

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, November 28, 2000/Agrahayana 7, 1922 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, we have given a notice for adjournment motion....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal, you have given a notice for Adjournment Motion, but I have disallowed that. We have a meeting of the BAC today. We can discuss it in that meeting in what fashion we have to take it up. If you want to raise it here, you can do so during the Zero Hour. Now, you may please cooperate with the Chair.

Q. No. 121, Shri Ram Mohan Gadde.

11.01 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Information Technology and Computer Science + Teachers

*121 SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

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

(a) whether the country will face massive shortage of IT teachers in the near future;

(b) if so, whether any study has been carried out by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

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

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Although no detailed survey of requirement of Information Technology and Computer Science teachers has been conducted, a sample survey was conducted by the AICTE for the institutions approved by it. On the basis of a sample survey, a shortage of teachers for IT & Computer Science has been felt. Almost all IT education institutions find it difficult to attract and retain good faculty. Also due to rapid expansion in the field of IT education, shortage of teachers is being felt more acutely in Information Technology disciplines as compared to other engineering branches.

This issue was deliberated in detail in the 'Task Force on HRD in IT' set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Human Resource Development and a series of measures have been identified to meet faculty shortage, and to improve faculty quality and their retention.

[English]

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the past few years, a large number of youths has shown interest in information technology. But I am sorry to state that the Ministry of Human Resource Development has not taken any concrete steps to provide facilities to youths or teachers imparting computer education. There is brain-drain of highly skilled information technology professionals. Due to meagre allowances and facilities, the information technology professionals are rushing to developed countries.

Here, my first supplementary is this. May I know whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to stop or check brain drain of such highly skilled information technology professionals, whose services are need in the country, and on whose education, the country has spent a lot? What are the measures that the Government is taking to curtail such brain-drain? Do you have State-wise reports of shortage of information technology teachers and if so, what are the details?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today's question is concerning shortage of teachers and not concerning brain-drain. In reply to the question regarding shortage of teachers I have already stated that no comprehensive survey has been conducted by AICTE. We have not received any written complaints regarding State-wise specific shortage of teachers. Since the area of information technology is widely expanding, it is felt that there will be a shortage of three to four thousand teachers in the coming time.

(English)

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Information Technology teacher's education has largely remained untouched in our country. So, why should we not incorporate all the information technology facilities into the teacher's education model? We can extend Internet, e-mail facilities to all teachers and students; we can also provide the know-how to all the student-teachers to meet the shortage. I understand that 23 lakh information technology professional teachers are required by the year 2008.

Recently, the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the able leadership of Nara Chandrababu Naidu, has taken initiative by introducing computers in education in its true perspective, right from school level to teachers' education level.

I would like to know whether the Government proposes to set up IT professional institutes to meet the shortage of IT teachers in major cities, towns and rural areas for its proper promotion. If so, the details thereof.

(Translation)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two components in the survey that has been conducted. One is demand for I.T. enabled Services.

(English)

That is more.

(Translation)

Another is demand for core I.T. Professional Services which deals with Data Processing etc. In general these two demands involve, 22 lakh professional approximately. Moreover, several steps have been taken to meet the shortage of teachers in the near future. The task force constituted for this purpose has given several suggestions, which include early induction. That is to say the students who are in senior classes should get good amount of stipend from the early stage so that they are attracted to go for Post graduation. This is one of the objectives. There is also a graduation. This is one of the objectives. There is also a provision to provide upto Rs. 10 thousand as a scholarship amount which will continue till the student completes his Post graduation. This is so because the degree of Post graduation is a must for the Post of teachers. The Scholarship amount of Rs. 10 thousand will be given to the students doing Post graduation and after that they will have to give an undertaking that they would work as teachers for the next three years. There are several other suggestions to make up for the shortage of

teachers. Systematic efforts are being made for this purpose and other technologies are also being used to achieve the objective.

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Lady Minister has admitted in her reply that there is shortage of teachers. On the one hand, the Government claims that India is ahead of all other countries in the field of I.T. whereas on the other hand we do not have adequate number of teachers to achieve the target in this regard. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to how can we train our students when we do not have adequate number of I.T. teachers. The A.I.C.T.E. has stated in its survey report that one teacher is required for 50 students. As per the government norms, one teacher is required for 15 students and that way we require 23 lakh teachers. I would like to ask as to how will you meet this requirement?

(English)

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Mane, it has already been replied. What is your supplementary question?

(Translation)

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: My supplementary question is what is the State-wise details of financial help sought by State Governments from the Central Government and whether the Maharashtra Government have sent any proposal to the Central Government to meet the shortage of I.T. teachers?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir the requirement of 23 lakh I.T. teachers is often quoted. In this regard I would like to say that the requirement of 23 lakh I.T. teachers is not the requirement of today, rather this is the estimated requirement till 2007. By the year 2007 we will require about 23 I.T. teachers. ... (Interruptions) Please let me complete first.... (Interruptions) He was standing up. That is why we have constituted a task force. The Programme in this regard has been formulated with a view to meeting the requirement of teachers arising upto year 2007. We are giving facilities to any such institutions that will come up. We are telling them as to how we will allow visiting faculty, adjunct faculty. As I have already said we will encourage maximum number of students to do P.G. course. During 1998-99 forty such persons have been given scholarship and hundred more persons will be given scholarship next year. That way nearly one thousand teachers will be available. This whole scheme is valid upto 2007. There is no State-wise details in this regard. All those persons for whom the scheme is meant can avail benefits of this scheme.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: In view of the acute shortage of teachers for IT education at different levels being felt by all quarters, urgent and speedy steps are required to be taken. May I know from the hon. Minister whether easier franchise arrangements with lesser financial cost may be allowed by the Department of Electronics who is providing 'O', 'A' and 'B' level franchises? May I also suggest to the hon. Minister that certain percentage of the existing teachers in the schools and colleges may be asked to have some bridge or compact courses covering several modules, and the Union Government may make available such funds for computers as also for running these workshops in the States who are arranging it.

(Translation)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: As I have already said all the time Post Graduates are not required. There are different courses. A provision has been made for under graduates and for senior students that they can teach the students of lower classes. This provision being made under the Encouraging Teaching Assistance Scheme. Besides, services of visiting faculties from reputed institutions can also be taken. We will render assistance for this scheme. Third is adjunct faculties. If some one is teaching in some college in the nearby areas, he can also take classes. There is also such a scheme. Similarly, there is also a suggestion regarding Post graduation for I.T. and dual degree Programme extended to I.T. wherever such things are done, the Government will provide help. But all that is included under the programme. Government will provide help. But all that is included under the programme.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: No, I had asked a different question. DOEACC provides franchise against the provision of Rs. 12,000 for Rs. 15,000 franchise. Easier franchise arrangements by DOEACC show that institutes, colleges and others can also provide 'O', 'A' and 'B' level courses to their syllabus, at schools and colleges, at lesser franchise cost than Rs. 12,000 which is being charged for these levels so that both quality and expansion may be ensured. I had asked this question.

(Translation)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: We can not compromise with quality. The task force has given several

suggestions in regard to expansion. The Government is considering all that. Many of those suggestions have been implemented and the Government is considering to implement the rest. The report of the task force is yet to be submitted, but the Government is considering the suggestions of the task force.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, the field of information technology is fast expanding. It is expanding by leaps and bounds. This is happening in western countries and also in some Eastern countries. If there are shortage of teachers in our country, can we call the visiting teachers from other countries to teach our students. The other thing is that this is a new Science, a new technology, so there can be a different method to teach subject. Video tape and audio tape that are available in the market can be used as teaching aids. These video and audio tapes are interactive. If there are some queries following a particular lecture then these tapes contain answers to those queries. Such video and audio tapes are available in the market in abundance. Here I would like to ask whether the Government will ensure that these tapes do not have any adverse impact on our students and that those who are working in that field are benefitted and whether the Government will try to remove the shortcomings, if any, by making some scheme. I think this can be done. I would like to ask whether the Government will take some concrete steps in this regard.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: As I mentioned about the visiting faculty, there are two suggestions in this regard which include calling distinguished visiting professors both from abroad and from within India. However, for that matter we will have to discuss with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs to work out modalities in this regard. In this regard I would like to submit that all these things have been taken into consideration including consideration of fast growing field of information technology while constituting the task force by the hon. Prime Minister. In this task force H.R.D. Ministry, I.T. Minister and Chief Minister of two-three States are included. This alone proves that we are making all out efforts to ensure progress of the country in I.T. field.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has just replied that

[English]

"Almost all IT education institutions find it difficult to attract and retain good faculty. Also due to rapid expansion in the field of IT education, shortage of teachers is being felt more acutely in Information Technology disciplines as compared to other engineering branches."

[Translation]

Shri Shivraj Patil has asked an important question. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what would be our future education policy in coming five to ten years keeping in view the advancement of I.T. technology. Both rural and urban populace are still unaware of this field. The Government of Maharashtra is active in this regard. Here I would like to know as to whether there is any scheme to provide assistance and information to Maharashtra. Besides, he mentioned about advancement in the field of Science, here I would like to ask whether the Government are taking some measures in regard to Science cum security.

MR. SPEAKER: Rawaleji, this question is concerning teachers and not concerning information technology.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I am asking exactly the same thing as to why teachers are not available. He has explained the reasons of that. And my question pertaining that only if certain technology will be used to ensure our security system.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no supplementary. Madam please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: My question is what would be our future education policy in coming five to ten years...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask the correct supplementary otherwise, I cannot allow.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: The hon. Minister is ready to reply to my supplementary.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If the Minister is ready to give reply, I have no objection.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, any scheme is framed keeping in view the five to ten years of time. For this purpose only we have constituted

the task force. The constitution of the task force bears testimony to the fact that we have taken into view the future even beyond 10 years and we have also taken care that there is no compromise with the quality either.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the shortage of teachers that has been felt, I would like to ask through you to the hon. Minister whether any study has been done to find out the rural and urban breakup in this regard. I would like to ask whether the Government is going to make any efforts in regard to the thrust area management for rural areas.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the question of rural and urban break up. Wherever such institutions are located including rural or urban areas and which are running short of teachers, efforts are made to meet that shortage. So overall situation is taken into consideration and the Government is going to introduce a distant education system to tackle with the problem of shortage of teachers. The distant education system can facilitate imparting of education to students from one college. Now there is internet facility which can be fully utilised. Care has been taken to ensure that students of maximum institutions can have access to selected teachers. This is not the question of rural and urban break up. We are considering it institution wise.

Corruption in MCD

*122. ⁺SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some officials of the MCD have made an open admission recently of the rampant corruption in the Corporation;

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

(c) the number of employees facing corruption charges in the MCD and the cases registered against them during the last three years;

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to control the unabated corruption in MCD;

(e) whether any mechanism has been evolved to punish the corrupt/guilty officials promptly; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b): No, Sir, However, a Member of a Committee appointed by the Delhi High Court who is also a lawyer had, in connection with a Public Interest Litigation which was being heard by the Hon'ble Court, made a statement about the alleged widespread corruption in Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(c): The Central Bureau of Investigation and the Anti-Corruption Branch of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have, during the period 1.4.1997 to 22.11.2000, registered 59 cases involving 104 officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(d) to (f): The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have set up a Special Cell in their Vigilance Department to receive complaints round the clock so that grievances could be promptly redressed and corrupt officials brought to book. Besides, the Corporation have initiated steps to simplify the procedures and bring about more transparency in the functioning so as to reduce corruption in the organization.

[Translation]

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon'ble Minister that whatever details in reply to part 'A' and 'B' of the question has been laid on the Table of the House, are incomplete in all respects. The reply does not even cover the full details of the the matter reported in the newspaper and to the Supreme Court in regard to the rampant corruption in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. This is not the case of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi alone, it has hinted at the corruption prevailing in the entire country. With the result, the image of the Government is being tarnished. I want to know from the hon'ble Minister that what action is being taking in this regard and what action has been taken so far?

[English]

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: To minimise corrupt activities and also to help the public, a number of steps have been taken by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. Among the number of important decisions, a Special Cell has been constituted in their Vigilance Department. They have also initiated a number of steps to simplify the

procedure and to bring about more transparency in the functioning so as to reduce corruption in the organisation. In the answer which has been tabled, the figures in this respect have been given.

According to the steps which have been taken or are being taken to bring about transparency in the functioning of the Corporation so as to minimise malpractices and harassment to the public, I will give a few examples. An Action Plan is being formulated to undertake surprise inspections in the sensitive departments such as House Tax, Building and Factory Licensing Departments and Health Department.

Secondly, the previous experience has been that it was difficult to fix responsibility on the Junior Engineers. The Building Department was the most vulnerable department and about 95 per cent of complaints were against that Department. One of the important steps that has been taken by the Department now is that the Junior Engineers working in the Building Department will have to serve for a minimum period. For allowing unauthorised construction, etc. they used to be transferred within one or two months. Now that has been changed. A minimum period of one year has been fixed for their service. For at least one year they will be there so that they can be made accountable and responsible.

