

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

11.02 hrs.

Friday, May 3, 2002/Valsakha 13, 1924 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (Darbhanga) : Sir, I have given a notice under rule 1840 Four dalits have been shot dead in Bihar. . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is Question Hour.

[English]

YOGI ADITYANATH (Gorakhpur) : Four dalits have been killed in Bihar... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is under consideration.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Malhotra, you are the Whip of your Party and you should know that this is Question Hour and such things are taken up only after the Question Hour. You take it up after the Question Hour, I will tell you then but not like this. If you raise it now, then you will have to forego the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, they also raise such issues during the Question Hour. . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not the way to raise it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Sholapur) : Take an opium pill and everything will be all right . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : He himself is an addict and is now making others addicted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is recommending a pill—that too of opium?

[English]

Now, Q.No. 541.

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

Smuggling of Opium

+

*541. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the reports that with an interim Government in Afghanistan, a grand revival of opium cultivation in that country has again started ;

(b) if so, whether this also opens up flood gates of smuggling of opium into India ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such smuggling and the financing of terrorist activities through funds generated by such smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Reports indicate that after a drop in the opium poppy cultivation area in Afghanistan in 2001, the opium poppy cultivation area in 2002 may have registered an increase. The interim Administration in Afghanistan is taking step to check the illicit cultivation of opium.

(b) and (c) Heroin, which is a derivative of opium, is smuggled into and through India from Afghanistan via Pakistan and not opium. Government does not perceive any sudden increase in smuggling of heroin from Afghanistan into India due to increase of opium poppy cultivation since opium poppy cultivation had reportedly dropped in only one year in 2001 and India is only one of the routes for smuggling of Afghan heroin. The main routes for smuggling of Afghan heroin are Central Asian Republics, Turkey and Iran. Further, there was no decrease in trafficking of heroin from Afghanistan even when the Taliban banned cultivation of opium.

(d) The Government of India has taken a number of steps to prevent and put an effective check on drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement

efforts, including a close watch on financing of terrorist activities, training to officers, close interaction between agencies of the Centre and State Governments, neutralizing plans of anti-national elements by coordinated action, modernizing and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons, fencing and flood lighting of Indo-Pak border, vesting of powers in the Border Security Force and Coast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs, notifying certain precursor chemicals, viz., Acetic Anhydride, Ephedrine etc. as Controlled Substances under the NDPS Act, quarterly coordination meetings by the Narcotics Control Bureau with all Central and State Agencies concerned, holding of periodic bilateral meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a serious and important issue because the entire Parliament has suffered its consequence on 13th of December. I would like to quote what British analyst David Walker had written two years ago- (English) It appears that the Pak is not ruled by a Troika as often claimed. The President, the Prime Minister and the Army as they then were in existence but by a quarter with drug mafia forming the Fourth Pillar.

[Translation]

This is the report of a British analyst about Pakistan made two years ago. To declare Pakistan a terrorist country we went to the UNO and the opium of Afghanistan comes to India via Pakistan only. The trade of opium has given rise to a mafia group there which has abundant black money. I would like to point out that Afghanistan produces 75% opium of the world. No other country produces such quantity of opium. It does not have large consumption of opium either. The Taliban Government banned the opium cultivation but it did not have any impact. Even Government of India concedes that opium production did not go down under the Taliban regime and now the production has again increased. I would like to know from the Government that just as there is a troika in Pakistan, whether it has any intelligence group with the task of monitoring any group or organisation using the drug money against India as opium which was priced at \$100-200 earlier, now sells at \$500. The money is used to promote terrorism. I would like to know the action taken by the Government as also the information it has about the troika.

SHRI YASHWANT SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. Everybody in the House is aware that, for decades, Afghanistan is the centre of opium production and almost 70% of the world's opium is produced in Afghanistan. The Hon. Member rightly stated that the production of opium decreased after the ban imposed by Taliban but according to figures released by UNDCP, the body monitoring the opium trafficking, the opium cultivation is once again gaining ground in Afghanistan, even though we have information that the new Government of Afghanistan are taking stringent action to check the cultivation of opium.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would also like to remind the House, through you, that the cultivation of opium by the farmers of Afghanistan was promoted by a number of factors, such as the rule of Taliban, bad phase through which Afghanistan was passing and destruction it caused in the country. As per our information, the Interim Government of Afghanistan have persuaded the farmers there to desist from growing opium. Checking opium cultivation was one of the points in the Bonn agreement with the Interim Government. As per our information, when the farmers of Jalalabad tried to grow opium and were warned against it by the Government, riots followed and the police had to resort to firing to enforce the ban.

Sir as per indications available the interim Government of Afghanistan is desirous of checking opium cultivation and is also ready to pay the farmers compensation of \$500 per acre to desist farmers from growing opium. We are friend of Afghanistan. Therefore, our effort should be to motivate and assist the Government there so that it is able to check the cultivation of opium. This is one aspect.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the second aspect is that it was not opium but heroin that was smuggled into our country from South-West Asia, Viz., Afghanistan and Pakistan. But now I am pleased to inform the House that during the last 6-7 years the smuggling of heroin has come down and in 1996 heroin formed 64 per cent of the total seizures while in the year 2001 it was only 21 per cent. We have been able to check the smuggling of heroin as a result of ban in force in Afghanistan and our own efforts.

What the hon. Member said about Pakistan is absolutely true-it is known everywhere that there is such a troika in Pakistan and there is clear involvement of Pakistani Military in all this-but our effort is always to make efforts to check heroin smuggling by cooperating with

whichever Government there is in Pakistan. We have a bilateral agreement with Pakistan. We have arranged for the officers of narcotics Department to be present when the Commanders of two sides meet so that this issue is also discussed. Thus, we are making all out efforts from our side. To maintain the sanctity of our borders we are in constant touch with the Government of Pakistan and other systems there.

I would like to assure the hon. Member that the smuggling has come down also because of our steps of putting up lights at the border and putting up barbed wire fencing. Thus, we are committed and we will remain committed towards checking heroin smuggling.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : I am grateful to the hon. Minister for giving a detailed reply. The Taliban Government was replaced following the attack on twin towers on 11 September and India have friendly relations with the new dispensation. The drug mafia of Afghanistan closed down their shops and godowns as they knew that their time was up, but the mafia there do not belong to anyone country but mafia of the whole world is active there. The new Government there wants to promote agriculture and stop opium cultivation. India have cordial relations with the new Government there. The Hon. Minister has told us about this fact. But my concern is that whenever India extends hand of friendship to anyone-be it Pakistan or any other country we always face deceit and betrayal. Pakistan has betrayed us twice. That is why, I am apprehensive about getting betrayed once again... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shinde ji, please ask your question. Your speech is getting long. There are many Members who want to ask supplementaries.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, since the issue pertains to terrorism that is why I would like to inform that drug money was used in the hijacking of Indian Airlines plane to Afghanistan and also in other terrorist operations. Therefore, I want to know the current position regarding the number of cases detected by the BSF and other para military forces since the new Government took over in Afghanistan. It should not happen that on the one hand we are very close to the solution of a problem but through the complacency of the officers, the problem is regenerated. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has information in this regard and how many officials have been found guilty of failing in their duty and the number of cases filed against them?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy -Speaker, Sir, I have already assured the House and I repeat that we are cautious. We have taken all necessary steps. I would like to state that the cultivation of opium in Afghanistan has gone down after it was banned by Taliban in 2001. If we look at the figures, we would know that during the last few years the seizures were to the tune of 5000-6000 tonnes and during the previous year the total seizure was less than 1000 tonnes. Therefore, I would like to assure the hon. Member and submit that the market is mostly in Europe and other developed countries. The heroin of Afghanistan and East Asia, after smuggling reaches the European countries and its traditional route was via Iran and the Balkans to the Europe. The smugglers have developed a new route which is known as the Silk Route. Now the heroin is taken to European Countries via Central Asia and Moscow. As per the figures available with us, they are seizing more heroin than us because more heroin is being smuggled out from their area.

The smuggling of heroin from Afghanistan to India is not for consumption but because it is used as a transit route. Smugglers try to take it through East or North Asia-be it from Myanmar border or the Pakistani border. As I have already said, we are cautious and on the alert.

Our officials posted at the border include BSF officers but I do not have the figures relating to the number of cases detected and action taken following the assuming of office by the new interim Government. I will make the figures available to the hon. Member.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Through you, I would like to ask a question to the hon. Minister. The world is now aware that 72 per cent of the world's total production of Poppy is from Afghanistan. Given the post-September 11 scenario, where we are all sensitised to the funding of terrorism through this kind of drug-trafficking and with the reduction due to the patrolling going on along the borders and the alert sounded, we have already got a decline in the supply. The hon. Member preceding me has also drawn your attention to the fact that enforcement seizures have dropped correspondingly, so you say. However, I would like to know what are the steps the Government has taken. You are aware that India has now started in-house production of Poppy and Poppy growing districts have shown the new drug prosperity that has been coming around, including Andhra Pradesh where we have Poppy cultivators. Have your Enforcement officers thought of intercepting the e-mails? People who are producing and supplying drugs are now going on-line. They are very much

up to date with the new technology. Have you got a mechanism to intercept the e-mails? How many seizures have been made looking into the information via Internet and electronic surveillance? Have you got any legislation which will cover electronics surveillance? What kind of awareness campaign are you running within the country? I am asking this not just as a Member of Parliament but also as a parent. It is a growing concern that in the urban areas of our country, including schools and colleges, children are being exposed to this kind of drug abuse. It is freely available within the Capital of our own country. What steps are you taking to quash this?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir we have various agencies involved in the task of supervising, monitoring, collecting intelligence and implementing the laws of the land. We have very strict laws of the land to deal with drug offences. The law enforcement agencies of the Central Government are the Narcotics Control Bureau, the Central Bureau of Narcotics, the Directorate-General of Revenue Intelligence, Customs Central Excise, Central Bureau of Investigation, Border Security Force, which I have mentioned just now and we also have the power to empower from time to time any other agency which we feel will be in the interest of putting a curb on smuggling. Then apart from these Government of India organisations, there are State law-enforcement agencies like the State police and State Excise which are also empowered to act in matters relating to drug offences. The Hon. Member has asked me a question about what are the various steps that we have taken. We have taken a number of steps. I have already said that we are very vigilant especially on the borders.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : I had asked a particular question about the electronic surveillance. I would like to know whether you are within the gamut of that.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I am coming to that. We give continuous training to improve the skills of the officers who are involved in this. We have a reward scheme to reward officers who catch the smugglers. We have various coordinating arrangements. Then we have, as I mentioned, bilateral arrangements etc.

Now the question which the hon. Member has asked about the smugglers going on-line. India is one country which has the advantage or the privilege of being permitted by the international community to have licit cultivation of Opium. There are primarily three States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh where

such licit cultivation of Opium is permitted. All this is done under very strictly controlled conditions, although there might be some aberrations here and there. Both, as far as licit or illicit cultivation and its misuse within the country is concerned, smuggled heroin within the country or use through transit in India is concerned the Enforcement agencies, as I said, are alert. If they are going on-line, we are also going on-line and the Enforcement Agencies are using all the means, including computers and Internet, to be able to take care of this problem.

[Translation]

We are always one step ahead of them. We are trying to use better technology than they are using so as to control them. However, this is a long term struggle and will continue for some time to come.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : How many interceptions have you done through electronic surveillance?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I will supply that information to the hon. Member.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Partly, my predecessor hon. Member has asked about the Indian cultivation. The hon. Minister mentioned about licit cultivation in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and other places. But in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in agency areas which are in remote places, huge quantities of poppy cultivation is going on. It is a terrain area and it is a notified area, particularly the Visakhapatnam District from where I come and the neighboring districts of East Godavari as also the Madam's constituency, Khammam. It appears in the Press every day about cultivation of huge quantities of poppy in these districts.

The hon. Minister mentioned that the cultivation is being propagated either officially or unofficially in some districts where it is controlled. But the uncontrolled part is more than the controlled part of cultivation. You say that some incentives are given to those who help catch hold of these people. But they get much more than the incentives that you give them if they allow them to cultivate poppy. That is what is happening today and it is a very dangerous tendency.

Unless there is a separate machinery to look after these agency areas, other than the machinery that is available in the urban areas, it will be difficult to control poppy cultivation. It is a growing concern because it gives

a lot of money to the growers. What are the steps that you are contemplating to take in order to curb this unofficial cultivation particularly in the agency areas where it is widespread among the tribes? Tribes have no other means except to cultivate poppy and make money. Even if some part of it is being caught hold of, it does not matter much because there is no punishment except to take away their produce. The next day they again start cultivating poppy. Therefore I would like to know from the hon. Minister what effective steps the Government is contemplating to take.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : As I have mentioned, because of the manner in which we have been able to conduct our affairs as far as the licit cultivating of opium is concerned, Indian enjoys a very good reputation in the international community. There are only a few countries in the world which are allowed licit cultivation. When I mentioned about the licit cultivation, I mentioned three States where the licit cultivation is taking place. This is one arrangement which is permitted under law. We have to ensure that misuse of it does not take place.

SHRI M. V. V.S. MURTHI : I am telling about ganja.

SHRI YASHWANT SINGH : The other is a purely illegal activity to which the hon. Member is referring. This is not merely opium, it is also by and large ganja which is being grown in various parts of the country. It has various names in different parts of the country. This is a menace which the State Governments and the Government of India have to deal with together. I have the figures here which will suggest that as far as ganja is concerned there have been significant seizures and arrests in Andhra Pradesh which will mean that both the State Government as well as the Government of India agencies are alert and whenever we come across such illegal and illicit cultivation, it is not just that those people are arrested and the law takes its course, it is also that the crop is destroyed. It is not allowed to remain so that it can be misused subsequently. So, very effective steps are being taken. If you are interested in the figures of Andhra Pradesh, up to December 2001, we had 735 cases and 1090 people were arrested for growing ganja.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : How much worth of crops were destroyed?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The quantity is worth 16,040 kilos.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask a fundamental question from the hon. Minister. From the reply of the hon. Minister one thing is

clear that border State of Punjab is the most affected. I would like to inform him that he talked about enforcement and smuggling of goods worth billions of rupees from across the border. It is resulting in the fact that smack and opium are commonly available in all the 13000 villages of Punjab. The youth of the State are on the verge of disaster. In all humility, I would like to submit, with regard to enforcement, whether it is not possible to formulate a comprehensive programme to check the open sale of drugs, opium and smack in the shops of small townships of the State because the future of a whole generation is at stake. During the period of terrorism, it was the drug money which was used to finance terrorist operations. Therefore, I want to submit, that the enforcement wing and the BSF should be more alert in Punjab, which is the strength of India. BSF is a brave and alert force but there are complaints that some of its officers are also involved in smuggling. May I expect that action will be taken against such officers.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, our aim is not only to check the smuggling of drugs but also to ensure that the young generation does not become addict to drugs. It is our administrative as well as social responsibility. These matters are dealt with by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Social justice. From time to time they take such measures are organising awareness camps so that people are made aware about not becoming drug addicts. They are already on the job. My Ministry is concerned with enforcement and as regards it, I would like to state that the drugs are brought from Afghanistan via Pakistan and for crossing over they choose border States such as Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu-Kashmir. From these areas they try to cross over. We also have information that Amritsar is also used as a centre. We are alert in Amritsar as also at other border areas of Punjab. The figures for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 are somewhat reassuring. Still, it is not a matter of joy but the situation is not so bad in Punjab.

As hon. Member has raised Andhra's case, you would be surprised to know that the number of cases of seizure is more in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh but in Punjab, the number of such cases is comparatively less. That is the position regarding seizures. There is an international norm—nothing becomes clear from seizures. It depends upon the concerned officers, as to what goods they confiscate and what they clear. But there is an international norm known as the Rule of Thumb. According

to it we recognize the fact that the tread of goods worthy of seizure is ten times and only one-tenth is confiscated. However, as per the Data available with me, the situation in Punjab is not so serious as is in other parts of India. Since these goods came via Punjab and as I have stated they use India as a transit route and then the goods are transported to East Asia through Colombo and Myanmar. Therefore, there is a need to be more vigilant in the border States. There is a need to seize these goods when they are brought to India or when they are transported out of India. Therefore, we are more vigilant in border States.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: MR.. Deputy Speaker, Sir, people sitting on this side have not been given an opportunity. Even in my area poppy cultivation is very much prevalent on a large scale.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This question was discussed for half an-hour since your height is less, I was not able to locate you.

[English]

Wages to NTC Mill Workers

*542. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) weather some of the workers of NTC mills have not received their wages and other benefits for a long-time;

(b) if so, since when alongwith the reasons therefore, textile mill-wise;

(c) the total amount involved; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the textile workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Funds have been released for payment of salaries and wages of employees of NTC upto February, 2002.

(c) NTC pays Rs. 42 crores per month on an average to its employees, as salary and wages.

(d) Government has been providing funds to NTC to meet the shortfall in payment of salary/wages to its employees.

[Translation]

SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister is not right. The NTC mills in Gujarat and at other places have been closed down. Workers and labourers working in those mills are

not getting their salaries regularly. I, as well as the hon. Minister get our salary on first of the month whereas these workers are not getting their Salaries regularly. The hon. Minister has very cleverly skipped part (b) of my question and has not given a proper reply. I have sought mill-wise details regarding disbursement of salaries since they are not getting the salary regularly. Today the whole nation as well as the entire House knows about the condition prevailing in Ahmedabad. Workers should get their salary regularly so that they can survive. I would like to tell the hon. Minister of Textiles that the workers of the mills which have been closed down have not got their salary for the last three months. Earlier, they were paid one month's salary. But now three month's salary is outstanding against the mills. The hon. Minister should make exact position known in this regard.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what hon. Member has said is not correct. I would like to add that payment of salary upto the month of February by 11 mills in Gujarat has already been made. Not only this, the salary for the month of March has been sent to subsidiary mills including Gujarat. This way, the workers would get the salary for March also.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : What does he mean by "would get," they have not got the salary.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Salary for February has been paid. As he has got the information that salary for February has been paid similarly the workers in those mills have told me the same thing. Draft for the salary of March has been dispatched and they may receive it within a day or to two. As far as the closure of 11 mills is concerned, the workers in Petlad and Rajkot had sought VRS and they have been offered modified VRS. Three out of the remaining mills are still functional and the rest are lying closed for the last many years.

SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : He has not given proper answer to part (b) of this question He has concealed it (Interruptions)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : It is written in that; Total amount involved as I said that we disburse Rs.42 crore every month and the budgetary support for a year works out to Rs.380 crore.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Makwanaji, do you have any supplementary?

SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : I have sought mill-wise details which he has not provided. He should kindly provide it. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I urge through you to give the details.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : The hon. Minister asked mill-wise details. in para 3 of his supplementary. There are four questions from the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : I would provide mill-wise details.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are these lengthy details?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Yes, these are length. I would send these to him.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : First of all, I would like to congratulate the Government. As the House is aware that the textiles industry is in the grip of recession and tough international competition exists. The technology quality should have been enhanced in the industries. These are the challenges before us. Despite these three factors-recessionary trend, tough international competition and lack of modern technology. People seeking VRS are offered the same. The past history of several industries is before us. If the labourers sitting idle are paid salaries, though the Government may be fulfilling its obligations, and work is not available, the entire industries will shut-down. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to import some training to these outgoing labourers?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : The Government have prepared a revival package to ensure that maximum number of NTC mills remain operational. I am very glad to tell you that earlier revival package covered 34 mills. Second revival package was offered in 1999. Though only 16 viable mills were identified to be made viable but the Government relaxed the criteria and norms and then 53 mills were covered under that package. We covered 53 mills in place of 16 because we wanted to protect our labourers. The Government wanted to revive and modernize these mills. The revival package approved by BIFR, covering all the mills under 6 subsidiaries except the two each in South Maharashtra and North Maharashtra, is under implementation. Modernisation of mills will cost Rs. 1465 crore. The Government has waived some amount and also sacrificed around Rs.5000 crore. On the basis of this the Government have decided to revive and modernize maximum number of NTC mills. be it in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat of Maharashtra. Previously BIFR had ordered closure of all the mills under four subsidiaries. But we decided to find out viability of these mills unit by unit and accordingly all the subsidiaries would be revived.

[English]

DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir as we know, textile industry plays a major role in the economic development of the country. It provides employment to millions of people. But unfortunately, we see in the newspapers that many industries are declared sick. If some are in coma, some are dead. It is a very unfortunate situation. Workers who anticipated retirement benefits are just driven out and now they are in the streets.

So, I think, the Government has miserably failed to help the workers and also to help the textile industry. I feel it is the duty of the Government to provide a large sum of money to modernise the mills and also help the workers.

Further, I would like to add one more thing. In my place, there are cooperative spinning mills which were sponsored by the Central Government in those days. In a place called Nazareth, there is a mill called Tiruchendur Cooperative Spinning Mill. It was about to be closed in the year 2000. So, when I requested the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar, he provided Rs. 2.50 crore to save the mill. Likewise, I think, the Central Government with the cooperation of the State Governments can provide more money to revive the textile industry and also they can help the workers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You should ask the question.

DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Sir, I am asking the question. What are the measures taken by the Central Government to revive the textile industry in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Tiruchendur constituency.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, so far as N.T.C. Mills are concerned, I have already mentioned that the Government would spend nearly Rs. 1,500 crore for modernisation of viable mills. As far as private textile units are concerned, the Government has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, just for the revival of the units and till now, as per my information, under this scheme, our Ministry has received proposals worth nearly Rs. 15,000 crore approximately. We have already started disbursement of the money to the needy units or mills.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as was suggested by hon. Minister right now that this has been a Government policy in regard to the labourer welfare. It is in the context of that policy that the revival package is being given and the efforts are being made to modernize several NTPC mills. The Government have tried to keep those mills functional despite the refusal of

BIFR to do so. Through you I would like to say that there are four mills in Rajasthan—two in my constituency Byavar, one in vijay Nagar and one in Udaipur and I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how much salary is due to be paid to staff in these four mills. As the hon. Minister has himself said that the salary upto February has been paid yet the labourers complaint every month that the money has not been given and they are facing the financial problem. The famine generated condition in Rajasthan is also the same. I would like to know as to how much money is due to be paid to the workers and how much have been paid to them? The Government have ordered to close down the Mahalakshmi Mill of Byavar. Half the number of its workers have been given VRS and the remaining 111 who are also purposed to be offered it have not been given voluntary retirement so far, rather they are being sent from the Edward Mill to Mahalakshmi Mill. I would like to know from the Government whether the remaining workers will be given all the BIFR facilities? Whether the amount pending against those mills have been paid to those or not?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : I would like to reiterate in response to what hon. Member has said is that we have given the wage salary upto February to all the mills under NTC. Besides we have also sent the same of the March which will be given to the employees within one or two days. Initially they used to get a salary after three to four month but now the backlog is reduced to one to two months, the rest has been paid including that of the month of the March. That of April is still to be paid which has become due recently. We pay the wages timely. As far the second question regarding VRS is concerned, we give VRS to the employees of those mills which have been declared, enviable by BIFR. I am happy to inform you that though not even a month has passed since BIFR has issued the order but we have started implementing the work of both modernization and VRS. We have so far given the VRS to the workers of 8 mills and we have given Rs.50 crore under VRS to these eight mills. Besides Rs.22 crore have been provided to the Gulbarga mill under VRS. I will give the information about Udaipur mill. As far Byavar mill is concerned(Interruptions)

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Sir, the problem is arising in Udaipur also. Half the employees there are ready for VRS and the remaining half do not want VRS.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : We have been receiving the representations and applications from both the sides. It has been decided that unless all agree to on the closure of the mill it will not be closed down and they will keep on getting their wage salary. Most of the employees favour

VRS. Still the Government will think over it
.(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir the hon. Minister has not said as to how much progress has been made regarding VRS in 111 cases in Byavar?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : VRS has been given in Byavar.

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I wish to know whether the wages of textile mill workers under NTC have been frozen for the last few years. When was the last wage revision implemented in this sector? What is the response of the Minister of Textiles to the demands of the Trade Unions for wage revision? Has the Government taken any decision in this regard?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, the hon. Member has raised the point about wage revision. The pay scales of some employees have not been revised after 1st January, 1987. So they are entitled to get hundred per cent increase in ex-gratia in VRS. The employees will get the advantage to the extent of 50 per cent in pay scale.

According to the criteria approved by the BIFR, we have already tried to disburse the amount.

[Translation]

NPA's of Banks and Financial Institutions

+
*543. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
SHRI SUNDERLAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total non-performing assets of each public sector bank and financial institutions as on 31st March, 2002;

(b) the total amount of NPA recovered and written off by these banks and financial institutions during the last three years;

(c) the number of customers, whose NPAs exceeding one crore, where written-off during the above period;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of banks in respect of recovery of NPAs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The quantum of gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of each of the Public Sector Banks and Development Financial institutions (DFI) viz. IDBI, IFCI Ltd., ICICI Ltd. and IIBI Ltd. as on 31st March, 2001, is given in the Annexure. The audited balance sheets of public sector banks and development financial institutions as on 31st March, 2002, are yet to be finalized.

(b) The recoveries against NPAs including cash recovery/upgradation/write-offs made by the public sector banks and DFIs, during the years ended 31st March 1999, 31st March, 2000 and 31st March, 2001 are given below:-

(Rs. in crores)		
Year ended 31 st March	Public Sector Banks	DFIs
1999	* 8806	2037
2000	10369	2564
2001	13629	2667

(c) :- The number of customers whose NPA accounts of more than Rs. 1.00 crore were written off by the public sector banks and DFIs during the year ended 31st March, 1999, 31st March, 2000 and 31st March, 2001 are given below:-

Year ended 31 st March	Public Sector Banks	DFIs
1999	284	120
2000	231	240
2001	505	290

(d) and (e) :- The Performance of Public sector banks and financial institutions in respect of recovery of NPAs is reviewed by Government and Reserve Bank of India on a continuing basis. The last review was made in a meeting with Chief Executives of Public Sector Banks on 12th November, 2001. The issue of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) alongwith the need for taking stringent action against wilful defaulters sharing of information on defaulters by banks and financial institutions, publishing

of names of suit-filed borrowers, making the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRTs) more effective, follow-up of recovery of high value NPAs, setting up of asset reconstruction company, one time settlement scheme for NPAs with credit limits upto Rs. 25,000/- and increased use of Lok Adalats for recovery of NPAs was discussed.

Annexure

Gross NPAs of the Public Sector banks and Development Financial Institution as on 31st March, 2001

(Rupees in crores)

S. No	Name of the public sector bank and DFI	Gross NPAs as on 31.3.2001
1	2	3
Public Sector Banks		
1.	State Bank of India	15875
2.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	715
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	1075
4.	State Bank of Indore	325
5.	State Bank of Mysore	581
6.	State Bank of Patiala	695
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	569
8.	State Bank of Travancore	758
9.	Allahabad Bank	1821
10.	Andhra Bank	470
11.	Bank of Baroda	4186
12.	Bank of India	3434
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	877
14.	Canara Bank	2243
15.	Central Bank of India	3253
16.	Corporation Bank	485
17.	Dena Bank	1928
18.	Indian Bank	2359

1	2	3
19. Indian Overseas Bank		1631
20. Oriental Bank of Commerce		586
21. Punjab and Sind Bank		1026
22. Punjab National Bank		3460
23. Syndicate Bank		1075
24. UCO Bank		1284
25. Union Bank of India		2056
26. United Bank of India		1411
27. Vijaya Bank		595
Total		54773

Development Financial Institution

1. IDBI	10880
2. ICICI	5988
3. IFCI LTD.	6077
4. IIBI LTD.	1021
Total	23966

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the recovery figures as on 31st March 1999, 2000, 2001 in regard to the total NPA's of public sector banks and development financial institutions i.e. IDBI, IFCI Ltd., ICICI Ltd. and IIBL Ltd. given by the hon. Minister is as follows: for public sector banks this recovery figure is Rs.8806 crore in 1999, 10,369 crore in 2000 and 13629 crore in 2001. Similarly in case of DFI's it is Rs. 2037 crore in 1999, 2564 crore in 2000 and 2627 crore in 2001. These figures relates to recovery but I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much of loan has been given in 1999, 2000 and 2001?

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : The question totally relates to the NPA's, so we have given the information relating to the NPA's and their recovery.

He has asked about the total amount written off. We have given the information about the total disbursement of loans. At the same time he wants the figures for the loan.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following are the loan sanction figures in various financial institutions - IDBI - Rs.21,829 crore in 1998-99, Rs.26966 crore in 1999-2000, Rs.28,711 crore in 2000-2001 and Rs.3518 crore in April-December 2001. IFCI - Rs.3,808 crore in 1998-99, Rs.2,080 crore in 1999-2000, Rs.1858 crore in 2000-2001, Rs.272 crore in April-December 2001. ICICI - Rs.32,370 crore in 1998-99, Rs.43,522 crore in 1999-2000, Rs.56.092 crore in 2000-2001 and Rs.30,156 crore in 2001. IIBI - Rs.2,175 crore in 1998-99, Rs.2,338 crore in 1999-2000, Rs.2,502 crore in 2000-2001 and Rs.835 crore in April-December 2001. I feel that the bank-wise details of the loans with NPA has been given in the Annexure.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir what are the details of 463 out of 581 cases filed by public sector banks and in addition criminal cases filed by Public sector banks in 37 cases, as on 30 June, 2001, as has been reported by the Reserve Bank of India? Also, the details of agriculture loan or loan granted to farmers and funds provided to concerned corporation for economic development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBC. Whether recoverable amount of Rs.25,000 of public sector banks has been converted into NPA on 23 December, 2001 by RBI? Hon' ble Minister should give details in this regard and also regarding recovery of bank loans, . . (Interruptions) as asked by me in the question.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Sir, the disbursement of loan by the corporation is done on individual basis. If the hon'ble Member wants to have individual infirmation I would furnish the details to him. Out of Rs.24,899 crore earmarked for weaker sections under priority sector, Rs.5605 crore belongs to NPA which works out to 22.51 percent. As far as advances are concerned-during 2001, it was Rs.5,58,766 crore in case of Scheduled Commercial Banks, Rs.4,42,134 crore in case of Public Sector Banks, Rs.71,237 crore in case of all Private Sector Banks, Rs.39,738 crore in case of Old Private Sector Banks, Rs.31,499 crore in case of New Private Sector Banks and Rs.45,395 crore in case of Foreign Banks in India. There are a number of figures like this, but as far as the question asked by the hon. Member regarding loan amount upto Rs.25000 is concerned RBI has issued guidelines in this regard. I know that there are problem in some banks. But,

the Government had decided initially to grant some relief in case of principal amount of Rs.25,000 and later during CO's meeting the Government decided to extent it to Rs.50,000. The RBI has circulated guidelines in respect of loans ranging from Rs.25,000 to Rs.50,000 which are being followed. If the hon. Member has some complaints, he should tell me, we shall pay full attention to that. Secondly, regarding granting loan to everyone, especially in social sector during CO's meeting everyone said that he himself should monitor it. So far, the hon. Minister has held four meetings. The Government are paying full attention to it.

SHRI SUNDAR LAL TIWARI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government have been in office for the last four years. The Finance Minister has also spoken a lot on economic reforms. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, why is he saying chota log? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Sunil Khan, you please see the Question. The second questioner is there. You do not interrupt like this. You please see the Question.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : He is saying poor
(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I think he is right. The poor man should not be identified or described as chota log. That is a bad thing.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Since the amount is small and have called it small loans, but it is meant for common man.

[English]

It is the poorest of the poor.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Sunil Khan, what he said, is 'chota loan', and not chota log'. You did not hear him.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the present Government have been in office for the last four years and the Finance Minister has spoken a lot on

economic reforms in and outside the House. Fiscal deficit for the year 2000-2001 stood at Rs. 1,11,257 crore and Non performing Assets approximately Rs. 52,000 crore. My submission is that 45 percent fiscal deficit amounts to non performing assets and it is increasing constantly. I would like to know whether the Government have any time bound concrete plan to tackle fiscal deficit?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, main question relates to NPA since fiscal deficit and production are mainly budget related problems. So far as NPA is concerned, it was Rs.41,041 crore in 1993-94 and Rs.54,071 crore in 2000-2001. But in percentage terms, it has come down from 24 percent to 12 percent. Since advance is increasing countantly, NPA is declining. Further as far as wilful defaulters are concerned, the Government have taken criminal action against them and some of them have even been arrested. The Government are paying full attention to it and are monitoring it also.

[English]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I think , this is a very important question, especially keeping in mind the background of what has transpired in East Asia in the 1997 crisis. A high level of NPAs was one of the reasons why the crisis came about in 1997 in East Asia. Today, we have a level of Rs. 120 crore in NPAs between what has written off in the last three years and what is yet to come. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of State in the Minister of Finance whether there is a plan in place for not only a *post facto* analysis of how to write off these NPAs but also to put more stringent procedures in place to ensure that more credible loans are given in future.

In addition to that, I have great reservations with respect to the IFCI and the IDBI. Their NPAs stand today at Rs.6,000 crore and Rs.11,000 crore, which has resulted in a negative asset valuation of these companies. Are we going to continuously give them more bailouts and throw good money after bad money?

Finally, I welcome the step announced by the hon. Minister of Finance with regard to the asset reconstruction companies. I would like to know whether there would be a transparent and much more speedy implementation with respect to this issue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over now. The hon. Minister may send the reply to him later.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

*[English]***Dumping of Commodities by Foreign Countries**

*544. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received reports about dumping of certain commodities by foreign countries like USA, Japan, Korea China etc. after the removal of import restrictions;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) the action taken in the matter;

(d) the names of items and countries on whose goods anti-dumping duties have been imposed by the Government since then and upto what extent;

(e) the number of cases and names of countries against whom investigations are still under consideration; and

(f) the time by which investigations are like to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e) With the removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) from 1st April, 2001, the Government has initiated 33 Anti-Dumping investigations. The status of these 33 cases is as follows :

- | | |
|---|------|
| (i) Cases in which provisional duties have been imposed by the Government | - 20 |
| (ii) Cases in which preliminary findings issued but imposition awaited | - 3 |
| (iii) Cases under investigation for preliminary findings | - 9 |
| (iv) Case initiated but closed due to withdrawal of petition | - 1 |

The names of the products, countries involved, range of duty recommended in these 33 cases are given below :

Cases in which provisional duties imposed—

S. No.	Product	Date of Initiation	Country(s)	Range of duty recommended
1	2	3	4	5
1.	BOPP film	30.5.2001	Taiwan, Hong kong, Indonesia, Oman, Singapore, Thailand and UAE	US\$0.56-0.88/kg.
2.	Trimethoprim (TMP)	23.7.2001	China	US \$ 4.42/kg.
3.	Acrylic Yarn	3.7.2001	Nepal	US \$ 0.69-US \$ 0.84/ kg.
4.	Vitamin AB ₂ D ₃ K	2.7.2001	EU, USA*, Thailand and Singapore	Difference between US \$ 11.56-US \$27.74 and landed value of imports/kg.
5.	Diclofenac Sodium	1.9.2001	China	US \$ 3.44 per kg.
6.	Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL)	16.8.2001	China, Hongkong	Difference between US \$ 1.426-US (without choke) and \$ 3.115 (with choke) and landed value of imports per unit.
7.	TSP	30.7.2001	China	US\$ 0.967/kg.
8.	POY	20.8.2001	Korea and Turkey	US\$ 0.351-US\$ 0.441/kg,

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Cold Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel	21.8.2001	Spain, Belgium, EU, Japan, Canada and USA	US\$ 0.22 to US\$ 0.82 per kg.
10.	Acrylic Fibre (Below 1.5 denier)	28.8.2001	Italy	US\$ 0.32 to US\$ 0.41 per kg.
11.	Acrylic Fibre	28.8.2001	Gemrnay, UK, Brazil and Bulgaria	US\$ 0.143 to US\$ 1.275 per kg.
12.	Flexible Slabstock Polyol	21.9.2001	USA, Japan, Singapore and EU	Difference between US\$ 1804 per MT and the landed value.
13.	Poly Iso-Butylene	12.9.2001	Brazil, Japan, Korea and Singapore	US \$ 1037.77/MT
14.	D(-) Para Hydroxy Phenyl Glycirine Base (PHPG)-1	1.10.2001	China and Sigapore	Difference between US \$ 24.83 / kg and lanaded value
15.	Vitamin AD3	17.10.2001	China	Difference between US \$ 40.02 / kg and landed value
16.	Caustic Soda	8.10.2001	Quatar	US \$ 48.5 to US \$ 58.6 per MT
17.	Sodium Nitrite	2.11.2001	EU and Taiwan	US \$ 51.83-US \$ 107.85/ MT
18.	Iso-Propyl Alcohol	21.11.2001	Singapore, USA, EU and China	US \$ 748. 10 (Bulk), US \$ 823.65 - 863.55 (packed)
19.	Pentaerythritol	22.11.2001	Canada, Taiwan and Japan	US \$ 113.5-248.6/MT
20.	Hydrofluoric Acid	11.12.2001	China	Difference between US \$ 840.9 for loose, US \$ 84.09 + 66.9 for packed and landed value

* Anti-dumping duty not recommended

Cases in which preliminary findings issued but Imposition of provisional duties awaited—

S. No.	Product	Date of Initiation	Country(s)	Range of duty recommended
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Vitrified/Porcelain Tiles	6.8.2001	China and UAE	Difference between US\$ 13.62 per Sq.Mtr and the landed value.
2.	Polyester Staple Fibre	25.6.2001	Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand	Difference between US\$ 0.951 to US \$1. 264 and landed value.
3.	Lead Acid Batteries-II	2.11.2001	Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong	Difference between US\$ 2.0475 to 3.7350 per kg. and landed value of import

Cases under Investigation for Preliminary Findings —

S. No.	Product	Date of Initiation	Country(s)
1	2	3	4
1.	Oxo Alcohols	31.1.2002	Brazil, Malaysia, Romania, Singapore and S.Africa
2.	Vitamin-A Palmitate	24.1.2002	EU, Georgia and Singapore
3.	Graphite Electrodes	29.1.2002	Poland and Brazil
4.	Phenol	15.2.2002	EU Singapore, S. Africa
5.	Sodium TriPoly Phosphate (STPP)	15.2.2002	China and Taiwan
6.	D(-) Para Hydroxy Phenyl Glycirine Base (PHPG) -II	8.3.2002	EU
7.	Ferro Silicon	11.4.2002	S. Africa and Macedonia
8.	Citric Acid	16.4.2002	Indonesia and Thailand
9.	X-ray Baggage Inspection System	15.4.2002	Germany

Case closed on withdrawal of petition—

S. No.	Product	Date of Initiation	Country(s)
1	2	3	4
1.	Vinyl Acetate Monomer	13.11.2001	Iran and Singapore

(f) Anti-Dumping investigations, in each case, are to be completed within one year from the date of initiation.

[Translation]

Japanese Aid for Debt Relief

*545. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Japanese Government had offered to provide grants to India for debt relief;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof alongwith the amount of such grants offered by the Japanese Government for this purpose; and

(c) the areas in which this amount is proposed to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The grant is to be exclusively utilised for import of equipments and material in areas of low profitability and basic human needs such as health, education, environment etc. Total amount of such grant received so far is approximately Yen 26 billion.

[English]

Tribunals for Economic Offences

*546. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the economic offences are not seriously considered which is posing a great threat to the economy of the country;

(b) if so, the number of Economic offence cases which have come to the notice of the Government alongwith the amount involved therein during the last three years with action taken to recover them;

(c) whether the Government are actively considering to enforce the laws and also set up specialised tribunals to effectively deal with economic offences;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other concrete steps taken by the Government to deal with economic offences in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Government takes serious note of economic offences.

(b) The details of cases during the last three years are given below :

		(Rs. Crore)
Central Excise	No. of cases booked	Amount involved
	17495	10730
Customs	No. of seizures	Value of seizure
	118329	3839
Income Tax	No. of warrants executed	Value of assets seized
	15376	1221
FERA* cases	No. of SCNs [^] issued	Amount involved
	8014	3941
FERA** cases	No. of SCNs [^] issued	Amount involved
	327	134
Frauds reported by Public Sectors Banks	No. of frauds	Amount involved
	5552	1556

(*FERA—Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973)

**FERA—Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999)

([^]SCN – Show Cause Notice)

Steps taken to recover the amount involved include charging of interest, levy of penalty, attachment and sale of moveable and immovable properties, taking certificate action to recover penalties as arrears of land revenues and

filing petitions for urgent hearings in respect of cases where stay orders against recovery have been passed by appellate bodies.

(c) and (d) The provisions of the laws are enforced vigorously. Tribunals namely Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property and Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal are already existing.

(e) Necessary legislative, fiscal and administrative measures are continuously taken to tackle economic offences. The measures taken include rationalization of tariff structure, plugging leakage of revenue through anti-smuggling and anti-evasion measures, effective gathering of intelligence, simplification of tax collection procedures to improve tax compliance, undertaking extensive computerization of operations, strengthening the internal control machinery of the banks and reviewing fraud cases on a continuing basis.

Investment in Backward Areas

*547. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to continue extending income-tax benefits under section 801B of the Income-tax Act, 1961, on investments made in backward areas;

(b) whether despite this incentive, no substantial inflow of investment in backward areas, is being witnessed, resulting in stagnant economy in these areas;

(c) whether the Advisory Group on Tax Policy and Tax Administration for the Tenth Plan has observed that such incentives served no purpose; and

(d) if so, the other measures taken or likely to be taken for inflow and investments in backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Finance Bill, 2002 proposes to extend the tax holiday under section 801B of the Income-tax Act, 1961, to units set up on or before 1st April, 2004, in notified backward districts and Scheduled backward States.

(b) For the purpose of encouraging investment in backward areas, a package comprising of several tax and non-tax benefits is being offered by the Government. The outcome of these measures cannot be exclusively attributed to any particular measure.

However, a study carried out by the National Productivity Council for review of transport subsidy scheme in the backward regions, shows that during August, 1991 to March, 2002 the period during which the tax benefit was available, Letters of Intent (LOI) worth Rs.4644 Crores for proposed investment in the backward States were issued.

During the period 1989-90 to 1997-98, the growth in industrialization in backward areas, measured in terms of three parameters, viz., number of factories, employment and output, suggests a mixed picture.. While, in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland, the performance was much higher than the national average, the performance was lower than the national average in the States of Sikkim and Assam. The growth in the number of factories in five backward districts of the State of Uttaranchal has also been above the national average.

The above study also suggests that, during the period (1993-2002), when the tax benefits under section 80-IB were available; the economy in the backward States has substantially grown compared to pre-1993 times.

The Study report has found fiscal benefits to be generally helpful to industries located in backward and hill areas and has suggested continuance of such benefits.

(c) Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the Advisory Group were examined by this Ministry at the time of the budget exercise for 2002. It was considered necessary to continue with the tax incentives to backward areas for two more years for promoting industrial growth in these regions.

(d) In addition to direct and indirect tax benefits, other schemes for promoting investment in backward areas are in operation, which include transport subsidy scheme, Central Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, Central Interest Subsidy Scheme, Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme and Growth Central Schemes.

[Translation]

Transportation Subsidy for Export

*548. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY :
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide transportation subsidy on the export of agro-products with the objective of standing firmly in the international market of agro-products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The new Exim Policy announced on 31.3.2002 envisages transport assistance for export of fruits, vegetables, floriculture, poultry and dairy products with a view to achieving diversification of agriculture and increasing our share in the world market.

A study has been commissioned to work out the quantum of assistance for specific products and destinations.

Increase in Handling Cost of Foodgrains

*549. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the per quintal expenditure incurred by the Food Corporation of India on Procurement, storage and transportation of foodgrains during the years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and at present ;

(b) whether the cost of transportation and storage of foodgrains is increasing constantly; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps being taken by the Union Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) The expenditure incurred by FCI on acquisition and distribution of foodgrains which, inter alia, includes expenditure on procurement, storage and transportation, is as under :

	(Rs per quintal)					
	2000-01(RE)		2001-02 (RE)		2001-03 (BE)	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
Acquisition cost	703.61	995.50	739.13	1052.66	757.64	1072.69
Distribution cost	126.03	152.57	132.17	151.69	121.52	133.68

(b) and (c) The aggregate cost of transportation and storage of foodgrains is increasing due to inflationary impact and higher volumes of procurement necessitating higher transactional expenses.

The steps taken by FCI to control such costs include, inter alia, reduction in rail demurrage charges as well as in shortages in grain handling, better storage capacity utilization and reduction in administrative overheads.

Sale of Cement Corporation of India Units

*550. SHRI SUBHODH ROY :
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cement Corporation of India, a public sector company, has decided to sell or close down ten of its units;

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

(c) whether the Company intends to refund crores of rupees invested by the people and the financial institutions in the public deposit scheme of the Company;

(d) if so, by when and the time stipulated for this purpose; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the workers working in these units?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Cement Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) is a sick company under reference to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body. As no credible and viable revival plan emerged, BIFR, in its meeting held on 27.03.2001 directed IFCI, the Operating Agency (OA) to undertake the sale of CCI as a whole or its plants, individually or collectively. SBI Caps has been engaged as the Merchant Banker for this purpose. CCI is a non-strategic PSU. Out of its ten units, only three units viz Tandur in Andhara Pradesh, Bokajan in Assam and Rajban in Himachal Pradesh are operational at present. The remaining seven units of the company have been non-operational for a long time due to various reasons including the server liquidity crunch. Government have also decided that in the event of sale not materializing in the case of seven non-operational units, action for their closure will be taken. Those would not only save the outgo of the Payment of idle wages but also remove any uncertainty in the minds of employees about their future.

(c) and (d) In the case of sick companies referred to BIFR, as in the this case, the dues of the secured and unsecured creditors are settled as per law Which, inter-alia, provides that the dues of the workers and secured creditors are discharged in priority on paripassu basis and thereafter, out of the remaining amount, if any, the dues of other creditors are discharged.

(e) In the event of sale/divestment of equity in Central public Sector Undertakings, adequate safeguards are built into the agreements with the prospective buyers/partners to protect the employees interest on issues relating to general service conditions, retrenchment, VRS etc.

[English]

Trade Treaty with China

551. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fresh trade treaty has been signed between India and China;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether new provisions for quantitative restrictions have been incorporated on some export items;

(d) is so, the details thereof;

(e) the salient features of new Indo-China trade treaty;

(f) whether the concerns of dumping of goods by China have been taken into account before finalisation of treaty; and

(g) if so, the response of Chinese Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

Textiles Quota Policy

*552 SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have declared quota policy in regard to export of textiles;

(b) if so, the main features alongwith objectives thereof;

(c) whether the Government have consulted the concerned exporters and other agencies in this regard prior to finalisation of this policy;

(d) if so, the details therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and amendments proposed to be made in the said policy by the Government in view of the complaints made by the exporters in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has notified two Policy Notifications namely Garments and Knitwears Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy 2000-2004 and Yarn, Fabrics and Made-ups Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy 2002-2004. The salient features of these Policy Notifications are :-

(i) The system of allotment in case of Garments and Knitwear Exports for the years 2000-2004 will be as follows :-

System of Allotment	%age of Annual Level (2000-2004)
Past Performance Entitlement (PPE) System	70%*
New Investors Entitlement (NIE) System	15%
Non Quota Entitlement (NQE) System	5%
First Come First Served (FCFS) Entitlement System	10%

*5% reservation for High Value Entitlement within this system has since been deleted.

(ii) The system of allotment in case of Yarns, Fabrics and Made- Ups will be as follows :-

System of allotment	Percentage of Annual level
1	2
I. Yarn :	
(i) Past Performance Entitlement (PPE) system	55%
(ii) Manufacturer Exporters Entitlement (MEE) system	15%
(iii) Ready Goods Entitlement (RGE) system	30%
II. FABRICS (other than for categories 3,3a/EU,31a and 32a/Canada):	
(i) Past Performance Entitlement (PPE) system	55%
(ii) Manufacturer Exporters Entitlement (MEE) system	15%
(iii) Powerloom Exporters' Entitlement (PEE) system	15%
(iv) Ready Goods Entitlement (RGE) system	15%
III. FABRICS (for EU/category 3, 3a; Canada category 31a and 32/a):	
(i) Past Performance Entitlement (PPE) system	55%
(ii) Manufacturer Exporters Entitlement (MEE) system	15%
(iii) Ready Goods Entitlement (RGE) system	30%
IV. MADE-UPS (Handlooms) (under quantitative restraint in USA):	
(i) Past Performance Entitlement (PPE) system	55%
(ii) Ready Goods Entitlement (RGE) system	45%

1

2

V. MADE-UPS (Mill-made/powerlooms):

(i) Past Performance Entitlement (PPE) system	55%
(ii) Manufacturer Exporters Entitlement (MEE) system	15%
(iii) Powerloom Exporters' Entitlement (PEE) system	15%
(iv) Ready Goods Entitlement (RGE) system	15%

- (iii) Some of the other important features of the new policy include, phased utilization of quota; linking of quota for new investment with investment made in such new plant and machinery which meet the eligibility criterion of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme and making new investment quota entitlements non-transferable.

(c) to (e) The Government had set up a Task Force to make recommendations on the long term quota (export entitlement) distribution policies for a period of five years with effect from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2004. The Task Force invited responses from Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), leading trade associations and federation on various exporters and the associations concerned at New Delhi and Mumbai. Thus it may be seen that the Task Force considered the inputs from a wide range of sources before submitting the report was taken into account while framing the New Quota Policy.

Suggestion received from various associations of textile/garment exporters from time to time are duly considered and appropriate changes are made, whenever deemed necessary, to facilitate the smooth operation of the Quota System.

Campaign for Indian Tea

*553. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the context of surging Indo-Israel bilateral trade, the Tea Board of India launched a promotion campaign for Indian tea in Israel :

(b) if so, the details of the promotion campaign and the events proposed to be organized in connection therewith :

(c) whether the Tea Board is considering launching such promotion campaigns in other countries also; and

(d) If so, the countries in which such campaigns would be launched during 2002-03?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) With growing Indo-Israel bilateral, trade relations, an Awareness Campaign for brand promotion of Indian tea was launched by Tea Board by participating in the Indian Trade Exhibition held in Israel in May 2000. As a follow up, Tea Board has worked out a Joint Promotion Programme Proposal as part of the overall promotion campaign in Israel. However, it is too early to estimate and quantify the impact as well as increase in the export of tea to Israel in the context of the promotion campaign.

(c) and (d) To promote Indian teas in the overseas markets, Tea Board conducts promotional programmes covering various aspects such as registration of Tea Board logo and speciality tea logo in major tea importing countries, removing bottlenecks in exports in individual markets, participation in major trade Fairs/exhibitions abroad, field sampling at speciality stores and in principal markets, media campaign to increase consumer awareness of speciality Indian teas. Tea Board has also initiated steps for the implementation of a medium term export strategy for 2002-07 with focus on important markets like Russia, West Asia and North Africa, Poland and UK.

Purchase Preference Policy

*554. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have extended the purchase preference policy by another two years :

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the public sector undertakings to whom this purchase preference will be applicable;

(d) the extent to which this new policy would help PSUs;

(e) whether the Government have also cleared financial restructuring of Bharat Pumps and Compressors Limited and the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The Government have extended the policy of 10% purchase preference for products and services of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) for two more years from 1.4.2002 to 31.3.2004 with following salient features :

- i. The 10% purchase preference would be extended to tenders/NIT of Rs. five crore and above
- ii. CPSEs registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and statutory CPSEs will be eligible for purchase preference as before. Joint venture companies where holding of Government and/or CPSEs is 51% or more and joint ventures which are subsidiaries of CPSEs with CPSEs holding 51% equity or more will also be eligible for purchase preference.
- iii. A minimum value addition of 20% by the CPSEs/Joint Venture Units by way of manufacture and/ or services would be a prerequisite for availing purchase preference.
- iv. Ministries/Departments/CPSEs and autonomous bodies under Central Government will continue to grant purchase preference to CPSEs.
- v. Purchase preference will also be available to only those privatized CPSEs where specific Government approval has been accorded for the specific periods from the date of disinvestment.
- vi. Respective Ministries/Departments/autonomous bodies/CPSEs will be responsible for implementing the Purchase Preference Policy.
- vii. As per the existing policy the provisions relating to purchase preference should be specified in the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for Rs. five crore and above. For any deviation including exclusion of the purchase preference clause from the NIT, it will be obligatory for the concerned Ministry/Department/CPSEs/autonomous bodies to obtain prior exemption from the Cabinet in consultation with the Department of Public Enterprises.

viii. Other provisions of the purchase preference policy remain unaltered.

(e) and (f) Government have approved 'in principle' The financial restructuring proposals of both Bharat Pumps and Compressors Limited and Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited which are incumbent upon successful joint venture formation for the companies.

Plan to Boost Export of Coffee

*555. SHRI R.S. PATIL :

PROF. UMMAREDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out a Rs. 1000 crore plan to boost both export and domestic consumption of coffee during the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Coffee Board has hired McKinsey and Co. for drawing up a medium term for exports and suggest ways to obtain market share in the world market;

(d) if so, whether the said group has submitted its report;

(e) if so, the details of suggestions made in the report;

(f) whether additional funding would be given to coffee plantations to improve productivity; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (g) Coffee Board have worked out a medium term export strategy to be implemented during the X Plan period, focusing on different markets different grades and varieties of value-added coffees. Simultaneously, the Board would also implement a domestic marketing strategy for increasing consumption of coffee within the country during the Plan period.

The medium Term Export Strategy, taken up by the Coffee Board is based upon the concrete suggestions and plan of action arising out of a Report of M/s McKenzie and Company Inc. The strategy envisages improvement in market share for Indian Coffee in key international markets and to maximize export earnings. Some of the Key initiatives to be taken up by Coffee Board for improving its market share include the following:

- Shifting of Product Mix in favour of Arabica
- Ensuring a competitive landed price for Indian coffee radically reducing costs of production
- Maintaining consistency in the quality of export of coffee
- Guarantee reliability of exporters
- Improving awareness of Indian coffee in target markets
- Integrating Indian coffee with the global trade

During the X Plan, a sum of Rs. 300 crore as against allocation of Rs. 124 crore during the IX Plan has been earmarked for Coffee Board for development of coffee sector. From out of this outlay, the Board would implement a number of Schemes, including stepping up production/ productivity / quality upgradation /export promotion/ domestic consumption, infrastructure development, coffee development in the North-Eastern Region/Non-traditional areas etc.

Market value of Assets of Public Sector Undertakings

*556. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be Pleased to state :

(a) whether many Public Sector undertakings are showing a lower book value of the fixed assets, where as the market value in many cases are much higher;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted on the market value of the fixed assets;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the other mechanism available to estimate the correct value of fixed assets of PSUs.

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The financial statements, namely, the profit and loss account and the balance sheet of an enterprise are prepared in accordance with the requirements of law and the generally accepted accounting principles prevailing in the country. These statements are prepared primarily on the basis of historical cost convention. Accordingly, fixed assets are valued at original cost less depreciation, although the revaluation thereof is permitted.

As per available information no such study on market value of fixed assets, having been conducted, has come to notice.

(d) A commonly accepted and preferred method of restating fixed assets is by way of appraisal by the competent valuers.

