8	104	104	100.00	961	63.60	10	0.66	540	1511	185	177.88	2643
15	Meghalaya	03/95	7	3	7	952	206	58.52	2527	100.00	0	0.00	0	2527	107	51.94	1222
16	Mizoram	03/95	3	—	3	39	110	282.05	1350	100.00	0	0.00	0	1350	70	53.64	910
17	Nagaland	03/95	7	—	7	91	300	329.67	4350	100.00	0	0.00	0	4350	80	26.67	5600
18	Orissa	03/95	30	3	30	430	736	171.16	3722	35.55	2629	25.11	4120	10471	414	56.25	5123
19	Punjab	03/95	14	4	14	530	502	94.72	0	0.00	3092	45.76	3655	6757	334	66.53	4397
20	Rajasthan	03/95	30	6	30	847	175	20.66	62	3.03	965	0.00	1022	2049	96	54.86	0
21	Sikkim	03/95	4	1	5	139	65	46.76	191	21.20	51	5.66	659	901	75	115.38	801
22	Tamil Nadu	03/95	22	—	22	721	144	19.97	164	3.59	1420	31.06	2988	4572	0	0.00	0
24	Tripura	03/95	3	—	3	39	145	371.79	872	50.40	356	20.58	502	1730	34	23.45	422
25	Uttar Pradesh	03/95	63	20	63	1509	1709	113.25	3454	4.34	76400	95.66	0	79864	1204	70.45	62835
26	West Bengal	03/95	18	6	18	756	371	49.07	437	8.63	2070	40.90	2554	5051	330	88.95	4516
UNION TERRITORIES																	
1	A & N Islands	03/95	2	—	2	13	15	115.38	44	26.04	0	0.00	125	169	6	40.00	0
2	Daman & Diu	03/95	2	—	1	11	3	27.27	0	0.00	1	12.50	7	8	8	0.00	127
3	Lakshdweep	03/95	1	—	1	13	10	76.92	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	10	100.00	0
4	Pondicherry	03/95	4	—	1	13	13	100.00	0	0.00	120	65.57	63	183	13	100.00	103
5	Dadra & N. Haveli	03/95	1	—	1	13	55	423.02	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	55	0.00	300
Total			497	94	492	13400	37964	283.31	91623	15.48	234557	39.62	265846	592026	22485	59.23	326988

Achievement under DWCRA programme during 1993-94

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Month	Total No. of Districts	No. of Districts Covered 94-95 (DWCRA)	Total No. of Districts covered (DWCRA)	Physical Target	Groups Formed	% of Groups formed	Membership					Total	Groups Started I.G.A.	% of I.G.A. Benefitted	Members
									S.T.	% S.T.	S.C.	% S.C.	Others				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	03/94	12	3	15	540	4016	594.96	11038	17.94	21898	35.60	28581	61517	3933	97.93	60368
2.	Assam	03/94	9	3	12	508	518	101.97	2275	27.30	1662	19.94	4397	8334	103	19.88	1150
3.	Arunchal Pradesh	03/94	7	2	9	344	280	81.40	2849	100.00	0	0.00	0	2849	134	47.86	1639
4.	Bihar	03/94	21	4	25	768	839	109.24	1146	10.51	5580	51.16	4180	10906	365	43.50	5330
5.	Goa	03/94	1	—	1	16	40	250.00	600	100.00	—	0.00	—	600	40	100.00	520
6.	Gujarat	03/94	11	6	17	808	768	95.05	3610	31.65	2375	20.83	5419	11405	809	105.34	12135
7.	Haryana	03/94	9	2	11	376	534	142.02	0	0.00	2403	37.37	4036	6444	446	83.52	3013
8.	Himachal Pradesh	03/94	7	2	9	344	270	78.49	514	16.84	1423	46.79	1110	3052	218	80.74	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	03/94	6	1	7	212	246	116.04	581	18.41	291	9.22	2284	3156	171	69.51	20
10.	Karnataka	03/94	11	3	14	524	590	112.60	621	8.3	1951	26.14	4893	7465	607	102.88	6286
11.	Kerala	03/94	7	6	13	728	551	75.69	299	4.96	1152	19.09	4583	6034	297	53.90	3571
12.	Madhya Pradesh	03/94	23	4	27	832	901	108.29	3499	28.07	3814	30.60	5151	12464	529	58.71	4972
13.	Maharashtra	03/94	15	4	19	704	674	95.74	1896	23.77	2143	26.86	3938	7977	373	55.34	3317
14.	Manipur	03/94	6	1	7	212	451	212.74	3666	56.57	83	1.28	2731	6480	426	94.46	6611
15.	Meghalaya	03/94	2	1	3	148	84	56.76	1152	100.00	0	0.00	0	1152	55	65.48	917
16.	Mizoram	03/94	2	—	2	48	120	250.00	1532	100.00	0	0.00	0	1532	0	0.00	—
17.	Nagaland	03/94	4	2	6	280	200	71.43	3000	100.00	0	0.00	0	3000	200	100.00	3000
18.	Orissa	03/94	7	2	9	328	330	100.61	1906	41.40	1174	25.50	1524	4604	182	55.15	2319
19.	Rajasthan	03/94	14	2	16	472	625	132.42	987	12.76	3089	39.93	3660	7736	1653	264.48	18197
20.	Punjab	03/94	6	3	9	412	545	132.28	0	0.00	3261	47.61	3589	6850	338	62.02	3780
21.	Sikkim	03/94	2	1	3	132	29	21.97	403	40.87	120	12.17	463	986	59	203.45	751
22.	Tamil Nadu	03/94	11	4	15	608	806	132.57	1019	9.23	4162	37.69	5862	11043	318	39.45	4408
24.	Tripura	03/94	2	—	2	48	199	414.58	683	41.34	265	16.04	704	1652	31	15.58	227
25.	Uttar Pradesh	03/94	32	6	38	1184	1441	121.71	12742	16.71	63490	83.29	0	76232	1018	70.65	50073
26.	West Bengal	03/94	8	2	10	360	290	80.56	229	5.16	1144	33.56	2036	3409	268	92.41	2982
UNION TERRITORIES																	
1.	A & N Islands	03/94	1	—	1	16	24	150.00	100	25.71	0	0.00	289	389	5	20.83	74
2.	Daman & Diu		1	—	1	0	0	ERR		ERR	0	ERR	0	0	—	ERR	—
3.	Lakshdweep	03/94	1	—	1	16	2	12.50	1	—	0	0.00	0	1	2	100.00	25
4.	Pondicherry	03/94	1	—	1	16	30	187.50	—	0.00	6	20.00	24	30	10	33.33	449
5.	Dadra & N. Haveli	03/94	1	—	1	16	80	500.00	1199	97.80	27	12.20	0	1226	30	37.50	—
Total			240	64	304	11000	15483	140.75	57547	41.71	121524	45.26	89454	268525	12620	81.51	196134

Achievement under DWCRA programme during 1995-1996

S No	State/Union Territories	Month	Physical Target	Groups Formed	% of Groups Formed	Membership					Total	Groups Started I.G.A.	% of Groups Started I.G.A.	Members Benefited
						S.C.	% S.C.	S.T.	% S.T.	Others				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	03/96	2875	17164	597.01	107867	43.68	22791	9.23	116265	246923	17164	100.00	24623
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	03/96	179	174	97.21	0	0.00	1760	100.00	0	1760	107	61.49	1329
3.	Assam	03/96	1135	774	68.19	1732	17.37	3046	30.55	5192	9970	647	83.59	9131
4.	Bihar	03/96	3042	2308	75.87	12052	37.78	5172	16.21	14673	31897	862	37.35	11452
5.	Goa	03/96	36	36	100.00	75	13.89	—	0.00	465	540	36	100.00	540
6.	Gujarat	03/96	1033	1092	105.71	2743	19.38	3410	24.10	7999	14152	3216	294.51	41226
7.	Haryana	03/96	586	571	97.44	3188	37.23	—	0.00	5374	8562	625	109.46	7664
8.	Himachal Pradesh	03/96	304	265	87.17	279	8.68	1458	45.36	1477	3214	158	59.62	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	03/96	880	642	72.95	888	11.08	493	6.15	6630	8011	801	124.77	—
10.	Karnataka	03/96	1548	755	48.77	1918	22.99	876	10.50	5548	8342	1023	135.50	8191
11.	Kerala	03/96	720	797	110.69	2037	24.31	216	2.58	6125	8378	649	81.43	6421
12.	Madhya Pradesh	12/95	2795	612	21.90	1630	32.67	1410	28.26	1949	4989	653	106.70	6394
13.	Maharashtra	03/96	2288	2175	95.06	7389	27.03	3859	14.12	16085	27333	1628	74.85	14831
14.	Manipur		245	—	0.00	—	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	02/96	440	182	41.36		0.00	2027	100.00	0	2027	130	71.43	1505
16.	Mizoram	02/96	68	34	50.00		0.00	249	100.00	0	249	16	47.06	181
17.	Nagaland	04/95	122	300	245.90	0	0.00	4350	100.00	0	4350	80	26.67	5600
18.	Orissa	03/96	1623	1730	106.59	7222	30.11	8813	28.40	9954	23989	1345	77.75	16033
19.	Punjab	03/96	663	625	94.27	4189	54.16	0	0.00	3545	7734	526	84.16	6675
20.	Rajasthan	02/96	1238	562	45.40	3042	39.51	914	11.87	3743	7699	—	0.00	—
21.	Sikkim	03/96	174	135	77.59	191	11.62	496	30.17	957	1644	135	100.00	1644
22.	Tamil Nadu	03/96	1951	1352	69.30	6952	36.21	974	5.07	11273	19199	1352	100.00	19199
23.	Tripura	03/96	90	143	158.89	301	18.23	647	39.19	703	1651	104	72.73	1240
24.	Uttar Pradesh	02/96	4068	1987	48.84	99818	48.27	0	0.00	106978	206796	3890	195.77	22929
25.	West Bengal	03/96	1806	888	49.17	3479	31.36	818	7.37	6795	11092	105	11.82	6953
UNION TERRITORIES														
1.	A & N Islands	03/96	29	26	89.66	0	0.00	74	24.34	230	304	14	53.85	10
2.	Dadra & N. Haveli	03/96	16	16	100.00	54	24.00	0	0.00	171	225	16	100.00	225
3.	Daman & Diu	03/96	16	20	125.00	60	54.55	50	45.45	0	110	20	100.00	475
4.	Lakshdweep	03/96	14	7	50.00	1	14.29	—	—	6	7	7	100.00	70
5.	Pondicherry	03/96	16	—	—	0	0.00	9	100.00	0	9	1	—	0
Total			30000	35372	117.91	267107	40.40	61912	9.36	332137	661156	35310	99.82	436841

[Translation]

MPLADS

5276. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the ceiling of cost for construction under the MPLADS and the measures provided for necessary modification therein; and

(b) the measures taken or being taken to provide secretarial assistance for effective implementation of the directions in regard to review the construction works ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) As per para 2.4 (c) of the guidelines on MPLADS, no individual work costing more than Rs. 10 lakhs can be taken up under MPLADS. There is no proposal, at present, under consideration of the Government to modify this cost ceiling.

(b) At present, no secretarial assistance has been provided to the District Collectors by the Central Government for implementation of the scheme. The Collectorates are using the existing machinery of DRDAs or the District Planning Office for the purpose. As regards the review of works taken up under the MPLAD Scheme, para 4.1. of the guidelines of the scheme provides that District Collectors should visit and inspect at least 10 per cent of the works every year for effective implementation of the works. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the senior officers of the implementing agencies of these works, to regularly visit these works and ensure that the works are proceeding satisfactorily as per the prescribed procedures and specifications. Likewise, officers of the district at the sub-divisional and block level are also to closely monitor implementation of these works through visits of work sites. The officers of DPI also visit the districts to have an inspection of the works, to the extent possible.

Navinagar Thermal Power Project in Bihar

5277. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international tenders were invited for the Navinagar (Varun) Thermal Power Project of the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a group of the South Korean Company visited India for the study of the Navinagar Thermal Power Project ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. International bids have been invited for Request for Qualification through an advertisement placed in the newspapers on 30.8.1996 by the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. on behalf of Ministry of Power, Government of India for setting up a 2000 MW coal based project (expandable to 3000 MW) at Nabinagar in Bihar.

(c) and (d) A South Korean team visited India to look for participation in setting up private power generation projects including Mega Projects. As per the policy of Government of India for development of Mega Power Projects in the private sector, the selection of the project promoter has to be done through competitive bidding. The South Korean team was, accordingly, advised to participate in the bidding process.

[English]

Unauthorised Colonies

5278. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of unauthorised colonies in Delhi and their total population as per the latest available information;

(b) out of (a) above, the number which have been recommended for approval by the Government of NCT, Delhi; and

(c) the latest position in regard to the approval of (b) above by the Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) : The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) have reported that no survey has been conducted recently to assess the total number of unauthorised colonies in Delhi and the population living therein. Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have recommended 1071 unauthorised colonies, existing as on 31.3.1993, for regularisation.

(c) In a Civil Writ Petition No. 4771/93 by Common Cause (Regd.) Society, the High Court of Delhi has restrained the respondents, including Union of India, from taking any further decision or action for regularising any unauthorised colony in Delhi till further orders. The matter is still subjudice.

[Translation]

LPG Connections

5279 DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
 SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :
 SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV :
 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
 SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
 KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
 PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
 SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
 SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for commercial and consumer liquified petroleum gas (LPG) connections in the waiting list in the country as on 31 March, 1996. State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of new LPG connections planned to be released by the Government throughout the country during 1995-96;

(c) the number of new LPG connections actually released during the year 1995-96;

(d) the reasons for shortfall, if any; and

(e) the number of new LPG connections proposed to be released throughout the country, State-wise, during 1996-97 and 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) The number of applicants on LPG waiting lists registered with the distributors of Public Sector Oil Companies as on 31.3.1996 in the country was around 132.82 lakhs. A statement of State-wise waiting list is annexed.

Oil Companies do not keep applications from commercial customers on waiting list for new LPG connections. They are provided with LPG connections upon approach after assessment of requirement and observance of safety regulation.

(b) to (d) : The target for enrolment of new LPG customers for the country during 1995-96 was fixed at 15 lakhs. Against the target of 15 lakh LPG connections actual connections released during the year 1995-96 were about 20.5 lakhs.

(e) Allotment of new gas connections is not made on State-wise basis. New LPG connections are released depending on total new customer enrolment at country level, depending upon product availability, slack available with the distributors in the State and waiting lists. The target for release of new LPG connections in the country during 1996-97 has been fixed at 20 lakhs. The target for 1997-98 has not been fixed so far.

STATEMENT

State-wise Waiting List as on 31. 3. 96

<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>Figure in Lakhs</i>
Andhra Pradesh	10.14
Arunachal Pradesh	0.16
Assam	1.51
Bihar	3.72
Goa	0.61
Gujarat	7.95
Haryana	4.68
Himachal Pradesh	1.03
Jammu & Kashmir	1.36
Karnataka	6.55
Kerala	5.86
Madhya Pradesh	6.60
Maharashtra	17.81
Manipur	0.05
Meghalaya	0.07
Mizoram	0.05
Nagaland	0.04
Orissa	1.26
Punjab	7.02
Rajasthan	8.50
Sikkim	0.02
Tamilnadu	13.91
Tripura	0.32
Uttar Pradesh	14.87
West Bengal	9.35
Union Territories	
Andaman & Nicobar	0.12
Chandigarh	0.81
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.01
Delhi	7.95
Daman & Diu	0.02
Lakshadweep	00.00
Pondicherry	0.46

Supply of Gas

5280. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of gas sanctioned by Government to be supplied per year for industries in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of gas sanctioned and supplied during each year from 1992-93 to 1995-96 to Gujarat; and

(c) the reasons for not supplying full quantum of gas required by the industries of Gujarat and the concrete steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to supply as in full quantum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) The allocations of gas during the Eighth Plan period and the supplies till 1995-96 are shown below:

(MMSCMD)

Year	Allocation	Supply
1992-93	12.78	12.43
1993-94	12.78	12.61
1994-95	13.99	11.99
1995-96	15.26	14.22
1996-97	15.68	—

(c) Shortfalls in supply were mainly due to less production of gas in the Western Offshore fields. The supply of gas is being stepped up by additional development of gas fields alongwith setting up of the required compression and transportation facilities.

[English]

Megacity Project

5281. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Megacity Projects of Calcutta are progressing satisfactorily;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any shortfall in the implementation;

(d) if so, steps taken to remove the shortfall; and

(e) whether the Government propose to provide more financial assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The main shortfalls in the implementation of the Mega City Scheme are with respect to mobilisation of institutional finance and adoption of cost recovery measures with a view to constituting a Revolving Fund for infrastructure development.

(d) The nodal agency for the Calcutta Mega City Scheme, viz. Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) has been successful in issuing non-SLR Bonds to mobilise funds from the market — Rs. 49.50 crores during 1995-96. They are also adopting direct and indirect cost recovery measures to raise sufficient contributions towards the Revolving Fund.

(e) During 1995-96 a sum of Rs. 18.08 crores was allocated for the implementation of the Calcutta Mega City Project. During 1996-97 an equivalent provision is expected to be made available.

Tata Research Institute

5282. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the study report made by Tata Research Institute and the Canadian Research Institute regarding energy efficiency and demand management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for implementation of the said suggestions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Study Report made by the Tata Energy Research Institute and the Canadian Energy Research Institute estimated that the Power Sector in India could save up to 6.29% and 8.24% of the electricity demand in 1996-97 and 2011-12 respectively by adopting Energy Efficiency and Demand Management measures. The strategies recommended in the report for this purpose include administrative, managerial, statutory, fiscal, financial and policy measures.

(c) The strategy adopted by the Government for promotion of energy efficiency and demand Management already covers many of the suggestions made in the report and the measures taken include awareness programmes, demonstration projects, training, energy audits, fiscal incentives, installation of amorphous core distribution transformers, LT Switched Capacitors, efficient energy meters, load management, rectification of agricultural pumpsets, reduction of secondary fuel oil consumption in thermal power stations and reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

West Refinery Project

5283. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oman is reconsidering its participation in six million tonne West Coast Refinery with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Oman Oil Company (OOC) after internal assessment, have decided to review their interest in Hindustan Oman Refinery Project in view of their various commitments.

IDSMT Scheme

5284. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the fund allocation made to Orissa during Eighth Plan for the development of small and medium towns in the State; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The fund allocation made to Orissa during the Eighth Plan for small and medium towns are as given below :—

NAME OF TOWN	(Rs. in lakhs)					
	APPROVED PROJECT COST	CENTRAL ASSISTANCE RELEASED				TOTAL
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	
Jajpur	167.00	20.00	—	—	—	20.00
Basudevpur	200.00	25.00	—	—	—	25.00
Athagarh	100.00	10.00	—	—	—	10.00
Jarsuguda	500.00	35.00	—	—	—	35.00
Digpahandi	97.39	—	12.00	—	—	12.00
Bhanyanagar	60.00	—	—	7.00	—	7.00
Titilagarh	200.00	—	—	24.00	—	24.00
Underkote	105.53	—	—	12.00	—	12.00
Chodwar	134.72	—	—	16.00	—	16.00
Tarabha	134.72	—	—	12.00	—	12.00
Chatrapur	83.89	—	—	15.00	—	15.00
Paralakhamundi	200.00	—	—	36.00	—	36.00
Kamakshyanagar	100.00	—	—	9.00	—	9.00
Nowrangpur	200.01	—	—	15.00	—	15.00
Berhampur	501.95	—	—	—	52.00	52.00
Konark	111.01	—	—	—	16.00	16.00
Puri	438.00	—	—	—	16.00	16.00
Total	3314.62	90.00	12.00	146.00	84.00	332.00

Dearness Allowance

5285. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the basis of All India Consumers Price Index, Dearness Allowances to the serving employees, pensioners and family pensioners was sanctioned @97% of basic pay/basic pension w.e.f. July 1, 1993;

(b) whether the Government have issued orders for treating 97 percent of the Dearness Allowance as pay for computing gratuity to retiring employees and not for pension and commutation of pension from a subsequent date i.e. April 1, 1995;

(c) whether the Government have received any request for treating 97 percent Dearness Allowances as pay w.e.f. July 1, 1993 for all retirement benefits, i.e. gratuity, pension, commutation of pension and family pension; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon alongwith the reasons therefor ?

for 1997-98 has not been fixed so far.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Government of India vide its order dated 27.9.93 sanctioned Dearness Allowance to its serving employees w.e.f. 1.7.1993 as under :—

Basic pay upto Rs. 3500/- p.m.	97% of pay.
Basic pay above Rs. 3500/- p.m. and upto Rs. 6000/- p.m.	73% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 3395/- p.m.
Basic pay above Rs. 6000/-	63% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 4380/- p.m.

Similarly, dearness relief to the Central Govt. Pensioners/ Family Pensioners was sanctioned at the rates mentioned below :—

Not exceeding Rs. 1750/- p.m.	97% of Pension/ Family Pension.
Exceeding Rs. 1750/- but not exceeding Rs. 3000/- p.m.	73% of Pension/ Family Pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 1698/-.
Exceeding Rs. 3000/- p.m.	63% of Pension/Family Pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 2190/-.

(b) On the basis of the recommendations made by the Fifth Central Pay Commission in its Interim Report, orders were issued that dearness allowance linked to AICPI 1201.66 be treated as Dearness Pay as indicated below:

Basic pay upto Rs. 3500/- p.m.	97% of pay.
Basic pay above Rs. 3500/- p.m. and upto Rs. 6000/- p.m.	73% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 3395/-.
Basic pay above Rs. 6000/- p.m.	63% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 4380/-.

for reckoning emoluments for the purpose of retirement gratuity/death gratuity under the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 in the case of Central Government employees who retire on or after 1.4.1995.

(c) and (d) : Representations have been received by the Government for amendment of the date of effect of the order dated 1.4.1995. The date of effect of orders has been decided on the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission. The Government do not propose to review these orders.

HUDCO Projects

5286. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation has so far cleared 11800 projects involving Rs. 11500 crores;

(b) if so, the extent to which these projects have been beneficial to the people;

(c) whether the financial results for HUDCO during 1995-96 has been impressive;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the plans HUDCO is framing for 1996-97; and

(f) the number of States which will be benefited under these plans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Since inception and as on 31.7.96, HUDCO has sanctioned a total number of 11870 housing and urban infrastructure projects with loan commitment of Rs. 12037 crores. On completion, these projects would provide over 51.34 lakhs new residential units, 8.92 lakh upgraded units for urban poor 4.14 lakh developed plots, 37 lakh sanitation units and 407 water supply, sewerage, drainage roads, bridges and other social and commercial infrastructure projects in various States/UTs.

(c) and (d) Provisional financial results of HUDCO during 1995-96 are as indicated below :—

(Rs. in crores)

1. Total revenue	—	808.14
2. Profit before tax (including prior period adjustment)	—	100.17
3. Profit after tax	—	76.23
4. Releases	—	1216.40
5. Net worth	—	762.00

(e) and (f) : During 1996-97, HUDCO proposes to sanction loan assistance of Rs. 2047 crores for housing and urban infrastructure projects, out of which Rs. 1477 crores is the release target. This assistance will be given for housing/urban infrastructure projects of various agencies in all States/UTs as per their demands.

Import of Uranium and Thorium

5287. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain countries have shown interest in importing Uranium and Thorium derivatives to use as fuel for their advanced atomic reactors;

(b) if so, the names of the countries who approached us so far and the Government's reaction to such requests;

(c) whether any export of the above items took place in the recent past; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Scientific discussions have taken place between Scientific Groups abroad who have interest in Thorium utilisation. The moderate reserves of commercially exploitable

Uranium in our country will be required for our own Nuclear Power Programme and hence Government is not in a position to export Uranium.

(b) Discussions have taken place with Scientific Groups in Japan, Brazil and European Commission in recent past. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has also been promoting such discussions. However, no firm collaboration has been established so far.

(c) In 1984, India supplied 1700 Thoria Rods for Physics study with a Neutron Generator Source at (Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland, Indian Rare Earths Limited (IRE), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administration control of the Department of Atomic Energy has exported Monazite between 1985 and 1991 to China (500 tons), USA (300 tons), France (1600 tons) and Malaysia (1200 tons). Between 1985-96 it exported Thorium Nitrate to West Germany (1000 tons), Austria (100 tons), East German (1876 tons), Japan (4000 tons) and Bangladesh (3000 tons). During the period 1985-1992, IRE exported Thorium Oxide to East Germany (750 tons), Austria (125 tons) and U.K. (10 tons). IRE also exported Thorium Oxalate during 1985-1990 to Austria (120 tons) and East Germany (1910 tons).

[Translation]

Package for Land Oustees

5288. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to give employment and to allot developed plots for establishing industry to the members of the families of such farmers of NOIDA/Greater NOIDA on priority basis whose land is acquired;

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reason therefor ;

(c) whether the State Government/Union Government have received some representations/memoranda/proposals in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government/State Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Accommodation to Freedom Fighters

5289. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the freedom fighters were allotted houses in Delhi;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has recently directed the Central Government to cancel these allotments and to take action to vacate them; and

(d) if so, the present position of the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) A Statement showing the allotments made to freedom fighters and a copy of the guidelines approved by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation are enclosed at Annexure A & B respectively.

(c) and (d) No such directions have been given by the Supreme Court. However, in an individual case of Shri Syed Mir Quasim Supreme Court. However, in an individual case of Shri Syed Mir Quasim who was allotted House No. 6, Lodhi Estate as freedom fighter, the Supreme Court had ordered for the allotment of a Type-D accommodation (as per entitlement under the guidelines). A type D accommodation according was offered to him which he has not accepted yet.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of the Freedom Fighter	Quarter No.	Remarks
1.	2.	3.	4.
1.	Late Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali	Suite No. 507 and 411 Vithal Bhai Patel House and servant quarter No. 28, New Block Western Court Hostel.	Allotment Cancelled w.e.f. 29.8.96 on account of death of Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali.
2.	Shri Lall Din	Suite No. 503, V.P. House	
3.	Shri Ram Shekhar Prasad Singh	Suite No. 424, V.P.	
4.	Shri Ladli Mohan Nigam	Suite No. 7, Western Court Hostel.	
5.	Shri B.D. Jatti	A-B-2, Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg.	Since regularised, in his capacity as Ex-vice President of India, for life time on payment of normal licence fee.
6.	Shri Syed Mir Quasim	6, Lodhi Estate	
7.	Smt. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai	D-1/17, Bharti Nagar	
8.	Smt. Kamla Bahuguna	A-21/93, Lodhi Colony	
9.	Shri D.K. Baroah	A-21/95, Lodhi Colony	
10.	Smt. Shakuntala Dogra	A-21/121, Lodhi Colony	
11.	Shri Purushottam Kakudkar	A-23/133, Lodhi Colony	
12.	Shri Sadiq Ali	A-23/139, Lodhi Colony	
13.	Shri G.R. Kar	A-23/145, Lodhi Colony	
14.	Shri Govind Narain	A-23/159, Lodhi Colony	
15.	Shri B.S. Darbai	A-23/211, Lodhi Colony	
16.	Smt. Kaushaliya Devi	222, Laxmi Bai Nagar	
17.	Shri L.N. Shukla	337, Laxmi Bai Nagar	
18.	Smt. M.B. Mehto	351, Laxmi Bai Nagar	
19.	Shri Digvijay Narain Singh	G-187, Nanak Pura	
20.	Shri Urmilesh Jha	508-A/Sec. III/R.K. Puram	
21.	Shri Babu Anand	N-518/Sec. IX/R.K. Puram	
22.	Shri Nageshwar Dwivedi	397/Sec-IV/R.K. Puram	
23.	Shri B.B. Sen	249/Sec-IV/R.K. Puram	
24.	Shri Ramesh Sinha	1081/Sec IV/R.K. Puram	
25.	Shri Fateh Bahadur	1093/Sec-IV/R.K. Puram	
26.	Shri Ramayavi Rai	40, Kali Bari Apartments	

1.	2.	3.	4.
27.	Shri Kailash Pati Rai	8-D Ranjit Place	
28.	Shri Ramakant shastri	18-D Wilson Sqaure	
29.	Shri M.L. Dwedi	13 (LF) College road	
30.	Maulvi Mehadi Hassan	1(H) MS Minto Road	
31.	Shri Vijay Kumar	137-D Thompson Road	
32.	Smt. Shakuntala Devi	756 Laxmi Bai Nagar	
33.	Shri Kasim Ali abid	93/Sec. XII/R.K. Puram	
34.	shri Jagdish Chand	190/Sec. 12/R.K. Puram	
35.	Shri Ambika Prasad Singh	A-99, Pandara Road	
36.	Shri Valmiki Chaudhary	A-119, Pandara Road	
37.	Shri M.S. Prasad Sinha	A-127, Pandara Road	
38.	Smt. Subhadra Joshi	A-199, Pandara Road	
39.	Smt. R.D. Sinha	A-205, Pandara Road	
40.	Shri Indra Deep Sinha	A-265, Pandara Road	
41.	smt. Champa Limaye w/o Shri Madhu Limaye (Late)	B-11, Pandara Road	
42.	Shri Ansar harwani	B-14, Pandara Road	
43.	Shri Hari Kishore Thakur	B-59, Pandara Road	
44.	Shri Z.A. Ahmed	B-107, Pandara Road	
45.	Shri Tulmohan Ram	E-139, Nanak Pura	
46.	Shri Ram Rattan Ram	1103/Sec. 8/R.K. Puram	
47.	Shri Talat Kichalro	698/Sec. 8/R K Puram	
48.	Dr. (Miss) Phul Renu Guha	A-73, Pandara Road	
49.	Shri S.L. Singh	B-211, Nanak Pura	
50.	Shri Arjun Singh Bhaduria	C-221, Nanak Pura	
51.	Shri B.S. Marwar	A-23/211, Lodhi Colony	
52.	Shri Jagannath Mishra	B-50, Nanak Pura	
53.	Shri Jai Dutt Walia	53/Sec. 8/R.K. Puram	
54.	Shri L.P. Singh	763/Sec. 8/R.K. Puram	
55.	Shri Sita Ram singh	4 (UF) Babar Place	
56.	Shri R.P. Gupta	1043/Sec. 8/R.K. Puram	
57.	Ms. Satya Wati	2, Telegraph Lane	
58.	Shri Virendra Verma	D-II/155, Kaka Nagar	
59.	Shri Raj Kumar Purbey	8/1C/S-II/DIZ Area.	

STATEMENT—II

Office Memorandum

Subject:— Review of guidelines for allotment of General Pool residential accommodation to freedom fighter.

Guidelines for allotment of General Pool residential accommodation to the freedom fighters were reviewed by the Govt. and it has been decided to revise the guidelines as follows:—

2. Freedom Fighters of All India Standing may be allowed general pool residential accommodation provides:—

(a) They do not own a house or a flat in their name or in the name of their family members or dependents in Delhi.

(b) The accommodation is required for bonafide medical treatment of the freedom fighter or his/her spouse.

(c) The case is specifically recommendd by the Ministry of Home Affairs who should give detailed justification necessitating allotment of accommodation and also recommend period of allotment in case of those freedom fighters who are below 70 years in age. In case of those above 70 years in age it should be for 'life-time' and not necessarily on medical grounds.

(d) Type of accommodation would be restricted to type D and below.

(e) Normal licence fee shall be charged.

(f) The spouse of freedom fighter residing in Govt. accommodation allotted to the freedom fighter shall be

entitled to retain the accommodation even after the demise of the freedom fighter, for the stipulated period of allotment.

(g) The revised guidelines shall be effective from 10.2.94, the date on which the decision was taken by the CCA.

(O.P. Bhatia)

• Dy. Director of Estates

[English]

I.A.S. Officers under Investigation

5290. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IPS and IAS officers under CBI investigation in India at the moment for various charges; and

(b) the State-wise break-up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) As on 31.7.1996, 46 cases (Regular Cases/Preliminary Enquiries) involving 42 IPS/IAS officers were pending investigation with the CBI for various charges; and

(b) The break-up of IPS/IAS officers with their State cadre is as under—

No. of IPS Officers	Cadre	No. of IAS Officers	Cadre
1	Gujarat	2	West Bengal
4	Haryana	8	AGMU
1	Madhya Pradesh	1	Himachal Pradesh
1	Bihar	4	Tamilnadu
1	AGMU	1	Bihar
1	Himachal Pradesh	3	M.P.
1	West Bengal	1	Rajasthan
2	Punjab	2	Gujarat
1	Uttar Pradesh	4	Manipur (Nominated)
2	Tamilnadu		
1	Assam		
16	Total	26	

Restructuring of Poverty Alleviation Programme

5291. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to recast/restructure most of the scheme under Poverty Alleviation Programme;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes chosen for recast/restructuring and the nature of changes proposed to be introduced to achieve the objective;

(c) whether the performance of the schemes under Poverty Alleviation Programme has been evaluated;

(d) if so, the details therefor, State-wise and for Maharashtra State in particular; and

(e) the details of steps taken/proposed for monitoring and evaluation of the achievements under the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Rural anti-poverty programmes are being reviewed in the context of the formulation of Ninth Five Year Plan. A Steering Group on 'Poverty Alleviation and Area Development Programmes in Rural India' and six Working Groups have been constituted by the Planning Commission for this purpose. These are :—

(i) Working Group on Self-Employment Programmes (IRDP and Rural Credit).

(ii) Working Group on Wage-Employment Programmes.

(iii) Working Group on Decentralised Planning and Panchayati Raj.

(iv) Working Group on Area Development Programmes and Integrated Watershed Planning (DPAP/DDP).

(v) Working Group on involvement of Voluntary Organisations, in implementation of Rural Development Programmes and in Technology Transfer to Rural Areas.

(vi) Working Group on Provision of Rural Infrastructure and Village Amenities (MNP).

The Steering Group would examine in detail, the Reports of these Working Groups and the recommendations regarding rural poverty alleviation and employment as made in the Conference of Chief Ministers held on 4-5 July, 1996. The entire gamut of issues relating to recasting/restructuring of the poverty alleviation programmes would be addressed in the strategy of poverty alleviation for the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir Concurrent Evaluation of rural poverty alleviation programmes is conducted regularly. A copy each of the Executive Summary of Concurrent Evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (September 1992 - February, 1993) and Main Findings of Concurrent Evaluation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (January- December, 1992) are given at in attached Statements-I & II.

(e) The monitoring and evaluation of rural poverty alleviation programmes namely the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is done as per the provisions laid down in the guidelines of these programmes. The Government regularly reviews the implementation of rural poverty alleviation programmes in various States through the Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC), State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) and at the District Level by the Governing Body of the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs). These programmes are also monitored through a regular submission of comprehensive progress reports from the States on key indicators and through an intensive regimen of field inspections by officers of the Centre, State and the implementing agencies at the district, block and village level. In addition the physical progress is also monitored by Department of Programme Implementation.

STATEMENT-I

*Concurrent Evaluation of Integrated
Rural Development Programme (IRDP)
(September '92 - February '93)
Executive Summary*

A. Positive Points

1. In the selection of beneficiary families, the analysis revealed that 51.5% of the families were selected by the Gram Sabha, 43% by local officials and rest around 5% by public representatives and other agencies. Thus a large percentage of beneficiary families were selected by the Gram Sabha.
2. Among the weaker sections, benefits accruing to the persons belonging to the physically handicapped and assignees of surplus land was quite encouraging. Roughly 34.1% of the physically handicapped and 43.2% of the assignees of surplus land were benefited by the IRDP programmes.
3. The analysis of the assets provided to the beneficiaries revealed that a large percentage (63%) of families were provided assets under the primary sector and among the sub-sectors of the primary sector, nearly 50% assistance was given for milch animal.
4. As to the perception about the cost of assets given to the beneficiaries, the analysis revealed that in 85% case, the beneficiaries felt that the assets given to them were not of lower cost.
5. A very large percentage (96%) of the beneficiaries felt that the type of assets provided to them were according to their choice.

6. As to the quality of the assets provided to the beneficiaries, roughly 69.42% were found to be of good quality.
7. The analysis of the family income of the beneficiaries revealed that a large percentage (56.58%) of the families had annual family income from assets of more than Rs. 2000.
8. With regard to overdues/recoveries from the beneficiaries, the survey results revealed that in majority of the cases (59%), no overdues were reported and only in 41% cases there were some overdues. Thus the recovery rate from the beneficiaries was generally satisfactory.
9. As to the borrowing by the beneficiaries from private sources after acquiring the asset, the survey results revealed that a very high percentage (95%) of the beneficiaries did not borrow any money from private sources.
10. As regards availability of input and marketing facilities for the assets provided to the beneficiaries, the analysis revealed that such facilities were available to a large extent in the Primary Sector.
11. In terms of overall per family investment (including both subsidy and credit) the analysis revealed that it was highest i.e. Rs. 7613 in the case of tertiary sector followed by Rs. 7628 in the primary sector and Rs. 6307 in the secondary section.
12. For all the three major sectors taken together, the study revealed that 14.81% of the old beneficiary families could cross the revised poverty line of Rs. 11,000 and 50.4% of families were able to cross the old poverty line of Rs. 6,400.
13. The linkage of TRYSEM with IRDP was also analysed. It has been observed that in 56.23% cases, the beneficiaries received assistance for the same trade/activity for which they were trained.

B. Areas of Concern

1. It has been observed that the extent of second dose of assistance given to the 'old' beneficiaries was very low. Only 3.28% of total 'old' beneficiaries were given a second dose. Similarly, in the case of new beneficiaries, the extent of second dose of assistance was still less than 2.61%. Thus, not much attention was paid for providing subsequent doses of assistance to the eligible families.
2. It was observed that the annual family income of the assisted families was under estimated during the BPL survey since as per the assessment

made by the investigator, nearly 4% of the beneficiary families had an annual family income of more than Rs. 11,000 but as observed from records, there was no family with annual income of more than Rs. 11,000 per annum.

3. As regards, awareness among the beneficiaries about the Group Life Insurance, the study revealed that majority (58%) of the beneficiaries were not aware of Group Life Insurance Scheme. This shows that due publicity was not given to the Group Life Insurance Scheme.
4. The settlement of the claims preferred by the beneficiaries for perished assets was also analysed. It was observed that in 56% cases the claims remain unsettled.
5. As regards supply of Vikas Patrikas to the beneficiaries, the study revealed that only a small percentage (32%) of the beneficiaries were supplied with Vikas Patrikas, which is a very serious matter
6. The linkage of IRDP with TRYSEM and DWCRA was found to be very poor. While only 2.13% of the families reported that any of their members were assisted under DWCRA, 3.88% of beneficiaries reported receiving training under TRYSEM.

STATEMENT-II

Concurrent Evaluation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) (January — December, 1992)

Main Findings

A. Positive Points :

- (i) It has been observed that a major part of the available funds, i.e. nearly 73% were spent by village panchayats for undertaking community development projects under JRY at the all-India level. Some of the States like J&K, Sikkim, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Delhi and Pondicherry utilized more than 100% of the available funds at their disposal.
- (ii) In terms of creation of assets, it has been observed that construction of rural link roads, panchayat garh school buildings, community centres, etc. received the highest priority by the village panchayats at the all India level as roughly 57% of the assets completed by the village panchayats related to these type of activities. Besides, providing infrastructure facilities to the village community through these type of assets, the village panchayats could create more employment opportunities to the rural poor.

- (iii) As per the guidelines, the average wages paid per manday under JRY works to the unskilled workers should be as per the prescribed minimum wages under the State Minimum Wages Act. The survey results revealed that in almost all the State/UTs except Punjab, the average wages paid per manday to the unskilled workers were more or less equal to the minimum wages prescribed under the Act. Besides, the wage rates paid to the unskilled workers during the off/lean season were close to the prescribed minimum wage rates. However, in certain States like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, local wage rates in off/lean season was slightly less than the prescribed minimum wage rates. In all other States, it was slightly higher or close to the prescribed minimum wage rates.
- (iv) The survey results revealed that the wage and non-wage component of the expenditure of JRY works undertaken by the village panchayats was of the order of 53:47 at the all-India level vis-a-vis 60:40 and many States could satisfy the norm.
- (v) As regards periodicity of payment of wages, the survey results revealed that in majority of the cases, (60%) payment to the JRY workers were made either on daily basis or weekly basis. Only in few cases, these were based on fortnightly or monthly basis. However, in some States the periodicity of payment of wages was irregular.
- (vi) The survey revealed that in 84% cases, muster rolls were maintained and available with the village panchayats. This is very encouraging as muster roll is an important document for assessing the employment generation.
- (vii) The survey revealed that of the total assets created under the programme, roughly 74% were found to be good/satisfactory; 8% poor and remaining 18% were found to be either incomplete or not according to the laid down norms.
- (viii) The share of SC/ST and landless labourers was 54% and 38% respectively in employment generated satisfying the general guidelines in this regard.
- (ix) It has been observed that a JRY worker roughly got 4 mandays of employment during the reference period. Besides, roughly 1 manday of employment was received by other members of his family. Thus, for the family as a whole, the average number of mandays of employment generated at the all India level was of the order of 5 mandays during the last 30 days preceding the date of survey which is quite low in terms of their requirements. However, it is gratifying to note that in certain States like Assam, Goa, Orissa

and Lakshadweep the average mandays of employment generated was much higher (more than 10) than that at the all India level. For instance, in the State of Orissa, where there is high incidence of poverty, the JRY worker got employment to the extent of 12.32 mandays on an average during the reference period. Similarly, in Assam, Goa, Orissa and Lakshadweep the corresponding figure of employment generation was 10.72 and 22.06, 22.10 mandays during the last 30 days preceding the date of survey.

- (x) Assets created were found to be maintained in majority of the cases (58%) by village panchayats. However, in about 17.5% cases, they were not maintained by any agency.
- (xi) The JRY workers were almost unanimous in reporting that assets created were useful for the poor people. About 74% of the workers were also satisfied with the benefits received under the JRY. However, more than one third opined that wage rate should be increased as it was low.

B. Areas of Concern :

- (i) The survey revealed that out of 3081 Heads of elected panchayats, at all India level, only 39% were exposed to training level for implementation of JRY works. This is not in conformity with the guidelines laid down for village panchayats for handling JRY works. There is need for more orientation of Heads of Village Panchayats through training programmes.
- (ii) Of the total employment generated, the share of women was only 20%. As per the guidelines, 30% of the employment opportunities should have been earmarked for women.
- (iii) In certain States like Assam, J&K, Tripura, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry the Annual Action Plans were not discussed at all in the Gram Sabha meetings as laid down under the guidelines. This is a serious reflection on the working of village panchayats.
- (iv) The survey probed various reasons for delay in completion of works by village panchayat. The most prominent reason attributed by village panchayats for non-completion of works was 'shortage of funds'. Roughly, 43% of the works were delayed on account of shortage of funds at the all India level. In some of the States like Goa, Haryana J&K, Karnataka, Manipur etc. roughly 80% to 100% of the works could not be completed due to shortage of funds.
- (v) Generally village panchayats are expected to utilize locally available material for various works undertaken by them. However, the survey results

have revealed that the use of locally available material was not very appreciable of funds.

- (vi) Survey results revealed some disparity in the average wages paid per mandays to a male and female unskilled worker. As per the guidelines, there should be no disparity in the average wages paid per manday to be a male or female unskilled worker. The survey results have shown that in certain States like Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, there was disparity in the average wages paid per manday to a male and female unskilled worker.
- (vii) As per the guidelines, rural poor below the poverty line constitute the target group. However, the survey results have revealed that of the total workers who participated in JRY works, roughly 57% had an annual income of Rs. 6401 and above and only 43% had an annual income below Rs. 6400. Thus, it would be seen that a major proportion of JRY workers who belonged to the ineligible category took advantage of JRY programme.

New Depots

5292. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Petroleum propose to construct a new depot at Cherlapalli and Ongole in Andhra Pradesh and set up a Coastal installation at Kakinada;

(b) if so, the target for completion of the project; and

(c) the progress made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) to (c) : The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has a depot at Cherlapalli. The progress and likely dates of completion of a new depot at Ongole and a coastal terminal at Kakinada are given below :—

Depot	Progress	Likely Date of Completion
Ongole	Construction activity is at an advanced stage.	December, 1996.
Kakinada Coastal Terminal.	Preliminary work of soil investigation, land development and construction of a boundary wall has been completed.	March, 1998

Allotment of Land by D.D.A.

5293. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Cooperative Group Housing Societies to whom DDA has allotted land in Dwarka, Pappankalan;

(b) the number and details of fake Cooperative Group Housing Societies;

(c) the number of Group Housing Societies still waiting for allotment of land; and

(d) the time by which these Societies are likely to be allotted land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) List of Cooperative Group Housing Societies, to whom DDA has allotted land in Dwarka Phase-I is given in the enclosed annexure.

(b) The Registrar, Cooperative Societies, GNCTD has reported that no fake Group Housing Society has been registered.

(c) As on 31.3.96, 1943 Cooperative Group Housing Societies were registered, with the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Delhi. According to DDA, societies found eligible upto registration No. 1400 have been offered land. Remaining societies are yet to be allotted land.

(d) During the current financial year, DDA plans to offer land to about 50 societies. Allotment of land to the remaining societies will be made in due course depending upon the availability of land.