Then there is the issue of C and D Forms. Generally in Delhi whoever applies for the permission for construction of a house, after obtaining the permission when he starts sanitary work in the house, he has to obtain another permission in the form of C Form.

After the completion of the sanitation work, he has to obtain a D Form. So, there is a lot of scope for corrupt practices and most of the officials, on the pretext of obtaining these forms, are visiting the house of that particular person, demanding money, and things like that. Therefore, the Department has taken a step to do away with the obtaining of the 'C' and 'D' Forms. However, the bye-laws of the Corporation are to be amended. When the file would be processed by the Ministry of Urban Development, this problem will be over...(Interruptions) There are a number of other steps also which are taken. The Vigilance Department is there. A number of cases have already been booked to minimise corruption.

[Translation]

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether any new legislation is being enacted to check the malpractices as he has said that 59 cases have been investigated, information has been received in regard to

104 officers and malpractices have increased in regard to form C and D? None of the officer of the Corporation has been sacked or punished and neither any list has been produced in this regard. A long time has passed since the details were received from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi but no particular action is being taken and the House has not been informed that what steps the hon'ble Minister intends to take on the inquiry report in regard to the officers inquired into? I would like that such corrupt officers be sacked and honest officers appointed in the Corporation for its smooth functioning.

[English]

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: Sir, as I had already submitted, there is a mechanism to curb corruption and punish the responsible officials...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Why one or two persons are not punished? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a specific supplementary. Has any action been taken against any guilty officer?

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: In the written answer, it is mentioned that in the period 1.4.1997 to 22.11.2000...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANIL BASU: It is mentioned there. Why the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has not taken any step? (Interruptions)

[English]

Only CBI and other agencies are mentioned in the written answer. What has the MCD done?

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: I am coming to that. There are two mechanisms to curb corrupt practices. One mechanism is given in the written reply. There are cases booked by the Anti-Corruption Branch and the Central Bureau of Investigation. Out of the 59 cases filed, there are 104 officials of the MCD who are involved...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU: But the MCD has not done anything. While other agencies are registering cases, what is the MCD doing?

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: Sir, there is a Vigilance Department in the MCD and it has taken action. They have disposed of 314 cases involving 370 officials in the year 1997-98... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Sometimes, the Minister's reply is provoking the Members to ask supplementaries.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: Sir, I am giving details for the last five years.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Why cannot the senior Minister help him in answering? The senior Minister is ready to reply.

MR. SPEAKER: The junior Ministers also should be given some work. Is it not?

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: During this year, till 30.9.2000, 233 officials have been involved.

The cases booked against them are 197...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Advani, would you like to say anything?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, this is not correct. If the hon. Member had seen the reply itself as also the chart given, he would come to know that it shows that during the year 2000 itself, up to the ninth month, as many as 235 officials have been charged with various kinds of corrupt practices. Action has been taken against 135 officials. In 100 cases, either the cases were closed or they were exonerated. But 135 officials of the Corporation were punished and the punishments include dismissal, removal, censure, cut in pension, warning and recovery from pay. Various kinds of punishments were administered. It would be wrong to say that not a single official has been punished.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vijay Goel.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Regarding corruption, how many complaints are there. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Verma, I called Shri Vijay Goel and not you. Please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Sir, the reply of the hon'ble Minister is far from reality. Some Members of Parliament are members of the Corporation also. The reality is this that none of us can deny that corruption is prevailing at a large scale in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The Vigilance Department, whom this responsibility has been assigned, itself is involved in corruption. The Central Bureau of Investigation wants to apprehend other persons like J.E. and A.E. It is not a political issue. The corruption has been prevailing not for the last two-three years but for many years now. I have always been saying that we go on trading charges against one another, but the bureaucrats go on filling their pockets with money. That is what we must understand. Corruption is rampant in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The eight and ten storied buildings tell us the fact that these buildings could not be constructed without bribing the J.E. or A.E. that is why I have to state that in the Court none of the lawyers have said that Judge Sahib, if you will sack one person of the Municipal Corporation, than possibly the whole Corporation might have to be sacked due to their involvement in corrupt practices. Then the Commissioner admitted in the Court that the corruption is rampant in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. I can speak on it for many hours if I wish so. Corruption is prevailing at a large scale in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and as such what I want is that all the parties should make a joint appeal that there should be screening of all the employees of the Corporation to find out the amount of money amassed by each employee... (*Interruptions*) During the last one year, crores of rupees have gone into the pockets of the J.E. and A.E.

I want to ask one question from the Minister that whether he would formulate any scheme for screening of all the employees of the Corporation and constitute a Committee to amend the building to amend the building bye-laws within the prescribed time limit in view of the concern expressed by the House in this matter.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, we are discussing this matter in the Parliament and we are very well aware that corruption is prevailing at different levels in the Government and in the administration in the country. We must ponder over the subjects that should be discussed extensively in this House because the Corporation has got its own internal mechanism to deal with corrupt practices which is inadequate. If that is in some State,

that may be inadequate but the Union Government should be worried about it and should be less worried about the State Government and least worried about the local bodies. I am aware of it...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Then, why has this question been allowed?... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I don't want to cover up corrupt practices... (*Interruptions*) Nobody in this House would do so and I would also like that corruption should be curbed wherever it is noticed. I would also request that whatever measures have been prescribed and arrangement made to check corruption, Corporation has got its own autonomy to deal with that and they should be allowed to take those measures. If we will notice any shortcoming in that arrangement...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Corruption has increased in the bureaucracy during your term. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

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

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: When the Minister is replying, this is not the way to raise questions.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not yielding... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Anil Basu, what is this? When the Minister is giving reply, you are obstructing the Minister not to do so. Please take your seat. Is this the way to raise supplementary in the Question Hour?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The MCD is in the Capital of the country. But when this Parliament passed a Bill, and made it a part of the Constitution setting up a separate Government in Delhi, it was expected that problems relating to the Corporation would be discussed mainly in the Delhi Assembly, not in Parliament, as it used to be discussed earlier. Sir, nevertheless, because the Central Government is in overall charge of Delhi...

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, the Minister is not yielding.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: First of all, you must listen to what the Minister is saying.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt that it is the overall responsibility of the Central Government, but mainly the responsibility of Delhi is the responsibility of the elected Government of Delhi. As such I would like that whatever matter in regard to corrupt practices is reported, I would take notice thereof in general terms and if that is brought to my notice, I would also take an action thereon. But if the Parliament would discuss malpractices in the Corporation all the time, then it would not be good.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Shyama Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shrimati Shyama Singh. She is also a Member of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Home Minister to take cognisance of the fact that all inquiry commissions or the vigilance cells that are set up in the MCD have eroded

their credibility. There is no credibility at all in these inquiry commissions or the vigilance cells. So, I would request, through you, the Minister that there should be a time-bound programme where the guilty officers are punished within a time frame. Let them be aware that if they indulge in this kind of rampant corruption, they would be punished severely like even getting sacked from their services. If such be the case, I do not think the MCD could have been as corrupt a body as it is today. My suggestion is that there should be a time-bound programme.

MR. SPEAKER: So, you have made only a suggestion.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: And also, Sir, that the Government has to take severe action against all the offending officers. Have Government taken any steps? If yes, what are the steps the Government is taking to control corruption?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: As the hon. Minister of State earlier replied, there is an internal mechanism in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, which is the Vigilance Department. But apart from that, there is an Anti-Corruption Branch of the Government of Delhi which attends to the cases of corruption. Apart from that, since this is under the overall control of the Central Government, therefore, they can even approach the CBI or the CBI itself can make inquiries into the cases of corruption there. But in all these cases authority of the elected Government of Delhi, the authority of the elected Corporation of Delhi, and the Central Government, which is also an elected body. All these are elected bodies. The Central Government maintains this kind of balance and in that balance, I would say that it should be our earnest endeavour to see that corruption at all levels, including the Corporation, is rooted out.

Subsidy on fertilizers +

*123. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

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

(a) whether the Expenditure Reforms Commission has mentioned in its report about the irregularities being committed while extending subsidies to fertilizers;

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

(c) whether the Government have ascertained the facts of the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such irregularities in future?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b): Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC), in its report has stated that the existing unit-wise Retention Price Scheme (RPS) has many disadvantages in that it results in high cost fertilizers, excess payments to the industry and provides no incentives to be cost-efficient. The Commission has also mentioned that the unit-wise RPS has been grossly misused.

(c) and (d): The Report of the ERC is under examination within the Department of Fertilizers and inter-Ministerial consultations will soon be held to finalise the views of the Government on the recommendations of the ERC.

(e) Incidentally, the issue pertaining to reassessment of capacities of urea manufacturing units, also referred to by the ERC in its report, have already been referred to a Committee headed by Dr. Y.K. Alagh constituted by the Government in May 2000 for giving suitable advice and recommendations to Government thereon. The report of this Committee is likely to be received shortly. However, pending the report of the Alagh Committee and interim reassessment of the capacities of the urea units has already been carried w.e.f. 1.4.2000.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, in reply to my question the hon'ble Minister has admitted that the Retention Price Scheme of the Expenditure Reforms Commission has many disadvantages which results in high cost of the fertilizers. Excess payment is made to the industries and no incentive is given to increase the cost efficiency. The commission had also pointed out that RPS was being grossly misused. In reply to this question a fact that has emerged is that the Expenditure Reforms commission has admitted the irregularities being committed in the matter of subsidy. I would also like to remind that subsidy on fertilizers means subsidy for the agriculture sector. The subsidy for the agriculture sector and fertilizer is being reduced gradually during the past few years. Subsidy is being reduced under the new economic policy. I want to know whether subsidy for agriculture sector is given or not in the developed countries? I also want to know whether it is a fact that America has provided subsidy of rupees four lakh eighteen

thousand four hundred crores to the farmers during the year 1998-99? Is the government contemplating to discontinue or reduce the subsidy? If so, whether the government would consider increasing the subsidy?

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, in the reply it has been stated that the expenditure Reforms Commission has just submitted its report. Prior to that a committee of experts was constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of Dr. Y.K. Alagh, Report of the Committee is awaited. In addition to this, this was reassessed by my predecessor. It resulted in Government savings to the extent of Rs. 450 crore this year. The report of the Committee constituted earlier is expected very soon. The Government will bear the expenditure of subsidy as per the recommendations made in the said report.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Sir, I had asked whether subsidy was being reduced and whether subsidy for agriculture was being given in the developed countries or not? The hon'ble Minister has not replied to this aspect of my question. Sir, I have second supplementary to ask as the reply to it has not been given. The hon'ble Minister should reply to it. Subsidy on fertilizers is being given. The subsidy on foodgrains is given on the maintenance and the other arrangements but despite incurring expenditure on the subsidy meant for fertilizers on account of maintenance of fertilizers units its benefit is not reaching the farmers. Therefore, I want to know whether the Government propose to increase subsidy on fertilizers and to evolve a system under which the benefit of subsidy could reach the farmers directly.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not benefitting the farmers directly.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, subsidy is meant to benefit the farmers but the Government as well as the Committee have received complaints to the effect that some industries have received more subsidy than their actual entitlement based on capacity of the plant. The Government have constituted a committee of experts to go into this. All this is being done for the benefit of the farmers. If the expert committee recommend...

(Interruptions)

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: I had asked whether the Government would consider giving subsidy direct to the farmers?

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: If the hon'ble members wants to give any suggestions we will consider them but I will be in a position to say something in this regard only after the expert committee submits its report.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: The farmers are not being benefited by this in any way. There is no buyer of paddy today. You are a leader of the farmers. I want to know what steps the government propose to take to ensure that the farmers get the direct benefit of subsidy?

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: I have stated that I will be in a position to say something in this regard only after the report of the expert committee is submitted. Worthwhile suggestions can be accommodated. This is my personal view also. I am also a farmer. Whatever the government have tried to give directly to the farmers is pocketed by the middlemen. Your question was that irregularities have been committed in it.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Only the factory owners are benefited through it... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: You can give your suggestions but you should wait till the expert committee submits its report.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: You are going to discontinue subsidy.

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: We are not going to discontinue subsidy.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: You should increase subsidy as has been the earlier practice. You are reducing subsidy on the lines of America and other countries.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the plight of the farmers has become a subject of discussion in the House as well as out side and subsidy on fertilizers is also a contributing factor in this regard. As health and education is a social obligation, similarly agriculture and foodgrains are also a social obligation. I do not term it as an industry. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers can contribute a lot in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has stated that the farmers are benefited directly whereas Shri Rai has asked as to how the farmers are benefited directly? The reply to the question says that the Commission in its report has stated that RPS is disadvantageous resulting in high cost of fertilizers and that industries are availing of much of the benefits of subsidy. The hon'ble Minister has said that the farmers are directly benefited whereas it has been stated clearly in the reply that industries are

deriving more benefit out of it. Will the hon'ble Minister state as to how the farmers are getting direct benefit of it? If at all the farmers are getting its benefit it should be revealed to the House categorically and if it will not be beneficial to the farmers in future, what are the reasons therefor?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Indora, it has already been replied to...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: A committee has been constituted. It is going to look into this matter.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Has any such committee been constituted which has made this provision? May I know the time by which the report of the said committee is expected to be submitted and the manner in which the report of the said committee is likely to be implemented?