Antyodaya Scheme

*557. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have failed to supply foodgrains to the Below Poverty Line families as per the norms;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the poorer amongst poor are not lifting their grains from the PDS under Antyodaya Scheme due to weak purchasing power;

(d) the stock of foodgrains as on March 31, 2002 commodity-wise; and

(e) the annual expenditure on maintaining these stocks of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is making allocation of foodgrains for BPL families (including Antyodaya families) under the Targeted Public Distribution System as per norms.

The Targeted Public Distribution System is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments. Whereas the Central Government is responsible for procuring, storing and transporting the PDS commodities upto the Central godowns and making them available to the States/UTs, the actual distribution of these commodities through the network of Fair Price Shops is the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Governments. The offtake of wheat and rice under BPL category (including Antyodaya) during 2001-2002 was 44.37 lakh tonnes and 65.49 lakh tonnes respectively as against 36.63 lakh tonnes of wheat and 58.93 lakh tonnes of rice during 2000-2001.

(c) The offtake of foodgrains under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana during 2001-2002 was 79.66% of the allocation in respect of rice and 65.73% of the allocation in respect of wheat.

(d) and (e) The total stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool (held by the FCI and State Agencies) as on 31.3.2002 were as follows :-

(In lakh tonnes)	
Commodity	Stocks (Provisional)
1	2
Rice	249.12
Wheat	260.39
Coarse grains	0.72
Total	510.23

The estimated cost of maintaining the buffer and operational stocks of foodgrains held by the FCI during the year 2001-2002 was Rs. 9015 crores.

Trade Relations with African Countries

*558. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to strengthen its trade relations with African countries
- (b) whether any potential item/commodity has been identified for exports; and
- (c) if so, the details of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes Sir, For enhancing India's trade with the sub-Saharan African region, a programme of "Focus-Africa" has been launched on 31st March 2002 along with EXIM Policy for the years 2002-07.

(b) The Programme will Focus on the following major product groups for enhancing India's exports to the Sub-Saharan African Region:

- Cotton Yarn , Fabrics and other textile items;
- Drugs and Pharmaceuticals;
- Machinery and Instruments;
- Transport equipment; and
- Telecom and Information Technology

(c) It aims to increase interaction between the two regions by identifying areas of bilateral trade and investment. The exports to the Region are envisaged to be enhanced through combined efforts of Government of India, India Trade Promotion Organisation, Export Promo-

tion Councils, Apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Indian Missions and Institutions such as EXIM Bank, Export credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) etc.

Control of Government on IDBI and IFCI

*559. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the financial institutions, namely IDBI and IFCI, have sought for reducing the Government control on them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the extent to which these steps are likely to be beneficial to these financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Government of India does not hold any equity share in IFCI. Government Propose to corporatise IDBI under the Company's Act where the shareholding of the Government is currently about 58% Corporatisation is expected to provide the desired flexibility in management and operations.

[Translation]

Import/Export of Flowers

*560. SHRI RAMACHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) the policy of the Government in respect of Import/Exports of flowers;
- (b) the quantum and value of flowers imported/exported during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate any new policy to encourage the import and export of flowers;
- (d) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to provide infrastructure facilities to the flowers industry in the domestic market; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Import and Export of flowers are free under the ITC (HS) classification of imports and exports.

(b) The quantum and value of flowers exported/imported during the last three years are as under :-

S. No	Year	Quantity (Kgs)		Value (Rs.Lakhs)	
		Import	Export	Import	Export
1.	1998-99	5599	11017781	10.78	7615.67
2.	1999-2000	32384	7821542	28.43	7348.05
3.	2000-01	14499	10476799	22.97	9597.72
4.	2001-02 (Apr-Dec)	143066	7581128	162.45	6310.78

(c) to (e) Extant Policy provides for grant of assistance to the State Governments for Development of export oriented infrastructure, including for floriculture exports. In addition, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export development Authority (APEDA) has established cold storage for handling perishable cargo including flowers at New Delhi, Bangalore, Trivandrum, Chennai and Hyderabad. APEDA has also taken steps for setting up cold storage handling facilities at Mumbai as well as Flowers Auction Centres at Bangalore, Mumbai and NOIDA.

English]

Payment to Resident Contractors

5750. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the authority making payments to resident contractors for carrying out work, including supply of labour, carriage of goods and passengers by any mode of Transport etc. is to deduct tax at source at the time of credit of such sum to the account of contractor or at the time of making payment thereof but test check of records have revealed that the provisions of the Act are not being followed by tax deductors amounting to several hundred crores of rupees as pointed out by C and AG in report No.12A of 2002;

(b) if so, the amount that has been paid without deducting TDS and how much of income tax not realised in involved; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take in the matter including fixing responsibility and accountability of the concerned defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, As per C and AG Report No.12A of 2002, some cases have been pointed out by C and AG in which the provisions regarding deduction of tax at source have not been properly complied with involving tax effect of Rs. 289.31 lakhs. This report of C and AG is being examined in the CBDT and also in the field formations with a view to give parawise reply to C and AG and to determine the correctness or otherwise of aforesaid audit observations.

(c) In those cases where the tax deductors are found guilty of non-deduction of tax at source, penalty U/s 271C are levied by the jurisdictional Assessing Officers in the field formations.

World Bank Loan for Rural Water Schemes

5751. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank have granted loans to many States in India for the rural water supply and sanitation projects; and

(b) if so, the State given loan and the amount of loan thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Projects for the amount mentioned against the following States were signed with the World Bank during the last three years :-

(US\$ million)		
Year	Name of the State	Loan Amount (US\$ million)
1999-2000	Nil	Nil
2000-2001	Kerala	65.5
2001-2002	Karnataka	151.6

*[Translation]***Voluntary Organisations of Jharkhand**

5752. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

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

(a) the names of the Voluntary Organisations in Jharkhand which are getting financial assistance;

(b) the extent of financial assistance sought by the these organizations and the extent of financial assistance actually sanctioned to them during the last two years;

(c) the norms laid down for sanctioning financial assistance to such organizations; and

(d) the names of the organizations which have been black listed during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The following are the norms/criteria for considering NGO for grant-in-aid for implementation of various schemes if this Ministry :-

- Body registered under the Society's Registration Act, 1860
- Public Registered Trust.
- Charitable Company licensed under section 25 of the Companies Act, 1958.
- Indian Red Cross Society or its branches.
- Other public institutions having a legal status.
- Body should have been registered for at least two years at the time of applying for assistance.
- Should not be running for profit to any individual or body of individuals.
- Financial soundness and capacity to bear with at least 10% of the budgeted expenditure.

(d) No organization in Jharkhand has been blacklisted during the last two years.

Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO with address	Name of the Project	Amount Released during 2000-01	Amount Released during 2001-02
1	2	3	4	5

Name of the Scheme : Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities

1.	Jan Chetana Kendra, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand	Residential School for Handicapped	-	1.02
2.	Bharat Sevshram Sangh, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand	Home of LCP	-	1.74
3.	Deepshikha Institute for Child Development and Mental Health, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Special School for MR Children	-	4.25

Name of the Scheme : Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids/Appliances

4.	Mukti Sansthan, Ranchi, Jharkhand	ADIP	- -	1.00
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1	2	3	4	5
Name of the Scheme : Integrated Programme for Street Children				
5	Chhotanagpur Sanskrit Sangh, Jognathnagar, Dhruwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Child line Service	—	0.07
Name of the Scheme : Assistance to Voluntary Organisation for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs)				
6.	Gramin Vikas Kendra, Deoghar, Jharkhand	Printing, Composing and Book Binding training Centre	—	1.05
Name of the Scheme : Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse				
7.	Kamini Seva Sadan, Jaiprakash Nagar, Dhanbad, Jharkhand	Counselling Centre	2.38	6.08
8.	Birsa Seva Sansthan, 25, Sharadhanand Road, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Counselling Centre	4.97	3.73
9.	Bihar Rehabilitation and Welfare Institute, G-4, People's Cooperative Colony, Kankar Bagh, Patna	De-addiction Centre at Dhanbad	—	3.40
Name of the Scheme : Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisation working for the Scheduled Castes (SCs)				
10.	Women in Social Action, Raghunathpur, Jhargram, Midnapore-721507	Welder and Fitter Training Centre at East Singhbhum	—	1.91
TOTAL			7.35	24.25

[English]

ICICI Bank and ICICI Merger

5753. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the RBI has given any proposal of exit route to minority descending shareholders on ICICI-ICICI Bank merger;

(b) whether such exit route was given to the share holders of Bank of Madura-ICICI Bank merger;

(c) the precaution available, to minority, i.e. small investors;

(d) whether both ICICI and ICICI Bank belongs to same management and are financial companies;

(e) the basic valuation, method, rate given to small investors of Bank of Madura;

(f) whether ICICI Management have been asked to provide such exit route; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In case of merger of two banking companies Section 44-A of the Banking regulation Act, 1949 provides that the dissenting shareholders are required to be offered the option of being paid the value of shares held by them, as determined by the Reserve Bank of India. In case of merger of a non-banking company like ICICI, Section 391 (2) of the Companies Act 1956 provides that the scheme of amalgamation be sanctioned by the Court.

(d) ICICI is a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956. ICICI Bank is a banking company incorporated under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. While ICICI Bank was originally promoted by ICICI as its subsidiary, the shareholding of ICICI in ICICI Bank was subsequently reduced to 46% in line with RBI directives.

(e) The valuation process was carried out by Deloitte Haskins and Sells by using standard methods taking into account book value of intrinsic value, future earning potentials and market prices.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Tax Benefit to Assam

5754. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Assam Industrial Development Corporation has appealed to Union Government to extend income tax benefits alongwith other incentives under the Northern-Eastern Policy, to the new industrial units in Assam till March, 2007; and

(b) if so, the specific central tax and other benefits have been asked for and granted to the new industrial units in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir, However, the Department of Revenue has received similar representations from the North Eastern Tea Association and the Eastern Assam Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Under section 80-IB Income-tax Act, 1961, an industrial undertaking in Assam (being a backward State) set up before 31.3.2002 is eligible for deduction of 100% of the profits and gains derived from such industrial undertakings for the first five years, and 25% (30% in the case of companies) for the next five years.

Under the same section industrial undertakings in thrust sectors set-up upto 31.3.2002 in Assam (and the whole of North-East) are entitled to deduction upto 100% of the profits for a period of 10 years.

The Finance Bill, 2002 has extended this deduction to Industrial units set up on or before 31.3.2004.

Under section 10C, industrial units in Assam (and the whole of North-East) located in an Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre set-up after 1.4.1998 are eligible for 100% tax exemption of entire profits under section 10C for a period of 10 years.

Exemption from central excise duty is also available to units in Assam under notification number 32/99-CE and 33/99-CE which is available from the date of commencement of production for a period of 10 years.

[Translation]

Export of Wheat to Bangladesh

5755. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have exported wheat to Bangladesh during the last one year;

(b) if so, the quantity sold and the price charged;

(c) whether the Government have exported wheat to other countries also; and

(d) if so, the names of the countries alongwith the quantum and foreign exchange earned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, 13.46 lakh MTs of wheat have been actually shipped to Bangladesh. The prices at which wheat has been offered for export from the Central Pool from time to time are as under :-

(Rate Rs. per MT)

Rate	From	Upto
4150/-	20.10.2000	31.03.2001
4300/-	01.04.2001	16.08.2001
4200/-	17.08.2001	30.11.2001
4250/-	01.12.2001	10.05.2002

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Wheat been exported to Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq Kuwait, Malayasia, Myanmar, Oman/Dubai, Phillipines, Qatar, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Srilanka, Sudan, Taiwan, Thailand, UAE/Sharjah, Vietnam and Yeman. Upto 57.28 lakh MTs of wheat have been lifted for export as on 12.4.2002. Foreign exchange of Rs. 2427.14 crore approximately has been earned upto 12.04.2002.

[English]

Funds to States for the Welfare Scheme

5756. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of destitutes in different States and Union Territories as an December 31,2001;

(b) the funds allocated to States/Union territories during 2001-02 for the Welfare schemes for destitutes and the ratio of expenditure on administration of scheme via-a-vis benefits to per destitute;

(c) whether there is any monthly payment scheme available to destitutes;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) (a) and (b) There is no specific scheme for the destitutes. However, the schemes of Integrated Programme for Street Children and Older Persons aim at prevention of destitution of children and Older Persons. Under these schemes funds are allocated to local bodies and voluntary organizations.

(c) to (e) No Sir. No such proposal is under consideration.

Implementation of Geeta Krishanan Committee Recommendations

5757. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Minisetry is monitoring implementation of the Geeta Krishanan Committee recommendations;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has received any representation from any Government establishment to reconsider non-implementation of the Geeta Krishanan Committee's recommendations including the I and B Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission under the Chairmanship of Shri K.P. Geethakrishnan have been forwarded to the concerned Ministries/Departments (including Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) and are in various stages of implementation.

Laboratory Test for Sale of Foodgrains

5758. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have plan for the sale of foodgrains and other consumer items in the market after they qualify a laboratory test;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the foodgrains distributed among the public during relief or sale through the Government departmental stores are done without any laboratory test;

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

(d) the corrective steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Foodgrains

conforming to the specifications laid down by the Government and also conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) standards are issued by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to the States for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes of the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The following steps have been taken to ensure the supply of good quality foodgrains :

- i) Ample opportunities are provided to the officials of the State Governments/ Union Territories (UTs) to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from the FCI godowns.
- ii) Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments / UTs that an officer not below the rank of Inspector should be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from the FCI godowns.
- iii) The samples of foodgrains are jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments / UT and the FCI during the issue of stocks from FCI godowns for display at the counters of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).
- iv) The officers of the State Government concerned and the Ministry conduct surprise checks of FPSs to oversee the quality of foodgrains being distributed through TPDS.
- v) The officers of the department of Food and Public Distribution designated as 'Area Officers' also monitor the TPDS work in their respective States and also inspect storage depots and FPSs during their visit to the States.

[Translation]

Bank Loans to Industries/Companies

5759. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of private industries/companies of Madhya Pradesh which have taken loan of more than Rs.50 crores from various Nationalised Banks and financial institutions;

(b) the number of such industries/companies amongst them which have taken aforesaid amount during the last three years;

(c) the number of such industries/companies which have not paid loan installments and interest thereon to Banks/institutions during the said period;

(d) the extent of total financial loss suffered by the Banks/institutions; and

(e) the remedial measures taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) According to Reserve Bank of India, 32 Private Companies of Madhya Pradesh had taken a loan of more than Rs. 50 crore from all scheduled commercial banks and financial institutions. Out of these, 18 companies have taken the said loans during the last three years.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid before the House.

FCI Godowns

5760. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the rules framed by Food Corporation of India for taking the godowns on rent;

(b) whether it is a fact that many godowns of FCI are situated as far as 70-80 kilometres away from the railway station;

(c) if so, the losses suffered by the FCI on transportation as a result thereof during the last year; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by the Government to take such godowns situated near the railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Food Corporation of India while taking godowns on rent takes into account operational requirements and others factors like storage-worthiness of the godowns, availability of facilities like weighbridges, office block, railway siding etc.

Some godowns which are away from railheads have to be hired by FCI in hilly and remote areas on account of operational necessities. The additional cost incurred in taking foodgrains from nearest railhead to such godowns, thus becomes unavoidable. If there is a choice, godowns near railheads are preferred for hiring.

[English]

**Assistance to NGOs for Old
Aged Homes**

5761. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether NGOs have been assisted to run the old aged homes in the country; any

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided to each organization. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The State-wise, organization-wise details of financial assistance given to run the old age homes under the Integrated Programme for Older Persons during the year 2001-2002 is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise/district-wise names of organizations given financial Assistance by the Government for maintenance of old age homes under the scheme "Integrated Programme for older Persons" during 2001-2002

Abriviation :- Oah-Old Age Home

S. No.				Amount released in Rs/lakhs
	Project			2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
1.	Anantpur	Rupa Education Society	OAH-1	1.28
2.	Anantpur	Sree Venketesware Convent Ed. Society,	OAH-1	1.34
3.	Anantpur	Nav Bharat Socio Economic Society	OAH-1	3.97
4.	Anantpur	People's Rural Education Dev. Society	OAH-1	2.47
5.	Cuddapah	Chaitanya Ed. and Rural Dev. Society	OAH-1	4.14
6.	Cuddapah	Depressed Peoples Dev. Society	OAH-1	3.69
7.	Cuddapah	Dr. Ambedkar Dalitha Varga Abh. Sangham	OAH-1	2.76
8.	Cuddapah	Srinivasa Ed. and Rural Dev. Society	OAH-1	1.24
9.	Cuddapah	Sri Padamwathi Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.76
10.	Cuddapah	Sri Venkateswara Socio-Economic Dev. Society	OAH-1	6.10
11.	Cuddapah	Sree Krishna Devaraya Yavajana Sangam	OAH-1	1.29
12.	Cuddapah	Khadisilk Gramodyoga Samiti	OAH-1	2.37
13.	Chittoor	Mother India Community Dev. Association	OAH-2	5.10
14.	Chittoor	Peda Prajala Seva Samithi	OAH-2	7.97

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Chittoor	Peoples Action for Social Service	OAH-2	5.53
16.	Chittoor	Rashtriya seva Samithi	OAH-2	5.53
17.	Chittoor	Sarvodaya Women Welfare Society	OAH-1	2.76
18.	Chittoor	Sri Venkateswara Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.66
19.	Chittoor	Telugu Bharathi Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.76
20.	East Godavari	Association for the care of Aged	OAH-1	2.02
21.	East Godavari	Help the Woman	OAH-1	2.76
22.	East Godavari	Ravindra Educational Society	OAH-1	1.09
23.	East Godavari	Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Orphanage and Boarding Home	OAH-1	2.76
24.	East Godavari	Sarda Education Society	OAH-1	1.38
25.	Guntur	Indira Memorial Weaker Section Dev. Society	OAH-1	2.61
26.	Guntur	Indira Priadaarsini Girijana Backward Class Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.04
27.	Guntur	Kothapeta Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.76
28.	Guntur	Narasarapet Taluk STs/Youth Club	OAH-1	2.76
29.	Guntur	Naveen Adarsya Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.36
30.	Guntur	Omkar Rural Development Society	OAH-1	0.86
31.	Guntur	Serd,SCs/Sts and Christians Welfare Society	OAH-1	3.69
32.	Guntur	Soniya Gandhi Harijan Grijana Balheena Vargamula Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	4.04
33.	Guntur	Udayasree Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.61
34.	Guntur	Kandrika Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.76
35.	Guntur	Sri Venkateswara Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.09
36.	Hyderabad	Anuraag Human Services	OAH-1	1.38
37.	Hyderabad	Dr. P.N. Hanumantha Rao Charitable Trust	OAH-1	2.76
38.	Hyderabad	Old Age Welfare Centre	OAH-1	3.61
39.	Hyderabad	Sai Seva Sangha	OAH-1	3.02
40.	Hyderabad	Social Integration for Rural Improvement	OAH-1	2.49
41.	Hyderabad	Jyothi Welfare Association	OAH-1	1.38
42.	Karimnagar	Santosh Educational Society	OAH-1	4.51
43.	Krishna	A.P. Girijana Sevak Sangha	OAH-1	2.76

1	2	3	4	5
44.	Krishna	Amma Vayavrudha Seva Sadanam	OAH-1	1.27
45.	Krishna	Integrated Dev/ Agency	OAH-1	2.76
46.	Krishna	Senior Citizens Forum	OAH-1	1.18
47.	Krishna	Bapuji Integrated Rural Dev. Society	OAH-1	2.76
48.	Kurnool	Asha Jyothi Edu. Society	OAH-1	1.33
49.	Kurnool	Nav Bharath Educational Society	OAH-1	2.76
50.	Kurnool	Partibha Educational Society	OAH-1	1.24
51.	Kurnool	Priyadarshini Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.09
52.	Kurnool	Rural Tribal Development Society	OAH-1	1.03
53.	Kurnool	Rural Upliftment of Health and Educational Society	OAH-1	1.34
54.	Mahaboobnagar	Bethel Educational Society	OAH-1	2.50
55.	Mahaboobnagar	Social Action for Social Development	OAH-1, DCC-1 and MMU-1	7.31
56.	Mahaboobnagar	Gramabhyudaya Seva Sanasthan	OAH-1	1.08
57.	Mahaboobnagar	Swarajya Laxmi Orgn. for women	OAH-1	2.60
58.	Mahaboobnagar	Sandhya Rural Welfare Society	OAH-1	2.34
59.	Mahaboobnagar	S.A.V. Gupta Educational Society	OAH-1	2.66
60.	Mahaboobnagar	Rural Society Welfare Asscn.	OAH-1	2.66
61.	Nalgonda	Society of Emmanuel Evangelism for Rural Dev.	OAH-1	2.69
62.	Nalgonda	Mahalaxmi Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	3.93
63.	Nellore	Arya Dayananda Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.76
64.	Nellore	Asthana-A-Christia Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	2.76
65.	Nellore	Bharathi Mahila Voluntary Service Orgn.	OAH-1	4.02
66.	Nellore	Haritha Mahila Mandali Society	OAH-1	1.00
67.	Nellore	Nehru Bharathi Educational Institution	OAH-1	2.55
68.	Nellore	Polymer's Educational Society	OAH-1	2.76
69.	Nellore	Health care and Social Welfare Society (Harijan Christian Society Welfare Society)	OAH-1	2.76
70.	Prakasam	3 Men Academies	OAH-1	1.38

1	2	3	4	5
71.	Prakasam	Adarsha Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.38
72.	Prakasam	Chandravamsa Organisation for Rural Development	OAH-1	1.11
73.	Prakasam	Kastajeevula Jateeya Seva Sangham	OAH-1	1.38
74.	Prakasam	Laxmi Mahila Mandali	DAH-1	1.38
75.	Prakasam	Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.38
76.	Prakasam	Netaji Yuvak Kendra	OAH-1	1.11
77.	Prakasam	Prakasam Zilla Balaheena Vargala Colony Varala Seva Sangam	OAH-1	1.38
78.	Prakasam	Samatha Mahila Vedika	OAH-1	2.76
79.	Prakasam	Shri Mahalaxmi Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	1.38
80.	Prakasam	Valmiki Seva Sangham	OAH-1	2.73
81.	Prakasam	Vasavi Educational Society	OAH-1	1.38
82.	Ranga Reddy	Forum for Social Upliftment, Secunderabad	OAH-1	1.20
83.	Ranga Reddy	Golden Environmental Educational Technical Health and Agriculture Society	OAH-1	1.10
84.	Ranga Reddy	St. Anthony's Educational Society	OAH-1	0.89
85.	Ranga Reddy	Venkateswara Social Service Asscn.	OAH-1	1.05
86.	Secunderabad	Rurban Integrated Dev. Society	OAH-1	2.34
87.	Vishakhapatnam	Priyadarsini Service Organisation	OAH-1	3.89
88.	Vishakhapatnam	Sri Vankateswara Yuvajana Sangham	OAH-1	4.04
89.	Vizianagram	Prema Samajam	OAH-1	2.12
90.	Warangal	Kasturibai Mahila Mandali	OAH-1	5.53
91.	West Godavari	St. Mary Rehabilitation Centre for Orphans, Widows and Iapers	OAH-1	2.76
ASSAM				
92.	Haila Kandi	Wodwichee	OAH-1	2.76
93.	Nagaon	Bahumukhi Krishi Avam Samaj Kalyan Samiti	OAH-2	3.84
94.	Nagaon	Global Health Immunisation and Population Control Organisation	OAH-1	1.11

1	2	3	4	5
95.	Nagaon	Sadua Asom Gramya Puthibharal Santha	OAH-1	2.55
96.	Kamrup	Rural Women Upliftment Association, Gowahati Assam(Centre at Kamrup)	OAH-1	1.48
BIHAR				
97.	Patna	Mahila Mukti Vahini	OAH-1	5.53
CHHATTISGARH				
98.	Raipur	Chatisgharh Bal Avam Vrid Kalyan Parishad	OAH-1	1.28
GUJRAT				
99.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat Kalvani Trust	OAH-1	1.38
HARYANA				
100.	Jind	Amar Jyoti Shiksha Sanstha	OAH-1	1.38
101.	Mahendergarh	Rao Madhav Singh Memorial Trust	OAH-1	1.69
102.	Rohtak	Chaubisee Vikas Sangha	OAH-1	2.76
103.	Sonepat	Samaj Kalyan Shiksha Samiti	OAH-1	2.24
JAMMU AND KASHMIR				
104.	Leh	Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre	OAH-1	1.75
105.	Srinagar	Society for Rural and Urban Development	OAH-1	1.80
KARNATAKA				
106.	Bangalore	Ashaktha Poshaka Sabha	OAH-1	4.62
107.	Bangalore	Dr. Jachani Rastriya Sevapantha	OAH-1	2.38
108.	Bangalore	Mattadahally Japajivanram Sarvoday Sangha	OAH-1	1.27
109.	Bangalore	Sri Amhigara Chawdasah Ed. Society	OAH-2	5.48
110.	Bangalore	Sri Satha Shrunga Vidhya Samste	OAH-1	6.60
111.	Bangalore	Eshwar Education and Walfaere Society	OAH-1	2.55
112.	Bangalore	Mothers Care Education Society	OAH-1	1.32
113.	Bangalore	Nightingales Medical Trust	OAH-1	0.24
114.	Bangalore	Sri Swami Sarva Dharma Shamalaya Trust	OAH-1	1.02
115.	Belgaum	Ramalingeshwar Gramabhiruddi Sangh	OAH-1	2.78

1	2	3	4	5
116. Belgaum	Shri Malikarjun Jana Seva Society		OAH-1	1.06
117. Bidar	Chywan Ayurvedic Edu. Society		OAH-1	1.30
118. Bidar	Dr. B.R Ambedkar Cultural and Welare Society		OAH-1	1.28
119. Bidar	Sangram Ed., Society		OAH-1	1.22
120. Bidar	Nittur Ed. Society		OAH-1	2.76
121. Bellary	Adarsa Ed. Society		OAH-1	2.14
122. Bijapur	Shri Sharana Jyothi Vidya Samsta		OAH-1	2.76
123. Chitradurga	Shri Sadguru Kabeernanda Swamy Vidya Peetha		OAH-1	2.28
124. Chitradurga	Niranthara Jana Seva National Education Reh. and Rural Dev. Organisation		OAH-1	1.06
125. Davangere	Adresh Mahila Mandali		OAH-1	1.11
126. Davangere	Sri Maitri Mahila Mandali		OAH-1	2.76
127. Davangere	Sri Shakti Mahila Mandali		OAH-1	2.76
128. Gulbarga	Mahaboob Subhani Education Trust		OAH-1	1.31
129. Gulbarga	Mahadevi Tai Mahila Vidya Vardhak Sangha		OAH-1	1.38
130. Gulbarga	Shri Malikarjun Vidya Vadhak Sangh		OAH-1	1.11
131. Gulbarga	'Sri sangameswam Ed. Society		OAH-1	1.38
132. Gulbarga	Sharanara Nadu Education Society		OAH-1	1.80
133. Gulbarga	Sri Jagadguru Gurusiddeshwar Vidhya Vardak and Sanskritika Sanstha		OAH-1	1.15
134. Kolar	Sri Raman Maharishi Trust for Disabled Persons		OAH-1	5.53
135. Kolar	Sri Swami Sarva Dharma Sharnalaya Trust		OAH-1	2.68
136. Kolar	Sri Vishnu Education Society		OAH-1	1.29
137. Mandya	Poomima Vidya Sanstha Arakera		OAH-1	5.45
138. Mandya	Jnana Sindhu Education and Cultural Society Bangalore (Centre at Mandya Distt.)		OAH-1	1.49
139. Tumkur	Rural Organisation Social and Education Society		OAH-1	1.10
140. Tumkur	Sri Swamy Sarva Dharm Shamalaya Trust		OAH-1	1.34

1	2	3	4	5
KERALA				
141.	Kochi	Welfare Services Eernakulam	OAH-1	3.67
142.	Kollam	International Centre for Study and Dev.	OAH-1	2.13
MADHYA PRADESH				
143.	Indore	Kalayan Mitra Samithi	OAH-1	2.27
144.	Sehore	Gyani Vendhjav Seva Kendra	OAH-1	4.15
145.	satna	Promod Van Anand Dham	OAH-1	1.14
146.	Ujjain	Ujjain Senior Citizens Forum	OAH-1	2.28
PUNJAB				
147.	Amritsar	Bhai Vir Sangh Birdh Ghar	OAH-1	1.12
148.	Bhatinda	All Indian Guru Nanak Mission	OAH-1	1.60
149.	Faridkot	Indian Red Cross Society	OAH-1	0.88
150.	Hoshiarpur	Bhai Ghannaiya Charitable Trust	OAH-1	1.02
151.	Mansa	Mahila Kalyan Samiti	OAH-1	3.38
PONDICHERRY				
152.	Pondicherry	St. Jose of Cluncy, Hospice, Convent	OAH-1	1.94
153.	Pondicherry	St. Joseph Covent (Hospice)	OAH-1	2.69
154.		Immaculate Heart of Mary Home for Aged	OAH-1	1.09
MAHARASTRA				
155.	Ahmednagar	Arunoday Bahuddeshiya Gramin Vikas Sanstha,	OAH-1	1.09
156.	Jalan	Parashar Shikshan Sansthan	OAH-1	2.68
157.	latur	Bal Vikas Mahila Mandal	OAH-1	0.88
158.	Nagpur	Rastrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Technical and Educational Society	OAH-1	2.65
159.	Nanded	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Shikshan Prasarak Sanstha	OAH-1	2.66
160.	Yawatmal	Late Sanjay Rathod Shikshan Sanstha	OAH-1	3.9
161.	Yawatmal	Late Ramesh Jadhav Shikshan and Krida Prasarak Mandal	OAH-1	3.99

1	2	3	4	5
MANIPUR				
162. Chandel	Centre for Rural Development		OAH-1	1.34
163. Chandel	Social Agriculture and Rural Dev. Agency		OAH-1	1.33
164. Churachandpur	Tribal Upliftment Association		OAH-3	6.65
165. Imphal (East)	The Center for Upliftment of Rural Women Association		OAH-1	2.76
166. Imphal (East)	Rural Downtrodden People Upliftment Society		OAH-1	2.54
167. Imphal (East)	Community Development Society		OAH-1	1.22
168. Imphal (West)	Bashi Khong Chanura Shilon Lap		OAH-1	2.24
169. Imphal (West)	The Manipur Deaf and Mute Association		OAH-1	2.68
170. Imphal (West)	The Manipur SC Welfare Association		OAH-1	1.35
171. Thoubal	Jamia Educational Society		OAH-1	5.23
172. Thoubal	Integrated Rural Dev. and Ed. Association		OAH-1	2.76
173. Thoubal	New Integrated Rural Management Agency		OAH-2	5.52
174. Thoubal	South Eastern Rural Dev. Organisation		OAH-1	3.99
175. Thoubal	The Rural People's Dev. Services		OAH-1	5.33
176. Thoubal	United Rural Dev. Services		OAH-1	1.38
177. Thoubal	Youth Progressive Orgn.		OAH-1	1.38
178. Thoubal	The United Hill Peoples Dev. Society		OAH-1	1.13
179. Bishnupur	Kumbi Khullakpam Leikai Women's Assocn.		OAH-1	4.08
NAGALAND				
180. Dimapur	Old Age Home, Dimapur		OAH-1	2.06
ORISA				
181. Angul	Gram Seva Mandal		OAH-1	2.76
182. Balangir	Gram Mangal Pathagar		OAH-1	1.38
183. Bhubaneswar	Orissa Multipurpose Dev. Centre		OAH-1	5.42
184. Bhubaneswar	Jankalyan Samithi		OAH-1	2.38
185. Bhubaneswar	Organisation for Social Change and Rural Dev.		OAH-1	3.94

1	2	3	4	5
186.	Cuttack	Association for Social Reconstructive Activities	OAH-1	4.14
187.	Cuttack	Basudev Pathagar	OAH-1	3.42
188.	Cuttack	Dr. Ambedkar Rural Olympic Association	OAH-1	0.76
189.	Denkanal	Adarsh Sewa Sangathan	OAH-1	1.38
190.	Denkanal	Arun Institute of Rural Affairs (AIRA)	OAH-1	1.38
191.	Denkanal	Maharishi Dayanand Service Mission	OAH-1	2.76
192.	Denkanal	Society for Rural Advancement and Democratic Humanitarian Action	OAH-1	1.34
193.	Ganjam	Institute for Women's Welfare	OAH-1	2.18
194.	Kalahandi	Shree Ramakrishna Ashrama	OAH-1	2.76
195.	Kendrapada	Jana Seva Parishad	OAH-1	3.95
196.	Kendrapada	Indian Village Development Organisation	OAH-1	1
197.	Kendrapada	Lutheran Mahila Samiti	OAH-1	1.32
198.	Kendrapada	Jankalyan Sewa Sanstha	OAH-1	1.38
199.	Keonjhar	Bishnupriya Balashram	OAH-1	4.11
200.	Khurda	National Resources Centre for Women Development	OAH-1	1.25
201.	Khurda	Bhairabi Club	OAH-1	2.44
202.	Khurda	Juba Jyothi Club	OAH-1	2.67
203.	Khurda	Union for Learning Trng. and Reformative Activ.	OAH-1	2.54
204.	Khurda	Vishwa Jeevan Seva Sangh	OAH-2	5.52
205.	Koraput	Gandhian Institute of Technical Advancement	OAH-1	1.25
206.	Nayagarh	National Institute of Tribal Welfare and Social action	OAH-2	6.58
207.	Nayagarh	Janvikash	OAH-1	1.38
208.	Phulbani	Banabasi Seva Samithi	OAH-1	2.36
209.	Phulbani	Subhadra Mehtab Seva Sadan	OAH-1	2.67
210.	Puri	Association for Voluntary Action	OAH-1	2.76
211.	Puri	Bankeswari Jubak Sangha	OAH-1	2.76
212.	Puri	Nilachal Seva Pratisthan	OAH-2	8.28

1	2	3	4	5
213. Puri	Ratnachira		OAH-2	1.38
214. Puri	Jayakishan Youth Club		OAH-1	1.51
215. Puri	Adal Badal Mahila Samiti		OAH-1	1.52
216. Mayurbhanj	Rural Development Action Cell		OAH-1	4.72
RAJASTHAN				
217. Kota	Madhu Smriti Mahila and Bal Kalyan Utthan Sansthan		OAH-1	1.08
218. Sri Ganga Nagar	Manohar Bal Mandir Samitee		OAH-1	1.11
TAMILNADU				
219. Chennai	Indian Instt. for Sustainable Dev.		OAH-1	1.3
220. Chennai	Kalaiselvi Karunalaya Social Welfare Society		OAH-1	4.13
221. Chennai	Vishranthi Charitable Trust		OAH-1	2.21
222. Cudalore	Madhar Nala Thondu		OAH-1	1.38
223. Dindigul	Dindigul Multipurpose Social Service Society		OAH-1	1.66
224. Dindigul	Rural Education for Action and Development (READ)		OAH-1	1.09
225. Dindigul	CEDA Trust		OAH-1	1.09
226. Erode	Rural Welfare Organisation		OAH-1	1.09
227. Kanchapuram	Bureau for Integrated Rural Dev.		OAH-1	2.71
228. Kanchapuram	Duraisamy Generous Social Ed. Society		OAH-1	6.26
229. Kanchapuram	Life Improvement Trust		OAH-1	1.3
230. Kanchapuram	Annai Karunalaya Social Welfare Association		OAH-1	1.11
231. Namakkal	Women Org. for Rural Development		OAH-1	2.26
232. Nagapattinam	Avvai Village Welfare Society		OAH-1	1.38
233. Nagapattinam	Gramiya Social Welfare Society		OAH-1	2.76
234. Nagapattinam	Nehru Social Ed. Centre		OAH-1	2.76
235. Nagapattinam	Society for Rural Dev.		OAH-1	1.79
236. Nagapattinam	Karunalaya Saraswathi illam		OAH-1	1.1
237. Pudukkottai	Grama Suryaraj		OAH-1	5.36

1	2	3	4	5
238.	Pudukkottai	Vethathiri Maharishi Social Welfare Trust	OAH-1	2.21
239.	Pudukkottai	Oazoane	OAH-1	4.03
240.	Pudukkottai	Development Education for Rural Mass	OAH-1	1.54
241.	Pudukkottai	Rural Education for Community Organisation	OAH-1	0.98
242.	Sivagangai	Singampatty Grama Munetra Sangam	OAH-1	1.53
243.	Sivagangai	Society for Rural and Urban Women's Renaissance Activities (SRUWRA)	OAH-1	0.94
244.	Thanjavur	Mercy Miruna Old Age Home	OAH-1	2.76
245.	Thanjavur	Sri Victoria Educational Society	OAH-1	3.87
246.	Thanjavur	Bharathamatha Family Welfare Foundation	OAH-1	5.92
247.	Thanjavur	National Mother and Child Welfare Orgn.	OAH-1	5.52
248.	Thanjavur	Bharathi Women Dev. Centre	OAH-1	4.02
249.	Triuchirappalli	The Tamil Nadu Pengal Nala Sangam	OAH-1	2.72
250.	Theni	Yuvak Vikas Kendra	OAH-1	4.14
251.	Theni	Gramiyam Sangh	OAH-1	2.76
252.	Tirunelveli	Makkal Nalvalvu Mantram	OAH-1	2.6
253.	Tirunelveli	Arasan Rural Development Society	OAH-1	0.89
254.	Trichy	Jaya Balwadi Educational Society	OAH-2	5.4
255.	Trichy	Krishna's Home	OAH-1	1.38
256.	Trichy	Periyar Kudil	OAH-1	0.9
257.	Trichy	Thiruchirappalli rural and Urban Welfare Dev. Education Society	OAH-1	2.76
258.	Trichy	Vidiivelli Rural Development Society	OAH-1	1.75
259.	Villupuram	Annai Karunalaya Social Welfare Association	OAH-1	1.11
TRIPURA				
260.	West Tripura	Abalamban	OAH-1	3.6
261.	West Tripura	All Tripura SC, ST and Minority Upliftment Council	OAH-1	5.30

1	2	3	4	5
UTTAR PRADESH				
262.	Allahabad	Adarsh Janta Shiksha Samiti	OAH-1	4.15
263.	Allahabad	Arya Kanya Vidyalaya Samiti	OAH-1	4.14
264.	Allahabad	Dalit Manav Utthan Samiti	OAH-1	5.52
265.	Allahabad	Gayatri Devi Shiksha Samiti	OAH-1	2.76
266.	Allahabad	Indian Red Cross Society	OAH-1	4.14
267.	Allahabad	Prakash Gramin Vikas Sansthan	OAH-1	2.65
268.	Allahabad	Gaurav Jan Kalyan Samiti	OAH-1	4.14
269.	Barabanki	Nirbal Samaj Kalyan Sansthan	OAH-1	5.45
270.	Ghaziabad	Gurukul Vidyapeeth Pushpavati	OAH-1	4.34
271.	Gonda	Sangam Vikas Sewa Sansthan	OAH-1	2.5
272.	Hamirpur	Shree Kanchanlal Saguna Seva Sansthan	OAH-1	2.76
273.	Hardoi	Sarvajanik Shiksonnyan Sansthan	OAH-1	2.53
274.	Lucknow	Shaheed Memorial Society	OAH-3	8.28
275.	Lucknow	Sarvajanik Shiksha Samiti	OAH-1	2.54
276.	Mathura	All India Women's Conference, N. Delhi	OAH-1	1.18
277.	Pratapgarh	Pratapgarh Mahila Kalyan Avam Shiksha Samiti	OAH-1	3.3
278.	Pratapgarh	Ganga Prasad Samarak Mahila Kalyan Sansthan	OAH-1	5.52
279.	Rampur	Jawahar Jyoti Shiksha Evam Gramya Vikas Samiti	OAH-1	4.14
280.	Sant Ravi Das Nagar	Gramin Jan Kalyan Sansthan	OAH-1	1.09
281.	Unnao	New Public School Samiti	OAH-1	2.76
UTTRANCHAL				
282.	Dehradun	Uttarakhand Shoshit Mahila Uthan Samiti	OAH-1	1.38
283.	Bageshwar	Pravartiya Nav Jagran Samiti	OAH-1	2.58
WEST BENGAL				
284.	Burdwan	Central Scheduled Castes and Tribal Welfare Association	OAH-1	2.51
285.	Calcutta	All Bengal Women's Union	OAH-1	1.98

1	2	3	4	5
286.	Calcutta	Chandranath Basu Seva Sangha	OAH-1	2.24
287.	Calcutta	Janashiksha Prochar Kendra	OAH-1	2.49
288.	Calcutta	Navadiganta	OAH-1	3.96
289.	Howrah	Village Welfare Society	OAH-1	2.76
290.	Hooghly	Kalyan Bharati	OAH-1	3.02
291.	Midnapore	Amar Seva Sangha	OAH-1	2.64
292.	Midnapore	Bikramnagar Udayan Sangha	OAH-2	5.52
293.	Midnapore	Child and Social Welfare Society	OAH-1	2.76
294.	Midnapore	Hitaljore Kishoribala Databya Chikitsalya	OAH-1	2.2
295.	Midnapore	Netaji Pathachakra	OAH-1	2.69
296.	Midnapore	Nimbark Math Seva Samiti Trust	OAH-1	1.09
297.	Midnapore	Sainpukar Matri Sabika Samiti	OAH-2	2.49
298.	Midnapore	Shibarampur Milan Tirtha	OAH-1	1.38
299.	Midnapore	Social Welfare and Rural Dev. Society	OAH-1	2.76
300.	Midnapore	Vivekananda Lok Shiksha Niketan	OAH-1	1.38
301.	Midnapore	West Bengal SCs, STs, and Minority Welfare Association	OAH-2	7.23
302.	Midnapore	Seulipur Uddyan Club	OAH-1	2.22
303.	Midnapore	Nepura Rural Development Society	OAH-1	1.59
304.	Nadia	Karimpur Social Welfare Society	OAH-1	2.72
305.	North 24-Parganas	Jirakpur Sister Nivedita Seva Mission	OAH-1	2.64
306.	South 24-Parganas	Ganeshnagar Laxminaryana Club and Pathagar.	OAH-1	2.5
307.	South 24-Parganas	Vivekanand Child Welfare Home	OAH-1	2.41
308.	South 24-Parganas	People Service Institute	OAH-1	1.08

GDR Funds

5762. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of equity raised through GDR in foreign capital market by Indian Corporate houses/private limited companies upto March 31, 2002;

(b) the amount as foreign equity raised through the GDR and brought back to India;

(c) the Regulatory and Monitoring Mechanism created to inter see the GDR funds by corporate houses and private limited companies; and

(d) the names of companies, corporate house and

private limited companies which has not used the GDR funds for the approved purposes and the external of diversion by each of such corporate houses and private limited companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) As per the information made available by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), an amount of US\$ 10647.84 Million had been raised through ADR/GDR in foreign capital market by Indian corporate houses/private limited companies upto March 31, 2002.

(b) An amount of US \$ 9227.499 Million had been brought back to India out of US \$ 10647.84 Million raised through ADR/GDR.

(c) Under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), Indian companies issuing shares against ADR/GDR are required to furnish full details to the Reserve Bank within 30 days from the date of closing of such issue and a quarterly return to be filed with the Reserve Bank within 15 days from the end of the calendar quarter giving details of the issue.

(d) As per the extant policy in this regard, there is no end use restrictions except a ban on investment of the issue proceeds in Real Estate and Stock Markets.

Bifurcation of Tea Auction Centre

5763. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are planning to bifurcate the only Tea Auction Centre located at Siliguri of North Bengal;

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

(c) the manner in which the interests of workers involved in the center would be protected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Old Age Home

5764. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for setting up of old age homes in some districts;

(b) if so, the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon as per the approval; and

(d) the time limit likely to be given for setting up the said 'Old Age Homes'?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The time for consideration and sanction of new project proposals depends on various factors namely fulfilling the eligibility criteria, proposals being complete in all respect, availability of funds etc. The expenditure level would depend on the approvals given. The sanctioned amount is released in two installments, the second installment is released on proper utilization of the first installment.

[English]

Sale of Whisky

5765. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the European Union has allowed India to sell Indian whiskey in EU countries as reported in the 'Economic Times' of 15 April, 2002 under the captioned "Grain drain: EU asks India to sell its whisky as rum."

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether European Union has put any condition for sale of whisky in European Union Countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reasons behind said conditions; and

(f) the response of the Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (f) As per the EU classification, whisky is

a spirit obtained exclusively from cereals by distillation and matured for a period of 3 years. This classification is being followed by the World Customs Organisation and over 60 countries world wide including countries in Europe and North America. The whisky made in India is molasses based and are not matured for 3 years and hence are classified as 'other spirits' under Common Customs Tariff of the European Union.

The question of classification of Indian whisky in European Union (EU) countries and related tariff issues are under discussion with the EU in order to provide better access for Indian whisky in EU market.

Computerisation In Income Tax Department

5766. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Direct Taxes Administration and to create a database on its various aspects, a comprehensive computerisation programme was approved by the Government in October, 1993 and the Directorate of Income Tax (Systems) was made the main nodal authority for overall planning and implementation of the computerisation programme including procurement of hardware/software and development installation of application software;

(b) if so, where the programme has been implemented in all by now;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof giving the details where computerisation has not been achieved; and

(d) the number of computer purchased with the amount involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A comprehensive computerisation programme was approved by the Government in 1993 to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Direct Tax Administration and to create a database on various aspects of working of Income Tax Department. The Directorate of Income Tax (Systems) was made the nodal authority for overall planning and implementation of the programme in three phases. In Phase I, three cities viz. Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai were brought on the network through Local Area and Wide Area Networking using leased lines from the Department of Telephone. In Phase II, the network was extended to 57 other cities. In Phase III, the network is

proposed to be extended to the remaining 418 cities and towns as well as up-gradation of main computer systems at 16 computer centers.

Phase I and Phase II of the computerisation plan have been implemented. Implementation of Phase III of the plan is to start in the current year. Till date 177 servers and 7736 PCs have been provided. A sum of Rs 1,811,149,477/- has been spent till 31.3.2002 on supply, commissioning, installation, site preparation, networking, development and purchase of software, training and maintenance of computer systems.

District Rehabilitation Centres for Disabled

5767. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE

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

(a) whether District Rehabilitation Centres have been established in all the States of the country for the welfare of disabled persons;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to establish District Rehabilitation Centres all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) There are 11 District Rehabilitation Centres located at Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Midnapore (West Bengal), Sitapur (Uttar Pradesh), Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh), Bhiwani (Haryana), Jagdishpur (Uttar Pradesh), Mysore (Karnataka), Virar (Maharashtra), Kota (Rajasthan), Chengalpattu (Tamil Nadu) and Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh). Besides, more than 100 districts have been identified covering all the States/Union Territories (except Delhi, Chandigarh and Lakshdweep) for establishment of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres. 70 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres have become functional by now.

Purchase of Gilts by Cooperative Banks

5768. SHRI AMBAREESHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether some of the cooperative banks had entered into deals with brokers who manipulated public money for purchase of gilts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the officers of these cooperative banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that urban co-operative banks are permitted to undertake purchase/sale transactions in Government securities, subject to a ceiling of 5% of the total transactions being routed through individual brokers. In case where the bank is required to exceed the ceiling, the bank is required to inform the Board of Directors, post-facto. However, as per RBI report, no urban co-operative bank has financed any broker for dealing in Government Securities.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

Action against Bank Officials

5769. DR. S. VENUGOPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many chairpersons of private sector banks siphoned off more than Rs. 500/- crores from the banks;

(b) if so, the details of such banks since 1995;

(c) whether there are allegations that the former chairperson of Bank of Rajasthan also siphoned off Rs.500/- crores from the bank;

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the action the Government propose to take in this regard;

(e) whether no action has so far been taken against him or to recover the money of the poor depositors; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (f) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that a show-cause notice was issued to Shri N.M. Chordia the then Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of Rajasthan for violation of RBI guidelines/instructions by the Bank and a penalty of Rs. 20 lakhs was imposed on the Bank on 3rd February, 1997. Shri Chordia resigned from the Bank on 24th June, 1997. During the course of inspection RBI found serious irregularities in the conduct of business by Bank

of Rajasthan. Most of the irregularities had occurred in respect of certain borrowal accounts connected with Bangur Group. Both promoter and director of the Bank belonging to this group were removed by RBI from the Board of Directors of the bank on 25th October, 1997. The matter relating to alleged siphoning of funds in the Bangur related accounts is currently under investigation of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

[Translation]

Inclusion of Bhar/Rajbhar in the SC list of U.P.

5770. SHRI BABBAN RAJBHAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Most Backward Classes Commission of Uttar Pradesh has recommended the inclusion of Bhar/Rajbhar caste in the Scheduled Caste list of UP on the plea that their social level and social interaction is akin to chamar, pasi castes;

(b) if so, the reasons for further enquiry of the recommendations made by commission for providing the benefits of the above said category to Bhar/Rajbhar caste;

(c) whether the inquiry report from the Government of Uttar Pradesh has since been received; and

(d) if so, the time by which the issue of including Bhar/Rajbhar caste in SC/ST category is likely to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has proposed inclusion of Bhar/Rajbhar caste in the list of Scheduled Castes of Uttar Pradesh. This proposal was been examined in consultation with the Registrar General of India and National Commission for SCs and STs and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to make available requisite information.

(c) and (d) The decision can be taken after the receipt of requisite information from the State Government.

[English]

Purchase of Cotton

5771. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any target has been fixed by the Government to purchase cotton from the cotton growing States;

(b) if so, the quantity of cotton/bales purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) from each State during the last one year, particularly from Gujarat;

(c) whether the purchase of cotton was made as per target fixed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(f) the manner in which the Government propose to compensate the farmers whose cotton remain unsold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (f) No target is fixed for purchase of cotton from the cotton growing States. To protect the interests of the cotton growers, Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for kapas (seed cotton). Whenever the market prices of kapas touch the MSP level, the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) undertakes support price operation and purchases kapas without any quantitative limit. The quantity of cotton purchased by the CCI during cotton year 2001-02 (Oct.-Sept.), State-wise, is as under :-

In bales of 170 Kg. each

State	Commercial Purchase (as on 26.04.2002)	Purchase under Support price Operation (as on 26.04.2002)	Total purchase (as on 26.04.2002)
Punjab	12,570	000	12,570
Haryana	9,459	504	9,963
Rajasthan	23,658	43,775	67,433
Gujarat	12,672	2,21,201	2,34,172
M.P.	1,275	61,611	62,886
A.P.	000	4,64,899	4,64,899
Karnataka	1,445	77,775	79,220
Orissa	795	17,406	18,201
Meghalaya	513	80	593
Tamil Nadu	200	—	200
Total	62,587	8,87,550	9,50,137

[Translation]

Improvement of Cooperative Sugar Mills

5772. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise number of proposals pending with the National Cooperative Development Corporation for improvement of Cooperative Sugar Mills in the country especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the time by which decision is likely to be taken on these proposals; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of sugar mills in the U.P. State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) The State-wise number of proposals pending with the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for sanction of financial assistance towards modernization and expansion of the Cooperative Sugar Mills in the country is as follows:

Sl. No.	State	No. of Cooperative Sugar Mills
1.	Maharashtra	3
2.	Gujarat	1
3.	Karnataka	2
4.	Andhra Pradesh	2
Total		8

No proposal pertaining to the cooperative sugar mills of Uttar Pradesh is pending with the National Cooperative Development Corporation.

(b) The decision for modernization-cum-expansion of the above mills will be taken by the National Cooperative Development Corporation based on eligibility and techno-economic merit, after receipt of requisite information from the concerned State Government/Society

(c) Since no proposal for grant of financial assistance from Cooperative Sugar Mills in U.P. is pending with NCDC, the question of providing financial assistance

by NCDC does not arise. However, the Government has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (F and PD) to examine the cases of sick cooperative sugar mills and to recommend revival packages of potentially viable units. The Government is also considering to amend the Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983 for providing financial assistance at concessional rate of interest to potentially viable sick sugar mills.

[English]

CBI Investigation

5773. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to approve the proposal of Central Bureau of Investigation to use of Chartered Accountants or Chartered Account firms in their investigations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CBI is facing problem in investigating financial irregularities, especially in the capital market; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed by the Government to provide help CBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Discontinuation of Funds under SGSY by NABARD

5774. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NABARD has decided to discontinue its funding the Swarnjayanti Gramin Swarnjayanti Yojana;

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

(c) whether the decision of the NABARD will jeopardize the ongoing schemes aimed at development of the rural sectors;

(d) whether the Government have received any communication from the Government of Kerala seeking reversal of the NABARD decision; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) and (e) Government of Kerala had written to Ministry of Rural Development seeking refinance facility for State Co-operative Institutions in Kerala under the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). NABARD's refinance had been suspended to the Kerala State Co-operative Bank in July 1999 as it had placed deposits in Government treasuries directly or indirectly in violation of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) instructions in this regard. However, based on the representations/requests received, the position was reviewed in June 2001 and all types of NABARD refinance facilities were restored as a very special case subject to certain conditions to such cooperative institutions who had not violated RBI instructions.

Companies referred to BIFR

5775. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :
SHRI RAMSHAKAL :
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of companies referred to the BIFR as on March 31, 2002;

(b) the break-up of public and private sector companies referred to BIFR during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of industrial units recommended for closure/revival during the said period; State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to wind up the BIFR;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the alternative arrangements made or are likely to be made for taking decisions on sick industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The

Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 31.3.2002, references were received from: 5320 sick industrial companies u/s 15(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and out of which 3912 companies were registered with the Board under the provisions of the said Act.

(b) and (c) The State-wise break up of Public Sector Companies (Central and State) and Private Sector companies registered with BIFR during the last three years i.e., 1999 to 2001 and January, 2002 and the State-wise details of number of industrial units recommended for closure/revival during the said period are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) to (f) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), under which BIFR was set up has not effectively addressed the problem of industrial sickness due to the reasons such as (a) restrictive

definition of sickness; (b) slow pace of BIFR intervention and (c) delays in winding up of sick companies.

A Bill, namely Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Repeal Bill, 2001 to repeal SICA was introduced in Lok Sabha on 30-8-2001, thereby proposing abolition of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) mechanism. Simultaneously another Bill, namely, Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2001 has also been introduced inter-alia providing for setting up of a National Company Law Tribunal with the powers currently exercised by (a) Company Law Board (CLB) (b) High Courts regarding winding up of Companies and amalgamation, schemes; and (c) BIFR/AAIFR under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Both the Bills are currently receiving consideration of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committees.