STATEMENT

The Names of Cooperative Group Housing Societies to Whom DDA has Allotted Land in Dwarka, Papankalan

S.No.	Name of Society	Sec./Plot
1.	Swarup Sadan	13/4
2.	Young Aheria	7/2
3.	Insurance Employees	7/14
4.	St. Columbas	7/15
5.	Nehru	7/16
6.	Meghdoot	7/19
7.	Shiv Bhole	7/20
8.	Sharma Friend	7/81
9.	Shruti	7/22
10.	Young Professional	11/10
11.	Rajni Gandha	10/4
12.	Amba	10/5
13.	H.M.M. Employees	10/6
14.	Shiv Shakti	10/10

S.No.	Name of Society	Sec./Plot
15.	Saral	10/15
16.	Shakuntalam	10/16
17.	Indian Airline Officer	10/17
18.	Supriya	10/20
19.	Divya	10/21
20.	New Adarsh	10/22
21.	Apna Villa	10/23
22.	Cos Mos	10/28
23.	Sharma	10/32
24.	Mother Dairy	10/34
25.	Thiruvisa	10/37
26.	Pacific	10/39
27.	Vidyut	12/2
28.	Neelanchal	4/3
29.	Civil Supply	4/6
30.	I.E.S. Officers	4/9
31.	New Sweet Home	4/10
32.	Sanghmitra	4/20
33.	Ratnakar	4/21
34.	Bank Niwas	4/22
35.	Chankya	4/23
36.	New Jyoti	4/27
37.	Nav Puneet	4/28
38.	Jai Mata kalyani	4/31
39.	United	4/34
40.	Sahyadri	12/5
41.	Southern	12/6
42.	Abhiyan	12/15
43.	Aggarwal	12/16
44.	I.F.C.I. Empl.	23/4
45.	Viveka Nand	5/2
46.	S.S.C. Empl.	5/3
47.	Kesarvani	5/4
48.	Mother Dairy Empl.	5/6
49.	Palam	5/7
50.	Meera Bai	5/10
51.	Jai Diba Maa	5/11
52.	Hind	5/12
53.	Navin	5/13
54.	New Priyadarshini	5/19
55.	Shahadra	5/20
56.	Delhi State Indian Bank	9/1

S.No.	Name of Society	Sec./Plot
57.	Holtek	9/2
58.	K.K.	9/4
59.	Manzil	9/7
60.	Suraksha Sadan	9/13
61.	Bank Vihar	22/16
62.	Universal Brotherhood	12/11
63.	Vrindavan	6/1
64.	Shiv Lok	6/6
65.	Gyan Shakti	6/7
66.	United Friends	6/9
67.	New Ashiyana	6/10
68.	Mahil Pratiraksha Mandal	6/11
69.	Rudra	6/12
70.	Shaheed Usphaqu Ullahi	6/14
71.	Vasundhra Apartments	6/16
72.	Aakash Ganga	6/17
73.	I.I.P.A.	6/26
74.	M/o Rural Dev.	6/20
75.	Grih Mantralaya Empl.	6/28
76.	Indian Bank Staff	6/32
77.	Adarsh Purewal Vaish	6/33
78.	Rajat Jain	6/34
79.	Daffodiles	6/36
80.	Shree Balaji	6/37
81.	Hannemann	6/40
82.	Mayank	6/21
83.	Anusandhan	6/22
84.	New Kanchanchunga	23/1
85.	Indian Airline Worker	23/5
86.	Chopra	23/8
87.	Sansad Vihar	3/2
88.	Progressive Enclave	3/3
89.	National	3/4
90.	Welcome Group	3/6
91.	The Balaji	3/7
92.	Nav-Karali	3/10
93.	Delhi Hindustan	4/2
94.	Hum-Sub	4/14
95.	Sri Badrinath	4/18
96.	Rashtrapati Bhavan	10/3

S.No.	Name of Society	Sec./Plot
97.	Airlines	10/27
98.	Rohit	10/30
99.	Vinayak	10/36
100.	Ravi Shankar	13/2
101.	Maha Bhadarakli	13/2
102.	Evergreen	7/9
103.	Sri Agarasen	7/10
104.	Rashi	7/3
105.	N.P.C.C.	22/13
106.	Din	4/7
107.	South Delhi Resident	4/8
108.	DDA Engineers	4/26
109.	Sri Niketan	7/1
110.	Har Sukh	7/4
111.	Kamal Vihar	7/5
112.	Sidharatha Kunj	7/17
113.	External Affairs	4/24
114.	Rajasthan	4/36
115.	Kaveri	6/4
116.	Maha Laxmi	2/4
117.	N.P.S.C.	2/5
118.	Skylark	6/35
119.	Shahjahanabad	11/1
120.	Chandan Wari	10/8
121.	Fakruddin Memorial	10/18
122.	R.M.L. Hospital	11/2
123.	Sargodha Vihar	7/13
124.	Gold Craft	11/4
125.	Jay Pee	22/2
126.	Nav Sansad Vihar	22/4
127.	Dir Gen. of Secrites	22/6
128.	Green Vally	22/18
129.	Delhi EPDP	4/19
130.	Air Force & Noval	7/11
131.	Prerena	10/13
132.	Godrej	10/14
133.	I.I.T. Engineers	10/12
134.	Sri Ram	4/32
135.	Friends Club	12/7
136.	Defence Land Coulanent	12/8

S.No.	Name of Society	Sec./Plot
137.	Sri Ganj Nath Ji	5/1
138.	Unique Insurance	6/38
139.	Gahawal Pur	6/30
140.	Great Capital	6/15
141.	Philips	23/3
142.	Suruchi	10/31
143.	Eligible	10/38
144.	Hilansh	10/1
145.	Gayatri	9/9
146.	Khosla Compres.	5/16
147.	Janki	22/7
148.	C.B.I.P.	7/8B
149.	St. Ann's	7/8A
150.	Ispat	4/29
151.	Nanda Devi	10/19
152.	Pragyyo thisupur	10/7
153.	Chinhal	11/9
154.	Sumit Vihar	9/6
155.	Brindavan	12/10
156.	New Jai Bharat	4/5
157.	New Arohi	12/13
158.	Patel	4/4
159.	Sadthavan	11/11
160.	Shivabla	9/16
161.	Azad Hind	9/15
162.	Sabha Ghar	6/23
163.	Bhadwas	6/3
164.	Pradyigik	3/11
165.	Rajasva	4/33
166.	Bahawal Pur	4/1
167.	Sheetal Vihar	23/10
168.	Shaman Vihar	23/9
169.	Kalka	6/31
170.	Prabha	23/11
171.	Prem Puneet	6/27
172.	New Cosmopolition	10/33
173.	Home Living	9/14
174.	Shree Radha	9/3
175.	Manglik	6/25
176.	Sail	4/35

S.No.	Name of Society	Sec./Plot
177.	Adarsh Arya	6/39A
178.	Santosh	6/39B
179.	Sukhi Parivar CGHS	9/12
180.	Jawaharlal	5/9
181.	Great Layalour	10/35
182.	Swami Dayanand	6/5
183.	Ordinance Friends	13/3
184.	Nevo Engineers	10/25
185.	Som	6/24
186.	Mount Everst	9/17
187.	Enterpreurs	22/9
188.	Satisar	7/6
189.	Apoorva	5/14
190.	Ramakrishna	23/12
191.	Elephant Head	10/41
192.	Munirka	9/11
193.	E.C.I.L.	4/17
194.	Safiq-Hr-Rahman	9/8
195.	RAO	23/2
196.	Mass	10/24
197.	Ishwar	12/4
198.	A.I.M.O.	22/11
199.	Dharam Vihar	10/2
200.	W.T.P. Badarpur- Empl.	9/5
201.	Bandhu Vihar CGHS	10/11
202.	Udyog Vihar	22/12
203.	Jagran	22/17
204.	Upkari	12/9
205.	Manchahat	10/42
206.	Vikran Nagar	12/14
207.	Guru	6/2
208.	Delhi Public School	4/16
209.	K.M.	12/12
210.	Him-Hit	22/8
211.	Nav-Sanjeewan	12/1
212.	Zakaria Aghidi Nagar	22/14
213.	Gandhi Ashram	10/9
214.	Katayayani	6/8
215.	Saheta	4/30
216.	Management Alumanai	5/17

Under Awas Sakar Yojana

S.No.	Name of Society	Pkt./Plot No
1.	Kumudi	6/11
2.	Naveen Kunj	6/22
3.	Krishnan	6/19
4.	Ideal	4/14
5.	Nishkam	6/23
6.	EIL Friends	6/13

[Translation]

Power Projects in Delhi

5294. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant approval to certain power projects for Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been sought by the Government of Delhi for the above said projects, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have accorded in principle clearance to the proposal of the Government of Delhi for setting up of New Delhi TPS of capacity 300 MW in the private sector. No proposal of the Government of Delhi is pending in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of Techno Economic Clearance as on date.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of LPG

5295. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether several schemes are under formulation to increase the indigenous production of LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated annual capacity of each of the scheme;

(c) whether formulation of these schemes is running behind the targetted schedule;

(d) if so, how far the formulation of said schemes is running behind the targetted schedule alongwith the cost over-run thereof; and

(e) the revised targetted time for completion of the above schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Assam

5296. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided to Assam for generation of power through Non-Conventional Energy Sources during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(b) the target set and the achievement made during this period; and

(c) the steps taken to generate power through Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No proposals for generation of grid quality power through Non-Conventional Energy Sources have so far been received from Assam during the Eighth Plan period. Specific State-wise and year-wise targets have not been fixed.

(c) Resource Assessments and Feasibility Studies are being supported with a view to develop projects for generation of power from Non-Conventional Energy Sources based on Wind, Small Hydro and Biomass. Assam is included among the States participating in the Hilly Hydro project being supported by United Nations Development Programme and Global Environmental Facility. Guidelines have been forwarded to the State Govt. for announcement of a policy for generation of power by private sector from Non-Conventional Energy Sources. The State Govt. has also been advised to establish a separate agency for development of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the State.

Stagnation of Section Officers

5297. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) officers in the grade of Section Officers and Under Secretaries have been stagnating in their respective posts for the last 10-15 years;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for career development of these officers;

(c) whether the select lists of these officers have not been brought out for the last 10 years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these select lists are likely to be brought out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) No Select List (SL) for regular promotion to Grade I as Under Secretary (U.S.) could be prepared after the 1986 SL owing to protracted litigation regarding inter se seniority of directly recruited and promotee Section Officers (SOs). As a result, regular promotions from Under Secretary's Grade to Deputy Secretary's Grade of Central Secretariat Services (CSS) have also been affected. The Common Seniority List (CSL) of SOs has since been issued on 15.5.1996 in compliance with the order dated 22.3.1995 of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT). The action will be taken to prepare regular panels for U.S. by holding meetings of DPC. The exercise of preparing such panels will involve preparation of a list of eligible SOs/Private Secretaries of CSSS, collection of up-to-date CR dossiers of the officers covered in the zone of consideration, constitution of DPC, etc. The exercise is time-consuming, and it is not feasible to specify a definite time for its completion.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Bihar

5298. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar has been allocated less financial assistance in comparison with other States since the First Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance the Central Assistance for the development of a backward State like Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Allocations of Central Assistance for State Plans from the Fourth Five Year Plan onwards have been according to various criteria laid down under the formula approved time to time, by the National Development Council. The criteria of population (60%) and per capita income (25%) are weighted highly in favour of backward

States (including Bihar). Bihar has been allocated the next highest amount of Central Assistance after Uttar Pradesh. Prior to the Fourth Five Year Plan, the allocations of Central Assistance were based on actual utilisation by the States under various schemes/programmes.

[English]

Rural Housing

5299. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a task force to promote rural housing; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) : In the year 1995, a Task Force on Rural Housing was constituted to enlarge the scope and outlook of the entire rural housing programme. The terms of reference of the Task Force were to identify thrust areas in policy, suggest necessary changes in the guidelines to broad-base the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and also to implement housing programme by involving voluntary organisations through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART). During 1995-96, the CAPART sanctioned construction of more than 30,000 houses under IAY with the help of the Task Force. The Government also organised four national seminars on rural housing with a view to identify various technology/material options suited to various geo-climatic conditions with the assistance and cooperation of the Chairman and other members of the Task Force.

Restructuring Oil Sector

5300. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high level Restructuring Committee in petroleum sector has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) the reaction of the government thereto; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

UPSC

5301. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether UPSC consists of IAS personnel;

(b) whether as a result thereof, 85% of IAS, IPS and IFS get their wards selected in;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to get survey conducted to find out the reality;

(d) whether Government propose to constitute UPSC with judges and ex-judges of repute and integrity so as to remove this impression; and

(e) if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir. At present only one Member of UPSC belongs to IAS.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) and (e) : All appointments as Member UPSC are made by the President in accordance with the provisions of Article 316 of the Constitution, and no modification is proposed.

Ceramic Industry

5302. SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is considerable scope for development of Ceramic Industry in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to allocate natural gas to Rajasthan for the development of a Ceramic Complex ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Requests have been received from the Government of Rajasthan for allocation of gas to industries including ceramic units in the State. As the gas projected to be available is fully allocated, it is not feasible to make additional allocation at present.

LPG Dealership

5303. SHRI P. NAMGYAL :
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of holders of letter of intent, in Delhi in particular and the rest of the country in general for LPG dealerships, petrol pumps to whom land for showrooms, godowns and outlets has since been provided during 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 till June;

(b) their inter-se seniority amongst those to whom LIs had been issued during 1993 till date;

(c) whether land availability in different identified areas rather than overall inter-se seniority is taken as the basis criterion for allotment of land for outlets, showrooms and godowns, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the reasons for the inordinate delay in allotment of land despite availability of land in identified areas;

(e) whether it is fact that in the allotment of land, priority is given to nominees of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas over the nominees of Oil Selection Boards, if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the number of holders of letters of intent for distributorship of LPG in Trans Yamuna area in Delhi awaiting allotment of such land for godowns and showrooms who belong to SC/ST category, indicating overall position of holders of the LIs holders belonging to these categories; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the allotment of land in Delhi as well as in other parts of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) Allotment of land for LPG dealership and petrol pumps in the States is the concern of respective State Govts. The details of holders of letters of intent to whom land has been allotted in Delhi by DDA and L&DO during 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 for gas godowns and petrol pumps; and inter-se seniority of letter of intent holders maintained in DDA since 1993 till date and the details about the holders of letters of intent belonging to SC/ST in trans-Yamuna areas are being compiled and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

(c) to (e) As per guidelines, Oil Selection Board nominees are considered first for allotment of specific

site provided that Ministry nominees for the preceding year have already been allotted. The cases of extreme compassionate grounds are considered separately on the approval of Lt. Governor, Delhi. There is no inordinate delay in the allotment of land after identification and approval of sites.

(g) As per Master Plan, the land is provided in service centres, community centres, district centres and main road etc. DDA has been asked to expedite the allotment of land in Delhi subject to the availability of land.

Central Plan Assistance

5304. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts of Central Plan Assistance sanctioned under Annual Plans for various States in 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96,

(b) the amounts deducted at source therefrom on account of the States' outstanding dues,

(c) whether there were representations from certain States against such deductions; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to continue the policy of deduction during the current and future years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The amounts of Central Plan Assistance allocated for various States during 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given in the Statement I attached.

(b) The amounts deducted as outstanding dues out of the Central Assistance due to the States during 1992-93 to 1995-96 are indicated in the Statement II attached.

(c) and (d) Some State Govts. have represented against such deductions. However, in view of the continued defaults by State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and the adverse impact on the financial positions of the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs), outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) up to 31.3.94 are being recovered by re-appropriation of Central Plan Assistance payable to State Govts. from 1990-91 onwards. The recovery of the above dues will be completed by 1997-98.

STATEMENT-I

GROSS ALLOCATION OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR STATE PLANS 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 AND 1995-96

(Rs. Crores)

States	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
A. Special Category				
1. Arunachal Pradesh	247.60	277.49	306.87	413.80
2. Assam	756.41	846.99	898.67	984.24
3. Himachal Pradesh	277.99	333.07	386.37	501.50
4. Jammu & Kashmir	730.64	790.44	839.83	1042.25
5. Manipur	193.70	207.70	248.37	293.33
6. Meghalaya	172.86	183.50	236.85	244.20
7. Mizoram	161.49	177.48	216.68	258.48
8. Nagaland	164.48	187.05	252.90	285.90
9. Sikkim	98.41	107.96	134.96	173.51
10. Tripura	211.01	224.58	251.10	295.22
Total — A	3014.59	3336.26	3772.60	4492.43

B. Non-Special Category

1. Andhra Pradesh	552.50 +	607.50	747.50	777.50
2. Bihar	776.31	870.31	957.31	1055.11
3. Goa	42.00 *	43.00	50.34	58.34
4. Gujarat	245.72	255.22	281.55	331.08
5. Haryana	121.37	158.37	198.71	215.37
6. Karnataka	265.34	280.34	308.15	379.15
7. Kerala	324.33	369.28	384.88	428.08
8. Madhya Pradesh	493.30	536.03	567.03	670.03
9. Maharashtra	434.24	438.24	460.24	570.24
10. Orissa	339.90	339.90	379.90	438.34
11. Punjab	162.92	162.92	169.26	217.92
12. Rajasthan	385.76	396.51	438.51	484.56
13. Tamilnadu	515.92	550.92	654.14	670.14
14. Uttar Pradesh	1142.71	1192.80	1293.80	1511.93
15. West Bengal	425.72	463.54	524.64	618.78
Total — B	6228.04	6664.88	7415.96	8426.57
Total (A+B)	9242.63	10001.14	11188.56	12919.00

+ Excluded Rs. 23 crores of Arrears for 1991-92.

* Excluded Rs. 10 crores for assembly building as one

STATEMENT-II

**OVERDUES OF STATE ELECTRICITY BOARDS
ADJUSTED OUT OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE DURING
1992-93 TO 1995-96**

		(Rs. Crores)			
States		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1		2	3	4	5
A. Special Category					
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.11	0.11	0.70	0.43
2.	Assam	35.15	35.15	53.51	53.52
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1.78	1.59	5.01	5.01
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	11.62	0.00	66.94	66.94
5.	Manipur	5.07	5.07	10.01	10.03
6.	Meghalaya	0.17	0.17	0.27	0.28
7.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.79	0.79
8.	Nagaland	0.28	0.28	2.01	2.01
9.	Sikkim	0.27	0.27	0.04	0.04
10.	Tripura	0.16	0.16	2.33	2.32
Total : A		54.61	42.80	141.61	141.37

B. Non-Special Category

1. Andhra Pradesh	19.16	19.15	7.26	7.20
2. Bihar	255.51	255.51	238.15	238.22
3. Goa	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00
4. Gujarat	71.44	71.40	30.33	30.32
5. Haryana	89.72	89.71	120.46	120.57
6. Karnataka	9.81	9.80	4.71	4.70
7. Kerala	15.50	15.49	14.33	14.35
8. Madhya Pradesh	95.78	95.78	30.84	30.83
9. Maharashtra	58.65	50.03	3.02	3.01
10. Orissa	16.00	15.98	10.68	10.68
11. Punjab	43.41	39.93	11.53	8.19
12. Rajasthan	82.54	82.55	50.78	50.77
13. Tamilnadu	49.20	49.20	16.33	16.32
14. Uttar Pradesh	336.94	326.63	160.00	160.00
15. West Bengal	82.33	82.34	63.24	63.32
Total : B	1226.09	1203.60	761.66	758.48
Total (A+B)	1280.70	1246.40	903.27	899.85

Kendriya Bhandar

5305. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of Kendriya Bhandar running FPS in Delhi at present;

(b) whether some employees of some branches of K. Bhandar, particularly S-IV, R.K. Puram, New Delhi misbehave with ration card holders (enrolled therein) while dealing in FPS ration and supply FP ration in black market;

(c) if so, whether any complaint has been noticed against any employees of this branch; and

(d) the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken against such erring employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) 38 branches of Kendriya Bhandar are running Fair Price Shops in Union Territory of Delhi at present.

(b) to (d) No complaint of the nature has been received in regard to employees of S-IV, R.K. Puram store. 2 complaints were however received in the recent past in regard to misbehaviour of employees with ration card holders, the details of which are given here-under:—

S. NO. complaint	Complainant	Name of F.P.S.	Nature of complaint
1. 17.6.96	Sh. S.S. Sharma DIZ Area, New Delhi.	6364 D.I.Z.	Misbehaviour of employees with the customers.
2. 02.07.96	Sh. A.K. Sinha, DIZ Area, New Delhi.	6364 DIZ	-do-

To provide better service to the Ration Card Holders, one of the staff members of DIZ branch store has been replaced and the Manager of the store has been asked to be more careful in future.

Indian Rare Earths

5306. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for expansion of Indian Rare Earth (IRE), Chavara in Kerala is under consideration of the Union government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objections, if any, raised by the local residents against new projects of IRE;

(d) the reasons therefor and the Government's reaction thereto;

(e) the details of performance of IRE and yearly profit earned during the last three years;

(f) the details of the investment at Chavara plant and the reasons for low investment;

(g) the details of complaints received by the Union Government regarding irregularities in IRE, Chavara in Kerala;

(h) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(i) the amount spent every year by Chavara Indian Rare Earth Plant on welfare measure to the inhabitants of the mining area of the plant;

(j) the norms on such expenditure in mining companies;

(k) the Mining Welfare Board is functioning at Chavara for the welfare of the area but the funds are inadequate; and

(l) if so, the measures undertaken by the Government to give better welfare to these people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Work on expansion of the existing production capacity of Indian Rare Earth's (IRE's) plant at Chavara by 70,000 tonnes per annum by setting up a new mineral recovery plant is in progress and it is likely to be commissioned by March, 1997.

(c) and (d) No new project is being undertaken by the Indian Rare Earths Limited on its own in the Chavara area and hence the question of objections by the residents to such a proposal does not arise.

(e) The performance of the Indian Rare Earths Limited and the profit earned each year during the last 3 years are as under :

	(Rs. in crore)		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Value of Production	101.94	131.25	153.99
2. Sales	104.29	130.17	145.26
3. Profit/(loss) after Tax.	(1.31)	2.32	1.08

(f) The gross block of the Chavara plant of the Indian Rare Earths Limited which was set up about 30 years ago is Rs. 31.24 crore. Expansion and modernisation of

the Plant at a cost of approximate Rs. 30 crores is in progress. This cannot be considered a low investment.

(g) and (h) A number of complaints have been received from various quarters alleging irregularities in awarding contracts for transportation of sand, lower capacity utilisation, fixed term appointments, appointment on compassionate grounds and for not recognising a union, etc. The complaints were examined in the Department of Atomic Energy and many of the complaints were found to be incorrect. The IRE has been directed to take action in one case.

(i) The amounts spent by the Chavara Plant of the Indian Rare Earths Limited on the welfare measures for the inhabitants of the mining area for the last five years are as follows :

	(Rs. in lakh)				
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Contributed directly for the welfare measures	5.50	0.19	3.36	7.03	18.11
2. Contributed to the Mining Area Welfare Board	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Total	10.50	5.19	8.36	12.03	23.11

(j) to (l) No norms have been laid down for such expenditure. A mining Area Welfare Board, with the District Collector of Kollam as Chairman, has been set up by the Government of Kerala. IRE is contributing its Share to this Welfare Board in addition to direct contributions as indicated in (i) above.

[Translation:]

Allotment of Kerosene

5307. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quota of kerosene in litres allocated to Maharashtra every month;

(b) the quantum of kerosene out of it sold at fair price shops and in open market separately; and

(c) the prices fixed by the Government for the kerosene to be sold at fair price shops and in open market separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The monthly quota of kerosene for the State of Maharashtra for 1996-97 is 16,52,24,000 litres.

(b) The Central Government makes bulk allocation of kerosene to States/UTs. Its retail distribution within the State is the responsibility of the State Government. The kerosene allocated by the Central Government is not meant for sale in the open market.

(c) the State Government fixed the prices of kerosene to be sold through fair price shops and to industries. The ex-storage prices of domestic and industrial kerosene charged by oil companies exclusive of excise duty as on date are as under :—

Domestic Kerosene — Rs. 2001.40 per K.L.

Industrial Kerosene — Rs. 6518.63 per KL.

Under the Parallel Marketing Scheme, private parties are allowed to import and market kerosene at market-determined prices.

[English]

Unnikrishnan Committee on Deep Sea Fishing

5308 SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of Unnikrishnan Committee on deep sea fishing;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the same;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the fishermen's groups and coastal States Governments had been demanding cancellation of charter permits, joint ventures and leasing permissions to foreign fishing companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of Union government in this regard;

(f) whether a legislation is proposed to be brought in this regard; and

(g) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Take Over of Land by Oil Companies

5309. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the land acquired by oil companies in the country in different States are paying the land price as per the prevailing market price thereby causing loss to farmers whose land has been taken over by these companies for drilling and other activities;

(b) whether dependents of persons whose land has been acquired which was their only livelihood have not or are not being provided job by the respective companies in various areas of the country; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government have taken or propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) The oil companies are paying the land price fixed by the competent authorities of the State Governments in accordance with the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1984 and other applicable Acts.

(b) The rehabilitation of families displaced on account of various projects of oil companies is done by way of monetary compensation and providing employment to such persons who fulfil the eligibility criteria subject to availability of vacancies.

(c) Does not arise.

Acquisition of Land

5310. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large area of land has been acquired by the government in the State of Delhi;

(b) if so, the area of land acquired by the Government till March, 1996;

(c) the area of land, out of the above, under possession of DDA;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a large part of the said acquired and is under illegal possession;

(e) if so, the area of land under the said illegal possession; and

(f) the area of the land in the State of Delhi lying unused so far inspite of the same being under possession of DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has acquired 88,100.42 acres of land for various public purposes within the land limits of Delhi.

(c) to (f) Land measuring about 59542.78 acres is under the possession of Delhi Development Authority out of which 1400.39 acres of land is under encroachment as on 31.12.1995 and 11,872 acres is in the process of development.

Privatisation of Public Utilities.

5311. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to privatise the sanitation works, treatment of water, environment and transport system in Delhi is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Surface Transport has reported that a proposal to introduce High Speed Tram System (HSTS) on build operate transfer (BOT) basis is under consideration of the government to relieve congestion on roads and to provide transportation facilities to the residents of Delhi. The proposal is still at a preliminary stage and is being examined in consultation with different Ministries.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking have informed that there is no proposal under the consideration for privatisation of sanitation works or treatment of water in Delhi. Further, there is no such proposal pending with the Central Government.

[English]

Accommodation

5312. SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any central agency for construction of houses for employees of Union government posted in Punjab particularly in Jullandhar and Kapurthala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the alternative arrangement made to provide Government accommodation to Central Government employees in Punjab ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, construction of houses for Central Government employees eligible for allotment of accommodation from the General Pool is taken by the CPWD under the Central Plan Scheme of construction of General Pool Residential Accommodation.

(c) As there is no General Pool Residential Accommodation at Jullandhar and Kapurthala, Central Government employees are being paid HRA as per the rates decided by the Government from time to time.

Unemployment

5313. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to unstarred question no. 727, dated March 6, 1996 regarding 'unemployment' and state:

(a) whether the information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An assessment based on the estimates of GDP growth for 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 and elasticities of employment in different sectors indicates that employment would have grown by about 21.18 million or by 7.06 million per year on an average, during the first three year of the VIII Plan. Growth rates of employment and the number of additional employment opportunities likely to have been created during the first three years of VIII Plan are estimated as follows:-

	Growth rate %	Additional Employment (million)
1992-93	2.45	7.40
1993-94	1.91	5.90
1994-95	2.50	7.88
1992-95	2.29 (annual)	21.18

The estimated growth rate of employment during the first three years on the Plan has, therefore, been 2.29% on an average. This is significantly higher than the growth of 1.89% per annum recorded during the VII Plan. It is, however, lower than the rate of around 2.6% to 2.8% envisaged in the VIII Plan. The economy has moved on

to a higher growth path and the structure of growth being oriented towards faster growth of employment as envisaged in the employment strategy in the Plan through emphasis on employment intensive activities like geographical and crop-wise diversification of agriculture, strengthening of irrigation facilities and other rural infrastructure in backward areas, diversified rural manufacturing and other non-farm activities, the small-scale sector, housing, education and health services, tourism, construction, trade and transport by ensuring economic and physical infrastructure support and availability of inputs like credit, skill and market support and appropriate fiscal incentive.

The data received from various Ministries is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

The targets and achievements in terms of employment in Small Scale Industries Sector

Year	Target (Lakh no.)	Growth Rate	Achievement (Lakh No.)	Growth Rate
1992-93	128.0	2.3	134.06	3.28
1993-94	133.0	3.2	139.38	3.97
1994-95 (P)	138.6	4.2	146.56	6.19

(P)-Provisional

Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)

Year	VIII Plan Target (Nos.)	Persons Sanctioned loan (Nos.)	Persons Loan disbursed (Nos.) (As on 8.7.96)	Estimated employment generated (Nos.)
1993-94	40,000	32,068	23,050	46,100
1994-95	2,20,000	1,98,238	1,44,845	2,89,690
1995-96	2,20,000*	2,94,148	1,49,305	2,98,618

* The original plan target was 2,20,000. The Department of Small Scale Industries, however, aimed for a target of 2,60,000 to take care of backlog in achievement of targets during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

** It is expected that when in operation each enterprise would provide employment to two persons.

The number of disbursements are likely to go up substantially.

Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY)	Achievements (As on 31.7.1996) Figures in lakhs	
	Achievements	Targets
No. of Beneficiaries assisted under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME)	8.00	7.23
No. of mandays of work generated under the Scheme of Urban Wage Employment (SUWE) and the Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation (SHASU)	642.36	947.98
No. of persons trained/undergoing training under SUME and SHASU	2.79	3.40

YEARWISE FINANCIAL & PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS IS GIVEN BELOW

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (1ST STREAM) (RS. IN LAKHS)

	Resources Available	Resources Utilised	Mandays Generated
1993-94	406265.84	359020.56	9523.45
1994-95	408033.25	335987.91	7453.59
1995-96	517377.90	396608.39	7955.89
1996-97 (relocated)	225362.20	15528.28	92.23

INTENSIFIED-JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (IIND STREAM)

	Resources Available	Resources Utilised	Units Constructed
1993-94	86037.20	28850.26	734.95
1994-95	133788.64	90845.23	2063.48
1995-96	61811.96	50082.23	1002.36

(1996-97) UPTO MAY 1996

Scheme	Resources Released	Resources Utilised	Units Constructed
IAY	70963.68	5445.77	45522
MWS	22437.32	2124.24	4306

NOTE : Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) and Million Wells Scheme (MWS) were two sub-schemes of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) prior to 1.1.96. With effect from 1.1.96, IAY and MWS have become separate schemes. Similarly Intensified JRY (2nd stream) also stand amalgamated with Employee's Assurance Scheme.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME (EAS)

Year	Resources Available (Rs. in Lakhs)	Resources Utilised (Rs. in Lakhs)	Mandays Generated (in lakhs)
1993-94	54876.56	18375.03	494.74
1994-95	177526.53	123545.28	2739.56
1995-96	267145.00	171730.90	3450.73
1996-97 (Upto March, 96)	101258.92	9797.07	214.67

[Translation]

National City

5314. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare some of the cities as national city;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Planning Commission proposes to allocate special funds for improvement of living standard in these cities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise, in view of the above.

[English]

Thermal Power Project at Bandhpali

5315. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a thermal power station at bandhpali near Sundergarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to invite foreign investors to take up the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Rural Development Projects

1516. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the rural development projects pertaining to Goa which are pending for approval with the Government; and

(b) the time by which the Government would like to clear all the proposals from Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No rural development project pertaining to Goa is pending for approval with the Government.

(b) question does not arise.

Water Shortage in Jammu and Kashmir

5317. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount released by the centre to overcome water shortage in city as well as in villages to Jammu during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government has drawn and plan to solve the water problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme for small towns having population of less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census); two water supply schemes at a total project cost of Rs. 155.10 lakhs have been sanctioned so far for towns Qazingund and Billawar of Jammu & Kashmir and the following amounts have been released so far.

1993-94	Rs. 25.32 lakhs
1994-95	—
1995-96	Rs. 48.45 lakhs

The following amounts have been released during the last three years under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to Jammu & Kashmir.

1993-94	Rs. 18,888 crores
1994-95	Rs. 36,390 crores
1995-96	Rs. 38,939 crores

(c) and (d) It has been decided to cover all the 'Not Covered' rural habitations with safe drinking water in 1997-98.

Reservation for Scheduled Tribes

5318. SHRI KACHARU BAU RAUT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any provision has been made for reservations in posts for scheduled Tribes in Semi-governmental institutions, Government aided institutions, factories run by the Government or Government aided bodies, big private companies on which there is some control of Government;

(b) if so, the ratio of the reservation made therein;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to make provision for reservation therein; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The reservation for the Scheduled Tribes in posts under the Central Government is also applicable to all Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies and institutions receiving grants-in-aid from the government.

(b) The reservation for the Scheduled Tribes is 7.5% for posts filled on all India basis by direct recruitment. For posts filled on local basis, the percentage of reservation varies from State to State and in various Union Territories.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Tapti Oil Field

5319. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state;

(a) whether under liberalisation policy Tapti Oil Field has been awarded to Enron-Reliance collaboration for development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Enron-Reliance has worked out revised estimates of recovery of oil and gas from this field; and

(d) the details of these revised recovery estimates of oil and gas and what were the estimates made by ONGC earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Mid & South Tapti Gas field in the Western Offshore has been awarded to the Consortium of M/s Enron Oil & Gas India Ltd. (EOGIL) and M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. with ONGC as a Joint venture partner under the production sharing contract signed between the Government of India and the Contracting parties on 22.12.1994. The respective participating interests as per the production sharing are as under :

ONGC	—	40%
EOGIL	—	30%
RIL	—	30%

(c) and (d) No final revised estimates of oil and gas have been made by EOGIL. The earlier estimates of recoverable reserves of gas made by ONGC for the Tapti gas field is 31.162 billion cubic meters.

[Translation]

Gas Agencies

5320. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the Government's scheme to allot gas agencies to consumers cooperative societies also in addition to unemployed graduates in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the number of consumers cooperative societies which have been allotted gas agencies; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to do so in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The existing policy, relating to selection of dealers/distributors through OSB, does not provide reservations for "Cooperative Societies". However, under 'Open' category, Consumer Cooperative Societies are given preference over Unemployed Graduates/Unemployed Engineering Graduates. Unemployed Graduates/Unemployed Engineering Graduates are, however, given preference over other applicants. Accordingly, oil marketing companies have awarded 18 LPG distributorships to Cooperative Societies in Gujarat.

Radhepur Power Project

5321. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :
SHRI CHITRASEN SINKU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a power project of Radhepur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have cleared this project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Mid Term Review of Eighth Plan

5322. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has undertaken mid term review of Eighth Five Year Plan and has found that social development is unsatisfactory;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied with the efforts being made in regard to primary education, women education, public health services, training to weaker sections and providing housing facilities to the people of lower income group; and

(c) if so, the reasons of position of India to be same as before in human development index despite the various efforts being made by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Planning Commission had undertaken an internal exercise for Mid-term Appraisal of the Eighth Plan. The draft Mid-term Appraisal document showed improvement in the indicators of Social Development over the years. Despite improvement in the indicators of Social Development, India lags behind in comparison to a number of developing countries in human development index, mainly due to large differentials in indicators across States, large variations between Rural and urban Areas, gender disparities and due to wide gaps between the need and the availability in the Country.

[English]

New Employment Scheme

5323. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have implemented any employment schemes in urban areas of Kerala in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the existing employment schemes for youths undertaken by the Union Government during the last five years in the State; and

(d) the number of persons benefited in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the recent past a new scheme namely, the Prime Minister's Integrated urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) has been launched in November, 1995. PMI UPEP has a component of self employment through setting up of micro-enterprises. The maximum unit cost under this component is Rs. one lakh and the maximum allowable subsidy is 15% of the project cost subject to a limit of Rs. 7,500. The beneficiary is required to contribute 5% of the project cost as margin money. A sum of Rs. 263.20 lakhs has been released as Central share for the year 1995-96 for the Programme to the State.

(c) The Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment has been implementing the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) since October, 1989 in the country, including the State of Kerala, with the objective of generating self-employment and wage employment opportunities.

(d) The number of persons assisted under the scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME), which is a component of NRY, since the inception of the scheme in Kerala is 22,727. Under SUWE and SHASU components of NRY, 56.22 lakhs mandays of work have been generated.

[Translation]

Solar Energy

5324. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct a research on the Solar Energy and power alcohol battery operated engines of vehicles as an alternative of Petrol in view of the increasing consumption of petrol in India; and

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Government has undertaken R & D and demonstration projects for alternate fuels/fuel systems for surface transport. These include demonstration project, which was taken up in Delhi under which 93 petrol vehicles of National Capital Territory of Delhi were operated with a blended fuel of 90% petrol and 10% monoxide anhydrous ethanol. This project demonstrated reduction in carbon monoxide and hydrocarbon emission in exhaust gas by 30% to 50%, besides reducing consumption of petrol. Another project is underway of State Transport Undertakings for reducing consumption of diesel and smoke emissions. Operation of battery operated vehicles has been taken up in Delhi for carrying passengers in congested areas and Govt. officials in CCO-North Block route. Incentive scheme for industrial and passenger battery operated vehicles is also being taken up for various beneficiary organisations, including State Nodal Agencies, cooperative societies, public sector Undertaking, private limited companies etc.

Accommodation to Voluntary Organisations

5325. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any criterion has been fixed in the allotment of General Pool accommodation for the social voluntary organisations and social workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of such social and voluntary organisations and social workers and other persons to whom accommodation has been allotted and the dates when such allotment were made to them and the criterion thereof; and

(d) the names of the persons/organisations to whom such accommodations have been allotted during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 and whether all aspects have taken into account while making these allotments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) there are no guidelines for allotment to Social Voluntary Organisations. Allotment is made with the specific approval of competent authority on merits of each case. Guidelines for allotment of General Pool Accommodation to Social Workers are given in Statement attached.

(c) and (d) Information is being compiled will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Guidelines for Allotment of General Pool Accommodation to Miscellaneous Categories (Persons Engaged in Useful work of National Standing).

(a) Upto 10 houses in all as per existing decision may be allotted to these categories of persons who are engaged in useful work of national standing provided :—

- (i) he/she or any member of the family or dependent does not own houses or plot of land in Delhi;
- (ii) the case is specifically recommended by the concerned Ministry with the approval of the Minister-Incharge;
- (iii) total income of person from all sources is not more than Rs. 3,000/- p.m.;
- (iv) the type of accommodation would be restricted to type-D.
- (v) licence fee should be charged under FR-45-B with departmental charges;
- (vi) the person concerned should not be in regular employment under the Government or any other semi-Government/private organisation;
- (vii) the duration of allotment would be for three years and no extension beyond this period should be allowed.

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

5326. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to refer to USQ No. 2365 dated July 31, 1996 and state :

(a) the details of names of schemes recommended and amount recommended and dates of schemes submitted to the district administration for Palamu and Garhwa by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament of the Palamu Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar in the Tenth Lok Sabha;

(b) the reasons for clearance of only 76 schemes out of 139 schemes submitted to the Palamu Administration;

(c) the date on which the model code of conduct for election came into effect;

(d) the date on which the administrative clearance was given to 76 recommended schemes by the above administration;

(e) the time to be taken for providing technical and administrative clearance for any scheme after being received by the district administration;

(f) the persons who are guilty for escalation in cost of the projects as a result of not providing administrative clearance in time by the Palamu district administration; and

(g) the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the guilty persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) the model code of conduct for elections came into effect from 19.3.96.

(e) The guidelines on the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme do not stipulate any time limit for issuing technical and administrative clearance by the District administration. It should, however, be the endeavour of every District Collector to issue such sanctions at the earliest.

(b) to (g) As already informed in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2365 put down for answer on 31.8.96, of the works recommended by Shri Ram Dev Ram, MP of the 10th Lok Sabha from Palamu Parliamentary constituency, 77 works were recommended prior to 28.1.96. Rest of the works were recommended on 28.1.96 or thereafter. Of the 77 schemes recommended, prior to 28.1.96. Rest of the works were recommended on 28.1.96 or thereafter. Of the 77 schemes recommended, prior to 28.1.96, 76 schemes were sanctioned and executed by the District Collector of Palamu District. One scheme could not be sanctioned as it was not found to be permissible under the guidelines. The schemes recommended on or 28.1.96 were also initially processed and sent for preparation of plans and estimates. However, further action could not be taken due to the imposition of the model code of conduct. In view of these circumstances, there does not, prima facie, appear to be any cause for taking action.

[English]

Rent

5327. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have data on the rent of residential accommodation in the towns and cities with population of 500,000 and more;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plans to bring down rents to affordable levels;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) The main cause for the sharp increase in rent is the gap in demand and supply of housing. Housing being a State Subject, State Governments are responsible for increasing the housing stock by implementation of various housing schemes as per their plan priorities and available resources. However, the Central Government have initiated several steps to create an enabling environment for increasing supply land and rental housing which is expected to help in bringing down the rents of residential accommodation, such as :

- Model Rent Control Legislation formulated and circulated to the States.
- Model Apartment Ownership Bill formulated and circulated to the States.
- Amendments to Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act under consideration
- Flow of housing finance has been increased through HUDCO, NHB, Commercial banks, etc. for increasing housing delivery.

Promotion of Section Officer to Under Secretary

5328. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether eight years service as Section Officer is the statutory requirement for promotion to the post of Under Secretary;

(b) if so, the number of Section Officers who are eligible for the next promotion as Under Secretary;

(c) the number of vacancies lying vacant; and

(d) the date by which these will be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) Rules, 1962, 8 years is the minimum eligibility service for a section officer of CSS for being considered for promotion to the Under Secretary Grade.

(b) The Section Officers' Grade is decentralised amongst 33 cadres, each cadre consisting of one or more

Ministries/Departments. The requisite information regarding the number of Section Officers eligible for promotion on the basis of eligibility conditions is not centrally maintained.

(c) According to the information received from various Ministries/Departments, the number of vacancies in the grade of Under Secretary is 53.

(d) No Select List for regular promotion to the grade of Under Secretary could be prepared after the 1986 Select List, due to protracted litigation regarding *inter se* seniority of directly recruited and promotee Section Officers. Consequently, ad-hoc promotions only were being made, which have been temporarily help up as an application has been filed in the Supreme Court for getting the position of law regarding certain claims of SC/ST officials clarified, and the disposal of that application is awaited.

[Translation]

LPG Coupons

5329. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the members of Advisory Committee attached Ministry are given more LPG coupons than other Members of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the rationale behind such discrimination among Member of Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Members of Parliament who are members of the Consultatives Committee attached to the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas had pleaded with the Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas that being members of this committee, a large number of members of the public approached them for release of LPG connections on priority. Since such members are associated with the affairs of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and more people may be approaching them, it was considered appropriate to give a quota of 30 LPG priority vouchers per quarter to such MPs against the entitlement of 25 priority vouchers to other Member of Parliament.

[English]

Cancellation of Lease

5330. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 8324 on May 12, 1993 and subsequently the statement laid on the Table of the House and state :

(a) the action taken by the DDA to cancel the lease of those 42 allottees who had constructed an additional third storey unauthorisedly in 188 LIG double storey flats, in Phase-I, Ashok Vihar Delhi;

(b) whether there is an increase in the number of such unauthorised construction and if so, the action taken/propose to be taken by DDA in consultation with MCD for demolishing the unauthorised structures; and

(c) the action taken against the officials who are responsible for unauthorised constructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY AT PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that action for cancellation of the lease of the allottees in cases of unauthorised construction is taken only as an additional measure when it is otherwise not possible to remove such unauthorised construction. As the area in question stands denotified and the action to remove the unauthorised construction is to be taken by MCD, the lease deeds of the concerned flats have not been cancelled.

(b) The MCD has reported that there is no increase in the number of unauthorised constructions in 188, LIG double storey flats, Ashok Vihar, Phase-I.

(c) Does not arise.

Encroachment on Government Land

5331. SHRIMATI SUBHAWATI DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 7716 on 5th May, 1993 regarding "encroachment on Government land in Netaji Nagar" and state :

(a) whether the Delhi Administration had asked CPWD to take over the site from the Land Acquisition Collector without waiting for the removal of boundary wall etc;

(b) if so, the action taken by the CPWD to take over the land for the construction of Central Government staff quarters; .

(c) the number of buildings that have come up on this Governemnt land and whether the Government of Delhi provided water and electricity to these illegal buildings on the Government land; and

(d) whether therer is any proposal to get this Government land in Anant Ram Dairy vacated from the encroachers; if so, by when and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. V. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Before taking over, the site it was found that almost all the area was unauthorisedly encroached upon by the illegal intruders. As it was practically not feasible for the CPWD to construct Central Government Quarters, the possession of the land could not be taken over by the CPWD.

(c) As per information available, approximately 143 buildings have come up on this land and there are about 200 plots. Regarding provision of electricity/water connections by the NDMC, the exact position in this regard is being ascertained.

(d) A proposal being considered is to take over the entire extent of acquired land on "as is, where is" basis and then to sell the unauthorisedly built plots to the concerned persons on market rate along with penalty. The unbuilt plots will be safeguarded by the CPWD and if not found useful for Govt. accommodation, these will be disposed off to the best advantage of Government.

[Translation]

Houses for Government Employees

5332. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated/proposed to formulate any scheme for construction of new houses for Government employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the houses proposed to be taken up for construction are as under :

Bhubaneshwar	133
New Delhi	4973
Calcutta	84
Mumbai	1096
Madras	56
Srinagar	216
Dehradun	44
Guwahati	80
Simla	60
Gangtok	18
Total :	6760

[English]

Pulse Mills

5333. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of pulse mills, set up in Madhya Pradesh for the processing of pulses till March 1996;

(b) whether sufficient provisions have been made under the National Development Plan to export the pulses; and

(c) if so, the effort made by the Government in this regard

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) A provision of Rs. 34.38 crores has been made for the year 1996-97 under the centrally sponsored National Pulses Development Project with the objective of increasing the production and productivity of pulses. There is no specific component under the scheme for export.

Cultural Institutions

5334. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the replies to USQ No. 1902 and 2587 dated August 14, 1995 and December 12, 1995 and state :

(a) the details of the reports submitted by the various inspectors who inspected the different cultural institutions mentioned in part (a) of USQ No. 1173 of 2.3.1994 as also other cultural organisations that were inspected :

(b) whether the reports have been analysed and action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) As per inspection reports, there has been misuse in the premises of different cultural institutions mentioned in the USQ No. 1173 for 2.3.1994.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Bhartiya Kala Kendra and Gandharva Maha Vidyalaya have made the payment of misuse charges. The premises of the Indian Council of World Affairs have been re-entered and in the case of Sri Ram Centre, the institution is being asked to make the payment for the misuse charges.

Drilling in Jammu and Kashmir

5335. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Surinsar area of Jammu & Kashmir where the drilling was taken up, the date of launching and abandoning of the projects alongwith expenditure as also reasons for doing so; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for resuming the drilling at the old site or new one in Jammu area; if so, when the task will be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Drilling at Surinsar in Jammu had started initially on 14.3.70 when the first well Surinsar-I was projected to 6000 mtrs. but, had to be abandoned at the depth of 3665 mtrs. on 21.3.73 due to severe downhole problems. The second well for drilling at well Surinsar-2 projected to 7000 mtrs. commenced on 18.5.87. This super deep well also had to be abandoned at the depth of 5448 mtrs. on 29.8.89 prematurely, due to severe downhole problems.

Both the wells did not indicate any hydrocarbon presence.

Subsequently all the geological, geophysical data were evaluated including the data from the two drilled wells. On the basis of this evaluation, prospectivity of the area was rated low. Accordingly, it was decided to defer further drilling in Jammu area.

The exploratory drilling cost of Surinsar area (J&K) as per books of accounts is given below :

(Rs. in crores)

	Expenditure	Depreciation	Total
Surinsar-I	3.74	1.17	4.91
Surinsar-II	27.43	18.59	46.02
Total	31.17	19.76	50.93

(b) No Sir. At present there is no proposal to drill a well in Jammu area.

Roads in Jammu and Kashmir

5336. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that road connecting four districts viz. Jammu, Rajouri, Poonch and Kathva with Pakistan border is not traffic worthy;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the State Government has not been able to maintain this road properly;

(d) whether Government propose to handover the maintenance of this road to border road organistaion;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) The CPWD do not maintain any roads in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The following roads are maintained by the Border Roads Organisation and they are traffic worthy :

(i) Jammu-Akhnoor-Sunderbani-Naushera-Rajouri,

(ii) Jammu-Domel-Katra-Riasi-Pouni-Siar-Kaakot-Rajouri,

(iii) Rajouri-Bhimbergali-Surankot-Poonch,

(iv) Rajouri-Thanamandi-Dera-Ki-Gali-Surankot-Poonch.

As regards Jammu-Kathva road, it is being maintained by the State PWD of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. Information regarding the condition of this road has been called for from the State Government which is still awaited.