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: The report of this committee is expected to be submitted within 5-10 days.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: I have an apprehension that the subsidy on fertilizer will benefit the fertilizer industry in the same way as the subsidy on foodgrains is benefitting the FCI.

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: At present a subsidy of rupees twelve thousand crores is being given to the farmers... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rai, What is this?

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: I want to know from the hon. Minister what type of irregularities have been done by various fertiliser industries. What are the reports of the Expenditure Reforms Commission in this regard? What steps are you taking to check up these irregularities?

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government are waiting for the report of the committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Alagh...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You take your seat first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowing the Minister also to give a reply. What is this?

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: What are the irregularities?...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHATTRAPAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, I want to know whether there will be a representation of the farmers in the expert committee?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called your name. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I assumed charge of the Ministry, an advisory committee on fertilizers was constituted which comprised scientists and officers but I assure you that we are going to add the representatives of the farmers in that committee.

[English]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: What are the irregularities? You have not mentioned about this.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Sir, I want to ask the Minister whether the Government will come out with a comprehensive and long-term fertilizer subsidy policy and what steps they have taken to increase the production of fertilizer to meet the demand.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Sir, new fertilizers policy is being formulated. This year there is no shortage, instead there is excess of fertilizers. This year there is no shortage of any type of fertilizer.

[English]

Grants-in-aid to Universities and Colleges

*124. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

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

(a) the details of grants-in-aid provided to universities and colleges during each of the last three years, and till date;

(b) whether the grants-in-aid provided are inadequate to meet the expenses of the universities and colleges; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the grants-in-aid and ensure that the amount thus provided is properly utilised by them?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A statement I and II each indicating the grants provided by UGC to eligible Universities and Colleges during the last three years and the current year till date is attached.

(b) and (c) Plan and Non-Plan grants to Central Universities, which are established by Acts of Parliament, are provided by the Central Government through UGC, and to State Universities, which are set up by Acts of State Legislatures, by the concerned State Governments. UGC provides only development grants to eligible State Universities and Colleges, as per the prescribed norms, and that too, only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments and the Agencies, as the case may be, to provide adequate development and maintenance grants to the Universities and Colleges established by them. Plan and Non-Plan grants provided by the Government to UGC for disbursement to eligible Universities and Colleges have been steadily increasing over the years. As against an amount of Rs. 922.22 crore (Plan) and Rs. 1906.45 crore (Non-Plan) provided to UGC during

the 8th Plan, an enhanced outlay of Rs. 2000.00 crore (Plan) and about Rs. 4696.68 crore (Non-Plan) has been allocated for the 9th Plan.

The utilisation of grants provided by UGC is monitored by the Commission through reports on the progress of expenditure and the utilisation certificates furnished by the Universities and Colleges.

Statement I

Grants paid by University Grants Commission to the Universities (State-Wise) During the years 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-01 (till date) under Plan and Non-Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)					
S. No.	Name of the University	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01 (till date)
1	2	3	4	5	6
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	Central Instt. of English & Foreign Languages, Hyd.	574.02	935.44	1127.62	497.18
2.	Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth Shri Satya Sai Instt. of Higher Learning	134.16	310.38	285.28	94.45
3.	Hyderabad Univ.	45.50	49.14	65.00	15.00
4.	Urdu University	1895.62	3078.89	3017.87	1602.43
5.	A.P. Univ. of Health & Sc.	100.00	200.00	400.00	200.00
6.	Andhra Pradesh Agriculture	0.14	-	-	-
7.	Andhra Univ.	-	-	-	-
8.	Dr. B.R.A. Open Univ.	450.25	344.88	457.63	305.53
9.	Jawaharlal Nehru Tech.	-	-	-	-
10.	Kakatiya	136.07	84.56	38.75	84.08
11.	Nagarjuna	115.90	85.70	121.62	43.01
12.	Osmania	117.64	125.34	87.87	34.37
13.	Sri Krishna Devaraya	327.94	407.86	436.31	205.07
14.	Sri Venkateswara Sri Padmawathis Mahila V.	152.26	124.24	101.81	30.41
15.	Vidyalaya	279.67	314.48	337.52	92.10
16.	Telugu Univ.	67.23	79.71	61.00	22.50
17.	N.P.T.T.	38.93	38.35	70.83	19.77
18.	Acharya N.G. Raju Agril. Univ.	-	-	0.22	-
19.		-	-	0.10	-
ARUNACHAL PRADESH					
1.	Arunachal Univ.	57.09	49.90	84.64	28.12

1	2	3	4	5	6
ASSAM					
1.	Assam Univ.	658.89	986.32	2166.98	470.95
2.	Tezpur Univ.	482.05	877.59	1705.75	363.94
3.	Assam Agril.	-	-	-	-
4.	Dibrugarh Univ.	88.44	50.12	157.98	32.90
5.	Gauhati Univ.	81.35	151.47	147.79	31.26
BIHAR					
1.	T.M. Bhagalpur Univ.	57.21	58.98	56.13	24.61
2.	Babashad BRA Bihar Univ.	69.98	78.54	94.83	48.11
3.	Bisra Agriculture	-	-	-	-
4.	K.S. Dharbhanga Sanskrit	40.46	40.49	66.06	15.00
5.	Magadh Univ.	78.45	83.22	78.17	1.40
6.	Jai Prakash Univ., Chapra	-	-	-	-
7.	L.N. Mithila	48.58	74.20	52.10	20.59
8.	Patna Univ.	169.67	71.14	155.26	7.23
9.	Rajendra Agril.	0.04	-	-	-
10.	Ranchi Univ.	81.99	38.13	96.83	33.82
11.	Vinoba Bhawe Univ.	-	-	-	-
Indian School of Mines.					
12.	Dhanbad	1132.91	93.39	-	4.19
13.	B.I.T., Mesra	99.75	72.15	-	106.14
DELHI					
1.	Delhi University	6077.35	10359.66	11138.24	4748.14
2.	I.G.N.O.U.	7.06	0.05	-	-
3.	Jamia Millia Islamia	2394.26	3678.44	3890.51	1568.19
4.	Jawaharlal Nehru Univ.	3532.23	6057.31	5070.34	2372.68
5.	Indian Agril. Research Instt.	1.40	6.37	4.43	4.65
6.	Jamia Hamdard	483.10	679.45	416.52	296.55
7.	School of Planning & Architecture	-	1.07	-	-
8.	Shri Lal B.S.R. Sanskrit Vidyapith	203.29	431.88	393.23	183.07
9.	National Instt. of the History of Art	1.50	1.80	10.44	0.68
HARYANA					
1.	Haryana Agril.	1.99	2.48	1.77	-
2.	Kurukshetra	120.37	124.04	190.46	37.04

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Maharishi Dayanand	146.60	97.19	77.52	39.59
4.	Guru Jambheswar Univ.	53.65	36.87	40.98	13.85
5.	National Dairy Res. Instt.	-	-	1.68	0.68
	GUJARAT				
1.	Bhavnagar	81.48	112.37	69.00	27.31
2.	Gujarat	218.30	181.16	165.13	18.90
3.	Gujarat Agril.	-	-	-	-
4.	Gujarat Aurveda	-	-	3.00	-
5.	Gujarat Vidyapith	477.71	877.71	644.97	345.88
6.	M.S. Univ. of Baroda	182.54	246.29	191.40	127.87
7.	North Gujarat Univ.	29.42	70.77	42.28	19.77
8.	Sardar Patel	198.54	168.51	266.69	32.40
9.	Saurashtra	102.68	132.84	134.91	39.85
10.	South Gujarat	85.68	78.89	99.51	33.12
	GOA				
1.	Goa Univ.	87.36	122.58	123.90	21.17
	HIMACHAL PRADESH				
1.	Himchal Pradesh	154.91	113.74	142.88	92.17
2.	Himachal Pradesh Krishi	0.20	-	-	-
3.	Dr. Y.S.P. Univ. of Horticulture	-	-	-	-
	JAMMU & KASHMIR				
1.	Jammu	207.09	82.09	94.06	48.87
2.	Kashmir	95.12	206.95	134.24	35.29
	Sher-e-Kashmir Univ. of Agril.				
3.	Sc. & Tech.	0.83	-	0.72	-
	KARNATAKA				
1.	Bangalore	198.37	293.58	235.22	19.8
2.	Central Indian Instt. of Science	139.49.	266.20	416.73	102.70
3.	Languages	-	1.55	-	-
4.	Gulbarga	75.59	96.79	84.95	2.34
5.	Kannada	-	-	54.00	9.00
6.	Karnataka	140.11	208.81	291.51	78.28

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Kovempu	76.08	53.47	77.92	0.54
8.	Mangalore	93.67	121.54	121.84	13.94
	Manipal Academy of Higher				
9.	Education	0.52	-	-	0.61
10.	Mysore	187.48	262.63	291.78	12.48
	National Law Instt. of India.				
11.	B'lore	77.31	45.91	106.10	47.85
12.	National Instt. of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences	3.00	4.61	9.05	-
	Univ. of Agril. Science Dharwad	-	-	-	1.00
13.	Univ. of Agril. Science				
14.	Bangalore	0.20	0.81	-	-
	KERALA				
1.	Calicut	68.53	252.97	174.53	7.50
2.	Cochin Univ. of Science & Tech.	218.20	119.73	140.78	54.84
3.	Kerala	148.61	198.84	147.01	57.80
4.	Kerala Agril.	0.46	-	-	-
	Mahatma Gandhi Univ.				
5.	Kottayam	81.32	81.35	163.27	15.66
	Shree Sankaracharya Univ. of				
6.	Sanskrit	-	-	-	-
	MANIPUR				
1.	Manipur Univ.	165.50	140.59	142.32	35.58
	MADHYA PRADESH				
1.	Avdesh P. Singh	89.82	62.58	58.47	4.01
2.	Barkatullah V.V.	121.12	112.40	284.84	42.01
3.	Chitrakoot Gramodyog V.V.	27.40	27.40	31.42	13.70
4.	Devi Ahilya V.V.	184.85	167.91	336.19	48.07
5.	Dr. H.S. Gour V.V.	144.10	122.68	153.58	70.34
6.	Guru Ghasidas Univ.	59.56	47.90	82.97	26.48
7.	Indira Kala Sangeet	57.73	0.38	59.98	18.70
8.	Indira Gandhi Krishi V.V.	0.20	40.42	-	-
9.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jiwaji Lakshmibai Instt. of Phy. Edu.,	62.34	91.81	95.09	11.23
11.	Gwalior	12.65	16.19	42.34	0.68
12.	Makhanlal C.R.P. V.V. Prach Niketana Centre of Advance	-	-	-	-
13.	Study for Indology and Museology	-	-	0.87	-
14.	Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla	60.42	37.30	95.88	0.70
15.	Rani Durgavati V.V.	184.80	102.44	143.67	68.01
16.	Vikram	88.99	79.64	105.33	30.10
MAHARASHTRA					
1.	Amravati Univ.	63.09	87.08	67.73	26.16
2.	Dr. B.S.A. Tech. Univ.	-	-	-	-
3.	Mumbai Univ.	381.54	518.58	510.65	189.71
4.	Konkan Krishi	-	-	-	-
5.	Mahatma Phule Krishi	-	-	-	-
6.	Marathwada Krishi Vidyapith	-	3.01	-	-
7.	Dr. B.A. Marathwada Univ.	136.70	99.11	99.78	9.66
8.	Nagpur Univ.	113.47	114.44	80.57	81.62
9.	North Maharashtra	51.34	62.82	54.75	20.33
10.	Poona Univ.	442.00	449.28	387.75	292.92
11.	Panjabrao Krishi	-	-	4.05	-
12.	S.N.D.T. Women's	260.93	245.02	114.46	28.38
13.	Shivaji	79.44	80.76	195.17	53.54
14.	Yashwant Rao Chavan	1.14	-	-	-
15.	S.R.T. Marathwada Central Instt. Fisheries	-	61.48	32.45	15.40
16.	Education Deccan College P.G. &	-	-	-	-
17.	Research Instt. Gokhale Instt. of Pol. &	31.00	59.00	22.78	1.26
18.	Economic Pune International Instt. of	44.00	68.17	55.02	-
19.	Population Science	3.81	10.00	9.35	2.97
20.	Tata Instt. of Social Science	544.67	881.39	821.09	385.88
21.	Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapith	56.60	36.47	23.30	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Hindi Univ. Wardha	29.00	100.00	50.00	100.00
23	Bharti Vidyapith	-	6.80	6.40	1.70
	Hafkins Instt. for Training &				
24.	Research	-	0.49	-	-
	MEGHALAYA				
1.	North Eastern Hill Univ.	2338.74	3571.24	4095.19	18115.28
	NAGALAND				
1.	Nagaland Univ.	840.49	1707.41	1755.57	792.05
	ORISSA				
1.	Berhampur	127.47	100.59	205.62	26.25
2.	Orissa Univ. of Agril. & Tech.	0.20	1.21	-	-
3.	Shambalpur	94.61	106.74	112.57	42.27
	Shri Jaganath Sanskrit				
4.	Vidyapith	35.45	28.20	111.91	17.06
5.	Utkal	162.60	142.39	372.44	39.87
	PONDICHERRY				
1.	Pondicherry Univ.	998.42	1708.02	1710.99	189.40
	PUNJAB				
1.	Guru Nanak Dev	147.37	200.71	192.53	96.88
2.	Punjab	304.09	271.95	388.11	190.44
3.	Punjab Agril.	0.27	4.11	0.75	2.20
4.	Punjabi	198.19	111.72	174.69	39.92
5.	Thapar Instt. of Engg. & Tech.	93.14	77.95	87.68	45.07
	RAJASTHAN				
1.	Banasthli Vidyapith	81.46	371.83	99.08	307.14
2.	Birla Instt. of Tech. & Science	99.75	72.15	22.25	38.64
3.	Kota Open Univ.	-	0.35	-	-
4.	J.N. Vyas Univ., Jodhpur	141.46	176.50	227.28	55.28
5.	J.N. Bharathi Instt.	24.41	79.24	27.02	32.70
6.	M.D.S. Univ., Ajmer	71.13	58.06	78.72	18.70
7.	M.L. Sukhadia V. Vidyalaya	146.22	125.37	102.77	25.23
8.	Rajasthan Vidyapith	51.60	30.45	44.61	0.32