Statement

State/UT	Companies Registered with BIFR			Winding up recommended	Recommended for revival/schemes sanctioned
	Central Public Sector Companies	State Public Sector Companies	Private Sector Companies		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	111	4	0
Assam	—	1	5	—	—
Bihar	3	—	3	—	—
Chhattisgarh	—	—	1	—	—
Chandigarh	—	—	3	—	—
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	5	—	—
Goa	—	1	9	—	—
Gujarat	—	—	117	2	1
Haryana	—	—	35	2	2
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	5	—	—
Jharkhand	1	—	3	—	—
Kerala	—	1	21	—	—
Karnataka	—	2	61	2	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	64	2	1
Maharashtra	1	2	308	3	1
Manipur	—	—	1	—	—
NCT of Delhi	1	—	134	1	3
Nagaland	—	—	1	0	—
Orissa	—	—	10	1	—
Pondicherry	—	—	2	0	—
Punjab	—	—	76	0	—
Rajasthan	1	—	48	1	—
Tamil Nadu	—	2	149	6	4
Uttar Pradesh	—	2	93	3	—
Uttaranchal	—	—	1	—	—
West Bengal	2	—	84	1	2
Total	9	11	1350	28	15

**C and AG observation on working of
Bangalore-II Commissionerate**

5776. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bangalore-II Commissionerate of Central Excise raised a demand of differential duty of Rs. 64.72 lakh for the period from September, 1997 to March, 2000 which was not raised earlier on the ground of annual capacity of production fixed as brought out in the C and AG Report 11 of 2002 in para 6.1 on page 37;

(b) if so, the reasons for not raising the demand by the commissionerate of their own and can be possibility of not levying the Central Excise Duty on every product liable of excise duty be ruled out;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enquire into the matter and fix the responsibility and accountability of the officials for neglecting their duties; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken against the guilty officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes Sir. It is a fact that Bangalore-II Central Excise Commissionerate raised six demands totaling Rs. 64.72 lakh for the period from September, 1997 to March, 2000. However, the demands are not connected in any way with non-levy of duty on goods manufactured and cleared as job work as mentioned in C and AG's report No. 11 of 2002 para 6.1 of page 37. These demands arose due to finalising of Annual Capacity of Production in respect of M/s. Vijaya Steels Limited.

(b) Bangalore-II Central Excise Commissionerate had independently raised these six demands as a result of finalization of Final Annual Capacity of the Unit and not as a result of audit by C and AG.

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

**Incorrect Valuation of Immovable
Properties**

5777. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether C and AG in its Report No. 12 of 1999 (Direct Taxes) has unearthed some cases of incorrect valuation of immovable properties in wealth tax returns;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during the last three years; and

(c) the action has been initiated against the erring officials for short levy of taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of such cases as reported by C and AG are furnished in the statement enclosed. This Report

of the C and AG is being examined in the CBDT and also in the field formations with a view to give parawise reply to C and AG and to determine the correctness or otherwise of such audit observations.

(c) CBDT has already issued instructions to the Assessing Officers/Field Formations to take due care in assessment and to avoid mistakes. There is also a monitoring system where the ledger cards regarding mistakes committed are maintained and the explanations of the officers concerned are called for where they are found to have committed such mistakes. The Director of Income-Tax (Audit) oversees the audit work and prescribes checklists for guidance of the Assessing Officers.

Statement

Details of incorrect valuation of immovable properties in Wealth Tax Returns as per C and AG Reports

S. No.	Name of the case	CIT-Charge	Asst. Year	Tax effect (Rs. in Lacs)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. Report No. 12 of 1999					
1.	R.N. Billimoria	Kolhapur	1981-82 to 1988-89	13.14	Not accepted
2.	B.N. Billimoria	Kolhapur	1981-82 to 1988-89		
3.	M/s. The Union Company Motors Ltd.	T.N.-1 Chennai	1990-91 and 1991-92	52.34	Not Accepted
B. Report No. 12 of 2000/2001					
-Nil-					
C. Report No. 12 of 2002					
1.	M/s. The Wheel and Rim Co. of India	T.N.1, Chennai	1990-91	5.05	Under Examination
D. Report No. 12A of 2001					
1.	M/s. DBS Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai-IV	1996-97	29.65	Under Examination
2.	M/s. Tea Trading and Exports (P) Ltd.	Guwahati	1994-95	24.50	Under Examination

C and AG reported similar mistakes vide page 12 of report No. 12A of 2001 as per details given below :-

S. No.	State	No. of cases	Short levy of tax (Rs. in lacs)	Remarks
1.	Mumbai	77	296.70	Under Examination
2.	Karnataka	12	17.02	-do-
3.	Tamil Nadu	10	17.38	-do-
4.	Uttar Pradesh	52	130.67	-do-
5.	West Bengal	1	1.19	-do-
6.	Andhra Pradesh	5	3.60	-do-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7	9.14	-do-
Total		164	475.70	

Reduction of Government Expenditure

5778. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a bid to contain expenditure the Government has decided to ask all Governments and Ministries to submit quarterly expenditure reports detailing all expenses and pointing out deviation from planned expenditure schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken to reduce the Government expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Finance has prescribed a proforma for quarterly projection of Plan and Non-Plan expenditure for all Central Government Ministries/Departments for the purpose of monitoring the progress of expenditure.

(c) It is Government's constant endeavour to contain non-plan, non-developmental expenditure. It is in this context that, alongwith other measures, instructions to avoid wasteful expenditure are issued from time to time to all the Ministries/Departments. These measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of

sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses etc.

For review of the whole gamut of expenditure of Government, an Expenditure Reforms Commission was also set up to suggest a road map of reducing the functions, activities and administrative structure of the Government, review the adequacy of the staff strength under Central Ministries/Departments etc. and suggest measures for rationalising the staff and cadres of different services, review the procedure of setting up of autonomous bodies and pattern of funding and suggest measures for effecting improvement and reducing budgetary support. The recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission was sent to the concerned Ministries/Departments for implementation.

Agricultural Transport License

5779. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to re-introduce the earlier system of 'Agricultural Transport License' to the cotton suppliers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware the presently many cotton suppliers are evading Central Sales Tax on cotton bales; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken to generate the revenue share of Central Government from the Central Sales Tax pool on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) Though Central Sales Tax (CST) is a Central levy, under section 9 of the Central Sales Tax, 1956, the tax is collected and retained totally by the States concerned.

Special Central Assistance to Rajasthan

5780. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for increase in Special Central Assistance under Special Component Plan;

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

(c) the time by which the increased assistance is likely to be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Special Component Plan (SCP) for welfare of Scheduled Castes is released to States/UTs as per criteria laid down under the scheme. Rs. 30.05 crores was released as SCA to Rajasthan during 2001-2002.

[Translation]

Import of Edible Oil

5781. SHRI RAJO SINGH Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of various edible oils imported during the last three years till date alongwith the foreign exchange spent thereon;

(b) the existing situation of demand and supply of the edible oil in the country;

(c) whether the edible oil reserve has decreased due to the adulteration in mustard oil; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) The quantity and value of various edible oils imported in the country during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Qty. in MT	Value (in Rs. Lakh)
1999-2000	4195638	804605.37
2000-2001	3974638	593275.74
2001-2002 upto Dec.2001)	3468008	503408.80

(b) The net availability of edible oils from all domestic sources has been less than the demand of edible oils due to less production of oilseeds necessitating import of edible oils.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Repayment of Borrowings

5782. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the repayment of borrowings as on date and ten years before;

(b) whether the repayments of borrowings has been increased;

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

(d) the steps taken to reduce this borrowings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N RAMACHANDRAN) (a) to (c) Repayment of debt (excluding discharge of Treasury Bills and Ways and Means Advances) increased from Rs.38457 crore in 1992-1993 to Rs. 140615 crore in 2002-2003 (BE) due to higher borrowings to cover excess of expenditure over receipts.

(d) Government has to resort to borrowing to finance the gap in its resources. Several measures have been taken to contain non-productive expenditure and increase revenue receipts with a view to maximising resources.

[Translation]

Regional Rural Banks

5783. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the details of rural banks functioning in Gujarat as on date;

(b) the bank-wise loan and grants provided by these rural banks from January 1, 1999, till date to the farmers and others and the basis, rules and procedure adopted therefor;

(c) whether complaints regarding non-sanctioning of loan and several other irregularities have been received against officers and employees of these banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) As on date nine Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) with a net work of 388 branches are functioning in 22 districts of Gujarat.

(b) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) the details of loans and advances outstanding of these RRBs during the last 3 years to the farmers and others are given in the enclosed statement. The rules and procedure to be followed for sanction of loans, etc. are framed and approved by the respective Board of the RRBs, which are broadly governed by the guidelines laid down by Reserve Bank of India and NABARD.

(c) No specific complaints have been received so far.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

Regional Rural Bank wise loans and advances outstanding during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 in the State of Gujarat

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Regional Rural Bank	Loans and advances Outstanding		
		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kutch Gramin Bank	2984.81	3584.68	3879.01
2.	Jamnagar Rajkot Gramin Bank	4412.48	6050.46	8224.51
3.	Banaskantha Mehsana Gramin Bank	4272.50	6043.38	7978.37
4.	Panchmahal Vadodara Gramin Bank	4647.13	5636.77	6314.97

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Surendrannagar Bhavnagar Gramin Bank	3125.45	4271.25	5593.42
6.	Valsad Dangs Gramin Bank	3068.39	3832.93	4293.61
7.	Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank	5745.05	6508.81	6782.19
8.	Sabarkantha Gandhinagar Gramin Bank	2255.58	2560.75	2921.60
9.	Junagadh Amreilli Gramin Bank	2239.66	2777.60	3233.10
Total		32751.05	41266.63	49220.78

[English]

100% Export Oriented Units

5784. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government intend to set up some 100% Export oriented Units in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the proposals received from State Governments which are under the consideration of the Government State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to set up such units particularly in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) 100% Export Oriented Units are set up by Private Entrepreneurs/Promoters with the prior approval of Government of India. All proposals received upto 31/3/2002 have been decided by the Competent Authority.

Production/Consumption of Rubber

5785. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production and consumption of Rubber in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total export and import of rubber from the country during the above period;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government for plantation of rubber in non-traditional tribal areas, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) State-wise production of Natural Rubber in the country during the last three years is given below :-

State	Production (in tonnes)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Kerala	559099	572820	579866
Tamilnadu	20263	21134	21611
North Eastern States	12183	14170	14476
Other States	13500	14141	14452
Total	605045	622265	630405

State-wise consumption of Natural Rubber during the last three years is as under :-

State/Union Territory	Consumption (in tonnes)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4
Kerala	77583	86849	88221
Punjab	81685	79242	82843
Maharashtra	61415	68544	68344
U.P.	61567	61707	55684
West Bengal	41113	42952	43258
Haryana	35855	39678	38638
Rajasthan	30230	37534	35867
Gujarat	31539	32439	35107
Tamilnadu	32130	31989	32588

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	27409	29736	31233
Madhya Pradesh	23790	26677	27732
Orissa	21768	23496	24072
Goa and Daman	24327	23469	23552
Andhra Pradesh	16890	19729	19906
Delhi	18826	18926	18360
Pondicherry	2434	2255	2531
Bihar	1625	1396	1304
Others	1359	1392	2235
Total	591545	628110	631475

(b) Total export and import of rubber during the last three years was as under :

Year	Export (in tonnes)	Import (in tonnes)
1998-99	1,840	29,534
1999-2000	5,989	20,213
2000-01	13,356	8,970

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. For the plantation of rubber in non-traditional tribal areas, Government of India through Rubber Board is implementing a Block Plantation Scheme in collaboration with the concerned State Governments.

SC/ST List of Kerala

5786. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any recommendation from the Government of Kerala regarding the exclusion of Marathi community who are residing in the Northern part of Kerala from the SC/ST list;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Marathi community living in the Karnataka State continue to be included in the SC/ST list;

(d) if so, whether the community living in Kerala has made any significant improvement in their socio-

economic standards as compared to their counterpart in the Karnataka State;

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken by the Union Government on the State Government's recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (f) "Marati" community is included in the list of Scheduled Tribes in respect of Hosdrug and Kasaragod taluks of Cannanore district of Kerala. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, which is administratively concerned, has informed that the recommendation of the State Government of Kerala has been processed in accordance with the approved modalities. "Marati" community has been notified in the list of Scheduled Tribes only in respect of South Kanara district of Karnataka. The list is State specific. Communities are included in or excluded from the list based on their socio-economic and educational conditions, which vary from State to State.

Foodgrain procurement Target 2002

5787. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to modify the National Storage Policy in view of the changed scenario and to help the farmers who produce more during the good monsoon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the mechanism available to stock the foodgrains in case of bumper crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present adequate storage capacity i.e. 35.84 million tonnes, both covered and CAP (Cover and Plinth) including hired from the State Governments, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) and Private Parties is available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) for the storage of foodgrains.

During the 10th Five Year Plan (2002-2007), FCI has proposed for construction of 6.78 lakh MTs of its own storage capacity. Out of which during the current Annual Plan (2002-2003), 1.36 lakh tonnes of storage capacity would be constructed.

Besides, the CWC and SWCs are also constructing covered storage capacity of 85.32 Lakh tonnes in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh and Orissa on 7 years guaranteed utilization given by the FCI. 4.41 lakh tonnes CAP storage facility is also being created by Punjab State Warehousing Corporation. The storage capacity of 23.20 Lakh MT has already been realised under this scheme.

[Translation]

Bank Dacoities

5788. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there have been cases of dacoities recently in different banks located in Haryana, Gujarat, Delhi and Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details in regard to each case since January 1, 2001 till date;
- (c) the amount of money looted in the said cases of dacoities;
- (d) the number of persons who were found responsible and arrested in these cases;
- (e) the compensation given by the Government/ Bank in cases of Bank employees including guards, customers, general public who were killed/injured in these incidents; and
- (f) the measures taken by Government to check the cases of looting and dacoity in Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRA) : (a) to (e) A statement showing details of cases of bank robbery/ dacoity occurred during the period January 2001 to March 2002 in Haryana, Gujarat, Delhi and Mumbai amount involved, persons found involved/arrested and compensation given to the persons including employees who were injured/killed in these incidents, as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is given in the Statement enclosed.

(f) Security measures implemented by public sector banks are reviewed in the State Level Security Committee meetings convened by RBI. The meetings are required to be attended by bankers and State Government

officials including senior Police officials. The Committee takes stock of the security environment in the State, steps needed to be taken to strengthen bank security and whenever further improvements are necessary requisite guidelines/instructions are given to banks. Banks have classified their branches depending on the risk factor

involved and posted armed guards, installed anti-burglary devices, etc. wherever necessary. Where deficiencies are reported in regard to guarding of bank branches by the armed guards supplied by the State Police, the committee stresses on the police officials to provide adequate armed guards.

Statement

Details of cases of bank robbery/dacoity occurred during the period January 2001 to March 2002 in Haryana, Gujarat, Delhi and Mumbai, amount involved, persons found involved/arrested and compensation given to the persons including employees who were injured/killed in these incidents

(Amount Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Bank/Branch	Amount involved	Injured/ Killed	Compensation Paid	Number of persons	
					Involved	Arrested
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(A) HARYANA						
1.	Syndicate Bank, Pataudi Br., Gurgaon	3.00	Minor injury to one attendant	—	02	02
2.	Punjab National Bank, Fatehabad Branch	8.00	—	—	05	—
3.	Oriental Bank of Commerce, Hissar Br.	3.00	—	—	03	—
4.	State Bank of India, Bohar Br., Rohtak	1.07	—	—	04	—
5.	State Bank of India, Bhatout Br., Rohtak	0.12	—	—	02	—
6.	Canara Bank, Whirlpool Extn. Counter, Faridabad	5.00	—	—	Some	—
7.	Punjab National Bank, MM College, Fatehabad	0.86	—	—	03	—
8.	Punjab National Bank, Behuadin Br. Hissar	0.59	1 Branch Manager killed	—	04	—
(B) GUJARAT						
9.	Bank of Baroda, Maskati Market Br., Ahmedabad	12.00	—	—	01	01
10.	Bank of Baroda, Kabilpore Indl. Estate Br., Navsari	9.28	—	—	06	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(C) DELHI						
11.	State Bank of India, Khair Branch	5.00	—	—	08-09	—
12.	Punjab National Bank, Service Centre, Kokrola	2.00	—	—	03	—
(D) MUMBAI						
13.	Vijaya Bank, Belapur Br., New Mumbai	7.07	Minor injury to armed guard	—	04	—
14.	Corporation Bank, Vashi Branch	1.96	—	—	04	—
15.	The South Indian Bank Ltd., Fort Branch	0.19	—	—	01	—

*[English]***Grants to Kerala**

5789. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry had reviewed any memorandum for providing additional grants to the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons given by State Government of Kerala; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala had requested for additional grant of Rs. 212 crores to meet the special problem relating to sea erosion in the coastal line. The Government of Kerala was released a sum of Rs. 20.11 crores out of Rs. 50 crores recommended for release from 1.4.2000 to 31.3.2004 by the Eleventh Finance Commission for this purpose. Further releases can be made only after receipt of the utilization certificate. In addition, one time Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 7.50 crores was also provided to the State for this purpose, in their Annual Plan 2001-02.

Import of Pulses

5790. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRES, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the farmers or from the State Government to stop the indiscriminate import of pulses;

(b) if so, the details of the memorandum so received, State-wise particularly from the State of Karnataka; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The Government have received a memorandum from the State Government of Karnataka for restricting the import of pulses. The gap between the demand and supply of pulses is met to a major extent by imports which are allowed freely. To provide protection to the domestic producers, the Government has raised the import duty on pulses from 5% to 10% in the Union Budget for 2002-03.

Debt against States

5791. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the States whose debt has doubled more than their yearly revenue; and

(b) the measures adopted by Union Government to pull them back to healthy State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The total outstanding debt as on 31st March, 2000 of Eight States viz. Bihar, Haryana, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal was more than twice their yearly revenue for 1999-2000.

(b) The Financial management of States is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments for which they are responsible to their respective legislature. The State Governments are expected to take adequate measures to improve their financial condition. However, pursuant to the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, a scheme for State Fiscal Reform Facility (2000-01 to 2004-05) has been created for incentivising the States to undertake Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Programme (MTFRP). States are expected to undertake a number of steps to achieve fiscal consolidation, including debt sustainability over the reform period.

Reserve Bank of India

5792. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are only two category system i.e., officers and messengers, in the Import-Export Bank;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has been found useful;

(c) whether there was any proposal under consideration of the Government to adopt the same system in the Reserve Bank of India for its employees;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any employees union of Reserve Bank of India has opposed this two category formula; and

(f) if so the reaction of the Government thereon and the circumstances under which the Government are not interested in watching the interest of officials working in Reserve Bank of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The system is working satisfactorily in Export-Import Bank of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Tax Rules for Deep Discount Bond

5793. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new tax rules relating to deep discount bonds and modified tax treatment corrects the anomalies in the existing system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has issued a Circular No.2/2002 dated 15.2.2002 on tax treatment of deep discount bonds and STRIPS.

(b) The tax treatment of deep discount bonds had certain anomalies :-

- (i) Taxing the entire income from such a bond on redemption as interest income gave rise to a sudden and huge tax liability in one year whereas the value of the bond had progressively increased over the period of holding.
- (ii) Where the bond was redeemed by a person other than the original subscriber, such person became taxable on the entire difference between the bid price and the redemption price as interest income, since he was not able to deduct his cost of acquisition from such income.
- (iii) A company issuing such bonds and following the mercantile system of accounting would have claimed a deduction of annual accrual of the liability in respect of such a bond for each year even though the corresponding income in the hands of the investor would be taxed only at the time of maturity.

The Circular on the tax treatment of deep discount bonds now removes the anomalies in the existing system. It, inter-alia, apart from other clarifications, provides that a person holding a deep discount bond will make a market valuation of the bond on the 31st March of each financial year in accordance with the guidelines issued by Reserve

Bank of India for valuation of investments. The difference between the market valuations as on two successive valuation dates will represent the accretion to the value of the bond during the relevant financial year and will be taxable as interest income (where the bonds are held as investments) or business income, where the bonds are held as trading assets. In a case, where the bond is acquired during the year by an intermediate purchaser, the difference between the market value as on the valuation date and the cost for which he acquired the bond, will be taxed as interest income or business income, as the case may be, and no capital gains will arise as there would be no transfer of the bond on the valuation date.

Where the bond is transferred at any time before maturity date, the difference between the sale price and the cost of the bond will be taxable as capital gains in the hands of the investor or business income in the hands of a trader. For computing the capital gains, the cost of bond will be taken to be the aggregate of the cost for which the bond was acquired by the transferor and the income, if any, already offered to tax by such transferor.

CII-Accenture Study on Lower Productivity and Tax Structure

5794. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether textiles, which constitute 20 percent of industrial production and 18 percent of industrial employment, has been losing out in the world market due to lower productivity and distorted tax structure;

(b) if so, whether the CII-Accenture study on the textile industry has identified fiscal regime, labour laws, entry/exit barriers and high infrastructure costs are the main reasons for the same;

(c) whether a complete report in this regard was submitted by them to the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details of the report; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Textiles

which contributed 14% to the industrial production during 2000-01 and 27% to the country's export earnings and is the country's largest employer after agriculture—direct employment being around 35 million people in the same year – reached a total production of cloth in all sectors for the year 2001-02 of (anticipated) 41696 million sq.mtrs. which works out to a 3.66% annual growth in the last 5 years and witnessed an increase of 53% export earning growth in dollar term between 1992-93 and 2000-01.

Thus, it cannot be said that we are losing out on the world market.

(b) to (e) CII-Accenture Study report on Textile Industry in 2 volumes dated February, 2002 and April 2002 has been received by the Government. The report has given the viewpoint of CII, as regards the problems facing the textile industry as well as possible remedies including changes in fiscal structure, labour reforms, removal of entry/exit barriers, improvement of market access through bilateral negotiations etc. The Government have taken note of the study report. Recommendations such as those made in the reports as well as suggestions made by other groups such as small scale sector, employees organisations, consumer interest groups etc. are used by the Government as important inputs in formulations of policies and plans.

[Translation]

Cases Registered by CBI

5795. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered by the CBI against the Customs and Excise Officers during the last three years along with the names of such officers and posts held by them;

(b) the position in regard to injury against them;

(c) the names of the officers for whom the Government have not given permission for taking action against them during the last three years; and

(d) the reasons for not giving permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***NRI Deposits**

5796. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decision to make all Non-resident Indian deposits fully convertible has increased the country's external debt;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is likely to have any impact of Indian Economy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Bureau of Indian Standards**

5797. SHRI NAGMANI Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards has decided to apply the Indian Standards strictly on different imported products/goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether by application of standards fixed by the Bureau of Indian Standards, import of sub-standards goods are proposed to be checked; and

(d) if so, the extent to which this check will be applied?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) All imported goods are subject to domestic Laws, Rules, etc. and safety norms as applicable to domestically produced goods. Thus import of goods is subject to certification by Bureau of Indian Standards of conformity to Indian Standards where such certification is mandatory for goods produced in India.

*[English]***Headquarters of IRDA**

5798. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :
SHRI AMBAREESHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision regarding the location where the Headquarters of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority would be set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any representations have been received by the Union Government in this regard particularly from Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have taken into account the various issues relating to insurance before taking any final decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Government of India have received requests from State Governments of Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh for locating the Headquarter of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) in their States. Taking into consideration all the facts mentioned in these requests, a decision has been taken to locate the Headquarter of IRDA at Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh).

**Reduction of Subsidy on
Foodgrain Exports**

5799. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have reduced the subsidy on foodgrain exports;

(b) whether FCI had decided to sell wheat to exporters at marginally higher prices of Rs 4310/- a tonne from April 1, 2002;

(c) whether reduction of subsidy will affect exports;

(d) if so, whether the Government will restore the subsidy of a higher level; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) The Government has been announcing, from time to time, prices at which foodgrains from the Central Pool are offered for export. The offer price for wheat for export will be Rs. 4310 per MT with effect from 11.5.2002.

The Government has also decided to reimburse post-delivery expenses to exporters consistent with WTO requirements which will vary from time to time.

Handicapped Children

5800. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI :

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO :

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

(a) the facilities being provided to fully and partially handicapped children in rural and urban areas;

(b) whether there are any special institutions established in these areas which are improving the condition of such children; and

(c) if so, whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard to ensure effective functioning of such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) Children with disabilities are provided aids and appliances, free education, vocational training, rehabilitation services, etc. through a network of institutions. Six apex level National Institutions have been set up in each major area of disability. Besides, 5 Composite Rehabilitation Centres 4 Regional Rehabilitation Centres and 70 District Disability Rehabilitation Centres have been set up. The Ministry also supports over 640 voluntary organisations providing rehabilitation services. The working of all these institutions is reviewed by the Ministry periodically to ensure their effective functioning.

[Translation]

Purchase of Dollars by FI

5801. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector Financial Institutions buy American Dollar from the market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the value of American Dollar in terms of Indian rupee bought from the market during each of the last three years by the financial Institutions;

(d) the average price at which the American Dollars were bought each year during the aforesaid period; and

(e) the value of the American Dollar sold in market each year during the aforesaid years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DFIs buy various foreign currencies from market including US\$ for meeting the forex requirement of their customers and their own commitments under the extant regulations.

(c) The value of US \$ in terms of Indian rupee bought by the DFIs during each of the last 3 years is an under :-

	(Rs. in crore)		
	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
IFCI	652.13	653.25	944.02
IDBI	2884.00	3162.00	2714.00
EXIM Bank	93.87	369.29	530.00
ICICI	9508.78	20122.98	23671.91
IIBI	-NIL-		

(d) The average price at which the US \$ were purchased during the above 3 years is as follows :-

	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
IFCI	43.40	45.89	47.55
IDBI	43.42	46.75	47.64
EXIM	43.42	45.83	48.30
ICICI	43.84	46.14	47.88
IIBI	-NIL-		

(e) The value of the US\$ sold in market during the aforesaid period is as under :-

	(Rs. in crore)		
	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
IFCI	109.01	82.64	362.33
IDBI	1530.00	1060.00	1145.00
EXIM Bank	275.08	357.00	734.45
ICICI	10188.69	17276.65	22384.50
HBI	-NIL-		

Revival of Textile Mills

5802. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills at present in the country and the number of mills out of them earning profits/ incurring losses State-wise;

(b) the reasons for the losses;

(c) the details of the mills, which have been closed and the number of workers affected as a result thereof during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to revive the closed textile mills; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided to the workers, mill-wise and State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As on 28th February, 2002 there were 1858 cotton/man-made fibre spinning and composite textile mills (Non-SSI) in the country. The State-wise details of these mills are given below :-

S.No	State/Union Territory	Total Mills
1	2	3

STATE

1. Andhra Pradesh 98

1	2	3
2.	Assam	8
3.	Bihar	8
4.	Chhattisgarh	2
5.	Delhi	1
6.	Goa	1
7.	Gujarat	152
8.	Haryana	80
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
11.	Jharkand	1
12.	Karnataka	59
13.	Kerala	38
14.	Madhya Pradesh	58
15.	Maharashtra	207
16.	Manipur	1
17.	Orissa	17
18.	Punjab	75
19.	Rajasthan	53
20.	Tamilnadu	349
21.	Uttar Pradesh	72
22.	Uttaranchal	5
23.	West Bengal	39
UNION TERRITORY		
24.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	5
25.	Daman and Diu	1
26.	Pondicherry	11
Grand Total		1858

The data relating to state-wise details of mills earning profit/incurring losses is not maintained by Government of India.

(b) The reasons for incurring losses would differ from unit to unit. However, in general the reasons for losses are obsolete machinery, uneconomic operations, surplus workforce, high cost of production, low productivity, financial mismanagement, marketing problems etc.

(c) The year-wise and state-wise details of cotton/man-made fibre spinning and composite textile mills (Non-SSI) closed during the last three years alongwith number of workers affected are as follows :

S.No.	State	Closed during					
		01.03.1999 to 29.02.2000		01.03.2000 to 28.02.2001		01.03.2001 to 28.02.2002	
		No. of mills	No. of workers on roll	No. of mills	No. of workers on roll	No. of mills	No. of workers on roll
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	1510	6	2621	2	633
2.	Bihar	2	519	2	1586	0	0
3.	Gujarat	6	7664	7	1555	0	0
4.	Haryana	1	64	3	147	0	0
5.	Karnataka	6	4866	1	53	1	148
6.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	2	2692	0	0
7.	Maharashtra	6	4929	7	6852	0	0
8.	Orissa	2	2356	3	4354	0	0
9.	Punjab	2	876	2	123	3	2916
10.	Rajasthan	1	431	1	1172	0	0
11.	Tamilnadu	12	2566	5	1257	12	1322
12.	Uttar Pradesh	4	2798	8	6085	1	19
13.	West Bengal	2	805	0	0	0	0
Total		47	29384	47	28497	19	5038

Out of the 113 cotton/Man-made fibre spinning and composite textile mills (Non-SSI) closed during the last three years only one mill namely '**Jawahar Sahakar Kapus Utpadak Soot Girni Maryadit, Latur, Maharashtra**' is closed under Official Liquidator. None of the above mills is closed under Section 25(O) of I.D. Act.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the BIFR with a view to timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive ameliorative and remedial

measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

Out of the 113 Cotton/man-made fibre spinning and composite textile Mills (Non-SSI) closed during the last three years 32 cases of textile mill are registered with BIFR as on 31.10.2001. The status of these cases of textile mills under BIFR is as follows:

S. No	Status with BIFR as on 31.10.2001	No. of Textile cases
1	Scheme sanctioned under Section 13(4)	4
2	Remanded by AAIFR/Court	1
3	Under inquiry	11
4	Winding up recommended under Section 20(1) of SICA, 1985	11
5	Declare no longer sick	5
Total		32

Norms for Allotment of Weapons from Customs

5803. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the existing norms for allotment of non-prohibited weapons/prohibited weapons to Members of Parliament from custom department;

(b) the number of said weapons/given to Members of Parliament during last three years and current year till April, 2002;

(c) whether the allottee of said weapons are in the waiting list since 1996-97;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any Government proposal to provide weapons to the allottee those who are in waiting list; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) As per the existing norms, the non-prohibited bore weapons are sold by the Customs Department to the sitting Members of Parliament who do not own/possess any weapon, on first-cum-first-serve basis after meeting the requirement of allotment of these weapons on lease terms to the departmental officers. Further, the prohibited bore weapons are confiscated and appropriated only for the departmental use.

(b) 102 number of weapons have been sold to Members of Parliament during last three years and current year till April, 2002.

(c) and (d) There is no waiting list as the weapons are sold on the basis of their availability. Sometimes, Members of Parliament prefer to wait till weapons of their choice become available. 29 Members of Parliament have not been provided weapons since 1996-97 till April, 2002 partly due to this reason and partly because of non-availability of serviceable non prohibited bore weapons with the Customs Department.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

Poverty Alleviation Fund

5804. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has asserted that India has misused the Poverty Alleviation Fund,

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to explain its stand and also to speed up the pace of reforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Education to Talented SC/ST Students

5805. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme under which the talented students belonging to the SCs/ STs are provided the facility of getting education abroad;

(b) if so, the number of such students who have been given this facility so far; and

(c) the norms laid down for getting this facility ?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) (a) to (c) Under the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme students belonging to SC, ST are provided assistance for pursuing higher studies abroad in specified subjects. 541 students have been assisted under the scheme. Under the scheme, assistance is provided subject to the following (i) Total income from all sources of applicant should not exceed Rs. 12,000/- p.m. (ii) The candidate should be below 35 years of age (iii) Educational—(a) for Post Doctoral courses First class or 60% marks in Master Degree (Second class

with 50% for STs), alongwith Ph.D. and 5 years experience. (b) for Ph.D. courses First class or 60% marks or equivalent grade in Masters' degree, (Second class with 50% for STs) alongwith 2 years' experience. (c) for Masters degree courses 60% marks or equivalent grade in relevant Bachelors' degree (Second class with 50% marks for STs) alongwith 2 years experience.

[English]

Disinvestment of Banking Sector

5806. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to accept the demands of the bank employees concerning job security in view of the disinvestment in the banking sector.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed to safeguard their interest; and

(d) if so, the stand of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) No proposal of disinvestment in the banking sector is under consideration of the Government. However, a bill to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980 with a view to modifying the stipulation of minimum prescribed Government shareholding in nationalised banks from 51% to 33% has been introduced in Lok Sabha. Even after reduction of Government equity in nationalised banks below 51%, the interest of employees will be fully safeguarded as the public sector character of the banks is not being diluted and they would continue to be governed by the provisions of the above Act.

Schools and Vocational Training Centres

5807. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have the updated statistical details of the physically handicapped persons in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to open more schools and vocational training centres for the physically handicapped particularly for the blind, deaf and dumb in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the statistical details of the existing such schools and vocational training centres in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government has included a question on disability in the household schedule for ascertaining the number of disabled persons including physically handicapped in the Census enumeration of 2001. Details of compilation and analysis of data collected during the course of census 2001 are not yet available.

(c) and (d) Six National Institutes, have been set up as apex level institutions with focus on Man Power Development Vocational Training, Research under each category of disability by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities over 300 organizations have been given assistance during the year 2001-2002 for running projects for education and vocational training for physically handicapped. A Statement indicating the total number of organisations assisted and amount of assistance given thereof State wise under the Scheme during last three years is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Number of Organisations and Assistance given during three years under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities

State	1999-00		2000-01		2001-02	
	Nos.	Rs. in lacs	Nos.	Rs. in lacs	Nos.	Rs. in lacs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	84	1208.35	91	1283.57	106	1151.64
Arunachal Pradesh	2	13	1	6.32	2	18.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	3	30.56	8	40.11	13	51.41
Bihar	11	57.68	8	162.47	19	225.42
Chandigarh	2	1.42	2	6.57	2	5.22
Chhattisgarh			1	9.08	3	12.49
Dadra Nagar Haveli					1	1.53
Delhi	31	679.04	34	649.54	36	527.78
Goa	2	17.68	2	12.64	3	24.07
Gujarat	17	75.36	25	114.52	17	125.83
Haryana	10	59.51	15	95.44	17	73.42
Himachal Pradesh	1	32.42	2	15.85	3	24.49
Jammu and Kashmir	2	7.24	3	12.23	4	4.36
Jharkhand					3	7.00
Karnataka	58	571.99	57	640.58	67	658.89
Kerala	49	442.04	55	483.72	62	539.83
Madhya Pradesh	8	17.43	10	39.32	15	79.19
Maharashtra	26	263.72	18	197.99	27	209.39
Manipur	7	57.06	5	56.63	8	59.89
Meghalaya	4	17.41	4	46.38	5	60.1
Mizoram	1	25.31	3	29.52	2	30.06
Nagaland			1	2.83	1	1.78
Orissa	21	193.96	24	252.26	27	313.47
Pondicherry	2	1.44	1	6.59	1	5.85
Punjab	10	64.94	11	91.39	11	79.85
Rajasthan	6	88.13	11	93.99	22	155.81
Sikkim					1	1.94
Tamil Nadu	34	325.69	37	396.07	50	426.57
Tripura	1	6.83	1	6.02	1	6.5
Uttar Pradesh	67	772.39	57	873.19	59	715.33
Uttaranchal			5	95.85	8	35.18
West Bengal	43	365.53	42	492.52	48	448.64
Total	502	5396.13	534	6213.19	644	6081.91

*[Translation]***Loan to Farmers**

5808. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the provisions in regard to providing assistance to the farmers through the branches of State Bank of India which have been specially set up to ensure Development in agriculture sector in rural areas;

(b) the number of such Branches of the Bank in Jharkhand and the amount of assistance provided by each of them for agriculture purpose;

(c) the number of cases in which payments were not made even after sanctioning of loan; and

(d) the reasons therefore and the steps likely to be taken to make payment soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) In terms of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) circular, banks have been advised that there should be at least one specialized Agricultural Finance Branch (SAFB) of a commercial bank in each State (set up by the convenors of the respective State Level Bankers Committee) to adequately deal with high-tech agricultural loans. Under the same, many banks have set up such SAFBs. RBI has reported that 61 SAFBs have been opened by banks as on March 2001.

(b) As reported by RBI, the details of the specialized agricultural branches of State Bank of India in Jharkhand State and the amount of outstanding credit given for agriculture purpose as on 31st March, 2001 is as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Branch Name	Centre Name	Amount Outstanding
Rajmahal Agri. Dev. Bank	Rajmahal	143.45
Daltonganj Agri. Dev. Bank	Daltonganj	246.00
Agri. Mkt Yard, Dumka	Dumka	2.29
Garhwa	Garhwa	222.28
Satbarwa	Satbarwa	107.56

(c) and (d) Information is being collection from State Bank of India and to the extent available will be laid on the table of the House.

Import of Washing Soap from Nepal

5809. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether several soap manufacturing units in the country particularly in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are on the verge of closure due to import of washing soap from Nepal;

(b) wither the material used in the imported soaps have been tested;

(c) if so the details of the proportion in which various materials are mixed in the imported soaps;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the soap is being imported at reduced cost causing loss of customs and cess duties to the tune of crores of rupees per annum ,

(e) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No specific representations have been received in Deptt. of Commerce from the Indian Industry about the adverse impact of import of soaps manufactured in Nepal.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Deptt of Commerce are not aware of any study being conducted to analyze the details of the proportion in which various materials are mixed in the imported soaps.

(d) to (f) India-Nepal Treaty of trade provides for import of all articles including soaps manufactured in Nepal except for a list of three items namely alcoholic liquors / beverage, perfumes and cosmetics and cigarettes and tobacco, without payment of basic customs duty subject to fulfillment of the prescribed conditions. Corrective measures have been taken at the time of renewal of India-Nepal Treaty of Trade on 2nd March, 2002 to protect the interests of the Indian Industry.

[English]

**Rehabilitation Aid to Cyclone
Affected Orissa**

5810. SHRI C.N. SINGH :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Banks has stopped the rehabilitation aid to cyclone affected areas in Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No Sir. The Orissa Emergency Reconstruction Project (US\$ 46 million) which has been stated as an immediate phase is continuing to be financed by the World Bank.

(b) Does not arise.

Slow Pace of Procurement of Rice

5811. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the slow pace of procurement of rice in some States and particularly in Orissa.

(b) if so the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to procure rice from the open market;

(d) if so, the reasons for not procuring rice directly from the farmers; and

(e) the steps taken to protect the interests of the farmers while procuring rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir The procurement of rice by FCI and State Agencies has been slow. As on 29.4.2002, a quantity of 172.15 lakh tonnes of rice has been procured in the country as compared to a quantity of 161.64 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year. As regards, Orissa, as on 26.4.2002 a quantity of 7.60 lakh tonnes of levy rice has been procured by FCI as compared to a quantity of 5.60 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal has been finalized by the Government at present.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

(e) State Governments have been advised to issue instructions to the District Collectors to ensure that enforcement certificates are issued after thorough probe that the procurement of paddy from the farmers has been made by the concerned millers on payment of Minimum support Price, and that their milling record is commensurate with the quantity of rice sought to be delivered under levy. The Collectors should be made personally accountable for the genuineness of each case of issue of enforcement certificates. Besides FCI has also been advised to verify the details before they accept and act upon the enforcement certificates issued by the Collectors. In addition, restrictions on the movement of rice and paddy from one district to another district on the movement of rice and paddy from one district to another district has been removed.

Super Regulator for Financial Sector

5812. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India Governor opposes setting up of a super regulator for the financial sector;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of above.

Re-Scheduling of Loans

5813. SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector financial institutions reschedule their loans made to corporate houses from 20 years to 50 years;

(b) if so, the compelling reasons for taking such a decision and

(c) the names of the corporate houses and private limited Companies whose loans were rescheduled from 20 years and 50 years by the Public Sector financial institutions including IDBI and IIBI, IDFC and IFCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) IDBI, IIBI, IDFC and IFCI have not rescheduled their loans to corporate houses from 20 years to 50 years.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

IIP Centres

5814. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the places where Indian Institute of Packaging Centres are located in the Country;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from some State Governments to establish IIP Centre in their States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) has its head office located at Mumbai and three regional centers at Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai,

(b) to (d) Government of Andhra Pradesh has proposed setting up a regional Centre of IIP at Hyderabad and have on 1.4.2002 allotted land free of cost for the purpose. The proposal is being processed.

Salary Structure of RRB's Employees

5815. SHRI AMBAREESHA :
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision on the salary structure of the employees of rural banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of employees of rural banks which would be benefited by this raising of salary structure; and

(d) the total financial burden, the Union Government will have to bear because of revision of pay scales of employees of rural banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgements dated 31st January, 2001 and dated 7th March, 2002, Government have issued orders on 11th April, 2001 and on 17th April, 2002, respectively under second proviso to section 17(1) of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 revising the pay scales of all the eligible employees of all Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and granting them pay scales equal to that of their counter parts in commercial banks as on 01.04.2000 by granting the benefits of 6th and 7th bipartite settlements and officers wage revision w.e.f. 01.11.1992 and 01.11.1997 respectively.

(c) As report by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), approximately 70,000 RRB employees are likely to be benefited by this wage revision.

(d) There is no immediate direct financial burden on Government of India on this account. It is expected that the RRBs would be in a position to bear the additional expenditure on this account out of their existing resources and by improving their financial position.

Production of Cardamom

5816. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for Indian cardamom in international market has increased in the recent past;

(b) if so, whether the production of cardamom is keeping pace with the demand in domestic and international market;

(c) if so, the production of cardamom recorded during the last two years;

(d) whether the cardamom growers have been getting the remunerative price for their produce; and

(e) if so, the incentives being provided to the farmers to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) (a) to (c) There is a good demand for Indian cardamom in the international market and the production of cardamom is keeping pace with the demand as can be seen in the table below :

Year	Export of Cardamom (Tons)	Production (Tons)
1998-99	476	9330
1999-00	646	10480
2000-21	1100	11365*

*Preliminary Estimate Source: Spices Board

(d) and (e) Increasing production and exports suggests that the growers are getting adequate prices. Some of the incentives provided to the farmers to increase the production of cardamom include implementation of schemes like productions and distribution of quality planting materials re-planting of old, senile and uneconomic plantations; irrigation; land development etc.

IBRD Aided Projects

5817. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether IBRD-aided rural water supply projects are under progress, in various States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) (a) and (b) Only one IBRD aided rural water supply project is under progress, which is as follows :-

Name of the project	Date of signing/ effectiveness closing	Loan amount (US\$ million)
Uttar Pradesh/ Uttaranchal Rural Water supply and Sanitation Project (Ln. No.4056-IN)	22.7.96/ 28.8.96/ 31.5.03	59.6(Original) 52.4 (Revised)

Investment by Banks for Development of Wasteland

5818. PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have convened a meeting of the RBI, nationalized Banks, NABARD and other financial institutions to sensitise institutions and borrowers on the investment in wasteland development ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the details of points discussed in the meeting and decisions taken thereon;

(d) whether the Government have offered to subsidise interest on loans given by banks for wasteland development; and

(e) if so, the details of such interest subsidy offered for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Government have set up a Task Force for linkage with credit institutions for wastelands and watershed development in March 2002. The first meeting of the Task Force was held recently which was attended by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Indian Banks Association (IBA) and select State Governments. The Task force Reviewed the availability of institutional credit for various activities need for additional funds to ensure sustainability of the projects improving the mechanism for recovery of bank credit etc. The Task Force is required to submit its report in 3 months time.

(d) and (e) Government have not taken any such decision to subsidise interest on loans given by banks for wastelands development.

[Translation]

Dr. Ambedkar Overseas Fellowship Scheme

*5819. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to amend Dr. Ambedkar Overseas Fellowship Scheme for the benefit of the students interested in pursuing their studies abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The scheme has been discontinued from 1997.

*[English]***Gross Domestic Product**

5820. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the percentage of G.D.P achieved by the exports of IT and electronics goods last year ;
- (b) whether it compares very poorly with some of the other Asian Countries ;
- (c) if so, the reasons thereof ;
- (d) the steps proposed or taken to develop Indian IT hardware industry ;
- (e) the date fixed for implementation of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) of World Trade Organisation (WTO); and
- (f) its likely impact on indigenous IT and telecom hardware industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The export of IT and electronic hardware during year 2001-02 amounted to Rs 42371 crores, which is estimated to be around 1.8 per cent of the GDP.

(b) According to a related indicator, reported in the World Development Report 2002, India's share of high technology exports as a per cent of manufacturing exports in 1999 was 6 percent as compared to 10 per cent for Indonesia, 17 per cent for China, 21 per cent for Hong Kong 32 per cent for South Korea and Thailand and 59 per cent for Malaysia and Philipines.

(c) While the Indian software industry has been doing consistently well, the IT hardware industry is passing through a transition due to inter alia lack of fresh investment in electronics/IT hardware, lack of local availability of raw material/components, high cost of capital goods, high tariff duty, infrastructural constraints, rigid labour laws, low technology levels and lack of R and D efforts.

(d) Government recognizes the importance of IT hardware industry and its potential in contributing to the growth, employment and exports of the country. Measures taken by the Government to promote electronic hardware sector include approval for all foreign direct investment in units set up for exports under the automatic route, accelerated depreciation exemption from withholding tax, higher weighted deduction for R and D activities and setting up of Special Economic Zones for hassle free manufacturing and trading for export purposes. An Information Technology Act 2000 dealing with Cyber Security, Cyber Crime and other information security

related legal aspects has also been put in place to encourage expansion on e-commerce through internet. Further policy changes as and when necessary, would be affected to accelerate IT exports on a sustainable basis.

(e) Of the 217 tariff lines bound by India under ITA, the phase out schedule stipulate reduction of duty rates to zero on 95 tariff lines by 2000, on 4 tariff lines by 2003, on 2 tariff lines by 2004 and on remaining 116 tariff lines by 2005.

(f) Information Technology Agreement is expected to aid the development of the domestic IT and Telecom industries as it is expected to expand the world trade in IT products. India likely to benefit from the capital investments in R and D in this growing field. ITA is also expected to improve the competitiveness of other industries depending on IT

*[Translation]***Relaxations in Bank Guarantee**

5821. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

- (a) weather the Government have recently decided to give some relaxations in the Bank guarantee norms for textile exporters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of textiles manufacturers likely to be benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Copies of the Gazette Notifications dated 6th March 2002 issued in this regard are enclosed as statement. The relaxation would benefit all textile and clothing exporters, who are exporting under quota policies.

Statement

To be published in Part-I Section-I of the Gazette of India Extraordinary Ministry of Textiles

NOTIFICATION

Udyog Bhawan, New delhi
Dated the 6th March, 2002.

Sub:- Garment and Knitwears Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy (2000-2004), in respect of countries where such exports are covered by restraints under the provision of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.

No.1/15/2001-Exports-I - 1. Attention is invited to Notification No.1/128/99 Exports-I dated 12th November, 1999, which was amended subsequently by Notifications of even number dated 10th December, 1999, 7th February, 2000, Notification No.1/68/2000 dated 13th June, 2000, Notification No.1/21/2000-Exports-I dated 21st July, 2000 Notification No.1/133/2000-Exports-I dated 20th November 2000, Notification No. 13/33/2000-Exports-I dated 8th January, 2001, Notification No. 1/149/99-Exports-I dated 24th January, 2001, Notification No. 1/121/2001 and Notification No. 1/161/2000-Exports-I dated 30th April 2001, on the above mentioned subject.

2. In exercise of the powers conferred by Para 20 of the Policy, the Government of India hereby grants relaxation from the operation of para 12(vii) to (ix) of the Policy for exports against entitlements of the year 2001, in the following manner:-

"(vii) The EMB/BG/LUT/ Post dated Cheque of an exporter who exports 75% or more of the entitlement would be released in full. However, in the case of slow moving items, this percentage will be 50% or more :-

(viii) The 'Quota Administering Authority' shall forfeit the EMD/BG, in case utilisation is 50% or more but less than 75% in case of fast moving items, and 40% or more but less than 50% in case of slow moving items proportionate to the shortfall in utilisation.

(ix) If utilisation is less than the above, i.e. 50% in case of fast moving items, and 40% in case of slow moving items the EMD/BG/LUT/ Post Dated Cheque shall be forfeited in full."

3. All other terms and conditions of the Notification mentioned in Para 1 above will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
(ATUL CHATURVEDI)
Joint Secretary to the Government of India

*To be published in Part-I Section-I of the Gazettee
of India Extraordinary Ministry of Textiles*

NOTIFICATION

Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated the 6th March, 2002.

Sub:- Yarn, fabrics and Made-ups Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy (2000-2004), in respect of countries where such exports are covered by restraints under the provision of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.

No.1/15/2001-Exports-I - 1. Attention is invited to Notification No.1/129/99 Exports-I dated 12th November, 1999, which

was amended subsequently by Notifications No.13/33/2000-Exports-I dated 8th January, 2001, and Notification No.1/161/2000-Exports-I dated 30th April, 2001 on the above mentioned subject.

2. In exercise of the powers conferred para 20 of the Policy, the Government of India hereby grants relaxation from the Operation of para 11 (ii) to (iv) of the Policy for exports against entitlements of the year 2001, in the following manner:-

"(ii) The EMB/BG/LUT/Post dated Cheque of an exporter who exports 75% or more of the entitlements would be released in full. However, in the case of slow moving items, this percentage will be 50% or more.

(iii) The 'Quota Administering Authority' shall forfeit the EMD/BG, in case utilisation is 50% or more but less than 75% in case of fast moving items, and 40% or more but less than 50% in case of slow moving items, proportionate to the short fall in utilisation.

(iv) If utilisation is less than the above, i.e. 50% in case of fast moving items, and 40% in case of slow moving items, the EMD/BG/LUT/Post Dated Cheque shall be forfeited in full."

3. All other terms and conditions of the Notification mentioned in Para 1 above will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
(ATUL CHATURVEDI)
Joint Secretary to the Government of India

[English]

Export of Foodgrains

5822. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI RAMSHEETH THAKUR :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the target and actual export of foodgrains made during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether some countries have rejected the foodgrains as they were of Sub-standard quality;

(c) If so, the details thereof alongwith its value in terms of Indian Rupees;

(d) the impact of export of foodgrains on indigeneous supplies and demand;

(e) whether the export of foodgrains has increased after lifting of restriction on movement of foodgrains within the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof after the date of lifting of restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) There was no export of foodgrains from the Central Pool in 1999-2000. 50 lakh MTs of wheat each for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 and 20 lakh MTs and 30 lakh MTs of rice for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively were offered from the Central Pool for export. Against this, 52.76 lakh MTs and 14.36 lakh MTs of wheat and rice respectively have been actually shipped upto 31.03.2002. The list of countries to which foodgrains from India have been exported is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) No Country has rejected Indian foodgrains exported from the Central Pool on account of sub-standard quality. However, 4 shipments of wheat sent by 3 private parties have been rejected by the Grain Board of Iraq for Containing inorganic matter, although those conformed to the Internationally accepted CODEX Standards. The quantity involved was 74,018 MTs and it was offered to the exporters @ Rs.4340/- per MT.

(d) Export of foodgrains is one of the various ways of disposal of the huge surplus stocks in the Central Pool. It does not affect the domestic demand and supply of foodgrains.

(e) and (f) Removal of restrictions on movement of foodgrains is a positive step. However, it is not possible to precisely assess its impact on exports at this stage.

Statement

Countries to which Wheat and Rice have been Exported

Commodity	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3
Countries—	Bangladesh	Baharin
	Egypt	Bangladesh
	CIndonesia	Comoros
	Kuwati	Damam

1	2	3
Countries—	Malaysia	Dubai
	Myanmar	Ethiopia
	Oman/Dubai	Indonesia
	Phillipines	Iraq
	Qatar	Ivory Coast
	Russia	Kenya
	Singapore	Kuwait
	South Korea	Malaysia
	Srilanka	Maputo
	Sudan	Mozambique
	Taiwan	Nigeria
	Thailand	Phillipines
	UAE/Sharjah	Singapore
	Vietnam	Somalia
	Yemen	South Africa
	West Africa	Srilanka
		Tanzania
		UAE/Sharjah
		West Africa
		Yemen

Regulator of Chartered Accountants

5823. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint a regulator of Chartered Accountants of India to have an effective control over this profession :

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government also propose to allow the students of Chartered Accountancy to have their internship after their qualifying inter and final examination, as in the case of medical profession;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India was established by an Act of Parliament for the purpose of regulating the profession of Chartered Accountants.

(c) and (d) Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has introduced a new scheme of Education and Training, on 1.10.2001, according to which the articleship is required to be commenced only after qualifying in the ICAI's Professional Education Examination-II (PE-II) which broadly corresponds to intermediate level examination. Prior to introduction of the said new scheme, a student could join articleship, even before qualifying in the earlier intermediate Examination (equivalent of the present PE-II Examination)

- (e) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) and (d) above.

[Translation]

Import of gold

5824. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to ban the import of gold through the non-resident Indians; and
(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No Sir,

- (b) Does not arise.

Allocation of Essential Commodities to States

5825. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) the allocation of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene under TPDS during the current year 2001-2002 to each State/Union Territory :

(b) the allocation of imported oil to each State/Union Territory against their actual demand during 2001-2002

(c) whether the demands within the States/Union Territory are met with the above allocations :

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the actual quantum of the above commodities lifted by each State/Union territory during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) A statement showing the allocation of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene under TPDS to each State/UT during the year 2001-2002 is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) No allotment of imported edible oil was made to any State/UP since there was no demand during 2001-2002.

(c) and (d) Public Distribution System (PDS) is supplemental in nature and cannot meet the full requirements of any particular individual or family. Keeping in view the comfortable stock position in the Central Pool, allocation of foodgrains for the APL, BPL and Antyodaya families has been increased to 35 kg per family per month w.e.f. 1.4.2002.

Annual allocation of kerosene oil to the States/UTs for distribution under the PDS is made by following certain principles in advance of the commencement of the year. In addition to the annual allocation, requests made by the State Governments for allocation of additional kerosene on account of unforeseen situations like flood, drought etc., are considered on merits.

The allocation of levy sugar under PDS is restricted to BPL population on the population basis of 1.3.2000. The minimum per capital supply of sugar to BPL families under PDS has been increased from 425 gms to 500 gms per month in all States/UTs except the NE States, Hilly States and Island territories where the minimum norms is 700 gms per head per month.