Rajouri and Poonch as Scheduled Tribe Areas

5337. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir State Government has recommended to the Government of India for declaring Rajouri and Poonch Districts as Scheduled Tribe Areas;

(b) if so, when does the Government intend to accept this justified recommendation of J & K State Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Mughal Road

5338. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mughal Road revival project on alternate route from Jammu to Srinagar will be open through out the year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the road is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI. S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) It is proposed to construct Mughal Road as a viable alternate route from Jammu to Srinagar at a cost of about Rs. 77.17 crores. The project is expected to be completed in six years from the date of commencement. Certain sections of the road is of fair weather specification and is not trafficable due to rain damages. Due to security scenario in the State, the construction has not commenced yet.

Rural Development in Khurja

5339. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural folks provided jobs in the rural areas of Khurja Parliamentary constituency during the last three years;

(b) the details of schemes started for rural development in Khurja Parliamentary constituency;

(c) whether the said schemes have been completed;

(d) if not the reasons therefor;

(e) the names of rural development schemes proposed to be started in Khurja Parliamentary constituency during the next financial year; and

(f) the estimated cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (f) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) are major poverty alleviation programmes being implemented by the Centre in various districts of the country including Bulandshahar district of Uttar Pradesh containing Khurja Parliamentary Constituency. These programmes are being implemented District-wise/DRDA wise and not Parliamentary Constituency wise. The information, therefore, is not maintained Parliamentary Constituency wise by the centre. The main objective of JRY programme is to generate

wage employment for unemployed and under-employed in rural areas whereas (IRDP aims at identifying rural poor families to augment their income and cross the poverty line through acquisition of credit based productive assets which provide self employment on a sustained basis.

[Translation]

Economic Package for Hilly Districts of Uttar Pradesh

5340. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT (BACHDA) : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared any economic package for nine hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when this package will be in operation; and

(d) the benefits likely to be derived as a result of the package ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, a Hill Area Sub-Plan is being implemented since 1974-75 to hasten the development of the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh. This Sub-Plan is being funded partly from the Special Central Assistance (which is over and above Central assistance being provided to the State under its State Plans) and partly from the State Plan flow.

An outlay of Rs. 547.00 crores comprising Rs. 322.00 crores as flow from State Plan and Rs. 225.00 crores as Special Central Assistance has been approved for the development activities of Uttarakhand region of Uttar Pradesh, in the Uttarakhand sub-plan 1995-96.

Drinking Water Scheme of Mussooree

5341. SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had given Rs. 3 crores and the World Bank Rs. 4 crores for the Drinking Water Development Scheme of Mussooree hill Station of U.P.

(b) whether the World Bank has been asking for Fund utilisation report; and

(c) the reasons for non-compliance in submitting the utilisation report; and steps proposed to be taken in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Houses in Uttar Pradesh

5342. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted or proposed to be conducted with regard to the shortage of houses in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the number of houses required in Barabanki and the time by which the houses would be constructed and made available to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The 1991 Census of India has estimated the housing shortage of Uttar Pradesh at 1251095 for the State as a whole. The Government proposes to provide houses to all houseless rural poor by 2000 A.D.

Misuse of Funds

5343. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints received by the Government relating to irregularities, embezzlement, misuse of funds, sanctioned for the development activities in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to strengthen the system of monitoring and ensure that the funds are only utilized for the schemes for which these were allocated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Some complaints have been received by the Centre relating to irregularities of Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) from some States including Uttar Pradesh. On receipt of complaints in respect of any programme, the same are immediately forwarded to concerned State Government for taking appropriate remedial action. The Government has evolved a strong system of Monitoring of Rural Development Programmes through various measures like periodical progress reports from the States, field inspection by State, district and blocks staff as per the schedule of inspections, field inspections by Senior Officers of Central Government under Areas Officers Schemes, meeting of Project Directors, DRDA and State Secretary incharge of Rural Development and Concurrent Evaluation of Rural Development Programmes. Further, instructions have also

been issued to State Governments for setting up of Monitoring and Vigilance Committees at State, district and block level. Thus all efforts are made to ensure that the funds are utilised properly.

[Translation]

Election of Mandi Societies

5344. SHRI SOHANBEER : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the elections for Mandi Societies in Uttar Pradesh have not been conducted for the last twenty six years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the election are likely to be held; and

(c) the number of Mandi Societies in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The elections to Mandi Societies in Uttar Pradesh could not be held so far because the complete electoral college required for the purpose under Section 13 of the U.P. Krishi Utpadan Mandi Adhiniyam, 1964, was not timely available. Presently, the State of U.P. is under the President's rule and election to the State Assembly is going to be held shortly. The decision regarding elections to Mandi Societies shall be taken by the State Government to be constituted after the Assembly elections.

(c) A statement showing the district-wise number of Mandi Societies in Uttar Pradesh is enclosed.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT SHOWING THE DISTRICT WISE NAME OF MANDI SOCIETIES IN UTTAR PRADESH

DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI
1. Meerut	1. Muzaffarnagar	1. Muzaffarnagar
		2. Kairana
		3. Kandhara
		4. Shamli
		5. Khatauli
		6. Thana Bhavan
		7. Shahpur
2. Meerut		8. Meerut
		9. Mawani
		10. Sardhana
		11. Baraut
		12. Khekra

DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI	DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI
	3.	13. Ghjazibad 14. Hapur 15. Muradnagar 16. Dadri		12. Badaun	60. Badaun 61. Ujhani 62. Bisauli 63. Wazirganj 64. Babrala 65. Bilsa 66. Sahaswal 67. Dataganj
	4. Bulandshahar	17. Bulandshahar 18. Jahangirabad 19. Gulaothi 20. Siara 21. Khurja 22. Sikandrabad 23. Dibai 24. Anupshahar 25. Shikarpur 26. Dankaur 27. Jawar		13. Shajahanpur	68. Shahjahanpur 69. Tilhar 70. Jalalbad 71. Powayan
2. Agra	5. Aligarh	28. Aligarh 29. Hathras 30. Khain 31. Chharra 32. Atrauli 33. Sikandra Rao	4. Moradabad	14. Pilibhit	72. Pilibhit 73. Bisalpur 74. Puranpur
	6. Mathura	34. Mathura 35. Kosi Kalan 36. Sahabad	5. Moradabad	15. Moradabad	75. Moradabad 76. Chandausi 77. Sambhal 78. Bahjoi 79. Amroha 80. Hasanpur 81. Dhanaura
	7. Agra	37. Agra 38. Fatehabad 39. Achhnera 40. Khairagar 41. Jagner 42. Jarar 43. Fatehpur Sikri 44. Shamshabad		16. Bijnor	82. Bijnor 83. Chhindpur 84. Dhampur 85. Kiratpur 86. Nagina 87. Haldaur 88. Allahabad
	8. Manipur	45. Malnपुर 46. Bewar 47. Ghiror		17. Rampur	89. Rampur 90. Shababad 91. Bilaspur
	9. Etah	48. Etah 49. Kasganj 50. Ganj Dundwara 51. Avagarh 52. Aliganj	5. Kanpur	18. Kanpur Nagar	92. Kanpur
	10. Firozabad	53. Firozabad 54. tundra 55. Sirasaganj 56. Shikohabad		19. Kanpur Dehat	93. Rura 94. Chaubeypur 95. Jhinjhak 96. Pukhrayan 97. Barlpal 98. Uttarapura
3. Bareilly	11. Bareilly	57. Bareilly 58. Anwla 59. Baheri		20. Farukhabad	99. Farukhabad 100. Chhibramau 101. Kamalgang 102. Kalmganj 103. Kannauj 104. Mohamdabad

DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI	DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI
6. Allahabad	21. Etawah	105. Etawah 106. Jaswantnagar 107. Bharthana 108. Auraiya 109. Achhalda 110. Dibiyaipur	9 Gorakhpur	31. Mirzapur	151. Mirzapur 152. Ahiraura
	22. Allahabad	111. Allahabad 112. Bharwari 113. Sirsa 114. Ajuha 115. Jasra		32. Sonbhadra	153. Robertsganj 154. Dudhi
	23. Fatehpur	116. Fatehpur 117. Bindki 118. Khaga 119. Kishanpur 120. Jahanabad		33. Ghazipur	155. Yusufpur 156. Jandipur 157. Jamania 158. Saidpur
	24. Pratapgarh	121. Pratapgarh		34. Bhadohi	159. Gopiganj
	25. Jhansi	122. Jhansi 123. Mauranipur 124. Chirgaon 125. Moth 126. Gursara 127. Barua Sagar		35. Gorakhpur	160. Gorakhpur 161. Chauri Chaura 162. Sahjanwa
	26. Lalitpur	128. Lalitpur 129. Mahroni		36. Basti	163. Basti
	27. Jalaun	130. Jalaun 131. Orai 132. Kalpi 133. Konch 134. Madhogarh 135. Ait 136. Kadaura		37. Sidharthanagr	164. Shohratgarh 165. Bansi 166. Bansi 167. Sahiyapur 168. Naugarh
	28. Hamirpur	137. Bharua Sumerpur 138. Mahoba 139. Maudaba 140. Rath 141. Charkhari 142. Kurara 143. Panwari		38. Deoria	169. Nautanwa 170. Garaura 171. Partawal 172. Anandnagar
	29. Banda	144. Banda 145. Karwi 146. Atarra 147. Baberu 148. Mau		39. Maharajganj	173. Tamkuhi Road 174. Haldwani 175. Ramnagar
	30. Varanasi	149. Varanasi 150. Chandauli		40. Padarauna	176. Almora
Varanasi			10. Kamaon	41. Nainital	177. Pithoragarh
				42. Almora	178. Rudrapur 179. Kashipur 180. Kichha 181. Bazpur 182. Sitarganj 183. Gadorpur 184. Katima
				43. Pithoragarh	
				44. Udham S. Nagar	
				45. Pauri Garhwal	185. Kotdwar
				46. Tehri Garhwal	186. Tehri Garhwal
				47. Chamoli	187. Chamoli
				48. Uttarkashi	188. Uttarkashi
				49. Dehradun	189. Deharadun 190. Vikasnagar 191. Chakarata 192. Risik

DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI	DIVISION	DISTRICT	MANDI
12. Lucknow	50. Saharanpur	193. Saharanpur 194. Gangoh 195. Nakur 196. Nanota 197. Rampur Manihara 198. Sultanpur Chilk 199. Deoband 200. Chhutmalpur	14. Azamgarh	60. Bahraich	240. Bahraich 241. Nanpara 242. Payagpur 243. Mihipurwa 244. Risia 245. Rupaidiha
	51. Haridwar	201. Haridwar Union 202. Manglaur 203. Roorkee		61. Sultanpur	246. Sultanpur 247. Jafarganj
	52. Lucknow	204. Lucknow 205. Banthra		62. Barabanki	248. Bara Banki 249. Safdarganj 250. Rudauli
	53. Unnao	206. Unnao 207. Bangar mau 208. Purwa		63. Ambedakar Nagar	251. Akbarpur 252. Tanda
	54. Rai Bareli	209. Rae Bareli 210. Lalganj 211. Bachhrawan 212. Jais 213. Salon		64. Azamgarh	253. Azamgarh
	55. Sitapur	214. Sitapur 215. Sidhauri 216. Biswan 217. Hargaon 218. Mahmudabad 219. Mishrit 220. Maholi		65. Mau	254. Kopaganj 255. Dohrighat
	56. Hardoi	221. Hardoi 222. Sandila 223. Madhoganj 224. Shahabad 225. Sandi		66. Jaunpur	256. Jaunpur 257. Shahganj 258. Mungra Badshahp
	57. Kheri	226. Lakhimpur 227. Tikonia 228. Gola Gokaranna 229. Maigal Ganj 230. Palia Kalan 231. Mohamdi		67. Ballia	259. Ballia 260. Bilthara Road 261. Chitbara Gaon 262. Rasra
	58. Faizabad	232. Faizabad	<p style="text-align: center;">Families Migrated from Doda</p> <p>5345. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :</p> <p>(a) whether the Government are aware that hundreds of families had recently migrated from Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir;</p> <p>(b) if so, the details thereof; and</p> <p>(c) the steps being taken by the Government to provide adequate security to the said families and to encourage these families to go back to their native places?</p> <p>THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) according to information provided by the State Government, in the wake of certain incidents of killing of civilians in the recent past, such as the incidents at Kalmari and Sarwadhar areas of Doda district, around 100 families and migrated to other areas. After assurances were given by the local</p>		
	59. Gonda	233. Gonda 234. Colonelganj 235. Balrampur 236. Tulsipur 237. Pachperwa 238. Nawabganj 239. Utraula			

administration and various confidence building measures were taken, most of the families are reported to have returned back to their native places.

The measures taken in this regard include, *inter-alia*, the strengthening of security force deployment, patrolling, expansion of the network of Village Defence Committees, and launching of large scale operations for flushing out the terrorists. The State Government have also reported that all assistance, as may be required, is being provided to the families who had migrated to enable their safe return to their native places.

Launching Camps by Terrorists

5346. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has established launching camps in Pak-occupied Kashmir for infiltration of terrorists with a view to create disturbances in Jammu and Kashmir during Assembly elections to be held in September this year;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any preventive measures in view of their activities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Pakistan has continued to be actively engaged in sponsoring, aiding and abetting terrorist and secessionist violence in Jammu and Kashmir, and there are reports of efforts to infiltrate armed terrorists to step up violence with the aim of disturbing and thwarting the electoral process in the State.

Government is fully alive to such designs and efforts, and action has been taken to strengthen the arrangements to check infiltration and to prevent possible activities aimed at disrupting the elections through intensified vigilance, patrolling and deployment of the Security Forces.

[English]

Rural Development Schemes in Barabanki

5347. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will The Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villagers benefitted under Rural Development Programme in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh and the percentage of downtrodden and backward class out of them;

(b) the number of women benefitted in Barabanki district in Uttar Pradesh through Rural Development Programme and the percentage of downtrodden women out of them; and

(c) the reasons for a low rate of development in Barabanki district and the steps taken to accelerate the pace of development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The

details of the benefits generated for the rural poor under major rural development programmes during 1995-96 in the district of Barabanki (Uttar Pradesh) are as under :-

1. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP):

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Total physical Target = 6706 families | |
| 2. Total families benefitted = 8518 families | |
| 3. The target of SC/ST families = 3487 | Upto |
| 4. No. of SC/ST families assisted = 4456 | February. |
| 5. Target for women beneficiaries = 2682 | 1996 |
| 6. No. of women beneficiaries assisted = 2722 | |

2. Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-----------|
| 1. No. of group formed | = 30 | Upto |
| 2. No. of Women benefitted | = 300 | February. |
| 3. SC/ST Women benefitted | = 180 | 1996 |

3. Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Total physical target | -- 28.57 | lak |
| 2. Total achievement | -- 13.10 | m. days |
| 3. Target for women | -- 8.57 | |
| 4. Achievement-women | -- 2.17 | Upto |
| 5. Target for SC/ST Women | -- 6.43 | February. |
| 6. Achievement for SC/ST women | -- 1.83 | 1996 |

4. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 1. Total employment generated | -- 8.27 | lakh |
| 2. SC/ST | -- 5.40 | mandays |
| 3. Women | -- 0.68 | lakh |
| | | mandays |

(c) The progress under various schemes in Barabanki district is generally satisfactory.

Industrial Units in Jammu and Kashmir

5348. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of various types of registered Industrial Units in each region of Jammu and Kashmir at the end of the year 1995-96 also during the current year at the end of July, 1996 in the private, semi-private and public sector;

(b) the number of sick and semi-sick units as also the number of units which have been closed down;

(c) the amount spent by the Government for Industrial Growth in Jammu Kashmir in each plan period;

(d) the number of industrial workers in private, semi-private and public sector; and

(e) the reasons for sickness of such a large number of sick units and steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S R BALASUBRAMONIYAN) (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

ISI in Jammu and Kashmir

5349 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "ISI sending death squads to Kashmir to disrupt polls" appearing in 'The Observer of Business and Politics', New Delhi dated August 14 1996,

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to meet this threat from Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S R BALLASUBRAMONIYAN) (a) to (c) Government have seen the news item referred to in the question Pakistan ISI has continued to be actively engaged in sponsoring, aiding and abetting terrorist and secessionist violence in Jammu and Kashmir and there are reports of efforts to step up the violence with the aim of disturbing and thwarting the electoral process in the State, including threats against the candidates contesting the elections, political leaders, and workers, etc

Government is fully alive to such designs and efforts, and action has been taken to make elaborate arrangements for the security of the contesting candidates, political leaders, election staff, polling stations, etc and to prevent possible activities aimed at disrupting the elections through intensified vigilance, patrolling and deployment of the security forces The situation in this regard is being continuously and closely monitored

Thermal Power Project at Kalakot

5350 SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) when the Thermal Power Plant at Kalakot in Jammu and Kashmir was commissioned, its cost, installed capacity,

(b) the amount spent on its remodelling with what results

(c) whether this plant has been virtually under shutdown for the last ten years, if so, the reasons thereof and whether there was any schemes to make it properly operational,

(d) the amount spent to its maintenance and also on the salaries etc, of the staff since it was put under shutdown, and

(e) the electricity generated from Kalakot, if any, during the past three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S R BALASUBRAMONIYAN)

(a) Commissioning of the Power Plant—

I 1st Unit	7 50 MWs	=	1969
2nd Unit	7 50 MWs	=	1971
3rd Unit	7 50 MWs	=	1972
Total	22 50 MWs		

II Cost Rs 402 00 lakhs on 1973 price level

III Capacity 22 50 MWs

(b) Remodelling not done

(c) I Shut-down since 1986-87

II Reason-The ash content in the coal available from Kalakot mines was excessively high against the ash content in earlier samples on which boilers were designed and manufactured for Thermal plant The high ash content in the coal was not suitable for performance of boilers

III Scheme-Could be made operational under fluidised combustion technology

(d) I No maintenance

II Expenditure on the salaries of the staff @ Rs 77 00 lakhs per annum

(e) Electricity generated

Year	Electricity generated in LUs
1980-81	42 80
1981-82	180.00
1982-83	46 70
1983-84	30.46
1984-85	Shut-down
1985-86	00.62
1986-87	Shut-down

[Translation]

Job to Land Oustees

5351. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that while acquiring the land in Noida/Greater Noida, the farmers were assured that their family members would be given priority in the employment in the industry set up on the acquired land;

(b) if so, whether the Government are also aware of the fact that the above-mentioned people have not been given employment while outsiders are being given employment;

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government in order to fulfill the assurance given to the people whose land is acquired; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have reported that they have issued directions from time to time for rehabilitation of displaced families while acquiring land for industrial purposes and to provide employment to a member of each such family in the industry set up on the acquired land. However, it is not always possible to employ a family member on whose land the particular industry is being set up as entrepreneurs setting up industry, generally provide employment according to specific requirements and needs of the industry.

(c) Industries set up in NOIDA are required to employ members of families of villagers (whose lands have been acquired) to the extent of 5% of skilled as well as unskilled labour strength. A provision to this effect exists in the Lease Deed executed between NOIDA & the Industrial Units. The setting up of ITI's at NOIDA, Greater NOIDA and Surajpur and sanction to set up private technical/vocational training institutes to train rural youth, whose families, lands have been acquired, to match the requirements of the industries are other steps taken by the State Government in this regard.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.00 hrs.

Statements showing action taken by Government on various assurances, promises and undertaking given by Ministers during 9th and 10th Lok Sabha

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) a copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Minister during the various sessions of Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha—
 - (i) Statement No. XXIX—Sixth Session, 1990
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 488/96] Ninth Lok Sabha
 - (ii) Statement No. XXVIII—Seventh Session, 1991
[Placed in Library See No. LT 489/96]
 - (iii) Statement No. XXXIV—First Session, 1991
[Placed in Library See No. LT 490/96]
 - (iv) Statement No. XXVIII—Second Session, 1991
[Placed in Library See No. LT 491/96]
 - (v) Statement No. XXX—Third Session, 1992
[Placed in Library See No. LT 492/96]
 - (vi) Statement No. XXVII—Fourth Session, 1992
[Placed in Library See No. LT 493/96] Tenth Lok Sabha
 - (vii) Statement No. XXV—Fifth Session, 1992
[Placed in Library See No. LT 494/96]
 - (viii) Statement No. XXIV—Sixth Session, 1993
[Placed in Library See No. LT 495/96]
 - (ix) Statement No. XX—Seventh Session, 1993
[Placed in Library See No. LT 496/96]
 - (x) Statement No. XIX—Eighth Session, 1993
[Placed in Library See No. LT 497/96]
 - (xi) Statement No. XVII—Ninth Session, 1994
[Placed in Library See No. LT 498/96]
 - (xii) Statement No. XII—Eleventh Session, 1994
[Placed in Library See No. LT 499/96]
 - (xiii) Statement No. X—Twelfth Session, 1994
[Placed in Library See No. LT 500/96]

(xiv) Statement No. VII—Thirteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library See No. LT 501/96]

(xv) Statement No. V—Fourteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library See No. LT 502/96]

Tenth
Lok
Sabha

(xvi) Statement No. III—Fifteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library See No. LT 503/96]

(xvii) Statement No. II—Sixteenth Session, 1996
[Placed in Library See No. LT 504/96]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I am on a point of order. The statement on the assurance which was given in 1990 is now being laid after six years. The direction of the Speaker is — and a rule also — that whenever an assurance is given, it has to be implemented within three months. But six years have been taken to fulfill the assurance which was given in 1990. Now, the Statement is being laid on the Table of the House after six years.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Such delays should not be there ordinarily.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There should not be so much of delay.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

Notifications under Essential Commodities Act, 1995

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1995:—

(i) The Light Diesel Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) (Amendment) Order, 1996 published in Notification No. S.O. 471(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1996.

(ii) The Furnace Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices and Distribution) (Amendment) Order, 1996 published in Notification No. S.O. 472(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1996.

(iii) The Paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price fixation) (Amendment) Order, 1996 published in Notification No. S.O. 473(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1996.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 505/96]

12.01 hrs.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Dwarka Nath Dasji.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already called him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL (BHANDARA) : Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is present in the House. So, we would like to raise a very important issue about the creation of a separate State of Vidarbha. Sir, we have been giving notice continuously. We gave notice yesterday also. We had given notice last week also. We have given notice today also. Sir, we both want to raise this issue. The Prime Minister is already sitting in the House. We may please be given an opportunity, Sir. This is a very important issue ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let me say a few words... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let me have my say.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : Hon. Prime Minister Sir, it is a very important issue of creation of a separate State for Vidarbha ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : We are very happy that for the first time after so many years, the hon. Prime Minister has accepted the need for smaller States and given recognition to Uttarakhand ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : We are very happy that for the first time after so many years, the hon. Prime Minister has accepted the need for smaller States and given recognition to Uttarakhand... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nobody is able to hear you. Please sit down.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : The hon. Prime Minister should please understand the gravity of the situation ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

1204 hrs

At this stage, Shri Praful Patel and Shri Datta Maghe Came and Stood on the floor near the Table

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)

1205 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Praful Patel and Shri Datta Maghe went back to their seats.

...(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have a list of 34 Members with me and I shall give every member a chance to speak.

[English]

I shall give chance to everybody provided you speak one by one.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : We have been giving notices daily. (Interruptions)

Please take up this issue, we shall speak one by one.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It has been decided, I shall give everybody a chance to speak.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (NAGPUR) : Please take up our issue regarding Vidarbha and give chance to all the Members who want to speak on it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give chance to every hon. Member provided he has not spoken yesterday.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (KARIMGANJ) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, weavers in my constituency of Karimganj in Assam are in a miserable condition, because of non-availability of yarn. Of course, there are many weavers' cooperative societies. The concerned Government Department supplies yarn to them and in return gets finished cloth, but supply of yarn is thoroughly irregular.

Sir, there is some unhealthy relation between the so-called cooperative society managers and the Government officials and as a result, the common weavers are 'deprived of their due shares. I personally visited some of the weavers' colonies and witnessed their tottering dwellings.

So, I suggest that all the weavers should get "weavers' card" and in lieu of it, they should get yarn regularly from the nearby Block headquarter and they should be allowed to sell the finished products to cooperative marketing societies themselves so that they could maintain their existence in bettering manner.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not raising any political issue or any controversial issue, but I am raising a very important issue and the whole House need to consider this issue. I am raising the issue of thalassemia patients.

Thousands of children die of thalassemia because of incomplete treatment ... (Interruptions)

I am raising a very important issue. Thousands of children suffering with thalassaemia died because of incomplete treatment. You will appreciate that though I have asked five or six questions in this Session, the reply of the Minister was as bitter as gourd. One patient needs twenty injections in a month, and the cost is about Rs. 2,000. It is very difficult for the common people to purchase this type of medicine. Without this medicine and the blood. It is very difficult to survive. That is why, most of the children, in the age group of five to ten, die because of incomplete treatment.

Please allow me, Sir, because this is a very important issue. The Minister said in his reply that-it is very shocking, though I have great regard for him-that thalassamia was not the most killer disease so far as the children in India were concerned. But so many children died because of the Incomplete treatment. Now, the oral drug has been introduced in India successfully, specially in Mumbai, Calcutta, Chandigarh and Delhi under the name of Kelfer, but because of the Central Sales Tax, excise duty and customs duty, the price is very high. So, you may take up the matter with the State Governments to exempt sales tax on this injection, particularly on this medicine, i.e., Kelfer. The Central Government already considered the exemption of customs duty, but not the excise duty and the Central Sales Tax.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions) Please let me speak.

[English]

That is why I request the Government to exempt this medicine from these duties so that the medicine will be available to the patient at Rs. 1,300 instead of at Rs. 2,000. Secondly, the Government has no national control board to control thalassaemia like Malaria and AIDS. The Government should start a national Control board to control thalassaemia also. Thirdly, please try to give some free injections and free medicines for the thalassamia patients on humanitarian grounds. This is my humble request, and I think the House will appreciate this. The people are crying outside. I want justice from you. I think the Parliamentary Affairs Minister should react ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

You have always been raising such issues. It is not a political matter.

[English]

This is a very serious matter. May I request the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to take up the matter with the Health Ministry and the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : I will certainly convey this feeling of the hon. Member to the Minister concerned.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMADABAD) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the memory of Amarnath tragedy is still haunting the whole country. Hundreds of pilgrims are missing as yet. Their relatives are running from pillar to post to know, their whereabouts. An uncertainty is prevailing about the missing pilgrims as to whether they are alive or died. I visited Srinagar and Pahalgam and at that time I told this House that dead bodies of some pilgrims had been cremated by the state authorities there after taking their photographs and identification. Central Government and hon. Prime Minister has made an announcement to make an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 2 lakh to the families of each deceased Jammu and Kashmir Government has also announced an *ex. gratia* payment of Rs. 50,000 to the families of each deceased. But so far all the dead bodies have not yet been identified.

Sir, through you I would like to know from the Government as to how the members of families of pilgrims, who died in this tragedy could get this money, as they have not yet been given death certificates. This tragedy took place at Pahalgam as near Srinagar and people from various parts of the country cannot go there personally. They will not be able to get government's assistance till they get death certificate after identifying the dead bodies of their relatives.

I request the Union Government to set up a cell under the supervision of an I.A.S. officer to consider the applications for issuance of death certificates in respect of dead pilgrims so that their relatives could get the money, if the Government is actually sincere in this matter. The Central Government should make necessary arrangements in this regard.

Yesterday I met the hon. Minister of Home Affairs in this regard. He said that he was not aware of any such announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister. Announcements are made but how these are to be implemented? The Minister of Home Affairs says that he is not aware of it. But announcement has been made. Many other issues are involved in this matter like the issuance of death certificates, identification of death certificates, identification of dead bodies, just as in Gujarat 25 dead bodies were identified with the help of photographs only who were cremated. Now who will issue death certificates for them. These are serious problems. Hon. Minister, Shri Srikanta Jena and Ram Vilas Paswanji are also sitting here. I request them to evolve some procedure or to set up some cell to solve the problems of people so that relatives of those pilgrims could get the amount of compensation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There should be some co-ordination in this matter.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (QUTER DELHI) : What arrangements have been made for providing grants etc.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : How those people would be able to get that. There is no mechanism for this and even Home Minister does not know about it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Who will issue death certificates. How the whole system would be coordinated?

[English]

Where and whom should they contact ?

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, after ascertaining the facts. I will convey to the hon. Member how this is being disposed of.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There should be a statement on this.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : At the moment, I have no information, but I will collect the information.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : You make a statement tomorrow because the hon. Prime Minister has already announced an *ex gratia* of Rs. 2 lakh to each relative of the deceased. How do they get the *ex gratia* amount from the Government? There should be some machinery through which one can know about this.

SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI (KHAMMAM): Sir, I want to speak in my mother-tongue, that is, Telugu, I have already given the notice.

[Translation]

*Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to bring an important issue to your notice and through you to the notice of Government.

The Radical Group in Andhra Pradesh is now indulging in a Spate of brutal murders. Radical group is a terrorist organisation operating in Andhra Pradesh for many years in the past and especially in the recent years the brutal killings by this terrorist organisation have gone up considerably. Very recently, a popular farmers' leader and a well known leader of CPI(M) in the district, Shri Shyamala Venkata Reddy was brutally axed to death on September 6 at 5.30 P.M. The murder took place in broad day light when he was working in his farm. Law and Order is a State subject. No doubt. But the Centre too has its share of responsibility. The terrorist activities are not restricted only to Andhra Pradesh. We all are aware of the fact that these activities are taking place in the States of North East, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. Though the nature of these activities differ from State to State, their motto remains the same. Hence the Government of India should at once initiate action for curbing the terrorist activities in the country. The Andhra Pradesh Government has already initiated several steps in this regard. The State Government is imposing ban on terrorist outfits. On certain occasions, this ban is being lifted on a trial basis. But the State Government has not been successful in curbing the terrorist activities.

Sir, there are certain vital issues which are helping in keeping alive the terrorism. There are certain fundamental issues and problems concerning people which have to be tackled without any further loss of time. Those problem have to be tackled first.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

Sir, the Central Government should ask for the necessary information from Andhra Pradesh Government and extend the required help to the State Government for curbing terrorism. Also, it is necessary to have a perfect co-ordination at the central Government level for wiping out terrorism in different States. These terrorist outfits are indulging in the brutal killings of political leaders of all the parties. They are indulging in the destruction of properties worth crores of rupees. They are boycotting the elections. They are terrorising the people to stay away from the elections which are so vital for the success of democracy. They do not even hesitate to throw country bombs and kill people if they participate in elections.

Hence, after taking stock of the situation the Central Government should issue necessary guidelines to State Governments to tackle this issue. The Central Government should also extend necessary help whenever it is sought for by the States. It should also co-ordinate steps taken in different States for curbing terrorism. The Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Governments have asked for the help from the centre. The Central Government should help them curb terrorist activities in their respective States.

Once again appealing for timely action by the Central Government to make the country free from terrorist activities and Thanking you for providing an opportunity to me to raise the issue on the floor of this august House I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to raise an important issue in this House. The Government has announced several schemes for the country including the rural areas. Unfortunately no work has been taken up to clear the stagnated rain water in Delhi the capital of the country. 1071 colonies are waterlocked and situation has worsened due to heavy rains. The main reason for it is that these colonies are listed as unauthorised in Government papers. The state Government of Delhi therefor, cannot undertake any development work in these areas. I request the Central Government to regularise those colonies, so that developmental work could be taken up. If there is any legal problem in it, that should be resolved. People in these colonies are leading a miserable life as knee-deep water has been logged there. The dirty Sewer water has entered their houses. It is really shameful that this is the state of affairs in the capital. I request the Central Government to regularise these 1071 colonies immediately so that State Government could take up developmental work there. Recently High Court has given orders to DDA DESU and MCD that

[English]

They should work in better coordination for the development works in Delhi.

[Translation]

Neither the Central Government is performing their work nor it is permitting the Delhi Government to

undertake its work. Delhi Government has its limitations. More than 48 lakh people are living in these colonies and they are leading a miserable life. I request the Central Government that in the first phase it should make some temporary arrangements with the help of Delhi Government. 1071 colonies should be regularised at the earliest so that Delhi Government could complete this work. Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI V V RAGHAUAN (TRICHUR) A pension scheme for bank employees was agreed upon in 1993. Despite the binding provisions of the agreement, most of the private sector banks are not implementing the scheme. They are not disbursing the pension to the employees. In the agreement, both public sector and private sector have agreed to implement the scheme. On 4th January, 1966 the Finance Ministry gave a directive through letter No F4/8/2/96-A and asked the banks even if it is finally not agreed, to make *ad hoc* payment to the retirees. Even after getting the directive from the Finance Ministry, most of the private banks are not implementing the scheme. They are not paying the retirees their due pension.

So, I urge upon the Finance Minister and the Finance Ministry to ask the private sector banks also to implement the scheme.

I also urge upon the minister to arrange to disburse the payment even on an *ad hoc* basis. Only giving a directive and keeping silent is not enough. So, the Minister should intervene and compel the banks to pay the retirees' pension.

SHRI P R DASMUNSI (HOWRAH) Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not mentioning anything during Zero Hour. I gave a notice.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Your name is there.

SHRI P R DASMUNSI I am not mentioning anything in the Zero Hour. My case is not pertaining to Zero Hour but it is pertaining to Articles 185 of the Constitution of India and also Article 75 (3) of the Constitution about the right of the Members and the Ministers. I ask for a very urgent ruling on this matter because the House will be adjourned on 13th. If that ruling is not given, I think the constant harassment of the innocent Members might continue. We have to take into account the manner in which things are going outside the House. Therefore, I gave a notice. I hope the hon. Speaker will dispose of this matter today. I am not disturbing the Zero Hour proceedings now because you have asked the Members to speak. But that matter is very urgent, I gave a notice this morning. My fear is that purposely a deliberate attempt has been made to dilute the authority of the Ministers, to dilute the authority of the Government, not Government in term a of Party but as an institution. While the Ministers are accountable to the Lok Sabha collectively, for acts of their omissions and commissions, they can be questioned by the Lok Sabha. (Interruptions)

If that authority of the Lok Sabha is taken away by any other authority outside the Parliament, that will be dangerous. Even if I do any wrong as a Member of Parliament doing something in the House and outside, for that I can be questioned by this House only and not by any Police authority outside. If this way, the authority is being eroded, what will be the effect? I am not defending anybody. Fundamentally, it should be discussed in the House. So, I gave a notice to the hon. Speaker today morning. Before the House rises on 13th, this matter should be disposed of. Unless that is done, it will not help us ... (Interruptions) When we go outside, everybody looks at us as if we are thieves and dacoits. That is not the manner in which we should be looked at. The Parliament should stand by its own right and strength. I have been arguing this point from the very first day of this Session. Why should it not be discussed? While the power is in your hands, should you not use it? If any Minister is doing any wrong in his ministerial functioning, first, you should scold him. He is answerable to Lok Sabha. But he is not scolded by the Lok Sabha. What is happening now is he is scolded by somebody outside diligently. This cannot be continued. I want a ruling on this matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me have a say. I have not gone through the papers. They are, perhaps, pending with the hon. Speaker. Let him decide about it. Your message will be conveyed to him.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently heavy rainfall has occurred in Madhya Pradesh as a result of which Agra-Indore-Mumbai road, which passes through Sarangpur, Shajapur, Muxi and Devas in my parliamentary Constituency, has been damaged and several potholes created on it. Culvard has broken and thus accidents are taking place there. Sir, on contacting the concerned administrative officers and Ministry I was told that no specific fund has been earmarked for it and thus accidents are on increase on this road. The proposal for construction of a by-pass on this road for Devas and Shajapur is lying pending with the Government for a long time so far no action has been taken in this regard.

Sir, through you, I request the Government that this proposal of constructing by-pass road for Devas and Shajapur should be cleared immediately. The bridge near Tilawat has also been damaged and has disrupted traffic. This bridge and pot-holes on Muxi, Devas and Shajapur road should be repaired at the earliest, and action should be taken to streamline the traffic.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KODIKUNNIL (ADOOR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Punalur Paper Mill is the only one industry which is in my constituency of Kerala. It is a very old Paper industry in this country. More than six hundred employees are working directly and more than one thousand employees are engaged indirectly in this

mill. The mill was earning profit. But nine years back, the Mill was closed down. The reason for this closure was that the Management had taken a loan from ICICI, IDBI, IFCI and the Canara Bank for the purpose of expansion and modernisation of the Paper Mill and the Management failed to repay the loan at the proper time. The Financial Institutions had gone to the Bombay High Court and filed a case against the Management.

The Bombay High Court ordered about the closure of the Mill and at the same time, has appointed a Receiver.

Since the closure of the Mill, the employees have been facing acute poverty and unemployment; ten employees have already committed suicide so far. The employees have not got any benefit during the last eight years and nobody has looked after their welfare.

Now the financial institutions have come forward to have a dialogue with the management for a settlement. The ICICI and the IDBI have agreed to the proposal of the management, but the Canara Bank, the financier of the paper Mill, is not ready to settle the issue. The total liabilities with the Canara Bank are more than Rs. 36 crore. About Rs. 30 crore is the interest and Rs. 3 crore or something is the principal amount.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, to take necessary steps for giving instructions to the Canara Bank for settlement of the issue with the management of the Paper Mill and for re-opening of the Punalur Paper Mill as also at the same time, to save the employees and their families from ruination.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (MUMBAI-NORTH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw your as well as the Honse's attention to healthy political practice.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (QUILON) : Sir, I would like to say something.

MR. DEPUTY DEPAKER : Everybody will get a chance. It is a matter of time.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : The Finance Minister is we. he should intervene in this matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : There has been an established practice for years that whenever the Hon. Prime Minister or any other hon. Minister visits state, the members of

the Parliament of that area are informed about the visit so that they could meet him in regard to local problems. The practice was being followed till recently but the hon Prime Minister or Minister of the New Government do not inform about their visits.

Mr Deputy Speaker Sir whenever the hon President or the Vice President visits any place the hon Members are informed about it. Recently the hon President visited Maharashtra and he had informed all the Members of Parliament of Maharashtra through a letter. I presume that everyone would be following this practice. I would request you to kindly advise all the hon Minister and the hon Prime Minister to inform the local members of Parliament whenever they go on tour. It is very difficult to visit Delhi again and again. I demand that the new Government should also follow the old healthy practice. It would be better if you give a direction in this regard. Sir there was an exception when Shri Chaturanan Mishra had informed about his visit to Mumbai but his letter reached us after his visit. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH) You also did not inform us. *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE We are not informed whenever anyone visits West Bengal.

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER) The hon Prime Minister and the hon Ministers visited Ajmer four times but we were not informed.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (JAHANABAD) Are you not going to call me to speak?

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER I am going to call you just now.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKER SARPOTEDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST) I would like to add to what the hon Member Shri Ram Naik has said. Whenever we write letters to Ministers it is necessary that first we get an acknowledgement of that and then we should get the reply. This is the practice prevailing everywhere. But some of the ministers are not following this practice.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Please ensure that the four programmes of the ministers and the Prime Minister are sent to the MPs.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGNUVANSI PRASAD SINGH) I assure that the hon Members will be informed about the four programmes in future.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, a serious accident took place in my constituency. Thirty youths, both male and female, were crossing some river by boat near Masadpur village on 26th. Their boat capsized and all of them died due to drowning. They were all labourers and were engaged in nation building works. It was a very painful incident. All the members of their families are aggrieved. I demand from the Government of India to grant compensation to the bereaved families so that they could get some relief in the hour of distress.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (BAREILLY) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir I want to raise an important problem of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh and would like to request the Government through you, to consider the problem seriously. The hon Prime Minister visited Uttar Pradesh time and again. He admitted twice that Rs 500 crore as outstanding amount of the farmers in U.P. was still to be paid. But unfortunately, the promises proved to be election promises only. So far as I know only Rs 429 crore have been paid in the form of Indira Vikas Patra. It is not doing any good to farmers. Rs 500 crore are still to be paid to farmers as sugarcane dues. The farmers are worried. The heavy rain has become a stumbling block in finding a solution to the problems of the farmers and their dues of sugarcane are also not being paid. Surprisingly all sugar mills are running into losses and I doubt if the sugar mills will function properly in future. I would like the Government to be serious about this and ensure timely functioning of the sugar mills and cash payment of farmers dues. Issuing Indira Vikas Patra will not solve the problems of the farmers. On the contrary it will aggravate their problems.

Mr Deputy Speaker Sir the villages have come in the grip of flood due to heavy rain this time. It has multiplied the problems of the farmers. The houses have been washed away in flood and it has created the housing problem. Yesterday around 500 people gathered in my city. They didn't have any penny and the administration is also not giving them any sort of assistance. The ruling party is only making election promises keeping an eye on ensuing election. It is not going to benefit the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, I request you to ensure payment of outstanding amount of sugarcane farmers.

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA) Sir I would like to bring to the notice of the house a matter which has been reported in the Press, a matter of great shame for all Indians especially for women of India.

It has been reported that in one nursing college, a virginity test is being insisted for those students who are

seeking admission there and it is also reported that a virginity test was conducted on some students. I do not know whether it is true. It has reportedly taken place in Andhra Pradesh. I have also seen some reports that some action has been taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard. So, it appears that it is a true fact. Two teachers have been suspended.

We have heard only now that some two or three years back, the Indian ladies who went to London were subjected to test like this, which will tell upon, it is very shameful. As far as the Indian culture is concerned, I think, this is something which should be responded and something on which action has to be taken. I think, the culture of India is being invaded like this. Therefore, some very serious note should be taken by the Government of India and action should be taken on serious atrocities against women like this ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (RAMTEK) : He Speaks daily. You are not calling me inspite of having given notice for the last eight days.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall call everyone. Nobody will be left out....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will also get a chance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No cross-talks please. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the flood situation in Bihar. I am raising this question again and again because the hon. Prime Minister had gone to Hazipur last Friday to inaugurate the zonal headquarters of Railways. Hardly 10 kilometer away from there lies Sonapur Diyara area under Saran district which is a flood affected area. The Central Government has provided Rs. 20 crore as relief but it is not known as to how the State Government is distributing the relief material and money. I myself visited the flood affected areas and during my visit I found that the district administration had demanded 950 quintal of wheat from the state Government but till then only 50 quintal of wheat was despatched : No arrangement for fodder was made for ten thousand cattle in the flood affected areas. Not only this the areas where the water level is receding, are witnessing outbreak of diseases. I also toured the diarrhoea affected areas. 22 diarrhoea affected children had been hospitalised in a private hospital. I, through

you, would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards it and demand to keep a strict vigil on the expenditure made on the flood relief schemes in the entire Bihar and particularly on the grant given by the Central Government. The Central Government should take effective steps to complete this works of State Government.

SHRI SAYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (MURSHIDABAD) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to point out as to how a conspiracy is being hatched to finish off the Public Sector Undertakings. Hon'ble Finance Minister is also present here and he too should pay attention.

Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation was incurring losses till 1991-92 however, now its position has improved somewhat. Earlier Goswami Committee was set up which had recommended that its Calcutta and Mumbai units should be sold whereas at present both the units are making profits. Out of eight units, five are making profits and three are incurring losses. But the problem is that the Chief General Manager is not being allowed to handle the day to-day administrative functioning independently and the Finance Ministry and the Economic Advisors of the Ministry of Civil Supplies are hampering the day to day functioning. The Vanaspati unit of Delhi does not have a production turnover of even one tonne.

An official posted in this unit for the last ten years is not being transferred. No funds are being provided by the Ministry of Finance. Now attempts are being made either to sell the land of this unit or to privatise it. My submission is that the S.T.C., M.M.T.C., the oil barons and Economic Advisors are involved in this conspiracy. Their intention is to prevent it from making profits and to render it as a losing proposition so as to close it down later on. As the land belonging to the unit is in the Kirti Nagar Area of Delhi, such a conspiracy is being hatched in order to sell that land for personal gain. I am giving you this information in advance. I believe that if the Management is given a free hand in the functioning and no interference is made in the day-to-day administration, this unit can be revived within a period of two-three years. Reviving a sick industry in such a manner could prove to be a milestone in the history of this country. The Finance Minister is busy in conversation with some other Members and he has not paid any heed to my submission. Whether he pays attention or not, what would follow later on is that there would be another scam like many scams unearthed earlier. Thereafter a House Committee or Joint Parliamentary Committee would be set up ...*(Interruptions)* That is why I am bringing this matter to the notice of the Government through you ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your names are there in the list. I will sit here with you. I am prepared to sit here

even after 1 O'clock and I shall give you the opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA) : Sir, Just how my friend has drawn attention of the Government towards the payment of sugarcane arrears, and I am not going to repeat it. I would like to speak further on this issue. Sir, what is more painful is the fact that whereas the Prime Minister of India is the well-wisher of the poor and the present Government is hailed as the saviour of the poor, and further the Prime Minister has stated time and again in his speeches that the Government will make payment of sugarcane arrears and that the Government will provide relief to the farmers, even then payment to the tune of crores of rupees is still pending. Sir, during the tenure of Indiraji, payment of Rs. 100 crore was pending. At that time Rs. 60 crore were paid by the Centre and Rs. 29 crore came from the cane less and thus entire payment was made. I had suggested earlier also that the payments can not be made unless the money is released by the Central Government. Presently a payment of Rs. 500 crore is pending. Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the sugar factories such as the Kanpur Sugar works which has four mills at Padrauna, Kankuan Gauri and Madohara. The mill situated at Gauri is closed down and probably the Madohara mill is also closed and more their twenty crore rupees are outstanding against the mills situated at Padrauna and Kankuan. The area is in grip of floods. The farmers are anguished. Recovery is being made. It has become difficult to make the payments to the labourer. The Government should be concerned about the running of the mill as it is the responsibility of the Government to keep it functional. The condition of the farmers is pitiable. Through you, Sir, I ask the Government to give a statement on this matter. *(Interruptions)* If the Government can not ensure payment by those sugar mills which are functioning under the control of Government of India, what would be the response of other mills. Hence you should ask the Hon'ble Minister to give a reply.

[English]

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand here to raise an important issue concerning the North Eastern India where five districts of Arunachal Pradesh and Jonai sub-division of Assam have been delinked from the rest of the country for the last twelve days. The road communication was disrupted in the area during the last flood in the month of June. On 29th of August, a sudden flash of flood from the reserved block water from the Arunachal hills through the river Gai which is seven kilometers from Dhemaji district, washed away 1.5 kilometers of railway track including a railway bridge. It also washed away the bridge on the national highway which is under construction.

These bridge was damaged by the earlier flood also. Now the area has been disconnected from the other parts of the country. Forty thousand people have been rendered homeless and they are now in the relief camps. In the last flood, 12 persons lost their lives and now two persons have reportedly died on the spot. I talked to the Deputy Commissioner of Dhemaji District about the reconstruction of bridge.

He reported that it would take more than two months' time to repair the damaged bridge because it is rainy season and also because there are floods. Therefore, it is necessary to send a special defense team to raise or to erect a pontoon-bridge so that communication network is restored immediately.

I would therefore, request the Minister of Surface Transport and also the Minister of Railways to send a special defence team for restoring the road and rail communication immediately to save the people from this tragedy.

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA (SURAT) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the present Central Government i.e. United Front Government and earlier the Congress Government have always maintained that they would formulate schemes for the upliftment of poor and especially the OBCs. The Government of Gujarat which had enlisted 60 communities, castes and subcastes earlier in the O.B.C. list, revised the number of Communities, castes and sub-castes to 105 by adding 30 new castes and sub-castes. However, those castes have not been included in the common list by the Government of India and especially the Social welfare Department. Until these castes and sub-castes are included in the common list drawn up by the Government of India these people would not be benefitted.