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Rajasthan Agril. Univ.	-	0.05	-	-
10.	Rajasthan Univ.	216.13	167.39	285.82	86.17
	TAMILNADU				
1.	Alagappa Univ.	67.37	74.31	66.31	24.43
2.	Annamalai	201.27	151.43	83.51	27.25
3.	Anna Univ.	357.45	360.03	266.81	73.80
4.	Bharthiar Univ.	122.08	86.95	85.31	12.31
5.	Bharthidesan Univ.	115.58	102.59	167.41	28.95
6.	Dr. MGR Medical	-	-	0.53	-
7.	Madras Univ.	337.29	355.16	313.81	96.32
8.	Madhurai Kamraj Univ.	182.44	212.79	242.89	22.72
9.	Mother Teresa Univ. for Women	59.50	33.50	40.17	16.25
10.	M. Sundarnar Univ.	79.48	51.46	50.19	20.55
11.	Tamilnadu Univ.	-	3.0	2.91	-
12.	Tamil Univ.	55.46	03.08	84.84	3.48
13.	T.N.V. & Animal Science Univ.	-	1.38	-	-
14.	Botanical SOI	-	-	0.22	-
15.	C.L.R.I.	-	-	0.30	-
16.	Shri Ramchandra Medical College	-	-	0.13	-
17.	Gandhigram Rural Inst.	421.78	739.31	753.18	389.38
18.	Sri Chandrasekharananda Sara	38.65	37.52	22.02	4.67
19.	Shri Avinashilingam Instt. for Home Sc.	293.78	789.97	630.36	293.75
20.	Shri Ramchandra Medical College	0.41	-	1.11	-
21.	International Instt. of Tamil Studies	-	0.35	0.2	-
22.	Madras School of Social Work	-	0.30	-	-
	TRIPURA				
1.	Tripura Univ.	98.62	61.29	69.05	27.20
	UTTAR PRADESH				
1.	Allahabad Univ.	195.95	137.80	338.10	102.54
2.	Aligarh Muslim Univ.	10128.10	16338.72	15747.16	6232.27
3.	Banaras Hindu Univ.	10891.90	17712.79	16241.26	7199.04
4.	Cundelkhand Univ.	1.38	1.09	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Ch. Charan Singh Univ. Meerut	29.50	114.30	177.75	60.72
6.	Chandrasekhar Azad Univ. of Agr.	-	-	-	-
7.	Sr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Univ. Agra	98.20	40.55	72.07	20.21
8.	Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (Avadh)	45.09	62.42	51.40	3.77
9.	G.B. Pant Univ. of Agril. & Tech.	22.55	38.17	6.19	0.71
10.	Gorakhpur Univ.	119.21	130.15	159.21	38.28
11.	H.N.B. (Garwal) Univ.	103.20	54.01	111.05	12.87
12.	Kanpur Univ.	48.74	31.95	60.40	1.30
13.	Kumaon Univ.	117.21	72.17	78.37	17.07
14.	Lucknow Univ.	190.21	117.47	220.79	118.35
15.	Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith	66.19	45.80	69.09	7.17
16.	M.J.P. Rohilkhand Univ.	61.55	31.60	89.52	18.70
17.	Narendra Deva Univ. of Agril &	-	-	-	-
18.	Purvanchal Univ.	-	-	-	0.10
19.	Roorkee Univ.	427.98	412.09	464.35	293.34
20.	Sampuranand Sanskrit V. Vidyalaya	56.93	34.02	47.18	2.85
21.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Univ.	621.10	526.97	370.00	45.00
22.	Central Instt. of Higher Tibetan I	10.00	30.67	11.90	4.00
23.	Dayal Bagh Educational Instt.	254.90	421.55	360.55	147.32
24.	Forest Research Instt.	0.81	1.06	2.15	-
25.	Gurukul Kangri V. Vidyalaya	303.49	648.86	482.32	270.33
WEST BENGAL					
1.	Burdwan Univ.	217.48	160.83	287.85	67.75
2.	B.C. Krishi V. Vidyalaya	0.65	0.45	1.19	-
3.	Bengal Engg. College	36.62	89.40	17.38	18.07
4.	Calcutta Univ.	531.71	348.21	348.87	96.11
5.	Jadavpur Univ.	451.56	313.23	433.45	150.74
6.	Kalyani Univ.	80.55	67.47	75.10	30.81
7.	North Bengal Univ.	81.53	88.36	110.13	33.00
8.	Rabindra Bharti Univ.	92.03	30.79	154.22	30.60
9.	Vidya Sagar Univ.	58.36	93.53	66.99	28.35
10.	Viswa Bharti Univ.	2822.73	4488.93	4046.13	2124.45

Statement II

Grants paid by the University Grants Commission to the Colleges affiliated to various Universities during the years 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, and 2000-2001 (till date) under Plan & Non-Plan schemes.

(Rupees in Lakhs)

STATE UNIVERSITIES

Sl. No.	Grants paid to the Colleges State-wise University-wise	Year			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (till date)
1	2	3	4	5	6
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	Andhra University	236.88	261.78	154.71	48.77
2.	Kakatiya University	81.94	92.91	44.50	13.33
3.	Nagarjuna University	157.12	211.08	99.12	51.60
4.	Osmania University	258.81	266.54	159.78	41.10
5.	Sri Krishna Devaraya	44.92	52.70	30.13	9.89
6.	Sti Venkateswara	106.54	151.23	40.11	3.80
ARUNACHAL PRADESH					
1.	Arunachal University	8.77	5.27	5.01	0.86
ASSAM					
1.	Dibrugarh Univ.	232.03	192.28	179.35	22.82
2.	Gauhati Univ.	210.56	233.91	315.48	114.00
3.	Assam University	23.67	19.54	27.93	7.43
BIHAR					
1.	Tilak Manjhi Bhagalpur Univ.	43.82	93.24	59.60	15.21
2.	Babasaheb B.R.A. Bihar Univ.	60.80	105.78	57.52	45.70
3.	K.S. Darbhanga Sanskrit Univ.	-	7.85	8.42	1.75
4.	Magadh Univ.	100.64	231.15	153.13	62.12
5.	Jai Prakash Univ.	12.80	44.67	39.59	4.75
6.	L.N. Mithila Univ.	141.95	238.06	217.59	38.13
7.	Patna Univ.	22.90	31.59	56.15	-
8.	Ranchi Univ.	117.08	207.97	122.30	22.23
9.	Vinoba Bhave Univ.	7.84	-	-	-
10.	B.N. Mandal Univ.	3.08	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
HARYANA					
1.	Kurukshetra	226.55	202.10	195.76	17.29
2.	Maharishi Dayanand Univ.	117.72	117.93	140.69	57.48
GUJARAT					
1.	Bhavnagar Univ.	27.78	23.68	31.19	23.80
2.	Gujarat Univ.	202.75	186.19	169.58	51.95
3.	North Gujarat Univ.	91.09	81.43	70.50	2.58
4.	Sardar Patel Univ.	27.76	34.86	29.60	7.67
5.	Saurashtra Univ.	84.65	73.49	86.02	36.26
6.	South Gujarat	81.04	75.98	69.70	21.47
GOA					
1.	Goa University	33.75	53.44	42.77	12.88
HIMACHAL PRADESH					
1.	Himachal Pradesh Univ.	99.69	78.53	51.23	1.08
DELHI					
1.	Delhi University	12018.61	25257.92	25708.04	13692.84
JAMMU & KASHMIR					
1.	Jammu Univ.	39.22	36.00	30.18	-
2.	Kashmir Univ.	46.51	40.88	37.63	9.00
KARNATAKA					
1.	Bangalore Univ.	240.40	250.83	94.94	36.28
2.	Gulbarga Univ.	76.84	124.80	30.00	47.57
3.	Karnataka Univ.	245.74	293.70	232.45	34.27
4.	Kovempu Univ.	64.36	64.91	40.17	22.04
5.	Mangalore Univ.	132.42	111.41	107.94	53.52
6.	Mysore Univ.	99.92	68.85	66.44	31.07
KERALA					
1.	Calicut Univ.	139.52	154.41	156.91	33.29
2.	Kerala Univ.	166.79	256.96	154.11	10.27
3.	Mahatma Gandhi Univ.	237.24	182.10	179.97	43.00
4.	Kannur Univ.	199.01	18.74	25.49	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
MANIPUR					
1.	Manipur Univ.	113.90	180.25	182.10	112.80
MADHYA PRADESH					
1.	Avadesh P. Singh Univ.	97.71	99.44	114.26	14.70
2.	Barkatulla Univ.	135.04	202.58	205.56	67.63
3.	Guru Ghasidas Univ.	121.10	121.15	106.10	19.92
4.	Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya	6.45	6.58	12.44	-
5.	Devi Ahilya Univ.	129.97	168.98	170.21	19.84
6.	Rani Durgawati Univ.	121.41	135.96	152.02	37.35
7.	Jiwaji Univ.	73.63	131.08	169.94	15.34
8.	Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla Univ.	107.79	115.75	162.42	50.22
9.	Dr. H.S. Gour Univ.	67.46	105.03	80.76	26.68
10.	Vikram Univ.	68.61	108.99	95.92	12.29
MAHARASHTRA					
1.	Amravati Univ.	177.02	205.53	169.10	91.16
2.	Bombay Univ.	276.32	277.88	272.90	97.97
3.	Dr. B.A. Marathwada Univ.	193.59	207.72	179.54	98.55
4.	Nagpur Univ.	198.20	280.88	207.29	86.16
5.	North Maharashtra Univ.	155.17	153.50	98.67	73.52
6.	Poona Univ.	338.76	294.94	317.00	124.37
7.	S.N.D.T. Women's Univ.	48.33	84.74	57.08	16.17
8.	Shivaji Univ.	216.49	224.28	201.70	97.57
9.	S.R.T. Marathwada Univ.	129.90	162.67	143.41	66.05
NAGALAND					
1.	Nagaland University	14.74	12.00	18.53	1.87
MEGHALAYA					
1.	N.E.H.U.	45.48	51.89	92.14	33.79
ORISSA					
1.	Berhampur Univ.	65.44	61.97	64.88	21.86
2.	Sambalpur Univ.	110.55	170.61	127.94	38.53
3.	Utkal Univ.	318.20	498.12	540.71	88.68

1	2	3	4	5	6
PUNJAB					
1.	Guru Nanak Dev Univ.	249.92	350.83	260.91	43.87
2.	Punjab Univ.	256.97	281.74	246.77	26.00
3.	Punjabi Univ.	82.22	110.48	153.46	5.10
PONDICHERY					
1.	Pondicherry Uni.	25.86	10.20	4.00	0.58
RAJASTHAN					
1.	J.N. Vyas Univ.	19.95	22.44	14.91	2.17
2.	M.D.S. Univ.	198.09	274.82	306.63	69.34
3.	M.L. Sukhadia Univ.	27.15	45.31	68.52	18.08
4.	Rajasthan Univ.	168.94	172.98	253.19	30.51
TAMIL NADU					
1.	Alagappa Univ.	1.55	1.28	2.10	-
2.	Anna Univ.	0.01	-	-	-
3.	Bharathiar Univ.	136.81	138.40	97.60	32.06
4.	Bharathidasan Univ.	241.86	216.13	170.46	47.97
5.	Madras Univ.	338.82	259.29	241.08	19.97
6.	Madurai Kamraj Univ.	301.25	271.54	230.56	42.91
7.	M. Sudamar Univ.	152.99	93.31	131.96	18.32
8.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Univ.	1.70	3.90	7.00	-
9.	Periyar Univ.	19.25	22.52	14.44	1.57
TRIPURA					
1.	Tripura Univ.	18.73	19.37	9.70	3.82
UTTAR PRADESH					
1.	Allahabad univ.	21.92	34.90	25.77	1.00
2.	Bundelkhand Univ.	48.22	69.65	34.96	12.48
3.	Ch. Charan Singh Univ.	169.41	139.74	157.34	42.98
4.	Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Agra Univ.	176.85	125.00	97.21	2.78
5.	Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh Univ.	97.33	90.77	72.28	6.13
6.	Gorakhpur Univ.	89.63	117.58	60.44	10.63
7.	H.N. Bahuguna Garhwal Univ.	63.10	56.11	43.51	0.75
8.	Kanpur Univ.	169.97	153.67	146.47	4.80