Allocation of imported edible oil is being made to Steps/UTs under the PDS on the basis of demands received from them and on factors like total imports, capacity with STC at ports etc

(e) A statement showing the State-wise offtake of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene under TPDS during the current year 2001-2002 is given in the enclosed statement-II

Statement-I

*Statewise allocation of Wheat, Rice, Sugar and Kerosene under
TPDS during the year 2001-2002*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Wheat (in 000 tonnes)	Rice (in 000 tonnes)	Sugar* (in MT)	Kerosene@ (in MT)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96.000	3153.480	123894	594463
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.925	95.913	10102	10079
3.	Assam	123.600	854.490	222940	267475
4.	Bihar	1359.105	786.102	256270	655846
5.	Chhattishgarh	128.697	451.980	56157	150966
6.	Delhi	517.815	175.590	33636	198823
7.	Goa	23.700	50.250	1590	23639
8.	Gujarat	1038.336	462.954	74970	804436
9.	Haryana	218.527	0.000	31744	166976
10.	Himachal Pradesh	122.124	250.887	56984	59690
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	130.780	284.590	84412	93112
12.	Jharkhand	433.427	288.958	85927	219783
13.	Karnataka	289.365	1157.469	108982	520903
14.	Kerala	452.640	1821.858	52836	269497
15.	Madhya Pradesh	939.527	411.064	156828	511168
16.	Maharashtra	2041.458	1087.735	210518	1442085
17.	Manipur	20.520	71.370	21364	22780
18.	Meghalaya	12.000	162.115	20648	20597
19.	Mizoram	12.120	101.337	8070	7284
20.	Nagaland	24.975	130.025	14276	13513
21.	Orissa	0.000	1040.151	108214	327831
22.	Punjab	134.126	21.440	19012	301725

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Rajasthan	1412.643	17.394	93196	428299
24.	Sikkim	1.200	48.021	4742	6924
25.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	1847.178	136630	634658
26.	Tripura	15.360	180.075	32066	32274
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2032.488	945.396	412092	1298013
28.	Uttanchal	57.552	86.754	73178	112059
29.	West Bengal	1254.297	1015.158	176840	795453
30.	A and N Islands	10.155	32.477	4742	6382
31.	Chandigarh	16.970	2.708	856	14729
32.	D and N Haveli	1.593	5.769	590	3119
33.	Daman and Diu	0.870	2.979	144	2374
34.	Lakshadweep	0.500	6.644	1402	902
35.	Pondicherry	0.240	27.306	3004	14606
Total		12931.635	17076.249	2693510	10032462

*Allotment of levy sugar includes annual festival quota which has been doubled in the year 2001.

© Allotment of kerosene also includes adhoc allocation of SKO made to States.

Statement-II

Statewise offtake of Wheat, Rice, Sugar and Kerosene under TPDS during the year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	State/UT	Wheat (in 000 tonnes)	Rice (in 000 tonnes)	Kerosene@ (in MT)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.385	1719.860	589555
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.510	46.812	10439
3.	Assam	70.011	503.636	268784
4.	Bihar	379.100	108.577	657969
5.	Chhattishgarh	41.437	226.386	147165
6.	Delhi	85.656	28.597	197717

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Goa	1.350	8.481	23647
8.	Gujarat	360.134	144.762	799031
9.	Haryana	94.004	0.000	171503
10.	Himachal Pradesh	45.877	120.198	49353
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	91.145	254.065	90693
12.	Jharkhand	189.259	109.063	217815
13.	Karnataka	245.790	1084.535	520080
14.	Kerala	98.533	454.006	266655
15.	Madhya Pradesh	560.865	174.264	507218
16.	Maharashtra	889.859	510.728	1440203
17.	Manipur	0.000	26.195	16315

1	2	3	4	5
18. Meghalaya		6.334	50.601	21204
19. Mizoram		8.887	38.255	7182
20. Nagaland		18.809	29.608	14076
21. Orissa		0.468	587.046	319792
22. Punjab		52.424	1.588	297969
23. Rajasthan		671.784	0.981	424012
24. Sikkim		0.600	18.489	6393
25. Tamil Nadu		0.000	1065.513	634891
26. Tripura		3.000	83.264	30856
27. Uttar Pradesh		535.474	155.215	1292742
28. Uttranchal		0.000	0.000	110702
29. West Bengal		498.106	270.362	795592
30. A and N Islands		4.209	12.776	6371
31. Chandigarh		0.050	0.373	13310
32. D and N Haveli		0.925	3.790	3096
33. Daman and Diu		0.064	0.360	2231
34. Lakshadweep		0.000	3.000	225
35. Pondicherry		0.315	9.539	14101
Total		14966.364	7850.925	9968887

*Lifting of the allocated quantity of levy sugar is the sole responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories concerned.

@Offtake figures are as per IPR

Figures are provisional

New Foodgrain Policy

5826. SHRI SUBODH ROY :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the high level Committee constituted

for formulating a new Food Grains Policy was expected to submit its final report to the Union Government by March, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the committee had in fact submitted an interim report;

(c) the recommendations made in the interim report;

(d) the action taken by the Government on each of these recommendations; and

(e) the procurement price of wheat at present according to this policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir..

(c) The recommendations made by the HLC in their Interim Report are given in statement enclosed.

(d) Based on the recommendations of the HLC, the Government has taken the following steps :-

(i) A proposal to limit the statutory taxes and levies imposed by the States on MSP is under consideration of the Department.

(ii) The Department has issued instructions to the effect that quality norms should be strictly enforced and only Fair Average Quality (FAQ) grains should be procured. In unavoidable circumstances where FAQ norms are to be relaxed, the relaxation shall be accompanied by a full value cut.

(iii) Open Market Sale Scheme OMSS (Domestic) prices for wheat are being fixed by the High Level Committee of FCI after taking into account storage and transportation costs.

(iv) The Central Issue Prices (CIP) of wheat and rice for APL families were reduced and fixed at 70% of the economic cost with effect from 12.7.2001.

(v) The allocation of foodgrains for BPL families was increased from 20 to 25 Kg per family per month, with the additional quantity also being supplied at BPL rate w.e.f. 12.7.2002.

- (vi) With effect from 1.4.2002, the CIPs of wheat and rice for APL families have been reduced by Rs. 100/- per quintals and the allocations for APL, BPL and Antyodaya families have been fixed at 35 kg. per household per month.
- (vii) Universal Public Distribution System (PDS) has been introduced in drought and other calamity affected areas from time to time.
- (viii) Food for Work Schemes and Employment generation Schemes under the Sampurna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) have been started. Under Food For Work (FFW), foodgrains are being supplied to the State Governments free of cost.
- (ix) Special steps have been taken to extend the reach of MSP operations in Assam, Bihar and Orissa.
- (x) All licensing controls and restrictions on stock limits and movement have been removed.
- (e) The procurement price of wheat during Rabi Marketing Season 2002-03 is Rs.620/- per qtl.

Statement

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE-RUN

- (1) Statutory levies imposed on purchase of food grains amount to as much as 12.5 per cent of the procurement price in certain States. The Committee recognizes that payments by the FCI as statutory levies to State Governments are essentially transfers from the Centre to State Governments and should be counted as such. It therefore recommends the elimination of such levies on food grain, an essential commodity. Till such time, the statutory levies charged by States should be settled separately between the Centre and the State Governments without involving FCI or its economic cost. This would require necessary amendments in the States Sales Tax Acts. Alternatively, the amounts being implicitly transferred to States from the Central Government in the form of statutory levies may be transferred directly in the form of current transfer.
- (2) The Committee notes with concern attempts by various producing State Governments to have

the quality norms for purchase of food grain for the Central Pool relaxed from time to time. Many consuming State Governments have refused to accept such food grains for PDS distribution. The Committee therefore recommends that FAQ norms be strictly adhered to. If any State Government requests for relaxation of quality norms, this should be invariably accompanied by an appropriate price reduction besides exemption from statutory State levies.

- (3) The MSP for paddy and the levy price for rice be fixed only for a single grade, as against Common and Grade A at present.
- (4) OMSS prices should cover not only the acquisition cost but also, as far as possible, reflect fully the differences in costs of transport and storage at different points of sale. This should be at least FCI's acquisition cost less statutory levies. Further, differentials across regions should be restored, and there should be a pre-announced graded escalation per quarter.
- (5) In order to revive the offtake from PDS system, the APL population needs to be brought into the net by reducing the APL price to 80% of the economic cost, excluding statutory levies or about 75% of the economic cost, excluding levies. The BPL price should be 50% of the economic cost, excluding the statutory levies. This would help improve the viability of the distribution network and thus improve BPL offtake as well.
- (6) For the BPL families, the quota should depend on the number of members in a family. The Committee recommends that each BPL family be permitted to purchase up to 5 kg per person at the announced BPL price per month or an allocation of 20 kg per family whichever is higher. Any additional requirement may be provided at the APL price.
- (7) For the areas covered earlier under the Revamped PDS (1775 blocks), and areas currently drought affected or ravaged by other natural calamity like floods, cyclones, earthquakes, etc., a universal PDS be introduced at BPL prices and quota.

- (8) In the Revamped PDS areas, the Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) of ICDS may be strengthened. Similarly, the Midday Meal Scheme could be strengthened by Extending its coverage to secondary school students.
- (9) The Committee strongly urges the Government to examine ways of expanding programmes of employment generation to create an effective demand for food grains.
- (i) Ideally, a massive food for work type programs should be launched. The primary responsibility of launching these programs should rest with Ministry of Rural Development.
- (ii) There may however be practical implementation problems in making payments in kind. In these cases, employment provision with wage payments in cash may be increased simultaneously with an expansion in PDS supplies and strengthening of PDS network.
- (iii) The existing restriction on employment in the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) to BPL cardholders alone should be removed immediately.

To facilitate speedier implementation of food for work schemes, an interim allocation of 2 to 3 million tonnes of food grains may be made available to the States at discounted BPL price. The main objective should be to supplement / amplify schemes currently undertaken by the States such as PM's Sarak Rozgar Yojana.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LONG-RUN

The MPS should be announced before the sowing season on the basis of C2 cost of production (i.e., all cost including the imputed costs of family labour, owned capital, and rental on owned land) on the recommendations of the CACP. At this price the Central Government should undertake open ended purchase of FAQ of grains to assure growers an adequate return on their cost.

- (2) The Central Government may purchase above MSP in situations where market conditions

warrant to make up any shortages in normative buffer stocks and to meet PDS requirements. This price should be determined by the FCI on the basis of market assessment in each year. And this should not form the basis of MSP for the next year.

- (3) The Central Government should instruct its procuring agencies/ State Governments to extend their MSP operations more effectively to States / regions, such as Assam, Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh, where farmers have reported to have been receiving prices below MSP.
- (4) There is a need for immediate action to reduce taxation on essential food items and to minimize barriers to private trade.
- (5) The OMSS should not distort markets by selling grains at heavily subsidized prices. The minimum price for OMSS should not be below the acquisition cost of FCI less statutory levies with additions for transport and storage costs in different regions and at different times of the year
- (6) The system of exports and imports of food grains should be based on a system of variable tariffs which should replace quotas. This is required for stabilization of prices in an open economy. Also as far as possible, releases for exports from public stocks should be on best commercial terms.
- (7) Decentralisation of the food grain procurement and distribution system is desirable provided this is seen as a means by which States can be given greater flexibility in design of their PDS and FCI be given greater incentive for cost control, without the Central Government diluting its commitment to the requirements of price stabilization and food security.
- (8) In principle, the Committee believes that dual/ multiple prices in the PDS are distortionary and provide scope for leakages.
- (9) The basic approach of the Committee is that barriers to trade in the grain market should be removed so as to make it more integrated nationally. The role of public intervention

should primarily be to stabilize prices and that any system of price stabilization must be national in scope. Also, decentralization will be acceptable to the States only if this is carried out in a manner which does not involve the Centre passing on to them the fiscal costs that it bears currently. The Committee will elaborate on the above-mentioned issues in its final report.

[English]

SEBI Act 1992

5827. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V. V. S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposal to make amendments in SEBI Act, 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) the details of amendment likely to be made; and

(d) the time by which a Bill on the proposed amendment is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Government has initiated examination of possible legislative changes to further strengthen provisions in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992 for investor protection and to make SEBI an even more effective body for regulation and development of capital markets.

[Translation]

Foreign Liquor Imported in the Country

5828. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) the quantum of foreign liquor imported into the country during the last year alongwith the revenue being earned therefrom;

(b) whether the government propose to impose a complete ban on the import of foreign liquor; and;

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) (a) During the last financial year i.e. 2001-2002, the quantum of foreign liquor imported into the country was 1799003* liters (approx.) The amount of revenue collected during the period on this items was Rs. 2461 lakhs (approx.)**.

* It does not include the quantity against which revenue to the tune of Rs. 1144.4 lakhs was collected from the supplies made to the hotels from the bonded stores, as the same is not available. Further, it does not include the quantity of liquors which was imported into India by passengers as part of their free allowance under the Baggage Rules, 1998.

** This figure does not include the revenue which has been foregone on account of supplies of liquor as ship stores and supplies made to diplomats etc.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Import and Export of Vehicles

5829. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:-

(a) the number of cars and other vehicles exported during 2001-2002 alongwith the value thereof;

(b) the number of vehicles imported during the said period;

(c) the total estimated number of persons working in the industries engaged in the manufacturing of above vehicles;

(d) whether these industries had imported spare parts of different vehicles during the said period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the value of the imported spare parts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) (a) According to Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) the details of vehicles exported during 2001-2002 (April-December) is as under

S. No.	Category	Export in Nos.	Value (in Rs. Crore)
1.	Passenger cars and multi utility vehicles (MUVs)	12628	297.15
2.	Commercial vehicles	5043	243.40
3.	2/3 wheelers	84493	266.06
Total		102164	806.61

(b) DGCIS has reported that during 2001-2002 (April-December) the details of import of vehicles is as under :

S. No.	Category	Import in Nos.	Value (in Rs. crore)
1.	Passenger cars and multi utility vehicles (MUVs)	946	56.84
2.	Commercial vehicles	84	13.42
3.	2/3 wheelers	232	1.19
Total		1232	71.45

(c) As per the information received from Automotive Component Manufacturers association (ACMA), automotive industry employs 4.5 lakh people directly and one crore people indirectly.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. During 2001-2002 (April - December) parts and accessories worth Rs. 724.13 crore for different types of vehicles were imported from various parts of the world.

[English]

Agenda for SSIs

5830. SHRI JOYTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether PHDCCI study has mooted a ten point agenda for SSIs to become competitive and to provide a major policy thrust for limiting imports; and

(b) if so, the details of the ten point agenda and the steps proposed to promote SSIs and for

limiting imports and protecting SSIs by putting up tariff barriers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), New Delhi, they have conducted a study entitled "Post QR Regime: Making Small Scale Industry WTO Compatible" in which an 11 point agenda has been mooted for making the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) competitive. The details of this agenda are enclosed as statement

Import restrictions have been removed in line with the economic liberalization policy being followed since 1991 and also in accordance with country's commitment to multilateral trade regime. While the removal of QRs have exposed the SSIs to grater competition, there has not been any surge in imports as a consequence of this step. Government is absolutely determined to ensure through appropriate use of tariff and other mechanisms; including imposition of anti dumping duty, safeguard duties, that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic industry due to import restrictions removal. Toward that end, Government has increased duties on a number of items where a surge in imports was noticed or apprehended.

The Government has put in place several measures to help SSIs become globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modern management practices, use of electronic infrastructure and other IT applications to face the emerging challenges of trade liberalization.

A comprehensive policy package for the development of SSIs has been announced on 30th August, 2000. The policy package will enhance the competitiveness of SSIs through easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loan up to Rs. 25 lakhs, capital subsidy for technology upgradation and improved infrastructure.

Statement

Details of the 11 point agenda as indicated in the Study entitled "Post QR Regime: Making Small Scale Industry WTO compatible," conducted by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi to make the SSIs Competitive. The study advises that the SSIs should:

1. Make efforts to match prices of domestic products with world prices by adopting waste

reducing techniques, making improvements in designs, use of better materials, improved inventory management, etc.

2. Innovate/design new products and upgrade product quality to ensure that the consumers are not diverted towards imported products.
3. Adopt international/Indian product standards.
4. Ensure better packaging for domestic and export markets
5. Ensure compliance with per-determined delivery Schedules.
6. Obtain patents for their products.
7. Expand the industrial units vertically by installing modern machinery rather than starting another small unit.
8. Explore areas for ancillarisation and develop linkages with other enterprises.
9. Restructure management and marketing practices.
10. Look for collaborations and tie ups with foreign firms, which will take care of export marketing through their established channels and provide financial support.
11. Improve productivity of labour.

[Translation]

Sale of Foodgrains at Cheaper Rates

5831. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the farmers have to sell their foodgrains at cheaper rates for lack of adequate number of procurement centres;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to open such centres near production areas and 'Mandis' during the last two years; and

(c) the number of procurement centres opened by the Government, State-wise during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir. As on 1.5.2002, a quantity of 139.03 lakh tonnes of wheat and as on 29.4.2002, a quantity of 142.66 lakh tonnes of paddy conforming to fair Average Quality specifications has been procured in the country by FCI and State Agencies at Minimum Support Prices.

(b) Adequate number of procurement centres are opened in the market yards/mandis and in the production areas in consultation with the State Governments to facilitate farmers to sell their produce conforming to Fair Average Quality specifications. This is being done to prevent distress sale by farmers.

(c) The number of procurement centres opened by FCI/State Agencies are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing the list of purchase Centres operated by FCI/State Agencies during Rabi and Kharif seasons from 2000-01 and 2001-02.

State	Rabi Season			(Prov.)		
	2000-01			2001-2		
	FCI	S.Agen.	Total	FCI	S.Agen	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Punjab	495	1053	1548	439	1145 (Ex. 1071 and Jt. 74)	1584
Haryana	77 (EX. 43 and Jt. 34)	303	380	85 (Ex. 55 and Jt. 30)	285	370

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Uttar Pradesh	44	4601	4645	—	4390	4390
Rajasthan	22	118	140	29	115	144
Madhya Pradesh	22	1023	1035	22	875	897
Delhi	2	—	2	2	—	2
Bihar	26	—	26	37	512	549
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	2	—	2
Uttaranchal	—	—	—	27	163	190
Total	688	7088	7774	643	7485	7616

Ex-Excluding

Jt-Jointly

S. Agencies - State Agencies

Kharif Season

State	2000-01				2001-2			
	FCI	Jointly	S.Agen.	Total	FCI	Jointly	S.Agen.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab	460	87	1040	1587	427	128	1098	1653
Haryana	22	10	192	224	31	35	165	231
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	Only 1400 (6 per block)	1400	—	—	1605	1605
Delhi	4	—	—	4	2	—	—	2
Rajasthan	12	—	—	12	12	—	—	12
					*22		@28	@50
Andhra Pradesh	217	—	188	405	173	—	*282	455
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	2155	2155	46	—	382	428
						—	—	
							@231	@231
Karnataka	18	—	13	31	—	—	9	9
Pondicherry	2	—	2	4	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pd.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bihar	40	—	512	522	38 2 more centres being decided	—	716	754
Himachal Pd.	2	—	—	2	4	—	—	4
Maharashtra	—	—	255	255	—	—	823	823
J and K	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Chhatisgarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	1972 @33	2226 @254
*Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	—	—	*52	*52
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—	—	@33	@33—
Total	779	97	5757	6633	755	163	7641	8568

N.B. 1. Through Kacha Arhtias in Punjab and Haryana and Arhtias Samitis in Arunachal Pradesh.

2 Figs. For A.P. includes Rabi

3. @For Procurement of Coarsegrains only.

4. *52 Sanctioned and 50 operational.

[English]

Trade talks with Bangladesh

5832. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether any talks have been held recently at the official level to review the trade agreement between India and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the points discussed at the meeting;

(c) whether the existing Indo-Bangladesh trade agreement expired in April, 2002;

(d) if so, whether a fresh bilateral trade agreement has been finalized; and

(e) if so, details thereof and the new features, if any added to the new agreement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) Trade Talks were held at Commerce Secretary level between India and Bangladesh at Dhaka during April 8-10, 2002. While the text of the Trade Agreement did not come up for discussion, the full gamut of bilateral trade issues was discussed and it was agreed to continue discussions and to hold the next round of talks as early as possible. India agreed to provide duty-free access to forty tariff lines at the six-digit Harmonised System (HS) level corresponding to sixteen categories of Bangladesh products. It was also agreed that Joint group of customs officials is to meet as early as possible to address the streamlining of customs and allied administrative procedures for unhindered flow of trade between the two countries. Bangladesh agreed to take up with National Board of Revenue the Indian request to allow land route for export of cotton yarn and sugar to Bangladesh.

(c) The existing Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement was valid upto 3rd April, 2002. It has further been extended for two months with effect from 4th April, 2002.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**C and AG Observation on Valuation
of Goods**

5833. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Ministry's reply to the observations of the C and AG on the valuation of goods sold through depots has been held untenable by the C and AG as will be seen from its report 11 of 2002, para 9.6, page 55;

(b) if so, the total number of cases of valuation of goods sold through depots where financial loss of crores of rupees has been caused to the State :

(c) whether the matter has been looked into by experts and steps taken to ensure no loss of revenue to the State and bringing to book officials in the commissionerate of Central Excise all over the country responsible for causing financial loss to the State by interpreting the rules to the benefit of the manufacturers; and

(d) If so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Sir, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C and AG) pointed out in para 9.6 of its Report 11 of 2002 that there was undervaluation of goods sold by an assessee through various depots. Ministry of Finance did not admit the audit objection. However, Ministry's comments at the Draft Audit Para (DAP) stage have not been accepted by the C and AG. Now that the DAP has been converted into an Audit Para, Ministry's Action Taken Note (ATN) will be sent to the C and AG.

World Bank and DFID Grants to Orissa

5834. SHRI ANANT NAYAK :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants obtained from World Bank and DFID by Orissa State during each of the last three years;

(b) the purpose for which the grants had been given to Orissa and the extent to which the grants have been utilised in those years;

(c) whether any grant is likely to be given to The State from World Bank and DFID during 2002-03; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Constitution, the executive powers of a State extend to borrowing only within the territory of India. Also, under the VII Schedule of the Constitution, 'Foreign Loans' come under the Union list. Therefore, State Governments cannot receive financial assistance from foreign countries/institutions directly. However, Central Government approaches bilateral and multilateral institutions for financial assistance to the States.

The amount of grants received from DFID for Orissa during last three years and the purpose for which these grants were utilized is given in the Statement below.

Amounts in GBP in million

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Agreement Date	Total Grant Amount	Utilization during		
				1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Orissa Power Sector Reforms	29.8.96	42.00	3.35	0.00	0.00
2.	Orissa Health and Family Welfare Reforms	21.8.97	3.82	0.14	0.41	0.29
3.	Cuttack Urban Services Improvement Project	20.10.97	12.72	0.83	0.00	0.55
4.	Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods	23.7.99	32.75	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Rehabilitation of Cyclone Damaged Lift Irrigation Points	29.8.2001	5.35	—	—	1.40
6.	Orissa District Primary Education	10.10.01	45.21	—	—	0.00
7.	Orissa Post Cyclone Reconstruction of Primary Schools	1.1.02	33.20	—	—	0.00
8.	Orissa Public Sector Reforms TC Project	17.3.99	19.00	Money under TC Projects is directly spent by DFID		

No grants were given by World Bank for the State during this period.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (c) above.

[Translation]

BIS Survey on Jewellers

5835. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities and metros wherein jewellers and gold traders were surveyed by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) during the last two years;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the survey in Madhya Pradesh was conducted to ascertain that sub-standard gold was being sold to the people; and

(d) if so, the number of jewellers found selling sub-standard gold ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Bureau of Indian Standards conducted a survey in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Kolkata and Jaipur to find out the actual purity of Gold Jewellery being sold in the market. Out of 120 samples of jewellery tested, only 14 were found conforming to the claimed purity.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Expert Committee on Legal aspects of Bank Frauds

5836. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has since examined the recommendations contained in the Report of the Export Committee on legal Aspects of Bank Frauds, which was submitted to the Reserve Bank of India in August, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India has forwarded its views thereon to the Government ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the committee; and

(e) if the reply to part (a) above of the question be in the negative, the reasons for delay on the part of Reserve Bank of India in this regard and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) The delay in Finalising the views of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is due to the fact that as per the directions of the Board for Financial Supervision of RBI,

the report has been forwarded to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) for examination by high level group set up by the CVC to look into bank frauds.

Vocational Rehabilitation Centres

5837. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the funds allocated for the 17 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRCs) functioning in the country for mentally and physically handicapped children are not adequate;

(b) if so, the total funds allocated and expenditure made on the VRCs during the last three years;

(c) the steps initiated for allocation of more funds for Vocational Rehabilitation Centres; and

(d) the fresh steps taken for improvement in physical, medical, socio-economic and psychological evolutions of the children residing in these VRCs ?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Adequate funds are allocated to Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRCs) which provide rehabilitation assistance to persons with disabilities in the age group of 15-50 years. Out of total allocation of Rs. 24.47 crores for VRCs, an expenditure of Rs 18.09 crore was incurred during the years 1999-2002. The new initiatives in this regard, inter-alia, include setting up of Skill Training Workshops, Rural Rehabilitation Extension Centres, at least one VRC in each State/Union Territory during Tenth Five Year Plan, mobile camps in rural areas, etc.

Export to US and EU Countries

5838. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's exports to US and European Union countries recorded a fall during 2001-02;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the figures for the previous year i.e. 2000-2001; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase exports to above countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) India's export to US and European Union Countries have recorded a negative growth in 2001-02 (April-December 2001-02) at (-) 13.31% and (-) 6.04% respectively. The synchronized global slowdown coupled with the September 11 event and its aftermath have led to lower export growth during the financial year 2001-02.

(c) India's export to US and European Union Countries for the year 2000-01 is as under :

Countries/Regions	2000-01
USA	9281.88
European Union Countries	10362.58

(d) Export promotion continues to be a major thrust area. Several measures to boost exports have been undertaken in order to provide competitive edge to the Indian goods in the International market. Taking stock of the developments in the recent past and considering the current global economic environment, the Medium Term Export Strategy for the period 2002-2007 has been announced.

[Translation]

Corruption in the Ministry

5839. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to revamp the mechanism available in the Ministry to check the growing corruption :

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the other measures taken to check the corruption in the Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) The Central Vigi-

lance Commission acts as the Apex body for exercising general superintendence and control over vigilance matters. The Ministry follows the guidelines issued by the Central Vigilance Commission from time to time for fighting corruption.

Anti-corruption measures taken by the Ministry and the PSUs under its control include, inter-alia, surprise inspections, deploying flying squads and special teams for probing into serious complaints on top priority, rotating the staff in sensitive posts and constant monitoring of vigilance cases.

[English]

Allocation to Kerala

5840. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state the Total amount spent in the State of Kerala during the last three years under various welfare schemes of his Ministry, year-wise and scheme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : The details of the total amount spent in Kerala are as under :

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities	442.04	483.72	539.45
2.	Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids/Appliances	28.00	19.00	57.45
3.	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse	110.42	119.12	125.12
4.	Integrated Programme for Street Children	14.00	8.29	20.25
5.	Integrated Programme for Older Persons	13.66	9.72	8.77
6.	Assistance to Panchayati Raj Instts./Vol. Orgns./Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons	0	22.00	11.20
7.	Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Orgns. Working for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes	2.46	17.03	9.89
8.	Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for the Other Backward Classes	0	0	4.09
9.	Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections based on Economic Criteria	15.54	6.86	8.08
10.	A Programme for Juvenile Justice	16.86	21.30	25.28
11.	Employment of Handicapped	7.96	0	64.46

Growth Rate

5841. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has projected 6-7 percent India's growth rate for 2002-03 :

(b) if so, whether the Asian Development Bank has suggested some measures to achieve the projected growth :

(c) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the Asian Development Bank; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government on the suggestion made by the ADB and to achieve the growth target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) The recently published 2002 Asian Development Outlook (ADO), a publication of the Asian Development Bank, projects India's economic growth at 6 percent for fiscal year 2002-03 and 6.5-7 percent for fiscal year 2003-04. The purpose of the ADO is not to provide policy advice, but to assess the outlook for Developing Member Countries economies based on past trends and their current economic situation. The analyses and assessments contained in the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board of Directors.

Offtake of Foodgrains

5842. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there has been dramatic improvement in the foodgrains offtake by States in the last three months:

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether the foodgrain export has touched a record high during the last three months : and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) There has been significant improvement in the foodgrains offtake of rice

and wheat under Public Distribution system and welfare schemes as mentioned below :-

(Figures in lakh tonnes)*

Month	Rice	Wheat	Total
January, 2002	15.61	6.13	21.74
February, 2002	11.93	6.61	18.54
March, 2002	20.06	8.65	28.71

* (Provisional)

(c) and (d) The following quantity of rice and wheat was exported during last three months:

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Month	Rice	Wheat	Total
January, 2002	2.51	2.39	4.90
February, 2002	2.80	3.37	6.17
March, 2002	3.01	3.37	6.38

*(Provisional)

Enhance Import Duty on Silk

5843. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to enhance import duty on silk to protect silk growers:

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have recommended levy of import duty to the Finance Ministry:

(c) whether the imposing import duty on silk does not come under the purview of World Trade Organization and

(d) if so, the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) In the general budget announced for 2002-2003 the import duty of silk has been reduced to 35.20% from 40.40% in 2001-2002. This Ministry has requested Ministry of Finance for maintaining the import duty of silk at the level of 40.40%.

(c) and (d) Imposition of a particular rate of duty, as long as it does not exceed the tariff binding committed to by a Member of World Trade Organization (WTO), does not

come within the purview of the WTO, as silk has no tariff binding, this is not an issue.

Child Line Service

5844. DR. S. VENUGOPAL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have decided to extend the childline service in more cities and towns of the country;

(b) if so, the number of cities where this facility is available;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to give more publicity to this facility so that more and more people can avail this facility; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This service is available in 38 cities now.

(c) and (d) Publicity to such beneficiary oriented schemes is a continuous process. All available forms of media are being used for giving more publicity to Child Line services.

Reconstruction and Development Fund for Marine Sector

5845. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have set up reconstruction and development fund of modernisation or marine sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the export made by the marine sector during the last two years;

(d) the export target fixed by the marine sector for 2002-03; and

(e) the incentives proposed to be given to marine sector to boost the marine export during 2002-03 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The exports of Marine Products from the country during the last two years are given below :-

Year	Value of exports (in millions US \$)
2000-2001	1416
2001-2002	1211 (Provisional)

(d) and (e) Marketing projections on exports is a continuous exercise based on the prevailing and anticipated market condition. The present projections for export of marine products during 2002-03 are to the tune of US \$ 1250 million. With a view to realise the same the Government have taken several steps, which include schemes for extending financial assistance to the seafood processing industry : steps to upgrade processing facilities to meet international standards of hygiene and quality : expansion of aquaculture : imparting training to aquaculture farmers to adopt sound management practices to prevent outbreak of diseases : assistance to produce value-added products for export : participation by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in international fairs, conducting overseas market surveys :etc.

Partho Shome Committee Report

5846. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have accepted the Partho Shome Committee Report on taxation : and

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE. N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The recommendations of the Partho Shome Committee were considered as a part of the pre-budget exercise for Budget 2002-2003, and decision of the Government in this regard is reflected in the proposals made through the Finance Bill, 2002.

(b) The recommendations made by the Committee include a two-rated structure of 16% together with a higher rate for central excise duties, maintain the maximum marginal rate of personal income tax at 30%, reduction of customs tariffs to comparable international levels, review

and removal of exemptions in respect of customs duties and income tax, rationalisation of various export promotion schemes and simplification of tax procedures.

Enforcement of Trips

5847. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) the names of the agency of Government which has been entrusted the responsibility of enforcement of the TRIPS :

(b) whether the Government have any plan for stricter enforcement of TRIPS : and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) TRIPS. Agreement covers seven areas of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) including plant variety, protected in India by separate legislation. These Acts provide for civil and criminal remedies against infringement of these IPRs. For civil remedies, a right holder may file a suit in a court not inferior to a District Court having jurisdiction to try that suit in a manner specified in the concerned Act. Where there are provisions for criminal remedies for infringement of IPRs like trademark, copyright, etc. a police officer-in-charge of a police station can investigate a case on his own when the commission of a cognizable offence is brought to his knowledge. In case of noncognizable offences, the police can investigate only on order of a Magistrate having power to try such case. Enforcement of the provisions dealing with criminal penalties is the responsibility of the State Governments through police force. Ministry of Human Resource Develop-

ment has taken several measures to strengthen enforcement of copyrights. These include setting up of Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council, organisation of seminars / workshops to create greater awareness about copyright law among the enforcement personnel and general public, encouraging setting up of collective administrative societies, creation of separate cells in State police headquarters, etc.

[Translation]

Destitute Children

5848. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) the details of NGOs which are active in the State of Maharashtra for the welfare of destitute children

(b) the financial assistance provided to each of these NGOs during each of the last three years :

(c) whether some of these NGOs have misappropriated the financial assistance provided to them:

(d) if so, the details of these NGOs; and

(e) the action taken against these NGOs ?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the details of the NGOs in the State of Maharashtra which were provided financial assistance by this Ministry for the welfare of destitute children during last three years is enclosed.

(c) No, information about misappropriation is available with the Ministry.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Statement

Statement showing the details of the NGOs in the State of Maharashtra, which were provided financial assistance for the welfare of destitute children during last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)					
Sl.No.	Name and Address	Project	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Salaam Balaak Trust, PT Welfare Centre Asha Sadan, Marg Umar Khadi, Mumbai	Street Children	4.5	12.38	5.87
2.	Society Undertaking for Poor People's onus for Rehabilitation (SUPPORT), Old BMC Office, 2nd Floor, Vakola Market, Nehru Road, Santacruz (East), Mumbai-400055.	Street Children	0.28	0.21	1.8

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	The Vatsalya Foundation, King George V-Memorial, Dr. Moses Road, Mumbai-400011.	Street Children	7.02	6.78	5.51
4.	Tata Institute of Social Service (TISS), PB No. 8313, Sion-Trombay Road, Deonar, Mumbai-400088.	Street Children	7.9	1.06	0
5.	Child Line India Foundation, Nana Chowk, Municipal, 2nd Floor School Ferere Bridge, Near Grant Road Station Mumbai.	Inspection of Street children projects and grant for Administrative expenditure	11.19	14.41	2.64
6.	Apang Va Niradhar Bahuuddeshiya Kalyankari Sanstha, Zingabadi Takali Road, Nagpur-440030.	Street Children	0	36.73	8.02
7.	Bharatiya Institute of Social Work, 98, Old Subhedar Layout Extension, Nagpur-440024.	Street Children	6.15	0	0
8.	Khatun Minority Women's Social Welfare and Education Society 534 MHB Colony, Malegaon, Nasik, Maharashtra.	Street Children	0	0	0.74
9.	Deep Griha Society, Family Welfare Centre, 13, Tadiwala Road, Pune-411001.	Street Children	1.23	0	0
10.	SAMATA Shikshan Sansthan, 861/11, Sadashiv Peth, Pune-411030.	Street Children	0.31	0	0
11.	AAMRAE, Devaki Singh Kishawl, Room No.8, Golibar, Behind Adarsh Aptt., Santacruz(E), Mumbai-400055.	Child Line Project	2.87	2.12	7.29
12.	AASARA, Near Praful Nakhawa Chawl, Chandani Kowada Thane (East)-400603	Child Line Project	0.19	0.43	0.74
13.	Hamara Club, C/o Tata Institute of Social Services, Post Box No. 8313, Sion-Trambay Road, Deonar, Mumbai-400088.	Child Line Project	0.23	0.4	0.39
14.	Childline India Foundation (Childline Central Development and Support Cell) Nana Chowk Municipal School 2nd floor, Frere Bridge Low level, Nana Chowk, Near Grant Road Station Mumbai-400007.	Child Line Project	1.22	17.39	11.03

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	National Addiction Research Centre (NARC), 5th floor, Bharadawadi Hospital, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400058.	Child Line Project	1.71	0	0
16.	PREM SAGAR, C/o Community Development Centre, Lutheran Centre Marve Road, Malad (West), Mumbai-400064.	Child Line Project	0.22	0	0
17.	PRERANA, C/o Priti Patkar Kamathipina Municipal School, 7th Lane, Sukhlaji Street, Kamathapura, Mumbai-400008.	Child Line Project	0.22	0	0
18.	Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action, Field Office : 52/53 Nare Park Municipal School, Opp. Nare Park Ground. Mumbai-400012. Regd. Office: 8, Gr. Floor, 33/L, Mhatre Bldg. Mughbat Cross Lane, Mumbai-400002.	Child Line Project	2.85	3.65	5.4
19.	Balprafulta, St. Dominic Savio School, Mahakali Caves, Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai-400093	Child Line Project	0	6.16	5.14
20.	Apang Va Niradhar Bahuddeshiya, Kalyankari Sanstha, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya Child Development Home, Hajariya Santra Market Road, Ward No. 108, Nagpur-440018.	Child Line Project	3.33	2.98	4.30
21.	Bapuji Bahujan Samaj Kalyan, Bahuddeshiya Sanstha, Shriniketan Apartments 5, Nargundkar Layout, Khamla Road-440015.	Child Line Project	0.42	0.42	0.29
22.	Indian Social Service Unit of Education (ISSUE), 138, Misal Layout, Nara Road, PO Jaipataka, Nagpur-440014.	Child Line Project	0.41	0.30	0.26
23.	Matru Seva Sangh Institute of Social Work, West High Court Road, Bajaj Nagar, Nagpur-440010.	Child Line Project	0.51	0.78	1.84
24.	Vardaan, Indian Association for Promotion of Adoption, C/o Lata Mangeshkar Hospital, YMCA, Complex, Maharajbag Road, Sitabuldi, Nagpur-440001.	Child Line Project	0.41	0.42	0.50
25.	Karve Institute of Social Service, 18 Hillside Kama Nagar, Pune	Child Line Project	0	0	1.95
26.	Dnyanawirddhi Dwara Desh Vikas, Bombay Road, Pune	Child Line Project	0	0	5.30

Sugar Production in States

5849. SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the sugar produced in the private mills have less calories as compared to the calorie of the sugar produced in Government mills;

(b) whether the Government propose to take necessary measures in future to reduce the calorie in sugar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The sugar mills in the country produce sugar as per Indian Sugar Standards (ISS). The sucrose content of Indian sugar is not less than 99.5% the calorific value of pure sugar (containing 100% sucrose) is 3939 K. Cal per Kg. Thus, all the sugar factories irrespective of the sector to which they belong, are producing sugar of the same quality.

Export of Wheat to Sri Lanka

5850. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Union Government have agreed to export 3 lakh tonnes of wheat annually to Sri Lanka on a 15 year credit package;

(b) whether the Government normal credit period is three years and if so, the reasons for the deviation made;

(c) whether the consignments are proposed to be exported on CIF basis, contrary to our practice of despatch on F.O.B. basis;

(d) if so, whether the agreed price will cover the CIF costs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) The Sri Lankan Prime Minister visited India between December 22-24, 2001. On a request from the Sri Lankan Prime Minister, India agreed

to supply 25000 tonnes of wheat per month for the next twelve months to Sri Lanka, at terms agreed to by both sides. The details are being worked out between the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and the Government of Sri Lanka.

Removal of Restrictions on movement of Pulses

5851. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Union Government are planning to remove the restrictions and allow easy movement of pulses within the country; and

(b) if so the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Opening of Bank Branches

5852. SHRI A. BRAHAMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to encourage banks to open branches in States where the ratio of banks to population is more than 1:25000;

(b) if so, the plans of the Government to extend some incentive to banks to open branches in less served areas ;

(c) whether any interest subsidy will be provided by the Government for the first five years of a new branch commencing its operations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Average Population Per Branch Office (APPBO) for the country stands at 15000 as on 31st December, 2001. There is only one State where the APPBO is above 25000 viz, Manipur. There are 12 States which have the ratio of population per

branch office more than the national average. Under the extant policy opening of Bank Branches has been left to the discretion of the banks, which depends on various factors such as topography, availability of infrastructure (roads, electricity, water supply and premises), availability of business etc. at a particular centre.

(b) to (d) RBI have advised banks to give preference to opening of new branches in hilly/sparsely populated areas. There is no plan to give any incentives or give interest subsidy to banks for opening branches.

[Translation]

Setting up of Power Projects by BHEL

5853. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals propose to set up power generating projects;

(b) if so, the number of power projects likely to be executed;

(c) the capacity and cost of power projects likely to be taken by BHEL;

(d) the terms and conditions of power projects; and

(e) the time by which power projects are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) BHEL has no proposal for setting up Power generating Projects of its own at present.

(b) to (e) In view of the answer at (a) above, question does not arise.

Residential Schools for Blinds

5854. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) the existing provision for educating the blind and handicapped students in the country;

(b) whether the Government are conducting any country-wide survey to know the number of such students;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the number of residential schools for blind students in the country is inadequate : and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) A statutory obligation has been cast on the Central Government, State Governments and Local authorities, under Chapter V, Sections 26-31, of The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 for ensuring education of children with disabilities including the Visually Impaired.

(b) and (c) No country wide survey has been conducted to know the number of visually impaired students.

(d) and (e) Under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities during the year 2001-2002 around 90 voluntary organizations working for the visually impaired were given grant in aid assistance for taking up projects for the visually impaired including residential schools. State Governments, Local Authorities and private institutions are also providing facilities including residential schools for education of Visually impaired. The Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment continues to encourage voluntary action for expansion of services in this area.

OBC List of UP

5855. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) the names of the Castes in Uttar Pradesh which are proposed to be included in the category of Other Backward Castes; and

(b) the time by which these castes are likely to be included in the list of Other Backward Castes in Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The National Commission for Backward Classes has received requests for inclusion of Bhagwan. Kurmi Sainthwar, Sanwat and Katua castes/communities in the Central Lists of Other Backward Castes for Uttar Pradesh. These requests are at various stages of examination and consideration by the Commission and the Commission will tender its advice to the Government thereafter.

*[English]***Crisis in Marble Industry**

5856. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the Government are aware that marble industry in the country is facing acute crisis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any representations have been received from the traders of marble industry to resolve their problems; and
- (d) if so, the revival measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) A representation from Akhil Bhartiya Marble Vikas Sangh requesting for withdrawal of Central Excise Duty on Marble Slabs and Tiles in view of the financial difficulties faced by Marble Industry due to International competition, etc., was received. The request was sent to the Ministry of Finance with recommendations of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

**White Paper on Public Sector
Undertakings**

5857. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Paper on PSU turn around may be dumped" appearing in the Business Standard (weekend edition) dated the April 6/7, 2002;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the Ministry is likely to dump the White Paper on the revival of 48 Public Sector undertakings under its administration; and
- (d) if so the details thereof and the reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to

- (d) The finalisation of a white paper has been in process. A final view has yet been taken.

Issue of Statutory Notices

5858. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have directed the assessing officers to take the cases listed by audit to their control register and issue necessary instructions for issuing statutory notice to the assesseees which until now escaped assessment as has been brought out in the C and AG report 12A of 2002 on page 94;
- (b) if so, the details of the assesseees in respect of whom such a direction has been given;
- (c) the reasons for the assesseees escaping assessments; and
- (d) the corrective measures the Government have taken or propose to take in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of such assesseees are enclosed separately as Statement (22 cases of Delhi)

(c) All such cases were initially processed u/s 143 (1)(a) of I.T. Act in a summary manner as per Action Plan.

(d) All such cases have now been selected for scrutiny and notices have been issued as a corrective measure.

Statement

S.No.	Particulars of assessee
1	2
1.	Saroj Nursing Home
2.	Mehboob Alam Prop Arpan Hospital
3.	Rashmi Maternity and Child Hospital
4.	Amrit Hospital
5.	Sparsh Hospital
6.	R. K. Maternity Centre
7.	M. R. Nursing Home

1	2
8.	Indradeep Nursing Home
9.	Shubham Hospital
10.	M. M. R. Eye Institute
11.	Lala Gela Ram Memorial Dental Hospital
12.	M/s Jainar Hospital
13.	Amar Jyoti Hospital
14.	Aggarwal Hospital
15.	M. B. Hospital
16.	Ahuja Hospital
17.	Kukreja Nursing Home
18.	J. M. S. Batra Hospital
19.	Goyal Nusing Home
20.	M. B. Nawab Hospital
21.	Monga Medical Centre
22.	Jasrotia Hospital

**C and AG Observation on Income-Tax/
Wealth Tax Assessments**

5859. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the audit carried out an in-depth audit scrutiny of some of the companies in certain strategic sectors to examine the quality of income tax and wealth assessments done by the income-tax department as can be seen from the C and AG Report No. 12A 2002 in paragraph 4.1 etc. and the audit raised Tax effect of Rs.654.42 crore;

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking due care by the assessing officers while assessing the income of the given companies and determination of tax liabilities; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The C and AG in their Report No. 12A of 2002 (for the year ended March, 2001) laid down in Parliament on 15th March, 2002 have included the results of the Review on

audit of assessments of Companies in select sectors, namely Cement, Automobiles and Textiles. The review focused on the income tax and wealth tax assessments of 97 selected companies (24 - cement, 35 - automobiles, 38 - textiles) in these sectors for the assessment years 1994-95 to 1999-2000 having profit before tax of Rs.25 lakh. 326 audit observations were raised having tax effect of Rs. 654.42 croere.

(b) The Report of the C and AG is being examined in the CBDT and also in the field formations with a view to give parawise reply to C and AG and to determine the correctness or otherwise of aforesaid audit observations.

(c) CBDT has already issued instructions to the Assessing Officers/Field Formations to take due care in assessment and to avoid mistakes. There is also a monitoring system where the ledger cards recording mistakes committed are maintained and the explanations of the officers concerned are called for when they are found to have committed such mistakes. The Director of Income-Tax (Audit) oversees the audit work and prescribes checklists for guidance of the Assessing Officers.

[Translation]

**Loan to Gujarat Government by Asian
Development Bank**

5860. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 362 crore to resolve the problem of drinking water of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the amount received out of it so far and the amount spent out of its and the date by which the remaining amount will be received alongwith the manner in which this amount is likely to be spent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The loan approved by Asian Development bank in March 2001 for Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Project includes a component of about Rs. 362 crores to repair and replace damaged pipes, pump stations and water supply from both tube wells and regional systems to restore water for urban and rural users. In addition, about Rs. 150 crores has also been allocated for reconstruction of water distribution systems in the four towns, Bhuj, Rapar, Anjar and Bachau and for the municipal corporations of Ahmedabad, Jamnagar, Vadodara and Rajkot and others under the project.

(b) About Rs. 150 crores worth of works have been approved and initiated. Out of which about Rs. 20 crores has been disbursed. The assistance from ADB is received on reimbursement basis based on the claims applications lodged by the Project authorities. The loan closing date for the Project is 30th June, 2004.

[English]

Demand Credit to Manufacturer

5861. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether a test check of records of 67 assesses in Ahmedabad-I, Bangalore-II and Surat-I Commissionerates of Central Excise engaged in the manufacture of processed fabrics using 'grey fabric' purchased from outside, were allowed deemed credit of Rs. 73.40 crore between September, 1996 and December, 1998 despite the fact that 'grey fabric' were not eligible inputs and exempt from duty;

(b) if so, whether allowing of deemed credit in these cases was not correct; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken in this regard against the persons concerned for permitting deemed credit and against superior authorities for neglect in proper control over their juniors in ensuring no financial loss to the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Test check of records of 67 assesseees had been conducted by the audit. The objection raised by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C and AG) has not been admitted by the Government. Allowing of deemed credit was correct, as deemed credit is admissible in respect of yarn/fibre which though not directly used by the independent processors is nevertheless contained in grey fabrics, used in the manufacture of processed fabrics (finished goods).

IFI's Fund for Agriculture

5862. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have obtained fund from International financial institutions for development of agriculture;

(b) if so, the projects launched in various States for agricultural development with fund obtained from such financial institutions during last three years;

(c) whether any suai project in Orissa has been funded by such institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following projects were launched during the last three years in various States, for agricultural development with fund obtained from international financial institutions

As on 31.3.2002
Amounts in SDR in million

S. No.	Name of the Project	Donor	Effective Date	Loan Amt	Cumu. Disb.
1.	Integrated Water-shed Development (Hills II) (Haryana, HP, J and K, Punjab, Uttaranchal)	IDA, IBRD	15.09.1999	36.90 US\$ 85.00	35.87, 0.00
2.	Karnataka Water-shed Development	IDA	10.09.2001	79.00	2.36

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, a multi-state project National Agriculture Technology, was launched on 22.6.98 for a loan of US\$ 96.8 million and Credit of SDR 73.8 million, in which Orissa is one of the seven participating States.

Loans to Film Industry

5863. SHRI AMBAREESHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total income tax collected by the Government from film industry and individual film personalities during the last three years :

(b) whether it is fact that through film industry has been paying a sizeable tax as income tax and other taxes, the bank and other financial institutions are reluctant to offer any loans or advances to film industry :

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) the information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

Licensed Insurance Surveyors

5864. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IRDA has recently categorized the licensed insurance surveyors and that the criteria used for categorizing the surveyors is made on the data provided by the surveyors;

(b) if so, whether any effort been made to verify the data provided by the surveyors on the basis of which the categorization has been made;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether one of the criteria used is the maximum quantum of loss-assessed which has led to downgradation of surveyors empanelled on the Head Office Panel to B categories because of lower loss estimated thus rewarding those who have allowed higher losses and punishing of those who allowed lower losses: and

(e) the details of steps taken/proposed to revise/amend criterias adopted to ensure that no injustice is done to those qualified and deserving surveyors.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The categorization of surveyors by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) is based on the information furnished by the surveyors in the Surveyors' Information Form (SIF). The information submitted in the SIF has not been cross checked by the Authority. However, IRDA has asked for evidence in support of the data furnished in the SIF wherever complaints were received against the surveyors.

(d) and (e) The categorization of the surveyors is based, inter-alia, on academic/insurance qualifications, training, experience of the surveyors, the number of surveys job undertaken by the surveyors in the last three years as well as quantum of loss. IRDA has received representations from some surveyors in the Head Office panel of public sector companies for being awarded a lower category. All the aggrieved surveyors have been advised by IRDA to submit evidence in support of their claim that they are in Head Office panel, alongwith recommendations from the General Manager (Technical)

of any one of the public sector insurance companies in order to consider their case for review of categorization. Further, surveyors are eligible for upgradation of their categorization on the basis of acquired training, qualification and their performance with respect to survey jobs during a period of one year from the date of implementation of the system of categorization.

Export of Textiles from Gujarat

5865. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : will the Minister of EXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the recent communal clashes and disturbances in Gujarat have affected the production and export of textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have deputed a Central Team to Gujarat to assess the losses suffered on the production of textiles;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government in consultation with the State Government have formulated plans to boost the production of textiles in Gujarat;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) There has been no assessment by this Ministry of the effect on production and export of textiles of the recent law and order situation in Gujarat.

(d) to (f) The Union Government have been taking steps to boost production and export of textiles all over the country including Gujarat. The steps include Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Programme for Modernisation of the Weaving Sector, Cotton Technology Mission Scheme, setting up of Apparel Parks, Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme, and several other schemes for financial assistance to States, agencies, individuals, etc. for inputs critical for boosting production, quality and productivity, and various other measures such as liberalization of rules and regulations governing exports.

Legislation for SEZs

5866. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a legislation for the Special Economic Zones to provide a framework for an international service center in one of the zones;

(b) if so, whether the Chief Executive or the Development Commissioner of SEZ would be vested with powers of Government authorities like Excise and Customs Commissioners;

(c) whether proposed legislation would also cover the Union list and Concurrent list subjects;

(d) if so, the other salient features of the proposed legislation; and

(e) the time by which the legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir, Action has been initiated to prepare draft of the legislation.

(e) It is difficult to indicate a time frame for the legislation since several Department would have to be involved.

[Translation]

Apparel Parks for Exports

5867. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :
SHRI R.S. PATIL :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Apparel Parks for Export of goods in various parts of the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the locations, where such centres are likely to be set up, State-wise; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent on each of the Apparel Parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The detailed guidelines of the Scheme are attached as statement.

(c) The Scheme is not State-specific. The Project Approval Committee, constituted under para 2 of the guidelines, has considered and approved two Apparel Park projects at Tronica City (Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh) and Surat (Gujarat) till date.

(d) The central assistance under the scheme would be given in the form of grant to the extent of 75% of the capital expenditure incurred by the State Government on the infrastructure facilities of the Apparel Park, while the remaining 25% will be borne by the State Government or agency designated by the State Government. This grant shall be limited to a maximum of Rs. 10 crores. The Central Government will also provide grant for setting up of an Effluent Treatment Plant, creche/s, any multi purpose centre/hall for marketing/display etc. for which maximum ceiling would be Rs. 5 crores. Besides, the Central Government will provide grant upto 50% of the cost of any training facility created in the park upto a maximum of Rs. 2 crores.

Statement

GUIDELINES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF APPAREL PARKS FOR EXPORTS

A centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Parks for Exports" has been formulated with a view to involve State Government in promoting investments in the apparel sector. The Scheme is intended to impart focussed thrust to setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports in this sector so as to achieve the target of US\$ 25 billion by 2010 as envisaged in the National Textile Policy, 2000 (NTxP-2000).

1. DETAILS OF THE SCHEME

(i) The State Government or an Undertaking sponsored by the State Government (the designated agency) will provide land free of cost for establishing the park of sufficient size. (The size of an apparel park may be approximately 150-250 acres, but this can be determined in each case on merits).

(ii) The location of the apparel park will be such that it is conducive to the establishment of state-of-the-art manufacturing units in terms of its access to ports, airports, rail heads etc., availability of raw-materials and the general level of infrastructural facilities available.

- (iii) The designated agency will provide infrastructural facilities like power, water, roads (including approach roads to the park), sewerage and drainage, tele-communication and other facilities for the park. Such facilities shall be of high standards to ensure that the units established in the park are able to function efficiently.
- (iv) The park will have garment manufacturing units with each unit having atleast 200 sewing machines. The park would especially aim at integrated units. It would provide employment to at least 20,000 persons when it becomes fully operational. The park could have the ancillary units like the units manufacturing buttons etc. The park would also aim at having specialised units like processing or washing units to bring more value addition to the garments manufactured.
- (v) The State Government will also take the initiative in providing flexibility in labour laws in these clusters.
- (vi) The Central Government will give as a grant 75% of the capital expenditure incurred by the State Government on the infrastructural facilities of the Apparel Park, while the remaining 25% will be borne by the agency. This grant shall be limited to a maximum of Rs. 10 crores.
- (vii) The Central Government will also provide a sum upto Rs. 5 crores for setting up of an effluent treatment plant, creche/s, any multi purpose centre/hall for marketing/display etc. (This is being proposed as these facilities are required to enable the units to meet emerging labour/ social/environmental standards).
- (viii) The Central Government will also undertake to provide skill upgradation of the workers employed in the units under its existing schemes, wherever possible.
- (ix) The Central Government will provide grant upto 50% of the cost of any training facility created in the park upto a maximum of Rs. 2 crores. (This is being proposed as skill upgradation in garment sector is a continuous process to maintain competitiveness).
- (x) The State Government may not charge any stamp fee on the sale/transfer of land in this park.

(This facility has been given by the Government of Maharashtra for the units being set up in Millenium Park)

2. PROJECT APPROVAL COMMITTEE

- (i) The project proposals shall be considered by a Project Approval Committee (PAC) headed by Secretary (Textiles), Advisor (Textiles) Planning Commission, AS and FA, Ministry of Textiles, Textile Commissioner, a representative from Department of Expenditure with Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles as Member Secretary to approve and sanction the proposals received from the agencies for establishment of 'parks', to monitor their implementation and to evaluate the progress and achievement under the scheme.
- (ii) The agencies requesting for assistance under the scheme will prepare feasibility studies and detailed project reports. Only those proposals, which are approved, will be eligible for assistance under the scheme. While approving the proposal, care will be taken to see that the location of the park is conducive to meet the objectives of the scheme.
- (iii) While considering the proposals, due weightage shall be given to the potential of the park for attracting investments, employment generation, upgradation in technology, additionality to export and creation of labour productive environment.