In November, 1994, the Government of Gujarat had made a request to the Union Government to include these castes and sub-castes in the common list. However, the United Front Government has still not taken any decision in this regard. The Minister from my state and I myself too have contacted the Ministry officials time and again and every time we are assured that these 30 castes, sub-castes and communities would be included in the common list very soon.

I am sorry to say that the United Front Government makes tall claims but its decisions go against the OBCs. I ask the United Front Government and especially the Social Welfare Department to include the 30 backward castes, sub-castes and Communities of Gujarat in the Common List without further delay so that people belonging to those castes can avail of the 27 percent reservation for entering the services and for admission to the Medical and Engineering Colleges. Their names are

included in the Mandal commission Report but do not figure in the common List.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shrimati Lakshmi Panabaka, please.

SHRI SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA (TIRUPATI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, ...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Are you making the submission on behalf of Shrimati Lakshmi Panabaka ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA (NELLORE) : No, Sir. He is making the submission because it is a problem relating to his Constituency.

SHRI SUBRAMANYAM NELAVALA (TIRUPATI) : Sir, it was brought to our notice by the people of my Constituency that poor people belonging to the Scheduled Castes of Chilamathur village, off Nayudupet Mandal, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh were attacked and beaten up by the landlords of Telugu Desam Party. The Scheduled Caste people were attacked, they were not allowed to stay in their houses and made them to run away. Their fields and properties were damaged and ransacked by the so-called landlords belonging to the Telugu Desam party, and their followers.

In this connection, I request the hon. Home Minister to make a statement in the House on the action to be taken to prevent the atrocities. Thank you.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (SADAR DELHI) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 4th of August, the senior Congress leaders had alleged that their telephones are being tapped on 5th August, S/Shri S.B. Chavan, Matang Singh, Pranab Mukherjee, Suresh Kalmadi and Ahluwalia had met the Prime Minister who has formed the Government with the support of the Congress Party. These leaders had stated that their telephones as well as the telephone of the former Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao is being tapped.

On August 6, Prime Minister ordered C.B.I. inquiry into the matter.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of telephone tapping is not new. Earlier, in 1983, Shri Hegde's Government had also collapsed on this account. After that, in 1990, Shri Chandra Shekhar had alleged V.P. Singh's Government that their telephones were being tapped. Consequently, an inquiry was conducted by C.B.I. and it was found that the telephones of Shri Arif Mohammad Khan and other leaders were being tapped.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, not only this, in 1993, Shri Arjun Singh had alleged that his telephones were being tapped by Shri Narasimha Rao's Government in which

Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

he was Minister of Human Resource Development, I think that there is no need to mention the period of emergency in 1975 when telephones of many leaders were tapped and at that time Shri Jagjivan Ram had witnessed before Shah Commission that his telephones were being tapped.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of telephone tapping is very old and now this issue has been raised not by an ordinary person or M.P. but the president of congress party and former Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao whose Government lasted for five years and who is aware of the functioning of Government Departments. The C.B.I. conducted an inquiry into the matter after this allegation was made but the inquiry report has not been laid on the Table of the House till today. Therefore, through you, I demand in this House that the inquiry report of the C.B.I. may be laid on the table of the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to make one more demand that atleast M.Ps may be given this privilege that their telephones are not tapped. Not only MPs but the telephones of other political leaders, bureaucrats, and journalists are also being tapped. I demand that the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 which has become meaningless now may be revised.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to say that the Government should give assurance that telephone of any M.P. will not be tapped in future. I would also like to know the reasons for easily conducting C.B.I. inquiry as all are aware that it is not very easy to get C.B.I. inquiry conducted unless there is a prima-facie case. Therefore, I allege that some compromise has been made between the congress party and the Government due to which they have been protected and that is why, C.B.I. inquiry report is not being laid on the table of the House. In the end, through you, I demand that C.B.I. inquiry report in connection with the telephone tapping may be laid on the table of the House.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. I have waited for a very long time for my turn.

I would like to raise a burning issue and through you want to draw the attention of the Government and the entire country towards the problems being faced by the people of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. Reorganisation of states was done in our country and Maharashtra state was formed in 1960 and our Vidarbha region which was a part of Central Province state earlier, was clubbed with Maharashtra State. I would like to inform you that Nagpur was the only city which, in spite of being the capital, sacrificed its status of being capital and clubbed with the Maharashtra State at the time of reorganisation of state respecting the sentiments of the then leaders and to fulfil the dream of united Maharashtra.

Sir, a Nagpur agreement was made to honour the sentiments of the people of Vidarbha and Nagpur. Even after 35-36 years of formation of Maharashtra the problems being faced by the people of Vidarbha and the questions in regard to the development are still same as they were earlier...*(Interruptions)* But, we have not been able to express our views before the people properly ...*(Interruptions)* You can make your point ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (RAMTEK) : Please listen to me ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : The dream of united Maharashtra ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (RATNAGIRI) : There have been several Chief Ministers from Vidarbha ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL : The dream of united Maharashtra ...*(Interruptions)* your continuous interruptions cannot stop me from saying my point ...*(Interruptions)* The dream of united Maharashtra ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Please listen to what I am saying ...*(Interruptions)*

[English].

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 2 P.M.

13.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock

14.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Ten Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to Protect the Interests of Small Scale Bidi Producers in the Country

[Translation]

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (JABALPUR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the process of opening the doors of those industries reserved so far for unorganised sector to the foreign companies in the name of new Economic Policy, these companies have been allowed to manufacture small cigarettes. Due to tax exemption and

other rebates these small cigarettes are available at cheaper rates and are adversely affecting the sale of Bidi. The number of small cigarettes manufactured in the country in 1994 was 7 crores which increased to more than 70 crores in 1995. Manufacturing of these cigarettes by modern automatic machines by big companies has posed a serious threat to the Bidi industry and the workers engaged in it. Manufacturers, manufacturing Bidis upto the number of 20 lakh were exempted from tax and other duties in the name of small scale industry. The purpose of giving this exemption might have been to give relief to small manufacturers but only big manufacturers availed of this benefit. These big producers began tax evasion in the name of being small scale producers as a result, on one hand, Government revenue decreased and on the other hand, exploitation of labourers in this sector got intensified. Besides, these direct effect of the new Economic Policy, labourers engaged in Bidi industry have also been facing other repercussions like increase in prices of commodities, un-employment, their standard of living has gone down and social security weakened. Therefore, my submission to the Government is that adequate steps may be taken to resolve the problems of the labourers engaged in Bidi industry and efforts be made to strengthen Bidi industry.

(ii) Need to Issue Instructions to the Government of Maharashtra for issue of Caste Certificate for the People belonging to the Halba Tribe

[English]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (NAGPUR) : I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the grave injustice on the poor people of Halba Tribe Community in Maharashtra, particularly in Vidarbha region.

In spite of several decisions of the High Court in their favour, still they are being denied the Caste Certificate to avail facilities in education and jobs.

I would also like to say that the Nagpur Bench of High Court clearly gave decision in favour of the Halba Tribes *vide* Writ Petition No. 2984/1984. But the Government of Maharashtra filed a Civil Appeal No. 2294/1986 in Supreme Court on this petition, though Supreme Court admitted this case but refused to grant any sort of stay.

I would also like to emphasise that since there is no stay by Supreme Court by all means the decision of the High Court is binding on everybody including the Government, either it be Central or State. I would like to draw the attention towards a latest decision of Supreme

Court in Gayatri Laxmi Bapurao Nagpure case decided on 15.3.96 by the Bench of Hon'ble Justice Madan Mohan Panchi and K. Venkateswamy. The decision is clear. As per the judgement even on the strength on the Certificate of the first cousin, the Halba petitioner was granted Caste Certificate.

I urge upon the Central Government to intervene in the matter immediately and issue suitable instructions to the State Government in this regard.

(iii) Need to Include Rosemala in Kollam District, Kerala Under Rural Electrification Scheme

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (ADOOR) : Rosemala in Kollam District, Kerala is surrounded by thick forest. There are 300 families residing at Rosemala, more than 25 kms. away from the nearest town at Aryankevu. Most of the families belong to Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

Those families have applied for electric connections at their residences. But the Kerala State Electricity Board is asking them to pay huge amount for providing electricity. These poor people are not able to pay the amount.

The Kerala State Electricity Board has regretted to supply electricity free of cost to this area. The Forest Department has also objected under the Forest Law to lay electric lines through the forest.

I urge upon the Government of India to include Rosemala under Rural Electrification Scheme and sanction sufficient amount for the electrification of hilly, remote and backward area Rosemala, in Kulathupuzha Panchayat, Kollam district, Kerala which is under Adoor Parliamentary (reserved) Constituency. I hope that Ministry of Power would take urgent steps in its matter.

(iv) Need to Impose Ban on Import of Silk in the Country

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR) : India is one of the major silk producing countries in the world. Karnataka produces about eighty per cent of the total quantity of silk produced in our country.

Strengely, the silk producers are not taken due care of either by the Central Government or by the States. The rates of cocoons, yarn etc., go on fluctuating and the producers are at the receiving end. In fact the rates of cocons and yarn are very low. This is due to dumping of China silk in our markets. The import of silk particularly from China has ruined the future of our silk producers. Foreign silk which we are importing is of very low quality. That is why they are selling it here at a very low price. Indigenous silk has no demand in our country. This kind of rate tactics of some countries has affected Indian silk producers in the international market also.

It is the duty of both the Centre and the States to protect the interest of our farmers. The first and the foremost step in this direction would be to stop dumping of foreign silk yarn in our country.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to completely ban import of silk without any further delay.

(v) Need to Provide Adequate Funds to State Government of Bihar for Industrial Development of Aurangabad District

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA-KUMAR (SAGAR) : Aurangabad is a very backward district of Central Bihar. 95 per cent population of the district depend upon farming and labour. There is no industry in the district. Not a single industry is being set up in the Industrial Development Centre of the District as a result of which people of the district are facing starvation and unemployment. Most of the labourers of the district have to work in the industries located in Delhi and other states.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to provide adequate funds to the State Government for setting up of industries in the Aurangabad Industrial Development Centre.

(vi) Need to Cater to the Demand of People of Kerala for Loan From the Credit Deposit of NRIs

[English]

SHRI A. SAMPATH (CHIRAYINKIL) : About a million people from Kerala are working abroad and earning foreign exchange to this great nation. The nationalised banks functioning in the State mobilise deposits mainly through NRI accounts and through their relatives' accounts. But the amount mobilised is not properly given for the utilisation in the State. Adequate loans are not provided to the entrepreneurs of the State and hence causes the capital dear and costly. The credit deposit ratio is staggeringly low. The money collected as deposits is being drained out of the State. I, therefore, request the Government to give appropriate directions to the bank authorities to cater to Kerala's demand for loans immediately.

(vii) Construction of Rail-cum-Road Bridge over Brahmaputra and Bogibil area in the Dibrugarh District of Assam

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR) : It is a long standing demand of the people of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh for construction of a rail-cum-road bridge over Brahmaputra and Bogiubil area in the Dibrugarh district of Assam. This bridge will not only

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provide easy surface communication between North and South bank of the river but would also greatly help the people of Arunachal Pradesh in removing the existing transport barriers through upper Assam. The strategic importance of the bridge from the point of defence as well as opening up of trade and commerce with South East Asia was raised at different levels by linking the proposed highway from Burma. The recent exploration of oil fields at the North bank specially in Lakhimpur and Dhemaji districts of Assam and part of Arunachal Pradesh further justified the need for early construction of the bridge to connect the existing oil installation at the South bank of Brahmaputra. The Planning Commission approved this project during Eighth Plan period in accordance with the recommendation of LC Jain Committee formed to formulate plans under clause 7 of Assam Accord. The Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Surface Transport jointly took up the project and decided to start construction immediately after completion of the Jogighopa Bridge scheduled for completion by October, 1996. The North East Council also agreed to partly finance the project.

The Railway Ministry has been kind enough to allocate rupees two crore in the current budget for survey, preparation of techno feasibility report and estimates but the real work cannot be started unless all the required formalities are completed by September, 1996. I, therefore, urge upon the concerned agencies of the Central Government to expedite the matter so that the real construction work is started by the end of 1996.

(viii) Need for early Completion of Gandak Irrigation Project in Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMBAHADUR SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Gandak Project was started about 25 years ago with a view to solve the irrigation problem of North Bihar. But it could not be completed till today as a result of which a loss is being incurred instead of profit. The land which was used for farming has either been acquired by the Government or production has reduced in that area.

I, therefore, request the central Government to get the Gadak Project completed without any further delay.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (KOTA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before you take up the next item I have a point of order. Since the commencement of the session of this Lok Sabha, I have not got any opportunity to speak. I have also discussed this matter with you in your chamber also. I am seeing that T.V is telecasting views of so many members but my agony is that I am not being given any opportunity to speak. You know that I

was not given a chance to express my views even on the issue of Vidarbha. I come and sit in the House at 9.30 A.M. and give notice to raise my point in the Zero Hour. Even then I do not get an opportunity. How shall I face the people when I go back to my constituency after the session ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please sit down. I have told in the morning that I will give chance to all. When there was so much interruptions in the House, I had to adjourn the House. I shall give you a chance tomorrow.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Such a situation will arise if you take up national issues in Zero Hour
 ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Well. We shall keep this thing in mind in future.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : If a national issue is discussed in Zero Hour then there may be a chance of dispute. I am speaking proud words from a little mouth but you should keep in mind that uproarious scenes would be created on such issues. Therefore, such issues should not be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right.

14.25 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR BUDGET, 1996-97

AND

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—JAMMU AND KASHMIR

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now take up further discussion on the Jammu and Kashmir budget. Before calling anybody to speak on it, I would like to request that too much discussion has been held on this issue and now we want to complete it soon. I have to make two submissions. The first is that please speak on budget only and secondly you should not take more than five minutes. Four-five members are there in my list.

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (RAJAPUR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said yesterday, I hope that this is the last time that I will get an opportunity to speak on Budget of Jammu and Kashmir because hopefully by next time the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their Assembly would debate the Budget.

Sir, it is always misconstrued when somebody raises a question about the amount spent in Jammu and Kashmir as if raising an issue of that sort means an act of anti-nationalism. Somebody is asking questions whether

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the people living in Jammu and Kashmir—when they are part of India—be considered as Indian citizens and as our brothers. We feel why they are still feeling so, despite the fact that they are part of India and a lot of amount is spent on them, that not enough amount is spent on them. What are the causes for that? This is what the people would like to know at the time of presentation of this Budget and consideration of the same by the House.

Sir, it appears that this year also we have spent a substantial amount on Jammu and Kashmir on various aspects.

Let us take Education. We have spent almost Rs. 366 crore on education. I would like to know as to how many institutions we have started during this period.

As far as power generation is concerned, we are going to spend Rs. 871 crore during this year. I would like to know whether any new power generation capacity created during this period.

As far as unemployment is concerned, we are spending about Rs. 265.92 crore. I would like to know as to how many people are going to get employment.

The total amount spent on Industry, agriculture and animal husbandry accounts for almost Rs. 266 crore during the next year, which we are going to spend. I would like to know as to how many people are going to get jobs; and how many new areas are going to be brought under cultivation. It is because of the threat that the people of Jammu and Kashmir feel that they are not getting enough and we are going to spend so much of money without getting any tangible results. So, the question is where this money is going. Are there any pilferages?

The accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir were audited by the C&AG of India last time. Are there any serious doubts expressed about the utility of this fund? Is there any report on that? So, we would like to know from the hon. Minister about all these things when he presents his Budget.

Sir, I would also like to request the hon. Finance Minister to present a White Paper to Parliament and for that matter to this country to know as to how much money has been spent on Jammu and Kashmir during the last 50 years; per capita utilisation of these funds on various social sectors and the utility that has been derived by the people of Jammu and Kashmir during the same period; how much per capita amount has been spent on other parts of India so that we could really know legitimately as to how this money has been spent because we really feel sorry for our brothers and sisters who are staying there. We are really wondering as to why they are taking to arms when so much of money is spent on

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them. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to present a White Paper in this regard because, as I said earlier, this could be the last time that we are going to debate on this.

Sir, I know that I have to be brief. So, I will just touch a few points.

I will take only one figure. The land revenue collected during this period was budgeted as Rs. 113 lakh, which again is a very low figure. But the revised estimate only shows it as Rs. 4.64 lakh. Is the Government machinery functioning there, which could collect only such a paltry sum of money though the original estimated amount itself was such a small amount? But despite that what has been collected is very small.

Again this year, we are budgeting Rs. 134 lakhs for the Budget-Estimate for 1996-97. I think we really need to know whether what we are really budgeting for is in conformity with the ground realities prevailing there. During the same period how much amount has been collected on account of small savings? Is the Government spending so much amount on Home and Government machinery? The Government machinery could not mobilise even a single rupee on account of small savings. Have the people of Jammu & Kashmir really lost faith in the Government machinery? It is spending so much on paper, but what they are receiving in return is hardly anything. We would really like to know this from the hon. Minister.

Sir, in the three regions that we have got in Jammu & Kashmir, that is Kashmir Valley, Jammu and Ladakh, if you take the area, the Kashmir Valley accounts for 16,000 sq. kms., Jammu accounts for 26,500 sq. kms. and Ladakh accounts for 96,700 sq. kms. But the number of seats that these people represent in the Legislative Assembly is totally disproportionate to the population which is 31.34 lakhs in Kashmir Valley, 27.20 lakhs in Jammu— which is almost 45 per cent of the total population—and 14 lakhs in Ladakh.

Even the Delimitation Commission which was set up last time had also recommended revision of the seats, but now the people of Jammu and Ladakh legitimately feel that this Assembly is not really representing their wishes, their desire and their aspirations. So I feel that probably there is also need for us to know, when they are talking about giving money to the State, how much of it is spent on these three district identities that exist within that State.

Sir, the Planning Commission had also made a recommendation in the National Development Council. It was a part of the National Development Council's deliberations and which was ultimately accepted as a recommendation and is a guideline for the Planning

Commission now that that much amount of money should be spent on one of the most backward areas. If you take the backwardness indices, one of the regions which is most backward should receive backwardness indices, one of the regions which is most backward should receive more funds. But are we following those norms or not, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister ?

I am sure these issues would be incorporated into this Budget Document which has been prepared. I am also sure that this regional imbalance would be removed while preparing this Budget and the Government would definitely give us a view on that.

When we prepare the White Paper, I would like to know how much of total amount we might have spent during the last forty years on the Central assistance provided to the State of Jammu & Kashmir; how much total amount we might have spent on security in the State of Jammu & Kashmir is something the nation has a right to know. I am sure the hon. Minister of Finance or may be the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, during the course of next few months would present the Status Paper and let us know about the total cost incurred on this.

During the same period of 1995-96, the Central loans to the States are in excess of Rs. 278 crore in one single year as against the collection of not even one crore of rupees from land revenue. We would like to know how much total amount has been spent by the Central Government on security, on Central assistance, on loans and advances and the total amount of loans and advances written-off as grants for the last four years.

Sir, I am conscious of the fact that so many other Members have to speak and the people of Jammu & Kashmir have also to receive these funds which the hon. Minister of Finance is so generously providing for them, so I do not take more time of the House and resume my seat.

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE (BERHAMPORE) (WB) : Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my Party's views on this Budget for Jammu & Kashmir. On behalf of my party, RSP, I rise to extend my support to this Budget in a general way subject to some observations on it.

Sir, I take this opportunity to welcome the decision of the Central Government for holding Assembly elections in the State and I also welcome the people of Kashmir Valley who have come forward to cast their vote in large numbers. Actually this is the beginning of the people's participation in the political process in that State and this is actually the beginning for the restoration of political process in that State.

Sir, the restoration of political process is impossible without the restoration of economic activity.

So, I think that the first objective of this Budget should be to support the economic activity in order to restore peace and normalcy in that State. I am also happy to appreciate the stand taken by the hon. Prime Minister who has made an announcement in this House for the sanction of a huge amount of money for the developmental projects in that State. In consonance with the feelings of the hon. Prime Minister for that State or for the restoration of economic activity in that State this Budget should be re-oriented in such a fashion that we should start the economic activity in order to sustain the political process. The first objective of the Budget, I think, should be to get back the misguided youth of the Valley to the mainstream of the Indian society, to the mainstream of the Indian culture and Indian economy. They were misguided not of their own choice, but they were misguided due to the failure of the Central Government at that time to tackle the situation. Basic poverty and unemployment drive them away towards the fundamentalists, towards the clutches of the Jamait-e-Islam towards the clutches of the militancy, towards the clutches of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. So, to get them back to the mainstream of the Indian society we should provide the economic package in this Budget for the restoration of economic activity. But it is my observation— I may be wrong—that the main thrust of the budget is not reflected towards the restoration of economic activity.

With your kind permission I may put a very simple question to our hon. Minister of Finance. Can this Government assure that the Plan funds during the previous years have been successfully utilised ? We have the Budget statement made by the then Minister of State for Finance, Shri M.V. Chandrasekhara Murthy and the assurance was given by him in this House that the district level supervision by the task force must be done in order to check the accounts of the progress of the work and the development projects in that State. Can this Government assure that this supervision has been done ? I think, it is my information, that this supervision has not been made possible at all in that State. I have got an unwanted information, which is part of the rumour that goes throughout this Valley, that the money allotted by the Central Government for the people of Kashmir does not actually go to the hands of the needy and poor people of J&K.

Sir, please pardon me and forgive me if I use any unparliamentary word. There is an unholy alliance between the corrupt people inside the Government machinery and outside the Government machinery and the entire amount or a bulk of the budgeted amount sanctioned by the Government of India goes to the clutches of that unholy alliance. This is the root cause of all economic frustrations in that State. I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Finance and the Government to take appropriate action

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to investigate the matter and to take adequate measures for the solution of this problem.

I beg your pardon to draw your kind attention that proper emphasis has not yet been given on developmental projects. We have heard the hon. Prime Minister and earlier the Minister of Railways that the construction of railway lines from Srinagar to Jammu or from Jammu to Udhampur was the beginning of economic restoration. What is the present position? What is the booster given through this Budget to rejuvenate the economic activity in respect of construction of the railway line? The unemployed youth could come and enjoy this facility. But this has not made any sincere progress to that effect.

Sir, we know it very well from this Budget and the Budget speech that many notable schemes were adopted by the Government of India under the employment generation programmes to reduce the rate of unemployment in the State of Kashmir. But may I urge upon the Government to make an assessment as to how far the problem of unemployment has been solved as yet? The programmes were adopted, the schemes were adopted under employment generation scheme, but those schemes have not yet been successful. I would urge upon the Government to make greater provisions for solving the crisis of power in that State, for solving the problems of tourism.

Tourism is the backbone of Kashmir's economy. What are we doing to develop that backbone of the economy? What are the provisions the Budget is making for the development of tourism in that State? We are not sincere in that respect. We are not sincere. We see the tears coming from the eyes of the shawl weavers. What is the position of the handicrafts and cottage industries? What is the Stringent condition of the poor peasants who are working in the fields or who are working in the forestry? I would appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to make sufficient provisions for the development of the shawl weavers, for the development of shawl dealers, for the development of persons engaged in social forestry and the agricultural fields. I would also urge upon the Government to give sufficient energy and attention to the problems for the development of tourism. With these words I conclude my speech. I again extend my support to the Budget.

SHRI E. AHMED (MANJERI) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the last several occasions when the Budget of Kashmir was presented before this House, I had the privilege to participate in the discussions and on almost all the Budgets of Kashmir. This is the last time we are participating in the discussion on the Budget of Jammu and Kashmir. Hereafter, as my friend Shri Suresh Prabhu has stated, the Kashmiri people and their representatives

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will discuss about their Budget proposals in their own Legislative Assembly which will be constituted after the on-going elections.

Sir, I had an occasion to visit the Valley last week. I have myself seen a changed political atmosphere prevailing in the Valley. This is because of the transparency that the Government here in New Delhi has shown in recent past towards the people of Kashmir. In this context, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for having visited the Valley and he has the reputation of visiting Kashmir Valley after seven years in this democratic India. His visit and also the transparency of the Government have helped them to change the political scenario and the democratic process now underway in Kashmir will be the best bet for the people of Kashmir. The normalisation of situation as well as the progress of Kashmir is depending on the democratic form of the Government. But I am sorry to say Sir, that even now there are some sizeable section of people who are still not participating in the political process. I had also the occasion to meet the Chairman of All Party Hurriyat council Mirwaiz Maulim Umer Farooq and also some other people who have not joined in the process of election.

I may be permitted to bring it to the notice of this august House that during the discussion I had with some of the intellectuals—Of course, they are not with Pakistan, they are not supporting Pakistan, they are cut up with India too—told me one thing. They said that it was not they who were supporting Pakistan. They were against Pakistan and its leader Mohammad Ali Jinnah. They fought with Pakistan, they stood by India, they supported India and not only that, they also suffered of the hands of Pakistani invaders and the atrocities committed on them by the Pakistani invaders. Even people like Brig. Usman has laid down his precious life for keeping Kashmir with India.

Sir, according to them all these years, the Government of India have been trying to alienate the people of Kashmir about which also they narrated many instances. But past is past. Now what we have to see is that even those leaders of Kashmir who have not identified themselves with the mainstream politics have also to be brought into the mainstream politics. In this context, I would also say that elections should definitely be held there in a free and fair manner. When the first phase of the on-going Assembly election was held on the 7th of this month I was there in Srinagar and I have been told that the election was, by and large, peaceful. Of course, there were allegations and complaints about some people capturing the polling booths. I hope the Government of India as well as the Election Commission will look into this matter. But any way, militancy is militancy

and it should be met with a firm hand. The people are now disillusioned with the militants. The people of the Valley are also disenchanted and disillusioned with the militants and they have their own opinion about Pakistani designs. But at the very same time, we should show not only transparency, but also our sympathy, compassion, goodwill and friendliness towards the people of Kashmir. We should honour their sentiments. That is the only way in which we will be able to have Kashmir as a part of India, for which I am sure the majority of the people of Jammu and Kashmir are ready. They must also have their own civil administration, their own democratic institution and their own participation in the democratic process for which the Government of India should take necessary steps.

Sir, as a matter of fact, Kashmir is very much backward. Who is responsible ? What is the situation there ? Everybody knows about it. But I would like to mention at this stage about the unemployment problem which my R.S.P. friend has just mentioned. He also mentioned about inadequate development in the fields of education and electricity. The money set apart for electricity generation and distribution is not sufficient to meet the requirements of Kashmir now. Then, many of the educational institutions have been damaged and there are no good roads. This matter has been brought to the notice of this House by the hon. Members of this House after our visit to Chrar-e-Sharif last year.

As my friend has just mentioned, corruption is rampant among the officers. Even now there are people who are doing many things only with ulterior motives and also to amass money. These officers have to be dealt with seriously. Unless and until we do that, we will not be able to put an end to corruption.

Sir, before concluding I would like to urge upon the Government, especially the Minister of Finance to continue with the implementation of the economic package presented by the hon. Prime Minister to the people of Kashmir and also take some confidence-building measures. Unless we take some confidence-building measures to take the entire people of the Valley towards India, then it will be like what the present Home Minister Shri Indrajit Gupta described sometime back that we have only the soil of Kashmir, not the soul. But now the situation has changed. The should is also returning towards the Union of India and under any circumstances we shall not allow our neighbour Pakistan to exploit the Kashmir problem. They have been exploiting it in the international fora. They have been changing it into a Hindu Muslim problem. I hope that all the sections of this House

as well as the parties at the national level and the regional level would see that we shall not do anything or commit anything which would help Pakistan to intensify their propaganda against India by treating the kashmir issue as a Hindu Muslim problem.

It is not a Hindu-Muslim problem at all. Kashmir is an integral part of India. It shall continue to be an inalienable part of India for which we must show our compassion, our goodwill, our helpful attitude and our friendliness towards the people of Kashmir. With these words, I once again support the Budget moved by the hon. Finance Minister.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Budget proposal put forward by the hon. Minister for Finance in respect of Jammu & Kashmir, I would like to offer my own views on the subject. Of course, irrespective of the political parties, this august House since decades has gone on extending full support for the unity and developmental activities of the State of Jammu & Kashmir in our Indian Union.

Actually, two things are to be kept in mind while discussing the Budget proposal, one on the revenue side and the other on the expenditure side. I see no reason why we should again harp upon one view as far as the revenue side is concerned. The activities in the Valley and also in the whole region of Jammu & Kashmir including Ladakh are to be taken into account. Ladakh, of course, I am told, is a highly neglected area in the whole State of Jammu & Kashmir. It has got to be given top priority in respect of giving a boost to that area and keep it on a moving trail of economic activities.

As far as the revenues, of the State of Jammu & Kashmir are concerned, it has almost come to a standstill since decades because of the political uncertainty which we have been witnessing since that time. When we considered that the whole State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part and parcel of our country, there was no second thought about it. As has been said earlier by the hon. Home Minister, the soil is there but the soul is yet to be traced out. The soul is also there. I do not say that soul is not there. To some extent it is there. The only thing is, part of the soul is not required for our soil but soul requires the whole soul itself. For that, we should extend our budgetary support to that State as has been done in the past also till this time and economic activities are to be given a big fillip even in future also time and economic activities are to be given a big fillip even in future also in spite of the fact that uncertainty has

overwhelmingly engulfed the whole political atmosphere in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

Hitherto, I have been discussing here when the Amarnath Yatra took place, many people died who went from every nook and corner of this country to have a *darshan* of the temple God, but when our people on the way were in deep trouble, who actually gave them the helping hand? It is only the Muslim community. Therefore, all the praise should go to our Muslim brotherhood for helping them not only on the route of that yatra but also elsewhere also. All the people in the Valley are not to be considered as terrorists. That is very bad, of course. Nobody has said so, so far.

But a few people are always there carrying on some activities. They are not only there but even in some other parts of the country also they are there carrying on some of the activities. But instead of condemning them, better we make them realise that they are a part and parcel of our Indian union and then move forward with the development of our country. Therefore, I still feel that barring those who have actually engaged themselves in disrupting the tranquillity and peace process in that Valley, the others are with us. We have to give a fitting reply to those who are disrupting peace and tranquillity. Apart from this one there are other set of people, who are in a big majority, who align themselves with our idea of unity, brotherhood and love and affection among the religions, castes, creed and something like that. We will have to move with that idea only. Therefore, whatever financial help we give to the State in a larger way, that will ultimately achieve this goal or the object.

There is another aspect. Plan funds were approved either by the State Assembly previously or later on, after the State came under the President's rule, have been approved by the Parliament. I must thank the people of the whole of our country because we have been going on giving money to them so as to see that it is an integral part of our country. They are our people. They are our brothers and sisters. Therefore, I feel that taking into consideration the elections that are going on in the Valley and the other areas of the State in Jammu and Kashmir, we should grant it. Actually, some of the political parties are very much scared to go to the people. Still, we have to keep the wheel going on. In fact, it is going on and it is a welcome thing. Of course, it will have its own flaws and defects etc. But we should get them set aside and move forward. Therefore, keeping this in view, I feel that this budgetary support, in a bigger way, must be there. But side by side, a reminder should go

throughout the length and breadth of the State of Jammu and Kashmir that on the Revenue side, they have got an onerous responsibility cast on them to account for the State Budget also. It requires a lot of time to explain in what way all these things should be done. An in-depth study has also to be made in this direction.

Sir, with these words, I welcome the Budget proposals as presented by the hon. Finance Minister for our acceptance. I do not think that we are sitting here to oppose any of these moves since we have got a lot of thing to do with the State of Jammu and Kashmir to make it an integral part of our country. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as we are discussing the Budget of Jammu and Kashmir, the people of that State are voting a new Assembly into office. This, I believe, is a momentous development and a development, I am sure, that will augur well for the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the people of that State and for the country as a whole. I, therefore, do not wish to deal in any great detail on the many issues raised by the hon. Members. Within a few weeks from today, there will be a Assembly, there will be the elected representatives who will raise these questions and I am sure suitable and appropriate answers will be given by the elected Government of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Very briefly, I must point out that there are serious structural weaknesses in the finances of Jammu and Kashmir. Let me just share the figures for the last three years with you. In 1994-95, the total Central support for the State was Rs. 1,849 crore. However, the Plan expenditure was only Rs. 867.34 crore.

15.00 hrs.

The remainder was really used to meet the non-Plan expenditure. Similarly, in 1995-96, out of the central support of Rs. 1,547 crore, the Plan expenditure was Rs. 1,052 crore and the remainder went to meet the non-Plan expenditure.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : It has gone down really.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The plan expenditure has increased. In 1996-97, we had kept the Plan at the same level of last year pending finalisation of the Plan size after the elected Government comes into office and we are providing Rs. 1,507 crore as total central support.

So, after allowing for Plan expenditure of Rs. 1,050 crore, the remainder is really going as resources to meet the non-Plan gap.

In fact, there is a financing gap of about Rs. 352 crore and together with an opening balance of over-draft of Rs. 549 crore, the total deficit is about Rs. 900 crore. The Prime Minister referred to this Rs. 352 crore financing gap when he made a statement on the floor of the House and said that we would find ways and means to provide these finances. I think, given the peculiar situation prevailing in that State and the great hardships that the people of that State have undergone, the Central Government would have to meet this financing gap and we are committed to meeting this financing gap. But all is not bad as might appear on the surface. On the development side, for the first time, in six years in 1995-96, there has been 100 per cent utilization of the Plan funds. Non-official public representatives cutting across Party lines are participating in the District Development Board meeting. The block level planning has been introduced in the State last year. A major step in democratic decentralisation was undertaken during 1995-96 by constituting Ladakh Autonomous Hill Council at Leh with directly elected representatives. Physical verification of major works through District level task forces constituted under the respective District Development Commissioners was conducted last year and has been continued this year also. A total number of 1,500 works have been physically inspected, photographed, records have been taken so that when an elected Government or an elected Assembly come into being, they will have a record of what has been done particularly last year and in the first six months of this year. The Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) has been extended to all the 57 blocks; eleven mobile shops have been there for catering to higher and remote parts of the State; pre-matric scholarship for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been increased by one hundred per cent, from Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 per boy student and from Rs. 125 to Rs. 250 per girl student.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Is it on per month or per annum basis ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Girls get a little more amount.

The National Social Assistance Programme, the National Family Pension Programme and the National Maternity Programme were introduced in the State year. All the blocks have been covered under the National Scheme of Mid-day Meals. This covers 2.5 lakh children. 220 KVA transmission lines from Jammu and Kashmir Valley is expected to be commissioned shortly. Some development works has indeed taken place last year.

Maybe, it is not entirely satisfactory. But some development work has taken place. And I am confident with the elected Government in office, Jammu and Kashmir will get the attention on the development side as it deserves to get.

Sir, some question was raised about the higher per capita outlay in Jammu and Kashmir. I think, the reasons are obvious. The cost of developing Infrastructure in Jammu & Kashmir is much higher than in other parts of the country. For example, take laying a road. The cost of laying a road in terrain, as obtained there, is very different from the cost of laying of roads in the plain.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : In North-Eastern region also it is so.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Yes, North-Eastern region also.

Sir, the State is a vast area and therefore, the cost is higher. I am told-I do not have the figures with me—that the plan outlays per unit area, like per square miles is taken into account, well, the allocation for JAMMU AND KASHMIR would not be much higher than the allocation of the rest of the country. For example, in the Ladakh region, the per capita allocation is much higher because Ladakh is even more inaccessible. So, I do not think we should take umbrage at the higher allocation, per capita of Jammu & Kashmir. I think that State requires that allocation.

Sir, there was some question about unemployment. There are about one lakh names in the live registers of the employment exchanges in Jammu & Kashmir. Vacancies in various departments of JAMMU AND KASHMIR are being filled with utmost expedition. The Central Government public sector undertakings have launched special recruitment drives for educated youth and technocrats in the State. For example, SAIL has launched a special recruitment drive; the Railways have launched a special recruitment drive there. Under the self-employment programme, PMRY and the State's self-employment scheme about 8,000 units have been set up in the last two years.

1508 hrs.

(SHRI NITISH KUMAR in the Chair)

On Just last point of power, the internal hydel generation is 833 million units. Imports from the northern grid last year were 2473 million units. This year, they have proposed to import 2,620 million units. Additional power imports will become possible on the 220 KVA line being commissioned. This will enable us to import another 600 million units into Jammu & Kashmir. Therefore, the power

and
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situation is expected to improve this year over the last year.

SHRI S. BANJARAPPA : Sir, I would like to know, whether any survey has been made also to find out the potentiality of the JAMMU AND KASHMIR in respect of the establishment of hydro-electric projects. If yes, what exactly is the progress made ? What exactly is the progress in regard to drawn-up projects which are still to be implemented ? If you have got all those details, you can give.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We will give the details but before that let me complete this. Then I will get it.

Sir, Shri Rawat mentioned about the supply of weapons to ex-servicemen in Doda district. I may inform that more than 200 defence committees have already been set up in Doda and the number of ex-servicemen who are members of the committee have been issued with weapons.

Relief to victims was mentioned by an hon. Member. The current scale is Rs. Two lakh to the next of kin of a servicemen belonging to the para-military or the police services and Rs. One lakh to the next of kin of a civilian who is a victim of a terrorist violence. The Rehabilitation Council has recently been set up to take up measures for rehabilitation of facilities affected by terrorist violence, especially widows and orphans. They are provided maintenance amount in education and training.

Sir, there was some question about tourism. Out of the Eighth Plan allocation of Rs. 78.30 crore, expenditure incurred in the first three years was only Rs. 42.82 crore.

In 1995-96, the Plan provided for Rs. 21.05 crore and about the same level will be expected to be spent this year also.

A lot of programmes have been drawn up for tourism. Needless to say, tourism in disturbed conditions will be affected, but after the elections take place and an elected Government comes into place, I am sure that there will be much greater confidence and more tourists will come to the State.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for the support they have extended to the measures taken by the Government, particularly the decision to hold the elections. I think that the decision is a courageous decision. It is not a decision taken by one party or the parties constituting the Government. This decision could have been taken only by all the parties supporting it, the whole House supporting it. It is because there is unanimous support from all sections of the House that the Government could take the bold decision to hold the elections.

and
Demands for Grants—J & K

Shri Bangarappa requested for information about the power potential. A survey for power potential has been made. There is a potential of thousand megawatts in the Chenab basin in the Jammu region. The Dulhasti project is part of this. Other projects are under investigation and consultants have been engaged to assess the techno-economic feasibility.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for the ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (LADAKH) : Sir, as I mentioned yesterday, we are grateful to the Government for giving the Autonomous Hill Council status to Ladakh, but I had also mentioned yesterday that the status of the Chief Executive Councillor in respect of Ladakh has not been made comparable to that of the position that he should have. I am saying this because the Gorkha Hill Council Chairman is enjoying the status of a Senior cabinet minister. The Ladakh Council is also demanding a similar status for the Ladakh Chief Executive Councillor. I was told that the case is pending with the Cabinet Secretary in the Government of India. I would like to know if any decision has been taken in this regard. As a result of non-conferment of the status, all the developmental activities in the hill region of Ladakh are at a standstill. I would like to know the position on this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, while the point made is valid, the conclusion is not valid. Just because the status is not being conferred, development works need not be halted. I being told that status of the Chief Executive Councillor is under the consideration of the Government and it is proposed that a final view may be taken after an elected Government assumes office. But I would request the hon. Member to convey to the Autonomous Council of Ladakh that the development works should not and ought not be halted just because of the question of status.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Sir, he has not got the financial powers. This is what I meant.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I will ensure that adequate financial powers are made available to the Chief Executive Councillor. The question of status will be decided and a final view will be taken after an elected Government comes into office.

I would now request the hon. Members to pass the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Jammu and Kashmir) for the year 1996-97.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : The decision should have been taken now as the Act has been passed when the State was under the President's rule. There should be no problem in according proper status to the Councillor.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Jammu and Kashmir) for 1996-97 to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted

to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to *complete* the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 27."

The Motion was adopted.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—BUDGET (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) FOR 1996-97
 SUBMITTED TO THE VOTE OF (LOK SABHA)

No. and Name of Demand		Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on 12.3.96		Amount of Demands for Grants to the vote of the House	
1	2	3		4	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1.	General Administration Department	14,13,17,000	1,35,30,000	14,13,18,000	1,35,20,000
2.	Home Department	149,76,47,000	3,59,45,000	209,76,46,000	3,59,45,000
3.	Planning and Development Department	2,80,66,000	2,95,85,000	2,80,66,000	2,95,86,000
4.	Information Department	2,68,27,000	32,18,000	2,68,27,000	32,17,000
5.	Ladakh Affairs Department	63,09,62,000	32,89,12,000	—	—
6.	Power Development Department	294,52,73,000	141,19,29,000	294,52,74,000	141,19,29,000
7.	Education Department	195,04,64,000	8,04,38,000	195,04,63,000	8,04,38,000
8.	Finance Department	88,19,89,000	2,20,00,000	88,19,89,000	2,20,00,000
9.	Parliamentary Affairs Department	95,31,000	—	95,32,000	—
10.	Law Department	7,82,17,000	—	7,82,17,000	—
11.	Industrial and Commerce Department	22,67,73,000	22,15,87,000	22,67,73,000	22,15,88,000
12.	Agriculture, Rural Development & Co-operatives Department	46,86,46,000	30,73,98,000	46,86,46,000	30,73,98,000
13.	Animal Husbandry Department	25,93,34,000	4,59,86,000	25,93,34,000	4,59,86,000
14.	Revenue Department	42,82,15,000	1,23,40,000	42,82,14,000	1,23,39,000
15.	Food Supplies and Transport Department	31,71,00,000	279,01,02,000	31,71,01,000	279,01,02,000

1	2	3		4	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
16.	Public Works Department	72,53,16,000	38,29,44,000	72,53,16,000	38,29,44,000
17.	Health & Medical Education Department	86,63,97,000	9,25,85,000	86,63,97,000	9,25,85,000
18.	Social Welfare Department	12,91,10,000	4,37,77,000	12,91,09,000	4,73,78,000
19.	Housing and Urban Development Department	15,96,39,000	25,75,08,000	15,96,39,000	25,75,08,000
20.	Tourism Department	6,63,18,000	5,78,33,000	6,63,17,000	5,78,33,000
21.	Forest Department	27,38,73,000	12,01,61,000	27,38,72,000	12,01,62,000
22.	Irrigation & Flood Control Department	35,61,50,000	19,72,83,000	35,61,51,000	19,72,82,000
23.	Public Health, Engineering Department	50,11,53,000	20,69,72,000	50,11,53,000	20,69,72,000
24.	Estates, Hospitality and Protocol, Parks & Gardens Department	9,55,27,000	1,07,78,000	9,55,28,000	1,07,78,000
25.	Labour Stationery and Printing Department	6,04,10,000	8,91,23,000	6,04,10,000	8,91,24,000
26.	Fisheries Department	2,56,86,000	1,15,05,000	2,56,86,000	1,15,05,000
27.	Higher Education Department	27,84,74,000	4,87,28,000	27,84,73,000	4,87,27,000

15.15 hrs.

[English]

JAMMU AND KASHMIR APPROPRIATION BILL 1996*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the services of the financial year 1996-97".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State

of Jammu and Kashmir for the services of the financial year 1996-97."

The motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir I introduce** the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the services of the financial year 1996-97, be taken into consideration".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the

services of the financial year 1996-97, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That schedule stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL, 1996

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ten hours have been allotted for the discussion of Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1996. If the House agree, we may have seven hours for general discussion, two hours for Clause by Clause consideration and one hour for the third reading.

Now, the Minister may move the Bill for consideration.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to give effect to financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1996-97, be taken into consideration."

Sir, large number of suggestions were made by the hon. Members on the Finance Bill. The discussions on

the Budget brought forth many suggestions and, I am sure, that the discussion on the Finance Bill will bring forth many more suggestions. It is not without truth that it is being said, "It is given to no man to both tax and to please". Our philosophy of taxation has been buttressed by the experience gained over the last five years that rates of taxation must be low, procedures must be simple, but enforcement must be strict. Our philosophy has also been that the tax base must be as wide as possible.

We have three major sources of revenue-income tax including corporation tax, customs and excise. We have a very narrow base of income tax. Approximately 10 million people, approximately about a crore of people pay income tax. That is a very narrow base.

In corporation tax, our experience has been that although the corporation tax is 40 per cent, the effective rate of tax on profits, according to various sample studies, indicates, that it is no more than 19 per cent or 20 per cent.

On customs duties, the Common Minimum Programme recognises that we must bring our tariffs to the world level over a period of Time. That, I believe, is the correct approach. We are now a part or we are trying to be a part of the ASEAN system. We are a full dialogue partner of ASEAN. We have applied for membership to APEC. We are a prime mover to SAPTA, leading to SAFTA. We are also one of the founding members of the Indian Ocean Rim initiative. All these regional arrangements mean that tariffs will have to be brought down. We will not be able to bring down tariffs overnight to very low levels.

Therefore, we have our own timetable, a timetable chalked out by the Raja Chellaiah Committee and we must adhere as far as possible to that timetable, subject of course to the exigencies of world trade, demand and supply.

Excise is a crucial tax. I wish we had a VAT. But for reasons which are obvious, we cannot have a pure VAT in this country. Taxes are levied both by the State Governments and by the Central Government. There are some very outdated and irrational taxes in the States. I need hardly name them. Efforts were made to bring the States and the Centre together to evolve a kind of a VAT. Since we have not been able to reach any conclusions on that, we continued with the MODVAT system. Excise is in the nature of a VAT, but not exactly a VAT. But it is a tax on value addition. At every stage, there should be an excise. But in order to ensure that it does not escalate, we should allow the adjustment of excise duties paid at an anterior stage. That is how we have introduced the system of MODVAT. In my view, we must move towards a single excise rate, subject of course, to MODVAT. That is the only way in which to distinguish between efficiency and inefficiency and to award efficiency.

This can be demonstrated very simply, but I would not take the time of this House to demonstrate the calculations which will show that a single uniform rate promotes efficiency. The excise must apply to virtually all goods and services which are produced in this country. We had 11 rates, we have brought them down to seven. It is my intention to move towards four rates in two years, that is, in the next two Budgets. But for the time being, we will have to live with about seven rates. But in order to restrain price rise and to foster more competition within the domestic economy, we must also have a low excise rates and that is why, in this Budget, I have cut customs duties across the board as well as excise duties across the board, keeping in mind several factors, the foremost among them being that the domestic industry requires time to adjust itself.

I have also been keeping in mind that there are anomalies in the existing structure and these anomalies cannot be set right in one go. They have to be set right in stages.

Hon. Members have made a number of suggestions. As you will find presently, I have made an attempt to respond to many of those suggestions. I want to make it clear not merely by words but by deeds-as I will show-that I have responded to many of the suggestions. I have conceded many arguments of hon. Members made directly or hon. Members who have been accompanied by the people who have been affected by this rate or that. But I have not also been able to accept some suggestions for reasons which were explained to hon. Members when they met me, for reasons which were explained to industry groups when they met me.

Taxes should not be used as a device to hide inefficiency. Some taxes are a portmanteau to cover or hide inefficiency. We must be able to see through that and say that this tax hides your inefficiency and, therefore, reduction of the tax will force you to become more efficient. If is simply no way in which we can build a strong economy unless we become competitive and efficient. In fact, the Finance Minister of West Bengal called on me along with the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal. And it was refreshing to hear him say whether it is in the public sector or the private sector, he and his Government fully support making that sector and that unit in that sector competitive.