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Kumaon Univ.	11.44	36.89	19.72	-
10.	Lucknow Univ.	26.88	46.61	55.33	12.58
11.	Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith	-	-	7.50	-
12.	M.J.P. Rohilkhand Univ.	110.27	80.75	105.12	3.20
13.	Purvanchal Univ.	71.12	128.32	100.89	0.41
14.	Roorkee Univ.	-	0.15	-	-
15.	Sampurnanand Sanskrit Univ.	1.60	10.44	5.12	6.00
16.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Univ., Lucknow	4.18	-	-	-
17.	Banaras Hindu Univ.	101.85	119.09	185.15	256.78
WEST BENGAL					
1.	Burdwan Univ.	178.73	176.43	209.59	65.33
2.	Calcutta Univ.	460.08	537.15	626.11	170.63
3.	Jadavpur Univ.	3.15	2.65	14.89	1.95
4.	Kalyani Univ.	10.17	12.34	8.44	0.78
5.	North Bengal Univ.	93.88	88.18	72.48	19.92
6.	Vidya Sagar Univ.	118.20	114.59	110.85	33.63

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Hon. Speaker Sir, the importance of education is too obvious. The number of colleges and universities is constantly going up in the country. At present, there are 8500 colleges and 229 universities in the country wherein around 60 lakh students are enrolled. However, the University Grants Commission has slashed its grants over the last few years. The hon. Minister has admitted in his reply that the grants have been increased in the Ninth Five Year Plan. But our experience of last few years shows that the grants to colleges and universities have been slashed. The cost expenditure on higher education has also registered a steady decline. In the year 1980-81 it came down to Rs. 716 per student and now it has come to the level of Rs. 429 per student. The position of public expenditure in this regard is equally dismal. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what steps are being taken by the ministry to effect improvement in view of cut in cost of higher education per student and nil annual increase.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir there has been no cut or reduction in the grants given to universities for higher education. On the contrary,

there has been an increase in grants in each five year plan. The Government have been making constant endeavour that higher education should register corresponding growth.

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to cite the example of Himachal Pradesh University. In the year 1997-98, an amount of Rs. 99.64 lakh was allocated which came down to Rs. 78.53 lakh in 1998-99 and Rs. 51 lakh rupee in 1999-2000 and 1.08 lakh in the year 2000-2001. The declining trend is obvious. What are the reasons. Will the hon. minister assure us that it would be increased in the future.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Hon. Speaker Sir, in reply to the question regarding the annual declining trend stated by the hon. Member, I would like to state that the U.G.C. provides grants to the Universities on the basis of five year plan period. If we cast a look at the figures, we find that the grants allocated to the Himachal Pradesh University is around 1 crore 40 lakh rupee which is to be disbursed in five years, that means 20 per cent each year. The next grant is given after receiving the report of the earlier grant given to the University.

Therefore, there has been no reduction in the grants. The grants are sanctioned for a period of five years. There have been an increase in it in the Ninth Five Year Plan as well. There have not been reduced. The grants are given for a period of five years and not on the annual basis.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I thank the hon. Minister for having scored her point over the MOS to answer the question here.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, that in terms of allotment of the grants to respective Universities both in Plan and Non-Plan, whether the Ministry will also take care of the issue of the Regional Imbalances. Now, in the list showing the grants given by UGC to the Universities in West Bengal during the years 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, and 2000-2001 (till date), the University of North Bengal had got Rs. 81.53 lakh, Rs. 88.36 lakh, Rs. 110.13 lakh, and Rs. 33 lakh respectively in comparison to Burdwan University and other Universities. Sir, the University of North Bengal has been agitating for the last one year or so. It has the local ethnic problems. This University is not getting enough grants to cope up with the aspirations of the students.

Sir, not only I hail from here but I had graduated from this University. Madam, I wrote three letters to your Ministry and your Ministry acknowledged them. The College of Raiganj is deprive of all the support from UGC. This University has been addressing this issue for a long time. Darjeeling Hill is in this Zone. The *Rajbongshi* community's language issue is in this zone. The admission opportunity of the tribals is in this Zone. Some of the North-Eastern students are also in this Zone. Kindly look at the figure, which you gave. It is not only poor but it is poorer than the Burdwan University, whose command and the command of the North Bengal University are not the same.

Even in regard to Malda, which is represented by Barkat Da. there also, the University Grants Commission's support to Malda University for the expansion of science education has come down. I addressed letters on the demand of the students. Will the Minister specially address this issue and take care that their grants come at par with other Universities looking into the problems and backwardness of this Region?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to state here that grants are sanctioned to create the balance so that balance is maintained in the country. As far as West Bengal is concerned, there is no reduction in the allocation made for a period of five years. The hon. Member must be aware that only the developmental grants are given to the State governments and that allocation is made on 50:50 basis. The State government has to contribute 50 per cent. As far I know, the West Bengal Government has not given its share.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: No grants have been provided for expansion of education of science and career advancement of girls. Plan appraisal put up by the West Bengal Government is also not being considered.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: It is not so, I would like to state that no State is being deprived. As I have stated earlier, the State universities are provided developmental grants under the specific scheme and the West Bengal universities are also being given the developmental grants accordingly. We also provide facilities for girls. Norms are prescribed for construction of hostels and other developmental works. Extra grants are also given. The hon'ble Member can write to me or may meet me personally if he feels that any specific university is being deprived. We shall do our level best to help it out. I would like to cite an example, we try to ascertain the grants required for backward areas, locality wise... (Interruptions)

We have allocated more funds to the Bardwan University which is situated in tribal area. Such factors are taken note of. If you have any complaint about some specific university than you can meet me.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rashid Alvi, please put a very pointed supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the education system in our country is quite old. No changes are being effected in the system. We can draw a close analogy between the education system and the farming sector in this regard. The farmers tend to sow the same crop (like sugarcane etc) which has paid them remunerative price previous year. Medical and engineering colleges are fast opening up in our country. Our government must ascertain, as to how much man power is required in a particular field.

Hon. Speaker Sir, There was a time when there was craze among parents to get their wards admitted to engineering and medical colleges. But subsequently after some period i.e. three years or so people realised that there is not bright prospects for engineering or medical stream. So in view of such a situation whether the Government propose to set up a commission or evolve a system to ascertain as to how many engineers doctors and managers are required in the country in future so that the students could decide accordingly.

[English]

I want to know whether they are going to coordinate or not. Are they going to appoint any commission for coordination?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Hon. Speaker Sir, this question is exclusively related to the University Grants Commission to which I have already replied. As the hon'ble Member has also mentioned our ministry constantly make endeavour to ensure that balance is maintained in the country in this regard.

Education is a State subject also. It is the responsibility of the State Governments to accord recognition and affiliation of the colleges to the universities. If the State Government and the Central Government jointly consider over this issue then, this problem can be solved to a certain extent. The Central Government alone can not do much in this direction, the State Government has also to play its role.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Alternative accommodation to Ex. MPs

*125 SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI RAMPRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide accommodation to Ex-MPs by building 'transit accommodation' in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take for building the 'transit accommodation' in the Capital and the time by which it is likely to be ready for occupation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposals were received but they could not be accepted due to financial constraints and non-availability of suitable land.

Sale and starvation deaths of children in Orissa

*126 SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any report from Orissa about the sale of children and starvation deaths in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to avoid starvation deaths and sale of tribal children in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise

(c) This Ministry provides funds under Central/ Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the State Governments for implementation of various socio-economic developmental programmes for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes. A separate Central Sector scheme namely Village Grain Bank Scheme was launched in 1996-97. The scheme was started on a pilot basis in selected areas out of the areas identified by Central Planning Committee for preventive measures against death of tribal in general and children in particular in remote and backward tribal areas by providing a safeguard against fall in nutritional standard of Scheduled Tribes living in remote rural areas.

Code on National Flag

*127. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases have come to the notice of the Government showing disrespect to the National Flag by its misuse by the Fashion Designers, individuals leaving it flying at night and by way of other activities against the Flag Code and also by displaying it at non-official functions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring out any legislation before Parliament in order to give Flag Code a legal status; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) A Statement giving details of the cases which have been reported to the Government in respect of disrespect shown to the National Flag during the last three years is attached.

(c) and (d) An inter-ministerial Committee has been constituted to examine various issues relating to the use/display of the National Flag including the extent to which its unrestricted or liberal use by members of the public

may be permitted the advisability of enacting a separate legislation governing the display and use of the National Flag and other related matters.

Statement

Details of cases Reported to the Government for showing Disrespect to the National Flag

S. No.	Name	State	Date of offence	Offence Committed	Remarks
1.	Shri Ramesh Chazade	Rajasthan	Aug. 1997	Commercial exploitation of the National Flag	He was left on production of security bond of Rs. 2000/- with binding of good conduct of six months.
2.	Shri Dasari Ramana	Andhra Pradesh	15.8.1997	Insulted the Flag	Case registered & pending in the court.
3.	Som group of Companies, Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	March, 1998	Insulted the Flag	Case registered & pending in the court
4.	Shri Radhy Shyam @ Papu	Madhya Pradesh	Aug. 1999	Burnt the Flag	Case registered & pending in the court
5.	Shri Darshan Lal	Madhya Pradesh	Aug. 1999	Insulted the Flag	Case registered & pending in the court
6.	Smt. Chellathai & Shri Thambi Edwardsam	Tamil Nadu	Aug.1999	Hoisted the Flag reversely	Case registered & pending in the court
7.	Shri Akhtar-Ali	Rajasthan	15.8.2000	The Flag was not lowered after the sunset	Case registered & pending in the court
8.	Shri Mangla Ram	Rajasthan	15.8.2000	Removed the Flag with pole after hoisting	Case registered & pending in the court
9.	Shri Anil @ Venkateshwar	Madhya Pradesh	26.1.2000	Hoisted the black flag after removing the National Flag	Case registered & pending in the court
10.	Ms. Malini Ramani	New Delhi	August, 2000	Used the Flag as a dress	Case registered and investigation completed

National Maternity Benefit Scheme

*128. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned and utilised under the National Maternity Benefit Scheme by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the amount sanctioned under the Scheme is reaching the beneficiaries in time;

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide this assistance in time; and

(d) the number of beneficiaries under the Scheme during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) The National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) which is one of the components of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) came into effect in August, 1995. Under the Scheme, which is being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development, a one-time lumpsum grant of Rs. 500 is provided to pregnant women aged 19 years and above and living below the poverty line for the first two live births, 12 to 8 weeks prior to delivery, for maternal and child nutrition.

2. The funds sanctioned by the Ministry and the utilisation reported by the State Governments under the Scheme during the last three years and during the current year are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Funds sanctioned@	Funds utilised@	No. of Beneficiaries
1997-98	49.57	54.60	1557292
1998-99	56.56	70.47	1562072
1999-2000	67.38	71.42	1286257*
2000-2001	44.84	32.67	502492

*Due to enhancement of benefits under the NMBS from Rs. 300/- to Rs. 500/- and non reporting of physical achievement by some States/Districts.

@Funds utilised are higher than the sanctioned funds in a particular year on account of carry over of funds released to the Implementing Agencies to the next financial year.

3. While timely delivery of benefits is of the essence, in the initial years of implementation of the Scheme, it was found that certain States had prescribed lengthy procedures for sanctioning benefits, including registration formalities such as the application forms being accompanied by various proofs (which further needed authentication by an officer at the district level) leading to delays at the identification stage itself. These procedures have since been simplified by the States in consultation with the Centre. The identification of beneficiaries and the disbursements are now being done at the grass roots level by Panchayats in the Gram Sabhas in line with the revised Guidelines.

4. It was similarly, observed that certain States had opted for the disbursement of benefit of Rs. 500/- through money orders which meant that each time the individual was not at home, the money order would be sent back to the Post Office. In the revised Guidelines circulated by the Ministry of Rural Development, a larger role for Panchayat/Local Bodies is envisaged and it has been

made explicit that funds under the NMBS may, preferably, be disbursed in cash in Public Meetings, such as the Gram Sabhas (in Villages) and Meetings of Neighbourhood/Mohalla Committees (in Towns).