3. PROJECT FORMULATION

Following points (which are intended to be indicative and not exhaustive) could be kept in mind while preparing of project proposals for setting up of Apparel Parks. Since development of Apparel Parks will have to take into account the peculiar features pertaining to each park, emphasis on various items listed hereunder may differ. However, it needs to be ensured that the infrastructural facilities provided in the Park are uniformly of high standard.

(i) Project Location

The locational suitability of the site in regard proximity to international airport/seaport, access to railheads etc., existence of an industrial, commercial and social infrastructure, linkage with hinterland for inputs, existence of

communication facilities, availability of water and power should be guiding factor.

State Government the designated agency should ensure that location of Apparel Park is primarily guided by the factor that the place is a leading manufacturing, trading or export centre of the State.

Details should be available of the proposed site, especially its area and suitability for industrial development. Normally, the land should be under the possession of the State Government/ designated agency with clear title thereupon.

(ii) **Implementing Agency**

It is expected that implementing agency would have been decided upon before the project proposal is submitted. The status of the implementing agency and its experience in executing similar schemes may be indicated.

(iii) **Project Description**

This should indicate both physical and commercial plan;

(a) The investments, production, employment, additionality in exports and import substitution likely to be generated by the units to be set up in the park.

(b) An appropriate environment management plan to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the environment as a result of setting up of industries in the Apparel Park.

(c) Type of infrastructural facilities that are available and/are proposed to be provided.

(d) Business Development Plan in a phased manner may also be indicated.

(iv) **Project Phasing**

The project report should indicate a realistic time frame within which the different activities would be completed. It may be advisable to execute the project in phases as the demand for plots and other facilities may come up over a period of time.

(v) **Financing Plan**

(a) **Project cost**

The fund requirements should be indicated itemwise on all the components of the project which should touch upon basic assumptions made for unit prices, physical and price contingencies, escalation and annual costs.

(b) **Project Financing**

The report should clearly indicate the financing arrangement especially NRI/foreign investment, bank loans and also the provisions proposed to be made under the State Plan for this purpose. Approval of the State Government for provision of necessary funds in the plan/budget should be indicated.

(vi) **Economic Viability**

It is expected that the parks would be financially self-sufficient in the long run and this point will be given due importance by the PAC.

(vii) Socio-economic feasibility report along with environmental assessment should be completed before commencement of the project.

(viii) The report shall also include the economic feasibility of the effluent treatment plant, which shall be owned, managed, maintained and run by the implementing/designated agency with the involvement of stakeholders.

4. PRE-ALLOTMENT PROCEDURES:

(i) Scrutiny and assessment formats should be designed and linked up to MIS system by State Government through any appropriate agency.

(ii) Before commencing the projects or allotment of site, care should be taken to ensure the crucial infrastructure like power, water and telecommunication are in place.

(iii) Business development plan and promotion of Apparel Park should be drawn up simultaneously to avoid under utilization of project.

(iv) Provision should be made for additional infrastructure facility like cargo complex, ICD,

custom clearance houses, courier and banking services dealing with foreign exchange.

5. Monitoring of progress and release of Funds:

Since the release of funds by the Central Government will be based on actual financial and physical progress achieved by the park, it is essential to institute a mechanism for monitoring the progress of implementation. Instituting a system for monitoring on the lines indicated below could be considered:-

- (i) The monitoring of implementation of the Apparel Parks shall be done by Committee at the State Level, which would oversee, review and report on the progress of the Apparel Park to the Central Government, based on which the actual release of funds would be made. This committee will also have representatives from the Centre. The suggested composition of the State Level Committee (SLC) is given in Attachment-I.
- (ii) The SLC shall meet once every quarter to review the progress and report the same as at Attachment-II, III and IV to the Central Government. The quarterly report shall be sent to the Ministry of Textiles by the 7th day of the month following the end of the relevant quarter, and
- (iii) The Central Assistance for each Apparel Park will be released in installments during the Plan period after assessing the progress of Apparel Park at each stage on the basis of reports furnished by the State Government;
- (iv) All Central assistance will be claimed through the Member Secretary, SLC who will furnish itemwise expenditure already incurred, before claiming Central assistance in the program at Attachment-III. The State Government should also indicate the other sources of funds including the provisions made in the State Plan. A utilisation certificate as in Attachment-V should also be furnished along with the statement of expenditure.

6. Approval of Units In Apparel Park for Exports:

The Scheme, though a centrally sponsored scheme, is implemented and run by the State Governments and hence different approaches are being followed by different States for implementing the scheme and for

attracting investment in Apparel Parks. For this reason, it is difficult to prescribe a standard procedure for monitoring the socio-economic benefits flowing from the units approved for setting up projects in the Apparel Park for Exports. However, to ensure export orientation of the units set up in the Park, the following broad guidelines are suggested for consideration of the State Government.

- (i) The project is thoroughly scrutinized at the formulation stage itself to ensure the possibilities and investments, employment and export potential of the proposed site/location.
- (ii) The State Level Committee (SLC) set up to monitor the implementation of Apparel Park for Exports may also like to address this issue and give necessary directions to the implementing authorities for designing Monitoring formats which can be collected on half yearly basis from the Apparel Parks.

Attachment-I

Suggested Composition of State Level Committee

S.No.	Designation/Department	Status
1.	Secretary, (dealing with Textiles)	Chairman
2.	Secretary, Finance	Member
3.	Secretary, Planning	Member
4.	A representative of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.	Member
5.	A representative of the Lead Bank and another financial institution	Member
6.	Director of Industries or industries Commissioner/ Director of the agency.	Member
7.	Nodal Officer of the TCIDS Scheme	Member
8.	Managing Director, State Industrial Development Corpn./ Chief Executive of the Implementing Agency.	Member-Secretary

Attachment-II*Quarterly Report Indicating Items of Expenditure
and Progress Achieved*

State and Name of Place_____

1. Name of the APPAREL PARK FOR EXPORTS

2. Name of the Implementing Agency

Item/Unit of expenditure as given in the Project Report	Approved cost	Actual expenditure incurred upto the end of the last quarter	Anticipated expenditure in the current quarter (period to be shown)	Cumulative expenditure
--	------------------	--	---	---------------------------

(1) Development of site (Itemwise)

(2) Industrial Infrastructure

- (i) Power (ii) Water supply (iii) Effluent treatment (iv) Telecommunication
(v) Training Centre (vi) Others

(3) Social Infrastructure (item-wise)

(4) Others (Itemwise)

Total:

Signature_____

Designation : Member Secretary

State level Committee

Dated:

Attachment-III**B. Sources and Flow of Fundings**

Source	Amount released till end of last quarter (date to be shown)	Requirement for the current quarter (period to be shown)
(I) Central Government		
(II) State Government		
(III) Financial Institutions		
(IV) Others (Specify the sources)		
Total :		

Signature: _____

Designation: Member Secretary
State Level
Committee

Attachment-IV*Detailed Quarterly Progress Report on Progress of Implementation of Apparel Park for Exports*

1. Details of Infrastructure/Utilities provided so far in the Apparel Parks:
(i) Water supply (ii) Electricity supply (iii) Telecom facilities (iv) Storm water storage (v) Facilities for treating industrial effluents (vi) Dry waste disposal systems (vii) Standard Design Factories (viii) Roads (ix) Boundary wall (x) Common facilities (xi) Other special features Training facilities Effluent treatment plant.
2. Details of infrastructure under development:

Year	Central Grant		State Allocation		Contribution by implementing agency	
	Received	Utilised	Received	Utilised	Received	Utilised
2001-02						
2002-03						
2003-04						

5. Please also enclose the following:-
 - (a) Quarterly report (Attachment - II) for the period ending last quarter indicating itemwise details of expenditure
 - (b) Utilisation certificate
6. Total approved project cost
7. Revised project cost, if any:
8. Estimated date and completion of the project
9.
 - (a) Number of industrial units who have applied for setting up unit in the Park
 - (b) Number of units approved with product-wise break up of item of manufacture.
10.
 - (a) No. of units who have been allotted plot/shed in the Park
 - (b) Number of units in operation
 - (c) Number of units under implementation.

Item of work	Approved cost	Actual expenditure	% age of work completed	Expected date of completion
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3. Organisation and management:
 - (a) What is the structure of the Apparel Parks administrative authority;
 - (b) Details of Single window clearance in regard to various approvals required from States such as power, water, pollution control, building plan etc. being provided for setting up of industrial units in Apparel Parks
 - (c) In what ways is the private sector involved in development/management of Apparel Parks:
4. Utilisation position of finance:

11. What are the incentives approved/proposed for industries in Apparel Parks Rent concession, Tax concession, Subsidised inputs (Power), Credit facilities Training/Placement facilities for labour/human resource development

Attachment-V**CERTIFICATE**

1. It is certified that the Apparel Park for Exports has been approved by the Central Government and the conditions laid down in this regard have been fulfilled.
2. It is certified that the central assistance released for the implementation of this project has been fully utilised in accordance with the provisions of the scheme and guidelines and clarifications issued in this behalf by the Central Government. The information furnished in the Progress Report has been verified from the relevant records and is correct. If any over payment of discrepancies come to the notice of the Government later, the same will be accounted for rendering the Member Secretary, SLC of the

Government of _____ is liable to refund the above payment to make good the loss caused to the Central Government.

3. On the basis of evidence on record, it is certified that the expenditure on project is in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme

Signature: _____

Designation: Member Secretary,

State Level Committee,

Government of _____

Date: _____

[English]

Interest Rates on FDs and GPF

5868. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Union Government have recently announced reduction in interest rates on FDs and GPF and other deposits;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether in view of this banks have also reduced the interest on loans given by them for housing purposes by half percent;

(d) if so, whether the Government are also going to reduce interest rate on HBA taken by Government employees;

(e) if so, the details; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Government have reduced most administered interest rates viz. on GPF, PPF etc. by half-a-percent from March 1, 2002/April 1, 2002. As for interest rates on fixed deposits, commercial banks have freedom to fix interest rates on domestic term deposits of various maturities with the prior approval of their Board of Directors/Asset Liability Management Committee.

(b) The real rates of interest on Provident Fund and other small savings schemes were considered to be high,

preventing the downward movement of other rates of interest in the economy.

(c) Banks have freedom in the matter of levy of interest on various loans and advances provided by them.

(d) and (e) Consequent upon the reduction of most administered interest rates by 50 basis points, interest chargeable on House Building Advances (HBA) to Central Government employees has also been reduced by 0.5 percent from April 1, 2002.

(f) Does not arise.

Interest Rates on Savings Bank Account

5869. SHRI A.NARENDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow banks to fix interest rate on savings bank account depending on market trends to capitalise on this prime source of low cost fund;

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the extent to which it will be helpful to the country's economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir. Interest rates of all deposits accepted by the commercial banks have been deregulated except the savings bank deposit rate which is prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time. Since April 1, 2000, savings bank deposit rate has been prescribed at 4.0 per cent.

In view of the overall interest of the depositors, RBI have reported that it may not be desirable to deregulate the savings bank deposit rate at present.

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

[Translation]

Special Educational Programme for SC Women

5870. SHRI RAJO SING : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have launched a special educational programme for the women belonging to the Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the number of women belonging to Scheduled Castes benefited from this programme till date;

(c) whether the women of Scheduled Castes are being exploited due to lack of education among them; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made to make them self-dependent?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A scheme called "Mahila Samakhyia" is being implemented by Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development. The scheme seeks to create an environment for women especially from socially and economically disadvantaged and marginalized group, to learn at their own pace, set their own priorities, seek knowledge and information to make them self dependent.

[English]

One-by-Six Scheme of Income Tax

5871. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) the number of cities/towns in which the 'one-by-six scheme' intended to widen the tax base is presently in operation;

(b) whether the Government have a plan to extend the scheme to whole of the country;

(c) if so, the time limit by which the scheme would be extended to all cities/towns;

(d) the total number of persons brought under the tax-net by the scheme; and

(e) the total tax revenue collected under the scheme on 31st March, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The One-by-six scheme is presently in operation in 4989 cities/towns of the country.

(b) No, Sir. However, it is submitted that the One-by-six scheme already covers all the urban areas of the country having a population of more than 5000 as per the 1991 census.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) The total number of persons who have filed their income tax returns under the One-by-six scheme as on 31st March, 2002 is 31.02 lakhs.

(e) One-by-six scheme covers all those assesseees whose income is below the taxable limit and who are therefore otherwise not liable to file their income tax returns. Therefore, no separate records are maintained for such collections.

Vanished Companies

5872. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether a large number of companies have vanished from the market after duping investors' hard earned money;

(b) if so, the details thereof statewide;

(c) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has taken any action against these companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of companies against whom action has been taken by SEBI;

(e) whether the prosecution has been initiated by SEBI against any of these dubious companies;

(f) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and

(g) the measures taken by the SEBI to strengthen investors' confidence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revival of Sick Public Sector Undertakings

5873. SHRI Y.V. RAO :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have expressed concern over the failure of efforts made for revival of sick public undertakings and decided to ascertain the reasons responsible for this situation;

(b) the number of public undertakings revived and have shown improvement as on date and the number of public undertakings included in the programme for revival of sick industries;

(c) whether the sick undertakings had been given suggestions for better performance before their revival;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have taken any positive steps to fix the responsibility on the management and officers for the failure of efforts made for the revival of sick industries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Government policy is to revive potentially viable public sector undertakings. Industrial Undertakings whose net worth has eroded are referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as per Sick Industrial Companies Act for formulation of appropriate revival packages.

The reasons for sickness are enterprise specific. However, some of the common reasons for sickness include inherited sickness in case of units taken over from the private sector, obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, low capacity utilisation, excess manpower, resource crunch, lack of credit worthiness, heavy interest burden, weak marketing strategies as well as managerial problems etc.

(b) As on 31.12.2001. 66 sick CPSUs were registered with the BIFR, of which 3 PSUs namely Biecco Lawrie Ltd., NERMAC and Scooters India Ltd. have been declared no longer sick. Revival schemes have been also sanctioned for 10 sick CPSUs.

(c) to (f) The Board of Directors of a company are fully accountable for the affairs of the company. There are various methods of fixing accountability, which include Memorandum of Understanding, periodical review of performance by the administrative and other concerned Ministries, performance appraisal through annual confidential reports, audit by statutory auditors/CAG etc.

Directors of Banks/FI's

5874. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether consultative group of directors of banks and financial institutions under the Chairmanship of A.S. Ganguly has submitted its report to the RBI;

(b) if so, the details of the report so submitted;

(c) whether the group has suggested measures to strengthen supervisory role of the Boards;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether RBI has since considered the recommendations of the group; and

(f) if so, the final decision taken or being taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The major recommendations of the Group are as under:

- (i) appointment of one more whole-time director on the Boards of large-sized nationalised banks,
- (ii) establishment of appropriate due diligence procedures for appointment of directors on the boards of private sector banks,
- (iii) setting up of Nomination Committees of Boards of banks to recommend appointment of independent/non-executive directors,
- (iv) building and creation of a pool of professional and talented people for board level appointments in banks and also maintenance of the data for the purpose by Reserve Bank of India etc.,
- (v) besides above, the recommendations also focus on the role and responsibilities of independent/non-executive directors, their training and remuneration, commonality of directors of banks and NBFCs, information flow to/from the Board, Composition of Financial Committees of the Boards, etc.

(e) and (f) Reserve Bank of India is examining the recommendations of the Group.

"Y.V. Reddy Committee Report"

5875. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Union Government have accepted all the recommendations made by the Y.V. Reddy Committee report on the small savings;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have also agreed to implement the Y.V. Reddy Committee recommendations on contractual savings in toto;

(c) if so, the details of its recommendations have so far been accepted; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Main recommendations of Dr. Y.V. Reddy Committee on administered interest rates and other related issues, viz: benchmarking interest rates on small savings schemes to the yield on Government securities of like maturity in the secondary market, transfer of entire net proceeds of small savings to States, etc. have been accepted and acted upon w.e.f. March 1, 2002 and April 1, 2002 respectively.

The Committee's other recommendations on various issues will provide an input to Government's approach on the subject.

Taxable Income

5876. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry have proposed to Government that a group of companies owned or controlled by the same set of the group of companies be assessed to tax as a group and the losses incurred by any group of companies be allowed to be set off against the taxable income of any other company in the group;

(b) if so, whether the proposed arrangement has been suggested to encourage greater private investment;

(c) if so, whether such an arrangement exist in many other countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No such suggestion has been made in the Pre-Budget Memorandum and the Post-Budget Memorandum forwarded by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry to this Ministry.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above does not arise.

VRS in the Ministry

5877. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether his Ministry has started implementation of new Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for surplus staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target fixed by the Ministry under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Juvenile Homes and Mahila Niketans

5878. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) the number of Juvenile Reform Homes and Mahila Niketans functioning in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of boys, girls and women who have taken shelter therein; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to make further improvement in these homes/ Mahila Niketans?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) There are 152 Juvenile Homes (and not Juvenile Reform Homes) in Maharashtra having capacity of 7470 boys and 6925 girls. With a view inter-alia to improving these Homes, the Government has replaced the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 by a new law namely, Juvenile Justice (Care and

Protection of Children) Act, 2000. Under this Act the Juvenile Homes have been replaced by Special Homes for juveniles in conflict with law and Children Homes for children in need of care and protection. The new Act and Rules framed thereunder provide for periodic monitoring and evaluation of Children's Homes for social auditing of these Homes by an Evaluation Committee. The information in respect of Mahila Niketans in Maharashtra is being obtained from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

NABARD Funding for Harvest Technology

5879. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether NABARD has plans to focus on post-harvest credit and technology during 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been worked out with commercial banks for cooperative banks to reimburse such loans for harvesting technology; and

(d) if so, the details of such agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides refinance assistance to the financing banks for financing post harvest infrastructure like combine harvesters, construction of pre-cooling units, cold storages, grading and packing hall, storage godowns and market yards, etc. The thrust under the activity is likely to get further boost in the year 2002-03 by the implementation of the capital investment subsidy schemes on cold storage and rural godown approved by the Government.

(c) and (d) NABARD has reported that all the scheduled commercial banks, regional rural banks, cooperative banks which have executed general refinance agreement are eligible to draw refinance from it. The agreement provides automatic refinance facility upto Rs. 20 lakhs per unit where the total financial outlay does not exceed Rs. 30 lakhs under farm sector. For units beyond the above limit the banks are provided refinance on pre-sanction basis where the general and special terms and conditions applicable to the scheme is required to be agreed by banks.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation for Weaker Sections

5880. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether a national programme has been launched in various districts of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi for rehabilitation of weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number and names of districts selected for the purpose and the funds released for the above programme during the last two years; and

(c) the time by which the remaining districts of above States are likely to be covered under the above programme alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

IFCI Bonds

5881. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether IFCI has delayed the repayment on some bonds which matured in March and has approached holders to reinvest the funds in a fresh issue;

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

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the timely payments of the matured bonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. IFCI has approached all large investors for reinvestment.

(b) During March, 2002, liabilities aggregating to Rs. 311.50 crore fell due in respect of investments made in IFCI's various series of SLR/Non-SLR Bonds. Against this, IFCI made payment aggregating to Rs. 155.27 crore and the balance is outstanding IFCI has approached large/

institutional investors for roll-over/reinvestment of the dues in current issue of bonds due to liquidity constraints.

(c) GOI has advised IFCI to prepare a turn-around strategy and plan in consultation with the major shareholders of the company with a view to meet its legal and other obligations including timely payment of matured bonds.

[English]

Technology Mission on Cotton

5882. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there is any proposal to modernise 200 more market yards under the Technology Mission on Cotton in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States selected for modernisation of market yards under the Technology Mission on Cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Government intends to develop 200 market yards under Mini Mission III of the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The market yards are selected, in consultation with the State Government concerned, taking into account the arrivals of kapas (seed cotton) in the market yard. Government of India provides assistance @ 60% of the project cost and the remaining is borne by the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC)/State Government concerned.

"Suppression of Income"

5883. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether during a test check of 22 cases assessed in summary manner brought out glaring instances of suppression of income as has been brought out in the C and AG report 12A of 2002 in paragraph 3.23 on pages 994-996;

(b) if so, the action taken on the audit observations; and

(c) the steps taken to dig out more cases of suppression of income?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Statutory Notices have been issued in respect of all 22 cases listed by the C and AG and scrutiny of such cases is in progress.

(b) CITs (CIB) posted in the field formations have been assigned the work of collection of such data under CIB code 023 from different source e.g. telephone directory, yellow pages, Trade Journals etc. and forward them to the Jurisdictional CITs. They have detected at least 18 such cases as reported by C and AG in Report No. 12A of 2002. However, no such centralized list of cases of suppression of Income is maintained in the Ministry.

UTIMIP Scheme

5884. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the UTI MIP 1997 fully assured scheme getting matured on April 30, 2002 is having shortfall of Rs.585 crores;

(b) whether almost 21% of the investors in this scheme are retired, senior citizens;

(c) whether as per SEBI guidelines of 1996 investors should get back full amount

(d) whether UTI founder-IDBI, LIC SBI have obtained legal opinion that they are not the legal sponsorer and shall not contribute the deficit

(e) whether SEBI, UTI IDBI and other have already written to Ministry of finance in this regard; and

(f) if so, the points raised by these alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) to (f) This scheme is within the regulatory purview of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) SEBI has advised UTI to meet the shortfall out of Development Reserve Fund.

Smuggling of Drugs

5885. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Saadhanheen sarkari agencian taskron ko kaise pakren appearing in the Dainik Jagran dated the April 21,2002;

(b) if so, the facts reported in the newsitem;

(c) whether the Narcotics Department has shortage of staff and infrastructure facilities to nab the smugglers of narcotics in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate staff and infrastructural facilities in the Narcotics department of Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news items speaks of emergence of new gangs in the local drug market of the capital due to affiliation of large number of Nigerian citizens in drug trade; the lack of firm will power in the local police and lack of resources in the Narcotics Department are the main reason behind the inability in nabbing the drug smugglers; that 100 gangs who are operating in the illegal drugs trade in the capital are innovating new ways of smuggling resulting in the inability of police to nab them; lack of manpower and resources with the Delhi Zonal Narcotics Department and Narcotics Branch of Delhi Police; lack of facilities for testing the purity of seized drugs in the capital adversely affecting cases in the Courts; no suitable rewards for informers and seizing team etc.

(c) A large number of agencies such as the Narcotics Control Bureau, Central Bureau of Narcotics, directorate General of Revenue Intelligence, Delhi Police, Customs and Central Excise Commissionerates etc. having their offices in Delhi, have been empowered to enforce the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985. These organizations are effectively combating drug trafficking with the existing staff and resources.

(d) The requirement of manpower and other resources of these organizations are continuously reviewed in accordance with the prescribed guidelines.

Bank Loan Defaulters

5886.SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has considered the recommendations of Central Vigilance Commission calling for publishing the names of bank defaulters;

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

(c) the total amount declared as "non-performing assets" by the banks as a result of such frauds as on date; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the NPAs of the banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir . In pursuance of the instructions of the Central Vigilance Commission, RBI has framed a scheme for collection and dissemination of information on wilful defaults of Rs.25 lakh and above from banks and financial Institutions.

(c) The Gross NPAs of public sector banks as on 31.3.2001 were Rs. 54,773 crores.

(d) Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised banks and financial institutions to take steps for recovery of their dues which inter-alia includes evolving and implementation of recovery policy by banks for restructuring, reschedulement and compromise settlement, filing of suits in DRTs and Courts, vigorous monitoring, supervision and follow up of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) at various levels by the management.

Changes in new EXIM Policy

5887.SHRI MATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the various export-import oriented federations have criticised the several clauses of the new EXIM policy announced recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also received suggestions to extend the relief to those licensees whose period of export obligations had not expired;

(d) if so, whether the Government have considered the above facts and decided to bring some changes in the recently announced export-import policy/ 2002-2007;

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which changes would be made effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Export Promotion Councils have by and large welcomed the new Exim Policy announced on 31.3.2002.

(c) to (f) The Government have received suggestions for extending the period of export obligation in respect of EPCG licences where period of EO had not expired. The Government has extended the EO period for fulfillment of export obligation in respect of EPCG licences of Rs. 100 crore or more from 8 years to 12 years. In respect of EPCG licences of less than Rs. 100 crore issued on or after 1.4.1997, two years extension has been permitted.

Production by Automobiles

5888.SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE :

SHRI RAM MURTI SINGH VERMA :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of 100 percent increase in the production by automobile manufacturers in the country;

(b) whether this is a part of the strategy adopted by manufacturers to dump vehicles with the dealerships to show inflated billings and higher profits by the year-end;

(c) whether the Government would put a cap on the vehicles registration in urban areas to avoid road congestion and pollution;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir. As per information received from society of Indian Automotive Manufacturers (SIAM) and automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA), the growth in automobile production

during 1997-98, 1999-99 and 1999-2000 has been 1%, 5% and 14% respectively. However, during the year 2000-01 there has been a decline of 3%.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the information received from Ministry of Road Transport and Highways no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Export of Textile Goods

5889.SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received certain suggestions from the exporters and other agencies related to the textile industry regarding measures to improve country's exports:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these suggestions also include/carrying out several changes in fiscal policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The Government has been closely interacting with all segments of textile and clothing industry with a view to taking fresh policy measures for improving country's exports. The various Textile Industry Associations including exporters representing the textile industry gave suggestions for rationalisation of tax structure which inter-alia include reduction in corporate tax, removal of anomalies in fiscal duty, reduction in excise duty and customs duty etc. Such suggestions are given due consideration and based on merit of each suggestion, necessary changes are effected.

Some of the important announcements made in the Union Budget 2002-03 in respect of textile sector are as follow :-

- (i) Dereservation of knitwear sector form SSI announced.
- (ii) Withdrawal of CENVAT exemption on plain / cross reel hank yarn of cotton as well as artificial staple fibre and of CENVAT of 8% except cotton

yarn in plain (straight) reel hanks of upto 2 counts manufactured from cotton waste on condenser card machines.

- (iii) Introduction of optional CENVAT @ 12%(BED 8% +AED 4%) on grey fabrics
- (iv) CENVAT has been reduced on woven and man-made knitted processed fabrics -from 16% (Basic 8%+ AED 8%) to 12% (Basic 8% + AED 4%).
- (v) Compounded levy system for independent power processing abolished.
- (vi) An optional CENVAT of 12% (CENVAT 8% + AED 4%) has been prescribed for processed knitted fabrics of cotton.
- (vii) An optional levy of 12% ad-valorem has been introduced in the budget in the knitwear sector.
- (viii) CENVAT has been reduced from 16% to 12% on woven garments and made-ups. Woven garments made from handloom fabrics have been exempted from CENVAT.
- (ix) On specified 16 items of silk machinery (weaving, processing and twisting) import duty reduced from 25% to 10%.
- (x) The import of such machinery also exempted from CVD. Specified capital goods items of silk weaving, processing and twisting machinery also exempted from CENVAT.
- (xi) Shuttle automatic looms exempted from CENVAT.
- (xii) Certain specified capital goods of jute industries have been exempted from CENVAT.
- (xiii) 28 specified items of textile machinery exempted from CENVAT as also import of such items from CVD.
- (xiv) On new plant and machinery acquired after 1st April, 2002 admissibility of additional depreciation at the rate of 15% made applicable.

Loans to Farmers

5890. SHRI A. NARENDRA :

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) the State-wise target fixed for providing loans to agriculture sector especially to small and marginal farmers through various public sector banks during the last three years alongwith the target achieved:

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued any directions to the banks in regard to granting of loans to agricultural sector, out of the total loan sanctioned by them;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of such banks which have failed to follow the directions of RBI;

(e) the action taken by the Government against those banks;

(f) whether despite the availability of loans on the basis of said directions, the capital required for the development of agricultural sector could not be mobilized; and

(g) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the loans to farmers, particularly to small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that targets for providing agricultural loans are fixed bank-wise and not State-wise. Further, there are also no separate targets for lending to small and marginal farmers by public sector banks.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A target of 18 per cent of net bank credit has been stipulated for lending to agriculture by public sector banks.

(d) As reported by RBI, the banks which had not achieved the target of 18 percent of net bank credit as on the last reporting Friday of March, 2001 are: State Bank of India, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of

Mysore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Saurashtra, State Bank of Travancore, Allahabad Bank, Andhra Bank, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, Corporation Bank, Dena Bank, Indian Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab National Bank, Punjab and Sind Bank, Union Bank of India, United Bank of India, UCO Bank and Vijaya Bank.

(e) Public sector banks which had not achieved the target for lending to priority sector/agriculture as on the last reporting Friday of March 2001 were allocated amounts for depositing in Rural Infrastructure Development Fund-VII (RIDF-VII) with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). As a measure of penalty, interest rates on deposits in RIDF-VII have been inversely linked to the banks' shortfall in fulfilling the agricultural lending target of 18 percent of net bank credit. Further a time period of two years has been stipulated for achieving the priority sector lending target/sub-targets and public sector banks are required to achieve the agricultural lending target by March 2003.

(f) and (g) RBI has taken several steps in the recent past to improve the flow of credit as well as capital formation in the agriculture sector. These include formulation of Special Agricultural.

Credit Plans by public sector banks, opening of Specialised Agricultural Finance Branches, introduction of Kisan Credit Cards, simplification of procedures in regard to credit systems, setting up of RIDF, introduction of scheme for financing Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres, introduction of scheme for financing farmers for purchase of land for agricultural purposes, etc.

Early Warning System for NPA

5891. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether RBI has outlined an Early-Warning System for Commercial Banks on loan before becoming a NPA;

(b) if so, the details of this newly formed Early-Warning System;

(c) whether the banks have also been advised to have consistent approach towards early recognition of NPAs, classification and taking of remedial action; and

(d) if so, to what extent are banks following this new code of conduct?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. RBI has not specifically outlined any early warning system for commercial banks for detecting incipient sickness of loan accounts. However, in accordance with, best international practices RBI has recently advised banks to treat a loan account as a NPA account when the interest and/or installments of principal remain overdue for a period of more than-90 days instead of 180 days from the year ending March 31, 2004. These guidelines of RBI are being followed by banks while finalising their annual accounts.

Mechanism for Banking Sector

5892. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have agreed to the prompt corrective action mechanism for the banking sector;

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

(c) the time by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) scheme, a pre-determined rule based structured early intervention is proposed to be put in place to enhance the existing supervisory framework. Under the scheme, certain trigger points have been determined based on three parameters i.e. Capital to Risk Assets Ratio, Net Non-Performing Assets and Return on Assets. These trigger points are linked to bank's performance in these three critical areas, which are quantifiable and form an integral part of supervisory oversight. The PCA scheme is likely to be put in place soon.

Funds for Core Sectors

5893. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government's proposal to set up Rs. 1,000 crore sector fund for development of power, roads, airports and ports has been welcomed by the departments concerned;

- (b) if so, the main features of this fund;
- (c) whether the contribution would be made by the public sector insurance firms, FIs and some banks also;
- (d) if so, the total sum to be provided in power development of roads and ports and national highways;
- (e) whether any concrete steps in this regard have been worked by these departments for utilizing this fund; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (f) The finance Bill 2002 envisaged an Infrastructure Equity Fund (IEF) of Rs. 1,000 crore to be managed by IDFC with a view to provide equity investment for infrastructure project. The contribution to IEF would be made by Public Sector Insurance Companies, Financial Institutions and Banks. The modalities for creating and operationalising funds are in the process of being finalised.

Recommendation of Bhattacharya Committee

5894. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the B.K. Bhattacharya Committee have inter-alia recommended 10 percent of the pension money be invested in rated corporate debt and/or equities/index funds;
- (b) if so, how safe these investment are expected to be;
- (c) whether the Yield from this investment is likely to be much less in comparison to the other investment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare has intimated that the High Level expert group constituted under the chairmanship of Shri B.K. Bhattacharya has, inter-alia, recommended an investment pattern. The said investment pattern, inter alia, stipulates that not more than 20% of the pension assets, of which investment in equity shall not exceed 10%, could be in the bonds/debt securities of companies registered under the Companies

Act and with rating by a SEBI approved credit rating agency, of at least investment grade in the previous three years, plus equities/index funds. The rest of the assets would be primarily required to be invested in fixed income securities including Government securities and securities of the financial institutions. Government has initiated consideration of the said expert group regarding introduction of the new scheme, its basic features and the proposed investment pattern.

LIC

5895. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India plans to enter into international market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action plan prepared by the LIC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has informed that they have already been transacting business through their Branch Offices in U.K., Mauritius and Fiji. Besides these, LIC also has an overseas subsidiary, L.I.C. (International) E.C. at Bahrain and has recently established another overseas Venture L.I.C. (Nepal) Limited at Kathmandu. The subsidiaries at Bahrain and Nepal are Joint Ventures.

The LIC has identified overseas regional hubs where there is a large concentration of people of Indian Origin. They have recently received permission from Government of Oman to commence operations in the Sultanate of Oman. They have also registered L.I.C. (Mauritius) Offshore Limited to tap the life insurance market in African Subcontinent. LIC also has plans to enter the insurance market in USA and Sri Lanka.

Direct Lending by NABARD

5896. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether NABARD is planning to enter the business of direct lending;
- (b) if so, whether NABARD proposes to specialize in lending money to exporters in the agriculture sector;

(c) whether the Government have given its approval to NABARD to enter this new line of business;

(d) if so, whether any conditions and restraints have been put on NABARD's activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule by which NABARD expects to enter the field of direct lending to selected borrowers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Act, 1981 has been amended recently empowering it to sanction direct loans under exceptional circumstances to be recorded in writing by its Board of Directors. However, there is no proposal at present to specialize in lending to exporters in agriculture sector.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Social Security Liability

5897. SHRI ARUN KUMAR :
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "EPF worried over IFCI default" appearing in the Times of India dated April 13, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the facts reported in the newsitem;

(c) whether the payment obligation of Social Security Liability are lower in IFCI priority;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to resolve all the issues mentioned in the newsitem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has been reported in the news item that IFCI has sought roll over of all receivable accruing to the Central Board of Trustees Employees Provident Fund upto 31.3.2004 as it is meeting payment obligations towards the foreign borrowings.

(c) to (e) IFCI has informed that it is committed to clear their dues to all including social security liability. Due to the asset liability mismatch on account of bunching of repayment of foreign currency and rupee borrowings, IFCI has requested large lender to reinvest the amount at attractive rates.

Safety of Electrical Goods

5898. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the delay on the part on Union Government in notifying new quality control orders replacing the old one 1955 safety of certain essential electrical goods has put consumers interests in jeopardy;

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

(c) the reasons for delay in issuing the new orders; and

(d) the time by which the new quality control orders for electrical goods are proposed to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) With the deletion of electrical goods from the list of commodities declared as "essential" under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with effect from 15th February, 2002, Government propose to bring these items under mandatory certification of Bureau of Indian Standards under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986. The necessary Quality Control Order will be issued shortly in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

Pension Scheme for Unorganised Sector

5899. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to allow the private firms to run unorganised workers' pension schemes;

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

(c) whether any mechanism would be created to keep check on these private firms so that hard money of workers may not be duped; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Pursuant to the Government's announcement in the Budget 2001-2002, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has submitted a report, which provides a blueprint for implementing pension reforms in the unorganised sector. The IRDA report has, inter-alia, recommended a regulatory framework for setting up pension funds to enable individuals to subscribe on a defined contribution basis to obtain the benefits of pension on retirement. The report provides that a trustee organization shall approach the regulator for the purpose of participating in the proposed pension system. The said pension provider would be regulated by the pension regulatory authority, whose core functions would be to oversee the functioning of the pension system, resolve problems and make incremental improvement on an on-going and regular basis. The Government has initiated action in the matter.

[Translation]

Investment by NRI's

5900. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the investment by NRI has come down to its lowest level during 2001-2002 in the last ten years;

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

(c) the facilities being provided/proposed to be provided by the Government to the NRIs to boost investment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) The actual inflow of NRI investment during 2001-2002

(upto February, 2002) was Rs. 263.34 crore as against the total NRI investment of Rs. 8906.17 crore during 1991 to February, 2002. The pattern of NRI investment is guided by a host of variables including the investors' perception of market conditions, alternative avenues of investment, preferred instrument of investment, international interest rates, etc. While Government accords speedy approval for such investments, the time taken for inflow is usually longer because of several factors such as acquisition of land, obtaining of land, obtaining of various statutory clearances, arranging funds, etc.

(c) The general policy and facility for Foreign Direct Investment as available to foreign investors/companies are fully applicable to non-resident Indians (NRIs) as well. In addition, Government have extended concessions specially for NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) having more than 60% stake by NRIs. These, among others, include (i) NRI/OCB investment permitted in the real estate and housing sectors and domestic airlines sector upto 100% (ii) NRIs/OCBs was permitted to invest upto 40% in the banking sector, and (iii) individual NRIs can invest beyond 24% in Small Scale Industries in the first instance provided they do not have a stake in any other industrial undertaking.

[English]

Regulation Codes for SEZs

5901. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from Karnataka Government to set up a Special Economic Zone in Udupi District which falls within the Coastal Regulation Zone; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be considered and cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Market Access Fund

5902. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether an Expert Committee has suggested the establishment of a Corpus Fund of Rs. 100 crore to fund efforts to gain market access for exports;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the Expert Committee in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have identified any products which would get the benefit of this market access fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (d) High Level Committee set up under the chairmanship of Shri P.P. Prabhu, ex.Commerce Secretary in its report has recommended enhancing annual allocation for Market Access Initiative scheme to Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 Crore during the 10th Plan period with a view to providing a research based market information to the exporters and enabling them to introduce new products in existing markets as well as exploring new markets for the existing products through market research, warehouses and showrooms abroad, product development and publicity abroad through mass media, fairs and exhibitions. The Committee also recommended the involvement of sector specific industry associations in addition to the Export Promotion Councils for carrying out these tasks.

Market Access Initiative Scheme was launched during 2001-02 with annual allocation of Rs. 14.50 Crore with a view to giving greater thrust to our efforts in marketing our products in the global markets on country-product focus approach. The scheme, inter alia, provides for display of selected products in identified centres in focus countries by setting up of showrooms, warehousing facility and display counters in international departmental stores, intensive publicity campaigns in focus markets, promotion of branded products, quality upgradation and product development etc. Export Promotion Councils and Trade Promotion Organizations could be assisted in undertaking identified export promotion activities for their focus products in identified target countries. An allocation of Rs. 452 Crore has been proposed in the budget proposals for the 10th Plan period (April'2002 - March'2007) and Rs. 42 Crore in year 2002-03.

Consumption of Cement

5903. SHRI Y.V. RAO :

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the cement production in the last quarter of 2001-02 has touched around 8%;

(b) if so, the growth rate in the fiscal year and the targets fixed;

(c) whether the cement industry is facing slump in demand despite Government's support in housing activities and progress on the golden quadrilateral highway projects;

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

(e) the strategies proposed to be adopted by the Government to improve the cement consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The production of cement in the last and fourth quarter of 2001-02 rose to 29.13 million tonnes from 26.03 million tonnes in the third quarter, thus registering a growth rate of well above 8% (11.91%).

(b) The target of production of cement fixed for the financial year 2001-02 was 105 million tonnes. Actual production, however, exceeded the target and stood at 106.90 million tonnes and compared with the production figure of 97.61 million tonnes for the year 2000-01, registered a growth rate of 9.52%.

(c) to (e) As a result of initiative taken by Government for boosting demand for cement through measures like construction of roads, promotion of housing activities, new infrastructural projects etc., the demand for cement has already increased from 94.29 million tonnes in the year 2000-01 to 103.55 million tonnes in 2001-02, thus registering a growth rate of 9.82%.

SBI MOU with US Authorities

5904. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the State Bank of India has decided to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the US Authorities to do business there; and

(b) if so, the main points of MOU signed by SBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

New Guidelines for Fis

5905. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued new guidelines to financial institutions on the treatment of loans in cases of time-over run projects;

(b) if so, the details of new norms issued by RBI in this regard;

(c) whether the cost and time overrun projects constitute a NPA according to the RBI;

(d) whether the loans for such projects will be given longer periods of gestation and also maturity; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to ensure that such projects are not damaged financially in the initial stages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes Sir. To ensure that loan assets relating to projects under implementation (PUI) are appropriately classified and asset quality correctly reflected, Reserve Bank of India has issued revised guidelines on 1.2.2002 to both term lending and refinancing institutions Viz. IDBI, ICICI, IFCI, TFCI, IIBI, EXIM BANK, IDFC, NABARD, NHB and SIDBI.

(b) to (e) Under the new guidelines, the projects under implementation are grouped into three categories for the purpose of determining the date when the project ought to be completed.

Category I - Projects where financial closure had been achieved and formally documented.

Category II - Projects with original project cost of Rs. 100 crore or more

Category III - Projects with original project cost of less than Rs. 100 crore

In case of category I (which would normally be infrastructure projects or large value manufacturing projects financed after 1997), the asset may be treated as standard asset only for a period of two years beyond the date for completion of the project, as originally envisaged at the time of initial financial closure of the project. In case of projects where financial closure has not been formally documented, the norms for category III would apply.

In case of category II projects sanctioned prior to 1997 and where the date of financial closure had not been formally documented an independent group is to be constituted with the experts from the lending institutions as well as outside experts in the field. The group would decide on a project by project basis, the deemed date of completion of the project. In such cases the asset may be treated as standard only for a period not exceeding two years beyond the date of completion of the project, as decided by the group. In case of category III projects, sanctioned prior to 1997, where the financial closure was not formally documented, the date of commencement of commercial production would be deemed to be the date of exactly two years after the date of completion of the project, as originally envisaged at the time, of sanction. The new guidelines would lay down a specific time frame upto which a loan asset of a PUI, can be categorized as a standard asset. This would help in ascertaining the health of PUI on the basis of a definite criterion in an objective manner.

Demand of Indian Onion In International Market

5906. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government are aware that the demand of Indian onion has been declined during recent past in the international market;

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

(c) whether the Government have found out the reasons for declining trend of demand of Indian onion in the abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the specific plan of the Government to reverse this declining trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) There has not been any decline in the demand for Indian onions in the International market as is borne out by the following export data:

Year	Quantity (In M.Tons)	Value (In Rs. Crores)
1998-99	2,15,694.0	176.05
1999-2000	2,60,475.0	202.70
2000-2001	3,43,254.0	246.22
2001-02 (Apr.- Nov.-01)	2,76,981.0	220.41*

Source: DGCI and S, Kolkatta (*Provisional)

(c) to (e) In view of the above, does not arise.

Under Utilisation of Resources

5907. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether large unspent provisions persisted in 2000-01 and there was a rise registered in the under-utilisation of resources in the Department of Economic Affairs despite the pointing out of the same situation for the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the reasons for under utilization of resources by the Department; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) The details of unspent provisions and reasons therefor have been brought out in CAG's Report No. 1 of 2002, which was laid on the Table of the House on March 15, 2002. The savings in Department of Economic Affairs were due mainly to less than estimated establishment related expenditure, lower interest rates along with less market

borrowing/ issue of Treasury Bills, less than anticipated encashment of Government bonds by the holders, exchange rate variation and lower than estimated release of funds to States due to non-fulfilment of conditions for such releases. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to prepare Budget estimated as accurately as possible.

Tax Free Zone

5908. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Union Government are planing to turn Jammu and Kashmir into a "Tax Free Zone" for the next 10 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which above plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) The Government have approved on 24th April 2002 a New Industrial Policy and other concessions which include, inter alia, extension of Excise and Income Tax exemption, setting up of Jammu and Kashmir Development Finance Corporations., for implementation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Death Insurance Claim

5909. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation Staff Union has demanded that the corporation should introduce twelve hour business in two shifts and a special cell for doorstep service to settle death claims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has informed that one of the employees' union has submitted the suggestion for introduction of 12 hours business in two

shirts and creation of special cell for doorstep service to settle death claims.

(b) It is for the Corporation to consider the matter in detail and arrive at a decision taking into account the administrative and financial viability of the proposal.

Audit of Companies

5910. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether audit of public sector enterprises and institutions take unduly long time due to delay in appointment of auditors;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to constitute a panel of auditors and ex-auditors of Comptroller and Accountant General's office;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the mechanism available for timely audit of Public Sector Enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) (a) : No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India is maintaining a panel of Chartered Accountants (CA) firms for considering them for appointment as auditors of Central and State Public Sector Enterprises. This year again applications have been received which are under process by CAG's office.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Stock Investment Scheme of Banks

5911. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officers of the several nationalised banks have violated the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India in regard to Stock Investment Scheme during each of the last two years;

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

(c) whether any action has been taken against these officers;

(d) if not the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDREN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amount Spent on Development of Textile Industry

5912. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government in each State on the development of textile industries during each of the last three years, sector-wise;

(b) the steps taken or being taken by Government to promote the textiles sector in each State particularly of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Sector-wise information is given in enclosed statements 1 to V.

(b) The Union Government have been taking various steps to boost production and export of textiles all over the country including Gujarat. For sectors such as a handloom, handicrafts, sericulture and wool, which are mainly in the village and small scale sector, financial assistance is provided to States, agencies and beneficiaries under various schemes to enable inputs critical to increase in quality, productivity and production, and access to forward and backward linkages for increased incomes or value addition to the artisans, weavers, farmers or producers. In addition, new schemes have been launched such as Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Cotton / Technology Mission Scheme, setting up of Apparel Parks, Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme and various other measures taken, including liberalization of rules and regulations governing exports, that are aimed at promoting growth and investment in the textile sector.

Statement-I

Cotton Sector

State-wise Projects sanctioned under Technology Mission on Cotton

Upto March, 2002

		Mini Mission - III			Mini Mission - IV			Total MM-III and IV			In Lakh Rupees
Sl. No.	State	#No. of Market Yards Sanctioned	GOI Share	State Share	Total Cost (4) + (5)	No. of G and P Factories sanctioned	Project cost	GOI Share	No. of Market Yards and G and P factories sanctioned (3)+(7)	Project Cost (6)+(8)	
1.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Haryana	5	385	360.84	745.84	0	0	0	5	745.84	385
3.	Rajasthan	7	560.81	460.85	1021.66	0	0	0	7	1021.66	560.81
4.	Gujarat	15	1013.78	892.08	1905.86	42	3876.44	823.51	57	5782.3	1837.29
5.	M.P.	6	535	579.02	1114.02	24	2809.03	470.54	30	3923.05	1005.54
6.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	75	9444.43	1489.68	75	9444.43	1489.68
7.	A.P.	8	580	706.27	1286.27	3	521.82	60	11	1808.09	640
8.	Karnataka	5	385	336.02	721.02	4	461	80	9	1182.02	465
9.	Tamil Nadu	2	238.49	174.45	412.94	0	0	0	2	412.94	238.49
10.	Orissa	3	170.07	117.54	287.61	2	248.2	40	5	535.81	210.07
Total		51	3868.15	3627.07	7495.22	150	17360.92	2963.73	201	24856.14	6831.88

#

Haryana (05):- Improvement of existing yards-04, Activation of dormant market yards-01

Rajasthan (07):- Improvement of existing yards-06, Activation of dormant yards-01

Gujarat (15):- Setting up of new yards-01; Improvement of existing yards- 08; Activation of dormant market yards-06

M.P. (06):- Setting up of new yards-01; Improvement of existing yards- 04; Activation of dormant market yards-01

A.P. (08) :- Setting up of new yards-02; Improvement of existing yards- 02; Activation of dormant market yards- 04

Karnataka (05):- Improvement of existing yards- 04; Activation of dormant market yards-01.

Tamil Nadu (02): Setting up of new yards -01; Improvement of existing yards- 01.

Orissa (03):- Setting up of new yards -01; Improvement of existing yards-01; Activation of dormant market yards- 01.

Statement-II

Wool Sector

Funds Allocated to State Governments during the Year 1997-98 to 2000-01 (9th Five Year Plan)

S.No.	State	Name of Schemes/Projects/Programmes	Fund Released				Total	(Amount Rs. in Lacs)
			1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Gujarat	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	50.25	80.05	-	-	-	130.30
		(ii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	-	1.80	-	-	-	1.80
		(iii) Integrated Angora Rabbit Development Project	3.90	-	-	-	-	3.90
		(iv) Industrial Service Centre	70.59	-	-	-	-	70.59
		(v) Mini Wool Scouring Plant	5.00	-	-	-	5.50	10.50
		Total	129.74	81.85	-	-	5.50	217.09
2.	Rajasthan	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	16.99	162.17	230.70	44.15	454.01	
		(ii) Carpet Weaving Training Centre	2.11	-	-	-	2.11	
		(iii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	-	-	4.68	-	4.68	
		(iv) Industrial Service Centre	-	46.82	-	-	46.82	
		Total	19.10	208.99	235.38	44.15	507.62	
3.	Himachal Pradesh	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	16.35	10.80	16.35	20.53	64.03	
		(ii) Carpet Weaving Training Centre	3.40	-	-	-	3.40	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		(iii) Training Scheme for Mfg. Woollen Products	0.98	—	—	—	0.98
		(iv) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	—	3.60	—	1.80	5.40
		(v) Integrated Angora Rabbit Development Project	7.80	6.88	—	3.90	18.58
		(iv) Mini Wool Scouring Plant	5.00	—	—	5.50	10.50
		Total	33.53	21.28	16.35	31.73	102.89
4.	Uttar Pradesh	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	26.81	10.80	—	16.74	54.35
		(ii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	—	3.24	—	—	3.24
		Total	26.81	14.04	—	16.74	57.59
5.	Maharashtra	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	10.80	—	4.97	3.45	19.22
		(ii) Area Based Project for Dev. of Wool and Woollens	14.48	—	—	—	14.48
		(iii) Mini Wool Scouring Plant	5.00	—	—	5.50	10.50
		Total	30.28	—	4.97	8.95	44.20
6.	Haryana	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	—	—	—	—	—
		(ii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	—	—	0.72	—	0.72
		Total	—	—	0.72	—	0.72
7.	Karnataka	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	18.40	5.00	5.80	30.75	59.95
		(ii) Wool Testing Centre	7.38	—	—	—	7.38
		(iii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	—	3.37	0.36	2.32	6.05
		(iv) Mini Wool Scouring Plant	5.00	—	—	5.50	10.50
		Total	30.78	8.37	6.16	38.57	83.88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	46.48	—	47.62	86.55	180.65
		(ii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	—	1.41	0.72	2.16	4.29
		Total	46.48	1.41	48.34	88.17	184.94
9.	Sikkim	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	—	—	3.90	—	3.90
		Total	—	—	3.90	—	3.90
10.	Punjab	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	13.20	—	—	—	13.20
		(ii) Integrated Angora Rabbit Development Project	—	3.90	—	—	3.90
		Total	13.20	3.90	—	—	17.10
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	(i) Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Project	21.60	—	10.80	10.30	42.70
		(ii) Wool Testing Centre	—	—	7.10	—	7.10
		(iii) Machine Shearing Cum Training Project	—	1.80	0.72	1.80	4.32
		(iv) Area Based Project for Wool and Woollen Development	—	—	14.48	—	14.48
		(v) Integrated Angora Rabbit Development Project	7.80	—	—	—	7.80
		(vi) Industrial Service Centre	70.59	—	—	—	70.59
		(vii) Mini Wool Scouring Plant	5.00	—	—	5.50	10.50
		Total	104.99	1.80	33.10	17.60	157.49

Statement-III

Silk Sector

State-wise and Year-wise details of subsidy released by Central Silk Board during the last three years i.e., 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01

(Rs. in Lakh)

S. No.	Name of the Schemes	Andhra Pradesh				Jharkhand				Orissa				West Bengal			
		98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	UNDP assisted sub-programme development of non-mulberry silk	-	2.87	25.50	28.37	-	15.70	46.82	62.52	-	13.25	52.90	66.15	-	1.07	43.79	44.86
2.	Promotion of Resources conservation technologies through drip irrigation	22.50	-	22.50	45.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Support for pre-reeling productivity improved measures of demonstrative kind adopted by States	6.05	-	31.97	38.02	-	-	-	-	4.00	4.00	-	8.00	5.00	1.25	22.36	28.61
4.	On farm training and supply of start-up tools to new mulberry sericulturists	17.50	-	73.32	90.82	-	-	-	-	17.50	9.83	0.58	27.91	4.01	9.05	13.57	26.63
5.	Support to States for upgradation of seed multiplication infrastructure (Tasar)	-	-	5.10	5.10	-	0.45	0.30	0.75	-	-	-	-	-	5.10	-	5.10
6.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-ops) for popularization of improved reeling/spinning devices for tropical tasar	0.02	-	1.52	1.54	-	-	-	-	4.13	0.12	0.08	4.33	1.21	0.02	1.37	2.60

[illegible]

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-ops) for popularization of improved reeling/spinning devices for muga	2.32	0.21	7.33	9.86	0.27	-	-	2.27	0.47	0.31	0.24	1.02	-	-	-	-
13.	Scheme for increasing quality raw silk production by promoting use of multi-end reeling machines***	-	-	0.94	0.94	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	Installation of common facility centers for Handloom Silk processing	3.70	-	0.30	4.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.00	13.00
15.	Promotion of resource conservation technologies through economic ovens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Demonstration of systematic plantation in eri food plant with training and supply of start-up tools	0.01	3.19	8.18	11.38	1.46	0.16	1.08	2.70	-	0.33	2.32	2.65	-	-	-	-
17.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-Ops) for Popularization of improved spinning devices for eri	0.78	0.83	13.21	14.82	0.20	-	-	0.20	0.10	0.14	0.29	0.53	-	-	-	-
18.	Augmentation of muga food plants	10.86	15.25	52.15	78.26	1.63	3.05	5.31	9.99	3.17	5.93	9.67	18.77	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9. Support for reeling units																	
a. Incentive for reeling bivoltine silk																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.04	2.88	2.92	-	-	-	-
b. Working capital Interest subsidy**																	
										12.00	18.58	27.40	57.98	-	4.75	4.40	9.15
10. Providing training and startup tools to farmers to practice muga culture																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Pilot schemes for support to private graineurs for production of quality muga seed																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Support to agencies (NGO/Co-ops) for popularization of improved reeling/spinning devices for muga																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Scheme for increasing quality raw silk production by promoting use of multiend reeling machines***																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.03	10.84	63.86	86.73	12.03	1.88	4.96	18.87
14. Installation of common facility centers for Handloom Silk processing																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.90	7.20	5.70	15.80	13.40	26.20	1.90	43.50
15. Promotion of resource conservation technologies through economic ovens																	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.25	-	-	3.25	-	0.16	0.16	0.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16.	Demonstration of systematic plantation in eri food plant with training and supply of start-up tools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-Ops) for Popularization of improved spinning devices for eri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Augmentation of muga food plants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. No.	Name of the Schemes	Kerala			J and K			Madhya Pradesh			Bihar						
		98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total
1.	UNDP assisted sub-programme on development of non-mulberry silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Promotion of Resources conservation technologies through drip irrigation	-	-	1.58	1.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Support for pre-reeling productivity improved measures of demonstrative kind adopted by states	-	-	2.45	2.45	4.00	5.00	4.00	13.00	-	15.19	4.88	20.07	3.20	0.59	-	3.79
4.	On farm training and supply of start-up tools to new mulberry sericulturists	7.11	8.15	2.78	18.04	15.00	15.00	-	30.00	-	1.68	-	1.68	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16.	Demonstration of systematic plantation in eri food plant with training and supply of start-up tools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.38	-	-	0.38	1.29	0.51	2.15	5.95
17.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-Ops) for popularization of improved spinning devices for eri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
18.	Augmentation of muga food plants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.63	1.14	2.48	5.25	1.20	0.73	2.70	4.63
S. No.	Name of the Schemes	Tripura			Manipur			Uttanchal			Punjab						
		98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total	98-99	99-00	00-01	Total				
1.	UNDP assisted sub-programme on development of non-mulberry silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Promotion of Resources conservation technologies through drip irrigation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Support for pre-reeling productivity improved measures of demonstrative kind adopted by States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	On farm training and supply of start-up tools to new mulberry sericulturists	2.79	6.80	-	9.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-ops) for popularization of improved reeling/spinning devices for muga	-	-	-	-	0.21	-	0.05	0.26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Scheme for increasing quality raw silk production by promoting use of multi-end reeling machines***	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.71	0.71	-	-	0.94	0.94
14.	Installation of common facility centers for Handloom Silk processing	-	-	9.40	9.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Promotion of resource conservation technologies through economic ovens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Demonstration of systematic plantation in eri food plant with training and supply of start-up tools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17.	Support to agencies (NGOs/Co-Ops) for popularization of improved spinning devices for eri	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.02	0.02	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Augmentation of muga food plants	-	-	-	-	-	1.20	-	1.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Amount kept in fixed deposits with the Banks. Only the interest earned from the FD's will be the interest subsidy to the reelers.