This is a competitive world and most prices will be determined globally. We cannot escape being impacted by global prices. Therefore, our units of production must respond to global price trends. Price is no an exclusive instrument of forcing efficiency but it is a useful instrument to force efficiency. Global prices have a way to force efficiency in a sector which sometimes we may not understand but global prices do force units to become more efficient, sectors to become more efficient, sectors to become more efficient, industries to become more efficient.

My dear friend, Shri B.K. Godhvi, mentioned 'sickness'. Sickness is a state of the mind, more than a state of the industry. If you pamper industry by undeserved shelters, they will become sick. If there is a greater degree of competition, they will become efficient. And if despite a high degree of efficiency, some industries become sick, then, of course, we must look into the causes of that sickness. I have, therefore, tried to adopt this philosophy in the taxation proposals that I have made and the amendments that I have proposed in the Finance Bill. I may have disappointed some sections. And I am afraid, that at the end of this debate, I will continue to disappoint some sections. But it is because I have tested every suggestion on the touchstone of whether it promotes efficiency or retards efficiency, whether it promotes competition or diminishes competition, whether it will enhance production or whether it will create a little island of protection.

Sir, many suggestions are outside the Budget and I want the hon. Members to bear with me and try to understand this part of my statement. There are many suggestions which do not relate to the Budget and the Finance Bill. There are suggestions which can be dealt with during the course of the year. I do not have to respond to them at this stage nor is it possible for me to deal all those representations at this stage.

Take for example, a suggestion that has been made about the marble industry. The marble industry is excluded from SSI protection. I asked my officers the reason for it saying that if it is a small scale unit, it should also have the SSI exemption. But it does not have it. Why? The reason is that the industry is organised in a manner today-and it may be historical-where they are all one next to each other, what we call check by jowl and one does not know where a unit begins and where a unit ends. There are polishing factories at the mine head or the pit head itself. So, unless we define what a unit is, it is difficult to grant exemption of a small scale unit to marble industry. But I have promised hon. Members, including Mr. Jaswant Singh, that I will send a team of people to visit the area to see whether some way can be found in which small scale unit can be identified and earmarked and boundaries defined so that the benefits can be given to them. This is just an example of non-budget demand which can be met during the course of the year rather than at the time of consideration of the Finance Bill. So, if I have not responded to many suggestions, it is perhaps because some of them are at least non-Budget or non-Finance Bill items and therefore, I will respond to them during the course of the year.

The second thing is the need to raise resources. I wish the Government and this country were flushed with resources but we are not. As I said, I have to tax in a manner in which a bee sucks honey from a flower. I have to draw the money but I cannot sting and I cannot hurt. We propose to raise Rs. 2692 crore in this Budget.

I cannot do with less, I can do with more. When suggestions were made which will cost me Rs. 50 crore or Rs. 100 crore, that immediately sent a shiver down my spine and I thought as to how can I respond to a suggestion which will cost me Rs. 100 crore. I cannot afford for Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 crore. If a suggestion will cost me a crore of rupees, may be I can respond more readily to that suggestion in the hope that buoyancy will take care of that crore of rupees. Therefore, if big item are being proposed to me, I am sorry that I will have to regretfully turn down that suggestion.

We need money. Our fiscal deficit is Rs. 62266 crore. There are other demands round the corner. The Pay Commission's Report is due any time. I do not know what that bill will be. We may have to spend more for Defence. I have already promised that we will spend more for science and technology. We have to find some additional resources for Jammu and Kashmir. Therefore, I am very reluctant to make huge financial sacrifices. So, hon. Members may bear with me if I cannot respond more readily to their demands which will entail huge financial sacrifices.

Tax base has to be expanded and that what I am doing and intend to do in the next few months. It is no sense of achievement that we have only one crore income tax paying people. I think, that hides perhaps an equal number of more. Now, we need to get these taxes from the people who have incomes.

It is only when the Direct Tax revenues rise that we can move faster on the front of Indirect Taxes as well as exempting the low income people. One of the reasons why I am unable to raise the exemption limit from Rs. 48,000 to Rs. 60,000 in the first slab of the income tax is because immediately 20 to 30 lakhs of people would go out of the tax net, both salaried and others. The demand is coming on behalf of the salaried people. But if the bracket is raised, the slab is raised, then both the salaried and the non-salaried would go out of the tax net. Therefore, I had to hit upon this rather cumbersome way of giving benefit to the salaried people by raising the standard deduction from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 18,000 and showing by a simple calculation that if he/she makes a minimum contribution to the provident fund, a salaried person would pay no tax upto Rs. 68,000. I hope that my arithmetic has been accepted by the hon. members. But there are non-salaried people also who have a variety of income and various kinds of income. I do not think that we should let them go out of the tax net. It is because once they go out of the tax net, once they cease to be on the records of the income tax Department and they cease to have a permanent account number, then even if their incomes rise later, it is difficult to bring them back into the tax net. That is why I have to keep

these people in the tax net without allowing 20 or 30 lakhs of people to go out of the tax net even while I readily concede the argument that salaried people should be given tax relief upto Rs. 60,000. That is the introductory statement which I wish to make.

Sir, now I will turn to the changes I propose in the Clauses relating to Direct Taxes and Indirect Taxes. First, Direct Taxes.

Clause 11 of the Bill seeks to amend section 32 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 relating to depreciation. During the course of discussion on the General Budget, a number of hon. Members have expressed their apprehension that the proposed amendment limiting carrying forward of unabsorbed depreciation to 8 years will adversely affect the growth of industry. Similar apprehensions have been raised in a large number of post-Budget memoranda. I would like to allay these fears. The proposed amendment is only prospective in as much as the cumulative unabsorbed depreciation brought forward as on 1st April, 1997 can still be set off against taxable business profits or income under any other head for assessment year 1997-98 and seven subsequent assessment years. Therefore, the proposed change will have effect only after 8 years and there is no cause for immediate concern about its likely impact on industry. Eight years, I believe, is a period long enough for industry to adjust itself to the new dispensation and provide for depreciation accordingly. A number of hon. members have brought to my notice that the proposed amendment may adversely affect sick companies. It is possible that a company may be declared sick but in a given year even while it is under a rehabilitation scheme it might have a book profit. I accept the suggestions made by them. I, therefore, propose to provide that the time limit of 8 years, in the case of unabsorbed depreciation, shall not apply to sick companies, during the period the company is treated as a 'sick company' under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

I further propose to make a drafting amendment in clause 11 to clarify that the depreciation for the year can be set off not only against profits and gains of any business carried on by the assesses but also against income under any other head, as is the case with the set off of business losses. Shri Suresh Prabhu should be happy.

Clause 14 of the Bill, *inter alia* seeks to amend section 36 of the Income-Tax Act with a view to defining the term 'long-term finance' to mean any loan or advance where the terms under which moneys are loaned or advanced provide for repayment along with interest thereof during a period of not less than 7 years. Representations have been received from financial institutions that the period of seven years is rather long and should be

reduced. After considering the matter, I propose to reduce the period to five years.

Hon. Members will recall that I introduced, through Clause 16 of the Bill, a new Explanation to section 43 of the Income-Tax Act to deal with sale-and-lease back transactions which were widely misused by leasing companies resulting in substantial loss of revenue.

However, I am given to understand that even the proposed amendment may be circumvented through successive sales of the same asset thus defeating the purpose of the amendment. Therefore, in order to thwart any attempt to do so, a modification to the aforesaid Explanation is being proposed to the effect that in the case of successive sales of the asset also the written down value in the books of the original seller will be taken as the cost of the lessor.

I also propose an amendment in Clause 17 of the Bill which seeks to modify the provisions of Section 43B of the Income Tax Act. This is necessary in order to remove the doubt that in cases where bank interest has been earlier claimed and allowed on due basis, such interest will not be allowed for the second time on cash basis. I am also proposing that only interest on term loans of the banks will be covered by the amendment proposed to the provisions of Section 43B.

1541 hrs.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*)

Clause 19 of the Bill proposes to insert a new Section 54EA in the Income Tax Act which provides for exemption to the capital gains arising from the transfer of long term capital assets of the net consideration is invested in any bonds or debentures specified in this behalf by notification in the official Gazette. While replying to the debate on the Budget, I had announced that the units of mutual funds will also be included in the assets in which a tax payar may invest to obtain exemption from capital gains tax. To carry out this decision, I propose to amend Clause 19 of the Bill.

Section 88 of the Income Tax Act was sought to be amended by Clause 32 of the Bill, and the ceiling of Rs. 60,000 was raised to Rs. 70,000 for cases where investment is made in equity shares or debentures forming part of any eligible issue of capital by a public company. The eligible issue of capital was to mean an issue by a public company where the issue is wholly and exclusively for the purposes of developing, maintaining and operating an infrastructure facility or for generating, and distributing power. It has been suggested to me that units of any mutual fund dedicated to the infrastructure or power sector should also qualify for being subscribed to for purposes of Section 88. I have accepted this suggestion and, therefore, I propose to make a suitable amendment.

A large number of suggestions have been received from trade associations, companies and various sections of industry on the proposal regarding MAT. The matter has been raised by many hon. Members also.

Over the years, the Income Tax Act has added many provisions that confer concessions and incentives. These exemptions and deductions have been introduced in the Statute to serve many objectives which were considered desirable social and economic objectives. In addition to adding to the complexity in administering the law, these concessions have reduced the capability of the Government to raise revenue.

No doubt, companies plan their affairs in a manner so as to pay the minimum amount of tax. While we may not decry this, profit making companies that pay no tax to the exchequer continue to pay their share-holders handsome dividends. In recent times, the number of Zero-tax companies and companies paying marginal tax has grown. A number of studies have been conducted. A study conducted by the Directorate of Income Tax Special Investigation, New Delhi, in 1995 revealed that out of 217 companies which showed good profits of Rs. 5813 crore for assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94, that is three assessment years, no Corporation Tax was paid as the return or the assessed taxable income was computed as nil. However, out of the big profits of Rs. 5813 crore, dividends at varying rates were declared and distributed by many of these companies.

The Centre for Monitoring the Indian Economy, which has the advantage of Corporate data base of about 4000 companies, published the following figures in its Journal issue of November, 1995.

It shows that in the years 1991-92 to 1994-95, that is, four years, sample sizes varying from 1937 to 3458 companies, the profit making companies range from 1711 to 2763. Profits before tax range from Rs. 18537 crore in 1991-92, Rs. 23846 crore in 1992-93, Rs. 33464 crore in 1993-94 and Rs. 30664 in 1994-95. The tax provision made in each of these years resulted in an effective tax of 24 per cent in 1991-92, but only 19.2 per cent in 1992-93, 15.9 per cent in 1993-94, 14.9 per cent in 1994-95. The statistic *prima facie* that while there has been a substantial rise in the profits of the corporate sector, the effective rates of tax has declined for the sample companies. The CMIE Report also observes that there has been a consistent shortfall in tax incidence in the corporate sector. According to the Report, ten per cent of the companies paid taxes less than five per cent of the profit before tax. In 1994-95, in a sample of 1730 companies, 790 companies paid no tax at all. These were all profit making companies. In the study conducted by a Deputy Commissioner of Income-Tax, Bombay, out of a sample of 3934 companies, he found that 2865 companies

were profit making companies, but out of 2865 companies. 1789 companies paid no tax or only a marginal tax.

I am, therefore, satisfied that MAT is a justified levy. It will require some taxes to be paid but that tax is on book profits. How a company computes its book profit is entirely left to the company. If its books have larger depreciation, it will show less book profits and bring the profits more or less in line with profits disclosed in the Income-Tax Act. But if a company and its shareholders and General Body are content with booking lower depreciation and declaring larger book profits for the purpose of paying dividends, I think it is only just that the State gets a fair share of the tax and that share of the tax is no more than 12.9 per cent, which is still less than the effective rate of tax which I find in the samples that have been studied for the last four years. I only hope that this will not encourage some of my friends to demand a rise in the rate of MAT. I do not propose to rise the rate of MAT at all. *... (Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAMBAGH) : 12.9 *... (Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is 12 plus surcharge. It is really 12. *... (Interruptions)*

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (CALCUTTA NORTH EAST): The Companies Act provide for lower depreciation and, therefore, if the companies follow the depreciation under the Companies Act, they will have a larger book profits on which 30 per cent taxes to be paid.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I know your argument. I met your argument.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (CHITTORGARH) : We come to this later.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We come to this later in the debate.

Nevertheless, Sir, there is an argument that if these revenues are not collected by the State, they will generate more growth, more jobs, more excise duties, more customs duties. But I concede that argument. But if that argument is right, no tax should be collected because all taxes which are uncollected will be invested somewhere and that will generate growth, that will generate jobs, that will generate excise duties and that will generate sales tax. Theoretically then, the State should not collect any tax. But just as this money invested will promote growth and other taxes please remember that the State is also under obligation to provide a number of services for which there is no correlated tax.

The State sets up a judiciary and delivers justice. The State has a policy machinery and enforces law and order. The State has a standing Army and provides security to the country. The State has to provide health and education to a large number of people. So, taxes

have to be collected. So, the argument is not with which is the relatively more efficient use of tax. Even if I concede that money left in the hands of the citizen is more efficiently used than money left in the hands of the Finance Minister, that argument means, no tax should be collected at all. I do not think that argument is right. All that I am saying is that until we are able to look at the income-tax Act which we are all looking at now and until we have a new income-tax law, which eliminates many of these 158 or so exemptions and brings a certain amount of sanity and clarity to our income-tax law, the companies which make profits and which declare dividends, as they are expert to, should pay a small tax to the State and I, therefore, most humbly submit that MAT is a justified tax and I would request this hon. House to support the Government and to support me in the levy of MAT.

I have, however, been persuaded that MAT may have an adverse impact in two cases. In those two cases I propose to make an exemption from MAT. Firstly, I propose to exclude from the purview of MAT profits of industrial undertakings located in industrially backward States enumerated in the Eighth Schedule of the Income-tax Act for such period for which these units are entitled to claim 100 per cent reduction under Section 80 IA read with the Eighth Schedule of the Income-tax Act. This will cover all of the North-Eastern Region and some of the other States and Union Territories which are enumerated in the Eighth Schedule to the Income-tax Act. When industrially backward districts are notified, they will also be excluded from the purview of MAT.

I also propose to exclude the profit of sick industrial companies from the purview of MAT during the period the company is treated as a sick company under the Sick Industries (Special Provisions) Act 1985. The logic that I applied to exempting them from the rule of unabsorbed depreciation for eight years will also apply to this case and, therefore, MAT will not apply to sick companies.

Clause 35 of the Bill seeks to reduce the rate of capital gains tax for domestic companies from 38 per cent to 20 per cent. After this change, all companies, individuals and HUFs will be taxed at the rate of 20 per cent on their long-term capital gains. However, the partnership firms and association of persons will still be taxed at 30 per cent. In order to bring uniformity in this regard and to remove the discrimination against partnership firms, I propose to reduce the tax rate in their cases also to 20 per cent.

I also propose a couple of changes in the provisions not covered by the Bill. The first of these relates to sub-section (3) of Section 40A of the Income-tax Act which, *inter alia*, deals with disallowance of a part of the expenditure incurred by an assessee, payment in respect

of which is made in case in a sum exceeding Rs. 10,000. A number of representations have been received that the present limit of Rs. 10,000 is too low and requires upward revision. It has been pointed out that this limit was fixed in 1987 and that it causes a lot of hardship, particularly to transport contractors, civil contractors and to the assesses in such trades where, looking to the exigencies of the business, payment has to be made in cash. For example, the case has been brought to my notice in case of delivery lorries which deliver goods say at 8'0 clock, at night or near midnight in a small town or delivers on a Friday evening, they cannot be paid the lorry hire charges for goods which are coming from, say Ferozabad or Panipet or Ichalkaranchi, because if you pay in cash, it will not be exempt. Having considered the matter and finding some merit in their representations, I propose to raise the limit modestly from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 20,000.

Another change that I propose is in pursuance of the announcement made by me last week. Section 80L of the Income-tax Act provides for a deduction from the gross total income of an individual or HUF in respect of income earned by way of interest from Government securities, National Savings Certificates, deposits with banking companies, dividends from Indian companies, income from units of Mutual Funds etc. I propose that the overall ceiling under Section 80L be raised to rs. 15,000 and out of this Rs. 3,000 will be allowed only in respect of income from dividends from an Indian company or income received in respect of units of a Mutual Funds including UTI.

Clause 54 of the Finance Bill seeks to bring to tax for wealth tax purposes, the commercial buildings which are not occupied for the purposes of business. It has been brought to my notice that commercial buildings forming part of the stock-in-trade may also be affected by this amendment. Since it was not my intention to affect stock-in-trade I see merit in this demand and, therefore, propose to exclude commercial properties forming part of stock-in-trade not all other commercial properties from the levy of wealth tax.

Sir, I shall now turn to the changes I propose in respect of Indirect Taxes.

I had proposed several changes in my Budget proposals relating to indirect taxes. These proposals relate to further rationalising the tax structure as well as strengthening the procedures so as to achieve the twin objectives of helping the honest tax payers and to reduce compliance cost and curb evasion of taxes.

The Budget proposals have been widely welcomed by a cross-section of trade and industry. Many hon. Members have also give encouraging support. However, I have received a number of representations from many

hon. Members in which they have suggested some changes in the overall interest of the industry. I am grateful to them for their valuable suggestions.

Sir, there is by now a general consensus in the country that our customs and excise duty structure should move to moderate rates of taxes applied on a wider base and our excise and customs procedures should be transparent and easy to follow. At the same time, we ought to use the tax mechanism to reduce costs and make our industry further competitive. Accordingly, I had mentioned in my Budget speech that we ought to further our tax structure should provide necessary relief in deserving areas.

I have given my earnest consideration to the suggestions made by several hon. Members as also by the trade and industry. I am inclined to accept that in some cases adjustment in the tax rates is called for.

I am informed that a uniform rate of excise duty of 10 per cent which was proposed in the Budget proposals as the rate to be applied to paper and paper board made from pulp containing at least 50 per cent of non-conventional raw materials would affect many small paper mills. It has been represented some more time lest they be rendered unviable. I, therefore, propose to modify the scheme of concessional excise duty for the use of non-conventional raw materials in the manufacture of paper and paper board while at the same time keeping the structure simple and not the earlier structure which is extremely complicated. ...*(Interruptions)*

Let me finish. In your debate, you can mention. I am only introducing the things. I propose that paper and paper board made from pulp in which at least 75 per cent of non-conventional raw material are used would be subjected to excise duty at the rate of 10 per cent. I am told that over 300 paper mills i.e. the vast majority of mills, in fact, an overwhelming majority of mill will fall under this category. However, in order to give a competitive edge to smaller paper mills, first clearances up to 10,00 tonnes in a financial year would be subjected to a reduced rate of duty of five per cent. Small paper mills can now clear virtually the whole of their production at the lower rate of five per cent. I am confident that the tax structure now proposed would provide adequate fiscal relief to the small paper mills and also encourage use of non-conventional raw materials in a larger proportion.

I also propose exemption from excise duty in a few deserving cases which have been brought to my notice by several hon. Member. Henceforth, spoons, forks, ladles, etc. falling under heading 82.15 of the Central Excise Tariff would be exempt from excise duty. ...*(Interruptions)* Similarly, no excise duty will be charged on vermicelli.

1600 hrs

Absorbant cotton wool, non-absorbent cotton wool, gauze, bandages and similar articles for medical purposes would be free of excise duty if they are marketed without a brand name. I also propose to exempt rosin manufactured without the aid of power from excise duty. These are total exemptions from excise duty.

Sir, products of coir industry are exempt from excise duty. We also need to encourage its production in the cottage sector which generates employment. I have visited Kerala and I have seen that the sector employs a large number of women and mechanisation of some processes which is underway in Kerala will help remove their drudgery. Keeping this objective in view, I have decided to exempt specified coir processing machinery from excise duty.

Insulated wares of plastics will henceforth be chargeable to excise duty at the reduced rate of 15 per cent as against the rate of 28 per cent proposed in my budget.

Shoddy woollen yarn is chargeable to excise duty at a low rate of five per cent. I propose to extend a similar relief to synthetic shoddy yarn up to 10 counts. This would also facilitate the process of assessment as now the officer will not be required to make a distinction between shoddy woollen yarn and synthetic shoddy yarn which I am told is anyway very difficult to distinguish and leads only to litigation. I also propose to exempt synthetic shoddy blankets of value not exceeding Rs. 100 per sq. metre from the levy of excise duty. They will now be totally exempted. It has been represented to me that unprocessed knitted or crocheted fabrics are generally produced in the decentralised sector. In any event such fabrics attract excise duty when they are processed. Therefore, I propose to exempt unprocessed knitted or crocheted fabrics made of man made fibres from excise duty. I also propose to exempt certain specified processed narrow woven fabrics of cotton and man made fibres from excise levy.

I also propose to exempt Iscador, an anti-cancer drug, from customs duty. I propose to exempt Chemiluminescence Identity Acid diagnostic kits, intended to detect AIDS, etc. from customs duty.

In my budget proposals I had proposed to reduce the import duty on computers and computer parts to 20 per cent. I have received representations that while reduction in import duty on computers is a step in the right direction, charging the same rate of duty on parts of computers may adversely affect the manufacturers engaged in production of computers. I have consulted the Department of Electronics as well as the cross section

of Industry. I accept the logic of this argument and propose to reduce the rate of customs duty on certain computer parts, that is, hard disc drive, floppy disc drive and CD-ROM drive from 20 per cent to 10 per cent. I have no doubt in my mind that both the computer parts industry as well as the computer industry will grow at an even faster rate henceforth than the rate at which they have grown in the last five years.

In my budget proposals I had proposed to reduce the customs duty on rayon grade wool pulp from 25 per cent to five per cent. It has been represented to me that such a steep reduction would no doubt reduce cost of production of viscose fibre and yarn and that is good because we will use the wood pulp of other countries, but it would adversely affect such of the rayon grade wood pulp manufacturers who market their entire production rather than consume it captively. I, therefore, propose to keep the reduction in the customs duty on rayon grade wool pulp from 25 per cent to only 10 per cent.

Steel is the core sector of industry. Hon. Members will agree with me that our steel industry has adjusted itself admirably to the gradual reduction in customs duties.

I do not wish to increase the customs duty on steel in general, however, after consulting the Department of Steel as well as the specific steel mills, I propose to increase the customs duty on primary forms of steel, other than stainless steel slabs, from 20 per cent to 30 per cent. At the same time I propose to reduce the customs duty on stainless steel scrap, which is a raw material, from 20 per cent to 10 per cent. These two steps will help these units to import stainless steel scrap at reasonable prices for the manufacture of blooms, billets etc. and give them adequate protection against imports of such semi-finished goods.

I have made adjustment in customs duty in few more areas. I have decided to reduce the duty on methanol from 40 per cent to 30 per cent, on spichlorohydrin from 40 per cent to 30 per cent and on DBM from 50 per cent to 40 per cent. These are responding to the demands of user industry.

In my budget proposals I had modified the customs duty structure in respect of ball or roller bearings. I have, however, received representations from manufacturers as well as traders. I have considered their view points in entirety. Henceforth ball or roller bearings of bore diameter upto 60 mm would be chargeable to customs duty at 10 per cent plus Rs. 150 per kg. Ball or roller bearings of bore diameter of over 60 mm, that is 60 mm and above, would attract duty at the rate of 10 per cent plus Rs. 60 per kg. I have also decided that parts of ball or roller

bearings would be charged at the same rate of duty as applicable to the corresponding bearings.

I had proposed reduction in customs duty on raw materials and components for electronic industry. I am given to understand that sufficient investment is coming for increasing the production of colour picture tubes in the country. I recognise the fact that it is a capital intensive industry and some fiscal protection is necessary in the short run. For the present therefore, I have decided to increase the customs duty on colour picture tubes from 30 per cent to 35 per cent.

Except for increase in customs duty on rayon grade wood pulp and colour picture tubes, all other changes will come into force from today. Copies of the notifications issued in this regard will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. Increase in customs duty on rayon grade wood pulp and colour picture tubes will come into force with effect from the date the Finance Bill is enacted.

The changes proposed above in respect of customs and excise duties involves a net loss of revenue of Rs. 31 crore on the customs side and Rs. 63 crore on the excise side in a full year. But I am confident that the buoyancy of revenue will make up for this nominal loss.

With these words, I commend the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1996 to the House and request the hon. Members to give their wholehearted support to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1996-97, be taken into consideration."

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA) : Sir, I want to seek a few clarifications.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Shri Bangarappa, this is start of the debate, you can speak in the debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : For the general debate seven hours time is allotted. You can speak at that time.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : I want you to comment on one thing.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : How can I comment? At the end, reply will be there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister will reply at the end of the debate.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI) : Sir, is the time allotted for general debate seven hours ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The total time is 10 hours and for general discussion seven hours are allotted.

MR. G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, my submission is that this seven hours should be minus the time taken by the hon. Minister ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us start the debate. Shri Jaswant Singh may speak now.

Members have ...
I have received a number of representations from many

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (CHITTOGRARH) : Sir, I well recognise that the Finance Bill comes at what is the tail of the fiscal business that Government engages in during the exercise of presenting the Budget and then getting it passed in Parliament. I am, therefore, consciously mindful of the fatigue that sets in by the time the Finance Bill comes up for consideration of the House.

Sir, I am also very mindful of the excessive doses of Parliamentary exposure that the hon. Finance Minister has been subjected to, to steer all these things through both the House of Parliament. Therefore, whatever I have to say, I shall say mindful of these things.

Now I must thank, at the very outset, the hon. Finance Minister for so graciously, at the beginning of his presentation, accepting the difficulties of the marble industry and suggesting that a special team be deputed to look into whether they are or they are not eligible for the benefits of small scale industry and what stands in their way. To dispose of the domestic matter, may I also request him to consider the question of opium cultivators with similar sympathy ? This is entirely a domestic matter.

I recognise, Sir, that the Finance Bill is, after all, an instrumentality through which the overall approach of the Government's Budget proposals is put into effect. I will, therefore, not go into the details of rates of taxation or what the rates ought to be or ought not to be because that can be argued at different forums and at different levels.

But I would wish to take up the hon. Finance Minister's philosophy of taxation. He has suggested that - if I recollect correctly - it be low, should be simple, and the enforcement should be strict. The fourth thing he suggested about the tax payers I did not understand correctly or fully.

I want to leave with the hon. Minister just two or three thoughts. There is a conflict in the phraseology that is used. This is not simply an academic point because words do not simply have a meaning alone, but they also have a life of their own. We have got used to using the word called 'tax net' because words have a life of their own. On the one hand he suggests that he wishes to catch in the tax net - the word 'net' implies catch - while on the other, he says that his philosophy of taxation is to collect it in the same manner as a bee collects honey from a flower. There is an obvious enough disharmony in these two things. I am sure, Sir, a man of the intelligence and capability of the Union Finance Minister will see what I am getting at.

I do believe that the tax system of any country, and our country in particular, must be a civilised one. When it has to be a civilised system, it cannot start with the assumption that the system is a net in which we are

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attempting to catch other the unwary or even the recalcitrant.

The taxation system should be simple, but it must also be just. I cannot say Sir, that the present system that has been administering us is just. It is really an imperialistic legacy. We have not changed the essence of it. It is not a just system. I do believe, Sir, that it should be easy to understand and easy to implement. I first asked my friend, Shri Prabhu to give me a copy of the Finance Bill because I was not having a copy of it. I will just read out at random. The question is, is it easy to understand? If it is not easy to understand, will it be easy to implement?

I am reading from line 22 on page 8 of the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1996. It says :

"Where the long-term specified asset is transferred or converted (otherwise than by transfer) into money at any time within a period of seven years from the date of its acquisition, the amount of capital gains arising from the transfer of the original asset not charged under section 45 on the basis of the cost of such long-term specified asset as provided in clause (a), or as the case may be, clause (b) of sub-section (1) shall be deemed to be the income chargeable under the head "Capital gains" relating to long-term capital assets of the previous year in which the long-term specified asset is transferred or converted (otherwise than by transfer) into money."

I am afraid that it does not end here and because it is so simple and so transparent in its meaning, we have, then, to provide four or five lines of explanation at the end of it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : If you will believe me, it is easier to understand if you translate into Tamil and read it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, the point is really vague.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I understand and I accept this point. There are hundreds of examples of draftmanship which will bowl over anyone. We must get out of this system of drafting. This is an imperial legacy. We must get out of this system and I do not know what the Drafting Committee which we have appointed will come up with. But I will ensure that they write plain English rather than this kind of English.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That will cut into the incomes of people like Dr. Pal.

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (CALCUTTA NORTHEAST): In the Drafting Committee accounts people are not there. But there are only departmental officials.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is not correct.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Minister of Finance for accepting the validity of the point that I am making.

Sir, there is one more point. I do believe that the tax system ought to be stable. The fact is that our tax system is not stable is borne out of this Finance Bill itself. This particular Bill is actually a kind of Bill which does not have that many pages. But even this Bill has 64 pages or so. We produce, annually, Finance Bills ranging from 60 to 100 pages and annually we add the 60 or 100 pages of more incomprehensible laws into our taxation system. Therefore, annually we ensure that the ever-growing tribe of Chartered Accountants prospers and the ever-decreasing numbers of tax payers are more and more troubled.

There have been endless numbers of Committees, the last one being the Chelliah Committee. I leave a very strong recommendation with the hon. Minister of Finance not to have any more Committees. He has enough material about what reforms have to be carried out and I appeal also to the hon. Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance to please take up all these Tax Reforms Committee Reports in his next consideration and make a gist of them so that the task of the Ministry of Finance will be easier. Please do something. It is as urgent as yesterday.

Now, what are the issues in taxation? If, at last count, we were a nation with a population between 90 to 95 crores, as the hon. Minister of Finance has himself pointed out, I think, the first issue is the "spread" of direct tax. Deliberately I do not use the word "net", because it is not an entrapment. I am using the word "spread". I think the spread of direct tax in a population of 90 to 95 crores of barely 1.1 crores is unacceptable.

I do not think the answer is in that ancient debates about shall we to tax agriculture, or not to tax agriculture. I do not think that is the answer at all. There are two issues. I could well be wrong in my conclusion but I believe that we are possibly the only country in the world which has such a low spread of direct tax. Barely nine per cent of the citizens pay direct tax. This is absolutely unacceptable for India's destiny. What is India's destiny I believe that India's destiny is to be in the forefront of the nations of the world. If we want to be in the forefront of the nations of the globe, we cannot have a system in which barely nine per cent of the population pay direct taxes. I was asking my good friend, a very distinguished banker earlier-not being very good at arithmetic - about this, he told me that against one crore citizens that pay tax today ten crore were to pay and they pay only Rs. 6,000, we would be earning Rs. 60,000 crore, almost the entire sum of our interest that we are paying today or our current year's borrowings, I think, which is Rs. 50,000

odd crore. We have to think innovatively and not just think on this great anomaly that in a nation of 90 to 95 crore people, only one-ninth pay the direct taxes. That is why, I am moving away from the simple question of what the rate or level of taxation ought to be. I am coming to the question of spread of taxation. I do believe you can increase the spread if you lower the rate of taxation. I think, we have to start thinking on those lines because if we do not, we simply cannot achieve that, which I believe is the destiny of my country to achieve.

The second issue is the question of rate. Personally, I believe that these are all ancient shibboleths of yesterday's thinking which make us entrapped in the business of rate—we must have high rate and therefore we will have high revenue is not empirically proved. But more than that I request the hon. Finance Minister to reflect on that the rate must bear a relationship particularly given the fact—till such time we are able to alter it—that we have 11 million taxpayers...*(Interruptions)*

Now, this question of rate has to be related to what the taxpayer is able to take home. It is no good having academic discussion that 40 is good or 60 is bad or it ought to be 20, or whatever. After all, it is a limited number of people who are paying you tax. Those citizens what are they able to take home after the State has dipped its hand into their pockets and taken away what the State believes is its own or is its share? Here again, I think the philosophy that should govern the fixation of the rate has to be essentially a compassionate philosophy and not an expropriatory philosophy and it must be considerate of the citizen and it must take into account what the citizen is actually able to take home, and thereafter, what become the citizen's spending capacity.

Now, I leave another thought with the hon. Finance Minister because this is again an index of the growth of the nation—the ratio between direct and indirect taxes. I believe that the ratio that we have in India is not a ratio that we ought to accept because the essential nature of indirect taxes is that it taxes the poor. Eventually, indirect taxes will reach the poor. In one form or another, indirect taxation is a taxation of the poor. Therefore, the ratio between direct tax and indirect tax should be the very reverse of what obtains in our country today. We have a larger proportion of indirect taxes and a much lower proportion of direct taxes. A much higher proportion of citizens ought to be much higher than the total quantum of indirect taxes which eventually reach the poor—the ratio must be reversed. I do not think that this is a job that can be achieved overnight. But it should be done for the sake of greater fiscal health and balance. We talk of market forces, but at least a third of the country is not even a part of the market. Therefore, when we are talking of a civilised taxation system, our indirect taxation system must not tax those who are not really a part of this market, who are, by our own admission, below the poverty

line and it is they who will get affected by an unthinking indirect tax regime.

I have a difficulty with the present Finance Bill. We could argue that the savings rate in the country is 24 per cent or 22 per cent or, as the hon. Finance Minister has said, the public savings rate is low but the private savings rate is high. I believe that one of the cultural and civilisational qualities of India, markedly different from elsewhere in the world, is savings. All families are savings-oriented. After every harvest, the first thing that most of the farming community do is to go and, howsoever small it is, from a small silver ring for the daughter or some tiny ornament for the wife, buy that and that becomes a saving. The aspect of savings is ingrained in our nature. Our tax regime must encourage the natural tendency of the country to save. My great difficulty with the Finance Bill as also with the budgetary proposals really, is that there is insufficient encouragement to savings. I am not quibbling over this. If we do not encourage savings within the country, we will compound our own difficulties.

I do not think that the Finance Bill out to be really concerned only with the revenue side. I accept that the hon. Finance Minister really does not have time to go into all that. I do believe that the Finance Bill ought to begin to address itself to expenditure. You cannot have a concept of revenue unless you have simultaneously a balanced idea of what expenditure is. There is no accounting of the expenditure to Parliament other than the Demands for Grants or what is examined by the committees. But somehow this has to be integrated and brought forward much more openly and clearly in the Finance Bill.

I go to the next point of infrastructure and taxation. I am not going into all the various measures in details that the Union Finance Minister has outlined. But I will refer to two or three aspects. One is this two per cent across the board surcharge on Customs duty. I really do not know how this surcharge is going to be administered, how it is transferred into infrastructural channels and it also runs counter to the otherwise effort of reducing the tariff across the board. I have not been able to convince myself that this two per cent surcharge on Customs duty is really going to benefit those that the hon. Finance Minister thinks it will. I do not think so. I will be happy if the hon. Finance Minister clarifies his thinking on the subject.

The Finance Bill, particularly, the speech accompanying the Finance Bill of the Finance Minister, spoke of tax benefits. I think we are running into the usual problems of excessive litigation here. I do not think there is an acceptable definition of what is infrastructure. What do you put under infrastructure? You are granting tax benefits to infrastructure-related activities, infrastructure-related companies. What is infrastructure? Are you talking

of physical infrastructure? If physical infrastructure is to be given tax benefits, why not on social infrastructure? I notice in the speech somewhere the tax on drinking water and sewerage. There also, infrastructure is there. It is not simple to arrive at a taxable definition of infrastructure. It is no good putting the thing there and thereafter 150 explanations or notifications follow from the respective Boards as to what infrastructure actually is or what it is not and for the whole issue to get entangled yet again in endless litigation. I do not want to make this point. I really wanted to make it when the hon. Minister for Science & Technology was also present. I will perhaps do it tomorrow during zero hour. This is a question of herbal petrol. I cannot call it anything else. I leave it out of the Finance Bill at present. I will reserve it for tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (ARARIYA) : The same discussion was held in the House Yesterday.

SHRI JASHWANT SINGH (CHITTORGARH) : Yes it was held in the House... (Interruptions) I shall mention it tomorrow.

[English]

I go on to important points about the public financial institutions. They do not really fall within the strict and water-tight compartments of the limits of the Finance Bill as such. I would like to share my concern about public financial institutions, their role, their conduct, the governance of such organisations, the absence of Managing Director and Chairman. We have been debating endlessly these points. In one Committee after another, this matter has been raised. How can you separate the functioning of public financial institutions, in which banks come in, insurance companies come in, Unit Trust comes in and which is related as an activity not really within the folds of the Finance Bill ? I think these are instrumentalities of State. The State controls virtually the entire banking industry, the entire insurance industry. It has a virtual monopoly by way of Unit Trusts etc.

If these malfunction, as they so obviously have malfunctioned, then, we will have the consequence. That consequence is in the revenue of the State. Therefore, I would request the hon. the Finance Minister to share some of his thinking with us about the governance of such organisations, about the dysfunctions, the appropriation of such organisations for private purpose and the mismanagement of such organisations. This is an issue of high public importance and we do wish to know, even if it is a debate on the Finance Bill, on this aspect.

The hon. Finance Minister gave us some figures of Corporate Tax. The Corporate Tax, in effect, is really at

about 19 per cent. My figures may be wrong. But in effect, the Corporate Tax comes down to 19 per cent. This 19 per cent tax is combined with a whole basketful of the most wonderful exemptions of all varieties. I think a time has come not simply for the reform of the Company Law but also for a total re-examination of all the exemptions that you have currently granted. I would request the hon. Finance Minister, when he replies to react to this point because this is very directly, I believe, linked to the concept of the Minimum Additional Tax. I will come back to that in a moment. But I would request the Finance Minister to consider this whole question of exemptions. By all means, if you feel, for the present, the corporate tax is too high, bring it down but eliminate all exemptions because these exemptions are a source of great siphoning of funds. I combine that with the question of what is now called after the Cadbury Committee Report in the U.K. which has almost become a cliché phrase, of corporate governance. I do not wish to belittle the entrepreneurial spirit of India. I also do not wish to belittle the great ability of the Indian entrepreneurs who have created the industrial empires from nothing. But these industrial empires having been created, we simply cannot accept that they are mis-governed to the detriment of either the shareholders, or to the detriment of the State or to the detriment of the laws of the land. Therefore, this whole question has to be addressed. Following a similar experience in the U.K., a Committee called the Cadbury Committee was appointed. Belatedly, the idea was picked up by the Indian industry and yet again, belatedly, the stumbling Indian industry is moving into that second-hand channel as it were. I think there is need for the Government to take an initiative in this regard.

The whole question of corporate governance is a very important question. I request the Finance Minister to address himself to corporate governance particularly with one aspect in mind that on most such public limited companies, there are the nominee Directors of the public financial institutions. The appointment of the nominee Directors, their continuance in office has become a kind of a guards and yet another avenue for patronage dispensation by the political authority of the time or of the day. This is not the purpose of the nominee Directors of public financial institutions on the so-called private sector of the country. For example, I do not wish to take the individual names of companies because that will not be proper. But I do not think that there is even a single large industrial house that is not a major borrower from the public financial institutions.

Therefore, as representatives of the State, as representatives of the lending institutions, companies, we have these Nominee Directors. Have all those Nominee Directors functioned as they should have been functioning?

I am not left with any sense of re-assurance on that score. I do not wish to cite instances. But if you are now having or experiencing difficulty than otherwise what you were reputed for, to professionally managed companies - not really family holding companies - and if such professionally managed companies are also today charged with all kinds of malfeasance, then what were the Nominee Directors doing while all this was happening? And I would request the hon. the Finance Minister to share his thinking on the subject.

Let me, before I come to what I think are some of the disharmonies and the anomalies in the Finance Bill, leave one more thought with the hon. the Finance Minister. The more deregulated the economy, the more liberal the regime that you aspire to, then you have to make more transparent and stronger the regulatory mechanism that you wish to have. This is not a contradiction. You cannot by mouthing the cliché phrase of 'free market' is etc. etc., which with due deference, I put it to the House that 'free market' is not a euphemism of 'free for all'. Free market is not a free for all. You simply cannot wish the role of the State away. Then you have to combine the openness and deregulation, letting the creative genius of the India flower, with transparency plus strong regulatory mechanism. I really wish some of that had found the reflection in the Finance Bill.

I make additional pleas to the hon. the Finance Minister. I am sorry that I do not have the exact section of this otherwise not my favourite literature called the Finance Bill. But I will refer to the paragraph of the speech of the hon. the Finance Minister on page 29, para 114. It is the question of sports goods. I do not see any reason whatsoever why you should charge or why you should feel satisfied by reducing the duty on sports goods from 50 per cent to 30 per cent. I do not think even that is a good enough gesture. You eliminate duty on sports goods altogether. I am saying that it is not a very major item of revenue accrual.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : What about Jalandhar ?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Jalandhar is producing hockey, cricket balls. I do not think the labour cost of Jalandhar can be matched anywhere other than to Pakistan and Pakistan simply does not wish to trade with us. After all, where was the centre of sports industry? It was at Sialkot. From Sialkot we have shifted to Jalandhar and we are not killing Jalandhar. It is not simply a question of duty. It is also a question of encouraging it. If a school, for example, wishes to buy rowing machine so that the shoulders, arms, back and the muscles of the youngsters would grow, then unnecessarily needless regulation of form filling will be there.

[Translation]

The Britishers have turned our country into a country of document writers.

[English]

For everything there has to be an application and application in five forms are sent to ten different people. We must get out of this mentality of Arji-naveez of having an application for everything.

You cannot build sporting spirit unless you build the fighting spirit into that young man or woman. And, how will you build a fighting spirit if a man or woman has to fill 10,000 forms to import even a bow and arrow? In a country as vast as great as India, what do you do by reducing it from 50 per cent to 30 per cent? I strongly recommend, please eliminate all customs duties on sporting goods by all means.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It seems your friend Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee does not agree.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But you have to agree... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It seems to be the reaction of the entire House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I will make one more recommendation. This is on page 29, para 1.1.8. It relates to edible oils. Now, here, I wish to give a thought. You have reduced the duty from 30 per cent to 20 per cent. I will tell you where the difficulty arises. For example, take Rajasthan. Rajasthan earlier was not a soyabean producing area at all. The State said, "Produce soyabean, produce soyabean. It is a good crop." And, so in the area like my good friend and colleague like Shri Dau Dayal Joshi's constituency, vast acreages came under soyabean crop. When acreages come under agro industry, industry related to soyabean also came up.

Sir, we are the only country in the world-no other nation, not even Nepal to the extent which does not use animal fat for cooking. This is the strength. It is also our vulnerability. Where is that vulnerability? On our indigenous oil seeds. Now, when you say that you are going to reduce the duty from 30 per cent to 20 per cent on oil seeds, at times I fear greatly for the *moongfall* crop of Gujarat. It really requires only one failure of crop in Gujarat, for example, of groundnut and post WTO-because there are obligations in importing foodgrains also. If we were told that we have to bring in cheaper groundnut oil ex-United States of America-ex-Georgia-where vast acreages of groundnut and soyabean are

there, they simply do not have the acreages to reduce the cost that other nations will be able to do it.

I think, this requires a very careful thought because if you reduce the duty on edible oil in consequence—whether it is soyabean or groundnut or any other oilseeds—you might in fact, be causing, perhaps unknowingly, perhaps inadvertently but nevertheless irreparable damage to the agricultural community of India, particularly the oilseeds growing parts.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : One tangible point you have made.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But you did not agree about Sports...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, my third recommendation relates to page 32, para 1.2.9. which is about excise duties on cars. I do not know how you can do it, but I urge upon you, if not immediately, to examine it. Please relate your excise duties to the pollution content of the car engines. The more pollution control measures are there in that engine, that truck, that bus, the lower will be the excise duty. I think, unless we increase pollution consciousness, we will simply not be able to live in this very capital city.

So, please consider my recommendation about indexing excise duty on motor vehicles. Whether they are lorries or motor-bicycles or motor cars, link it up with the pollution control measures introduced.

Now, I come to a very parochial point, which I do not see why he had not considered. When Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Minister of Finance, in an act of undiluted parochialism, he granted all kinds of industrial and tax benefits to Assam and the North-East because he represented Assam in Parliament. He still represents Assam. Even then, I submitted to him that he was being parochial. We have seen all the Ministers of Railways take all the railway tracks to their constituencies. It has now become a custom in India...*(Interruptions)* We did not have the time to take away the railway tracks. You were derailing us all the time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : All hon. Members have to be allowed to speak. There are a number of members from your party to speak.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I will be very brief.

If you can grant this kind of a benefit to the hill areas of India, why can you not grant exactly the same benefits—not more, not less—to the desert of India, from where I come ? The desert has an equal difficulty.

[Translation]

Mr. Gadhvi, you may speak on Kutch.

SRI B.K. GADHVI (BANASKANTHA) : We shall speak for Rajasthan.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Yes, please speak.

What wrong has the desert done ? Why can you not grant to the desert districts of Rajasthan and Gujarat the same tax benefits that you are granting to the hill areas ?

Next, I come to the question of newsprint. This is a complex subject. We have to meet the whole question of the structure of newsprint. It is a triangular arrangement. We have to meet the requirements of the domestic newsprint producer. He must not be finished. We have to meet the requirements of the newspaper industry. The newspaper industry must get good quality newsprint at cheap prices. We must also meet the requirements of the customer. The customer is the reader of newspapers and magazines. The customer must get a newspaper which he can open and read.

After all, governance is really a question of reconciling conflicting interests and if you cannot reconcile the conflicting interests, then, leave governance. Leave it for some others to do it. We hear all kinds of rumours which are afloat about the duty structure of the newsprint industry. I do not give credence to rumours and it would not be becoming to even voice concern over such rumours. But I think that the hon. Minister of Finance should reflect on how to reconcile these three interests—newspapers must get the newsprint that they need at the most moderate rate possible; the domestic newsprint industry must not, in the process, be finished; and the customer must get a readable newsprint on which the newspaper or magazine is printed. My point is made and I request the hon. Minister of Finance to look into it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I wish to remind him that this principle will apply to every product. The principle of reconciling the interests of producers and consumers will apply to every product and not only to newsprint. Therefore, I will deal with it when I deal with the customs duties. I would appeal to both Shri Jaswant Singh and Shri Chatterjee to apply this yardstick which he has just adumbrated so eloquently to other products also.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I take that caution very well.

My last point is about the Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT). Now, we should see what is the principle. The principle is that we cannot have two sets of accounts. You cannot have one set of accounts for the Income Tax Department and another set of accounts for shareholders.

To the Income Tax Department, they say that our company is very poor and, therefore, we cannot pay tax. But to the shareholders they say, come on, give us money and we will give you dividends and bonuses. It is an absurd situation.

You cannot have two sets of accounts. How do you reconcile ? I accept, in reconciling there is a principle. We have propounded this principle for ourselves. But the methodology that the hon. the Finance Minister has adopted can be faulted; it could have been improved. You could have adopted a much simpler way. You could have combined depreciation by reintroducing investment allowance. You could have said, I will tax the company at one point and thereafter the dividend is not taxable. It is very simple. You could have said, I will tax you on Profit and Loss account. You could have said, I will tax you on what you show to the shareholders.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is what I am taxing.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I know, You started by saying that it should be simple. Tax laws should be simple. The manner in which the MAT is being brought about, I hope...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : This is exactly what we are doing. We are taxing the book profits shown in the P&L account.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am sorry. Let us see how MAT finally turns out.