5. The increase in the amount of benefit from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 has made the Scheme more attractive and the Guidelines have been modified/liberalised. Regular liaison is maintained with the concerned State authorities and the performance is closely monitored through State level Meetings/Field Inspections.

6. The number of beneficiaries covered State-wise, during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and the current year, is contained in the Statement enclosed which it may be noted that the dip in the number of beneficiaries is on account of the amount of per capita assistance, enhanced during the year 1998-99, being fully reflected in the financial year, 1999-2000. Additionally, while some States/Districts have reported expenditure, they have not reported on the number of persons benefitted under the Scheme.

Statement**National Social Assistance programme
National Maternity Benefit Scheme**

S. No.	States/UTs	1998-99 Beneficiaries Covered	1999-2000 Beneficiaries Covered	2000-01 Beneficiaries Covered
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	404039	336296	174136
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	60	248	4
3.	Assam	18303	25682	8987
4.	Bihar	197322	141387	12787
5.	Chhattisgarh*	NR	NR	39986
6.	Goa	33	71	14
7.	Gujarat	21460	13038	452
8.	Haryana	14147	8309	2537
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2082	3100	1446
10.	J & K	6508	5321	NR
11.	Jharkhand*	NR	NR	9264
12.	Karnataka	34670	35264	15700
13.	Kerala	35438	18344	3276
14.	Madhya Pradesh	167046	90600	26209
15.	Maharashtra	129219	87915	31421
16.	Manipur	2510	1241	374
17.	Meghalaya	2959	3103	600
18.	Mizoram	3022	2388	1472
19.	Nagaland	673	2052	NR
20.	Orissa	151406	132591	41326
21.	Punjab	3742	3985	NR
22.	Rajasthan	48693	11336	2842
23.	Sikkim	NR	551	NR
24.	Tamilnadu	29485	35142	43870
25.	Tripura	10156	9413	56
26.	Uttar Pradesh	187924	225509	54479
27.	Uttaranchal*	NR	NR	3847

1	2	3	4	5
28.	West Bengal	90688	92640	27407
29.	A&N Islands	NR	NR	NR
30.	Chandigarh	NR	225	NR
31.	D&N Haveli	5	0	NR
32.	Daman & Diu	9	NR	NR
33.	NCT Delhi	NR	NR	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	NR	NR	NR
35.	Pondicherry	473	506	NR
Total		1562072	1286257	502492

* Newly created States

NR: Not Reported

Indian Council of Social Science Research

*129 SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) has cut down the assistance to some important social science research institutes in the country;

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

(c) the number of research papers produced by ICSSR during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have decided to downgrade the ICSSR itself; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The papers/books produced during the last three years by the ICSSR itself are as follows:

Year	Papers/books by ICSSR
1997-98	137
1998-99	156
1999-2000	125

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Naxalite activities

*130. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:
SHRI NAGMANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various States particularly the tribal areas of the country are affected by the Naxalite/leftist extremism;

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

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated to deal with the situation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the financial assistance provided to the affected States during each of the last three years and proposed to be provided in the near future, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Certain parts of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa are primarily affected by left wing extremist activities.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the overall dimensions, of left wing extremism in these States, it has become a matter of concern for the Central Government as well. It has, therefore, set up a high level Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected States as its members, to review and coordinate steps taken by these States to check the left extremist activities, monitor the plan of action in respect

of each State and to make recommendations both on development and security aspects of the problem.

The Coordination Centre has been meeting periodically. Several important decisions such as providing financial from the Centre for combating left wing extremist activities, construction/improvement of identified critical roads, preparation of plans for development of affected areas to tackle the problem in a holistic manner, sharing of intelligence inputs, and providing assistance of para-military forces have been taken and effectively followed-up.

(e) Under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces, the funds released to the affected State Government during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and funds allocated/released during 2000-2001 are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Allocation 2000-2001	Released 2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	1209.56	709.56	354.78	698.52	-
Bihar	783.12	633.12	508.53	777.06	388.53
Madhya Pradesh	387.82	437.82	846.36	792.72	396.36
Maharashtra		324.91	568.82	837.64	418.82
Orissa	164.61	104.61	52.30	348.70	174.35

Government has also implemented a Scheme for reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure to the States affected by left wing extremism with retrospective effect from 1.4.1996. Under this Scheme, the following amounts incurred by them on combating left wing extremism during the period 1.4.1996 to 31.3.1999, have been reimbursed to the State Government:-

Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 30.46 crores
Bihar	Rs. 28.80 crores
Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 5.00 crores
Maharashtra	Rs. 1.96 crores
Orissa	Rs. 3.58 crores

Inter-Ministerial Committee for Anganwadi Workers

*131. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any Inter-Ministerial Committee for considering the demands of Anganwadi workers and helpers;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has since submitted its recommendations; and

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

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

(c) A Report is under consideration of the Government.

Rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants

*132. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accorded sanction to a work-plan involving 2600 crores of rupees for repatriation and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri migrants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in implementation of the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Government of J&K has formulated an Action Plan for return of migrants. The Plan is under examination in the MHA.

[English]

Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana

*133. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States/Union Territories have been covered under the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana;

(b) if not, the time by which the remaining States/Union Territories are likely to be covered under this scheme;

(c) the details of programmes started so far under the yojana. State-wise;

(d) the performance of implementation of the programme indicating the funds allocated there-under during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the time by which the second instalment is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) The Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) is being implemented in all the States/Union Territories, except Delhi and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. There is no proposal, at present, to cover Delhi and Chandigarh under the JGSY whose basic objective is to provide need-based infrastructure at the village level. The entire funds under the Scheme are distributed to the Village Panchayats through the Zilla Parishads/District Rural Development Agencies (ZPs/DRDAs). Works/Schemes are taken up by the Village Panchayats with the approval of the Gram Sabha, as per the felt needs of the area.

(d) and (e) The JGSY is being implemented with effect from 1st April, 1999. The allocation of funds during 1999-2000 and utilization along with physical performance, State-wise/Union Territory-wise, is given in the enclosed statement. The Second Instalment under the JGSY is released on receipt of proposals indicating 60% utilization of the available funds, alongwith the Audit Report of the DRDAs/ZPs, Utilization Certificate of the previous year and Certificates of non-embezzlement of funds/non-diversion of funds etc. Most States/Union Territories normally receive the Second Instalment by the end of December, if the proposals for release are complete in all respects.

Statement

Financial & Physical Progress under Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana during 1999-2000

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/U.Ts	Balance as on 1.4.99	Allocation			Releases			Total funds Available
			Centre	State	Total	Centre (March)	State	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pr.	1954.74	9319.52	3106.51	12426.03	9617.32	3205.45	12822.77	14777.51
2	Arunachal Pr.	381.09	204.90	68.30	273.20	142.71	47.57	190.28	571.37
3	Assam	4466.90	5324.02	1774.67	7098.69	3787.01	1262.21	5049.22	9516.12
4	Bihar	11666.61	30529.68	10176.56	40706.24	28484.06	9493.74	37977.80	49644.41
5	Goa	3.16	137.12	45.71	182.82	124.11	41.37	165.48	168.64
6	Gujarat	794.44	3508.04	1169.35	4677.39	3508.03	1169.23	4677.26	5471.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Haryana	425.85	2063.84	687.95	2751.79	2063.87	343.94	2407.81	2833.66
8.	Himachal Prd.	237.44	869.16	289.72	1158.88	1752.41	584.08	2336.49	2573.93
9.	J & Kashmir	159.84	1075.71	358.57	1434.28	897.74	299.22	1196.96	1356.80
10.	Karnataka	3919.71	7037.56	2345.85	9383.41	7037.56	2345.62	9383.18	13302.89
11.	Kerala	1129.91	3157.73	1052.58	4210.30	3157.72	1052.47	4210.19	5340.10
12.	Madhya Prd.	4119.90	15474.69	5158.23	20632.92	16926.38	5641.56	22567.94	26687.84
13.	Maharashtra	3049.74	13911.52	4637.17	18548.70	13911.47	4636.69	18548.16	21597.90
14.	Manipur	66.24	356.92	118.97	475.89	115.54	38.51	154.05	220.29
15.	Meghalaya	280.64	399.88	133.29	533.17	132.18	44.06	176.24	456.88
16.	Mizoram	14.38	92.53	30.84	123.38	92.37	30.79	123.16	137.54
17.	Nagaland	86.09	274.30	91.43	365.73	223.90	74.63	298.53	384.62
18.	Orissa	2286.64	10659.61	3553.20	14212.82	15974.14	5324.18	21298.32	23584.96
19.	Punjab	214.15	1003.01	334.34	1337.34	975.08	324.99	1300.07	1514.22
20.	Rajasthan	7037.70	5343.85	1781.28	7125.14	5343.85	1781.11	7124.96	14162.66
21.	Sikkim	20.24	102.45	34.15	136.60	102.45	34.15	136.60	156.84
22.	Tamil Nadu	263.93	8240.50	2746.83	10987.33	9163.14	3054.07	12217.21	12481.14
23.	Tripura	322.22	644.43	214.81	859.24	487.95	162.63	650.58	972.80
24.	Uttar Prd.	5471.85	33598.18	11199.39	44797.57	33593.14	11196.59	44789.73	50201.58
25.	West Bengal	6840.43	11846.03	3948.68	15794.71	10800.26	3599.73	14399.99	21240.42
26.	A & N Islands	48.49	93.87	0.00	93.87	13.00	0.00	13.00	61.49
27.	D & N Haveli	0.00	61.96	0.00	61.96	30.98	0.00	30.98	30.98
28.	Daman & Diu	0.61	30.02	0.00	30.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.61
29.	Lakshadweep	8.26	47.06	0.00	47.06	23.53	0.00	23.53	31.79
30.	Pondicherry	0.00	91.91	0.00	91.91	45.96	0.00	45.96	45.96
Total		55271.20	165500.00	55058.39	220558.40	168527.86	55788.57	224316.43	279587.73

Note: The blank column denote non-reporting of figures by the State/UTs.

Sl. No	Total funds	Funds Utilised	% Utilisation	No. of Works completed (in numbers)	Works under Progress	Total Works
1	2	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Andhra Pr.	9954.72	67.36	40762	22763	63525
2.	Arunachal Pr.	461.48	80.77	525	81	606

1	2	11	12	13	14	15
3.	Assam	7800.48	81.97	12456	5728	18184
4.	Bihar	35324.14	71.15	65784	48034	1138118
5.	Goa	114.34	67.80	45	146	191
6.	Gujarat	4774.39	87.26	20370	4611	24981
7.	Haryana	2666.87	94.11	12469	2217	14686
8.	Himachal Pr.	1163.94	45.22	6731	1117	7848
9.	J & Kashmir	805.55	59.37	2910		2910
10.	Karnataka	10191.73	76.61	50697	25392	76089
11.	Kerala	3652.85	68.40	16068	15280	31348
12.	Madhya Pr.	20841.39	78.09	54635	8304	62939
13.	Maharashtra	18748.46	86.81	68937	38347	107284
14.	Manipur	93.87	42.61	980	463	1443
15.	Meghalaya	180.98	39.61	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	187.19	136.10	1028	22	1050
17.	Nagaland	291.76	75.86	2954	0	2954
18.	Orissa	13751.03	58.30	50358	14096	64454
19.	Punjab	1014.24	66.98	10913	5448	16361
20.	Rajasthan	8149.69	57.54	15863	5623	21486
21.	Sikkim	206.97	131.97	636	161	797
22.	Tamil Nadu	13391.37	107.29	40953	1349	42302
23.	Tripura	812.95	83.57	3114	125	3239
24.	Uttar Pradesh	35804.80	71.24	153536	39964	193500
25.	West Bengal	13074.47	61.55	65664	23087	88751
26.	A & N Islands	14.29	23.24	40	3	43
27.	D & N Haveli	0.85	2.74	-	-	-
28.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	-	-	-
29.	Lakshadweep	10.43	32.81	8	1	9
30.	Pondicherry	41.90	91.17	12	47	59
Total		203527.13	72.80	698448	262409	960857

[Translation]

**Setting up of Cyber Crime Research
and Development Units**

*134. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up cyber crime research and development units in the country;

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

(c) whether the Ministry of Information and Technology are also providing some assistance in this work;

(d) if so, the help the States are likely to get from these units; and

(e) the names of the States where such units are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (e) The Bureau of Police Research and Development has taken up a project for creation of Computer Crime Analysis Facilities at Hyderabad with the scientists of the Government Examiner of Questioned Documents Laboratory. This would create facilities for computer forensics, the scientific collection, examination, analysis and presentation of information held on or retrieved from computer storage media in such a way that it can be used as a potential legal evidence.

After the creation of necessary infrastructure and acquisition of required equipment such as Forensic Work Station and Evidence Recovery Unit, and other advance software packages available elsewhere in the world, a modest beginning will be made at Government Examiner of Questioned Documents Hyderabad laboratory for examination of cases related to cyber crimes.

Central Bureau of Investigation has also created a "Cyber Crime Research and Development Unit" w.e.f. 1.8.2000.

No assistance has been provided by Ministry of Information Technology for this purpose.