***CSB's share only. Equal amount has also been given by State Government.

Statement-IV

Handlooms Sector

Statement showing assistance released under DDHPY Scheme since 2000-01

		2000-01					2001-02					(Rupees in lakhs)		
S.	State	Project	Basic input (sanctioned)	Basic input	Marketing Incentive	Total	Project	Basic input (sanctioned)	Basic input	Marketing Incentive	Total (Released)	Total since 2000-01	Total since 2000-01 (Sanc-tioned) (MI.+BI.)	Total since 2000-01 (Released) (MI.+BI.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh					0.00000	96	2173.33000	744.18000	432.64050	1176.82050	1176.82050	1176.82050	1176.82050
2.	Bihar			-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
3.	Chhattisgarh	-		-	-	0.00000	10	16.16000	8.03000	24.54564	32.57564	32.57564	32.57564	32.57564
4.	Delhi	-		-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
5.	Gujarat	1	425.00000	212.50000	-	212.50000	2		212.50000		212.50000	425.00000	425.00000	425.00000
6.	Haryana	-		-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7	13.87000	6.89000	-	6.89000	21	48.64000	24.23000		24.23000	31.12000	31.12000	31.12000
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	26.18000	13.08000	31.460	44.54000					0.00000	13.08000	44.54000	44.54000
9.	Jharkhand	-		-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
10.	Karnataka	-		-	-	0.00000	1	5.00000	2.50000	298.00072	298.50072	298.50072	298.50072	298.50072
11.	Kerala	-		-	-	0.00000				225.00000	225.00000	225.00000	225.00000	225.00000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	10.21000	5.04000	27.670	32.71000	6	12.18000	6.06000	3.28186	9.34186	14.38186	42.05186
13.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
14.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
15.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
16.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
17.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	677.050	677.05000	144	183.42000	91.03000	1571.34075	1662.37075	1662.37075	2339.42075
18.	Uttar Pradesh	21	111.35000	54.15000	-	54.15000	178	875.46000	416.29000	226.95993	643.24993	697.39993	697.39993
19.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	0.00000	14	80.66000	40.25000		40.25000	40.25000	40.25000
20.	West Bengal	12	56.42000	28.15113	-	28.15113	15	56.05000	27.69000		27.69000	55.84113	55.84113
Total (A)		51	643.03000	319.81113	736.180	1055.99113	487	3450.90000	1572.76000	2779.76940	4352.52940	4093.93000	5408.52053

N.E. States

21.	Arunachal Pradesh		0.00000	-	-	0.00000	27	312.30000	156.04000		156.04000	312.30000	156.04000
22.	Assam	45	467.13000	233.14000	190.960	424.10000	156	1736.97000	866.07300		866.07300	2204.10000	1290.17300
23.	Manipur	74	286.17000	142.52000	0.990	143.51000					0.00000	286.17000	143.51000
24.	Meghalaya	1	12.04000	6.00000	-	6.00000					0.00000	12.04000	6.00000
25.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
26.	Nagaland	10	66.35000	33.10000	-	33.10000	150	693.38000	346.50000		346.50000	759.73000	379.60000
27.	Tripura	16	58.77000	29.22000	3.920	33.14000				3.91650	3.91650	58.77000	37.05650
28.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	0.00000					0.00000	0.00000	0.00000

Total (B)		146	890.46000	443.98000	195.870	639.85000	333	2742.65000	1368.61300	3.91650	1372.52950	3633.11000	2012.37950
G.Total (A+B)		197	1533.49000	763.79113	932.050	1695.84113	820	6193.55000	2941.37300	2783.686	5725.05890	7727.04000	7420.90003

DDHPY Releases since Inception DDHPY Total 00-01 and 01-02 and (Date)

*Funds Released under Project Package Scheme for the Year
1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-2002*

(Rs. In lakh)

S. No.	States	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-02	
		Project	Amt. Released	Project	Amt. Released	Project	Amt. Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	420.0850	35	307.0100	6	31.8800
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	39.9000	11	55.5500	3	12.1200
3.	Assam	23	546.7200	74	513.4300		—
4.	Bihar	5	8.8500		3.2500	—	—
5.	Chhattisgarh**					23	19.8200
6.	Delhi	—	—			—	—
7.	Gujarat	6	18.6500		7.3500	1	4.2900
8.	Haryana	—	4.0000			2	6.5600
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8	34.1600	3	10.4700	7	19.1700
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	28.5535	5	47.8300	—	—
11.	Karnataka	—	20.9450	8	18.1600	7	20.2700
12.	Kerala	28	68.8000	36	283.4475	83	486.2925
13.	Madhya Pradesh	32	29.5000	14	16.0200	1	1.2500
14.	Maharashtra	4	5.0300	26	89.8720	1	2.0000
15.	Manipur	30	180.8000	42	236.2400	3	19.0400
16.	Meghalaya	—	—			—	—
17.	Mizoram	—	7.5000			—	—
18.	Nagaland	46	189.1400	13	127.0800	—	—
19.	Orissa	1	154.5337		1.3750	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20	Pondicherry	—	—			—	—
21.	Punjab	4	8.9000		3.4000	—	—
22.	Rajasthan	—	92.9900			—	—
23.	Sikkim	—	—			—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	43	121.3800	125	141.7600	7	11.9600
25.	Tripura	—	24.0000		4.5400	—	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	93	644.5123	51	314.8400	—	—
27.	West Bengal	36	144.5214	8	73.8525	—	—
28.	NEHDC	—	—			—	—
Total		366	2793.4709	451	2255.4770	144	634.6525

*Handloom Development Centre/Quality Dying
Unit Scheme (Status of Funds Released
from 1999-2000 to 2001-02)*

S. No.	Name of State	99-2000 Balance only	2000-01 Balance only	2001-02 Balance only
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.68624	27.89300	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			
3.	Assam			
4.	Bihar			
5.	Gujarat			
6.	Goa			
7.	Haryana			

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pra.	2.84.000	5.10000	
9.	Jammu and Kashmir			
10.	Karnataka			
11.	Kerala	15.99192		
12.	Madhya Pradesh			
13.	Maharashtra			
14.	Manipur			
15.	Meghalaya			
16.	Mizoram			
17.	Nagaland	61.39000	78.84000	
18.	Orissa			

1	2	3	4	5
19. Punjab				
20. Rajasthan				1.77500
21. Tamil Nadu	290.08887			
22. Tripura				
23. Uttar Pradesh	12.18960			
24. West Bengal				
25. Pondicherry				
26. Sikkim				
27. Delhi				
Total	396.18663	111.83300		1.77500

*Funds Released under Integrated Handloom**Village Development Scheme for the**Year 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02*

S. No.	Name of State	1999-2000 Amt Relea.	2000-01 Amt Relea.	2001-02 Amt Relea.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pd.	33.0000	129.0000	
2.	Arunachal Pd.	—		
3.	Assam	44.7500		
4.	Bihar	—		
5.	Delhi	—		
6.	Gujarat	—		

1	2	3	4	5
7. Haryana		—		
8. Himachal Pd.		—		
9. Jammu and Kashmir		—		
10. Karnataka		—		
11. Kerala		—		71.0700
12. Madhya Pd.	48.9000		10.0000	
13. Maharashtra		—		
14. Manipur	57.1500			2.0000
15. Meghalaya		—		
16. Mizoram		—		
17. Nagaland		—		
18. Orissa	44.0000			
19. Pondicherry		—		
20. Punjab		—		
21. Rajasthan		—		
22. Sikkim		—		
23. Tamil Nadu		—	63.0000	
24. Tripura	42.7500			10.5000
25. Uttar Pradesh		—		6.0000
26. West Bengal	6.0000			
Total	276.55	202.0000		89.5700

Position as on 31.3.02																				
		figures in lakhs																		
Sl. No.	Name of the State	DDHPY	PPS		HDC/ ODC	IHVD	Census	MMDW	Pub. and Exhibi- tions	Work- shed cum- Housing	Group Insu- rance Scheme	Health Pac- kage Scheme	Thrift Fund Scheme	New Insu- rance Scheme	DEPM Spt. Re- bate	MDA/ Spring- up of En- forcement Machinery	Janata Cloth Scheme	Research and Develop- ment	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1.	Andhara Pra.	1176.82	24.60	7.28	-	-	-	-	52.47	253.96	22.73	-	-	-	6.00	70.07	-	-	6.50	1620.43
2.	Arunachal Pra.	156.04	8.03	4.09	-	-	-	-	10.51	320.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	498.67
3.	Assam	866.07	-	-	-	-	54.48	-	64.96	-	-	-	-	-	9.56	10.26	-	-	11.57	1016.90
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.50	-	-	-	-	6.50
5.	Chhatisgarh	32.58	19.07	0.75	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61.90
6.	Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	-	-	2.39	0.21	8.75	3.33	-	-	5.70	29.38
7.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
8.	Gujarat	212.50	3.23	1.06	-	-	-	-	19.00	-	2.15	-	-	2.99	-	0.87	-	-	-	241.80
9.	Haryana	-	6.56	-	-	-	-	-	12.00	-	-	-	-	-	8.50	16.98	5.52	-	-	49.56
10.	Himachal Prd.	24.23	15.37	3.80	-	-	-	-	10.17	2.21	-	-	-	-	44.00	-	-	-	-	99.78
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65.78	-	-	-	-	0.33	-	-	-	-	6.00	72.11
12.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
13.	Karnataka	298.50	18.01	2.26	-	-	-	-	6.70	113.10	14.12	-	20.00	-	7.95	-	-	-	-	480.64
14.	Kerala	225.00	356.55	129.75	-	71.07	1.22	-	-	90.00	-	-	10.43	-	-	43.44	17.28	-	-	944.74

Position as on 31.3.02

figures in lakhs

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
15.	Madhya Prd.	9.34	1.10	0.15	-	-	-	-	64.98	-	0.05	-	3.72	1.13	16.25	-	9.30	-	-	106.02
16.	Maharashtra	-	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	40.00	50.00	-	-	2.26	-	-	-	-	-	-	94.26
17.	Manipur	-	16.20	2.84	-	2.00	5.59	-	6.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.63
18.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.93	10.53	-	-	-	-	-	0.28	-	-	1.00	13.74
19.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.00
20.	Nagaland	346.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.70	-	-	-	-	-	18.00	-	-	-	-	377.20
21.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.34	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.45	-	-	-	57.79
22.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.23	-	-	-	-	-	1.23
23.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.36	-	-	-	-	-	28.50	0.52	-	-	-	29.38
24.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	1.78	-	-	-	16.00	26.61	-	-	-	3.60	-	18.02	-	-	-	66.01
25.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.99
26.	Tamil Nadu	1662.37	9.26	2.70	-	-	0.66	-	-	114.13	-	35.31	281.22	-	-	-	67.90	-	-	2173.55
27.	Tripura	3.92	-	-	-	10.50	-	-	5.76	-	-	-	0.13	0.51	-	5.15	-	-	-	25.97
28.	Uttar Pradesh	643.25	-	-	-	6.00	-	1.00	43.64	-	-	-	-	-	44.75	31.22	-	-	9.01	778.87
29.	Uttaranchal	40.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.25
30.	West Bengal	27.69	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.52	-	2.77	2.35	-	-	4.20	-	-	-	-	71.53
Total		5725.06	479.98	154.68	1.78	89.57	61.95	1.00	543.81	980.54	42.32	37.66	320.15	10.00	202.96	212.59	100.00	0.00	39.78	9003.83

Statement-V
Handicrafts Sector
Funds released during 1998-99
Name of the Plan Schemes

Sl. No.	State	(Rs. in Lakhs)															Total of all Schemes	% age
		Export	Exhibition	Publicity	Design	Training	Marketing	Marketing	Mark-eting Dev. Support	Survey Study	C.D.C.	Workshed Housing	Insurance	Revival off Languishing	UNDP			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
1.	Andhra Pradesh		15.56	3.00	2.44	7.72	48.09	24.84	4.58	3.03	1.75			0.68	111.69	5.48		
2.	A and N Island														0.00			
3.	Arunachal Pradesh														0.00			
4.	Assam		24.09	22.02		10.69	12.26	22.50	5.70	3.89	12.07	0.06		1.75	115.03	5.65		
5.	Bihar		4.80	0.41	1.54	2.66					2.13		0.63	0.70	12.87	0.63		
6.	Delhi	14.00	26.21	39.11	138.24	12.40	15.20	20.00	25.82				4.70	2.51	298.19	14.65		
7.	Goa		1.54	0.78	0.70			10.25		3.00					16.22	0.79		
8.	Gujarat		18.34	4.05	14.27	1.93	33.16	30.00		2.00					103.75	5.99		
9.	Haryana		1.15			1.84	43.15	7.50		3.19				0.35	57.18	2.81		
10.	Himachal Pradesh		29.47	4.88	0.77			25.00		5.77					65.89	3.23		
11.	Jammu and Kashmir		12.68	2.18		4.65	4.00	43.94		3.94	4.50				75.89	3.73		
12.	Karnataka		6.21	4.83	0.79	0.49	5.00	18.75	4.00	3.00					43.07	2.11		
13.	Kerala		3.21	1.83		1.06	2.00	8.00	2.00	0.54		0.08		5.82	24.54	1.20		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
14. Madhya Pradesh				6.00	5.90	4.90	13.84	25.84	17.48	3.68	7.46				7.02	92.12	4.52
15. Maharashtra				8.07		5.18	3.64	33.96	5.00	6.00				0.30	1.08	63.23	3.10
16. Manipur				1.15	3.30		13.99	24.95	27.73		6.50	1.75				79.37	3.90
17. Meghalaya					2.04			1.00	8.60							11.64	0.57
18. Mizoram				4.30	3.53			2.00	9.31		5.56		0.06			24.76	1.21
19. Nagaland				8.00	2.93	0.50		1.00	25.00		4.56	18.25				60.54	2.97
20. Orissa				30.29	5.11	2.40	19.01	40.54	33.50	7.00	3.68	17.71	0.36	0.30	3.80	163.70	8.04
21. Punjab				0.85	2.03		2.50	2.00	3.50		5.56					16.44	0.80
22. Pondicherry				3.53	0.16											3.69	0.18
23. Rajasthan				4.76	2.00	2.00	1.72	6.08	5.00	1.00	9.01	4.25	9.00			44.82	2.20
24. Sikkim				2.40	3.18		7.60	2.46		3.40				1.78		20.82	1.02
25. Tamil Nadu				15.40	4.25	2.24	1.83	9.25	25.00	3.47	9.43	5.65		0.30	0.87	77.69	3.81
26. Tripura				9.13	0.80	2.00		4.00	26.00						0.13	42.06	2.06
27. Uttar Pradesh				15.00	39.31	6.16	11.90	80.28	68.31	46.24	8.89	10.98	20.00		38.60	345.67	16.99
28. West Bengal					17.91	3	1.12	4.24	6.63	21.09	2.26	2.91	0.38		3.50	63.56	3.12
Total				29.00	294.36	127.43	191.29	192.09	390.88	464.23	77.82	94.01	88.94	9.56	8.01	66.81	2034.43
% age				1.42	14.46	6.26	9.40	9.44	19.21	22.81	3.82	4.62	4.37	0.46	0.39	3.28	

Handicrafts Sector

Funds released during 1999-2000

Name of the Plan Schemes

S. No.	State	(Rs. in lakhs)													% age
		Export	Exhibition	Publicity	Design	Training	Marketing	Dev. Support	Marketing	Survey	C.D.C.	Welfare	UNDP	Total of all Scheme	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
1.	Andhra Pradesh		9.70			18.62	53.41		5.49		2.03		89.25	4%	
2.	A and N Island						5.75						5.75	0.25	
3.	Arunachal Pradesh					0.06	6.64						6.7	0.29	
4.	Assam		13.70	6.87	14.91	4.59	38.24	10.97		8.81	18.61		116.7	5.14	
5.	Bihar		6.57		0.50	4.40	53.20			1.88			66.55	2.93	
6.	Delhi	47.00	22.29	28.09	138.99	15.30	57.09		22.62		1.90		66.90	400.18	17.65
7.	Goa					1.30	6.00	7.50					14.8	0.65	
8.	Gujarat		16.05	1.71	4.50	28.91	10.38	10.50		1.98			74.03	3.26	
9.	Haryana		4.47			7.34	60.03	5.00			2.25		79.09	3.48	
10.	Himachal Pradesh		14.26			0.04	8.59	2.50		1.69			27.08	1.19	
11.	Jammu and Kashmir		10.56	1.97	1.90	5.49	56.22	20.45		1.88			98.47	4.34	
12.	Karnataka		1.09		3.36	2.71	23.31	6.73	3.55	0.31	24.35	43.00	108.41	4.78	
13.	Kerala		3.24			8.13	9.74	2.53		0.05	2.11	25.98	51.78	2.28	

MAY 3, 2002

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14. Madhya Pradesh			11.73	10.98	7.58	16.87	32.18	10.50	0.24	6.92			97	4.27
15. Maharashtra			7.36		10.00	6.79	42.79	0.85				23.37	91.16	4.02
16. Manipur				1.58	0.50	16.79	21.85	9.73		4.12	3.78		58.35	2.57
17. Meghalaya							9.58						9.58	0.42
18. Mizoram							1.30	10.01					11.31	0.49
19. Nagaland			8.40	0.93	0.50	5.01	8.09	12.50			5.25		40.68	1.79
20. Orissa			22.95		4.68	32.09	20.99	10.32	1.60	3.61	24.20		120.44	5.31
21. Punjab					0.34	3.54	18.34			2.99			25.21	1.11
22. Pondicherry			4.69			4.07	8.57						17.33	0.76
23. Rajasthan			8.75	8.95		2.66	17.56		8.92			10.76	57.6	2.54
24. Sikkim						16.16	5.59		1.75	0.66			24.16	1.06
25. Tamil Nadu			15.08		1.20	7.54	26.07	10.38	1.44	1.03	0.65		63.39	2.79
26. Tripura			5.16	2.55	1.57	2.64	10.80	7.00					29.72	1.31
27. Uttar Pradesh		75.00	21.63		4.18	131.48	73.10	20.60	2.06	2.48	15.23	45.02	390.78	17.23
28. West Bengal			14.80	0.80	6.41	4.65	49.87	10.86	1.11		3.10		91.6	4.04
Total		122.00	222.48	64.43	201.12	347.18	735.28	168.93	48.78	38.41	103.46	215.03	2267.10	
% age		5.38	9.81	2.84	8.87	15.31	32.43	7.45	2.15	1.69	4.56	9.48		

Handicrafts Sector

Funds released during 2000-2001

Name of the Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)													
Sl. No.	State	Export	Exhibition	Publicity	Design	Training	Marketing	Marketing	Survey	Welfare	UNDP	CDC/CF	Total of all Scheme
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	13.65	6.89		7.92	32.26		0.06	30.13			100.91
2.	A and N Island					2.02							2.02
3.	Arunachal Pradesh		1.45			6.00				17.00			24.45
4.	Assam		16.45	3.12	29.40	5.53	11.14	21.25	22.94	12.27		7.85	129.95
5.	Bihar		1.12	0.21		13.40				1.00			15.73
6.	Delhi	651.66	29.33	72.75	125.19	12.89	47.12		26.73	1.22	315.85		1282.74
7.	Goa					0.85							0.85
8.	Gujarat		15.17		2.40	13.25	43.54		8.00		4.00	11.25	97.61
9.	Haryana		5.47			1.71		2.50	2.12				11.80
10.	Himachal Pradesh		210.8	3.41		10.68		12.73					47.90
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.00	7.87	0.58	0.50	14.19						3.75	29.89
12.	Karnataka		6.34		7.08	3.39	16.23	7.20		9.63	24.00		73.87
13.	Kerala		4.75	0.14		3.51		5.02		1.08	51.15		65.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2.52	19.52	6.41	3.40	10.79	19.24	27.25				1.31	90.44
15.	Maharashtra		7.58		3.88	7.80	33.14				15.00		67.40
16.	Manipur		3.20		15.00	10.61	14.41			29.33		1.07	73.62
17.	Meghalaya	6.75		2.41	5.00	3.33	4.44	6.25		0.04	16.70		44.92
18.	Mizoram		5.71	1.99				7.95		0.03		3.94	19.62
19.	Nagaland		4.05	0.58	25.00	5.02	9.91	13.70		27.63		13.22	99.11
20.	Orissa		5.26	1.38	0.50	26.46				31.73		2.76	68.09
21.	Punjab					10.38						1.16	11.54
22.	Pondicherry					0.45							0.45
23.	Rajasthan		7.00		2.40	6.34				1.50	16.38		33.62
24.	Sikkim				15.00	0.45							15.45
25.	Tamil Nadu	0.37	8.53	1.54		4.30	22.75	6.33		4.40			48.22
26.	Tripura		11.37		5.50	8.07		5.72		1.35		9.02	41.03
27.	Uttar Pradesh	48.80	22.93	5.25	0.74	67.25	45.05	29.22	12.00	24.50	25.75	46.42	327.91
28.	West Bengal		2.06	6.58	9.16	7.86	14.63	2.73	0.17	7.20		14.45	64.84
29.	Uttaranchal					15.25				3.60			18.85
30.	Jharkhand					6.73							6.73
Total		723.10	219.89	113.24	250.15	286.43	313.86	147.85	72.02	203.64	468.83	116.20	2915.21

Import of Vanaspati from Nepal

5913. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) the quantity and value of vanaspati imported from Nepal during each of the last three years;

(b) the price of vanaspati imported from Nepal and the cost of manufacturing vanaspati per quintal in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government from the protection of domestic vanaspati producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) According to information available, the quantity and value of vanaspati imported from Nepal during the last three years have been as under:-

Year	Quantity (In Mts)	Value (Rs. in crores)
1998-99	47050	184.19
1999-2000	54102	157.17
2000-2001	100545	213.77

Source : Department of Commerce

(b) Precise figure about the cost of manufacturing vanaspati in the country is not available. According to information available, wholesale prices of vanaspati imported from Nepal and wholesale prices of vanaspati manufactured in the country since January, 2002 are mentioned below:-

(Price in Rs. per 15 ltr. Pack)		
Month	Prices of vanaspati imported from Nepal	Prices of vanaspati manufactured in the country
January	435	514
February	440	515
March	498	540
April	505	580

Source : Economic Times

(c) In the revised Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade signed on 2nd March, 2002 for a period of five years with effect from 6th March 2002, the following steps have been taken for the protection of domestic of domestic vanaspati producers:

(i) Concept of value addition has been introduced.

(ii) Maximum third country input cannot exceed 75% of the ex-factory price during the first year (upto 5th March 2003) and it cannot exceed 70% thereafter.

(iii) Substantial transformation clause at the 4 digit HS Code introduced.

(iv) Simple processors as listed in the Treaty could not be considered as manufacturing activities in Nepal.

(v) A comprehensive Certificate of Origin incorporating the above provisions prescribed. India can review such Certificates in case of doubt.

(vi) Safeguard clause introduced when Nepalese imports cause injury or threaten to cause injury to Indian industries. Under this clause, India can withdraw the preferential facility to Nepal if consultations do not resolve the problem.

(vii) a quantitative cap of one lakh MT per year with effect from 6th March, 2002 has been fixed for Nepalese vanaspati imports into India.

Loss of Foodgrains In Storage

5914. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :
SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government loses huge quantities of foodgrains due to poor methods and techniques practiced during the pre and post harvest times, and also due to the poor storage facilities in our country;

(b) if so, the details of the total loss occurred during the pre-harvest, post-harvest, Transportation of foodgrains and storage foodgrain;

(c) whether the Government have been monitoring the functioning of the various storage godowns of FCI, Central Warehouse Corporation, etc;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the expenses incurred for the storage of foodgrains in the last three years, Year-wise, State-wise. The expenses incurred in storing one tonne of foodgrain and the total capacity of all the FCI and CWC godowns in the country, organisation-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir. Foodgrains are stored in the Food Corporation of India's (FCI) godowns in scientific manner and regular prophylactic and curative treatments are carried out to protect the stored grains from insects and pests.

(b) Does not arise. However, some losses generally occur during storage and transportation due to moisture loss, multiple handling, spillage etc. The transit and storage losses incurred by FCI during last three years are as under:

(Quantity in lakhs MT)

Year	Transit loss		Storage loss	
	Quantity	percentage	Quantity	Percentage
1998-99	2.66	1.17	1.51	0.40
1999-00	2.89	1.13	1.60	0.32
2000-01	1.84	0.86	2.24	0.57

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Regular and also surprise inspections to check the quality of foodgrains as well as storage conditions prevailing in the godowns of FCI and Central Warehousing Corporation are carried out by the FCI officers and Quality Control Officers of the Government.

(e) Yearwise expenses incurred for storing the foodgrains during the last three years are as under :

Year	Total amount in Rs. (Crores)	Rate per tonne per year (Rs.)	
		On Capacity	On stock
1990-00 (provisional)	794.61	326.40	432.00
2000-01 (Provisional)	950.00	336.00	385.20
2001-02 (RE)	1410.00	421.20	446.40

The total covered storage capacity available with FCI and CWC (owned and hired) is 27.90 and 7.44 million MTs. respectively.

State Trading Corporation

5915.SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) the annual turnover of State Trading Corporation at present;

(b) the main functions of the State Trading Corporation of India Limited in these days, when most of the imported commodities have been decanalised;

(c) whether the Government have decided to disinvest its stake on STC;

(d) if so, whether any invitations have been issued for expression of interest from prospective bidders;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of bidders;

(f) the present position in that regard;

(g) whether the STC has been absolved of the charges earlier leveled by the Central Investigating agency on the import of Australian wheat, imputing ulterior motives on the then Cabinet Secretary and the present CMD of STC; and

(h) if so, the status of investigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The total turnover of the Corporation during the year 2001-02 is estimated at Rs. 1524 crores as against the turnover of Rs. 1040 crores for 2000-01.

(b) In the wake of liberalised trade policy measures adopted by the Government of India since 1991 whereby all export/import items, earlier canalised through STC, have been decanalised, the Corporation is laying greater emphasis on developing non-canalised business of both exports and imports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) Advertisement seeking Expression of Interest (Eoi) from the prospective bidders have been issued on 20.2.2002. 14 Eois have been received, out of which 13 were found to be qualified for participation in the bidding process. The due diligence exercise by these 13 Qualified Interested Parties (QIPs) is in progress.

(g) and (h) Investigations are still in progress by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

[Translation]

**Sale of Wheat in Open
Market by FCI**

5916.SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) total quantity of wheat allotted to various States under the scheme of sale in open market by Food Corporation of India during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the traders, who were allotted wheat sold the same to traders in other States;

(c) if so, the details of rules framed for the sale of wheat in open market and the rate at which wheat was sold to the traders State-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against traders for not selling wheat in their State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No State-wise allocations are being made for sale of wheat under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic). All consumers, including the State Governments/U.T. Administrations, Cooperatives, Chakkies, Roller Flour Mills are free to buy the required qty. of wheat directly from the FCI subject to a minimum quantity of 10 M.T.s. However, Statement showing details of sale of wheat State wise/year wise under the Open Market sale Scheme (Domestic) of wheat during the last three years is enclosed as statement in I.

(b) and (c) The Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) of wheat was reintroduced in Nov., 1998 through the State Governments/U.T.Administrations. Beside other

conditions, the State Governments were also required to ensure that the wheat released to them under OMSS (D) and products made out of this wheat were sold within their State.

They were also given the responsibility of ensuring that the end prices of wheat/its products were reasonable and in conformity with the prices, at which the wheat was being made available to them. Subsequently, these conditions were removed, after record procurement of wheat during Rabi 1999 season.

With a view to liquidate excess stocks, making space available for ensuing crops and to reduce the carrying cost of foodgrains, the OMSS (D) of wheat was liberalized from 9.8.99 and all consumers, including the State Governments/ U.T. Administrations, Cooperatives, Chakkies, Roller Flour Mills were made eligible to buy the required qty. of wheat under the OMSS (D) of wheat directly from the FCI subject to a minimum of 10 M.T.s. The Zone wise issue prices of open sale wheat fixed from Nov., 1998 to January, 2002 and from February, 2002 to April, 2002 State-wise prices, enclosed in statement-II

(d) In view of reply to parts (b) and (c) above, the question does not arise.

**Statement Showing Sale of Wheat under
OMSS(D) since 1999-2000**

Name of the State/U.T.	Provisional Figs. In '000 tonnes		
	Year-wise off take		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4
Bihar	281.89	0.00	136.17
Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	85.33
Orissa	125.62	7.96	160.51
West Bengal	283.45	2.22	232.54
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.27
Assam	161.47	46.37	172.23

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	Andhra Pradesh	133.81	40.74	52.79
Tripura	6.74	6.00	10.64	Kerala	153.00	110.29	66.17
Manipur	4.50	6.81	13.16	Karnataka	218.90	166.73	185.12
Nagaland	6.85	0.59	3.29	Tamilnadu	319.96	158.81	277.28
Mizoram	0.20	1.60	0.30	Pondicherry	10.47	5.53	12.98
Meghalaya	0.73	1.72	2.99	A and N Island	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	699.02	15.59	53.85	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	264.89	24.16	1636.32	Gujarat	238.17	7.13	108.27
Himachal Pradesh	23.83	6.23	89.79	Maharashtra	226.27	72.17	397.01
J and K	148.77	81.51	150.16	Goa	2.15	8.18	21.65
Punjab	28.99	7.58	508.13	Madhya Pradesh	274.07	64.05	274.58
Chandigarh	4.40	2.5	38.99	Chattisgarh	0.00	18.36	48.54
Rajasthan	85.23	6.15	154.73	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	693.65	17.71	289.76	D and N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	11.63	Total	4397.03	886.69	5195.16

Statement-II*Open Sale Rates of Wheat from 1998-99 Onwards*

	Per Qtl.							
Effective from	18.11.98	03.02.99	15.4.99	03.12.99	01.04.2000	11.7.2000	9/11.8.2000	March 2001
North Zone	Rs.. 645/-	Rs.. 653/-	Rs.. 690/-	Rs. 688/-	Rs. 700/-	Rs. 700/- (from Punjab)	Rs.. 650/-	Rs. 650/- (Including M.P. and Chattisgarh)
South Zone	Rs.. 716/-	Rs.. 724/-	Rs.. 747/-	Rs.. 705/-	Rs.. 900/-	Rs.. 900/-	Rs.. 743/-	Rs.. 700/-
West Zone	Rs.. 689/-	Rs.. 697/-	Rs.. 725/-	Rs.. 697/-	Rs.. 900/-	Rs.. 900/-	Rs.. 724/-	Rs.. 700/-
East Zone	Rs.. 708/-	Rs.. 716/-	Rs.. 748/-	Rs.. 699/-	Rs.. 900/-	Rs.. 900/-	Rs.. 736/-	Rs.. 700/-

[illegible]

*State-wise Open Sale Rates of Wheat for the Months
of February and March, 2002*

Rate per qtl.(in Rs.)			
S. No.	Name of State/U.T.	Lustre lost wheat 2001-02	Sound Wheat
1	2	3	4
North Zone			
1.	Delhi	615	655
2.	Chandigarh	615	655
3.	Punjab	615	655
4.	Haryana	615	655
5.	Uttar Pradesh	625	655
6.	Uttaranchal	625	665
7.	Rajasthan	625	665
8.	Himachal Pradesh	620	660
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	630	670
South Zone			
10.	Tamilnadu	685	725
11.	Pondicherry	685	725
12.	Kerala	685	725
13.	Andhra Pradesh	680	720
14.	A and N Islands	690	730
15.	Lakshadweep	690	730
16.	Kernataka	680	720
East Zone			
17.	Bihar	640	680
18.	West Bengal	660	700
19.	Sikkim	665	705
20.	Orissa	665	705

1	2	3	4
21. Jharkhand	650	690	
North East Zone			
22. Assam and Other NE States	675	715	
West Zone			
23. Maharashtra	655	695	
24. Goa	660	700	
25. Madhya Pradesh	630	670	
26. Chattisgarh	650	690	
27. Gujarat	650	690	
28. Daman and Diu	650	690	
29. Dadar and Nagar Haveli	650	690	

*State-wise Open Sale Rates of Wheat for
the Months of April, 2002*

Rate per qtn.(in Rs.)			
S. Name of No. State/U.T	Lustre lost wheat 2001-02	Sound wheat	
1	2	3	4
North Zone			
1. Delhi	615	655	
2. Chandigarh	615	655	
3. Punjab	615	655	
4. Haryana	615	655	
5. Uttar Pradesh	625	665	
6. Uttaranchal	625	665	
7. Rajasthan	625	665	
8. Himachal Pradesh	620	660	
9. J and K	630	670	

1	2	3	4
South Zone			
10. Tamilnadu	685	725	
11. Pondicherry	685	725	
12. Kerala	685	725	
13. Andhra Pradesh	680	720	
14. A and N Islands	690	730	
15. Lakshadweep	690	730	
16. Karnataka	680	720	
East Zone			
17. Bihar	640	680	
18. West Bengal	660	700	
19. Sikkim	665	705	
20. Orissa	665	705	
21. Jharkhand	650	690	
North East Zone			
22. Assam and Other NE States	675	715	
West Zone			
23. Maharashtra	655	695	
24. Goa	660	700	
25. Madhya Pradesh	630	670	
26. Chattisgarh	650	690	
27. Gujarat	650	690	
28. Daman and Diu	650	690	
29. Dadar and Nagar Haveli	650	690	

[English]

Narcotic Trade

5917. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Indian Government have rejected European Union's proposal to control narcotic trade;

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

(c) whether the European Union is forcing pre-condition in growing concessions in narcotic trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (e) India and European Union have bilateral cooperation on matters relating to control of narcotic trade. However, there is no specific **proposal** or pre-conditions from the European Union in this regard.

**Supplementary Grants to Department
of Public Distribution**

5918. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Department of Public Distribution (grant No. 39) obtained supplementary grant of Rs. 313.00 crore for meeting additional subsidy payable to State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal against a budget provision of Rs. 300.00 crore as pointed out by C and AG in their report No. 1 of 2002;

(b) whether the entire amount obtained through supplementary grant was not utilised;

(c) if so, the reasons for obtaining supplementary grant; and

(d) the details of the funds that were obtained through budget provisions last and supplementary demands during the last three years and the amount that is still unspent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Supplementary Grant obtained during 2000-2001 for Rs. 65 crores in respect of the State of West Bengal remained un-utilised because of non-submission of subsidy claim bills alongwith the requisite utilization certificates by the State Government during the

year. The Supplementary Grant of Rs. 248 crores obtained in respect of the State of Uttar Pradesh was fully utilized.

(d) The required details since 1999-2000 in respect of the Governments of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

Year	BE	Supplementary	Unspent Amount
1999-2000	200.00	55.40 (Supplementary)	0.0057
		87.89 (Reappropriation)	
2000-2001	300.00	313.00	65.00
2001-2002	883.00	—	113.00*

*This had been surrendered at the time of preparation of the Revised Estimates (RE).

[Translation]

Loan to Bihar

5919.SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) the financial assistance provided to Bihar during each of the last three years by public sector financial institutions like Life Insurance Corporation of India, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial finance Corporation of India and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India;

(b) whether said assistance is very less in comparison to assistance provided to other States; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign Visits of Ministers

5920.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) the country he has visited during the last two years?

(b) the country-wise objectives of the said visits; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on the said visits alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) As per information in the enclosed statement-I

(b) As per information in the enclosed statement-II

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

Statement-I

S.No.	Countries visited	Dates
1.	Germany and USA	9-18 April, 2000
2.	Thailand	6-8 May, 2000
3.	USA	29.5.2000 to 6.6.2000
4.	Italy and Portugal	25-30 June, 2000
5.	USA	1-17 September, 2000
6.	Checkoslovakia	21-29 September, 2000
7.	Canada and USA	23-29 October, 2000
8.	Davos (Switzerland)	25.1.2001 to 26.1.01
9.	Germany	9-11 March, 2001
10.	Russia	12-15 January, 2001
11.	USA	27.4.2001 to 1.5.2001
12.	Singapore and Hongkong	13-17 May, 2001
13.	Ottawa Canada	14.11.2001 to 20.11.2001
14.	Germany and New York	28.1.2002 to 2.2.2002
15.	Washington	18.4.2002 to 21.4.2002

Statement-II

S. No.	Countries visited	Purpose/Objective of the visit
1	2	3
1.	Germany and USA	To attend 14th Session of Indo-Germany Joint Commission of Industrial and Economic Cooperation and Spring Meeting, 2000 of the World Bank and IMF.
2.	Thailand	To participate in the 33rd ADB Annual General Meeting.
3.	USA	To attend conference on Indian Economic Prospects: Advancing Policy Reforms.
4.	Italy and Portugal	Along with Prime Minister
5.	USA	For medical treatment followed by official delegation visit for the meeting of the India-United States Financial and Economic Forum.
6.	Checkoslovakia	To attend G-24 Ministers' Meeting, MIFC Development Committee and Annual Meeting of the IMF/World Bank and Other Seminars/Workshops.
7.	Canada and USA	To attend G-20 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors Meeting at Montreal. In USA, to deliver talk on "Globalization and development at Rochester Institute of Technology"
8.	Davos (Switzerland)	To attend World Economic Forum
9.	Germany	To address the Asia-Pacific Business Association at Hamburg.
10.	Russia	To Russian Federation for the 7th session of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commi-

1	2	3
		ssion for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Group.
11.	USA	To attend the Spring Meeting of the World Bank and Eco-Soc Brettenwods Institutions meetings.
12.	Singapore and Hongkong	To deliver the keynote address at CLSA Forum and to participate in Seminar on Investment opportunitis in India.
13.	Ottawa, Canada	To attend meetings of G-20 International Monetary and Finance Committee and Development Committee.
14.	Germany and New York	To attend the Indo-German bilateral Meeting and to New York to attend the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2002.
15.	Washington, USA	to attend the Spring Meeting, 2002 of the World Bank.

[English]

Vinayak Local Area Bank

5921.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI RAM MURTI SINGH VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether RBI had asked Vinayak Local Area Bank Limited Sikar (Rajasthan) to bring additional capital within 5 days in contravention of Mandatory Provisions of Companies Act, 1956;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether several other irregularities in the bank have been noticed by the RBI during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by the RBI to restore the smooth functioning of the bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the minimum paid up capital for a local area bank would be Rs. 5.00 crore. As per the provisions, the entire initial capital is required to be brought upfront by the promoters. RBI had granted licence to Vinayak Local Area Bank Ltd., at Sikar on the basis of documentary evidence submitted by the promoters in respect of holding the minimum prescribed initial capital.

(c) to (e) RBI have further reported that the Vinayak Local Area Bank Ltd. which started functioning in October, 2000 committed serious irregularities in its functioning which included diversion of a major part of the initial capital. The bank had also made certain other irregular and objectionable transactions which resulted in immobilization of Rs. 291.41 lakh of the total capital of the bank. This was brought to the notice of the bank in February, 2001 for rectification. Thus, the bank was given adequate opportunities to rectify the irregularities. The bank did not comply with the instructions of RBI in this regard and the irregularities continued to persist. The bank was issued notice in July, 2001, to show cause as to why the licence granted to the bank should not be cancelled in view of the various irregularities. The bank submitted its reply to the RBI which was not found satisfactory.

As the affairs of the bank were being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the depositors, the licence of the bank was cancelled by RBI in public interest on 15th January, 2002 under the provisions of Section 22 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

12.00 hrs.

(Interruptions)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Transaction]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, for the year 2002-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, for the year 2000-2001.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5590/2002]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Backward Class Finance and Development Corporation and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5591/2002]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Cables Limited and the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5592/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5593/2002]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the British India Corporation Limited Kanpur, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) Annual Report of the British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No.LT.5594/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMCHANDRAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-
- (i) S.O. 329 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for purposes of assessment of import.
- (ii) S.O. 330 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for purposes of assessment of export.

[Placed in Library See No.LT.5595/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :-
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the PEC Limited and the Department of

Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No.LT.5596/2002]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the India Trade promotion Organisation and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No.5597/2002]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the State Trading Corporation of India limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No. LT.5598/2002]

- (2) A copy of the Tobacco Board (General) Amendment Regulations, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 4/45/99-EP(Agri VI) in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2000 under sub-section(5) of section 33 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No.LT.5599/2002]

12.03 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 6th May, 2002 will consist of :-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business Carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-

- (i) The Multi-State Co-operative Societies Bill, 2000.
- (ii) The Delimitation Bill, 2002
- (iii) The Aircraft (Exemption from taxes and Duties on fuel and Lubricants) Bill, 2000
- (iv) The Vice-President's Pension (Amendment) Bill, 2002
- (v) The Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2002
- (vi) The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1999
- (vii) The Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 2002
- (viii) The Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament and Leaders of Opposition in Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2002.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :-

- (1) The work of proposed India-Oman refinery at Bina in Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration of India-Oman may be taken up immediately.
- (2) The work of Bina river project prepared for the benefit of farmers of Sagar and Vidisha districts of Madhya Pradesh may be taken up immediately by the Department of Water resources.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (Nawada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :-

- (1) Regarding formulation of time bound action plan for the all round development of 100 most backward districts identified by the "Sharma Committee" constituted by the Ministry of Finance.
- (2) Regarding implementation of "Jay Prakash Rojgar Yojna" announced in the present Budget by the Finance Minister in all the districts of Bihar and also inclusion of districts of Bihar, Orissa, Northern Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh, in

the "New Distressed District List" prepared by the Ministry of Finance.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following items may be included in the next week's agenda :-

- (1) Regarding granting V.R.S to employees of Indian Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. working in Gorakhpur Unit of the said Corporation as a result of closure of the unit and absorption of employees somewhere else who have completed more than 40 years of service and accord permission to instal new Plant by 'Kribhco' in place of the closed unit.
- (2) Every year a majority of population of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is facing devastating floods but no concrete steps have been taken to control such natural calamities. It is essential that the embankments made up of soil be repaired prior to on set of the rainy season and adequate funds for this purpose be allotted.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (RANCHI) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :-

- (1) H.E.C, Dhurva, Ranchi is an establishment of Government of India falling in my Constituency. The financial condition of this establishment is worsening day by day as it is not getting work orders from the other units of Government of India. They are giving their work orders to the private sector and now it is being planned to hand over this unit to the private sector, which is not fair. Therefore to save H.E.C it is necessary that Defence Ministry should ask Coal Ministry as well as Railway Ministry to give their work orders to this unit.
- (2) The condition of Ranchi-Gumla road, which is a National Highway and also connects Madhya Pradesh and Mumbai is very bad. It is, therefore, requested that the work order for repair of this road may be given immediately.

[English]

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY (Cannanore) : Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

[Shri A.P. Abdullakutty]

1. Land encroachment at 'Mathikettan Mala' in Kerala has been noticed. This land belongs to reserved forest department. The Central Government should take corrective measures.
2. Hundreds of tribes (Advasis) are put in prison in Kerala at Kannur and Kozhikode. They include children, women and old men. They have not been provided with minimum required facilities, such as food, water, medicine, etc. It should be taken very seriously.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SING RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

Need to release more water for irrigation from Bhakra and Vysa Board, Punjab in Indira Gandhi canal project of Rajasthan during this summer season in order to save the crops of the farmers and to solve the problems of drinking water in the North Western Rajasthan.

Need for checking of Bangladeshi's, who have settled illegally in Jaipur, Ajmer and other cities of Rajasthan and also removal of illegal encroachment on Government land made by them and their repatriation to Bangladesh immediately.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items of business may be included in the next week's agenda:

Need to provide financial assistance to Jaipur district by the Central Government to solve the acute problem of drinking water.

Need to recognise Rajasthan University as Central University and to provide financial assistance to it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Before we take up Zero Hour, there is one Bill to be introduced by Shri Arun Jaitley. I have given him the permission because he has to go to the other House.

12.09 hrs.

DELIMITATION BILL*

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the readjustment of the allocation of seats in the House of the People to the States, the total number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of each State, the division of each State and each Union territory having a Legislative Assembly into territorial constituencies for elections to the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies of the States and Union territories and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the readjustment of the allocation of seats in the House of the People to the States, the total number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of each State, the division of each State and each Union territory having a Legislative Assembly into territorial constituencies for elections to the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies of the States and Union territories and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

(interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (Darbhanga) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice. in Bihar RJD Party is ruling and in its rule, even today four dalits have been killed...(interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have received your notice also under Rule 184.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 3.5.2002

**Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Today, High court has served a notice of condemnation to the whole cabinet of Bihar Government...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : When you would like to consider it? ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : On receipt, I will consider it ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You hear me. I have received your notice

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Just a minute please. Shri Kirti Azad, the practice is that before any notice under Rule 184 or Rule 193 on a State matter is considered for admission, the factual position from the Ministry of Home Affairs is obtained. I have written for both these two. The moment I receive it, I will consider it.

(Translation)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : During the last 11 years 30 thousand dalits have been killed in Bihar. I am not saying it, it has appeared in newspapers that sexual exploitation is going on and thousands of people have been killed there. Atrocities are being committed on women there. In Bihar, so called secular party ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Malhotra, normally when we write to them, they will give a reply. That is a normal period and one has to wait till then ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADANLAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I may be given an opportunity to speak.....(Interruptions) The prices of CNG have increased in Delhi. Now passenger fares are being increased and people are suffering ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : According to a newspaper, 30 thousands dalits have been killed there during the last 11 years ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not disallowed you but you have to follow the procedure ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have to follow the prescribed procedure.

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : What happened in Gujarat during the last two months, is happening in Bihar since long.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do not equate it with Gujarat. In the case of Gujarat, the difference was whether it should be discussed under Rule 184 or Rule 193. On discussion there was no difference at all. But do not drag Gujarat. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : But atrocities are being committed on dalits and their women in Bihar. During the last 11 years 30 thousand dalits have been killed there. Please see this newspaper, how all this is happening in Bihar. The Government has to take some steps to control the situation in Bihar. Thousands of dalits have been killed there. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, Shri Kirti Azad. Do not waste the time of the House. Now, I am calling Shri Ramji Lal Suman. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : In Bihar, RJD Party is in power which calls itself as 'Rashtriya Janta Dal Party' whereas it is a 'Roz Jalao Dalit Party' ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I told you, I am not against it. But let me get the report. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Who are killing them? Something should be done to check them. Even today, four dalits belonging to Mushar caste have been killed there. They live on rats as they do not get food. This is the situation there. I gave a notice to you ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me get the report. Now, Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : The incidents of Gujarat, are being termed as communal killings. But whatever is happening in Bihar, will it be called secular killings? If people belonging to minorities are killed in Gujarat these are called as communal killings while if they are killed in Bihar these are called as secular killings? Anti-social elements are killing dalits there. Women are subjected to snatching, physical torture, rape and such other atrocities. You are our protector. My only submission to you is that an early discussion on this issue may be allowed.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have told you, Shri Azad, that I am not against it. This House is meant for discussion. It is not meant for any other thing. If there is any matter of such urgent public importance, This House is meant for that. But there are some procedures to be gone through.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West) : Sir, we appreciate your allowing the discussion on Gujarat, but we want to discuss other States also ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, I have not ruled it out. I have only sent it for obtaining the factual position.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Sir, I am very grateful to you for having accepted that it as a matter of urgent public importance and, I am sure, you will allow a discussion as soon as possible. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI (Khagaria) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, atrocities are being committed on dalits in Bihar and they are being killed there. This has become the order of the day there. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the prices of CNG are going to be hiked in Delhi. I have been raising this matter since last Monday. People are crying in Delhi. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call you, your name is in the list.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have been giving notice for the last five days. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You always get the first number.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, CNG is not the responsibility of the Delhi Government. It is the responsibility of the Government of India ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaket, Sir, the Government of Gujarat has issued advertisements for publication in the newspapers on May 1 on the occasion of 43rd Formation Day of the State. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : They have again started harping on the issue of Gujarat. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue. ... (Interruptions) Mahatma Gandhi has been wrongly quoted. ... (Interruptions) Will you not allow me to continue my speech ? ... (Interruptions) In that condition, do you think that you will be able to express your views? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka) : Why do not you talk about the Dalits of Bihar. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : I am aware of the degree of your sympathy for the Dalits. ... (Interruptions) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been published in The Times of India. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Sir, this is not Gujarat Assembly. This is Parliament. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) : Sir, the subject matter is misuse of the name of Mahatma Gandhi. They do not know the subject. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : By this way nobody will get a chance. He has given notice on some other matter. (Translation) He is quoting the advertisement.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you do not want, then I will scrap the 'zero hour'. How can I conduct the House in this way?

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, according to them even the word 'Gujarat' is unparliamentary. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Fares are on the increase in Delhi and people are crying. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It could have been taken up yesterday. Why was it not taken up yesterday?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Khurana, everyday, for the 'Zero hour' notice is given. You have given your notice. I have got it with me. He has also given notice. *[Translation]* Everyone will get his turn if order is maintained in the House. If Members from the ruling as well as the opposition Benches try to raise their respective issue at the same time, it will be very difficult to conduct the proceedings. *[English]* Can I stop it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The House could not conduct its business for a week. The issue of Gujarat is being raised daily. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : In the other House, the Home Minister has accepted to intervene in Gujarat Under Article 355 of the Constitution. They do not know that their Government has agreed to intervene under Article 355 in Gujarat. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : If you want to make Gujarat peaceful in the real sence of the term, I invite you to accompany me to that State. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice for 'Zero Hour'. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Members are being

allowed to speak according to the order in which their notices stand.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been giving notices to speak regarding Delhi since last Monday. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What can I do, if you do not give notice within stipulated time frame . You will not get time even today either as you have not given your notice in time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Khuranaji , how can I conduct the House if you too would act in such a manner? Every Hon'ble Member, whose notice is received in time, will get his turn to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (East Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice, but permission is not being granted to me to speak. There are many problems in Delhi. There are problems of shortage of water, acute scarcity of electricity, bus fares are increasing. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then, how will you get a chance? I am only telling that there are 26 Members who want to speak. All of them will get a chance. It is not that I have drawn the list. They have come in the morning and given the notices. Accordingly, the list has been drawn and I am calling them. It is not that this list is mine.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I too want to raise issue regarding problems being faced by my State. I have also given notice in this regard. I have been regularly giving notice for the last five days. But, I have not been given the opportunity to express my views in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I accept that innocent people have been killed, but, we should also be permitted to express our point of view. Four Dalits were killed in Bihar. Young girls are being raped there and situation is very bad but the Chair does not allow us to raise the issues related to Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Azad, do you want this 'Zero Hour' to continue?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been giving notices since last Monday to seek permission for speaking about Delhi. Bus fares are on the increase in Delhi. ...(Interruptions)

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, Gujarat is not the only problem, other States also have their own problems. There are many problems in the country about which we want to speak, but we are not given any chance. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 16 hour long discussion has taken place in this House on the issue of Gujarat. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Can we speak only if they allow? ...(Interruptions) Will this House run if they allow us to speak? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if he talks of restoration of peace in Gujarat, only then we are ready to listen otherwise not(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is deliberately making interruptions and preventing me from speaking ...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether Sonia Gandhiji sees only Gujarat and not the other parts of the country ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is too much. This is the limit. You cannot conduct 'Zero Hour' in this way. Now, 'Zero Hour' cannot be conducted. I cannot conduct 'Zero Hour' if so many Members use their lung power.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : This discussion is going on in Rajya Sabha, then what people are doing here?(Interruptions) This topic has already been discussed for 16 hours in this House. That day we set in the House till 5 A.m. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Khuranaji is a very peace loving person but today he is speaking quite loudly. Let him become a Minister, there will be peace in the House ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, excesses have been committed against women there...(Interruptions). They have been raped. The young boys have taken away minor girls...(Interruptions) Thus, there is chos in Bihar. Shall we not discuss it? ...(Interruptions) Gujarat has already been discussed but we have the case of Madan Lal Khuranaji, the case of Bengal, the case of Bihar. All these cases should be discussed ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, You have permitted me to speak ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have asked you to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how can you differentiate between States?....(Interruptions) Minority is minority; Dalit is dalit. Minor is minor....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is this going on in the House ? This is a very serious matter...(Interruptions) The name of Mahatma Gandhi is to be interpreted ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, earlier you or the Chair used to say the House that we had discussed this issue...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if they continued like that then we will not be able to express our views here..(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All of you know that the list for Zero Hour is drawn as per notices received before 10 a.m. That list is duly numbered.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a question of issue ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is challenging the Chair ...(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S.BRAR (Faridkot) : This is not for you to decide ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He cannot decide. The Chair will decide ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.S. BRAR : He is nobody to decide. It is the Chair which has to decide ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is challenging the direction of the Chair ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYABRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it means that no member can raise any issue in the House of his own. He can do so after asking Khuranaji....*(interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I remember whenever we used to raise an issue in this House, it was pointed out to us that now you cannot speak on the issue because the same has already been discussed during this week or this session...*(interruptions)* There are many other important issues for this session. Discussion on this issue of Gujarat has just concluded the day before yesterday...*(interruptions)* That discussion lasted for 16 hours...*(interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Please listen to me first *(interruptions)* You need not worry...*(interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He has full right to raise the issue.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have judged the matter in advance which he is going to raise.

(interruptions)

SHRI SATYABRAT CHATURVEDI : You please first see as to what issue of Gujarat he is raising...*(interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have you judged it in advance?