Sir, I am thankful for your consideration. Discussion on Finance Bill is hardly an occasion to be eloquent. This is nuts and bolts exercise. I am neither a Chartered Accountant nor am I a nuts-and-bolts-man. But I would urge the hon. the Finance Minister to take seriously some of the recommendations and some of the points that I have made.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI (BANASKANTHA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Finance Bill cannot be viewed in isolation. It has to be considered and viewed in the totality of the entire Budget proposal and the direction of the Budget proposal for the country. It is a matter of regret that because of some irrelevant issues being raised in this House, the Demands for Grants of certain important Ministries could not be discussed and the Demands for Grants of almost all the Ministries were to be guillotined. Therefore, very many aspects relating to very many areas have been left untouched. In view of that, in my perception, during the consideration of this Finance Bill this can be touched because the Finance Bill says it is the proposal of the Central Government for the Financial Year 1996-97; its ambit has become little more wider. The direction of the present Bill is to augment resources for the exchequer, from Direct Taxes, such as Income Tax, Corporate Tax,

Excise Tariffs, Customs Duty etc. My point is that when you consider the proposal for augmentation of revenues from Direct Taxes as well as from Indirect Taxes and Customs Duty, we shall have to scrutinise these proposals which come before us for consideration, in which direction they are leading the nation. We have to see what is the aim of these proposals. The hon. The Finance Minister and Shri Jaswant Singh have just now said that only nine per cent of the total population is now within the tax net of Income Tax. It is also suggested that about equal percentage of population is out of the Tax net although they are liable to pay Income Tax.

1700 hours

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

That means, let us say, 18 per cent of the population are able to pay income tax. Then, what about the rest of the population ? The rest of the population, that is, 82 per cent of the population of this country has no taxable income and that they are not liable to pay income tax. It indicates the poverty of this nation. It is an index to show that our development-the per capita income of the people and all other aspects where the financial strength of the people is involved-is very weak.

Assuming, for the sake of argument, that 91 per cent are out of the tax net and only nine per cent are within that net-if this is the position or the financial strength of the population of the country-then what should be the direction of the Finance Minister ? What should be the direction of the fiscal policies or the financial policies or the tax structure ?

Today we all talk about two things from the housetop. One is about transparency and the other is about competitiveness. Both are very relevant. But competitiveness with whom ? All nations of the world are not on a level playing field. There are developed nations, there are underdeveloped nations and there are developing nations like India who are almost on the threshold of other big developed nations. But they are not on a level playing ground. Therefore, to ask an amateur to play with an Olympic player, would not be a proper approach. From this angle, we have to consider our tax structure and the tariff on custom and excise.

My hon. friend, the hon. Finance Minister has told me, when I just pointed out that it would lead to sickness of industries also, that it was a mental frame. It is agreed, but what would happen ? You will have to scrutinise your indigenous industries and those industries which are strong enough and those industries who can play their own role in the country as well as in the export market? They need protection because the other nations also do the same thing. In one way or the other, they are

indulging in protectionist policies. Unfortunately, in our country also, some malpractices are going on.

Therefore, we have to take care of it. Under liberalisation, it is good. But I believe that it is not just concept. It is the concept forced on us also, by some other agencies. It is forced on us. With compelling reasons, we had to accept those compulsions and mould our policies to their liking. But at the same time, we cannot ignore the interests of our own country. If we have set a goal of self-reliance and if we can set a goal of standing on our own legs, then, we have to see that in this country also, undue competitiveness is not introduced by way of liberalised policies.

[Translation]

It is like a story of a washerman and his donkey.

[English]

A Washerman's donkey was indisposed. Then, the donkey was taken to a veterinary doctor. The doctor gave two pills and a tube; and asked that washerman to put that tube in the mouth of the donkey, then put the pills and then blow, so that the donkey would swallow the pills.

Next day, the washerman came puffed up and indisposed. The veterinary doctor asked: "What has happened?" The washerman replied, "Sir, before I could blow, the donkey blow and I gulped down the pills. Therefore, I am sick. Kindly treat me." This should not happen to us under Liberalised Policy.

In this context, we have to scrutinise whether our policies would primarily sustain and support our indigenous progress and development and, at the same time, make our industries more competitive so that they can play on a level ground or not. That is the moot question that has to be kept in mind.

The Finance Minister is here. I appreciate his difficulties. He has got a constraint of kitty-difficulty in resource augmentation. There are many demands from him. I do not object to all proposal. They will contribute to our kitty-national exchequer. They will augment our exports also well. But if we do not keep an eye on the progress of our own industries, I am afraid, the other agencies, which come to this country very liberally, would corner the entire market of 90 crore people. It is not a very small market. Therefore, a balanced approach has to taken.

With regard to incentives, the hon. Finance Minister right now announced that from the minimum alternative tax-if the Industries are in the industrially backward States - they will be given some concessions. Sick industries would also be given some concessions. But that is not enough. In that, you have to include and I would wish that you may please include hundred growth centres that

were initiated in the country. Ultimately, it is the balanced development which would keep this country united and together.

It is a time for thinking. We had a policy decision that a particular type of industries will be forced to go to the backward areas. Today, we do not have that restriction for the multinationals and other foreign companies go to backward areas. They have enough money. They can build their own infrastructure. They can have their own generating capacity. In that case, when we allow them to have a large market of India, when we allow them to have cheap labour, when we allow them to have cheap raw material, why cannot we persuade them to go to the backward areas? Otherwise, what would happen? An imbalance would continue in this country. And there will be dissensions. The people would not be happy.

Ultimately, what is our goal? What we wish is that the people from every nook and corner of this country should benefit because of the development. It cannot be a one-sided development. Today, even India is not an industrially developed country. It is slightly industrially developing country. But the mainstay of our economy is the agricultural economy. Agriculturists cannot make both ends meet only with production of cereals like wheat, bajra and maize. He needs to have cash crops and the main crops are cotton and oilseeds. We have got a shortage of oil in this country, we have got a shortage of pulses in this country. Do you have anything in your Budget that it will encourage the indigenous production in these areas? Shri Jaswant Singh also has commented upon oil seeds import duty reduction.

Mr. Finance Minister, it is not with a view to put an insinuation but it is an honest criticism which occurs to me. I would say that you have looked to the entire nation only from a window and not from the top. Therefore, I would wish that in totality, you take stock of the situation. Even today, people are not having two square meals a day. Twenty-two per cent people are below the poverty line. Is it not a shame on our part that we go on pampering elites?

I would say that this Budget is an elitist Budget and the concessions which you are giving are concessions given to those people who do not deserve to have them...(Interruptions)...How many sick units have we got? There are around 2,50,000 sick industries. And what about unemployment? You go to Ahmedabad and see how many textile mills have been closed and workers have been rendered jobless even not getting their provident fund back. You go to other industries. You assure us that you would do something in regard to restructuring of the BIFR. But a hungry man cannot wait for sternity. He has to take meals twice a day. I know that our constraints

are there. But since you have retained the suffix of Congress with your party, although it is Manila Congress, I believe that you would succeed through the lines which we suggested. Otherwise, we have seen in the past how most efficient persons like Shri Morarji Desai, an efficient Finance Minister, went away from Congress with a new name and then, the economy totally collapsed. Another efficient man, Shri V.P. Singh, who was in the Congress left the party and went away and it was a total collapse of the economy. But you are retaining that suffix Congress and that is why, I have got optimism that you will be able to handle the economy well and steer it good.

What I was wishing to submit was, Mr. Finance Minister right now stated that if there is a demand for Rs. 1 crore, he can concede it. But if there is a demand to the tune of Rs. 100 crore, he shivers in his spine. I remember that that were his words exactly. It is true and I understand the Finance Minister's difficulty. But how do we manage? If you are shivering in your spine when somebody asks you for Rs. 100 crore, then what about Rs. 133 crores and not a grain coming to the country?

Yesterday, there was a reply from the Commerce Ministry that gold worth 364 kilograms from MMTC was given to the traders. The money did not come back and some gold was even removed from the bonded warehouses. What will be the cost? I do not think it is less than Rs. 100 crore. It is more than three and a half quintals. The Government wanted to play it down by saying that it was only one per cent. Please stop playing this joke on this House.

You have rightly stated in your introductory speech that fiscal deficit and revenue deficit are alarming and unmanageable. It would be further unmanageable when the Pay Commission's Report comes. Defence expenditure would come, hike in petroleum abroad would come and other things would come. But what do we do? Finance Ministry has got many powers to call for files from almost all the Ministries, examine them and take them to task. Have you ever seen Auditor's Report? Apart from having a Commission, find out what is the wasteful expenditure, what is the blocking of funds, what is the absence of inventory control, non-use of Government property, acceptance of sub-standard work, avoidable expenditure, injudicious decisions, expenditure on excess payments and ill-conceived projects. A plethora of further areas has been pointed out every day not only by the CAG but also by the parliamentary committees. Then, we go on creating one Commission after another what for?

It is just like peeling the leaf of a banana tree. If you remove one leaf another comes up; and if you remove another, the third one comes up and it goes on.

Sir, therefore, what I wish to submit is that the economy of the country is in a very critical condition and our exports are also not doing well. Mr. Finance Minister you had been the Minister of Commerce and you know about the *modus operandi* of exports. Exports are not matching. There is a total imbalance between imports and exports. What are these areas? Those who have offices abroad are indulging in under-invoicing and keeping their part of profit and earning abroad; and those who do not have offices abroad are indulging in over-invoicing and converting their black money into white money without paying any taxes. It is because you have given tax holiday to the exporters. There are cases on record in every Department of the Government about empty containers having gone abroad. Simple money laundering has taken place in a large number of cases. Through Howala racket these were the taxable sources. From these sources you could have collected income tax as well as corporate tax. But those things are going on as they were. If you could consider and calculate, then please calculate and find out as to what loss the Exchequer has suffered on account of these switch management by the various Ministries, export houses and others. If you could find this out and lay your hands on them and put a stop to this, then, I hope, you would not find difficulty in giving more money to the MPs when they ask for it.

Sir, on the question of MAT, I am surprised and to be honest I am not convinced with the argument of the Finance Minister that if the companies could have more depreciation on their account books, then they would have to pay less. Do we want that there should be more depreciation? I understand the argument of the Finance Minister. But my submission is that we, in this country, have to inculcate a sense of savings and investment. Why are our stock markets going down? A small man invests in some shares and debentures with the hope that he would derive a regular income from these things. If you do not inculcate a sense of savings indigenously, then perhaps the growth of industries would be hampered and would be thwarted. I accept the argument of the Finance Minister that in other areas, there would be generation of employment opportunities and more industries would come up. But why are people from abroad coming to invest in this country? If people from abroad are interested to come and invest in this country, then do we not have an atmosphere when our people could have the urge to invest in this country? If that is so, and if they invest in some companies, then they should derive some benefit out of it. In that case, if they have to pay income tax for the dividend or the bonus, then they would pay the tax.

Sir, therefore, in my humble opinion, presently the indigenous urge for investment is going down. That is why the indigenous companies are suffering and they

would continue to suffer. Agriculture, the most important sector of the economy of this country is suffering. It has been mentioned in the Economic Survey that this time there has been a decline in agriculture growth and agricultural production. Certain States like Punjab and other places, from where we get foodgrains in the Central pool, have already reached a saturation point. On the one hand, there has been a decline in the production of agricultural foodgrains and on the other hand there has been a vast increase in population. If we do not cater to the needs of the under-developed areas, then what would happen tomorrow ? We are not to think of the present alone but we also would have to think of the posterity.

That should be the approach of the Finance Ministry. I understand your policy perception. I also understand that you had hardly any time before presenting the Budget to go into all the areas and all the aspects. You have continued certain policies. I personally feel that even liberalised policy has got some limitation. It cannot come in all the domestic areas. It cannot come in all durable consumers. It cannot come in small scale industry. It can go to the infrastructure.

With regard to the income tax, you have stated in your introductory remark, that if you revise the Income Tax rate of Rs. 60,000, perhaps vast many number of people will be out of the tax net. I agree with it. But what is the reality ? How many perquisites the salaried class, which is attached with the Government—either the State or the Centre—the class which is attached with the Government undertakings and other undertakings, is given or getting and how many perquisites the others are getting? How many perquisites the multinationals are offering to their meritorious young people ? That is why, I say that a day would come when—if we do not have more incentives for the people to join the public services—there will be a dearth of employees in the Government services others they get about Rs. 1 lakh every month plus perquisites, bungalow, car and everything and their perquisites are not taxable. As M.Ps. we are getting only Rs. 1500, though we get a lot more. Our total bill comes to Rs. 5500, every month, put what is our Salary? It is only Rs. 1500. We are not transparent to the nation. Likewise multinationals are doing it. Therefore, the hon. Finance Minister should think about it.

Today what happens ? In Defence, there is a dearth of persons in the rank of Officers in the Army. I think it is of the order of more than 10,000. People are not attracted to Government services. They go to the other softer or attractive options. Therefore, if you want to widen the tax net then huge perquisites have to be offered and huge incentives have to be offered which should not be

taxable. You may tap the resources and have the money to do it.

I am surprised to find that there is hundred per cent tax exemption if somebody contributes to the Prime Minister Relief Fund. But for making contribution to the Chief Minister Relief Fund, there is no exemption. If somebody contributes to the Chief Minister Relief Fund, which is to be used when the people are in distress, like earthquake, flood, famine, etc., there is no tax exemption. Why it should be so ? When we have 125 to 130 exemptions in all counts, in this area nobody has given a thought about it.

Shri Jaswant Singh has mentioned about the paper. We do not have any custom duty on the imported paper. There is an excise duty on our own paper. My submission is, let us have a critical examination of our industrial growth. You said that you have to augment the resources. What has been done ? In the area of petrochemical, you have lowered down the duty and that too under what circumstances ? I would give you some figures regarding the loss to the exchequer. I believe, in 1995-96 the duty was about 50 per cent or so. The global prices have fallen down. For polymers, it was Rs. 890 in 1995-96 and it has come to Rs. 720 in 1996-97. So, it has fallen by 19 per cent. In 1995-96, on PSY it was Rs. 1737 crore.

Today for PSF in the international market, it is Rs. 950. The PFY was Rs. 1861 and today in the international market it is Rs. 1200. So is the case with DMT, PTA—I can read out the whole figures. Therefore, what was the reason for lowering down the duty ? Was it because of the glut in the international market ? Do we want to offer out Indian market to them for selling ? When the Global prices have collapsed.

In the petrochemical industries, the Government and the private sector are doing much better in this country. For example, you take IPCL and all others in Gujarat. You take away the competitiveness of those industries by lowering down the duties, when there is a glut, when the prices were high, duty was high ? Now, the prices have fallen down and again we make them further unable to import it. What is the loss by lowering this duty ? The loss to the Exchequer is Rs. 2367 crore and you say that you do not have enough resources to augment. Why do you lower down ? I understand it in the critical areas. I understand and that is why my submission is that where our industries are in a strong position, no effort, no action, no initiative should be taken to weaken it. It is not competitiveness.

Have you ever thought why agriculture is on decline? You have done something about irrigation. But let us see what is the fate of our dams. The silting ratio

contemplated was only one and a half per cent at the time. Now almost in every dam of this country, it has gone beyond three per cent. This is reducing the cost-benefit ratio by 50 per cent. What a colossal loss to the nation! All these areas will have to be taken into consideration because ultimately our aim is not to see from one window. I initially stated that it has not to be looked only in isolation but the whole gamut of our fiscal policies related to industrially development, related to agriculture, related to job-orientation and related to balanced development of the country in all the areas need to be looked into.

Therefore, though my dear friend may dislike, I would say that this is an elitist Budget. It does not take into consideration the realities of the country obtaining today. Therefore, I would wish, consideration. Of course, as an obedient soldier of my party, I would vote and support your Bill. But if I do not point out of things which occur to me and which are not proper, then I would be failing in my duty even as your colleague and as a comrade. Therefore, I wish that please in the matter as I told you, create an atmosphere where investment psychology, psyche is there in the country, you include the growth centres also in the exemption.

Lastly, I would say that I do not say this in anger or criticism, I appreciate the hon. Minister of Finance's effort under the given constraints, circumstances, the compelling circumstances, he has done well. But I wish that this Government should now look into all the areas-I pointed out earlier about the CAG Reports and other things-and take corrective measures. Not take it with by mere touching here. I would say that a touching process would not heal the malady in the economy which has cropped up.

1730 hrs

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this hon. House will recall that I had made a *suo motu* statement regarding the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) on 26th August, 1996, outlining our assessment of the developments in Geneva and our approach during the discussions in the General Assembly in New York. The discussion that followed was heartening in that it reflected a national consensus on an issue which the Government consider to be of vital national importance. The strength of the national consensus is reflected in the policy of this Government and the course of action which was adopted during the discussions in New York. Today, may I, with

your permission take this opportunity to brief the hon. House on the developments in the resumed session of the 50th UN General Assembly in New York.

As hon. Members are aware, we had withheld consensus on the draft text of the CTBT in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva because it fell far short of the mandate in all its aspects. It is not a "comprehensive treaty"—it permits the nuclear weapon States to continue their weapons related research and development activity using non-explosive technologies. It lacks any meaningful commitment to nuclear disarmament and instead of being the definitive first step of the nuclear disarmament process, it only serves to perpetuate the existing discriminatory *status quo*. Consequently, the draft text cannot, contribute to the enhancement of international peace and security.

From India's point of view, the treaty also had an unacceptable provision in Article XIV dealing with Entry Into Force which seeks to impose obligations on India despite our clearly stated position that India would not subscribe to this text. Hon. Members are aware that we have made known our strong objections to this formulation, in bilateral discussions and in multilateral fora. As this provision was not modified, India was obliged to convey its opposition to the text, both in Geneva and in New York.

Through a procedural manoeuvre, the draft text was introduced in the resumed session of the 50th UN General Assembly in New York. We made it clear to the President of the UN General Assembly and all other delegations that such an approach did not obscure the fact that this text is a non-consensus text which does not fulfil the mandate given to the Conference on Disarmament. Subsequently, we have also informed the President of the UN General Assembly and all delegations about the amendments that would be required for the draft treaty to meet the mandate of the Conference on Disarmament. In doing so, we have placed our concerns, regarding the procedure and the shortcomings in the draft treaty text on record. Hon. Members are aware that our amendments called for a commitment to nuclear disarmament within a time bound framework and for a genuinely comprehensive treaty which commits all countries to refrain from any activity relating to the development, refinement and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons. We also have, in this document, put forward our amendment relating to Article XIV regarding Entry Into Force.

The deliberations in the UN General Assembly session concluded last night with the adoption of a resolution, adopting the flawed text of the CTBT and calling for a signing conference to be convened at an early date. 158 countries voted in favour of the Australian

proposal which was co-sponsored by 126 countries. Libya and Bhutan, along with India, voted against the resolution. We, particularly, appreciate the fact that neighbouring Bhutan, with whom we enjoy traditional ties of close friendship and understanding, has shared our perceptions. Similarly, it is a matter of satisfaction that Mauritius, with whom we share close ties, expressed understanding regarding our position and chose to abstain on the resolution. In all, five countries abstained on the resolution. It is worth nothing that though the resolution has 120 co-sponsors, many non-aligned countries who have taken an active interest on this issue have refrained from co-sponsoring the resolution. These include, among others, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Arab Republic of Egypt, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Mexico.

The vote was preceded by an active debate which focused on the disarmament perspective in which a CTBT should have been placed. Participating in the debate were several NAM countries. There was a widespread expression of concern over the procedure adopted and apprehension that it may erode the credibility of the Conference on Disarmament. A large number of countries expressed dissatisfaction with the Entry Into Force provisions as being unprecedented and an unwelcome departure from customary international law. The intrinsic shortcomings of the treaty text were highlighted by non-aligned delegations participating in the debate reflecting a shared perception with India. In our discussions, many countries have assured us that they recognise the validity of our concerns. We have the distinct impression that even after the adoption of the text, there is an uneasiness on the part of many delegations about what has really been achieved and the manner in which it has been brought about.

There is an understanding of India's position in the international community. The Government has taken necessary steps to sustain a dialogue with all friendly countries in order to explain the rationale for our approach. We are confident that our bilateral relations with countries will not be affected by our differences on this issue. In fact, our candid and transparent attitude and continued dialogues despite differences in perception, have ensured that our voice has been heard with respect. I must convey my gratitude to the hon. Members because it is the consensus in this House and in the nation as a whole that has given strength and credibility to the Government's stand.

As regards what might happen in future, I would assure this House that we will maintain our position and not sign the CTBT. The Entry Into Force provision will ensure that this treaty shall never enter into force unless

is proponents agree to amend this provision in order to remove any possibility of imposing any obligations on India. There have been no pressures on India and if there are any in future, I am confident that this country has the national will to withstand such pressures.

The discussions in the UN General Assembly have clearly shown that there is growing support for adopting a comprehensive, phased and timebound programme for nuclear disarmament. We will continue to take initiatives in the United Nations and other fora in keeping with our consistent and principled policy for achieving progress towards our shared goal of a nuclear weapon free world which will enhance India's security and also global security.

FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL 1996—CONTD.

1738 hrs.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as I rise to speak on the Finance Bill, I have a feeling which is very cheeky, like our position in the United Nations. Many people said many good things there and then voted with the overwhelming majority.

I really am amazed—I will take off from what Shri Gadhvi has said - by all this glib talk about competition because it is well known throughout the world that it is not a world of competition. Only 200 to 300 multinational corporations of the world produce between 60 to 70 per cent of world's industrial production and you talk of competition sitting here. We all know that worldwide even in terms of corruption, it is these multinationals which are corrupting statesmen the world over. But it seems we have stuck with this word 'competition' even within our own country.

Do we not have reservations ? We try to protect the small scale sector from the incursions of the large scale sector. So, when we talk about quite natural under a capitalist economy, through competition one enters into such a scale that one becomes a monopolist.

It is the law of competition, which generates monopoly and we ought to remember that in discussing how to make our economy competitive.

Sir, we are discussing the Finance Bill. Through this Finance Bill, the Union Government will collect a sum of Rs. 97,000 crore in order to finance an expenditure of Rs. 2,84,000 crore. Less than 50 per cent of our expenditure would be financed through measures adopted in this Finance Bill. This is our tax bill. Was it necessary that this should be so ?

1741 hrs.

(SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*)

I will indicate my approach in terms of growth. Today when the Finance Minister was introducing the Finance Bill, I do not remember him having uttered the word 'equity'. It is all growth, it is all competitiveness. In fact, here lies a very crucial difference, perhaps within the society also, about the relationship between growth and equity. There have been three ways of treating this relationship. There is one way which says - it has been rejected universally perhaps - that through growth and trickling down, there will be equity, there will be justice within the country. That position, perhaps, is no longer hailed by anyone even the strongest opponents of the policies of the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank. Then, there is the other route. The other relationship expresses growth with justice. I do not accept the position also.

I believe, in the third kind of relationship, which says, 'growth via justice'. I have the taste of the recent experiences of the developing countries. Very recently, I was surprised, even in a Chinese newspaper it has been mentioned in this fashion that in the 1980s in Asia, the little tigers grew up; in the 1990s they were added to by a large tiger, which is China itself; and then they say that the emerging tiger would now be, perhaps towards the end of the century, India. This is the Chinese periodicals which are noting it. Now, they have also mentioned about Vietnam in addition to India.

The point which we always miss is that in all these points of development, justice and equity were the routes through which this growth could take place. This is also expressed in another way. This is also expressed in terms of human development indices. All these countries which have human development indices, even including Japan which had developed earlier, are all superior to us and all these were the products of equity within the society.

The form of governance was different. Sometimes it was dictatorial. No country perhaps was a parliamentary democracy as we are. But, all the same what was tried to be achieved was to bring the people. This is what we imagined in formulating earlier plans also, trying to raise the economy through pulling up ourselves by the boots strap.

This is the approach on the basis of which I want to judge this Finance Bill also. The other point in the form of a preamble, I should say is, which I have mentioned in my Budget speech, apart from equity, the most crucial element in the part of our growth would be the improvement in the savings rate. In fact I mentioned that in the Budget speech. While investment has been

underlined, savings have not been. I do not know how he has responded to that. I was not present when he was replying to the debate.

Once again we have to see this other crucial thing, first equity, then generation of savings and the third, the domestic productive forces how they are protected so that we grow in a manner which is both fast and just. Now on this basis let us try to understand. Could you have collected more ? Even I am not satisfied.

I said it in my speech on the Budget that it could be considered a beginning of the beginning. I thought the reply would be, 'yes, this is only the first year'. I do not know whether that was the reply. But we have to remind ourselves of this that in the first year, what is that you are foregoing ? We are discussing MAT. Nobody mentions that we have reduced the surcharge on corporation tax from 15 per cent to seven-and-a-half per cent. How much did you forego ? The receipt Budget says. The figures are very interesting. For 1995-96 I do not know. Shri Manmohan Singh had the habit of writing out wrong kind of figures. Now they said that on the basis of a collection of Rs. 15,000 crore corporation tax, on the basis of a 15 per cent surcharge, he was anticipating a collection of Rs. 357 crore. There is no relation. In fact, in the revised estimates, there is a correction. Here it says that out of a total collection of revised estimates of Rs. 14,000 crore via corporation tax, the surcharge would be Rs. 2044 crore. Now just imagine. The next year's figures as the Budget proposes on the basis of a seven per cent surcharge and not 15 per cent, are varying from Rs. 2044 to Rs. 2051 crore. I doubt the figures. But let me assume the figures. Then you say that another Rs. 2351 crore you have sacrificed because you have reduced your surcharge from 15 per cent to seven-and-a-half per cent. Was this justified when you say that you are in a crunch ? You could have waited for another two years and that was not done. I do not know who advised him to hurry. *(Interruptions)*

It is not that. It is almost the... *(Expunged as ordered by the chair)* friends of the Congress supporting the United Front.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (SILCHAR) : It is with faithfulness that we have come together *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Similarly, to complete this point, I agree with the customs duty on newsprint that he has mentioned.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : There is a request from Members to extend the time of the House by an hour or two because tomorrow and day after tomorrow are the last days. Many Members are willing to speak.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (RAJAPUR) : Seven hours have been allotted.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Why do we not extend the time today be one hour ? *(Interruptions)* Those who do not want to speak can go. *(Interruptions)*. Their chance will not go. *(Interruptions)*. So, if it is possible, we may extend the time by one hour. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : We may sit tomorrow. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You do not agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We want to extend the time by one hour only.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Then you can also speak for ten minutes more. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : No, No. *(Interruptions)*. There is a dinner invitation at 8.00 P.M. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chatterjee, please continue.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The House cannot be extended. Unless there is a consensus about extension, it is never extended. So, if you think that you are bound by 6.00 P.M. job, it will not be extended. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : In any case, let us proceed. In the meantime, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will come also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Let him come. But he cannot dictate to the House. *(Interruptions)*.

Now, it is proposed that there will be a Tariff Commission. Perhaps the Tariff Commission will look into not only customs duties but also in relation to the excise duties. Let me make a suggestion. They have to consider the level of competition and the level of protection that may come from abroad and, therefore, they have to waive customs duties in conjunction with the excise duties that they are imposing. These are in a certain sense the two blades of a pair of scissors. One has to look into it. I am amazed that despite the proposals that there will be a Tariff Commission, some Rs. 650 crore of customs duties have been sacrificed in the course of the initial year. We could have waited for another year and against that a two per cent general imposition of tax on customs duties has been imposed, which is good. I, of course, welcome that. That will add to the protection of the domestic industry. But there are a lot of complaints because

perhaps it was done in haste. There were a lot of complaints about customs duties. He has tried to take into account some of them in his introduction, but many others are left out.

So, my criticism here is that the key objective in the economy would be to raise the rate of savings and have a better draft for the public sector, for the Government because under the present circumstances in this world of monopolistic intrusion without a vibrant Government sector, underdeveloped countries have no chance to succeed and compete with these multinationals. That is the story of South Korea, China and Malaysia and if we have to learn from them then we should learn from these areas.

Here MAT has been referred to. It is amazing also that for the last five years we are trying to argue with our previous hon. Finance Minister that even earlier there was such a provision-similar provision, not exactly this - a provision of 30 per cent profit to be taxed. That provision was there. I think, it was introduced during the days of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, but because of some arguments of investment allowance, etc., that was eliminated mainly.

Now, it is not identical but it is similar. The approach is similar. If you make profit you cannot go away without paying a single paisa to the Central corpus. But this question has to be raised. This has been raised directly or indirectly and that is - why is it that we have provided concession in a manner that they can not only not pay tax for his year but also accumulate such savings for the next year also ? This is the character of our income-tax laws, full of exemptions. Why can we not take this bold step, at least in terms of the announcement ? I do believe that there are areas where concessions have to be given.

1756 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

Without the consensus of the House, even the hon. Speaker cannot extend the sitting of the House. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I want to give you more time to speak. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Thank you. Therefore, I will submit that if at all there should be any concession for anything, it can be for these trusts and charitable trusts etc. My friend was suggesting that when contributions to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund are exempted why not the contributions to the Chief Ministers Relief Funds be exempted ? If the approach is to exempt all these things, you eliminate all these concessions from

the Statute Book. Then only can we tinker with the rates of taxes. Then only the effective rate of taxation on the books will remain at 40 per cent or 45 per cent and in reality it is eight per cent or 10 per cent.

I have seen this C.M.I. Report. When Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister it was there. In the elections also we went out with it. The whole sheet was with me. Some 5,000 names were there, though the number of companies was less because for each company there were several names. Our estimate at that time was that some Rs. 40,000 crores income was avoiding taxes. May be the figure is not correct. Please correct my figures. But the point is that you give tax exemptions for research and development; give tax exemption - I will concede even to exports because we want the exports to overtake the imports. There is not doubt on that. We have to do that. You give exemptions for backward areas investment and give exemptions for savings. Nothing else should be exempted from paying the taxes.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Please respect them.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I mentioned four points. Sir, this time should be deducted from the time allotted to me.

I mentioned about R&D, exports, backward areas and savings.

On savings, incentives have to be given. In terms of savings this is an idiosyncratic thing continuing for so many years. Even in this year's Budget he proposed that concessions under Section 80-L should be raised from Rs. 13,000 to Rs. 15,000.

I have argued again and again with Dr. Manmohan Singh also that instead of this Section 80-L provision he should try to tag this on to Section 88 which forces one to save from current year's income or may be the past one. And this could be done even here, even today, by introducing an amendment.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I introduced an amendment to Section 88.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Not that. You want to exempt certain parts of income from paying any tax at all unlike Section 88 which says that 20 per cent of the savings will be given concession. You could have simply done this - let that Rs. 60,000 limit remain. But the first portion of Rs. 10,000 or the first portion of Rs. 20,000 if it is deposited that will completely get tax concession.

18.00 hrs.

That would have been saving of the people from their current year's income. I have an income from mutual

funds which is more than Rs. 50,000. I do not have to pay a single paisa additionally for savings.

MR. SPEAKER : Just a minute please. It is six o'clock now and we have 24 more speakers on this Bill. This Bill has to go to Rajya Sabha tomorrow, day after tomorrow being the private Members day. So, we will have to pass this Bill and extend the House. Is this the consensus of the House to extend the sitting ?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST) : Excuse me, Sir. We do not get this information in advance. We fix up some programmes outside also on the assumption that the House will be over by six o'clock. We come here at 11 o'clock and sit upto six o'clock. When we get this information at the eleventh hour, we find it very difficult to adjust. I am very humbly submitting before this House that this should be decided in advance.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, in future we will decide in advance.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, what about today ?

MR. SPEAKER : I accept your suggestion.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : My request in this case is to accommodate tomorrow one or two persons who are to speak on our behalf.

MR. SPEAKER : If the House agrees to do away with the Zero Hour tomorrow, I can agree because latest by one o'clock the Bill has to go to Rajya Sabha because the Rajya Sabha has to pass it. So, let us complete it tonight.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR) : Reception function for Hon'ble Deputy Speaker has been fixed at 6.00 o'clock. We have to be with the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker most of time in the House daily. If we fail to attend his reception function he will spoil our C.R. and not allow us to speak in the House. I therefore, beg your pardon. You occasionally sit in this seat.

MR. SPEAKER : You may come after attending the function. I will sit here till you come back.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Our leader, Shri Jaswant Singh said that the House may sit one hour more. Therefore, you can run it for one hour more. It will not be justified to run in after one hour. If we don't attend the function, it would not be a good thing. We shall go at 7 o'clock.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Our problem is that it has to go to Rajya Sabha tomorrow.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT) : Sir, one Member is speaking beyond his time limit and another Member is not getting chance to speak. There should be a time limit.

MR. SPEAKER : Should we make it two hours ?

[Translation]

SRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It would be night after two hours. You may extend it for one hour. That is sufficient. We can go there at 7 o'clock instead of 6 o'clock.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (VISAKHAPATNAM) : It may be extended by two hours. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : All right, let us compromise and extend it for one-and-half hours.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, I want a clarification. Those who will not be able to speak today, will they get chance to speak tomorrow ?

MR. SPEAKER : No, I do not think so. Tomorrow at one o'clock, the Finance Minister has to reply. There is no choice.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, before that one or two speakers can speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Unless you do away with Zero Hour, how can you do that ?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : That is not our fault, Sir.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Even the Question Hour can be suspended so that he can speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever accommodation can be made to the hon. Members, we will make it upto 7.30 p.m. Tomorrow at one o'clock, the Finance Minister will reply.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : There should be a maximum limit of 10 minutes for each Member.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chatterjee, have mercy on your colleagues. Please conclude early.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Unlike my good friend, Shri Jaswant, it will be matter of fact. Sir, I will speak strictly on this Finance Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : You have two speakers from your Party. The time allowed is 23 minutes and you have already consumed 21 minutes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I will go by your suggestion.

Sir, I was talking about Section 88 of the Income-Tax Act. I think that point has already been made and I need not make that point again.

The next point is about the income-tax structure. We are all concerned about the Income-tax structure. We say that at higher rates people feel constrained to pay tax and sometimes the rate was confiscatory and therefore, nobody was paying tax. We simply forget that that kind of a psychology operate also at the bottom.

1806 hrs.

(SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE in the Chair)

For the last five years I have been making a suggestion to the former Finance Minister that the lowest rate of income-tax should start at 10 per cent so that a person is not really hurt when he first pays income-tax. Now, our present Finance Minister has kindly agreed to reduce the initial slab from 20 per cent to 15 per cent. I am requesting him to consider my suggestion that it should be brought down to 10 per cent. The Department certainly knows about it because we have been making this suggestion for the last five years. The first slab should start at 10 per cent. But in order not to be regressive at the initial stage, when this slab is long it becomes regressive to that extent and therefore, the next slab should not have a difference of 15 per cent. The difference should be 10 per cent so that the first slab begins at 10 per cent, the second slab at 20 per cent, the third slab at 30 per cent and it goes on like this. Later, it could be five per cent also, because the smaller the slab, the more progressive and equitable it is. This is simple arithmetic or statistics, whatever you say. So, I want him to consider this suggestion if he is bringing amendments. I am sure it will not be a loss, it will be a gain, because we must remember that there is a psychology among the middle classes to proudly declare themselves as income-tax payers. You capitalise on that psychology by allowing them to enter the income-tax net without doubt it is net - by offering him a 10 per cent slab.

The next comment I want to make about it is this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is this the last point ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Not at all.

Our Finance Minister has issued a circular requesting austerity in the Government offices and he suggested a 10 per cent cut in the expenditure. When he talks of austerity within the Government, he forgets that that has to reflect the psychology of austerity in the society outside and that is what he has not done.

My position is like that of Chile and his position is like the United Nations General Assembly where all the people supported Chile by saying that they are talking sense, but ultimately voted against it. Why do I say this? Why could we not introduce some kind of an expenditure consideration along with Income-tax? It is not an impossible thing at all. You generate the cult of austerity. You are encouraging him to spend through foreign investment, publicity etc., through, maybe, bribing also and you are not trying to impose an expenditure element into the assessment of tax. Those expenditure taxes which are listed there are nowhere near the mark.

Then, I illustrated in my speech during the Budget debate also that the duties on air baggages have been reduced and credit has been taken for higher revenue from that. What does it mean? It means that you are inducing or maybe exciting people to bring more luxury goods from outside with a lower duty so that you can have a larger collection in the customs.

This is the kind of approach which has to be avoided and this is a kind of lesson which has to be given to the society also.

We have cried hoarse in the course of last few years. Now, he has today modified even the amendments which were introduced in this year's Finance Bill about wealth tax. He has softened it once again. All right, perhaps there is an economic justification even if one residential property goes out of wealth tax. Is it so?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Yes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Fine, and that residential property might be as ill-gotten as that of Sukhrum. They said, 'the value of one property was Rs. 6 crore'. Supposing, I have only that. Why should I be outside the wealth tax? What happens to equity? So, even in terms of these exemption, one should be watchful and one should be careful and also we should re-think on inheritance tax and gift tax. He has broken away from his parent organisation perhaps as a protest against that famous marriage which took place in his State. All these gifts cannot be garnered. If Rs. 2 crore or Rs. 3 crore have been spent there, either those who are giving gifts or those who are receiving them should be brought within the tax net. A gift tax without an estate duty or an inalienable tax is a meaningless preposition. He has not looked into this. He has not looked into which kind of modifications are possible so that more people can be netted. Apart from this...

MR. CHAIRMAN : How many more?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Madam, as a matter of fact...

MR. CHAIRMAN : But then, you have to think about others also.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : All right. I will conclude in a very short span.

The last telling blow could be that even in terms of Chellaiah Committee, he not started the operation of consignment tax. We talk so much of black income. We talk so much of escapement though saying that I am shipping this and I am not selling and thereby avoiding sales tax. The consignment tax should go to the States. Within the total economy of the country, it will mean more in the Government kitties and that step he has not taken. He has said that he was one of the drafters of the Common Minimum Programme. But he has missed this point there also. So, I am drawing his attention to this. Why do you not go ahead? Why do you not say this? All kinds of arguments are given that the States have not agreed to etc. But that is neither here nor there. I have not suggested any amendments for the simple reason that my Party will not permit me to press them forward. Although, I am not party to the Government. But I am party to the United Front. I, therefore, suggest that please take this into account and try to introduce amendments on your own including an expenditure surcharge on income tax and a statement on consignment tax.

Thank you, Madam, for the little consideration that you have shown and I conclude here.

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR (JALNA) : Madam, in fact, I am sorry to say that our Finance Minister has to play the one day cricket match. He has to score the runs and also keep the wickets safe. That is why, it is very difficult to expect all the things from him though I am not from the Treasury Benches. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Madam, if I do not say one thing, I will not be able to go out of this House. He has given concessions for synthetics and the jute industry is worried about it. They are worried because the kind of concessions that he has given will eliminate the production of jute goods. That is their apprehension, and I must draw his attention to it.

With regard to newsprint, it has already been mentioned...

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : I will refer to this newsprint item.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Madam, he will speak for me.

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : This Bill is ignoring eighty per cent of the agriculturists. Frankly speaking,

how many people are using the drip irrigation and the tractors ? Though we have given Rs. 30,000 subsidy per tractor, hardly two per cent of the farmers are using the tractors. Same is the case with drip irrigation also. An average farmer, who is having two acres or three acres or four acres of land, he cannot even dream that. Certainly, the Finance Minister should look into the matter. This is my first submission.

Regarding the newsprint industry, the fate of our country is worst because at the moment we are importing newsprint at the rate of Rs. 15,000 per tonne whereas our manufacturing rate is round about Rs. 20,000 per tonne. So, it is really difficult to compete with the multinationals. I myself being a small industrialist know the difficulties. The Government should not think that our industries should go down. If our policy is like that, we cannot compete with the multinationals because we are not trained for it. We did not get the sort of education that one gets in the Western countries or in the American countries. Naturally, our industrial policy should be such that we do not compare those things we manufacture with the others.

With regard to newsprint, again, I would like to say that if the Finance Minister cannot look into the matter, the fate of this industry will be very bad.

Coming to the revenue receipts, certainly, they are going at the rate of 18 per cent while the GDP is growing at the rate of seven per cent. I do not know how they will achieve this additional 11 per cent growth. The capital receipts are also growing. The fiscal deficit is growing in a much more larger way. The multiple tax system is spoiling our country. The hon. Finance Minister knows it very well.

At the same time, we have to think about a lot of things. We have a lot of problems. My only request to the Finance Minister is not to bring in the Cielo care or the Mercedes Benz. For these things, we do not have even the roads to drive them. Please do something for the public transport. Our public transport system is in a very bad shape. We do not have roads to drive in Cielo or Mercedes Benz cars.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (TIRUCHENGODE) : Hon'ble Chairman, I welcome and support the Finance Bill introduced by the enthusiastic and dynamic Finance Minister, who has given a wonderful and useful Budget to the nation in this year. In addition to that, he has given a lot of concessions and consideration to the corporate sector to promote the economy in India. Agricultural development alone will promote the economy of India. Agriculture, as it is available in any other civilisation, is our traditional occupation from time immemorial. The great Tamil Poet Thiruvalluvar said :

"Suzhandrum airpinnadhu Ulagam uzhandrum uzhave thalai."

He means that 'every other occupation or profession is dependent on agriculture.' He also added that 'tilling of the soil is ahead of every other profession.' Do we give utmost priority to agriculture in this country ? Of course, now, after about five decades of Independence, we do it. The General Budget for 1996-97 seeks to provide 32 per cent of our GDP for agriculture.

A promise of change has come about now. Irrigation Benefit Programme is to be intensified with Rs. 900 crore. Increased credit facilities, increase in subsidies for agricultural equipment and fertilisers, special emphasis on small and marginal farmers, strengthening of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund, promoting investment in hi-tech agriculture and boost to agro-processing are some of the salient features of this year's Budget proposals.

Devising the plan is one thing and implementing the same is a different thing. It is unfortunate that they tend to operate on two different plans in India. Setting up viable monitoring mechanism and ensuring accountability through Panchayati Raj and Cooperative Movement is like a promised land.

Gross areas sown in this country was about 18.5 crore of hectares about a decade ago. It is disheartening to note that it could not be considerably enhanced further. Sowing is not done more than once in a year in about 14 crore of hectares of that sown area. This is because irrigation facilities are available to just 4.5 crore of hectare of cultivable land. We must devise a viable irrigation Policy. For that, still more funds may be allotted towards irrigation reforms. That is lacking in this Finance Bill.

Improvised agricultural methods, modern implements, better water management, scientific irrigation methods, supply of quality seeds, back up from our agro-scientists through Extension Education are the need of the hour. It calls for dedication and a devoted vigour.

We have opened up our economy. We have more or less accepted globalisation. It may throw challenges to us. Instead of our entering the world market, we may convert our country into an open market place. How to convert this new economic situation into an opportunity ?

Quality of agricultural products must be standardised with modern technical knowhow. We need to import agro-technology. Thrust must be given to manufacture low cost agricultural implements. Israeli cultivation methods should be an eye opener. For this, still more funds should be allotted to agriculture.

What has been happening in our country all these years ? Plenty of land is there. Abundant labour force is

there. But motivation and proper guidance were missing. We now get a new direction through the Common Minimum Programme.

I fervently hope the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund can do well with an additional Rs. 2500 crore this year. It will meet our needs to bring about a National Agricultural Revolution.

Irrigation Benefit Programme in to be intensified with Rs. 900 crore. I would like to suggest that this may be increased further. Special care should be given to Command Area Development Programme. Hydrology Experts feel that carrying out extra work in those areas could increase ground water potential. This could make scientific water management techniques like Drip Irrigation, Sprinkler Irrigation method etc. viable ones. The subsidy to farmers for adopting these methods has been increased up to 70 per cent and in the case of weaker sections, it will go up to 90 per cent. This augurs well for our agricultural output.

The share capital of NABARD has become Rs. 1000 crore this year from Rs. 500 crore. Next four years will see it triple to Rs. 1500 crore.

I would like to point out the need to protect the existing canals meant for irrigation. Greening them and maintaining them involve additional work and more money. It was mentioned in the Budget and also in the Finance Bill. NABARD should be suitably instructed to make available the funds for these purposes. The Tamil Nadu Government faces a problem in this regard. I hope the Union Government will look into it.

To solve the Cauveri dispute, the post of the Chairman of Cauveri Tribunal may be filled immediately. Then only the problem would be solved. Then we can promote agricultural development in Tamil Nadu.

Subsidy to all farmers to buy small tractors is a welcome scheme announced this year. I would suggest to this Ministry of Finance to work for extending this scheme to all agricultural implements. Subsidy may also be provided to heavy tractors for agricultural purposes.

Sir, on the floor of this august House, I would like to sound echo the appreciations of the farmers of this country. Their happiness is redoubled with the four-fold increase in subsidy for Potassic and Phosphatic fertilizers to the tune of about Rs. 2,224 crore.

We need to give strategic guidance to our farmers about agricultural marketing. We need to concentrate on processing and the exporting of our agro-products. We need to review our policy of exporting primary commodities. According to a World Bank Report, countries like India which specialise in the export of primary

commodities are bound to be losers by 2005 A.D. This is because of the mechanism of the International Trade. We are governed by them as signatories of the World Trade Organisation. In the World Trade Organisation regime, India can survive only with its improvised agro-economy. We must wake up now. Patenting of seeds and more research will help.

The farming community do not stop with growing only crops. They rear cattle and raise dairy and poultry farms also. During the time of natural disasters like floods and drought, cattle save farmers and their families from poverty. So, the Government must give equal importance to promote Veterinary Science and more funds must be allotted to animal husbandry activities that is lacking now. Even in the Finance Bill, there is no fund allotted to animal husbandry activities. Soon we may shift our attention to meat and leather exports in a big way. When crop cultivation research gets Rs. 100 crore, livestock research gets only a mere one crore of rupees or less. This imbalance should go.

In a populous country like ours, non-vegetarian food items like meat and chicken is a staple food to many. It is all the more important to provide quality meat to our people and promote export meat by way of setting up modern slaughter houses state-of-the-art processing units and cold storages must be improved all over the country. This is more important. So, it should also be considered by the Finance Minister. So, the Finance Minister may sanction still more funds to agriculture and animal husbandry activities to help the rural economy to develop.

I would like to suggest a novel idea how to meet out the deficit. He must speed up the enquiry through the CBI and get back the Government money. ...*But, anyhow, the Finance Minister has to take extra care to give justice to Tamil Nadu people to get the money back to the people.

With these words, I am concluding my speech.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH) : Madam, I am thankful to the Finance Minister for having placed the Budget very successfully and also commending the Finance Bill. The Finance Minister today also, during his speech, made several concessions and has taken several decisions in regard to excise, customs and income-tax provisions within the scope of the Finance Bill.

The Common Minimum Programme nowadays is very much known as the manifesto of the United Front Government. It gives great satisfaction to the United Front Government. To us, specially with reference to the Budget, it is the "Congress Monitored Programme." When was the overall concept of the liberalisation and the entire

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

beginning of the new era started ? The economy which was left to us in 1991 by the then Janata Dal Government and a little bit rescued by the Chandra Shekhar Government for a stop-gap arrangement, really put us in shambles in all spheres. No directions were there. Nowadays, a lot of praise is heaped on the performance of the past Governments. I think the period when the country has faced the severest situation in the economic front and a chaos in all the fronts was during the regime.