Officers from the States are being trained at the Cyber Research and Development Unit of the CBI. The States will also benefit from the expertise available in these Institutions.

[English]

Bio-Fertilizers

*135. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute, Bhavnagar has developed an eco-friendly technology to convert marine algae into bio-fertilizers for commercial sale to boost the food production:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some steps are under way to transfer this technology to industries interested in manufacturing the bio-fertilizers in liquid form of seaweeds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar have developed a process for the preparation of solid as well as liquid composition from marine algae, in particular Sargassum, having potential to boost food production. The process has been released for commercial exploitation and the know-how has so far been transferred to M/s. Herbal Agro Organics, Rajkot, Gujarat and M/s. AFE Industries, Nasik, Maharashtra, who are manufacturing and commercial marketing the product.

**Amount spent on Watershed
Development Programme**

*136. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government on Watershed Development Programme (WDP) since its implementation, State-wise;

(b) the details of the results achieved thereby;

(c) whether the Government propose to start WDP in some States with the assistance of World Bank; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development are implementing three major Programmes for the development of Non-forest Wastelands on Watershed basis, namely the Integrated Wastelands Development

Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP).

2. As a part of the follow-up action on the recommendations of a Committee (headed by Prof. Hanumantha Rao), all three Programmes are being implemented through the Watershed Approach, under the Guidelines for Watershed Development, w.e.f. 1st April, 1995.

3. The details of funds released by the Department under the three Programmes from 1995-96 to 1999-2000. Programme-wise and State-wise, are contained in the enclosed statement.

4. Upto 31st March, 2000, the details of projects sanctioned from 1995-96 to 1999-2000 are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Programme	No. of Projects	Total area to be developed (in lakh ha.)	Total Project Cost (Rs. in crores)
(i)	IWDP	192	18.27	728.04
(ii)	DPAP	8335	41.68	1667.00
(iii)	DDP	3694	18.47	886.00

(c) and (d): So far, the Department of Land Resources have not started Watershed Development Projects in the States with the assistance of the World

Bank and there is no proposal, at present, in hand in this behalf.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	IWDP	DPAP*	DDP**
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47.29	119.80	24.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.09	-	-
3.	Assam	2.59	-	-
4.	Bihar	6.89	13.42	-
5.	Gujarat	24.72	39.29	76.00
6.	Haryana	3.08	-	29.43
7.	Himachal Pradesh	17.61	4.72	18.71
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.76	8.30	36.26
9.	Karnataka	19.37	41.49	22.29
10.	Kerala	4.71	-	-
11.	Maharashtra	6.89	61.64	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	18.94	72.34	-
13.	Manipur	6.31	-	-
14.	Meghalaya	1.02	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Mizoram	0.50	-	-
16.	Nagaland	15.82	-	-
17.	Orissa	16.16	18.88	-
18.	Punjab	1.85	-	-
19.	Rajasthan	21.21	17.74	184.21
20.	Sikkim	10.44	-	-
21.	Tamil Nadu	12.65	35.63	-
22.	Tripura	1.00	-	-
23.	Uttar Pradesh	51.66	55.16	-
24.	West Bengal	3.87	7.27	-
Total		298.23	487.67	401.17

*The funding pattern of DPAP from 1995-96 to 1998-99 was on 50:50 sharing between Central and State Governments which was changed to 75:25 for the projects sanctioned after 1.4.1999.

**The funding pattern of DDP was changed from 100% Central assistance to 75:25 sharing between Central and State Governments for the projects sanctioned after 1.4.1999.

[Translation]

Pesticide Industry

*137 SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pesticide industry is facing problems due to indifference shown by the Government and discrepancies prevailing in the excise laws;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that some small units manufacturing pesticide formulations have been closed down and rest of them are on the verge of closure;

(c) whether indigenous industry is being neglected by allowing monopoly of multinational companies in this field; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Prior to the Union Budget of 2000-01, different levels of excise duty were applicable to technical pesticides and formulations. The pesticide industry had been representing for uniform excise duty of 8% on both technical pesticides and their formulations. In the Union Budget, 2000-01, a uniform Excise Duty of 16% has been levied on pesticides.

(b) to (d) The share of domestic companies in the pesticides industry is substantial. While the reasons for sickness and closure could be manifold, no specific report has been received regarding the closure of Pesticides units due to dominance of the multi-national companies in this sector.

Child Marriage

*138. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the child-marriages are still taking place in the country;

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

(c) the action taken to stop child marriages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b): Yes Sir. The unfortunate practice of child marriage is still continuing in some parts of the country. According to the information available with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of cases registered in the country under the Child Marriage Restraint Act during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 were 78, 56 and 44 respectively. The State-wise break-up of the these statistics is given in enclosed statement.

(c) By an amendment carried out in 1978 in the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, the minimum age for marriage was raised to 21 years for boys and 18 years for girls; the offences under this Act were also made cognizable. The administration and implementation of this Act is however, the responsibility of the State Governments.

The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 was also amended in 1976 to legally enable a girl to repudiate a child marriage whether the marriage has been consummated or not.

Besides the aforementioned legal provisions, the following measures have been taken to curb the social evil of child marriage:

- (i) Under a National Plan of Action, which focuses on survival, protection and development of the girl child, awareness is being created against child marriages through the electronic and print media. Social awareness is also being generated, through voluntary agencies and universities, about the ill-effects of early marriage and consequent early pregnancy on the health of the girl child.
- (ii) The State Governments and UT Administrations have been asked to formulate a specific scheme to raise the status of the girl child, with one of its objectives being the postponement of marriage of girl child beyond the legal age for marriage.
- (iii) The Department of Women and Child Development implements a Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Balika Smridhi Yojana" under which funds are released to the State Governments and the UT Administrations to provide financial assistance to the girls born on or after 15th August, 1997. The financial assistance is in the nature of a periodic deposit in the account of the girl child, including a scholarship for successful completion of study in each class. The accumulated value of deposits becomes payable to the beneficiary on attaining the age of 18 years and having remained unmarried till then. Under the scheme, a sum of Rs. 40 crore has been released during the year 1999-2000 to benefit 8 lakh girl children.

Statement

Incidence of Child Marriage Restraint Act During 1997 to 1999

Sl.	State/UT	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	23	5	0
5.	Goa	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	29	30	14
7.	Haryana	0	3	0
8.	Himchal Pradesh	6	4	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0
10.	Karnataka	1	2	0
11.	Kerala	4	1	11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0	1	1
13.	Maharashtra	0	0	7
14.	Manipur	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	0	0	1
19.	Punjab	1	2	4
20.	Rajasthan	10	5	2
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	1	0	0
23.	Tripura	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1	0	0
25.	West Bengal	0	0	0
Total (States)		76	54	44
26.	A&N Islands	1	2	0
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
28.	D&N Haveli	0	0	0
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	0	0	0
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	1	0	0
Total (UTs)		2	2	0
Total (All-India)		78	56	44

Source 1. 1997, 1998 = Crime in India Data

2. 1999 = Monthly Crime Statistics.

Note: Figures for 1999 are provisional.

*[English]***Public Sector Steel Units**

*139. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of public sector steel units incurring losses since the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the steps the Government propose to take to improve the loss making units;

(c) whether the Government propose to disinvest the public sector steel plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) While Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) and Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited (IISCO) have been incurring losses since the beginning of Eighth Five Year Plan, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has started incurring losses from the year 1998-99.

(b) to (d) As for Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), the Government approved plan for its restructuring is under implementation with a view to increase its competitiveness and profitability.

While some of the non-core/non-viable assets of SAIL are to be converted into joint ventures as a part of restructuring plan, there is no proposal for disinvestment of Government equity in SAIL at present.

As for Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (Visakhapatnam Steel Plant), the Disinvestment Commission has recommended the writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the Company as on 31.3.1999 alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity to a strategic buyer. No final decision has been taken by the Government on the recommendation of the Disinvestment Commission.

Expenditure of SAIL

*140. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on the publicity, meetings and tours in SAIL during the last three years, Unit wise;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce the expenditure;

(c) whether profit of SAIL has decreased during 1999-2000;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to arrest the loss of SAIL during 2000-2001 and make the SAIL a profitable venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The expenditure incurred by SAIL on publicity, meeting and tours during last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)			
Plants/Units	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
BSP	8.15	6.55	9.43
DSP	2.80	1.72	1.51
RSP	4.55	3.56	4.62
BSL	4.29	3.26	2.97
ASP	1.38	1.30	1.96
SSP	1.84	1.50	1.29
RMD	3.05	2.31	2.29
VISL	-	0.60	0.49
OTHER UNITS	22.28	17.28	14.80
SAIL	48.34	38.08	39.36

(b) SAIL has taken a number of austerity measures which inter-alia include reduction in publicity expenses, judicious use of telecommunication facilities, reduction in inventory, implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Main reason for the loss is sluggish demand due to recessionary conditions in most of the steel consuming industries resulting in lower sales realisation, coupled with higher depreciation and interest.

(e) Government has recently approved a plan for the business and financial restructuring of SAIL, with a view to increase its competitiveness and to turn the company on to a path of profitability.

Teacher-Pupil Ratio in Schools and Colleges

1375. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT to be pleased to state:

(a) the All India teacher-pupil ratio in Primary, Secondary schools and colleges in 1997, 1998 and 1999, State-wise;

(b) the growth rate of teachers, students in Primary, Secondary schools and colleges; and

(c) the comparative figures in this regard with some Asian countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Teacher Pupil ratios in Primary, Secondary Schools and Colleges during 1997 and 1998, Statewise, are given in the statement I enclosed. Growth rates of teachers and students in Primary Schools, Secondary Schools and Colleges for the years 1997 and 1998 are indicated in the statement II enclosed. Information on teacher-pupil ratio and growth rate of teachers and students for the year 1999 is not available as Statewise information from State Government has not yet been received.

(c) Comparative figures of teacher pupil ratio, growth rate of teachers and students in Primary and Secondary Schools of a few select Asian countries during 1996-1997 are indicated in the statement III enclosed.

Statement I

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Teacher Pupil Ratio					
		Primary Schools		Secondary Schools		Colleges	
		1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1:49	1:46	1:32	1:33	1:49	1:51
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1:36	1:38	1:29	1:25	1:24	1:29
3.	Assam	1:37	1:35	1:21	1:15	1:26	1:24
4.	Bihar	1:62	1:63	1:42	1:43	1:39	1:41
5.	Goa	1:19	1:21	1:25	1:26	1:20	1:19
6.	Gujarat	1:47	1:51	1:30	1:31	1:30	1:32
7.	Haryana	1:47	1:46	1:23	1:26	1:23	1:27
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1:30	1:30	1:31	1:29	1:35	1:29
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1:30	1:30	1:17	1:17	1:16	1:16
10.	Karnataka	1:31	1:32	1:20	1:20	1:29	1:35
11.	Kerala	1:30	1:29	1:29	1:19	1:38	1:41
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1:44	1:44	1:34	1:32	1:33	1:30
13.	Maharashtra	1:38	1:36	1:32	1:33	1:36	1:33
14.	Manipur	1:19	1:19	1:21	1:21	1:21	1:21
15.	Meghalaya	1:40	1:39	1:19	1:18	1:20	1:15
16.	Mizoram	1:28	1:24	1:09	1:14	1:27	1:23
17.	Nagaland	1:21	1:20	1:25	1:29	1:29	1:35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Orissa	1:35	1:37	1:17	1:20	1:58	1:57
19.	Punjab	1:40	1:42	1:28	1:28	1:30	1:30
20.	Rajasthan	1:42	1:44	1:25	1:26	1:27	1:27
21.	Sikkim	1:17	1:18	1:21	1:21	1:19	1:19
22.	Tamil Nadu	1:39	1:39	1:45	1:43	1:40	1:39
23.	Tripura	1:18	1:21	1:17	1:17	1:19	1:19
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1:42	1:42	1:39	1:39	1:41	1:41
25.	West Bengal	1:57	1:52	1:45	1:41	1:39	1:34
26.	A&N Islands	1:21	1:20	1:22	1:21	1:20	1:20
27.	Chandigarh	1:42	1:26	1:28	1:22	1:29	1:22
28.	D&N Haveli	1:39	1:45	1:25	1:36	1:25	1:27
29.	Daman & Diu	1:45	1:49	1:13	1:13	1:30	1:35
30.	Delhi	1:39	1:38	1:28	1:28	1:29	1:30
31.	Lakshadweep	1:33	1:25	1:15	1:17	1:12	1:17
32.	Pondicherry	1:27	1:26	1:27	1:30	1:34	1:29
INDIA		1:42	1:42	1:29	1:28	1:35	1:34

Statement II

Growth Rate of Teachers	1997	1998
Primary Schools	4.57%	1.71%
Secondary Schools	2.72%	6.85%
Colleges	5.82%	12.15%

Growth Rate of Students	1997	1998
Primary Schools	-2.69%	0.69%
Secondary Schools	-6.72%	0.27%
Colleges	4.94%	9.55%

Note: Percentage of rate has been calculated on the basis of previous year.