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTA (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is your decision. It is true that only that person will speak whom you ask to. We are submitting only this notices have been given during the last seven days for discussion in Zero Hour on Bengal and Bihar. There has been a continuous demand for your permission to speak on them. You please decide that there will be no discussion on any issue in this House except this issue

of Gujrat. If it is the decision then it is alright...*(Interruptions)* If you have permitted him speak let him speak we have no objection to that...*(Interruptions)* Whomsoever you ask to speak, will speak but we also have to raise the issues of Bengal, Bihar, Delhi etc. here ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have listened about them.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Malhotra, you just understand. I have already told them that I have received their notices. For verification of facts, I have to follow a procedure. It has been sent. Do not refer to that. Yesterday, what had happened here ? You know it and I took it up in the Business Advisory Committee meeting also. It is not my fault. Whose fault is it? The whole House knew it. Likewise, how many days have passed ? Is it a mistake of the Chair?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, matter to be raised under Rule 184 is different.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Whatever may be the subject listed here, I am calling Members according to the list. There is one matter pertaining to the State and I have been advised that, that is not to be taken up. Otherwise, the Secretariat is screening it and then, they list it. I have no reason to doubt their integrity.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Sir, you have the discretion to change the serial order in the list.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is 'Zero Hour'. During the 'Zero Hour' you can raise matters of urgent public importance. If the Government wants to respond, they will respond. Otherwise, the Minister will take note of it, and the Member concerned will be informed about it. That is how it is done.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a suggestion for you that whatever is happening in the House is not going to add to anyone's honour. You should adjourn this House and ask by calling the leaders of the ruling side whether the job of controlling the House belongs to the Deputy-Speaker or a few members. The other people whose name is there, should not come forward once it is decided ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Why you are not asking those who did not let the House run for seven days...*(Interruptions)* Nobody has asked them ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Neither I disure to make a speech, nor I have any business. Do not show these tentrums to me ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Why are you asking this side only and not them ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am asking that side also, I am addressing to both and suggesting that if you do not follow the Chairman, the House should be adjourned and by calling the leaders of all the parties, from both the opposition side and the ruling side, the names of the members through whom this House will run should be decided.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12.31 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.07 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Seven Minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV in the Chair]

[English]

TEA DISTRICTS EMIGRANT LABOUR (REPEAL) REPEALING BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up Item No.9, Tea Districts Emigrant Labour(Repeal) Repealing Bill. The time allotted for this item is half-an-hour.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : On behalf of Shri Sharad Yadav, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to repeal the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Commission on Review of Administrative Laws, under the Chairmanship of Shri P.C. Jain has recommended repeal of the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970.

The Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970 repealed the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act, 1932. However, the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970 retained the right of repatriation provided under Section 12 of the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act, 1932 subject to the following conditions, namely:

- (i) if on commencement of the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970, a three-year period of stay of an emigrant labourer, who entered Assam after the 3rd August, 1960 had expired, he was given a period of six months from the commencement of the Act to exercise the right of repatriation, or
- (ii) if three-year period of stay of an emigrant labourer who entered Assam before the commencement of Act of 1970 expired after the commencement of the said Act, then he could exercise the right of repatriation within six month of the expiry of such period of three years.

As the period mentioned in the above-paragraph has expired, the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970 is not longer required.

The Bill, accordingly, seeks to repeal the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970. This Bill had been passed by the Rajya Sabha on 3. 12.2001. I request this august House to consider and pass this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill repeal the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Thank you, Mr.Chairman.

I think, this Bill – Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Repealing Bill – will repeal the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970 which repealed the tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act, 1932, enacted by the then British Gvernment.

I have no objection in this Bill and I support the repeal of this Bill. Before supporting the repeal of this Bill, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Minister. This is the colonial legacy of the British time. In the early 19th century, the British Empire at that time recruited people from the

then central province of India to work in various plantations, like sugarcane or tea plantation. Some of them were employed to work in tea plantations of Assam also. During those days there were no labour laws and the workers had to work from morning till night, according to the desire of their masters. At that time, there was some protest against the atrocities and exploitation of the labour by the British Government. Hence, this Act was passed in 1932 by which they acquired the power to repatriate the workers if they are not working according to their desire. In seventies that Act was repealed and a time was fixed. For the last 200 years these people are working in the plantations of Assam. After Independence, in 1951, the Plantation Labour Act was enacted to give them social status and other facilities like housing, medical and schooling.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Labour Minister to the fact that this Act is very old. It was enacted in 1951. It is more than 50 years old. There was a demand from all over the country, West Bengal, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Assam to update the Plantation Labour Act because it is 50 years old Act. Some of the provisions of this Act are the welfare provisions for the workers who are working in the plantations. Some five to six year's back the Government of India constituted a tripartite committee but that committee is just discussing the matter and nothing tangible has come out of it.

This Act is supposed to be repealed earlier those people who migrated 150-200 years back became part and parcel of the society of Assam or elsewhere. In the Plantation Labour Act the responsibility of educating the children of the workers is with the management. They are not much interested to establish school or provide teachers and for that reason, I think, in Assam almost 70 percent of the tea workers' population — their population is more than four to five million — is illiterate. Many other things are happening in Assam. There was a lot of agitation in Assam because of this old Act. Various welfare facilities provided, like housing, drinking water and such other facilities, are very old. One can imagine, this Act was passed in the early days of Independence. My request to the hon. Minister would be to see that and as soon as possible a meeting of the representatives of the tea workers and the management is called to see how best the Plantation Labour Act can be amended, keeping in view the change in the social and

educational conditions of the people who are working in the tea plantation. I think everybody will recommend repealing of this Act because nowadays no management can forcibly repatriate his or her workers from one part of the country to the other. I think definitely it will get the support of all.

The tea industry is now passing through a very difficult period. The Finance Minister had also indicated, while replying to Finance Bill, the conditions prevailing in the tea industry. In this background, I earnestly request the hon. Minister to see how best he can help the workers. They were the captive labour. In those days they were not allowed to move out from the plantations.

There is a psychological barrier and other difficulties with this working class. You cannot compare the plantation workers with engineering or mine workers because these workmen have been captive workers for centuries.

The law has to be enacted by the Central Government. So, my request to the Central Government is to see that this is expedited. Shri Munnib Lal and Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya already know about it. I hope definitely the Government would be looking into it. I support the repealing of this Act.

SHRI MUNI LALL : I am very much thankful to the hon. Member. He has expressed his concern for the poor labourers. We are already examining whatever he has suggested. For other things, we have already passed the Inter-State Migrant Workers Development, Employment and Conditions of Services Act, 1970. Most of the concerns that he has expressed are covered in this Act. I am thankful to him once again for talking pains to suggest some positive measures. The Government is obliged for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to repeal the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

[English]

clause 2 was added to the Bill.

14.20 hrs

Clause 1— Short Title

INDIAN SUCCESSION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 4,—

for "2001" substitute "2002". (2)

(Shri Muni Lall)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fifty—Second" substitute " Fifty—Third". (1)

(Shri Muni Lall)

MR. CHAIRMAN : THE question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended,
stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was
added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

[English]

SHRI MUNI LALL : I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I beg to
move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Succession
Act, 1925 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into
consideration."

Sir, this Bill deals with composite laws relating to
succession which was enacted in the year 1925. The
attention of the Government was drawn by members of
the Christian community, particularly the Christian Mem-
bers of Parliament, with regard to two anomalies that
existed in the law. Thereafter, the Government also
consulted various other organisations belonging to that
religious denomination. Two minor amendments have been
suggested. First is the deletion of explanation to section
32 of the Act. The explanation itself says that there may
be a situation where a widow of a Christian on account
of contract made at the time of marriage, may be excluded
from succession. Now, to exclude a widow from succession
in the present day appears to be a bit anachronistic. It was
generally felt, and the community also represented that this
provision should be deleted.

The second is an amendment to the provisions
of section 213 of the Act, which prescribed for the
successor obtaining a proper order from a competent court
in terms of probate or letter of administration before a will
could really be given effect to. There is an exception to
the effect that this provision does not apply to the Muslim
community. The Christian community has also sought parity
because they felt that whenever a Christian dies with a
will, the successor faces a lot of difficulties in terms of
succession. Therefore, all Christian Members of Parliament
of this House and the other House and also the members
of the community have been representing for inclusion
of Christians along with Muslims in this exception. The
Government considered this and has approved it. The
Rajya Sabha has already approved both these amend-
ments unanimously. Since these are in the interest
of the community itself and are progressive in nature, I
propose that this august House may consider and approve
these amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act, 1925 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga) : Respected Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill. I feel it is a very progressive step on the part of the Government to bring this Bill. This Bill actually includes Christians, especially the widows who were totally debarred from succeeding to the property of the husband. It is against the normal civilised way of thinking. Before marriage, how can they forego their right? How can they assure that, after marriage, on the event of death of husband they will not claim any right to property of the husband? It might have been passed on English Law or based on their way of living. But after Independence we should have looked into the Indian Succession Act 1925 afresh, especially the definition clause of that Act. Even now it has not been amended. It shows how pathetic the situation is Section 2(d) of the Act says:

"Indian Christian' means a native of India who is, or in good faith claims to be, of unmixed Asiatic descent and who professes any form of Christian religion."

We have already passed through this phase. We have got our own Christians. There is no difference between Indian Christians and any other Christians. Christians who are living in India are following their own customs and traditions. Therefore, this particular definition should be looked into for amendment. It should be:

"Indian Christian' mean people who are professing Christianity in India as Indian citizens."

This amendment concerning the life of the Christian widows is a very welcome step.

This is one of the very interesting subjects of empowering the women. Therefore, the Government should have this sort of a thinking. The enactments, which are needed for empowering the women, especially in different denominations, should be looked into. Even the Law Commission, in its 110th Report has not recommended for the amendment of this section because there was no representation from the Christians. But the Government has taken a step on the basis of the representations made by the Christian Members of

Parliament and others. So, we welcome this aspect. It will have a far-reaching consequence for the poor people and also the middle class people living in various places.

In the same way, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one important aspect. Of course, our Law Minister is very dynamic. He speaks in every forum that a lot of cases are pending in the courts. One of the reasons for the pendency of the cases at the lower courts as also in the second stage of appeal at the High Court level is that a lot of confusions are there about the Indian Succession Act. So, a lot of clarity is needed. Therefore, it is high time to have a total review of the Indian Succession Act. It should be simplified in the same way of the Hindu Succession Act and other Succession Acts. The Indian Succession Act should enable the people to have the post-Independence way of living. That should be looked into.

We are now going back to the year 1925 when there were so many differences in so many areas of living of different categories of people. Therefore, I would request the hon. Law Minister to take some initiative in this regard. A lot of Law Commission Reports are also there. There should be a comprehensive law that should give a very clear and direct succession in the event of interstate succession or testamentary succession. There should be a very clear and simplified law for all the sections of the people. That should also protect the interests of different communities of society.

In the same way, I would like to appreciate the hon. Minister for bringing forward amendment to section 213 also. This is also a recommendation which was made by the Law Commission in its 111th Report. But there is a small caveat given in that. In the Report, it is said in page 187, paragraph 34,18A:

"we recommend that (a) section 213 should be amended as above ; and (b) consequential changes be made, wherever necessary in other sections of the Act."

The second part should also be looked into if there are any rules and other sections which are detrimental as a consequence of this enactment. If necessary, some amendments should also be brought in so that the enactment of this amendment is useful for the particular people, the Christian people.

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natciappan]

Regarding probate and also the subsequent suits, we have to take into consideration whether this enactment is going to help only before filing the suit or after filing the suit also. That should be also be taken into consideration. In toto, we feel that the amendment is appreciable. It is useful for one sect of the people. My feeling is that the entire nation should benefit by bringing forward a comprehensive Bill so that the Indian laws are simplified to a great extent. Then, it will be easy to live here with no litigation and automatic succession will be there for any people.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, the amendment to Indian Succession Act, 1925 brought by hon'ble Arun Jaitleyji looks small but the hon'ble law Minister has brought this Bill to eradicate the discriminatory treatment meted out to Christian women in section 213 and the application of section 32. It is a fine amendment of its own kind in history. It was the British Government which was ruling over India in 1925. The hon'ble Minister has brought forward this Bill to put an end to the discriminatory law made by the British Government. I would like to thank him on behalf of my party and my own behalf also.

Apart from that, the British had meted out discriminatory treatment toward Hindu and Muslim women. The Christian women on becoming widow had to waiting for 5 years after marriage before going to court to get caveat. This process involved spending lot of money. I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for bringing forward this Amendment Bill to give the Christian women their right by removing the unjust behavior of the British towards them. The Keral Women Commission has talked of many thing in this regard. Many other institutions have also said that these women must their right under the Indian Succession Act.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, This is not applicable to Muslim, Jain and Buddhist women under section 213 of the Constitution. All rules are implemented in only metropolitan cities – Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata only. Once again, I would like to welcome hon'ble Minister for bringing this Bill to

remove the injustice done against the Christian women. I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARI (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Sir, I must welcome this Bill most unequivocally. The title of the Bill is the Indian Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2001 but the same is dealing with personal laws.

Sir, the Bill is itself reflecting the state of the Indian womenfolk who are in dire straits and were subjected to social discrimination, anti-female bias and social marginalisation. By deleting the explanation to Section 32, the Christian widow will accrue the **benefit** of succession, and the long arduous journey the **Christian widow** pursues before getting the benefit of the will has now been ended by this amendment. However, under article 300(A), no person shall be deprived of his properties, save by the authority of law. But, due to our colonial hangover, we are still bearing the discrimination insofar as the Christian widow is concerned. Now, she would no longer be required to obtain the mandatory probate before having a property of her deceased husband. By amending Section 213, the Christian widow has been put at par with Muslim.

However, as far as Hindu, Parsis and Jains are concerned, they still require the probate in some areas, especially in Kolkata Chennai and Mumbai. So, I think, still there is some sort of discrimination and this has to be removed as early as possible.

Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Law Minister that in his Bill the distributive share has been ensured. But how do you define the share of the Christian widow? What would be the share of the Children of the Christian widow ? These questions have to be dealt with. In the Christian society, when a son dies, his father becomes entitled to his property. Therefore, I would request the hon. Law Minister to bring in a comprehensive Bill so that the entire distortion could be sorted out.

Sir, in India, 2.5 per cent of men are widowed compared to 8.1 percent of women and always a widower has a greater freedom to marry than his female counterpart. I do not want to linger over this issue, because this Bill has already been passed by the Rajya Sabha. I also find no opposition in so far as this Bill is concerned. However, I would like the hon. Law Minister to enlighten

me on the two issues which I have raised. Again, I must say that the existing provision of the Act of 1925 is totally anachronistic in character and unconscionable. Therefore, it is really a welcome measure that the hon. Law Minister has taken and, therefore, he deserves to be praised lavishly.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANUN JAITLEY) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, several valuable comments and suggestions have been made by the three hon. Members who have spoken on this particular Bill. As I mentioned earlier, the object behind this Bill was two fold. The explanation to Section 32 itself was highly discriminatory. In fact, I was trying to study how a provision of this kind could have been introduced in the first instance itself. The provision says that when a lady becomes a widow and is rendered to a state of destitution, she is further confronted with a situation where she also loses her right of inheritance because of a contract that she made at the time of her marriage.

Now, a contract of this kind normally should have been unconscionable. But since this provision has continued, one possible explanation through my reading is this. I found out the reason why it could have been introduced as was being indicated by one of the hon. Members, Shri Bhargava, that people used to govern this country and rule this country. At the time when this law was made, many officials used to come to India. In case they got married to some body in India, they wanted to deprive the inheritances of the properties that they owned in England. Therefore, such a contract was envisaged where they could get married but simultaneously have a contract disinheriting the wife in the event she become a widow. Since this clause is no longer in consonance with modern thinking, we consider it appropriate to delete it.

Secondly, we also acceded to the demand of the Christian community that because of this entire harassment, which the legal heirs of a deceased must have in the matter of obtaining letter of administration or probate, they should be exempted from them.

Several suggestions have been made that even though these two suggestions are welcome, there is a lot in our personal laws that really requires to be changed.

The hon. Member, Shri Chowdhary, wanted to know with regard to the rules of succession which are followed in the Christian community. If he sees the main Indian Succession Act, Sections 33 and 33-A, define very clearly each category of cases - how the inheritance of an Indian Christian will flow in the event of his death itself.

I quite concede that there are several laws that are still discriminatory. Over the last two years, we have made a concerted effort to change and improve a lot of laws and bring them in tune with modern thinking. Our belief has been that all personal laws must really be in consonance with human dignity, with equality, with some sense of dignity that a person or a spouse is to live into. But one sensitive area that we deal with, when we deal with personal laws, is that normally we do not tinker with them till such time there is a larger participation of the community and an agreement of the community itself that improvements are required. For instance, last year, this hon. House and the other House cleared the amendments to the Indian Divorce Act.

In the last 50 years, those amendments had been turned down by the community on a number of occasions. But last year, when it had again come up, there was a very active participation of the community itself when they had actively supported those amendments.

Similarly, amendments to other maintenance laws, etc., which are also a part of the personal law package, have been made in the last two years by this hon. House. Therefore, even a more logical step or more idealistic step really would be what the hon. Members have said that you take a comprehensive re-look at some of these old laws. An easier course has been that you look at these laws and wherever you find aberrations in terms of violating rights of equality, violating principles of dignity, you, at least, change those aspects. Our experience has been that the active leaders of those communities have been more agreeable to such kind of changes that we have made. The consultation process for update and upgrading of these personal laws is a continuous process. I am sure some of the very valuable suggestions which the three hon. Members have made will be borne by us in mind when future amendment to these laws are envisaged.

I thank the hon. Members for their active support to this particular Bill. I propose to this hon. House that this Bill be adopted by the hon. House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act, 1925, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1-Short Title

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 3, —

for "2001"

substitute "2002" (2)

(Shri Arun Jaitley)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 1, —

for "Fifty-second"

substitute "Fifty-third" (1)

(Shri Arun Jaitley)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the Minister may move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

14.46 hrs.

ALL-INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. C.P. THAKUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this is a small Bill. When the All-India Institute Act was enacted, there was some omission. The omission was that in the objective of the Act, it was envisaged that it would impart medical education, dental education and nursing education. But at the time of granting of a degree, dental education and nursing education were overlooked. So, this is just a correction of that omission. Therefore, I would request that this Bill should be taken up for consideration and passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the All-India Institute of Medical Science Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration"

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga) : Respected Chairman, Sir, we support this Bill. We would like to suggest that the All-India Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2001 is a necessity and on the basis of that, some parity is given, whether it is a diploma or certificate or degree which is issued to the students under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, the Dentist Act, 1948, and the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.

The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences is a pioneer institute and it has world famous physicians. It is serving all the needs of Delhi and other neighbouring States. In the same way, Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Education and Research at Pondicherry is also very useful for the southern part of India. Taking advantage of this debate, we would like to suggest that this type of Institute

should also further serve the rural people. Some satellite institutes can be created in the nearby districts and also in the nearby States because the medical expenses are very high for ordinary people at this time of globalisation.

The pharmaceutical industry is also taking advantage of the research and the expenditure incurred for them and also the latest laws on the Intellectual Property Act. They want to increase the expenses of the medicine. The Surgeons who are going for surgery are charging minimum of Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 1,00,000 or Rs. 2,00,000. And only through the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, through the Health Minister's Relief Fund and through the State Chief Minister's Relief Fund, some people could compensate their expenses to the level of 30 per cent.

They are making 70 per cent of the patients debtor only. If the patient is dead, that is also very burdensome for them. Therefore, health insurance is to come. Health insurance should cover all the citizens. Every citizen should be covered by health insurance. Whatever expenses incurred by an individual should be compensated by the General Insurance. If that level of thinking has to come, it will take a lot of time and the Government also has to invest some money as part of premium to the individuals. It is high time because as we all of us know, we are having grass-root level touch as representatives in the Lok Sabha, we are with the people. Everyday they are suffering. They need proper medical treatment.

Now-a-days, medical treatment goes to the level of every part of the body. Kidney specialists are having separate hospitals. They charge even for entrance Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000. Transplantation, donation and everything will cost about Rs. 2 lakh. This is same for heart. It is also for every part of human body. Separate specialization is going on. But what about the ordinary people? How do they meet the expenses?

The Union Government is spending a lot of money on health. It is giving money to the States through the State Government Medical Departments. But everything goes to the administration, and not to the people. I can very easily say that there is no headquarters hospital which is fully equipped to cater to the needs of the local people. There are plenty of people. I can even say that in my own constituency, there are about 1000 people just lying on the ground, but there is a provision for 50 to 100 beds only. How are the people living? They cannot afford to go to the private hospitals.

Our All-India Institute of Medical Sciences is helping a lot in Delhi but it is not in my area or in any remote corner of India. How are we going to compensate this gap? I would like to ask that question. That is where the pseudo medical people are coming up; that is where the people who claim themselves as having a certificate from somewhere with M.Sc and M.S. are putting a long board with light and every decoration. Nobody is going to enter there and prosecute them. Nobody is going to check whether they have got a legally valid certificate from any university or anywhere. Now, this amendment is being brought forward because these people who are studying in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences are not going to serve in the rural areas. After mastering the degree, they are going to pursue their education by going to foreign countries. There is brain drain. All the people are well occupied in the U.K. and in the European countries. Australia is welcoming all the Indian medical people. America is welcoming them. We are spending crores of rupees from our exchequer for making these people experts. But what do these people do? Are they going to help us? No, they are not going to help us. They are going to settle in America or in Western countries and they will have their happy life for themselves. But what about the expenses, investments we have made for them to get the expertise?

The same way I would like to draw the attention of the Government that it is high time to find out the ordinary people. The so-called bare foot doctors are now necessary. In the villages, we need some people who have got their own originality. They develop knowledge in certain fields of medicine and in certain fields of surgery. They should be tested. They should have a crash programme. In that programme, they should be tested whether they are eligible for getting a certificate of diploma or degree. These sorts of things are made in foreign countries. In the Western countries, anybody at any age having any knowledge can go. He may be a holder of master degree in history and he may be having an ambition to go in for medicine. He can immediately go and study for certain periods to show his efficiency. If they are excellent, then they are checked by a particular association. They are finding out whether he is eligible for handling this particular job. Then they are given the medical degree.

Are we having that type of flexibility in our Indian system? If this type of flexibility is given by the enactment, automatically, the ordinary people who are called 'barefoot doctors' can easily get certificates and diplomas and help the poor people and it would be a very easy job for us.

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

In India we have a traditional system of the father passing on his knowledge to his son and the son passing it on to his son, in turn. This type of knowledge should also be accepted. Many people who are working as assistant to doctors become experts in medicine or in surgery. Some of the nurses develop expertise in surgery. But these people cannot acquire a bachelor's degree or a master's degree because our system is very rigid. They are allowed to develop only in their chosen channel. There should be some flexibility so that at any point of time they can switch over to any side if they feel that they were eligible and had the anxiety to show their intelligence and also really had such intelligence. Therefore, I would suggest that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences should have a support wing to see that grass-root level people with expertise are also given certificates so that they could carry on their practice in a particular field. With these observations, I request the hon. Minister of Health to have a comprehensive view regarding this.

Apart from this, more powers should be given to the associations and there should be less Governmental interference. We are spending a lot of money on the Indian Medical Council, the Dentists Council and the Indian Nursing Council. These Councils are getting a lot of money from the Union Budget. They should have their own autonomous way of maintaining their associations. They should function as professional institutions. They should collect money for themselves. They should be self-financing. They should not expect funds from the Government of India or from the State Governments.

With these words, I conclude my remarks and I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has come forward with a small Bill and he is going to amend that Bill. It is my request that the persons who are going to be given Dental and Nursing training in that institute.

[English]

"The object of the institute shall be to develop veterans to teach undergraduates and postgraduates."

[Translation]

After all what will be their qualifications whether it would be Non metric, Metric or what? If you specify this

is would be better otherwise the Health Minister had to bring forward one more Bill which would be difficult. That is why it is my request to kindly incorporate the clause regarding qualifications in the Bill.

In 1956, when this institute was set up, it had a very noble objective. It is an institute of national status and popularity and all are impressed with its reputation. But it is my humble request to you that there is a National Ayurvedic Institute in Jaipur city, which in my opinion is the only one of its type in India. I am proud of having such a institute in my city. But it is in very miserable condition. I would like that you should present a very substantial and powerful budget.

There are three types of medicines – Alopathy, Homeopathy, which you can get for a very meagre price and people have faith in these medicines. Doctor observes symptoms and reads book. After that he enquires about your diet, what have you taken the day before yesterday, yesterday and after knowing about all that he starts treatment.

15.00 hrs.

Similarly there is Unani System of medicine. Under this system, I have come to know, you are asked to take almond, Rasgulla. When I was imprisoned under 'MISA' people used to prefer Unani medicines and they would request for prescribing Unani medicines. When I enquired about their preferring Unani medicines, they told that they will be getting Almond, Rasgulla to eat. . . .(Interruptions) Yes, even I took Unani medicines.

If at all there is any effective system of medicines – it is Aurvedic system of medicines which is the most effective system. If a poor person is given injection he will be all right with in half an hour or hour. If you take Homeopathy medicines you may not be knowing – how long it may take to make you fit. But after taking Ayurvedic medicines or 'Kadha' the patient will recover soon and he will recover permanently. All other systems are temporary even injection gives temporary relief. . . .(Interruptions)

I am a youngster, and I am still of 19 years. I still believe I am 19 years old. Railway Minister says I have become old. I don't know why he insults me everyday. I am very active, I can run, I do exercise. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhargava don't talk amongst each other.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I am not talking. I am not looking towards him.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Man is young by his temperament not by his age.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : They are staring at me. They are scaring me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may be of 19 years of age by your temperament, it is irrelevant here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SH. DIGVIJAY SINGH) : He wants to take the capital from Delhi to Jaipur.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Jaipur is already a capital. I do not want to take the capital from Delhi to Jaipur. It is sufficient that the Jaipur is the capital of Rajasthan. Presently Rajasthan is the biggest State in India. Jaipur is the capital of a very big State. It is my humble request to you that kindly concentrate more over Ayurved. We used to say that if you would become Ayurved Minister and allocate budget separately it would have been better and you would have been allotted substantial budget too. You may be aware of that, as you are yourself a Member of Lok Sabha, You are not a Member of Rajya Sabha. When you visit villages you would have seen 'Vaidya' sitting there, having no medicines and the lady attendant sitting in front of him. She sat all through the day and when it was 5.00 P.M. she went back to her house and there after 'Vaidya Maharaj' also left for his house. I should not have told such an instance as I am acquainted with the situation properly. I am residing in 'Poorani Basti' that is why I do not have much knowledge about it. But throughout the day the Lady attendant and Vaidya used to sit there. Whenever we use to go there the Lady attendant asks us to take her to Jaipur in a jeep. When I enquired about her salary she told that she was getting Rs. 9000-10000. When I asked what work she had done through out the day, she told she was sitting whole day in front of Vaidya ji Maharaj. Similarly many lady attendants go village to village to distribute A.P.C. tablets. Sometimes they even do not have A.P.C. tablets. Such women are paid a salary of Rs. 9000-10000. If it is an misuse of fund, the Government should definitely look into it. I was told that you have abolished these posts of Lady Attendants in the villages. I came to know this fact only yesterday through newspapers. Kindly look in to this matter also.

It is my humble request to make arrangements to provide medicines in the dispensaries of the villages. There

is National Ayurved Institute in Jaipur. It is the first Ayurvedic Institute in India. . . . (Interruptions) Here patients do not get even beds, they do not get even space below ceiling fans, they have a pay money for it. Patients do not get admission there, they are made to wait for number of days. In my opinion no Governing Body have been formed there so far. Even if there is any Governing Body, timely meetings are not held for want of quorum. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Bhargava Saheb, you will get chance to speak on other Bills also.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I am telling you an important thing. I am raising a point of welfare in the House. I am speaking on welfare issue. If you do not want to listen, it is all right, it is up to you. I want to say that we do not get all types of medicines in Ayurvedic Institutes. The land, which was to be allotted by the State Government for the growing medicines, has not been allotted till now. Besides, there are no adequate equipments and furniture there. If Vaidya will have no alternative but to prescribe injections, it is not fair. That is why they should be provided sufficient quantity of medicines. There are in thousands number of private practicers running their practice. They are also willing to get recognition. Will you give recognition to them or not? Kindly make clarification in your reply. There is no operation theatre in National Ayurvedic Institute. Therefore, such facility should also be provided there. Moreover, efforts must be made to bring this Institute at par with the Allopathic hospitals. Whenever you visit Jaipur you will find me welcoming you there. It is my humble request to you to kindly look into all these aspects. I welcome the Bill on Dental treatment as introduced by you. For looking after the patients the arrangement should be made for the training of nurses.

In the end I again wholeheartedly welcome the introduction of the Bill and thus conclude my speech.

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill to amend the All India Institute of Medical Science Act, 1956 moved by the hon'ble Minister. When any amendment is made to any law, that is definitely done for the good. He must be thinking that good medical facilities should be given to the people of the country, that is why he has brought this Bill. You deserve congratulation for your efforts for the convenience of patients.

The aim of setting up of All India Institute of Medical Sciences in 1956 was to provide good education so that

[Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh]

it could produce good doctors and people can get good medical facilities and advanced technology at one place. It can not be denied that it is being done here. It has been observed that since its inception this institute has produced good doctors. There is no doubt in it. At present 315 research projects are going on in this institute which is good. But it is unfortunate that it has only 1626 beds. You must be aware of this shortage. So far as the number of patients is concerned, 192090 patients visited O.P.D. last year out of which 95627 patients were admitted and 110000 patients were operated upon. It has also been observed that patients come here in a large number from my constituency also. They told that they were attended there but due to non-availability of beds they had to face lot of difficulties. It is also due to shortage of beds that it takes atleast three to four months to conduct tests required before performing the operation. In northern India this is such an institute where every serious patient is brought even from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. I would like to submit that beds and other facilities should be provided to such patients who come from such a long distance. Their attendants should also be provided temporary accommodation.

Basically, AIIMS requires all these things. There are three institute i.e., All India Institute of Medical Sciences, and Surgery, Safdarjung and Willingdon. The Government had opened a control room which worked properly at initial stage. The object of it was that if a patient is brought to the safdarjung hospital and the specialist of the disease from which he is suffering, is available at Willingdon, the required treatment can be given to him by contacting the specialist. But after one year it was closed due to which the patients have to run here and there and they have to spend thousands of rupees. My submission is that arrangement should be made to ensure the proper functioning of that control room. I would like to make a submission about my State also. There is Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute in Lucknow where all such facilities are available but I am sorry to say that there are many imported machines which have not been used so far because the institutes does not have technical staff. As per my knowledge, during the last few years a sizeable amount of money has been given by the World Bank for its development but it could not be utilized. You must be aware of that. My submission is that this is the only institute of Uttar Pradesh where patients even from far flung areas of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh come. It has better

building and doctors than AIIMS but it does not have technical experts to operate the machines. They should be provided and the funds be properly and fully utilized so that the patients can be benefitted. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2001 brought by the hon'ble Minister to amend the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956. All such courses should be given recognition through Indian Medical Association. It has often been seen that sometimes compounders give proper medicines and some of them run their own dispensaries. Therefore, this institute should be recognised. Recognition of medical dental and nursing qualifications granted by the Institute is right. All courses like MBBS or BAMS or dental be given recognition by the Association. "AIIMS" is a very good institute and a good treatment is given to the patients there but some concessions should be given to the poor patients in operations and medicines etc. This Medical Institute is famous throughout the country. It is, therefore, necessary to make special provision for the poor people. My suggestion is that if a patient can be treated by giving only one injection, he should not be given 8-10 injections. Not only this they ask the patient to get admitted. The hon'ble Minister is himself a doctor and he knows as to how many injections and tablets are required to be given to the patient. It is, therefore, necessary to make a provision to take action against such doctors.

With these words, I support this Bill.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill moved by Hon. Minister has a very limited purpose because it provides for recognition of the degrees Dentist and Nursing home; the old Act was enacted in 1947.

The various patients referred by doctors in Bihar visit AIIMS for treatment of heart and kidney etc. The poor people are bound to die if they are not treated well. All India Institute of Medical Sciences has a good reputation about treatment. But at this institute various machines for tests such as Ultrasound or MRI, are lying out of order. The poor have to get their tests done from outside at exorbitant rates. Thus they are exploited. Therefore, I would like to say that all testing machines should be maintained and kept in order so that the patients may get their tests done at affordable rates. Moreover, there is also a great

deal of problems in admission of patients. The admission is denied by saying simply that there is no bed while the patient is dying for want of treatment. I request you to make arrangements so that such situation may not arise. The new medical colleges being opened should be established on the pattern of AIIMS. I have been repeatedly requesting that a medical college on the pattern of AIIMS should be opened in Patna also. The patient has to bear heavy expenses including the expenses of his attendant if he comes here for his treatment. So, the Hon. Minister should get a medical college opened on the pattern of AIIMS in Patna also. AIIMS was opened in 1956. . . .(Interruptions) So, I request that there should not be any laxity on the part of the State Government as well as the Central Government and the people/patients should not be exploited and fleeced. . . .(Interruptions) This is a very unfortunate condition for the patients so, I emphasize that Patna needs a special medical college. You yourself are educated from Patna Medical College. You should improve the condition of this college. Similarly condition of Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur hospitals should also be improved so that the patients may get better treatment in these hospitals instead of coming here. The Government should make arrangements in this regard.

I conclude my speech with these words.

[English]

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIFF (Bangalore North) : Sir, I would not like to make a long speech. The Bill has a very limited purpose. The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences is a referral centre. There are three such Institutes in the country, that is, at Chandigarh, Delhi and Pondicherry.

If I remember the earlier debates in this House, there was a suggestion to set up regional medical centres on the lines of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences in different places of the country so that the same facilities are available to the citizens all over the country, and they do not have to rush to Delhi or to other hospitals in the private sector. Even in the private sector, there are not many institutions that are specialised in particular fields. Specialists in all the disciplines are not found there. I think, it is time for the Government to set up these regional medical centres.

I would like to draw the attention of the Union Health Minister to one more thing. I am observing that the State

Governments are giving up their primary responsibilities of health care and education. This job is now being entrusted to the private sector. This is something that has to be examined because in a civilised society, it is the primary responsibility of the Central and State Governments. Now, if it is being thrown open to the private sector, what will happen to the poor people in this country ?

15.22 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

DR. C.P. THAKUR : I am grateful to the hon. Members who have given their valuable suggestions, and I have taken note of it. Shri Sudarsana has spoken of Satellite Centres. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad said that there should be one in Bihar, I am corresponding with the Bihar Government on the same. Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh talked about Satellite Centres. Shri Bhargava talked about promoting Ayurveda. We are promoting Ayurveda. We are doing all these in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences.

With these words, I would request that the Bill be passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1-Short Title

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 4, -

for "2001"

substitute "2002"

(1,

(Dr. C.P. Thakur)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 1, —

for "Fifty-second"

substitute "Fifty-third"

(Dr. C.P. Thakur)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Log Title was added to the Bill.

DR. C.P. THAKUR : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

15.25 hrs.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION (INDIA) TRANSFER OF FUNDS (REPEAL) BILL

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. C.P. THAKUR) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to repeal the St. John Ambulance Association (India) Transfer of Funds Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this is a small repeal Bill. It was enacted to bifurcate the share of Pakistan in the Ambulance Act. It is redundant now and so this Bill should be repealed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to repeal the St. John Ambulance Association (India) Transfer of Funds Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the ambulances of Pakistan and India should enter the territory of each other. I support the Bill moved by you but it has been moved after 55 years, It is a good Bill which enhances the integrity of the country and I appreciate and support the Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to repeal the St. John Ambulance Association (India) Transfer of Funds Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House would now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1-Short Title

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 4, —

For "2001"

Substitute "2002"

(2)

(Dr. C.P. Thakur)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 1, —

for "Fifty-second"

substitute "Fifty-third"

(1)

(Dr. C.P. Thakur)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula a amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

DR. C.P. THAKUR : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

15.30 hrs.

**MOTION RE: TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT
OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

SHRI DENZIL B. ATKINSON (NOMINATED) : Sir, I beg to move the following :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 24th April, 2002."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 24th April, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we will take up Private Members' Legislative Business. Bills for introduction.

15.31 hrs.

**FARMERS AND AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
COMPENSATION FUND BILL***

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a fund for payment of compensation to the farmers and agricultural workers on their disablement arising out of or in course of agricultural operations.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a fund for payment of compensation to the farmers and agricultural workers on their disablement arising out of or in course of agricultural operations."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : I introduce** the Bill.

[English]

15.32 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of articles 123 and 213)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : I introduce the Bill.

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**Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

[English]

15.33 hrs.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS WELFARE BILL*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare of agricultural workers and to regulate their employment and conditions of service and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare of agricultural workers and to regulate their employment and conditions of service and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : I introduce** the Bill.

[English]

15.33½ hrs.

UNORGANISED WORKERS (PROVIDENT FUND) BILL*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Solapur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for setting up of a provident fund for protection of the interests of unorganised workers in the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for setting up of a provident fund for protection of the interests of unorganised workers in the country and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

[English]

15.34 hrs.

FREE EDUCATION (FOR CHILDREN OF PARENTS LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE) BILL*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Solapur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for free education and other incentives to the children of parents living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for free education and other incentives to the children of parents living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : I introduce** the Bill.

[English]

15.35 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL**(Substitution of New Schedule for Seventh Schedule)**

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to Shri Vaiko for bringing a Private Member's Bill Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2000. This Private Member's Bill was introduced on 22nd March. I am thankful to Shri Vaiko because he has moved this Bill at the appropriate time. When Constitution was framed the conditions in the country were quite different. Today we feel that a tremendous changes have come in the circumstances. The basic issues and problems of that time were quite different from the present ones. I feel that comprehensive amendments and review of the constitution are the need of the hour and so I am in favour of the Bill moved by Shri Vaiko. There is a great deal of possibility that the type of mentality developing in the country may damage the basic structure of the constitution. This is a

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serious issue fit for wide-ranging debate and referendum in the entire country because the Bill moved by the Hon. Member has been moved with that intention.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that the basic structure of the Constitution, the Preamble of the Constitution have been framed with great endeavour. It is true that the framers of our Constitution took good aspects from the Constitutions of England and U.S.A. and tried to frame our Constitution accordingly. The times, conditions and intentions of those days were quite different from the present ones. These days a new mentality is developing in our country when some people think themselves as having the legitimate power to wipe out the history. Some people want to wipe out our history. The history of India is not the history of any particular religion or class. It is the heritage of the entire country. No one should get the right to wipe it out. I want to say that whether it is Red Fort or the Tajmahal of Agra whose security has been assigned to C.I.S.F. whether it is the disputed structure of Babri Masque in Ayodhya, the temple of Somnath, the Parliament House, the Golden Temple or the Church—all these structures are the pride of our country. It is not a heritage of any particular caste or community. It is a heritage of India. Nobody should touch them because it is a series of events. If this series of events is deleted, the original series of events of India will also be scathed. It would amount to deleting history. Therefore, no one should have a right to delete history. After all, which mentality does it show? Foreign terrorists attacked the Parliament. Foreign terrorists attacked the Red Fort. My submission is that such destructive acts should also be kept in the category of terrorism irrespective of the fact that the terrorists are Indian or foreigner or they are the disintegrating elements within the country. It is all right that the Constitution was amended recently.

Recently, POTO legislation came into force. We do not know whether all such things were considered or not at that time. I am referring this because such amendments to the Constitution are required to keep the unity and integrity of the country intact so that the soul of the Constitution, the objective of the Constitution makers remains unhurt. If this kind of mentality is not taken seriously, it can become a big challenge to the country. This can become a great threat to the country in the coming days if the right of deleting history is given to a person, community or class. Therefore, I want to say that the policy of equal treatment to all religions should be followed strictly. It should be considered over. It is dangerous to

promote a particular community or its instincts as it is against the freedom of social, economic and political justice or of religion. Religious fundamentalism – whether Hindu or Muslim, both are dangerous for the country. It should have a provision to control the communal riots. I referred it because the present Constitution has many drawbacks. I feel like this and it is my personal opinion. I can not say whether I am right or wrong but I want to express my opinion and it is my personal opinion. Till 1978, right to property was a fundamental right. We do not know if attention was paid to it or not during the making of the Constitution. If the right to property would have remained a fundamental right the acquisition of the entire campus of the Darbhanga University by the Government would not have been possible. An amendment to the Constitution was brought during the Morarji Government in 1977-78 and was implemented from 1979, that any property within the country can be acquired by the Government in public interest. Till 1978, many changes have been introduced in the Constitution from the time it came into force in 1949-50. Similarly, there are many articles and if I were to discuss them, the debate will get too lengthy. For example, I told that a comprehensive amendment to it is needed. The right to property was amended in 1978-79 so that the Government could acquire any property in the interest of the country.

Right to equality in the Article 14 of the Indian Constitution provides that Discrimination on the basis of religion, origin, caste, sex or place of birth is prohibited. But does the discrimination not exist? Even after 53 years of independence there is so much discrimination, so much contradictions in the name of religion and Community. The Constitution talks of equality, but has it been implemented in reality? Not only this, executive situation should also be seen, people with 'Kalam' and people with 'Kudal' should be seen. We people decide about our salaries. We all can be called people with 'Kalam' whether we are Parliamentarians, MLA's or Officers in the bureaucracy; we decide all the legislations. The system utilises completely all the laws made by the House but how much law goes in favour of the common people, the masses, it has to be considered. Therefore, I would like to say that the people holding pen use their rights but the workers in the village who feed the entire country by toiling, whose sons defend the country at the border, can they decide themselves the price of their foodgrain? You will say that it is the executive power of the Constitution. But every aspect will have to be considered when the right to equality is before the court.

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it needs to be considered comprehensively. There should be a provision to remove such discrimination. A solution should be found so that these contradictions do not go on further.

Sir, an industrialist fixes the price of his product himself but a farmer can not fix the price of his produce. Government of India has an Agriculture Cost and Price Commission which fixes the prices. How strange it is that there is a commission to see as to how much a farmer toiled in producing a crop, how much was the cost input. It will see it and then fix the remunerative price. It is an anomaly. Sir, there is a great anomaly in the executive practice and the actual practice.

Sir, similarly you can see the articles 36 to 51 of the Constitution. Power is given to the Government for the welfare of the entire State. Article 39 provides for equal opportunity. Recently, article 45 had to be amended. The provision for compulsory free education to children from 6 to 14 years of age has just been made, whereas it is written in the Constitution from the beginning, but it was amended only in the last session. Similarly, there is an article regarding prohibition. The issue of empowering village panchayats is there. Similarly, directive principles of State are there but what is happening to them, it is not the same in practice. We have entrusted States with numerous welfare measures. But when complaints start pouring in, and no work is done, then it is removed from there and included in the list of fundamental rights.

Sir, why it is not done in one go. Amendments are brought again and again sometimes regarding this article and sometimes regarding that article and so on. Why don't we consider all the articles of public interest at a time and bring in a comprehensive Bill by incorporating all of them once for all. All these amendments which we are making are directed towards empowering the States. There should be decentralization of power.

Sir, now right means Government and Government means right. It is true there exists a separate council to resolve disputes regarding Centre-State relations but the common man whom we want to give right is missing. It is to be seen how many rights we have been able to give them. We will go for the elections after five years. The term of Rajya Sabha Members is 6 years. Members of the Legislative Assemblies have to go for elections after five years. Our officers serve upto 58 or 60 years of age with

a service period of 30-35 years. If any little problem comes up in their service they knock at the door of the court at once and they get justice, but the common people are still sad, scared and they have got no right. They always get injustice. There is no way to assist them.

Sir, I would like to narrate an incident of 1935 which will pain you as well. To rule over India Britishers made a rule in 1935 and that rule was called as the Government of India Rule. That rule was incorporated in toto into our Constitution. I am short of time otherwise I would have read it out in full. I mean to say that if you go through the Constitution you will find that while incorporating the articles of the Government of India Rule of 1935 even the full stops and commas remained as it is. It has simply been reproduced in the Constitution of India. We do not know what were the circumstances. This is a clear cut copy work but it requires application of mind and without that you can not improve the face of India. We think that copying should be done with some wisdom so that things can improve. We think that the Government of India Rule of 1935 was copied but it was not given a proper thoughts. It needs to be reviewed. That's why we are unable to assume a proper shape under the present circumstances.

It is a greatest thing that Baba Saheb Ambedkarji have given us adult franchise. In India this democratic right is a weapon to elect its representatives at any level from time to time. Baba Saheb Ambedkar has said that he is leaving after giving political freedom through the constitution, but one can just imagine the gap in the social and economic freedom and the economic disparity of the society in the country. Even today we have not been able to achieve the target of independence. This is unfortunate. Even today only a few villages have seen the light of independence. If we look at our villages from the British period till today the problems of road, rail, school and drinking water are there in our villages. Besides, there is problem of foodgrain in tribal areas. How much the original inhabitants of India have developed. How much the standard of living of the last man of the society has changed. This is the only indicator of India's independence.

According to visualization of Mahatma Gandhi about independence, the soul of India lives in villages. It is the responsibility of the administrator to see whether the last man of villages, the downtrodden people, the deprived lot has developed, progressed or not and whether he has joined the mainstream of the nation or not. If not, this is

a lapse on our part. So there is a need to look at the Constitution in that perspective. Only in this view I was talking of comprehensive amendment.

Indian Education Act was made in 1858 and that very education system is still continuing. The same pattern is still in vogue. This is an education system given by Lord Macaulay. We will have Indian body with an English mind. Our mentality will be that of the English and our body will be Indian – this is the outcome of this education system. You just pass the merit test by answering five questions. Some changes are being made in the questions, but the pattern, the syllabus and the education system of Lord Macaulay is still prevailing in India. That is why I was saying that comprehensive amendment is required. The Constitution was framed with utmost care and thoughts but at that time the situation was entirely different. At that time the political, economic and social conditions were quite different from the conditions prevailing now. Today it is necessary to reconsider it.

I stated about the education system of 1958. Similarly, there is the problem of reservation for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. We have repeatedly promised that we will give reservations in promotion and in all other things. We have made provisions but how far it has been implemented, how far it has been achieved, how far it has the persons of these community, we have to see this. Now a days privatisation and liberalisation is being made everywhere. Now globalisation is also being done. This is the age of economic liberalisation and economic reformation. What would be the use of reservation in the age of liberalisation and globalisation? How far the reservation of SC, ST and OBC will be implemented. We have to consider this aspect also.

A Review Commission under the Chairmanship of Shri Venkat Chaliya was set up. A review report of the Constitution has been presented to the Law Minister. I would request the Minister that when he stands for reply he must refer it in his speech and state his intention whether the report of the review commission will be implemented? What ever may be its process or procedure, kindly adopt this report. But what we feel is that the recommendations made in the report are insufficient. We donot think that all aspects have been taken into consideration and it is a comprehensive report. But what ever points have been considered. What ever efforts have been made, whether the Government is going to implement. The whole of the nation is looking forward to

it. It is the basic objective of our Constitution that our Constitution should be able to ensure dignity and unity and integrity of the nation. Therefore, amendments and comprehensive review of the Constitution is required.

I would like to say one thing more. What is the situation now? If we do not fulfill our responsibility, if parliament is careless in fulfilling its responsibility or if we do not solve the burning problems of the country, then Supreme Court is there. Yesterday's decision of the Supreme Court is very important. I welcome that decision. Although few more points might have been covered in that decision. It has been decided that the person who is going to contest an election has to give the details of his assets and the number of criminal cases against him. There should be transparency among the public. The public should know as to what type of representative they are going to vote for. What is his background. What is his moral background, what are the details of his assets? Yesterday's verdict of Supreme Court is really worth welcoming. When we are unable to improve our behaviour in politics at least this verdict will surely help in checking this. In parliamentary democracy, it was our own responsibility. We would have bought such reforms. Although every political party gives suggestions to the Election Commission but we could not formulate comprehensive election reforms and now Supreme Court had to come forward with such instructions. If we would show indifference the Supreme Court will surely do something. It was even felt by the Supreme Court. That is why I welcome this verdict of Supreme Court. They have demanded education certificate. I have already said that we are following the education system of Macaulay. The children of rich people can get a costly education but poor people can not afford to give such education to their children. There are a number of fronts where poor people could not reach. There should be some amendment in it. It is a welcome verdict which makes it mandatory to give details of criminal record and the assets of the person contesting elections. In my views this will pave way for reforms or a new political direction. The Court has the right to interpret the Constitution what are the reasons for this?

16.00 hrs.

There are two reasons for this. The first reason is that the members of the Constitution Draft Committee, were scholars, Advocates and legal experts. They were nominated members. After going through the Constitutions

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

of a number of countries, they drafted a very good preamble in 289 words, but what I want to say is that they were not elected members. What I am saying is whether it is wrong or right, but I don't consider it democratic because no referendum has been done over it so far. There is total dictatorial Government in Pakistan, a military regime. There is dictatorial rule of Musharraf but he also felt the need to go to the public. Recently he has held a referendum there. Thus a referendum should also be held on this Constitution. It does not matter how long it will take. We are fully committed to the national unity, integrity and our Constitution. We have faith in the Constitution and for these reasons a Constitution was framed in 1949-50. I had already told you the situation of the country at that time. It is true that the basic structure, preamble of the Constitution do not require much consideration but a comprehensive amendment or review is required since the Constitution is not democratic in nature and Constitution Review Commissions are being set up from time to time. The Constitution should be wholly democratic so that our country could become a good country and there should also be a provision to prevent the country from becoming a colony again and to keep it free from economic influence or foreign powers. I am speaking in the larger interest of the country because country is above the party: our existence lies in the existence of our country. Thus, to keep our country strong, to keep its integrity and solidarity intact and for ensuring the dignity of an individual, a Constitution draft committee should be set up, if needed keeping in view all these things. There should be a comprehensive discussion and representatives of all classes should be included in it. There is need of original thinking on it. After all, what is the reason that the country is in bad condition today, because most powerful people come forward in the country. I am saying the last thing. I remember an instance when I think of these most powerful people. . . .

(Interruptions) The most powerful people are those who are holding number one position in the Government. . . .

(Interruptions) Bhargawa Saheb. I remember a story but I will not force upon its authenticity just now. I had read a story of king Vikramaditya in a book. He was an honest, learned and a justice loving ruler. Vikramaditya was a great ruler and an honest king. His darbar had Navratnas. Navratna mean the courtiers present in every ruler's darbar, whoever be the ruler. Kalidas was one of the Navratnas. Like what happens even today, the rest of the

courtiers started poisoning the ears of the king against Kalidas. Eight Navratnas among the nine Navratnas became against him because Kalidas was a scholar, learned and an intelligent person and used to give good advice to the king for better administration. All courtiers got united and got rid off Kalidas. King Vikramaditya got engulfed in problems and became restless because he was not getting the solution to the problems faced by him. When his soul started cursing him, he asked all his courtiers that what happens when the inner soul dies. No one amongst the eight courtiers could answer it because the person who could give the answer was ousted from the State. When all the courtiers could not find answer they became speechless and everyone said that only Kalidas can answer it. Thus reach for Kalidas started. All the courtiers started looking for Kalidas. Kalidas was found outside the State. All the courtiers went to him and urged him that the king is very restless. We could not find the answers to the question posed to us by him. Only you can reply that question. Kalidas knew the daily routine of the king. He asked them to go back saying that he would talk to the king. Kalidas went to the square where king Vikramaditya used to pass by. Disguised as a pandit, Kalidas sat there and started selling meat. When the king reached there, he was surprised to see that a pandit was selling meat. He asked him why he was selling meat even though he was a pandit. To this, Kalidas replied that a lot had to be done to earn a living and it was not only that he was selling meat but he was eating it too. Hearing this, the king became very angry. He said you eat meat being a pandit. To this, Kalidas said I even drink wine. On hearing this, king's fury knew no limit. He said you sell meat, eat meat and drink wine also, it is very bad. Then Kalidas told the king what else he does. But, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not think it fit to tell that in the House. After that, the king took out his sword and thought that he should be killed. But, before that the king asked him why he does all that. To this, Kalidas replied that his inner soul had died. Hearing this, the king at once got the answer to his question and also came to know that this Brahmin was none other than Kalidas. Kalidas told the king that a king can not provide good administration and strengthen his country if his inner soul dies.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, sometimes many hon'ble Members of this House feel hurt by my views. I request them that I have to say at least something because my inner soul has not died. Sometimes, unwillingly I say something which

someone may not like. Therefore, I narrated this story in the House to emphasis that people should face the truth boldly and should not fear anyone in speaking the truth. When people will speak truth, they will become brave and presence of such people in the country will strengthen it. We all know this that a country can not be good if its people have no courage.

I support this Constitution Amendment Bill presented by Vaiko ji. He referred to State List and Concurrent List. I am also of the opinion that the State Governments should be given more and more powers because State Governments are also elected Governments.

With these words and supporting the Constitution Amendment Bill presented by Vaiko ji, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The allotted time for this Bill is over but names of other hon'ble Members are there in the list. If approved by the House, the time for this Bill can be increased further by one hour.

[English]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag) : Sir, it is a very important Bill for my State. So, I should be allowed to speak.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Introduction is remaining.

[English]

16.11 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of the Scheduled)

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. MOHAN : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

16.11½ hrs.

HIGH COURT OF KERALA (ESTABLISH- MENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM) BILL*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

16.12 hrs.

RESERVATION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (IN PRIVATE SECTOR) BILL*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation for the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in private sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation for the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in private sector."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

16.12¼ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of articles 124 and 216)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

16.12½ hrs.

CASHEW BOARD BILL*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Cashew Board for development of the cashew industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Cashew Board for development of the cashew industry."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : I introduce** the Bill.

16.13 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Substitution of new Schedule for Seventh Schedule) – contd.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to take much time. I am on any legs to support the Private Member Bill brought

forward by Shri Vaiko Saheb. It has been mentioned in this Bill that framers of our Constitution have made three types of lists. First is Union List, second is State List and third is Concurrent List. Accordingly the Central Government will work for Union List, States will work for State List and in Concurrent List, where both the Central and State Governments have any disputes over any issue, the said issue will be dealt under Concurrent List. In order to safeguard the interests of the States there has been a strong Centre but you must have noticed that number of issues relating to States are being discussed in Lok Sabha. Matters relating to States, whether they are of Bihar or Gujarat, must be discussed in their respective Legislative Assemblies. The Central Government has no right to interfere in their matters. The Central Government should only look after the work of security of the States, how to strengthen the States, who should be the Chief Minister of the State. But now-a-days every State has to look forward to the Central Government repeatedly. If the State has to get financial assistance it has to look towards to the Central Government and the Central Government and splits the hairs and thus the Central Government would raise of the petty problems in this regard. In other words the States have to wholly depend on Central Government for their development, whether it is for the sake of financial assistance, solving the problem of scarcity of water, construction of roads development of tourist places etc. That is why I want to say that the Central Government should only have the matters of Defence, External affairs and Banking and it should work accordingly. Rest of matters should be left to the States in which the Centre should not interfere. We should Strengthen the States so that the States become self dependent, they do not have to look towards the Centre for financial assistance time and again.