From that point of view, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's Government tried to rescue the situation in such a manner by which at least we can now claim that a country, by name India, is there which is trying to attract people to find a good market. I fully endorse the comments made by Shri Chatterjee about the word called 'competition'. I do not understand why we have suddenly got so much influenced by these words and connotations. When the British used to rule India through the East India Company, during those days, the *Raj Bahadurs*, the *Khan Bahadurs* and those who used to like the patronage of the British Emperor, used to convince people by saying, "do not join the freedom movement. After all, the English are here for the prosperity. Otherwise who will build the roads, who will create the railways ? These guys will only go to jails and will be put to the gallows."

Now these multinationals and giants, before they landed in India and before they took the advantage of the liberalised economy, threw a very peculiar kind of concept paper called 'Fair Competition'. Fair competition with whom ? I do not like to deal with the matter as it has been well dealt with by the hon. Member, Shri Nirmal Chatterjee. I fully share his views. The concept must be understood as to wherefrom India started, where we have reached and the kind of burden that we are faced with. Some of us often commit a mistake by saying, "look at Singapore-how they are doing; look at South Korea-how they are doing; look at Japan-how they are doing." I wonder and laugh at then because they have no sense of understanding of the situation as to what Singapore means and what India means or what Japan means after the war and what Korea means. Who takes care of the sky and the sea ? Who takes care of the people and how things operate ? Are they really free in terms of freedom ? When we discuss those things through a different debate, they compare it with India and bring that canvass to Indian canvass and say, "look, we have a fair competition; we have a level playing field." I wonder because it means we have totally devalued what we tried to build with drop by drop of our blood in this country after the freedom. Howsoever bad name you give to the public sector in the name of their large employment skill and other things, I still feel proud of what I have done for this country with the skill of years.

Madam, I personally feel that all of us have suddenly become fond of the liberal economy, the open economy, the fair economy only because of one thing. Our hon. Finance Minister had rightly pointed out the other day while replying to the debate on General Budget. I heard him with rapt attention. He had rightly pointed out that the country's defence was not merely the Budget for defence but a correct foreign policy, a correct neighbouring policy. I thank Mr. Chidambaram for his clear perception. And really, we have to jump into the so-called open economy. We have to coin words for so-called free economy, open economy, competition, liberalised economy only because - if I may say so, without the general consensus of my Party - of the disintegration of the Soviet Union. If there was a nation that was made the casualty of the situation in the whole world caused by this disintegration, it is India. And today, we are paying heavily for it. Therefore, we have to think seriously about this matter while we think of this competition, competition and competition. In the name of competition, please let us not see that the competitors come and take the country in such a manner that they find that although their partners are no more there, yet the competitors are ruling. Therefore, I urge upon the Finance Minister to consider the impact. What is the competition ? What is the bank rate of interest in Europe ? What is the bank rate of interest in the United States ? What is the bank rate of interest here ? What is the cost of raw material there ? What is the cost of raw materials here ? How does our labour work and how does their labour work ? What is total mechanism in the physical sense ? If you ask them to bring in fair competition by simply asking them to bring some of their managerial partners, some of their equity, to siphon off everything from us and ask our people to compete with them at the same level, then you will not be asking them to compete with us but asking our people to get hanged.

This is not correct approach. We must learn how to protect ourselves. Mr. Finance Minister also was a competent Commerce Minister, which I also had the privilege to deal for five years. If Europe in the real sense free from that ? The Finance Minister knows, even in the name of free market they use to protect their own commodity, which is not allowed for many people to enter into selective items. And India had to enter. Not only India, the continent Asia and the developing countries had not to enter for years together for one single item, even in United States too. What happened to them ? They know how to protect themselves. They never say like that. Did they ever say that 'you are new and I am old, I am prepared to have a fair competition and free competition with you in terms of textile, clothing in the market of Europe' ? No. Due to the fight within the GATT, you might have been able to manage, to a little extent, to get the advantage of the textile but for the last several years it never happened so.

Therefore, please do not be innumerate with the world of competition and do not try to put our people in that category, otherwise it will totally be an injustice. Therefore, my submission to the hon. Finance Minister - not many - is that 'can you appoint a Committee may be of experts?' Mr. Chidambaram, if you do it, you will guide the destiny of the nation to create interest even in the interest of the freedom of the country. This committee may scrutinise and examine (a) impact of the liberal economy on our domestic market and domestic indigenous production units; (b) the rate of your customs duty reduction and the concession that you make, the advantage of which is not being actually exploited by our big agents but by others also. And, what is the adverse, right and good impact. Whether really you feel that a competitive arrangement has been made both in terms of infrastructure and the popular phrase called the 'level playing field'. That committee can give you positive guidelines hopefully in the next Budget - which I am confident, you will monitor - to give you a direction as to really are you on the slogan; or you on some despatch by abroad or are you going on simply because we are having no other option today?

Shri Gujral, hon. External Affairs Minister was stating about the CTBT United Nation's results yesterday. True it is. Well, it is isolated but we are proud that we are paying the price for having stood for certain values. Similarly, you also adopt the same principle-defend and safeguard the interests of India's economy, not at the mercy and the cost of those who have come. They are all coming. Mr. Finance Minister, not to develop your country but they are all coming just to take the market because nobody can question the capacity of this market, nobody can question the buying ability of this market. That is why they are all coming. Therefore, please think of the formation of a committee, if you can.

Secondly, in regard to newsprint, much has been said about newsprint by many friends. At the present moment, it is 'zero duty' so far as import of the customs duty is concerned. Madam, Chairman, it is a very ticklish issue. The customers want to have a very glazy, very good newspaper to read, well-typed and paper should be good. Newsprint industry want that their material should be sold in the market properly and nicely and at the same time our own organizations and units which are producing and manufacturing papers, like the Hindustan Paper Mills, are complaining that if the Government considers to maintain the same level of 'zero duty' then who will buy their materials?

So, I would request you to please think of investing a little more money for those mills to improve their conditions, their way of manufacturing things, quality production, quality improvement. You can also think of

providing certain guidelines of the Government for the use of their paper including that of the newspaper industry. And thereafter you think to have a duty. You invite newspaper industry, you invite Hindustan Paper Mills, you invite Industry Minister's opinion and thereafter you finally decide the rational as to whether at all this 'zero duty' provision should be continued or abolished.

Otherwise, I am afraid, the domestic industry will be the casualty of this arrangement.

Regarding jute goods, Mr. Finance Minister, I have to say that I am not angry but I am very much disappointed. The Finance Minister should have an overall view of the situation in the country. He should have a view of the necessity which is an immediate requirement and also his attitude to the genuine requirement of certain sectors. I have been watching right from Dr. Manmohan Singh's Budget to your Budget. I do not know how in one matter everybody is the same.

There is always a genuine sympathy for the synthetics. Why do you not abolish the excise duty on the jute goods, which is only five percent? This is an industry which is struggling to survive. People have a wrong conception that 'jute goods' means 'Bengal'. The entire jute goods of Bengal are contributing to the economy of North India. Immediately after the labourers of the jute industry of Bengal receive their weekly wages, the next day, they go to the post office to send money order to their homes in Rajasthan, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. I am telling you the facts. The mills are getting closed. It does not mean that it might create a law and order problem to the Government of West Bengal. It will create an economic problem, probably, for the northern India also. It is not an issue only of Bengal. Therefore, I would submit to the hon. Minister of Finance to consider and kindly exempt the five per cent excise duty on jute goods at least for five years on a trial basis, see whether he can improve the condition or not and if not, again re-introduce the duty. You may kindly make a note of my recommendation in this regard.

Now, I come to the question of the wide-based tax net. I have been hearing an interesting item, which, as a student of politics, I fail to understand. When I was a student at school, at college and then at the university, I used to know that *kisan* meant a person who went to the fields, toiled the whole day, grew paddy or wheat, returned home in the evening and fed the people of the nation. He is considered to be a *kisan*, who really tills and who assists the agricultural labour, whether he has land or not. This was my perception of *kisan*. Having been in the national politics, I always think of concessions to farmers, concessions to the *kisans*. But does it go to the farmers and *kisans* who really do the job on the

ground ? Here, I find that the meaning of *kisan* is different. He is one, who does not go to the land, but controls the land for years together and manages to get the job done by some people. He gets the ultimate benefit, whether it is remunerative price, whether it is agricultural subsidy or whatever. In exchange of the old feudalism, another set of rural feudal lords is gaining ground with the advantage of electricity subsidy, fertilizer subsidy and everything in some parts of India. I am not against any region or community. They have become so powerful that the same oppression that I used to read in the great story of Prem Chand still continues. You start from Gorakhpur and end in Haryana, the same oppression is still continuing. The benefits do not go to the *kisans*.

A few are enjoying the benefits, being clothed as farmers and *kisans*. They are so rich in money power and they are also not in the tax net. It is very interesting. I do not know who would detect it and how it could be detected. They hold thousands and thousands of acres of land. They hold land in their wife's name and she is also called a *kisan*; they hold land in their daughter's name - and that daughter is married to someone else - and she is also called a *kisan*. They also hold land in her husband's name. He may be living in America. He is also called a *kisan*. He might come here occasionally.

[Translation]

What does he come here for ?

[English]

He has come here to see his form. He went after seeing it.

He does not do anything in *khet*; *kheti* is being done by somebody else. If he gets to know that the Budget gives some subsidy, he says, 'All right, thank you very much'. I am talking too much. I am inviting trouble for myself. But I tell you, this is the kind of activity that is going on in the country.

This is what is going on. One has to break it. I would like to appeal to the Minister of Finance who is not only progressive and modern - I am not flattering him and I had been with him for long days during the struggle - to detect whether the benefits that you give really go to them. Otherwise, you make a low tax limit. You appoint another committee and find out as to how to widen the base of tax net. You find out another section, another sector to spread the tax net. I feel the tax payers who are supposed to pay tax should not be spared. During the Budget discussions you have said that you will be firm and rigid in collecting the taxes. I do not want to embarrass you. In your own answer you have said as to how many banks, public sector banks have not paid tax and are defaulting.

It is horrifying to see that Punjab National Bank has to pay Rs. 289.36 crore upto 31st March, 1996. Our own public sector banks are not paying the tax. I can understand if an individual goes to court and says that the claim is not justified. I can understand if a company goes to court. But in the case of public sector banks, they are monitored by the other wing of the same Ministry, the Banking Division and they are questioning the other authority as to what you ask me is not correct. They are saying I am waiting and taking my time by taking recourse to law and other things. The pattern and method is very peculiar. Who will catch them and who will detect them? Chairman after Chairman has retired; Executive Directors have retired, but the figures are increasing. This is what is happening in the public sector banks. If this is the figure for the public sector banks and if public sector banks are defaulters, how are you going to show your strictness to others ? This is what struck me when I read the reply the other day.

Now, I will come to my own pet subject, i.e. sports, for which I made an appeal to the Minister of Finance. I do not agree fully with Shri Jaswant Singh when he said that there should be total customs duty exemption for sports goods. Please do not do that. It is a dangerous thing. I am very much involved in it. Sports goods, in these days, have become a kind of fashionable costumes to a large number of people in the society. It is very costly. If you make total duty exemption, every shop keeper, the Government shop keeper and others will pour these sports goods. Due to this you will face another difficulty from our own domestic sports goods manufacturers. Do not do it.

I would submit to you to give a standing order that any national sports federation, whether it is cricket, football, tennis or hockey which is approved by the Government and supported or recognised by the Olympic, for their own national interest for participation and training purpose, whatever kit they are getting, from abroad either by donation or by sponsorship has to be exempted from duty. This is my submission. There should not be any blanket exemption.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is already there.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : No, it is not there. For every consignment I have to go for *ad hoc* exemption. There is no standing instruction. My team came back day before yesterday after the missile attack on Iraq. The team could not go with the dresses because I could not get the exemption order for ten days. They are lying in the airport.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We are simplifying that. I have seen the provision. I do not agree with the complicated procedure there. I have asked them to simplify it, for all Associations, I will have a simple procedure.

1849 hrs.

(SHRI CHITTA BASU *in the Chair*)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Thank you. It is true that we have not got any gold medal. But please invest some gold or silver or money in sports. India is the only country where Government money is not involved in sports. Ministry of Sports the same Government says, 'stand on your own fact and get your own money by sponsorship'. By sponsorship we are prepared to fund your total project and total programmes. You give us some relief either through income tax or through something else. My submission is that if you engage the youth of this nation in constructive activities and not in activities like terrorist violence in Kashmir or Punjab, it is a contribution to the nation.

So, I would submit to the hon. Finance Minister that those who will contribute for projects, official programmes and for sports bodies, those who will be the sponsors whose accounts should be audited and shown in the books of accounts, at least to those donations you can give exemption.

I can give an example, though I do not want to embarrass the Prime Minister. The present Prime Minister, when he was the Chief Minister of Karnataka, wrote a letter to the then Prime Minister requesting him to please make donation to sports bodies, at least tax-free, when the national games were allotted to Karnataka. You are a youthful Finance Minister, you should be very much responsive to the cries of the youth. They are not asking anything more. Some are asking for guns to separate the nation, some are asking for tax exemptions to build the nation. There is a difference between the two.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am aware of this problem. I wish I could do it myself. I would have done it. The Act, as it stands today, has created a national committee. The Section is being interpreted by the national committee in a particular manner; I have taken a different view. The matter is now being referred for legal opinion. If my opinion is upheld, then the problem that you have mentioned about the national sports or national games in Karnataka will be solved. Otherwise, as the Act stands today, I have to go through the national committee which has taken a particular view. I mean, I have a great respect for those who have taken that view, except that I have respectfully disagreed with that view. I am waiting for a legal opinion which I hope would uphold my view.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : You may examine that. But on legal matters, you are a competent lawyer and you know how to get out of the legal tangle.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : There is a problem.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : It is not that you can very quietly say that that committee is examining it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I have taken a view.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : The simple method is that if the national sports bodies get sponsors or donations, free from the government contribution and if they can manage themselves, then for those donations you may give tax exemption. You are giving tax exemption to Ramakrishna Mission; I am not questioning their activities, they are doing a good work. But you are giving tax exemption to some organisation in which connection I have referred the matter to the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House. There is an organisation called Moral Rearmament of Bombay. I do not have to question their role and what they did during the riot. So, there are several organisations; but what do they do ? What does Indian Swimming Federation do ? Do they swim ? Are Indian Cricket bodies, Indian Football bodies, Indian Tennis bodies recognised by the Government ? They say that the Government will not give us money. All right, if we get money from Colgate, if we get money from other biscuit companies, it is okay. They say that they are prepared to give the money; but they also ask, whether they will we get some relief. If they do not get the relief, they would not give. What do they do ? All the Asian countries get such things. Marlboro Cigarette Company is running the entire sports activity of Malaysia. Marlboro is doing it only because they are getting tax relief. They are doing it there, but in India, we could not do it. It is a big problem.

You may kindly look into it seriously and examine it. thereafter, you may come to a conclusion. I am not saying that you do it in a haste. You take all the points into consideration now. I am giving you the facts. I can give you one example also.

In Assam, in the district of Shivasagar, there is one city called Difu. For seven days, there was police firing and people died also. The Chief Minister of Assam asked, "Can you offer us a game here ?" I asked in turn, "Can you do it ?". They said, if the game is allowed, there would be no law and order problem. Believe me, Sir, the game was allotted. From the beginning till the end of the game, there was not a single occurrence of law and order problem. The same thing happened in Nagaland. The underground boys came to the surface and participated in the game. They enjoyed it and went back; there was not a single occurrence of law and order problem. This is the strength of sports and games.

This should be taken very seriously by the Finance Ministry in terms of augmenting their resources, subject to the scrutiny. I am not saying that you have to open it, as Shri Jaswant Singh said. If that is taken seriously, then it will be a great contribution for the sports.

Salt Lake Stadium in Calcutta has 1,10,000 capacity. How can the Government maintain that giant structure? Some companies are prepared to maintain the structure on lease provided they get some relief. How will they do it? All over the world it is happening. That is my submission on behalf of the sports fraternity. They gave a mandate to me to raise the issue on behalf of them, if I get a chance and try to convey these things to the Young Finance Minister who never looks back but looks forward. That is why, I am making this appeal to the Finance Minister to consider this.

Finally, I will conclude by saying that the Finance Bill is okay. You gave a hint; I do not say that you are going to look into it.

But I am very anxiously waiting. You did say after the attack on Iraq about the fuel position in the country. For God's sake, please do not increase the administered price of fuel again. That is my submission...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Finance Minister, I know, you have said it. I do not like to say that you reply again. But please take note of it a serious situation is prevailing in the country's Defence. A statement was made by the Chief of the Naval Staff. We should not take it casually. The Chief of the Army Staff made it very clear in Calcutta that our young stuff are not coming as officers in the Army. There is a shortage. The salaries are not attractive. It is a serious situation. Even the Defence experts are telling that going by the manner in which Pakistan is equipping themselves and other arrangements which are being made, we should not be suddenly caught back like it happened in 1962. If necessary, you take it seriously.

I am not questioning the competence. I have no idea about our Defence Minister's perception of the total situation in the given context of the CTBT, the developments in Kashmir, the latest speech of Shrimati Benazir Bhutto yesterday in Pakistan and the statement made by our own Generals in the country concerning the requirements. I had no opportunity to hear him in the House. I do not know his perception. I submit it to you because it is a collective responsibility of the Government.

The Defence should not be taken lightly. Possibly, the time has come very very quickly that you should apply your mind very seriously. If necessary, for that reason, you have to raise the structure here and there to augment the resources. The House will give you a some

support. But kindly convey our concern to the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister that we have no time because only two days are left. This matter should be taken very seriously. With these words I thank the Finance Minister for piloting the Finance Bill. I support it.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (TRICHUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Finance Bill introduced by our Finance Minister. As we are struggling for time, I will cut short my speech. I am very grateful for the incentives and concessions declared by the Finance Minister to the coir workers and the coir industry as a whole. It is heartening to note that our dear Finance Minister is very much interested in the development of the State of Kerala.

In that respect, let me add a few more things for the kind consideration of our hon. Finance Minister. All the MPs from Kerala have been representing that the import tariff rate for caprolactum should be reconsidered. Our most important factory, FACT, will be in a very bad condition if that remains. So, I request the Finance Minister to reconsider it.

I think the newsprint incentives declared by the Finance Minister will help us also. We have got one factory. I think, the industry may survive with the incentives declared today.

I have to bring to the notice of our Finance Minister a few more things. These are most important not only for Kerala but also for the nation. You rightly declared in your Budget speech that important transshipment ports for container traffic - Kochi and Tuticorin - will be developed

1900 hrs.

I have some doubts. Both the ports are very near. As I understand, the report of the experts says that the most cheap port for container traffic is Cochin. So, you have to give preference to at least Cochin. After Cochin, you can think of Tuticorin because it will be impossible if you take both the ports together. So, you have to develop the most important port of Cochin for transshipment and container traffic...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not worry, Mr. Bhargava. Your name is the next in the list. It is not an undue favour shown to you. Let him complete.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR) : The time was fixed up to 7.30 p.m. because we had to attend the reception programme organised in honour of the hon. Deputy Speaker. Our leader Shri Jaswant Singhji had told us to leave the house at 7.30 p.m. If we do not go, it will not be proper. Therefore, I request you not to run the house after 7.30 p.m.*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : We are not stopping you. You may go. If you want to speak, you can speak after Shri Raghwan and then you may go...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : No, why should we vacate the B.J.P. benches. We will go only when you go. We will not go in this way. Mr. chairman, Sir please adjourn the house at 7.30 for tomorrow as has been decided earlier...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Bhargavaji, you may speak first and then you may go. We want that who so ever wants to speak on this issue can speak today and the hon. Finance Minister will reply it tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Do you not want to attend the reception programme...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (KANAD) : Bhargavaji, many hon. Members of my party are still to speak. They will also be able to speak.*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the Finance Minister will give the reply at 1 p.m. tomorrow. That is the problem now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Why should he reply at 1 P.M. ? Let there be no Zero Hour and he may reply at 12 noon because we have to pass the UP Budget also.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : If the Finance Minister would give his reply at 12 noon, then it has to go to the Rajya Sabha and in Rajya Sabha, we have to again take up the business on Jammu and Kashmir and UP. We have no time. As day after tomorrow is Friday, tomorrow is the only working day and we have to pass the Finance Bill, the UP Budget and then it has to go to the other House. We have no time. Therefore, I suggest that we may sit for another half-an-hour or 45 minutes and whoever wants to participate can do so. Let us finish the discussion today and tomorrow, the Finance Minister will reply. This is my only request.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is not so. Previously the House was adjourning at six, then we agreed till 7 p.m. and after that even upto 7.30 p.m. But it will not be proper if we do not attend that programme.*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : We are interested to sit and conclude the discussion today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We do not mean that any Member who wants to participate in the reception for the hon. Deputy-Speaker should not be allowed. They should go there. There are other Members also who want to express their views and we should also respect their views.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : After the reply of the Finance Minister tomorrow, there will be amendments. I am prepared for it and if you want, they also can be taken up today. But after the Finance Minister replies at 1 P.M., it cannot immediately go to the Rajya Sabha; it may take two to three hours for amendments...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Therefore, you please cooperate so that it may be completed today. Their views are also to be respected.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It means that you do not intend to attend the programme organised for the hon. Deputy Speaker.

Earlier, the time was decided till 7.30 the House should run till 7.30. Mr. Chairman, Sir, as Shri Jenaji was just stating that the hon. Finance Minister will reply tomorrow at 1 p.m., I think, it will not finish even tomorrow at 1 p.m. You will have to extend time further...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, your turn is next to Shri Raghavan.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Please, adjourn the house at 7.30.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will be seen later on.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Why it should be extended for half an hour ? *(Interruptions)* It was fixed upto six o'clock.*(Interruptions)* should we not attend the reception programme organised for the hon. Deputy Speaker at 7.30 p.m. ? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA) : Sir, let the hon. Member finish his speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes. We would decide about this matter at 7.30 P.M. Let him complete now.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You can speak till 7.30 freely. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes. Shri Raghavan, please continue now.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to another important problem that we face in the State of Kerala. The very existence of the State is threatened. This is about the Coastal Management Notification. 500 meters from the shores have to be left out. No developmental activities and construction of dwellings are allowed within the 500 meters of the sea coast, river banks and backwater ponds. If this comes into effect, then people would have to go to the higher ranges and there also the people would have to confront with the environmentalists. So, this Coastal Management Notification should be re-considered as far as the State of Kerala is concerned. Otherwise, we cannot manage. I am bringing this vital point to the attention of the Central Government for their immediate consideration and for making suitable amendments in the Notification.

Sir, in the budget speech, there has been a proposal for setting up of local area banks. Through this, an attempt is being made to organise rural located banks in two or three districts. If such private or mutual banks start operating in Kerala, then the future of our nationalised banks and other well-established financial institutions would be threatened. So, I think, that this experiment should be done in some other limited areas only. Otherwise, in addition to the existing banks, if these local area banks start operating in the entire State of Kerala, then the future of the financial establishments in the State would be threatened. Already there are *Gramin* banks and they are in a very bad shape. The hon. Finance Minister knows about it. If the newly proposed local area bank starts operating in addition to the already existing *Gramin* banks, then that would put the entire banking system in a very bad shape. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to reconsider this aspect. If at all it is required, then it should be experimented only in certain selected regions and places.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to another point. Now the burden of Budget making is coming to a close. Now, you would be free to give some attention towards streamlining the Finance Department. I would not like to blame you. You had been very busy during the last one month - perhaps, the busiest man in the United Front Government. By tomorrow you would be free from this Budgeting process and then you must pay some attention towards streamlining the

functioning of the Finance Department. Recently, some responsible papers have published some very bad news, very hurting news about cheating by some export companies.

Every day, when we wake up and see the newspapers, we are ashamed to read about the scam or the corruption. Will the Finance Department do something to check it ? Has the Finance Department no responsibility to check it ? I think, the Finance Department is the most competent agency to check corruption and scam. Had they done that, such large scale corruption or the scam would not have been there in our country. What a shameful stage we have reached! We, Indians are ashamed before the world. Take for example the Security Scam. There is a Minister of State solely looking after the banking system in the country. The control of banking system and the finance system is the sole duty of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance. Was he sleeping ? Under the nose and naked eyes of the Minister, all these scams went on unchecked. We should better forget the past.

Similarly, you may take the example of Urea Scam. I would like to know, whether the authorities in the Finance Department or the banking sector were sleeping when all these scams were taking place. Had they been alert, the hard earned money of the toiling Indians, that is Rs. 330 crore, would not have lost. They have a responsibility. I do not want to prolong my speech. The Finance Minister knows its importance and urgency.

Please excuse me, when I say, we have a new Finance Minister. The political set up in the country has changed after 46 years. But I am pained to say that our bureaucracy has not changed. The nation has great expectations on the new Finance Minister. He is a youthful Minister, a driving force of the United Front Government. He has to set an example. He has to make a turn. The change that has taken place in the Central Government, in the entire political set up, has not been realised by his Department and officials. Throughout the discussion on Budget (General), I have been watching from here*... So, I earnestly appeal that the Enforcement Directorate, the institutional watchdog of the Finance Department, should be alert. Our great nation has to wash away these black spots of corruption and scams. Kindly do not shield the corrupt people, the VVIPs.

Do we have two different laws ? The tribal leaders who received money are in jail and those who have given money are free because they are VVIPs. They are arrested and questioned whereas if it is a VVIP, the official goes to the reception room and waits for the VVIP to come, to ask some questions. Shameful steps, I should say.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

As the hon. Chairman has repeatedly rang the bell, I must stop here with the hope and expectation that Shri P. Chidambaram will do something to set an example to others. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon. Chairman, Sir, so far all the speakers have delivered philosophical speeches. I am not supporting the Finance Bill because it has many shortcomings.

There is no mention of the will of the people of the country, employees of the State and Central Government. My first demand is that income tax range should be increased upto Rs. 60,000. It is very necessary. I am sorry to say that the members of the ruling party, while sitting on their opposition benches, used to fight for this cause, staged walkout and even they used to sit in the well of the House - though it is a dry well. Today the same party is in power. That is an opposition Government, our colleagues are there. As I have said earlier, it is a J.D. Government. 'J' means July and 'D' means December. Fresh election to Lok Sabha will be held on January 7. Notification will be issued in December and then they will sit on these benches. Therefore, so far as the hon. Finance Minister is concerned, he has always been in Congress so, it is for Janata Dal to think. They are their allies. They are like inspectors of kings. They will go back. They will never return to Janata Dal. Therefore, the Janata Dal which at present is supporting him will be ruined. Therefore it is a demand of employees of the Central Government, of civilised persons of the country, salaried people and it is a general demand of one and all that income tax range should be increased upto Rs. 60,000.

Secondly, I want to submit that if he does not do so which I know he will not do, the rate of income tax should be 10% from Rs. 40,001 to 60,000, from Rs. 60,001 to 1,20,000, 15% from Rs. 1,20,001 to 2,50,000, 20% from Rs. 2,50,001 to 5,00,000 25% and Rs. 5,00,001 and above 30%. It should not be more than 30% at any cost. I am not saying it. Birlaji is the Member of Rajya Sabha, he is a very experienced person, a great economist and accomplished person - he has also said it. The hon. Finance Minister will not agree with me but Chellaiya Committee has suggested to do it 30%. There is no question of doing it 40%. Therefore, the slab of income tax should be only this. If he does not agree with me, he will not extend it to 60,000, it will be as it is may be because I am saying so, my party is saying so, the common man and Government employees are saying so. Every employee is of the view that the Government has not provided anything. It is the worst Government. Therefore, considering it as an Opposition Government since the Members in the treasury benches

are our colleagues, once they used to sit with us in the opposition, I am saying for their well being that they should not be misguided by him and compell him to increase the income-tax range to Rs. 60,000 otherwise, elections are sure to be held in January and you are going to lose.

Secondly, why does the Government impose tax on dearness allowance of the Government employees? You are responsible for the price hike. If there is no price rise there is no need to impose tax. You are requested to follow the pattern of Shri Manmohan Singh. It was a bit better when Shri Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister. He had promised to bring down the price-hike within hundred days. Therefore, you should not tax the dearness allowance. What a strange situation it is! You are instrumental in price-hike, paying dearness allowance and taxing it too. Don't increase prices, provide things to people on cheaper rates; then you will not need to pay dearness allowance and impose tax on it. So far as the house rent is concerned.

[English]

House rent should be tax-free as it is only incentive to the employees.

[Translation]

I mean to say is that dearness allowance as well as house rent should not be taxed. These are my two basic demands which are the demands of the common populace.

Many hon. members have given philosophical speeches and I will also do the same. I have also learnt the art of speech. I shall say these things too but I want to say that income tax limit should be Rs. 60,000 and dearness allowance as well as house rent should be tax-free otherwise, the Government should bring down the price-hike.

So far as the standard deduction is concerned, it should also be increased. The current limit for male persons, is Rs. 18,000. Shri Manmohan Singhji used to say that he was providing incentive to women and perhaps, the Government is planning to introduce a Bill in the House to provide 33 per cent reservation for women. When women come next time, they will also say that 'you did nothing for us. I am suggesting if for your benefit to increase the limit of standard deduction for working women to Rs. 21,000.

The Government had imposed surcharge when the Gulf-War had started. Now, the Gulf-War is over but, the tax still exist. You have reduced this tax from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent. I request that there is no need for levying this surcharge since the Gulf-War is over.

I would also like to make one more submission about tax-slap. As I have just stated that it would be better if it is increased upto Rs. 60,000. If you do this, the tax collection will be more and the number of honest taxpayer citizens will also increase and you will receive applause of the employees otherwise you know that the employees can turn the tables on anyone. We tried to do some good works in Himachal Pradesh against the will of state employees and the result is that we are out of power in Himachal Pradesh. The state employees, if pleased, can enthrone any one otherwise they can keep anyone off the power. Therefore, I would like to say that you should think about the Government employees.

So far as imposing surcharge on companies is concerned, the hon. Finance Minister, just to win applause, has reduced it to some extent. The hon. Finance Minister delivered his speech on the pattern of Shri Manmohan Singh - reciting poems, couplets, as if some 'Mushayara' is being held in Lok Sabha. The hon. Finance Minister wanted to cast spell on people with the help of these mismerising arts as Shri Manmohan Singh used to do. You have stated on the basis of the facts that at some places you have reduced it from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent and at some other place to 10 per cent and in some instances from 30 per cent to 20 per cent but this jugglery of figures will not do. Therefore I request the total withdrawal of surcharge. I think that the rates of tax to be levied as companies, in my opinion, should be 15 per cent upto 1,00,000, 20 per cent from 1,00,01 to 1,50,000 and 30 per cent upto 5 lakh. If it is not possible to implement it on all the companies, I request that it should be applied on atleast small scale industries.

Now my submission is that the hon. Minister should consider the standard deduction for salaried class. He has said that standard deduction of Rs. 18,000/- would be given to those whose total income is upto Rs. 60,000/- but in case the total income exceeds Rs. 60,000/- standard deduction would be reduced to Rs. 15,000/-. It means that if the total income of any person is Rs. 60,000/- he would get the benefit of standard deduction of Rs. 15,000/- instead of Rs. 18,000/-. I would like to say that the hon'ble Finance Minister should give a clarification in this regard. The main loophole in this provision is that even if the income of a salaried person exceeds Rs. 60,000/- by Rs 1 he would not get benefit of additional standard deduction of Rs. 3,000/-. In such a situation, with the increase of Rs. 10/- in his salary, he will lose income tax exemption of Rs. 450/-.

Sir, in this situation, the Finance Minister should make a provision for marginal relief. Now dearness allowance is going to be increased and employees are asking about the time of presentation of the report of Fifth Pay Commission. In case dearness allowance is increased and the income of an employee exceeds even by Rs.

10/- he will be given standard deduction of Rs. 15,000/- only and not Rs. 18,000/-. Therefore, the amount of marginal relief should also be fixed. Similarly a clarification in connection with standard deduction for women employees should also be given because it will become very difficult after the pay commission's report is presented. Likewise, on the amount of loan given for building own house the limit of exemption from interest has been increased from Rs. 10,000/- to 15,000/-. I think you must be knowing it very well that how much loan an employee requires if he wants to build a house consisting of one or two rooms. An employee requires atleast Rs. 50 to 60 thousand if he wants to build only two rooms and if he builds a lawn, kitchen and bathroom he will require Rs. 2 to 3 lakh. Therefore, this exemption limit should be increased atleast upto Rs. 30,000/-. The exemption of Rs. 15,000/- is just like a drop in the ocean. My second point is that as regards the interest paid on the loan granted for building own house, a tax payer gets exemption from interest upto Rs. 10,000/- under the head "income from house". This exemption has been increased upto Rs. 15,000/- which will benefit a tax-payer having maximum income. Though, I welcome this relief yet it should be increased upto Rs. 30,000/-. In the same way, the hon'ble Finance Minister has just made a mention about depreciation under section 32. It is unfortunate that he has made some amendments in it but we have not been provided a copy of the amendments so far. We have promised the people outside that they would be given copies of the amendments but the same is still being prepared. We can also give some amendments in this regard tomorrow if we are given that copy today. It would have been better had the discussion held after that. Many learned persons like hon'ble Jaswant Singh and others who always speak here, can speak without any amendment but I cannot speak like them. Therefore, it would have been better had they provided a copy of amendments to me and I would have added my amendments. As regards exemption to sick the hon'ble Finance Minister has said that the period has been reduced from 8 years to 7 years... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (VIDISHA) : It was decided in the presence of the Hon'ble Speaker that the House will sit upto 7.30 p.m. and it is 7.30 P.M. now. I, therefore, request that House should be adjourned now.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now I have got a proposal from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the time of the House be extended.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not so. I have many points to raise. Therefore,

the time of the House should be extended by the consent of all and not as per the wish of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I have to attend the reception function of the hon'ble Deputy Speaker. We have to deal with the hon'ble Deputy-Speaker daily whereas the hon'ble Minister sits here occasionally. If we don't attend that function, it will leave bad impression.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time of the House may be extended by another one hour because there are many hon. Members who would like to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : We do not agree at all as I have to speak alone for one hour more.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Where shall we get this time ?

[Translation]

SHRI PRITIVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (KARAD) : The time allotted to your party is going to be over.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : The time allotted to our party is not over rather the time allotted to your party is going to be over.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, your party has been allotted one hour and fifty-four minutes and your Party's time has already been exhausted. Therefore, you cannot claim that you will speak for another one hour. Please complete your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not good. It was decided that the House will sit upto 7.30 P.M. and it is 7.30 P.M. now. Therefore, now I will speak tomorrow. You have not consulted Members to extend the time of the House. I, therefore, oppose the extension of time. Shri Jaswant Singhji had asked us to be present in the reception function at 7.35 P.M. Therefore, it is messary for us to be present there.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : What is wrong in extending the time.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You are also saying like this ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The consensus of the House is for the extension of the time of the House by another one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not agree.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : It need be, the time of the House may be extended by further one hour... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It was decided to extend the time of the House only upto 7.30 P.M.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are not debating on that point.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mr. Speaker had decided to extend the time of the House upto 7.30 P.M. instead of 8 P.M. Therefore, the time limit should be only upto 7.30 P.M.

[English]

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (TIRUCHENGODE) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we agree with the Chair... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, time will be available tomorrow and you will not be able to send it to the Rajya Sabha before four o'clock.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Time will not be available tomorrow.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Tomorrow, Members of Shiv Sena and others will speak. Still there are four or five members who have to speak. Immediately after zero-hour is over tomorrow, they will be allowed to speak between one to two p.m. and after that amendments would also be received. Then we have to speak on amendments also.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The amendments will be taken up tomorrow and not today.

Shri Bhargava, you please finish your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Tomorrow, you will again come out with another excuse.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Would you complete your speech?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, allow me to complete my speech tomorrow.

[English]

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Shri Bhargava, do you want to come and speak tomorrow also ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It has no meaning. This is not the ground for seeking majority.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, please continue your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is 7 30 P.M. Now. How can I continue my speech as per rule, time has exhausted. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to attend the reception function of the hon'ble Deputy Speaker also.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are free to go. Nobody prevents you from going.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we will go after the House is adjourned.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, would you continue your speech now ? Otherwise, I will call some other Member to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is injustice. We have to attend the reception function of the Deputy Speaker. If we do not go there how can we speak here half-heartedly ? Mr. Prithviraj, the hon'ble Finance Minister honour your words.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, would you complete your speech now ?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARAVA : I cannot conclude my speech. It was decided that the house will sit upto 7.30 P.M.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry. Now I call Shri K.P. Singh Deo to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is not good. Whatever you had to do, you could complete upto 7.30 p.m. but now no business will be transacted after 7.30 p.m.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, I requested you to continue your speech.

The time of the House has been extended by another one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we oppose the extension of the House after 7.30 p.m.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBRAM : You have given the ruling. He is holding the House to ransom. Why is he obstructing the Hosue ? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you understand how the House works. I sought your cooperation and it was also placed before the House that the time of the House be extended by one more hour.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : We will go there. You do like this daily. Would you run the House till 8 p.m. instead of 7.30 p.m. ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow me to complete. I am on my legs.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Please, let me complete my point... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. Let me address the other Members. You are not the only Member of this House.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : The hon. Member must realise that when the Chair is standing up, he should sit down. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVIA : Please, let me complete my point.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am standing. You must sit.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I must sit since I respect the Chair. When Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee was in the Chair and the hon. speaker arrived, the House was decided to be run until 7.30 p.m. (Interruptions) I will obey the Chair and sit. I just want to submit that it was decided that the House will sit until 7.30 p.m.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it the view of this House to extend the time by another one hour ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : If you want to extend the House you can but we fully oppose it... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Let it be till the completion of discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Therefore, it is the desire of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Have you extended the House for another one hour and the House will sit upto 8 P.M. ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Any way please sit down. If you want to complete, I can allow you some time.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the House sit till 8 P.M. ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : That does not mean you can speak till eight. You have got your limited time.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Why will the time be extended ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Girdhari Lal Bhargava, the BJP has been allotted one hour and 54 minutes and it has been exhausted.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will other parties abide by time limit allotted to them ? How long will the House sit ? Will it sit till 8 p.m. ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Therefore, we have to extend. It is because of that some more time is being given to you.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Two Members are holding the House to ransom. One Member is questioning the ruling of the Chair. One Member is constantly questioning the ruling of the Chair. Two Members are defying the Chair. If Mr. Bhargava wished to complete his speech, let him take a few more minutes and complete his speech. If he does not want to make his speech, another Member can speak. Please complete your speech. You cannot defy the Chair like that. You cannot demand like that. What is all this ?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will you extend the House for one hour or will it sit until 8 P.M. or 9 P.M. ?

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : The House has been extended by one hour. The Chair has already given the ruling.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Let me complete my point. I have to attend the programme organised for the hon. Deputy Speaker.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given the ruling. You understand the importance of the ruling. Like an hon. Member, I once again request you to resume the seat and if you want to complete your speech, I can allow you a few minutes time.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Ten minutes have been wasted

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : If you want that I should complete my speech, I am doing

so...(Interruptions) but why are you seem to be pressurised ? (Interruptions) Why are you interrupting ? It is between me and the hon. Chairman ...(Interruptions) It is your will that you are doing injustice to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please continue.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I mean to say that tax exemption limit on loan for building own house should be extended upto Rs. 30 thousand. The hon. Minister has stated about depreciation that it has been amended so that it could be carried forward for 8 years since 1997-98 but this law was not in vogue before this year. So, the accumulated depreciation remained as it is on which financial decision was taken, after that it will finish. The depreciation accumulated before this year should also be allowed for another 8 years while you have done it for 7 year. Therefore, I request that it should be on the previous pattern. I have the same submission regarding M.A.T. Just as power companies and infrastructure companies have been exempted from this new tax, likewise the small scale Industries of 16 states, treated as backward states, mentioned by the hon. Minister, should also be exempted from this tax. Shri Manmohan Singh had stated earlier that this exemption will fully apply for 5 years in backward areas. The hon. Minister has also agreed to it and has stated that it will continue in those states. I would like to thank him for this. There was such no provision in main Bill of income-tax.

I would like to state about wealth tax that you should consider on the proposed Amendment of Article 2(E) under which the commercial estates have been brought under the purview of tax. Under this provision, if someone builds 50 houses and sells out 40 houses out of them and if 10 houses remain unsold as on 31st March then tax will be imposed on the unsold 10 houses too. It is injustice because may be that they are sold on April 1st. Likewise, you have stated about the marble that a Committee for this purpose would be set up in Rajasthan. The excise duty on this, has been increased from 20 per cent to 30 per cent. Shri Manmohan Singhji had fixed it 20 per cent. It is not manufacturing work instead, it is a processing work. No excise duty is imposed on making tiles by cutting granite. Therefore, marble and slab should also be made tax-free. This has been demanded by the employees engaged in this work. I have got a representation from them. The marble-mines are mostly located in tribal and rural areas and 15 lakh illiterate people are engaged in them. I want that keeping in view the employment and upliftment of tribal and rural people, excise duty should not be imposed on these items. By imposing excise duty on these items, the Central Government will not be able to collect more than Rs ten crore revenue. After stating one or two points, I shall conclude. I do not want to make my speech philosophical by extending it.

Mention has been made about chalking out of new tax policy on long term capital benefits. The important condition in this is that tax payers would not be able to take any loan on these new investments and they also will not be able sell out these new investments upto three or seven years otherwise, they will have to pay income-tax on total capital benefit. You are requested to consider this. You have stated about Life Insurance Corporation that the pension received by the LIC contributors will not be considered taxable while if some one withdraws lumpsum amount of pension, it will be considered taxable. Likewise, you have stated to provide facilities to the people in medical field. About senior citizen, I would like to state that a person should be considered senior citizen of the age of 60 yrs. instead of 65 yrs. you would also be 55-60 year old. A person 60 year's of age is considered old. Therefore, the age fixed for it as 60 years, is not proper.

In this respect I would like to say that percentage of income tax should be reduced from 20% to 15% for the purpose of tax deduction at source, equity linked shares, M.E.P.—91 and MEP—92 and NSC and bonds purchased by senior citizens. It is better to deduct 15% income tax in place of 20% because in old age people invest their money in these schemes. In the same way clause 23 provides exemption to sick persons on the basis of medical ground if a person has not got medical insurance facility. You have given a rebate of Rs. 6000 to 10,000 in case the amount of money provided by medical insurance is less but I would like to say that the ceiling of this rebate should be increased from Rs. 10,000 if a person has got C.G.H.S facility or gets private treatment.

Sir, I would also like to raise an important point regarding the sudden increase in the prices of petrol and diesel whereas it was not necessary as the Government of India has a consolidated fund for it. You have not mentioned about this and the defence budget in the union budget. Newsprint should also be made tax-free so that people could get it easily. State Governments have tried to do so by providing free books to children upto primary level and in some states upto 8th Standard. The State Governments would be able to provide books and notebooks to children easily and people could get newspapers at cheaper rates if excise duty is reduced on it. In the end I would like to emphasize upon setting up of new branches of National Rural Banks in the country. The recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission should be implemented in rural banks and no rural bank should be allowed under private sector. I would like to make another point and it is a demand from Rajasthan that tax on edible oils and Soyabean should be reduced from 30% to 20%. Groundnut should be exempted from tax in Gujarat. Members have raised these points earlier also I would like to reiterate that the income tax limit of government employees should be increased upto

Rs. 60,000 as it is also in the interest of the Government. You should also promote the habit of self saving even if this ceiling is not increased. Government employees will be annoyed if this ceiling is not raised upto Rs. 60,000 and I can assure you that this Government would not come to power if it is not done and continues to listen the pleas given by the Finance Minister. The Government deduct income tax on D.A. and House Rent allowance which is not proper. Income tax on D.A. and H.R.A. should be withdrawn if inflation is not curbed. This demand has been raised in public interest. You have given rebate for games including cricket and football but these rebates are of no use if government employees are not given relief. I would like to say that you can extend the time of the House by 10 P.M. or more but it is injustice. We are not given sufficient time to express our views. Sometimes petty issues are discussed for a long time in this House and this is Finance Bill which is very important. The time of the House has been extended on the basis of majority. I would like to say that the interests of the government employees should be protected. Rebate given on spoons, tie and football is of not much use. Sir, We have also to attend the reception programme of hon. Deputy Speaker. In spite of our requests the time of the House has been extended and proceedings were not concluded at 7.30 P.M. Therefore we both are staging a walk-out against your this decision.

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At this Stage Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava and Shri Shivraj Singh left the House.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL) : Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Sir, happily we are coming to the end of the Budget discussion by our passing the Finance Bill. The Budget has been discussed in its general terms. The Demands for Grants - which in the wisdom of the House - have been passed without discussion. The Demands for Grants of 35 Ministries were voted and now remains the *fait accompli* of passing the Finance Bill. The Budget serves as an instrument of democratic control over the Executive. It is one of the most significant statements of policy of the Government and also has an impact on the economy.

In normal times, it is not an easy task and the hon. Finance Minister by his deftness has undertaken a mighty and an uphill task, against the competing demands of various Ministries. He has also found relief for many fields also which have been justified. I would like to congratulate him.

Since he was the co-author of the economic liberalisation for the last five years, he has taken

advantage of the good work done by him and his predecessors in the last five years and has given us a very fine Budget. But, Sir, there are certain aspects on which I would like to comment taking advantage of the discussion on the Finance Bill. There are apprehensions in our minds. One question is relating to national security. What is the national security in its simplest terms? It is, to have adequate protection of our national integrity, sovereignty and also the internal security of our country so that the citizens may live and survive safely and peacefully. If one goes by the paper reports or if one goes by the Reports of the Standing Committee on Defence, one comes to the conclusion that probably the resources allocated for national security are inadequate. That is what the Defence panel has said. It is a representative body of both the House of Parliament and is having 45 Members.

The Chief of Army staff has gone on record in saying that 13,000 officers at the junior level-Lieutenants and Captains - are short. They are the ones who won us the battles of 1965 and 1971. There is no shortage of Generals, Brigadiers or Colonels, but there is a shortage of Lieutenants and Captains.

The Naval Chief, only two days back, has mentioned the grim future of the Navy, the grim situation prevalent in the Navy. From a blue water Navy, today we are going to become a brown water Navy. One aircraft carrier is out of commission and another will be out of commission in the next three to four months. So, the Indian Navy, which had done yeoman service during the 1971 operations, would have the same capabilities as that of the Coast Guard which is not even able to protect our maritime fisheries or polymetallic modules in our National Maritime Zone.

The Air Force which is supposed to be a lean, mean fighting machine has definitely become lean, but it is neither mean nor is it a fighting machine. Only yesterday's newspapers carried a report of 85 air crashes in the Air Force alone, leaving civil aviation accidents. An amount of Rs. 465 crore has gone down the drain whether it is due to bird hits or due to bird hazards in these operational fields where slaughter houses have come up which are licensed by the Government.

The Bombay Natural History Society had carried out a study in 1984 and made recommendations. That has not seen the light of the day. The recommendations of Air Marshall La Fontaine Committee also has not seen the light of the day. Today, the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis has given a very grim picture. It is funded by the Government of India; it is not a foreign body. So, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force are suffering from shortages.

Then, we have a large number of ex-Servicemen. Every year 70,000 people are released. Today, the young people are not joining the Armed Forces and the ex-Servicemen are neither the baby of the Central Government nor the State Government or the Ministry of Defence or the Armed Forces after they are released. They have given the best part of their life to these forces.

In fact, they have given their today for our tomorrow. We talk about national security and of looking after the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty at a time when both our friendly neighbours China and Pakistan have acquired a lot of weapons in the last decade. Today Pakistan has near parity with us as far as her manpower is concerned and as far as her equipment is concerned, we are unable to replace, modernise and refit because there is no money. There is no money even to repair the barracks which have been damaged. We have 1937 vintage aircrafts with us which are the Second World War type aircrafts.

Therefore, this is a very dismal picture and many serving officers as well as retired Chiefs and senior officers have voiced their concern. I know that the hon. Minister of Finance cannot do anything at the moment, because the die is cast. The Finance Bill has to be passed tomorrow. But knowing his genius for finding solutions, I am sure that at least in the next Budget he would find adequate measures for making the Armed Forces effective and deterrent. We also do not know whether our deterrence has been taken seriously by our friendly neighbours. They know as to exactly what we have, what is our capability, what are our shortages and what are our weaknesses.

Sir, today we are apathetic during peace time and we get into knee-jerk and panic situation during war time. We do not have a coordinated, multi-disciplined institutional arrangement even 50 years after our independence. We are on the eve of the 50th year of our independence and I hope the hon. Minister of Finance, who is also the co-author of the Common Minimum Programme, would use his persuasive skill even in the Cabinet and ensure that there is a continuous high level multi-disciplinary, multi-organisational arrangement which deals with the national security. There is a very thin dividing line between national security and external affairs. War begins when diplomacy ends. It is good that we are preoccupied with C.T.B.T., disarmament and all that. But that should not push national security to the background as it has happened this time.

Sir, I have two more points and I would like to quote Netaji Subash Chandra Bose before I conclude. Now, I come to the question of national prids. Sports have been or is still being used as a vehicle for national pride, national unity and national health whether it is a

capitalist country or a communist country or a socialist country. The other day, the Minister of Human Resource Development announced a National Sports Policy as a result of the discussions during the Question Hour by Shri Ram Naik and others about the dismal performance of the Indian Olympic Contingent at Atlanta. In the end the main thing which is lacking is infrastructure and the liquidity of sports federations, because the Government of India has thrown the responsibility on the sports federations.

As my friend Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi was saying, today a sportsman of excellence is a commodity in the international sphere, whether it is Olympics or the Commonwealth Games or the Asian Games and a commodity is sponsored. Their equipments, health, management etc. are sponsored. The management also includes sports science. The days have gone when we produced a Dhyan Chand or a Milkha Singh or a P.T. Usha. Today, they are laboratory products and they are commodities. Their equipment and infrastructure are very important. The infrastructure is developed by the Government, but the equipments have to be brought by the sports federations.

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Everyone does not have gate receipts, It is not the US Championship or the Wimbeldon. The gate money is not available to everyone. Therefore, the Government must think of somehow reducing the burden of the sports federations to get world class equipment so that our sports person can, at least, have the same facilities before going for competition. Although a lot of streamlining has taken place but the lamenting fact is that in the forthcoming Ninth Plan it is being drastically cut down. I think, the Finance Minister knows it very well because he had a discussion with his counterpart in the Ministry of Human Resource Development only about two weeks back. The national sports talent schools and such training camps organised by the Sports Authority of India are going to be shut down after next year. Whether it is hockey or archery, youngsters from the tribal areas of North-East, Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh participate in these training camps. The SPDA is about to be shut down.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Did you say, 'Ninth Plan'? But even the approach paper is not yet ready.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Probably, it is with the Minister for Planning, Dr. Alagh. But it is being drastically pruned down. The operation which started in 1985 during Rajiv Gandhi's time is coming to a standstill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, for the record I want to say, even the approach paper is not yet ready. So, when the Ninth Plan document is prepared, we will have

an opportunity to give our inputs there. But at the moment even the approach paper to the Ninth Plan is not prepared.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : I feel greatly relieved and assured.

Sir, I will come to my last point. I come from an area which is beset by droughts, floods and cyclones. Of course, we have the Calamity Relief Fund and we have various doles which the Central Government gives as long term loans and ways and means position but what is necessary is a permanent solution for which many States who have abundant natural resources, water resources forest resources and mineral resources have been knocking at the doors of the Central Government. But the formulae of the Planning Commission Gadgil formula, Mukherjee formula, Bhardwaj formula, modified Gadgil formula and the Tenth Finance Commission have only accentuated the problems of the States. Therefore, most of the areas are rainfed. The Ministry of Agriculture has been stressing on this. But we do not see any tangible steps being taken to increase the rainfed areas or the pulses in those areas. Therefore, experiments have been carried out in the ICAR laboratories where rainfed areas yield can be improved 18 to 19 times. It has happened even in my State and even in my own constituency in 1994. It is known as a pilot project on Dhankanal. If it can be replicated today instead of our 191.8 million tonnes of foodgrains coming down to 190 million tonnes as is being indicated in the updated Economic Survey, we could easily achieve about 300 million tonnes of foodgrains. In which case it will ease the hon. Finance Minister's serious concern over the agricultural productivity having gone down which he lamented in his Speech. I would end my speech by a quotation from the biography of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose :

"Political freedom was indivisible and meant complete independence of foreign control and tutelage. The war had shown that a nation that did not possess military strength could not hope to preserve its independence."

"In 1916, I met a demobilised officer of the Bengal Ambulance Corps who had been present in the siege of Kut-el-Aamara and thereafter was a prisoner of war in Turkey.

I was greatly excited by his tales of adventure and wanted to join the Army."

Today, no youngster is joining the Army.

Very soon he joined the Calcutta University Unit of the Territorial Army. When he got into the military uniform and began drilling with a rifle on his shoulder, he felt a sense of exhilaration. Perhaps, this exhilaration showed

his own "swadharma", sphere of work allotted to him by providence. He describes his sense of pleasure when he first donned the military uniform in the following words :

"Not only was there no sign of mal-adaptation to my new environment but I found a positive pleasure in it. The training gave me something which I needed or lacked. The feeling of strength and of self-confidence grew still further."

"What a change it was from sitting at the feet of anchorites to obtain knowledge of God to standing with a rifle on my shoulders."

Today, the Indian Armed Forces are facing not only a resource crunch but also a manpower crunch. There have been three voluminous reports. One was the Report of the high-level Committee on Ex-Servicemen which wanted to give a second employment to ex-Servicemen who are retiring or released at the age of 35 because that would save you a pension bill.

Second was the Report for setting up of a Finance Development Corporation for ex-servicemen. It requires only Rs. 170 crore, out of which, Rs. 85 crore was to be met by the Central Government over five years, which comes to Rs. 17 crores a year, and another Rs. 85 crores to be met by 29 States of the Indian Union over five years, which comes to Rs. 3 crore-Rs. 60 lakh a year. From 1984 till date, it has not seen the light of the day. Your distinguished predecessor had established many Finance Development Corporations in respect of Small-Scale Industries, Minorities, Women and so many others. But the poor ex-Servicemen, who were about 40 lakhs, have to run from pillar to post and yet they find no solution.

Then, there is a report on manpower planning prepared in 1985-it has not seen the light of the day-in which rationalisation of manpower and civilianisation of the static formations were talked about. We have the field formations, the formations in the field, and the static formations which support the Armed Forces. A uniformed person costs that much more than a civilian. Therefore, one can have an economy if the civilianisation of the static formations takes place.

The third is the TA-isation of the Armed Forces, that is, Army, Navy and the Air Force. A Review Report had been presented to His Excellency the President of India on 6th of August this year. Unfortunately, I happened to chair that meeting because it was set up by the hon. President of India in 1995. Substantial saving should be done because the Territorial Army is a part-time concept, who go only for two months in a year. All the Commonwealth countries, even the United States, Soviet

Union and Germany, also have a component of the territorial forces. Even a bulk of the Israeli defence forces is territorial and the rest of them are small standing Armed Forces. If this Report is expeditiously processed, then I think we can make substantial reduction in the expenses and there will be more funds available for modernisation, for equipping and for even reinducting. But at the same time, the bigger aspect will be the national security and defence will not only be the eleven lakhs of Armed Forces personnel, but that the citizens, the people themselves, will be involved in the Armed Forces. The Report also says that a five-year obligatory service, which already exists in the Army Act as well as in the Territorial Army Act, should be there for all employees of the public sector under-takings and the Government servants to serve in the Indian Armed Forces during the tenure of their service.

There was another Cadre Review Report which would want the Colour Service. The Colour Service was increased from seven years to 17 years after the 1965 war, which after the 1965 war, which has given rise to about 70,000 people, whom neither the Central Government nor the State Governments can rehabilitate or resettle and the Government has to keep on giving them pension and bonus to these ex-Servicemen because after the fifteenth year the ex-Servicemen are eligible for pension.

If you give colour service to seven years, then they are released at the age of 25, and then rehabilitation, resettlement and re-employment in any governmental organisation or public sector undertaking becomes that much easier. You save one pension. You only give gratuity and you still have a lean mean fighting machine and everybody is involved in that.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The Finance Bill has several distinguishing and commendable features. I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for these distinguishing features. However, in view of the constraint of time, I may restrict myself only to some of the grey areas which require a closer look. That does not, however, mean in any way that I do not appreciate the overall direction in which the Finance Bill wants to take the country forward.

Our hon. Finance Minister has said in his Budget speech that :—

"The Common Minimum Programme has declared that the Government will follow economic policies that will promote growth with social justice and lead to greater self-reliance. We have no use for jobless growth nor for growth that leaves untouched large sections of the people."

This is a very laudable pronouncement. Indeed, we must all go in that direction. There are, however, certain grey areas here which show that this laudable pronouncement is not fully borne out.

I may refer only to a few of them. Take the question of growth and employment. Indeed, growth and employment depends upon investment. But look at the Central Plan outlay. The Central Plan outlay has increased by hardly 10 per cent. In 1995-96, the Budget estimate was Rs. 78,849 crore. In 1996-97, the estimate has gone up only to Rs. 87,086 crore. There is a hardly 10 per cent increase while the expected rate of growth in the gross domestic produce is supposed to be 15 per cent. I am, therefore, afraid that the tall claims of growth and employment may not be borne out by this hardly 10 per cent increase in the Central Plan.

2014 hrs.

(**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE** in the Chair)

Let us from the Central Plan allocation study the composition of expenditure. This composition reveals serious shortcomings in the proclaimed effort for employment generation and social justice. We swear by agriculture and say we stand by the kisan or the farmer. We swear and say we are committed to rural development and generation of more and more employment.

But, Madam, it is shocking to find that the outlay on agriculture for 1996-97 is less than the previous year 1995-96. In the year 1995-96, the budget estimate placed the allocation at Rs. 3022 crore and it has gone down this year to Rs. 2831 crore. We swear by urban development, poverty alleviation, generation of employment and so on and so forth. But here we find that the allocation regarding Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has gone down by more than 50 per cent. In 1995-96, the budget estimate was Rs. 3862 crore and in 1996-97 there is a reduction by 50 per cent in respect of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, that is, Rs. 1865 crore. The entire allocation for total rural employment has a drastic cut. The 1995-96 budget estimate was Rs. 5432 crore and in 1996-97 the budget estimate has gone down to Rs. 3835 crore. This is a very unhappy situation when we look at the sectoral allocations and all that. The total allocation for rural employment, for the entire Department of Rural areas and Employment has remained almost the same or unaltered despite our tall claims to stand by the former. The rural development, the poverty alleviation programmes and all that. The 1995-96 budget estimate was Rs. 6437 crore. In the year 1996-97, the estimate remains the same at Rs. 6437 crore. I may further point out that the funds for even the Rural Electrification Corporation have seen a reduction of Rs. 17 crore while there ought to have been an enhancement in this same. In 1995-96, it was

Rs. 615 crore. In 1996-97, the allocation has gone down to Rs. 598 crore and there is a reduction in the matter of Rural Electrification Corporation by Rs. 17 crore whereas there ought to have been a substantial increase in the allocation over here.

Take even the question of total Rural Water Supply and Sanitation. I am taking a very simple sector of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation. We find that the allocation remains the same at Rs. 1170 crore for the year 1996-97 as it was for the year 1995-96. Similarly, the Central plan outlay for small-scale industries about which we talk a lot, and agro and rural industries also remains the same as compared to the last year, namely, at Rs. 607 crore. Such is the situation.

We talk about the Common Minimum Programme in high terms in these matters. But then I am afraid there are serious shortfalls in the sectoral allocations. I was talking about agriculture, rural development, poverty alleviation programme and the kisan. A shocking situation is also there with respect to the treatment for the fishermen.

There is an unfortunate enhancement of duty on fishing implements. The revised pattern of duty is rather severe. I may elaborate by saying that the tax structure on Out Board Motors has been drastically revised and in the place of existing basic duty of 15 per cent, we now have a basic duty of ten per cent plus a special duty of two per cent plus countervailing duty of 11.2 per cent totalling 23.2 per cent. So from 15 per cent, the increase in duty for Out Board Motors is 23.2 per cent. The average Fisherman has to pay all this. The entire House knows about it. And the Finance Minister also is in the full knowledge of the fact that our fishermen are economically the weakest sections of our population. But then there is also a substantial hike in the rates applicable to spare parts for the Out Board Motors. Cooperative sector has also not been spared. The existing basic duty is 15 per cent. Instead, we now have a basic duty of 20 per cent plus a special duty of two per cent, plus a countervailing duty of 24.48 per cent equalled to a high figure of duty of 46.48 per cent on poor fishermen. That is the rise from 15 per cent to 46.48 per cent on the spare parts, on fishing implements.

Now this is an extremely painful situation for the fishermen in my State Kerala and also in the coastal areas all over. I know their conditions. Everybody here knows the conditions of all of them. There will be a heavy financial burden on the poor fishermen. According to an estimate, the additional financial burden on an average fishermen will be round about Rs. 6000 to Rs. 8000 per Out Board Motors (OBM). Yes, of Course, you may say that there is a countervailing duty. But what is the nature of countervailing duty. Countervailing duty here

in this particular case is unjustified. The object of a countervailing duty is to provide Indian industry with incentives and to promote indigenous industries. But I am talking about kerosene operated Out Board Motors which are used. They are not manufactured here. They have to be imported. There is no way out. So, where is the question of countervailing duty? It is simply, perhaps inadvertently, with all due respect to the Finance Bill, that such a heavy burden has come up on our fishermen while we swear by them. And I hope the Finance Minister will respond sympathetically to this question.

We come to the taxation proposal. I must emphasise that there is a need for the threshold limit of exemption to be increased from Rs. 48,000 to at least Rs. 60,000. I have heard the hon. Finance Minister with rapt attention and indeed we have noted that while the threshold limit of exemption remains unchanged in the present Finance Bill at Rs. 48,000, in the slab from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 60,000 the rate has been reduced from 20 per cent to 15 per cent. But you will realise that this is a very paltry relief. As compared to the growth in the inflation rate, it makes not even a moderate adjustment.

Now, saying that certain people will go out of the tax net and then later on it will be difficult to bring in the tax net. I am sorry, it is a poor and lame excuse. We should not make people suffer for the inefficient working of our Taxation Department. When the people are justified in asking for the threshold limit of exemption to be raised at least to Rs. 60,000 that should be granted and we should not think that our Taxation Department later on will not be able to bring into the taxation net those who may go out because of the increase in threshold limit today. Such types of arguments, I am sorry, are very poor type of an argument.

Now, take the question of salaried employees. I am thankful that the hon. Finance minister has come forward with certain concessions. But then it is to be raised upto Rs. 18,000 from Rs. 15,000—standard deduction. But again two severe conditions have been laid down. I am sorry to say that the Finance Minister gives-permit me—very reluctantly and this unjustified reluctance is the distinguishing feature here. I said, two conditions are there. Earlier, we never heard the condition as for as the standard deductions were concerned from salary, with respect to the maximum income. There was a standard deduction of 33-1/3 per cent or Rs. 15,000, whichever is less, whatever may be the income of the salary earner, whatever may be the salary of the employee. But here, while giving certain concessions, a limit is imposed that concession will be available to those whose income does not exceed Rs. 60,000. Now, even if you take Rs. 60,000 and you give the 33-1/3 per cent as a standard deduction, then simple arithmetic shows that the standard deduction should be Rs. 20,000 and not Rs. 18,000. But again the

second element of reluctance is that Rs. 2,000 again is simply taken up and pocketed by the Finance Minister, of course, I mean the exchequer. Why such reluctance?

There is a ceiling of Rs. 60,000 for salaried earner. They are the most honest payers of tax compared to the sharks that we have and who in the higher rate of taxation have all sorts of excuses and remain in arrears. Go after them rather than the salaried people, the honest payers of tax. Go after those sharks; do something about the black money and the the parallel economy.

Not even a single word is spoken in the whole of the Finance Bill or the Budget about the black money phenomenon here. And, how do you propose to deal with it ? Not even a single word has been spoken in the whole of the Budget or the Finance Bill about the efforts that will be made in order to collect arrears from these sharks, the taxation arrears that are there. And, I know-I have worked in several financial committees of this House-that these arrears run into cores and crore and thousands of crores of rupees but not a word in the Budget about the effort that will be put in in order to mop up this ! But certain conditions are put upon the standard deduction in salaries also which is rather unfortunate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since you have made many valuable points...

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Madam I will run along. I will cooperate with you and finish though I have not yet, I think, even started.

Now, let us take the question of senior citizens. The rebate is allowed at the age of 65. Why should it be 65? The age of retirement is 58. We should be true. We should keep it at 58. At 58, a person retires and should become a senior citizen, but to qualify to be a senior citizen for this purpose, retirement is not sufficient. For our Finance Minister, the person has to wait from the age of 58 to the age of 65, for seven more years. Such reluctance in the case of these small matters is rather unfortunate.

Then, I come to the question of setting off of losses. The losses arising from a business can be set off next year only against a business profit. Why is there this condition ? It could be set off against any taxable profit, any taxable income, whether it is income from private property or income from salary or anything because it is the total income of a person, after all, which is being taxed. There should therefore, be no objection for setting off of a loss from business to be carried forward but for setting it off not only against a business income but also any other taxable income. This condition must go.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : What clause are you referring to ?

SHRI G.M. BANATAWALLA : I am referring to Clause 10 (c) of the Finance Bill.

Secondly, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not secondly, but ninthly. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Then there are my amendments also, to which I will come later on.

Similarly, for the purpose of a set off to be carried forward, the business that gives a loss has also to be continued next year. What is this ? If my business gives a me a loss, why am I being compelled to continue with the loss-making business ? The loss that I have suffered is carried forward and in the following year it may be set off against any taxable income and then you may tax my whole income ; that healthy concept should be there.

There is also an element of artificial taxation. let us say, there is a reorganisation of a business from either a proprietorship or a partnership firm to a limited company. If there is, in the meanwhile, an appreciation in an asset, then capital gain is taxed ...*(Interruptions)* I understand that very much, you need not wind your clock so much. I will conclude ...*(Interruptions)* There has been no sale of any asset. So, there has been no realisation of any capital gain. Only a business reorganisation for better efficiency takes place and yet we are asked to pay capital gains tax and stamp duty. Such incentives are there for reorganisation of business for the purpose of more efficiency.

In the case of MAT, I want to impress that as far as the small scale industry is concerned, especially those concerned with exports should be exempted from MAT. I will deal with it in detail later on, when I come to my amendment. When we talk of small scale industry we say that the small scale industry is the backbone of our economy. It is a statement accepted even by the hon. Minister of Finance in his Budget speech. Therefore, the small scale industry, manufacturing and exporting its own product needs to be helped.

I may run on make only a few sentences and conclude.

My next point is about the Minorities Financial Development Corporation. What has happened to it. Nothing is know about it. Has it been given its promised dues ? When will it start functioning ? What is this lip sympathy and no action as far as the minorities are concerned ?

Then there is the question of shortage of small denominations of currency, *i.e.* one rupee, two rupee and five rupee notes. I know that notes are to be discontinued and coins are to come. Even they are not available and whatever notes are available, they are soiled. Let them take care of it.

Our Income Tax Department also sometimes works very erratically. Income Tax notices have been served in Mumbai upon lawyers who are defending the TADA accused. They are asked to explain how much each of the TADA accused has paid them as fees and from where has he got that money to pay them. They are asking so much of information. Now, what is this discriminatory attitude and harassment? On the one hand, though TADA has elapsed, yet the cases have not been withdrawn. We seem to follow England. In England they say, King is dead; long live the King. Here, in India we say, TADA is dead; long live TADA. In spite of the lapse of TADA, cases continue. And the lawyers who are defending the TADA accused are being harassed in a discriminatory manner. They are also like other lawyers who are supposed to submit their income tax returns. They should be dealt with according to the established procedures and not harassed discriminately. It is not in the interest of our judicial system.

I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister of Finance that this reduction of import tariff on copralactum from 45 per cent to 30 per cent will totally destroy whatever industry that we have in Kerala. The FACT is there. It will almost have to be wound up. This has to be taken care of. There is no reason why our industry should be penalised and destroyed. There is no question of inefficiency there. In 1991, the project was commissioned and it will take some time for them to come up and be in a position to face competition from abroad.

Finally, I would like to speak about my constituency. In Ponnani there is a need to establish an office or a branch unit of Life Insurance Corporation. It is a place bustling with business activity. The proposal was there to open a branch. But it has not been opened. Something happened there to open a branch. But it has not been opened. Something happened somewhere. We do not know what happened. The proposal has been dropped. I appeal for the opening of a branch unit of LIC in Ponnani taluka in the Mallapuram District of Kerala.

I am soory if I had been harsh with respect to a few aspects of the Finance Bill. Overall the Bill has a good impact and we wish well to the Minister of Finance in the regeneration of our economy. With these words, Sir, I conclude.

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SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (TEZPUR) : Madam, Chairperson, I must compliment the Minister of Finance for having presented a fairly balanced and reasonable Budget and the Finance Bill in spite of the very short time that he had at his disposal. There are a number of features that deserve commendation, but it has to be understood that this Budget is only for half a year.

Therefore, we could not have expected very many basic fundamental changes of policy.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please excuse me just for a minute. The House was extended for one hour, that is up to 8.30 P.M. So, we shall have to extend the time. If you all agree we may extend the time till it is finished. *...(Interruptions)* The permission of the House had to be taken.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Again, I take the opportunity to thank the Finance Minister for having conceded to our request to have a re-look at the MAT in relation to the North-Eastern States and other backward regions of the country. As it was earlier presented in the Finance Bill, it would have taken away the benefits that are supposed to accrue to the States in terms of new investments in new industries. But in his speech, while moving the Bill, he was kind enough to agree that the MAT will not be applicable to Section 80 (I) (A), in relation to investment in new industries in the backward States, especially of the North-Eastern region.

In the Finance Bill, the Finance Minister was generous enough to exempt the income earned by the NEDFIC, the North-Eastern Development Finance Corporation set up at Guwahati, a year ago. But this is an institution which is of the nature of venture capital fund and it has been set up to catalyse development of industrial and other enterprises in the backward North-Eastern States of the country. We have seen over the years that IDBI has been operating in Assam at Guwahati, but they have done precious little to promote development of industries in the State. Their norms in evaluating loans or applications have been very very rigorous, much more rigorous in Assam than in other States. That is why, very little has been done by way of loans and investments by SIDBI and also by IDBI in that area. Even this new Corporation which has been functioning for about a year now has done precious little; and there is an apprehension that this also will go the same way as IDBI and SIDBI which have been operating in that area for years.

Therefore, what I would urge is that the exemption of income of this Corporation should be applied only in

relation to the income accruing from loans, advances and other investments made in the new industrial undertakings coming up in that area and not by way of other incomes; they are going to invest in other income earning assets and then enjoy exemption just because they happen to have an office located at Guwahati. I have an apprehension that this is what they are going to do. They will put up money by way of equity capital etc. in companies outside the region and earn more and more money; invest it elsewhere in financial instruments or in other investments and earn more money and take the benefit of exemptions, but do nothing for the development of the area.

Therefore, if there is any exemption granted, it should be strictly applicable to the income arising from investments in new industries, new undertakings set up in the State.

Then again talking about MAT, a question is being raised, whether it should be applicable to export profits. Now, we have the Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act which exempts income from exports. This is a provision which is being widely misused over the years, since it was introduced a few years ago. We have seen that in many cases, this is being used as a means of laundering black money into white money.

In the export production, the expenditure that is incurred in purchase of raw materials or payment of wages, etc., is incurred from number two money, thereby increasing the profit margin. When it is exported, it comes back with tax-free export earnings. Therefore, we see advertisements in the newspapers in Mumbai and other business magazines inviting offers for export profits to be sold. If you have export profit of Rs. 1 crore, you can sell it perhaps for Rs. 10 lakh or Rs. 20 lakh because a profit-making company will take that export turnover and take advantage of the profit to get the exemption from tax. And from their unaccounted sources, they are prepared to pay a certain amount in return for the export firm parting with the export credit to this company. So, this kind of misuse has been going on. I believe that it is a step in the right direction that the MAT should be made applicable even to the profits of export companies. Presently, it is being applied to corporate bodies only. Let it remain with them for the time being and see how it works out. Later on, if we see that the results are satisfactory, then, we may perhaps extend it to non-corporate bodies like partnership firms and association of persons, etc.

Now, because there is only a short time at my disposal, I would like to dwell on some of the administrative aspects of taxation. As per the Annual Report of the Department of Revenue, we find that at the beginning of 1994-95, the total tax outstandings

amounted to Rs. 22,699 crore. In 1995-96, this has gone up to Rs. 28,987 crore. This increase is quite high. In business, normally, we say that the sundry debtors should be sales of about two months. If we take tax collection roughly at about Rs. 2,500 per month, then this amounts to something like ten months' or twelve months' collection. This is much too high. Therefore, measures have to be evolved to see that the outstandings are cut down. This is one way of garnering resources for our development. We cannot allow the big taxpayers to sit over the money belonging to the people and the exchequer and using it in their business to make more and more profits.

Another thing I have noticed is that on page 64, it gives certain statistics relating to results of surveys and raids that are being conducted. There we find that in the four years ending 1995-96, the total number of new assesses added comes close to 50 lakh. When we have a total of only about twelve lakh assesses, and in four years, 50 lakh have been added, then before that, in 1991-92, there would have been only 60 lakh or 70 lakh if ten lakh have gone out of the taxation net. It appears that these figures are inflated. They need to be looked into and scrutinised to see whether they are really correct.

Then again, we find that as it has been mentioned already, the menace of black money is enveloping the country and the economy more and more and not much is being done about it. But I feel that by way of counter measures, we are not doing enough. If you see the statistics on prosecutions, you will find that in 1993-94, 941 prosecutions were launched. In 1994-95, the figure was 792. But in 1995-96, suddenly it has come down to only 288 prosecutions.

So, this is something that has to be given a lot of importance. From my experience in the Income Tax Department and Inland Revenue Department in UK, I have seen that in that country all returns are accepted without any question and then a certain percentage of returns are selected by a separate department, the Investigation Department and they subject these cases to a thorough, rigorous and detailed investigation. When required, they will associate the Scotland Yard to assist the Investigation Department to track down the tax evaders. When there is evidence that someone has evaded or concealed tax, he is prosecuted and imprisoned. There is no question of penalty. But here, in India, the ITO will say that the gross profit is very low and that it should be so much, therefore make addition of so much and then additional tax on that so called concealed 100 per cent or 70 per cent is imposed. And at the end of the day, when appeals are made to the tribunal or something like that, the entire penalty is deleted

and these efforts prove fruitless and futile. Therefore, we must have some kind of restructuring of the Department so that we can lay more and more emphasis on the investigative aspects of taxation.

So far as the present Finance Bill is concerned, I do not have much to say due to shortage of time but this may not hopefully be the last opportunity for Mr. Chidambaram to present the Budget. I hope that he would be very much there when the next Budget is to be presented. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to bring to his notice certain suggestions which would be helpful in formulating the new Budget.

Now, we have introduced the presumptive tax of Rs. 1400 to be paid annually by the people without accounts and returns. This is a very good concept. This needs to be extended and populism has to be curbed and balanced with the need to raise resources in the country. I feel that agricultural sector has come to a stage today where we must set motivated populism aside and think seriously about bringing agricultural sector into the taxation net. Now, for example, what are the subsidies which the Government is giving to agricultural sector? Fertiliser subsidy is amounting to a massive figure. Then, concessional credit to agriculture is there. We are giving massive subsidy from the power sector. The beneficiaries of these subsidies which are running to thousands and thousands of crores of rupees are big and rich farmers in the agricultural sector and in the name of landless labourers, the big farmers, the *kulaks* are enjoying all the benefits of the Green Revolution. Therefore, it will not be too much to ask if we try and think of introducing some kind of a presumptive tax in the agricultural sector. The base could be the land ownership size of holdings and the average yield. Most of the States have the system of evaluating the land for revenue purposes and all that. Probably, a similar machinery or instrument could be resorted to for determining the presumptive tax and its basis for extending the tax net to the agricultural sector. I, as a representative of people, should not be saying so but as I come from Assam, where the farmers, most of whom are small and marginal. I find there that people are getting no benefits at all out of agricultural subsidies relating to fertiliser, power credit etc.

In the State of Assam, the consumption of fertilizer per hectare is something like 4 kg per hectare as against about 159 or 160 kg, say, in Punjab; and the national average is also much higher than the average in Assam.

Similarly, in agricultural credit also, there is hardly anything that our people are getting. All our farmers are poor. I know that if agriculture is brought within the taxation net, then there would be very few in my State who are going to be affected and I have no fear of my losing votes if I advocate the introduction of taxes on

agricultural income. But having said that, I feel that if the rich agriculturists, who are reaping the harvest of development and improved infrastructural facilities and credits are brought within the tax net then it would be fair to the Agricultural labourers, landless and marginal farmers and others for whom there is a lot to be done.

On the issue of taxation, there are a number of procedural matters. I think, the cost of collection of income tax now is something like 1.5 per cent, which is very high. The bulk of the cost of collection of income tax is attributable to the low income categories. Therefore, if we raise the exemption limit to something like rupees one lakh or rupees two lakh and then have a higher rate of tax and remove the lower slabs, then more and more attention could be paid to the high paying taxpayers. I am sure, that it would have a salutary effect on increase of revenue collection and it would also weed out a lot of unproductive cases. Nowadays, if you go to the tax office, you would find pile up of thousands and lakhs of files and you have to pay through your nose, to the peon and upwards, even to get the required file out from there. That is the kind of a situation prevailing now. The Income-Tax Department had tried to introduce, what is called, the PAN-Permanent Account Number; it has been attempted for the last so many years but it has not operated successfully. They still resort to, what is called, the GIR-General Index Register number. That is the basis of operation in the Income-Tax Departments during the last fifty years. The introduction of the computerised PAN has not made any difference. It is because there are too many small files and too many cases. Therefore, I think, this aspect needs to be looked into in a balanced manner—whether or not it would be profitable and desirable to raise the limit and then concentrate on bigger assesses. That would reduce the cost of collection and at the same time, I feel that it would lead to significant argumentation of revenue collection.

Earlier, the salaried people were not required to file income-tax returns. There used to be deduction of tax at source and based on the employees returns, scrutiny used to be made by the Income-Tax Department and cases were cleared. Nowadays, even the salaried employees are required to file income-tax returns and it is cluttering up the income tax offices very badly. Therefore, there is a good case to reconsider this aspect and see whether we could go back to the old system whereby we could exempt the salaried employees from filing their returns. If they have other sources of income, then they would file returns on their own. But then it should not be made compulsory to file returns as it has been the case now. It is because it is having a deleterious and adverse effect on the efficiency of the tax administration.

Madam, another point is about the National Tax Courts. We have been hearing about the National Tax Courts for years. But for some reason or the other, it has not seen the light of the day. There are a very large number of cases pending in the courts. If we take these cases away from the High Courts, then the burden of the High Courts would greatly be reduced. Same is the case with the Supreme Court also. In spite of the Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal operating, there are a large number of cases at the High Court and the Supreme Court level. Probably, the constitution of the National Tax Courts would alleviate, to a great extent, the burden of our High Courts in the country. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to seriously address this issue of setting up of National Tax Courts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Would you kindly conclude now ?

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Madam I would not take much of your time. I welcome most of the features of the Finance Bill. But on one thing I am finding it little difficult to agree with the Finance Minister that is on the issue of lease financing. Now, the written down value in the hands of the lessees would be the same as that of the previous owner who had leased his equipment to get the loan.

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This lease financing is helping our power sector greatly. As you know Madam, the State Electricity Boards are all faced with very very severe financial crisis and their balance sheets are so poor and so dismal that looking at those balance sheets no bank or financial institution will ever lend them even a rupee. Therefore, there are no means of getting finance from the market. Because of that they are going downhill more and more. For example, in the State Electricity Boards, lakhs of meters are stop-meters or defective meters and because of that precious revenue is being lost. In a situation of financial crisis, for us to lose revenue is criminal. But they do not have money to buy new meters, to replace the defective meters or to introduce meters to un-metered customers. These boards have been going to the lease financing companies. They are all loss making Boards. Therefore, there is no question of paying tax. Therefore, they are selling their depreciation in a way to the lease financing companies and getting some money out of the sale of the equipment which is leased back to the Board. With that, they are meeting some of their very essential and non-postponable requirements. Quite a few, very large number of the State Electricity Boards are taking advantage of this scheme and they are getting at least some money to improve their financial position.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBRAM : It is not a benefit which is being taken away. It is a clear loophole which is being plugged.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : True, but then it is not an unmixed evil in the sense that some institutions are using the schemes not to evade tax but for the welfare of the public. Mind you, the lease finance business, has become a very significant factor in the power sector. I know, in Assam itself, I have myself taken something like Rs. 100 crore of lease finance in a situation where I could never get even a rupee as loan from anybody. With that finance a lot of things have been done and financial position of the Electricity Board is improving. At least some exemption can be considered in the case of State Undertakings or Public Sector Undertakings, which are really sick, and beyond intensive care unit stage. Therefore, in some of these very special cases, Government may like to consider giving some exemption so that this relief, that is being enjoyed today by the State Electricity Boards, is not taken away because in balance it is going to do good for the country. That is something that should not be lost sight of.

Finally, I would only make a mention of another last point. The long-term capital gain rate reduction from 30 per cent to 20 per cent is applicable only to companies.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It applies to everybody, except partnership. Today I have introduced an amendment for partnership also.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : In that case, there is nothing more to say.

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY (NIZAMABAD) : Thank you Madam, for giving this opportunity. At this late hour, as I see, everyone including our hon. Finance Minister has exhausted, physically and mentally. It is clearly exhibited on everybody's face. I have been to this House for the first time and having stayed for the last 20 years in the United States, with a big hope before I could say anything, I want to congratulate the Finance Minister for presenting a Budget which shows that he is in the right direction.

Even though he said he is not a financial expert, but fortunately he is the first one who inherited the Budget from the financial experts. When the financial reforms started in 1991, he was also part and parcel of the economic reforms along with the then Finance Minister, Shri Manmohan Singh. It is that economic reforms which for the first time in the Indian history has given a hope that certainly in the international arena, India's name is considered as in the rest of the world considering India then, even today India is considered as one of the emerging markets. The General Budget and the Finance

Bill altogether are in the right direction. But I would like to elaborate a few points on the Budget itself and the Finance Bill.

One of the things the hon. Finance Minister has said is the core subject in the Financial Bill or the general Budget itself is about the fiscal deficit. The fiscal deficit is nothing but the revenue deficit and the capital deficit. I am glad to hear that the hon. Finance Minister has assured this House about increase in revenue to the tune of Rs. 2,692 crore. But at the same time you have also increased our capital investments which gives a hope that it is in the right direction.

I would like to make a few things. One is the mobilisation of funds. Unless the Enforcement Directorate is run more effectively and efficiently, it will be very tough because with nine per cent of the people paying direct taxes, no country can ever survive.

Secondly, tax simplification also certainly helps because the India's tax forms are one of the complex tax forms I have ever seen. I have seen at least seven or eight countries tax forms. India's tax forms are one of the toughest. Even in the United States, it is somewhat easy. Even a housewife can fill the forms. For the last 20 years, I have seen individuals and business establishments take only a couple of hours to do it. It is a very cumbersome procedure in India to do it. If you could find a way to make it simplified, it would give encouragement to the taxpayers. If you could find a national identification for tax purposes, I believe, if you can find a way to do that, the hon. Finance Minister will be remembered in the rest of the Indian history. Unless we track down the person-I mean, I could go to any place in India and can use my pseudo name, still I can survive; I could go to some place and take somebody's name and I could still survive. Unless we have this national identification, it would be very difficult to catch the offenders.

The Government, particularly the financial sector, has to run like a business. We can see particularly the name of Enforcement Director of the Revenue Department has been coming in the Press very often, but many economic offenders never get into the prison or never get the maximum imprisonment. Many of Indian companies, export companies are over invoicing and getting the kickbacks in the United States or in London and accumulating their wealth in the foreign countries, it is literally robbing our own motherland. Many States in India, I can give example of my own State of Andhra Pradesh, giving subsidies-I am not trying to criticise any State-but giving subsidies to the every slogan that make and finally making the State to the brink of bankruptcy. Then the States come to the rescue of the Centre and even the Centre is not in a good position with having literally Rs. 66000 crore

deficit, it would be tough to support the subsidised States. Unless, there is some discipline, fundamental discipline like a businesslike fashion, unless the Government's run on that line we cannot survive the economic disaster. India itself was on the brink of bankruptcy in 1991, that was the time when the NRIs came to the rescue of this country. Not only that, even the freedom of this country was also brought by the then NRI, Mahatma Gandhi.

The NRIs are making huge contributions but as such no concession is being given to many of the NRIs. I can cite a couple of examples as to how the NRIs are frustrated. I quote from *The Hindu* of August 29. The headline says : "NRIs want to run away, not to invest"

"Recently an NRI, after investing Rs. 6.5 crore in the manufacture of auto spare parts and rubber products, had to run from pillar to post to get clearance. He had to bribe his way through for completing the formalities so much so that he is now wanting to be "redeemed" from such ordeals."

Recently, we have seen that the Department of Industry has given many approvals for the FDIs on many projects. But the actual implementation of the projects is marginal. We hear big claims that 300 or 400 new projects have been cleared and ultimately by the time they actually come into operation and generate employment or generate some revenue, it will be marginal. We must find a way out to see that every cleared project gets into reality thereby providing employment and revenue to India.

Looking at the time constraint, I want to confine a few comments on the Finance Bill itself.

Firstly, the Capital Markets are in a poor status with Bombay Stock Exchange Index falling from 4000 level to 3400 level after presentation of the Budget. The primary market (Initial Public Offers) is in bad shape with many issues failing. How does the hon. Finance Minister attract foreign investments annually to the tune of US \$ 10 million as envisaged in the Common Minimum Programme? While so many favours are extended to Foreign Financial institutions like automatic approval, freedom to buy, sell and remit funds etc., why is that our NRIs have to still approach RBI for buying and selling shares through their bankers? FII's pay capital gains tax of only ten per cent whereas NRIs have to pay twenty per cent. Are they not investing in US dollars and helping the nation to build industry?

Secondly, ceiling on individual FII investment in any company is increased from five per cent to ten per cent of the equity. FIIs are allowed to invest in unlisted companies. Why such exemption is not extended to NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) with majority NRI investment?

Thirdly, issue of non-voting shares by companies upto twenty-five per cent of total equity has triggered selling of blue chip companies by FIIs, further depressing the market. The hon. Finance Minister should consider deletion of this provision and instead permit companies to buy back its own shares from the market to restructure capital.

Fourthly, NRIs should be permitted to participate in the equity or bond issues of the proposed Infrastructure Finance Development Corporation (IFDC).

Fifthly, now that Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) is established, insurance sector should be opened up for foreign investors.

Sixthly, companies which fail to issue Share Certificates to NRIs within two months after receiving money should be prosecuted by SEBI or RBI.

And Seventhly, venture capital companies are vital to encourage technology oriented companies and new entrepreneurs. SEBI is yet to issue guidelines which is hindering flow of the investment in this sector.

We all know about the Finance Minister and his reputation. He made a comment recently regarding NRIs in Singapore which I quote now. He said :

"You are welcome to India because you have the ideas, the skills and the technology that we need. You are even more welcome because you have the money to make our ideas work and to help make others's ideas work."

Having said this, the total investment of NRIs is half a billion dollars in this country. If you look at our neighbour China, their total investment outside is almost 42 billion dollars and today the total foreign investment in China is forty per cent of the World foreign investment whereas ours is only eight per cent.

One reason is that the NRIs are not given enough concessions to lure into investing in India. They do not need any red carpet welcome but their investment should be protected and things are to be done in timely fashion. They are disappointed the way things are moving here and with the thrust of the banking system and the financial market. Unless we build up their confidence, one of the things I emphasise so as to make sure that any company which fails to issue the share certificate to the NRIs within two months period should be punished by the SEBI or the RBI. It is not only the money of the NRIs but their technical expertise should be welcome. In every angle, the NRIs with open arms would like to willingly come and help in building this country and without any hesitation. They are not only looking for many incentives but fair deal and protection of their investments under the law.

NRIs should be permitted to participate in the equity or bond issues of proposed IFDC. Any country to reach

its economic goals, it should have the basic infrastructure, which is a must, like communication, transport, power etc. It is amazing even after 49 years of our Independence, my district Nizamabad does not have the basic infrastructure like roads, telephone, power and even safe drinking water. The telephone system particularly is functionless. It is very outdated, which is causing great concern and loss to the business community. I urge the Government to allocate more funds to my constituency, Nizamabad which is a backward region in the Telangana area, to have basic infrastructure, so that it could remove regional imbalance in the development of our region.

Having said that, because of the time constraint, I limit myself and go along with this Finance Bill and I appreciate if the hon. Finance Minister accepts some of the suggestions I made regarding NRI concerns. Thank you very much.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (MUKUNDAPURAM) : Madam Chairperson, I, being the last speaker, will not test your patience and I have risen to speak but for some compelling reasons which affect the economy of my State. I only want to deal with these three-four points with one general observation.

One general observation has already been raised here and that is about the Defence Budget. In fact, I am sure the hon. Finance Minister had gone through the various criticisms, various articles which have appeared after the presentation of the Budget. I have very high regard and appreciation for this Minister of Finance and I do not like him to be judged by the history tomorrow as a person who has made a wrong decision at a very crucial point.

Today, I understand from the write-ups, various articles written by very informed persons that our Armed Forces are very much disparate, restive and very much dissatisfied. Sixteen per cent increase in the total Budget, taking the escalation into account, in the physical targets can only be on the reverse gear. So when the Armed Forces, especially the Indian Air Force, the Indian Navy, are really in need of modernisation and huge investment in various areas what we have provided for the Defence Budget justifies the circumstances or not is a matter to be seriously considered by the hon. Defence Minister. A suggestion of this kind at the time of the consideration of the Finance Bill may not be very appropriate but still because of the seriousness of the situation, I would like to express my opinion on this question.

On the reduction of import and excise duty I would like only to point out that—I am not going into details—one issue is the one which Shri Banatwalla has mentioned, the import duty of caprolactum. During last three-four years continuously the then hon. Finance

Minister Shri Manmohan Singh in all his Budgets has experimented with rationalisation and reduction of the excise of import duty. In the last two Budgets when on caprolactum, the raw material for the plastic industry, the import duty was reduced, it affected two major public sector companies of the country. One is the FACT and the other is Gujarat Fertilizers.

All the MPs from both the States, especially the MPs from the State of Kerala, when made their representations, the old rate of duty was reimposed. Now the caprolactum duty is being reduced considerably and the FACT which is the premier industrial unit in the State of Kerala is on the verge of closure, on this account only

This will be the fate with the Gujarat Fertilisers also. I request the hon. Finance Minister that in view of the special circumstances under which these two public sector units are placed, this may kindly be reconsidered.

Regarding the import duty reduction on rubber and on edible oils, we are really worried because our economy is very much depending on rubber and other cash crops. Import duty on edible oil is reduced and we are afraid that the coconut price which is already crashing will further suffer because of the lesser import duty of other edible oils. I am not suggesting that edible oil should not be within the reach of the common man. So if it is to help the ordinary consumers, the common consumers, I cannot oppose it *in toto*. But at the same time, it should not affect the domestic coconut growers. Coconut is the mainstay of our economy in Kerala. We have apprehension and we are really worried that this is going to affect the prices of coconut in the internal market.

Regarding rubber, when the Finance Minister was the Commerce Minister, he had been protecting the interests of the large number of rubber growers in our State and I recollect it with thanks. On the very day of the announcement, on the very day of the presentation of the Budget, the rubber prices fell by rupees five a kilo in Kottayam. This has happened. And for no reason, the growers are becoming losers. So the reduction of the import duty on these three items, caprolactum, rubber and edible oil, is likely to adversely affect the economy of Kerala. Therefore, I request the Finance Minister to take remedial measures.

I would like to touch only two more points very briefly. One is about the rural banks. I come from a State which is in a sense really over banked. Today, for 8000 people, there is one bank branch in the State. There is a network of cooperative banks, nationalised banks and scheduled banks. So I do not want to say "We are over banked". But definitely not under-banked. In such a State with a capital of rupees five crore, the new banks are coming,

may affect the viability of the existing banks. So I request that the Minister be choosy. There are areas. Some Members welcome this suggestion. So I cannot oppose it but the areas may be selected in such a way that where there are really under-banked areas, these new banks may be allowed. But where it is really not necessary, it should not affect the viability of other banks.

I have brought to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister one another matter. Today, he was kind enough to make some announcements, some concessions for the paper and paper boards. I only want to say one thing. In Kerala, the forest wealth is being depleted by two factories—one pulp factory and one paper factory. The entire forest wealth of Kerala, the bamboos, the reeds and all such things are not sufficient even for two factories. That is the way our entire forest wealth is being depleted. So in that situation whoever is using non-conventional raw materials, whoever is recycling the waste paper, they should be given some concession. I am not very sure whether the concessions that he has announced today are going to help the real units. Today, in India, 50 per cent or more than 50 per cent of the paper and paper boards is manufactured in the sector which consumes non-conventional raw-materials. So the units which consume 75 per cent of non-conventional raw materials for the manufacture of paper and paper boards, should not be equated with the composite mills which can also consume the conventional raw materials. Three rate of duties were there and the Minister has also convinced me that he has taken a right decision. I do not want the a huge turnover area is completely left out of the taxation. I am not arguing for that. At the same time, paper board manufacturing units which consume 75 per cent of the non-conventional raw materials, should get a preferential treatment and encouragement and they should not be equated with the composite mills which can use conventional as well as non-conventional raw material. This problem which is slightly complicated is well-known to the Minister and I hope he will take care for these things.

With these things, I am very happy to once again congratulate the hon. Minister because he has presented a Budget which is acceptable to the Congress Party as well as to the Left Parties, who have always been criticising the Congress Policies. For his political acumen and capacity, I congratulate the hon. Minister and support the Finance Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stand adjourned.

2125 hrs.

[The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, September 12, 1996/Bhadra 21, 1918 (Saka)]