In this context I want to say that Central Government should interfere only in such matters, where there is possibility of confrontation between two States due to non cooperation in such situations, the Centre has right to interfere just because of the Concurrent list. There should be proper compliance with the law and order situation in the State. In my views the States should be given powers to maintain proper law and order situation otherwise each State will have its own rules. There is a separate law regarding dowry. In comparison to Centre less penalty is imposed in the State. Sharda Act has been passed even then a bridegroom of 5 years of age and bride of 3

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**Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

years of age or they may be 18 years of age are taking out their Barat procession and they are getting married, that too in front of a police station and the State Government is unable to do anything. The difference between Central and States should be sorted out. State and Centre should do their respective work and wherever there is any problem the Centre should be given power to interfere as per concurrent list.

Sir, I want to urge that the States should be financially made stronger so that they are capable of taking decision. In my views all States form India. If the States emerge stronger they will feel less burden of work similarly the Centre will also feel some relief. It's my humble request that the States assuming them as a autonomous institutes should be given complete powers so that they are not made to look towards the Centre even for small issues. I fully support the the Bill brought forward by Shri Vaiko and hope that the Central Government will also support the Motion moved by Shri Vaiko. With these words I conclude my speech and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I rise to support my friend, Shri Vaiko's Bill, which has been very timely and could not have come a day later than this.

Sir, this is a proposal to change some of the distribution of functions and duties among the States and the Centre and take some of these functions from the Concurrent List to the State List, and from the Union List of the State List.

Historically, India became a federation in 1950 but basically the way the Constitution has been framed does not really reflect the true heterogeneous nature of our country and the multiplicity of our country, the various States and all the complexities. It was essentially the survival of the colonial Government. Many of the features of the colonial Government still remain.

Sir, it is called a federal Constitutional but some of the fundamental aspects of federalism are missing. Why was that done by the framers of the Constitution is not really known. Take for example, residual powers. In most true federations of the world, residual power is with the State. You go through the United States Constitution or even the Australian Constitution. Residual powers are with the State.

But here, for some strange unexplained reason, residual powers have been vested with the Centre, with the result, the so-called State autonomy has become practically a mockery.

Sir, it is very timely that my friend, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav mentioned a very interesting thing that we are very largely dependent on the Government of India Act of 1935, which was enacted by the colonial Government at that time. And going into the lot of details about the administrative matters and all sorts of things, they really do not find place in many of the known good Constitutions in the world. Our Constitution is much larger than many of the Constitutions of other countries. That is because a lot of verbatim was reproduced from the Government of India, 1935. Now, the time has come to look at these things. Shri Vaiko has essentially proposed certain things from the Union List of the State List.

They are duties of excise on tobacco and other goods manufactured or produced in India except (a) alcoholic liquors for human consumption; (b) opium, Indian hemp and other narcotic drugs and narcotics, but not including medicinal and toilet preparations containing alcohol or any substance included in sub-paragraph (b) of this entry.

Common sense finds it difficult to accept why these things should necessarily be with the Centre. It is not the colonial Government of the past. It is the independent country where India is nothing but a Union of the States. I invite your attention to the expression in the Constitution, "Union of States" which repeatedly occurs. How can we get back to that concept of Union of States which was original concept in the Constitution ?

Sir, over the years, the Central Government's power has been increased enormously. When the planning came into being, the Central officials and Ministers took advantage of the planning system to really bring the States under their total financial and planning control. In the name of planning, they introduced so many things which were never really meant in our Commission. Unfortunately, the Constitution Review Commission has only scratched the surface. It has not gone deeply into some of the basic features of the Constitution at all. It only made some changes in a superficial way.

Then, let me come to estate duty in respect of property other than agricultural land. Now why should estate duty be with the Centre ? Why cannot it go to the States ? Then,

[DR. Nitish Sengupta]

take duties in respect of succession to property other than agricultural land. In a State, why should New Delhi control a succession to property? Let us say Ernakulam or Kozhikode and all that. These are all matters which lock, stock and barrel go to the State. Any other matter, not enumerated in List II and List III including any tax not mentioned in either of these Lists, should go to the State.

I come back to the point which I raised initially, which is, that residuary powers must go to the State. That more than anything else will bring back the true character of federal system in our Constitution. Then, in the Concurrent List, transfer of property other than agricultural land, registration of deeds and documents are there. Why should these be in the Concurrent List? Let them go whole hog to the States. Then, there is an entry of actionable wrongs. Then let me come to education including technical education, medical education and universities subject to the provisions of entries 63, 64, 65 and 66 of List I, and vocational and technical training of Labour. Unfortunately, originally education was in the State List. But during the days of the omnipotent, the very powerful Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Emergency time, I think, a lot of changes were made. Then, education was brought into the Concurrent List. I think time has come when education should go back to the State List. The Centre should, of course, take the power of supervision, general control and co-ordination and all that. But there is no reason why the Centre should beat down the neck of the States in the matter of education.

Let me come to charity and charitable institutions, charitable and religious endowments and religious institutions. Why should they be with the Centre at all? We have got 25 States each elected by the people directly and there are very responsible Councils of Ministers heading them. Why should they not be considered responsible enough to deal with things like charity and charitable institutions? Rather when you control this from the Centre, it creates a lot of aberrations and abnormalities. I mentioned how that process under which the Centre came to occupy a lot of unnecessarily sovereign powers in the garb of introducing planning. I remember one example, that is, about the Centrally sponsored Scheme. It was there for a long time.

When I was preparing the Eighth Five Year Plan as Member-Secretary, Planning Commission in the year

1991-92, I was shocked to see that there was a scheme for abolition of the jhoom cultivation in some of the States. It was a Central scheme. Now the point is that in Tripura or some of the hills of the North-Eastern States, the jhoom cultivation prevails where the Tribals normally till a particular portion of the land. After two or three years, that portion once again becomes infertile. So, they burn up that place and move to another place and start cultivation. Again after three or four years. They come back. Now this sort of thing was all right long ago, but I suppose ultimately when the population is increasing, it means it is the wastage of the scarce forest resources, lack of co-ordination and all that.

Now the Department of Forest is involved. That is a State Department. Then, the Department of Tribal Welfare is involved. That is a State Department. Police or the local administration is involved. I do not remember exactly. There are 300 to 500 officers sitting in *Kirishi Bhavan* controlling the system called jhoom cultivation.

The only thing we could say is that the *ihoo* cultivation would never be abolished because the officers would always send queries, go on visits to Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and so on but come back to say that it is very costly. So, *ihoom* cultivation would never be abolished. At that time, the Government took a decision that all Centrally-sponsored schemes should be totally transferred to the States but I do not think it would ever happen because the bureaucracy is so powerful that they have a way of making anything a nullity just by conflicting interpretations, delays and so on. So, this has not happened yet.

The time has come when we should really be a federation. There are many areas where the Constitution needs to be changed. I welcome the direction by the Supreme Court yesterday, which would certainly help in improving morality in our political system. There are several other such aspects. I would like to very briefly touch upon one or two such subjects, in passing. For instance, when we made our Constitution, we were too obsessed with the British system of Cabinet Government and Parliamentary democracy. We forgot to take lessons from other European countries that had practised federalism based on multiplicity and had introduced features unique to them. In the German Constitution, for instance, there is a provision that any No-Confidence Motion to be moved before the German Parliament must indicate, who according to the framers of that Motion should be the next Chancellor. If somebody here were to say that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

should no longer be the Prime Minister and moved to No-Confidence Motion and if that Motion indicated who should be the next Prime Minister, you can imagine how many of the problems would disappear. I remember, when the one-vote fiasco occurred in 1999, Shri Lalu Prasad said that they would be able to form an alternative Government within fifteen minutes. They could not form an alternative Government even in a matter of fifteen days. Eventually, we had to go in for fresh elections. Therefore, some such provisions should be adopted. Unfortunately, our Constitution Review Commission never went into this question.

In many of the European countries, there is a system of proportional representation. In a pluralistic system, people do not vote for individuals. They vote for parties. I wish, we could introduce some such system in our country whereby people would vote for the BJP or the Congress or some other party and depending upon the proportion of votes secured by the party they would nominate their deputies. Thus, a party that has secured eighty per cent of the votes would name eighty per cent of the people but individuals shall not go to the polls. If that system could be brought in here, you would realise that a lot of malpractice, corrupt practices and unnecessary expenditure associated with elections would disappear. There are many such things that should be tried.

I welcome Shri Vaiko's proposal for an amendment to the Constitution. For instance, ports are under the Concurrent List, where it is mentioned "Other than those declared by or under law made by Parliament". Why should ports be with the Centre at all? It was all right in the past under the colonial Government when the British administration introduced the Calcutta Port, the Bombay Port, the Madras Port, etc. but after Independence, why should the States not look after ports? Why should the States not look after airports and ports? There must be a sense of responsibility among States. Responsibility must be allowed to be generated among the States. Unless you give them responsibility they would not be responsible. They will always have a tendency to run to the Centre at the slightest opportunity demanding grants and all that and the entire structure would be vitiated.

Another example is that of archaeological sites and monuments, where it is mentioned; "Other than those declared by or under law made by Parliament to be of national importance". Why should the archaeological monuments not go to the States? Why should they be with the Centre at all? It was all right when Lord Curzon passed

the Archaeological Monuments Preservation Act, 1904. Lord Curzon is associated with many controversial things in Indian history but he has done many good things also, for which we should be grateful. The way he preserved the Taj Mahal and introduced the Archaeological Monuments Preservation Act are among them. But for Lord Curzon's timely step, many of the monuments would have disappeared by now. But today time has come to ask why the Government of Uttar Pradesh should not look after the Taj Mahal and why the Government of Bihar should not look after Nalanda. Why should the Archaeological Survey of India, with its base in Delhi look after them with distantly placed officers having to undergo constant travelling?

Why should we make the State Governments responsible for all these things?

Now, I come to acquisition and requisition of properties. Why should it be in the Concurrent List? Then, stamp duties other than duties of fees collected by means of judicial stamps is not included in the list of stamp duties.

Sir, he has given many of these examples where there is a strong case for transferring items in the Union List or in the Concurrent List to the State List. That will make for a healthy federal system and the States will become stronger. If the States become stronger, the Centre will automatically become stronger.

Sir, with these few words, I strongly support Shri Vaiko's Constitution amendment Bill and urge the House to accept it.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2000 moved by the hon. Member, Shri Vaiko. It is a timely act of the hon. Member to draw the attention of the nation to the need of this amendment to our Constitution. By and large, his purpose is to change the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. There are three Lists as per our Constitution. In the Union List, 97 items are there; in the State List, 66 items are there; and in the Concurrent List, 47 items are there. After the experience of the last 53 years of implementing our Constitution, I think, there is a necessity to rearrange these powers among the three Lists. I agree with Dr. Nitish Sengupta because he also spoke from his experience. He was one of the very learned bureaucrats of our country. He was in the Ministry of Finance, which controls everything. Nothing is given to

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

others except through the Ministry of Finance. That is the impediment on the development sometimes. So, over-centralisation is becoming a big problem for our country. We wanted a federal system in our Constitution, which is biased towards unitary system. It is more unitary than federal. Over the years, the erosion of the State list continuously happened and the Central Government snatched the powers from the State List and some times even from the Concurrent List.

Sir, I think, this is a very timely and correct suggestion. Basically, we believe in unity in diversity and that is India. We have to develop this unity, but we have to honour the diversity in all aspects of our life. If we kill the diversity then the basic spirit of India will be lost.

Sir, on several accounts, we are facing new challenges to destroy that diversity and to impose some sort of imposed unity on our nation. So, in this context, it is more important to reorganise the powers of the States and the Centre I think, it is correct suggestion and I support him.

Sir, more powers to the State is a long-standing demand. Initially, some States came together and raised the demand repeatedly. Ultimately, the Sarkaria Commission was set up. They also agreed and made certain suggestions. Some of the suggestions have been accepted, but some are yet to be accepted. As Dr. Nitish Sengupta mentioned, why should the subjects like education, sports, etc., not be totally in the domain of the States?

Sir, as Dr. Nitish Sengupta has said, in the name of Centrally sponsored Schemes, the State's authority had been eroded. What is supposed to be done by the States is actually going from the Centre. The tendency is developing that the Centre will directly deal with the District Magistrate and with the Panchayat, bypassing the State.

This tendency is dangerous and it will weaken our federal system further. Because of that, we always say that a strong State is the pre-condition of a strong Centre. So, we cannot weaken our States because ultimately the weak States will weaken the Centre. That is why I say over-centralisation is increasing. Power is being taken from the States to the Centre, and from the Centre also, the power is going to PMO. We have a new centre of power, that is PMO. The Central Ministers are becoming head clerks and

one chief clerk is sitting there in the PMO. It started during the time of Shrimati Indira Gandhi and gradually it is increasing. Once there were only four or five officers in PMO, now there are some 400 to 500 officers and they are controlling the PMO. Actually, this country is being run by PMO, not by Ministers, not by the federal system. So, a dangerous centre of power has been created in the name of PMO and, I think, sensing all this danger, he has brought this Bill to categorically reorganise the present system which we have developed during the last fifty years.

Then, we have also seen the Centre's intervention in the States' affairs. Hundreds of times the Central Government have dissolved the State Governments and imposed President's rule. Ultimately, after the Bommai case, certain safeguards have been established, but still this attempt is made here and there. So, I think these things we have to keep in mind and we have to reorganise our Constitutional arrangements in the light of our experience.

Another point I want to stress is the economic power. Most of the responsibility is with the States but money is with the Centre. Without monetary power, how can the States discharge their responsibility? States can be termed as glorified municipalities. On the one side, the Centre is strong and PMO is over-powerful and, on the other side, the States are gradually becoming glorified municipalities. I think the time has come to reverse this trend and this Bill is an attempt to draw the attention of the nation to the need of the necessity of that reversal. So, economic power is the most important one. He has suggested certain things. He has suggested that power of taxation and certain other powers should be shifted from the Central Government to the States, certain powers from the Central List should go to the Concurrent List and certain powers from the Concurrent List should go to the State List. We know this will not be accepted here, but it is only to draw the attention of the Government. It is very difficult to persuade them to accept it because power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. The tendency of the power is to take everything in own hands. We have seen this in our neighbouring country. Without constitutional sanction anything, somebody says, I am a President for another five years. In our neighbouring country, we have seen how Constitution and everything has been given a go-bye. One person desires to become a President and he becomes President for another five years. So, we have to learn from the experience. If we allow this, it will be a

new challenge to our system also. So, decentralisation of power is one of the most important tasks we have to fulfil and Parliament should take the initiative. We have taken certain initiatives. *Panchayati Raj* is being developed. Some power has been given to them. But we have to strengthen this system of decentralisation.

If we weaken the States, then only by the Panchayat Raj and Zila Parishads we will not be able to achieve our goal because at the intermediary stage, the State is weakened. If the State is weakened, the direct strengthening of the Panchayat Raj system will not help. I think all the wings of our system should get strengthened and more powers should come to the States. This is the time to reconsider the matter and we have to do it in the light of our experience.

As you know, the States should have some authority in the all-India services. The Central Government has so many methods to control every wing through the all-India services like the IAS, IPS etc.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA : Then, why do you have the all-India services ?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : The all-India services can be there in certain areas which are necessary and they can be maintained there. But only skeleton service may be there. But it is increasing and increasing and everything is given to the all-India services. Though our country has different languages, cultures and practices, the tendency is to curb those rights. I think this is also the time when the all-India services should be reduced and the State services should be strengthened so that we can really build up a true federal structure.

There is another thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the nation through this discussion. This discussion has given me an opportunity and I thank hon. Member Shri Vaiko for this. There is a philosophy also to destroy our diversity, to weaken our unity in diversity. There is a slogan that small States will be very good – 'small is beautiful'. That means you just split the States and break them into 50 or 60 or 70 smaller States and then you think it will take the country to development. The philosophy is now being tried to be imported in our thinking, in our system. This is dangerous because in our country the historical development is the linguistic movement of development and the nationality has developed on the basis of language. Language is one of the cementing factors of our nationality. On the basis of major languages in our country; the States are re-organised.

Now, an attempt is being made to divide these linguistic States. You take the case of Tamil Nadu, the Tamil-speaking people who have the same culture, same language, same history and they have the same imagination and brain to develop their State. If this State is divided into four-five Tamil-speaking States, then the people of one linguistic State will be divided into four-five States and all will look at the Centre and one will be fighting with the other. The linguistic unity is very much important to maintain this unity, the social system which has developed over the years. This is the matter.

Take the case of Andhra Pradesh. If the Telugu-speaking people of this State are divided into four-five States, then the Centre will use one group against the other and this way they will make the States weaker and weaker and all the strength will be concentrated in the Centre and the Centre will become omnipotent. This is becoming a new challenge. I think this is a new challenge to our federal system, to destroy our diversity and to destroy our cultural unity and diversity which has been our Indian way of life which was developed over thousands of years. This is the way of life. But there is an attempt being made to destroy this. We have to very seriously think over it.

We should not allow our Linguistic States to be split. The linguistic States are the basis of our federation. If the linguistic States are strengthened, then more and more power will be with them and then only our national life and our country will be strengthened and our federal system also will be strengthened. It is a different thing in America. In the entire United States of America, there is one language and because there is only one language they have just divided the country by drawing parallel lines – both horizontal and vertical – on the map of the United States and said every piece is one State. These States do not have so much of history; every State has no history, no culture and no diversity. But India cannot be following it. We now have a tendency of copying America and everything that America does, we always have to run after that.

This tendency is also coming in our society. It will be a new challenge to our national fabric. It is because of that, I would appeal to the people, to the Members and, through this House, to the country that we have to think about it. We cannot follow America. Our federal States are not equally divided pieces of land. Every State has its own history, its own language and its own culture, and on the basis of that, linguistic States developed. So, there is an attempt to divide the linguistic States.

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

Another philosophy is also there. There will ultimately be only one communal philosophy. Then, will you link all these smaller State by saying that we are all Hindus and because we are all Hindus, Hindus will be only linked with all the smaller States? That will be the purpose behind that. I think, this is the time to think over that. At least, some link is necessary. If every linguistic link is destroyed, then what will be the linkage? Then, all linkages will be Hindutva, and keeping that philosophy in mind, an attempt is being made to destroy our diversity and to destroy our linguistic States. Because of that, this is the time that we preserve unity of the country, we preserve diversity of our culture and we preserve all languages with equal rights and all the languages should have the right to develop and flourish. On this basis of that, States also should be given more and more powers. In that fashion, we can really strengthen the States and we can really strengthen the Union, and our federation will be strengthened and our country will further develop.

I think, in this background, it is very important to consider this Bill. Because of that, it is a timely Bill. I thank Shri Vaiko for bringing forward this Bill because though he had some problems some time here and there, but in this case at least, he was reflected the correct thing. I support this Bill. This Government also should ponder over and the whole nation should ponder over it. And, we should stand like a rock to any attempt to destroy the linguistic States, to divide and split the linguistic States. Also keeping that in mind and in this background, I think this re-division of powers is an important agenda and he has brought the agenda before the nation. I hope, we should all give a proper thought to it.

With these words, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, our forefathers, our freedom fighters who made this country free, took a stand at the time when our country became independent that the basis of India shall not be religion or language. The way the country was divided in the name of religion and Pakistan was formed, such a thing would not happen. Our prominent leaders decided that India shall be a Secular, Socialistic and a Democratic country.

They pondered over as to how to keep people united who spoke different languages, followed different religions and were divided into different regions. They decided that

our country shall be Secular, Socialistic and Democratic but whether secular system is really working in the country today and whether efforts are not being made to put obstacles in its path? If you see the history of the last 50 years, you will clearly see that all the minorities in India – whether Muslim, Sikh or Christian, are being attacked now and efforts are being made to destroy their culture. Their religious places are being destroyed. Therefore secularism must be kept above party politics because if secularism is engendered, it will mean that the people who are engendering it are trying to destroy or divide the country. We should go against it.

The second thing was that our country shall be a democratic country. Really, it is a very big democracy in the world. Elections are held here. What happened to our neighbouring countries which became independent together with us – I would not like to go into that. But India is really a great democratic country. But some wrong things have made their way into the democratic system of our country. There are things like criminal record of MLA's or Public Representatives. People of criminal background or those having money are trying to enter the House and they enter also. Such an arrangement should be made so that only the honest people become the Members of Parliament or Assembly.

Third thing is about Socialist system. Good arrangements have not been made in this regard whether they were land reforms or other reforms. They were not made to the extent it was promised in the Constitution. The atmosphere prevailing in the country after 50-53 years of independence, the situation of alienation in the autonomy State can be removed. I am speaking about my State Jammu-Kashmir. When it was merged with India, our forefathers, who were at the helms of the affairs at the centre decided that the Defence, Communications, Finance and Foreign Affairs will remain with the Central Government while rest will remain with the State.

[English]

With the result that we had the fullest autonomy till 1953.

[Translation]

Then what happened in the country? From where the alienation of Kashmir started? Jammu-Kashmir had a Government, an assembly and a leader in that assembly who had the confidence of the Assembly. But he was arrested and sent to the jail.

[English]

He was not allowed to defend himself in the Assembly. He was not allowed to be present in the Assembly. Otherwise, he would have defended himself in the Assembly.

[Translation]

He was put behind the bars. After that Erosion of our autonomy started

[English]

and as a result, there is alienation. That is the basic cause that autonomy was eroded without consulting the local people, the leaders who were put behind the bars, and the alienation started. Pakistan took advantage or benefit of this alienation.

[Translation]

What we are facing from Pakistan is all due to this only. I mean to say that the provinces should get maximum autonomy. I speak about my province. In 1996. Assembly elections were held in our province. An Assembly was formed and it prepared a note about the kind of autonomy our province should have.

[English]

That was a unanimous decision of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly. That was presented to the Central Government. But the Central Government rejected the report of autonomy.

[Translation]

I want to say that the Central Government is ready to talk with militants, it is ready to talk with Hurriyat leaders but the Indian Government is ready to talk with the Indian people, the representatives of Indian people sitting there in the assembly. If the Indian Government felt that there was something in the Economic Report which was against the interest of the country.

[English]

We would not go to the extent of asking for something that would be detrimental to the interest of our country. If we had asked any such thing that would have been detrimental to the interest of our country, then that report could have been thrown into sea. But you must talk to the people. How do you overcome this alienation if you are not ready to talk to the people and talk to the representatives of the people?

I come from the State of Jammu and Kashmir and I would like to say before this august House that the Government would have to talk to the people and also to the representatives of the people of Jammu and Kashmir regarding autonomy. It is not the question of alienation in Jammu and Kashmir alone. There are such problems of alienation in other parts of the country. What do they want? All they want is a sort of local-self Government. They want autonomy and they want their existence to be recognised. So, the Government of India, after 53 years of our Independence should consider the aspirations of the people throughout the country.

[Translation]

You constituted Sarkaria Commission and other Commissions. They also gave their report stating therein that States should have maximum powers. But despite that there is no development in this regard at the national level. What I mean is that the intention of Shri Vaiko's bill is to give maximum powers to the States. There is a way to satisfy the people. The Government of India must pay full attention to it, especially with regard to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

[English]

The Government of India should satisfy the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. What are their aspirations?

[Translation]

We have received a big jolt. We have gradually exhausted the power which Jawahar Lal Nehru, Sardar Patel and Maulana Azad had given to us and it seems

[English]

as if you are not trusting the Kashmiris.

[Translation]

You yourself created the problem of alienation from here. There is no fault of Kashmiris in it.

[English]

You yourself did it.

[Translation]

You kept the leader of Kashmiris who integrated Kashmir with India in jail for 22 years. But his son, whether he is in London or America or any other country comes

[Shri Mohd. Naik]

here for talks. I am not the mouth piece of the Government. Next time if I speak for the Government some type of conspiracy is hatched against him. If this is the way

[English]

how can you win over the Kashmiris? How can you bring them with you?

[Translation]

They also have pride. Whatever you gave them, you took back gradually. They are still dying.

Today the issue is raised that Hindus are being killed in Kashmir. I say that the person who kills in Kashmir is very secular. He kills the Hindus, the Sikhs and the Muslims. He killed the Muslims in larger number, the number of Muslims killed in Kashmir is in thousands. So my request is that we support the autonomy move and want maximum autonomy for our State. Keeping all this in view.

[English]

let us discuss it. Let the Central Government discuss this issue with the representatives of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

But when States are given autonomy it must be devolved at the lowest panchayat level, district level, through this process the people will be benefited.

[English]

They should have the sense of belonging that the power is with them.

[Translation]

With these words I support this.

[English]

17.00 hrs.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, I rise here in support of Shri Vaiko's Constitution (Amendment) Bill but with a rider. I will come to the rider at a later stage.

At the beginning, I must congratulate Shri Vaiko for the diligence and hard work he has done in presenting this

Bill to this House. In presenting this Bill he has in mind, very correctly, a thought – which has been indicated in his Statement of Objects and Reasons also – that 'for every State should be left alone to decide its policy.' That is one sentence which he has used, which is quite appropriate.

Discussing on this point itself, we have to browse over the implementation part of the Constitution for the last 52 years and analyse the Amendments that have been made to the Union List, State List and Concurrent List.

Sir, I was going through the Constituent Assembly Debates on the three Lists. The prominent persons like Aladi Ramakrishnaswamy, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, T.T. Krishnamachari and A. Ayyengar had gone into the details of these Lists which were being prepared at that time. They tried to find out as to what were the provisions in the Act of 1935. There was no provision so far as the Concurrent List is concerned. But it was left to the farmers to decide on the three things depending on the situation that was prevailing at that particular moment of time.

We were trying to make our country with lots of difficulties, with princely States, and with partition which had taken place there recently. In view of all those things, it was thought necessary to have three Lists. One was the Union List, second was the State List, and third was the Concurrent List.

You will kindly appreciate that over the years, the Union List was increased; the State List was depleted; and the Concurrent List was also increased. Why was it done? You may also kindly appreciate that we had a federal structure. But the Constitution has become unitary in character because of certain provisions which have been provided in the Constitution, which have been applied in a different manner. For example, article 249 and article 250 relating to emergency. Similarly, article 252, article 352 and article 353 are there as emergency provisions. Even now, article 355 can be used. All these emergency provisions gave a twist to the inherent character of the Constitution to cater to the needs of the people who were at the Centre, who were at the helm of affairs from time to time. I would not like to name the persons at all. But the federal character has become unitary over the years with the States playing second fiddle.

Shri Vaiko would appreciate that we have 97 items in the Union List. If I am correct, he has suggested 94 items to be kept. A radical person like Shri Vaiko has moulded his Bill in a conservative fashion. That is why I am coming to the rider.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : I want to seek just a clarification.

There was a List. When they gave it for printing, they missed something. There were some mistakes. That was not my fault. So, subsequently I have given the amendments.

SHRI ANADI SAHU : Thank you for the intervention. Anyway, he has taken the statement from my lips. I was coming to that.

When we think of the Constitution as it is being implemented for the last 52 years, we see that there are four insertions that have come in by way of amendments, in the Union List and there is one deletion also. Insertions have been made in such a manner that the Union will have more powers.

Shri Ali Mohd. Naik is not present now, he has referring to Jammu and Kashmir. We have enacted article 370 in a very beautiful manner where the Union List and the Concurrent List are not to be changed or will not be applicable to Jammu and Kashmir except with certain consent of Jammu and Kashmir Government. But would he agree to the trifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir if there was a question of its autonomy? Would he agree to the trifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir where there is a clamour for Jammu and Ladakh to be separate from Kashmir? These are very intricate matters which cannot be talked upon or decided upon while we talking of giving a new shape of the Union List, the State List and the Concurrent List.

As I had, said in browsing over these last 52 years, we have seen that it is becoming a unitary character; it has to be changed. You would appreciate that over the last three elections, we have seen that regional aspirations have been coming to the fore and the regional parties have come up with strength in Parliament. Their aspirations have to be guarded properly and we cannot do away with this aspiration now. When we have the regional aspirations, we have to think of changing the entire mould itself and when we think of changing the entire mould itself, we have to go into the Lists that have been prepared at the time of framing of the Constitution. Things have gone very far off and Shri Vaiko has made an elaborate study of this. I am not going into the details of his recommendations

Dr. Nitish Sengupta was talking about education, transfer of property, etc. I even feel that control of prices

should be in the State List and I do not think there is any necessity for it to be in the Concurrent List.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted for this bill has elapsed. If the house permits we can extend the time for further half an hour.

SEVERAL HON'BLE MEMBERS : O.K.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then it is extended for half an hour.

[English]

SHRI ANADI SAHU : He has given a very beautiful analysis of things like estate duties, which are to be in the State List; then Item No. 88, that is succession of property is to be deleted, etc. He wanted to delete a number of items. He has suggested many things to be taken of the State List also. He wanted to bring many items in the State List in order to see that the State gets more powers.

While thinking of the powers to be given to the States and his good intentions, I am reminded of a famous Grecian Ode, which is called Pythian Ode of Pindar. It says : "Strive not my friend for an immortal soul; make the best of what is possible." I will change it slightly and say : "Strive not my friend for an immediate solution, make use of what is possible now." I have changed slightly the Pythian Ode by the Pindar. I would request him to try and do whatever is possible and try to make the best use of what is possible at present.

Let us analyse the insertions that have been made during the last 52 years. From the 6th amendment to the 42nd amendment of the Constitution, a lot of insertions have been made. Let us analyse those things. Those insertions should be taken out first by a Constitutional Amendment Bill. The Government should take it up.

In that way a number of provisions which have been brought in to the Union List can be deleted and more powers can be given to the States.

In this connection, I would like to invite attention to the Constitution of the United States of America. Shri Vaiko could kindly hear me. Recently, I had been to USA. I had read its Constitution earlier but I was just thinking how is it possible that USA is able to make use of such a small Constitution with a very limited number of Articles. When I went there, I was amazed, surprised and was glad to find

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

that a very good working arrangement has been made for implementation of that Constitution. I would be very short now. I would suggest to this House to go into the details of the American Constitution.

There are only three provisions which could be taken into account while going into the Constitutional amendments, as suggested by Shri Vaiko. These are in Article 1, section 8, 9 and 10 of the USA constitution. Very briefly I would state these things. Section 8 of Article 1 says :

"The Congress shall have power to levy and collect taxes."

There are many other things but I am not going into the details. Section 9 says :

"The migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year. . . ."

So, they have taken into account the citizenship. Section 10 is very important so far as the State List is concerned. Section 10 says :

"No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin money; emits Bills of Credit, make anything but gold and silver coin. . . ."

No State shall without the consent of the Congress lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws. . . .

No State shall without the consent of the Congress lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war. . . ."

These are a few things which have been indicated in section 10 of article 1. They do not give any residuary power to any one. These are the three matters which need to be thought of now when you are thinking of changing the Constitution with a view of bring about more powers to the States.

Now, I would suggest only two things when you think of changing the Constitution or amending the Constitution. One is, make a Union List and secondly, make a State

List. There may be on Concurrent List. Residuary power by nature will go to the Central Government. Whenever there is any transgression of powers of the State, it will be for the Parliament to decide whether they have transgressed its authority or not. That should be consensus. That should be the thinking now so that regional aspirations can be taken care of. At the same time, the Centre can exercise proper control. We have not utilised Article 249 in any way, where there is a provision that the Council of States can adopt a Resolution for taking over certain actions of the State for a period of six months or to be extended by another six months or one year. We have not utilised it in any way. This can be utilised if there is any break down of law and order in any State. As per article 252, where two States have disputes, with the consent of those States, those disputes can be resolved by the Central Government.

So, I would suggest, as I was telling Shri Vaiko, that there should be only a State List and a Union List with the rider that all the residual powers should rest with the Central Government. The small Constitution of the United States of America could be a guide. They have made only 27 amendments in the 200 years of their existence whereas we have exceeded 92 amendments in 52 years and still we are thinking of bringing more amendments to the Constitution every now and then. This should stop. Before I conclude, I would suggest that we adopt the provisions which have been indicated in the Constitution of the USA and Government may bring suitable amendments to the Constitution

[Translation]

SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT (Shapur) : Mr. Chairman, I support the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2000 moved in the House by Hon'ble Shri Vaiko Sahib. He has prepared this bill with great labour. I congratulate him for that.

Sir, you and we all are aware of the fact that after the freedom of the country, since the enforcement of the Constitution, framed by Ambedkar ji, in India, many severe problems have been cropping up from time to time in the country. Newer problems have been surfacing. The makers of the constitution had expected that power would be decentralised and the common people would get justice and there shall be an atmosphere of peace and harmony, the country will prosper again. But for many reasons, the dreams of the makers of the Constitution do not seem to

the coming true. Even after 50 years of independence, there are anomalies in the Constitution which we have not tried to remove, they must be removed.

Shri Vaiko Saheb has moved this bill to make amendment in the provisions of article 246 regarding Centre-State relations. We all know that in the seventh schedule of the Constitution under article 246, there are three types of lists – Union list, State list and Concurrent list. My predecessor Shri Anadi Charan Sahu ji has said that there is no need of the concurrent list and that should be done away with. I also support his view. I also want the Concurrent list to be removed. Though in the Concurrent list of Shri Vaiko Saheb, initially there were 47 points and it has been tried to reduce to 28, i.e. about 19 points have been removed from the list. In the State list, initially there were 66 subjects which will become 70 by this amendment – this means Shri Vaikoji has tried to give more powers to the States through this amendment bill. Similarly, in the Union list there were 97 subjects out of which only 94 remain. This has been provided in the bill. There are many such matters as have been shown in the concurrent list. All of you know that this concurrent list has been responsible for Centre-State disputes. Settlement of these disputes take time. Centre wants one thing and the States want something else. Though there is a provision to follow the Central Government laws as supreme in the Concurrent list, but in many States such situations arise, as is written in the Concurrent list, that no body is ready to settle and follow it easily. They keep on lingering the matter by finding faults in them. Bhargava Saheb had given an example. I would also like to give an example. There are two different penalties in Divorce Act. As per Central Act, if a person gives divorce to a woman, he will have to pay rupees 500 per month to that woman as alimony but the Governments of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and other States have prescribed rupees 1500, 3000 and 500 respectively. The punishment for similar crime should be equal throughout the country. Such discrepancies should be removed.

Sir, lotteries are being run by the Government of India as well as State Governments. The Central Government is not supposed to run lotteries. As a matter of fact, lottery should be completely banned but it is allowed, it should be left to the States. It need not be included in the Union list. So far as the field of education is concerned, there are some universities like Aligarh Muslim University, Hindu

University and Delhi University which have been given national importance and are under the control of Central Government and others are under the control of States Governments. Why such a discrimination is there in the field of education? Some students are getting good quality of education and others are getting substandard education. If a University is under the control of Central Government, its employees are called Central Government employees and they are getting more salaries and allowances but in other Universities which are being run by the State Governments, less facilities are being given to their employees and students. Such discrimination should be stopped. This subject should be either in the State list or in the Union list. But education is a State matter, it should, be therefore, be included in the State list.

So far as the railway police is concerned, there are two types of police forces – Railway Protection Force and GRP. GRP is under the control of the States and RPF is under the control of Railways. Due to this system, disputes are witnessed at the railway stations and this leads to the protection of the criminals. When we ask about the duties of GRP and RPF, we are told that RPF is a Railway Protection Force which takes action against the crimes in railways like thefts and any damage done to the coaches and rail lines etc. and other criminal acts are dealt with by the GRP. In such a criminal procedure code, laws are made by the Central as well as State Governments. The Central and State Governments have their own jurisdictions. These discrepancies should be removed otherwise it will be difficult to ensure a speedy and inexpensive justice. There should be such provisions which may be helpful in providing justice. There are so many such matters. The Concurrent list should be done away with because there are some such subjects in that list which can be transferred to State list and others to the Union list. The subjects of Centre and States are, therefore, required to be redefined. Otherwise, disputes between Centre and State Governments would continue to increase and it would create problems to the people. Moreover, it will hamper the progress of the States and country as a whole. I would like to urge upon the hon'ble Minister to give a thought to the Bill moved by the hon'ble Vaiko ji and give a positive reply.

Sir, I would like to give one more example. Foreign trade should be under the control of Central Government fully, otherwise I have observed that the Chief Ministers

[Shri Thawarchand Gehlot]

visit foreign countries directly for the purpose of capital investment. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have visited foreign countries. It should be decided whether the trade with foreign countries should be under the control of Central Government or State Governments. It should certainly be under the control of the Central Government. It would be better for the States to invite foreign capital investment through the Central Government. At present, State Governments try to sign trade agreements by visiting foreign countries which causes disputes between Central and State Governments leading to so much difficulties.

Similarly, perhaps like the Judges of High Courts are appointed by the Centre but lower courts are under the control of the States. There should be a provision of equal punishment for a crime throughout the country. It is, therefore, necessary that the entire judicial system should be under the control of the Central Government.

Once again, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that the Concurrent List should be done away with and its subjects should be included in the Union and State lists. States should be given more powers so that we can achieve the target expected from the Constitution of our country.

The Constitution Review Commission has been set up and it has submitted its reports. I think that much has been said about it in the report. I hope that while implementing the recommendations of the Commission, these things will be kept in mind and such a system will be evolved so that there would be no dispute between the Centre and the State Governments over the subjects and both of them would march ahead together on the path of country's progress.

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Constitution (Amendment) Bill.

I rise to congratulate the hon. Member Shri Vaiko for bringing forward such a very important Constitution (Amendment) Bill. This is a very important Bill. When our Constitution-framers debated the whole Constitution, they had taken a lot of time. They debated on these issues months together. Here again, the same question is there.

After the passing of 52 years, so many things have changed. These important things require to be debate in this Parliament thoroughly. Shri Vaiko has made very good efforts.

Sir, we know that under article 246 of the Constitution, there are three Lists. One is the Union List in which there are 97 items. Shri Vaiko has suggested about 94 items to be retained in this List now. Similarly, in the State List, there are some 66 items. Through this amendment, Shri Vaiko has suggested 60 items to be retained in it. Similarly, in the case of the Concurrent List, there are 47 items and he has suggested 42 items to be retained in it. My feeling is that each and every item requires to be considered very thoroughly. I do not want to take such time.

Whatever Shri Vaiko has suggested, there must be only two Lists. Whatever remaining powers are there, they must be given to the Central Government. This is an august body of the whole country. Parliament and the Central Government should have the power. As I said earlier, I do not want to take much time because time is very short. I would again like to say that these matters require to be debated thoroughly. Whenever Parliament gets time, it should consider these items. If we take each and every item, we can see that so many things have changed. I would cite only one example here. Shri Vaiko has tried to put the subject of forests in the State List taking out from the Concurrent List. I feel that it should be in the Concurrent List only because the subject of forests is such an important item. Of course, the States can also manage things. There is no doubt about it. But, at the same time, the Centre should have the right over the enactment of Bills and amendments in this matter. Take, for example, the marine area. In the marine area, there are marine sanctuaries. In the marine sanctuary areas, States have got the power. There are many complaints that the States are mismanaging this. So, if the Centre has the power, then, it can take proper care of it. So, my only suggestion is that this matter requires to be debated thoroughly in Parliament.

Again, I heartily congratulate Shri Vaiko for bringing forward this Bill. I thank him very much for this.

With these words, I conclude.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : Sir, at the very outset, I am grateful to Shri Vaiko for having brought forward such a very important Constitution (Amendment) Bill.

He has brought to the fore the concerns of everybody regarding the financial, administrative and legislative powers of the States, the Centre-State relations, the harmonious development of the relationship, that these States are made more self-sufficient, more autonomous, more independent, and also to see that the Centre is as strong as possible, as strong as need in the present day context.

Eleven Members, including the BJP Member, have supported the Bill except perhaps one Member who had opposed this Bill. That shows the wide concern of all the hon. Members on the issue. A very contemporaneous subject has been touched. Hon. Members, Shri Vaiko has worked hard in bringing out as to which particular item should be included from List I, as to which particular item should be deleted from List II, etc. I will not go into the details. But the aims and objects of the Bill also shows that the framers of the Constitution had envisaged a strong Centre in order to protect the interests of the States, building a strong India, building a strong nation but not to dominate the States. He has mentioned about it. He also mentioned in the aims and objects that the State Governments should be given more powers in order to enable them to discharge their duties more responsibly; concentration of power is not good and the States should be left alone to decide their policies, and review of legislative powers should be undertaken urgently.

I am thankful to other Members also who have contributed immensely in this behalf. It has also been mentioned specially in the context of the residuary powers by Shri Vaiko and some other hon. Members that the Constitutions of Australia, the USA and some other countries have these residuary powers with the States and not with the Centre whereas in Indian Constitution, we have a different picture. I would like to point out in this context that *Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar* himself, while framing the Constitution, had observed that the best features of all the Constitutions available at that time were taken into consideration by the Constituent Assembly and the features which were the best according to them, according to their likes at that time, and suitable to the conditions of Indian society, were incorporated into the Constitution. That is why, a very bulky Constitution was made and all possible features of other Constitutions were also kept in view.

Our Constitution, there is no doubt, aims at harmonious relation between the Centre and the States and the Centre wants to see all round rapid development of the States.

Now, let us not forget that along with the Constitutional provisions, there are institutional arrangements for promoting harmonious development of the Centre-State relations and also the development of the States. The relationship between the States and Centre can be divided into three categories. Firstly, administrative; secondly, legislative; and thirdly, financial. The mechanism to guide the Centre-State relations is fully institutionalised.

Now, let us go through the financial arrangements. Institutionalised arrangements exist in the form of the National Development Council. The National Development Council is meant for deciding the norms for , devolution of Plan funds and tax revenues. All the Chief Ministers of the States are its members. Plan funds are devolved on the basis of a very honest and transparent, rationale, logical formula known as *Gadgil-Mukherjee* formula, without any bias.

Many a time, a dispute arises about our Constitution. Some people call this Constitution of ours as 'federal'; others call it as 'quasi-federal'; and there is a third category also who say that it is 'federal, but with a unitary bias'. This shows that the framers of the Constitution had taken into consideration the interests of the States and said that their interests should be safeguarded. They said that the States should be made strong enough, but at the same time, the Centre should not get weakened; the Centre should also be kept strong so that a strong nation exists.

In the year 1982, Sarkaria Commission was appointed to go into the entire gamut of Centre-State relations and the Sarkaria Commission presented its report sometime in 1989. Then, the Inter-State Council which was also constituted under the Constitution is very important body. It was created in May, 1990 to consider the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission. All the Chief Ministers again are the Members of the Inter-State Council created under article 263 of the Constitution. Its importance can be gauged from the fact that no less a person than the Prime Minister of India presides over it and even the 80th Constitution Amendment regarding devolution of finances between the States and the Centre was preceded by a Resolution of the Inter-State Council, such an important body already exists in our country.

[Shri I.D. Swami]

So far as the progress in relation to the implementation of the Sarkaria Commission's Report is concerned, the total number of recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission was 247, spread over about 19 chapters. So far, seven meetings of the Inter-State Council have been held and they took a view on 230 recommendations out of which 108 recommendations have already been implemented and 87 are in different stages of implementation.

It is right that with regard to 17 recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission which essentially pertain to article 356 of the Constitution, deployment of the Union Armed Forces and administrative relations, they have yet to take a view. These recommendations have already been considered by a Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council and its Report is shortly going to be placed before the Inter-State Council. After the Inter-State Council takes a view, even those 17 recommendations would have a finality.

As far as residuary powers are concerned, most of the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate have mentioned about them and Shri Vaiko has mentioned about them in details by quoting the examples prevalent in the United States of America and Australia. The Sarkaria Commission itself recommended that the residuary powers on legislation except those concerned with taxation of any kind should be transferred to the Concurrent List from the Union List. This recommendation was considered by the Inter-State Council and the Inter-State Council, in its wisdom, in its meeting held in November, 2001, had gone a step forward and said: 'no; there should be no exception'. They said that even those residuary powers that are concerned with taxation of any kind should also be included and they should be placed in the Concurrent List. We have made progress in that connection also. It said that all residuary powers on legislation, including those on taxation matters, should be transferred from the Union List to the Concurrent List. That recommendation is also available to us.

Then, the Constitution itself provides that every five years there would be a Finance Commission which is an independent body like the Inter-State Council, like the National Development Council. This constitutional body would be looking into the distribution of net proceeds of taxes, principles to govern Grant-in-Aid to the States out of the Consolidated Fund of India and measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of India and the

Consolidated Fund of States to supplement the resources of *panchayats*.

The distribution of revenues between the Centre and the States – including the devolution of Plan funds and tax revenues – is done in a very rationale, transparent and participatory manner because it is a constitutional objective to have a strong Centre. The Finance Commission makes recommendations every five years. The Eleventh Finance Commission has made it up to 29 per cent of Central tax revenue. It is already being given to the States from 1996.

Keeping in view the time limit, I would like that this matter is finalised because Shri Vaiko would also like to speak.

There was the Constitution Review Commission. This Commission had also been seized of this problem. The Constitution Review Commission has already made its recommendations. Those recommendations would also be considered along with the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission and the ISC. The institutional arrangement – so elaborately given in the Constitution – already exists whereby the Chief Ministers are consulted. If there is any dispute, if there is any amendment to be made, or a constitutional amendment is to be made, all those things are taken care of by the Inter-State Council, by the National Development Council and by the Finance Commission. I do not think there is a need of any constitutional amendment at this stage when the Constitution Review Commission has also made its recommendations. We can certainly consider the recommendations of the Constitution Review Commission and take into consideration all these recommendations. As many of our hon. Members had mentioned, it is a subject that needs a deeper study.

Let us also not forget that this constitutional amendment cannot be carried out easily because 50 per cent of the Members present in the House first pass it, then two-thirds will have to pass it, and then 50 per cent of the States will also have to improve the amendment. Then only, such an amendment can be carried out.

Even hon. Shri Vaiko had mentioned in the aims and objects that in course of time perhaps the Central Government has been encroaching upon the authority and the sphere of the States and that has also treated an imbalance. I may point out for his information that no encroachment has been made.

Somebody has also mentioned that even the para-military forces and the armed forces are sent or can be sent. Well, the armed forces or para-military forces are always given to the States in aid of civil administration as and when demanded by them. Otherwise, the Central Government has never been sending either the Army or the Central para-military forces. On the other hand, the Central Government has been liberally giving aid to the State Governments wherever the institutional arrangements do not exist.

The issue of modernisation of Police came in because of the proxy war, because of the cross-border terrorism, and because of organised crimes taking place in the States. Then, the Central Government thought of it. It started with Rs. 10 crore for the modernisation. The Central Government long time back started with Rs. 10 crore only to be given. But keeping in view the developments and the present-day scenario in the country, only in 2000-2001 – when the Chief Ministers' Conference took place – it was decided at the spur of the moment. When the things were put before the Prime Minister, he was kind enough to take a decision then and there that – Rs. 100 crore were at that time – the total allocation for modernisation of the Police of the States was raised to Rs. 1,000 crore. That amount of Rs. 1,000 crore would be given to the States for the modernisation of the States. No only that, the left wing extremism the underground insurgents' problem, the problem of cross-border terrorism was taken as a national problem, and not as a State problem. The Central Government took a decision that the Government of India will meet 50 per cent of expenditure on the countering the left wing extremism and is giving 100% assistance to strengthened the Police of the States affected by insurgency.

It was taken as a national calamity, as a national problem and as a wish, the nation must take care of, and the Central Government took upon itself. So, it has always been the endeavour of the Central Government to develop a consensus on contentious issues affecting the State by having discussions in the Chief Ministers' Conference, in the Chief Secretaries' Conference, and other Officers' Conference. That is why, Sir, keeping all these things in view, keeping in view of the institutional arrangements, the Central Government has been taking decisions under the Constitution and even by executive directions, in the interest of the States, to keep them financially viable and to help them. Wherever the problems are beyond their capacity, the Central Government has been always very liberal.

Keeping the Eleventh Finance Commission's recommendations and the 80th Amendment of the Constitution, which gives 29 per cent, I think, in terms of all these things, for the present there is no necessity, there is no justification immediately to have an amendment. Let us also study the Review Commission Report. The Central Government will take some time to study the Review Commission Report, which has now become available. After that, we can certainly take a final view. We can have a wide-ranging debate because it is not a simple matter. All aspects have to be taken into consideration.

I would however, like to ensure the Members present that there is no attempt on the part of the Centre to usurp the powers of the State. The hon. Member, Shri Vaiko has used the word 'usurp' in the aims and objects of his Bill. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : It was not done by you. It was done by the previous Government . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : You have used the word 'usurp' in the aims and objects of his Bill. That is what I am saying. Whatever be the Government, I can assure you that no attempt on the part of the Government should be made to usurp the powers of the State. In fact, the Central Government should be and is committed to continue its endeavour to evolve a broad consensus on the implementation of the steps for devolution of such powers to the States as would be conducive to the efficiency in administration, acceleration of development and the fullest realisation of the creative potential of all the States, all the sections of the people and the fullest realisation of the creative potential of all sections of the society and the States. And more so, it may result in promotion of strong and harmonious development of relations between the Centre and the States.

The Government is also of the firm conviction that realisation of federal principles and devolution of powers to the States must go together keeping the Centre strong enough to take care of the country as well as the interests of the States.

We have to keep in view all these recommendations and the institutional arrangements, the importance of the subject, the contemporaneous subject and the relevant subject. No doubt, it is a very important subject. I must once again congratulate Shri Vaiko for having brought this important subject at a very important time. When it is needed, he has attracted the attention of the nation,

[Shri I.D. Swami]

attracted the attention of this august House. That is why, about 12 or 13 hon. Members spoke, and without any distinction of the Party affiliations, they were all on devolution of powers and we should have a second look. We will have a second look on it. After studying the Review Commission Report, the Government would certainly take necessary action.

With these words, I would request Shri Vaiko to withdraw his Bill, so far as this Bill is concerned, and I would be very grateful to him.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members – Shri Sudarsana Nachiappan, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Dr. Nitish Sengupta, Shri Hannan Mollah, Shri Ali Mohd. Naik, Shri Anadi Sahu, Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot, Shri P.S. Gadahi and Shri Ramdas Athawale for having given their valuable support to my Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the Bill of late lamented Aignar Anna, the Founder of the DMK Party. In the year 1974, on the floor of the Assembly of Tamil Nadu Legislature, when Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister of the State, A Resolution was passed for State autonomy on the recommendations of Dr. Rajmanner Committee on State Autonomy. Then, there was a White Paper submitted by hon. Jyoti Basu, by the Government of West Bengal. Subsequently, a conclave was organised by Dr. Farooq Abdullah in Srinagar where all the regional Parties participated. The famous Anantpur Sahib Resolution of Akali Dal was adopted by the Akali Dal Party. Very recently, the autonomy resolution was passed by the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly. A conclave was organised by Dr. Farooq Abdullah in Srinagar. I also participated in that conclave. I gave my fullest support to the autonomy demand except my reservation on one or two points.

The time is very limited because I would like to accommodate Dr. Saroja. Unless she initiates the discussion, she would not get the chance. So, I will be very careful that before the strike of six o' clock, she will be able to initiate her Bill.

This time very important issue has been debate here.

My learned friend cited the example of the United States of America. We should follow that example. The residuary powers have gone to the States in the U.S. Constitution. In the Second Chamber, the Upper House of the United States, equal representation is given to all the States. Real democracy could be established only when representation is given equally to all the States. In the National Agenda of our National Democratic Alliance, we have committed to federal harmony ensuring a partnership of the Centre and the States and more devolution of powers. Of course, I appreciate the stand taken by the hon. Minister that there is a Constitution Review Commission. There is a need for a thorough debate on the subject and after a thorough debate, we could put our heads together and if there is a need, then we can consider the demand put by me here.

Equal representation to all the States is given in the United States of America. But on the basis of population, here also there should be equal representation to all the States in the Council of States. That is the need of the country. That is the need to the hour.

There is one more aspect. There is a proposal to change the present procedure. A person to be elected to the Rajya Sabha, to the Council of States, should be voter and he should have resided in that particular State for a particular period of time. There is a move to change that. It is to dump the people of other States, who could not be elected from their own States. It is a very, very bad practice. The States should be represented by their own people. I would like to request the Government to give up the idea.

There is one more thing. Again I come to this. There was the Sarkaria Commission Report. That Report was also referred by the hon. Minister. Actually during the days of Shri V.P. Singh Government, there was no thinking in the minds of the Congress people about the Inter-State Council at all. So, things have changed now. Here today, so many problems are creeping in.

India is a pluralistic society. So, all the languages should be given equal status. This is one aspect on which I have demanded that the most classic and ancient language of Tamil from the Dravidian group of languages should be made the official language. If there is any difficulty in making all the national languages included in

the Eighth Schedule official languages of the country, till it is done, English should continue as per the assurance given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In the interest of protecting the unity and integrity of this country, we have been raising this demand for many years. We should not forget what happened in the Soviet Union when all the powers were vested in Moscow with one-language hegemony and domination. There was Balkanisation of the Soviet Union into 15 States. We should not forget what happened in Yugoslavia. So, this is the time when powers should be given to the States.

The residuary powers of the States, which have been encroached upon, usurped and aggressed by the Centre during the days of Emergency should be given back to the States. This is the demand that I have made here. I have given elaborate details about the reasons for which I have been demanding that powers be given back. This is the time when the powers taken away from the States should be given back to the States. The residuary powers should go to the States. Therefore, when the hon. Minister says that the Government would consider going in for a thorough debate on the subject on the basis of the recommendations made by the Review Commission of the Constitution. I would like to make a request to him not to think that he could brush aside the demands of the States for more powers. The Government should come forward with a comprehensive legislation because this is a Constitution Amendment Bill. There has to be a comprehensive legislation with a thorough debate on the entire subject on the basis of the recommendations of the Review Commission of the Constitution. I hope, the Government would come forward with a thorough discussion and would accept the demands given in this Constitution Amendment Bill that I have moved.

Once again, I think all hon. Members who have participated in this debate and given their valuable support. I am confident, a day would come when the spirit of this Bill would be adopted by this House I have this confidence and faith because the spirit of this Bill intends to protect the unity and integrity of this country. If that spirit were not adopted in this House, future unity would be in jeopardy. Therefore, with that confidence, I now propose to withdraw the Bill.

I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

[English]

17.59 hrs.

ACQUIRED IMMUNO DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PREVENTION BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the House will take up item No. 39 – 'Consideration and Passing of Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Prevention Bill'.

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the prevention and control of the spread of Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV) infection and to provide for specialized medical treatment and social support to and rehabilitation of persons suffering from Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Chairman, Sir, this is a very important Private Member's Bill that I have introduced, which is the need of the hour for our nation. I thank hon. Member Shri Vaiko for permitting me to pilot this Bill by giving this opportunity.

This Bill relates to Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome and HIV AIDS.

18.00 hrs.

Sir, this Bill is to provide for the prevention and control of the spread of Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV) infection and to provide for specialised medical treatment and social support to and rehabilitation of persons suffering from Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. V. Saroja, you can continue your speech next time.

18.0½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirty-Sixth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, I beg to

present the Thirty-sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. on Monday, May, 6, 2002.

18.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then Adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May, 6, 2002/
Vaisakha 15, 1924 (Saka)*

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