Statement III

Sl.	Asian Countries	Teacher Pupil Ratio 1996-97		Growth Rate of Teachers 1996-97		Growth Rate of Students 1996-97	
		First Level	Second Level	First Level	Second Level	First Level	Second Level
1.	India	1:61	1:25	2%	3%	0%	3%
2.	China	1:24	1:17	1%	2%	3%	6%
3.	Malaysia	1:19	1:20	3%	3%	0%	6%
4.	Mongolia	1:31	1:15	7%	1%	33%	-20%
5.	Republic of Korea	1:31	1:25	-1%	1%	-3%	-1%
6.	Singapore	1:25	1:20	2%	5%	3%	1%
7.	Iran	1:30	1:31	-3%	12%	-6%	14%

Anthropological Study on Medara Community

1376. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to conduct an Anthropological study on the Medara Community;

(b) if so, whether the Anthropological Survey of India has submitted a report on this community; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) No Sir, However a representation was received in the Ministry requesting that a study may be got conduct from the Anthropological Survey of India for determining status of Medara community. The Anthropological Survey of India has been requested to conduct the study.

(c) Anthropological Survey of India has been reminded to expedite the submission of their findings.

[Translation]

Coal Mines of South-Eastern Coal Fields

1377. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the villages selected for development within 8 kilometer radius of coal mines being operated by S.E.C.L. in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether arrangement for meeting primary requirements of these villages have been made by S.E.C.L.;

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

(d) the expenditure incurred in this connection so far; and

(e) the amount sanctioned and utilised for mining and the development works of these mines during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No particular village is selected for community development. At the same time, need-based peripheral developmental activities under community development programme are taken up by the company in the villages falling within the radius of 8 kms of operation of the Mines.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The peripheral developmental activities undertaken in the villages which are covered under community development programme, are mostly in the following areas:

1. Construction/repair of community centre
2. Installation of hand pumps
3. Repairs of hand pumps
4. Constructions/extension/repairs of Educational institution buildings
5. Construction/repairs of roads/culverts
6. Medical services and health camps
7. Construction of bus stand
8. Providing electric poles, conductors etc.
9. Other miscellaneous works

(d) The expenditure incurred during the year 2000-01 upto September, 2000 is Rs. 0.61 crores provisional.

(e) The details of the capital expenditure incurred against the mines/projects and the community development expenditure incurred during the last three years are given below:

Year	Rs. in crores	
	Capital Expenditure against the Mines and Projects	Community Development expenditure
1997-98	341.00	0.61
1998-99	309.00	1.59
1999-2000	618.00	2.36

[English]

Master Plan of Police Spaces

1378. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Master Plan of Delhi-2001 provides Planning Norms for various Police establishments & activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Police Department of NCT of Delhi prepared a Master Plan of Police Spaces for 2005-2010;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of police projects are pending for more than five years;

(f) whether there is any time schedule for the completion of these projects; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Bureau of Police Research and Development which had been assigned to undertake a study on the requirements of Delhi Police including its housing requirement has not proposed any change in the norms laid down in the Master Plan-2001.

(e) to (g) There are at present 83 projects with Delhi Police more than 5 years old in which the land is available but construction work has either not commenced or having commenced it has not yet been completed. The completion of these projects depends upon the availability of resources.

Statement

I. Police Station	1.15 hectares
II. Police Post	: 0.16 hectares
III. District Office and Battalion	
Area of District Office	: 0.80 hectares
Area of Battalion	: 4.00 hectares
IV. Police Line	: 4 to 6 hectares

[*Translation*]

Reservation in Allotment of Government Accommodation

1379. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision of reservation in the allotment of Government Accommodation to the Schedule Caste and Scheduled Tribe Government employees and officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of percentage of reservation in the allotment of Government accommodation for the Schedule Caste and Scheduled Tribe officers separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) As per existing instructions, 10% of vacancies in Type-I and II and 5% of vacancies in Type-III and IV are reserved for allotment to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees. Allotment to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees is made in ratio of 2:1. For this purpose separate waiting lists are prepared. In addition to the reservation, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees are also considered for allotment in their turn along with general category employees.

[*English*]

Linkage of Villages by Roads

1380. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released Rs. 2500 crores from the diesel cess to the States for the Development of rural roads;

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

(c) whether the States have drawn and submitted their action plan for the development of rural roads; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission have communicated to the States/Union Territories, the allocations for Rural Roads for the current year. A Statement I is enclosed. No releases have been made to the States as yet.

(c) and (d) Proposals have been received from several State Governments/Union Territories in regard to development of Rural Roads. A Statement II in this regard is enclosed.

Statement-I

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Amount
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	190
2.	Bihar*	260
3.	Goa	5
4.	Gujarat	50
5.	Haryana	20
6.	Himachal Pradesh	60
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	20
8.	Karnataka	95
9.	Kerala	20
10.	Madhya Pradesh*	300
11.	Maharashtra	130
12.	Orissa	175
13.	Punjab	25
14.	Rajasthan	130
15.	Tamil Nadu	80
16.	Uttar Pradesh*	375
17.	West Bengal	135
18.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	10
19.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5
20.	Daman & Diu	5
21.	Lakshadweep	5
22.	Pondicherry	5
North-Eastern States		
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	35
24.	Assam	75
25.	Manipur	20
26.	Meghalaya	35

1	2	3
27.	Mizoram	20
28.	Nagaland	20
29.	Sikkim	20
30.	Tripura	25
Total		2350

* Allocations for Jharkhand, Chhatisgarh and Uttaranchal are shown within the allocations for Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively and the Planning Commission has been requested to allocate the same.

Statement-II

Unstarred Question No. 1380 Admitted for Reply on 28.11.2000

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crore)
1.	Assam	179.48
2.	Bihar	82.57
3.	Gujarat	167.78
4.	Madhya Pradesh*	1044.18
5.	Mizoram	431.39
6.	Manipur	198.66
7.	Punjab	417.76
8.	Rajasthan	779.22
9.	Tamil Nadu	339.04
10.	Uttar Pradesh	90.81
11.	Pondicherry	52.26
12.	Karnataka	196.36
13.	West Bengal	49.58
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	878.92
15.	Orissa	348.52

* Includes project reports of some districts of newly created Chhatisgarh State.

Pay Scales of University Teachers

1381. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has recommended the pay-scales for University and College teachers but the same have not been implemented so far;

(b) if so, whether the college teachers and professors have started an agitation over this issue;

(c) the main reasons for the delay in implementing these recommendations; and

(d) the time by which the recommendations of the University Grants Commission are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The pay scales of University and College teachers have already been revised w.e.f. 1.1.1996.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Offer of Free Education from Germany

1382. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has offered education in the field of science, technology and humanities to Indians; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) In accordance with the decisions taken by the Permanent Cultural Committee of the Republic of India and the Federal Republic of Germany at its 10th Meeting held on 15-17 December 1997, the Federal Republic of Germany has offered a limited number of fully funded scholarships/fellowships for post-graduate studies and research work at its universities/institutions.

Taking over of Kendriya Vidyalayas

1383. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received representations to take over the Kendriya Vidyalayas run by other organisations on payment basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) No proposal has been received on these lines.

[Translation]

Teachers Training Institutes in U.P.

1384. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether teachers training institutes have been opened in Uttar Pradesh under the ambitious scheme of the Union Government to provide useful education in the field of higher education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to open such institutes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Construction of Houses under Indira Awas Yojana, Orissa

1385. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed in the tribal areas of the country especially in Orissa under the Indira Awas Yojana during 1998-99, 1999-2000;

(b) whether the houses have been distributed among SC/ST families; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the construction cost of each unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):

(a) The number of houses constructed for the tribal in the country especially in Orissa under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is as follows:

	1998-99	1999-2000
All India	165767	195235
Orissa	18654	19979

(b) and (c) Under IAY, not less than 60% of the total allocation is to be utilised for construction of houses for SCs/STs. The ceiling on assistance for construction of a house is Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 22,000 for plain and hilly/difficult areas respectively.

Terrorist outfit in Valley

1386. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Masood Azhar's new outfit gaining foothold in valley" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated July 26,2000;

(b) if so, the activities of new outfit noticed so far in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the activities of Jaish-E-Mohammed in the Kashmir Valley?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO):

(a) Government is aware of the media reports in this regard.

(b) Since its creation in early February JEM has claimed responsibility for a number of terrorist activities including firing on security forces, launching of grenades and a suicidal bomb attack.

(c) Government is alive to the situation and have been adopting a multi-pronged strategy to check terrorism in J&K. This includes intelligence based operations to neutralise terrorists and their hide outs; regular sharing of intelligence inputs at various levels through close

co-ordination; management of border to check infiltration/exfiltration; night domination operations; setting up of Pickets at vulnerable laces; formation of special Operation Groups; encouraging participation of villagers for taking up self defence; etc.

Rural Infrastructure

1387. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Budget earmarked for providing necessary basic infrastructure facilities to the people living in rural areas; and

(b) the action taken to make villagers more aware of the development schemes?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development has restructured the erstwhile Jawahar Rozgar Yojana with effect from 1.4.1999. The restructured scheme viz., the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) has been launched with the primary objective of creating demand driven village infrastructure, including durable assets, at the village level. The amount earmarked for the Scheme during the current financial year is Rs. 1650 crore, which is 16.9% of the total Plan allocation to the Ministry. The Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), also launched with effect from 1st April, 1999, provides infrastructure support to primarily bridge small gaps in infrastructure.

2. Concrete steps have been taken to provide access to the people to Basic Minimum Services with a view to improve the quality of life in the rural areas. The erstwhile Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and the BMS programmes aimed at the provision of safe drinking water, health care, primary education, housing to shelterless poor families, nutrition, connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations and food security through the Public Distribution System with a focus on the poor. The Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), launched in the current financial year, lays renewed emphasis on provision of drinking water, health facilities, education, housing nutrition and rural connectivity. A sub-scheme of the PMGY viz., Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has been initiated with an allocation of Rs.2500 crore during the current financial year.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development strives to disseminate information and create awareness in regard to different Schemes/Programmes of Rural Development amongst the target groups in villages through various modes of communication such as Electronic Media (TV

& Radio), films, advertisement in newspapers, posters, leaflets, outdoor publicity, exhibitions and interpersonal communication.

[*Translation*]

Protection of Tribal Language and Culture

1388. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

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

(a) whether the Government have developed any system to protect the tribal language and culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of universities of Madhya Pradesh and other States where courses regarding tribal language and culture are being conducted and proposed to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India has evolved several strategies for the protection of tribal language and culture. The Government in the Department of Culture administers a scheme whereunder financial assistance is provided to voluntary organisations and individuals engaged in the preservation, promotion and dissemination of Tribal/folk Arts and Culture. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been created exclusively to look after the affairs relating to the tribals including the protection of their language and culture. The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore has undertaken extensive research in the area of 80 tribal languages. The State Governments too have their own projects for this purpose.

Universities are independent entities and regularly undertake studies/projects on tribal culture. Ravi Shankar University, Raipur, has set up Departments of Linguistics and Anthropology for the promotion of tribal languages and culture. Other Universities that promote tribal languages and culture include North Eastern Hill University, Shillong; Ranchi University, Ranchi Jharkhand; Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu; Deccan College, Pune; Arunachal University, Itanagar; Osmania University, Hyderabad; and Karnataka University, Dharwar.

Further, Government organisations like the Anthropological Survey of India, Calcutta, the Language Division of the Registrar General of India, Calcutta; and

also the National Council for Educational Research & Training New Delhi Undertake programmes related to tribals.

Ban on Tinted glass on Vehicles in Delhi

1389. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tinted glasses on vehicles is prohibited in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Delhi Police becomes active to enforce the same only when some incident takes place;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take any concrete steps on the non-compliance of the rules and also on the inaction by the Delhi Police in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) No, Sir. The action against the vehicles carrying tinted glasses is taken on a continuing basis. Delhi Police had, during the preceding year and till 15th November, 2000 in the current year, challenged 88,500 cases in connection with this offence.

[*English*]

BIT and BIS Courses in Delhi University

1390. SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

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

(a) whether Delhi University has started Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT) and Bachelor of Information Science (BIS) courses last year;

(b) whether the duration of these two courses has been cut short;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether students held a massive rally recently to stop downgrading these courses;

(e) if so, the details of their other demands; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the justified demands of the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir, Admissions to the BIS and BIT courses were done for the first time with effect from the current academic year (2000-2001).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Yes, Sir. The students of the BIS/BIT/BCA/ B. Sc. (Hons) (Computer Science) had been sitting on a relay-dharna near the University Administration building. The Dharna has since been withdrawn following the meeting of Academic Council on November 24, 2000.

(e) Their demand was that they should be considered for the award of a four-year BIT/BIS degree.

(f) The Academic Council in its emergency meeting held on November 24, 2000 resolved that the students in BCA/B.Sc. (Hons) (Computer Science)/BIT/BIS programmes be considered for the award of a four-year BIT/BIS degree. The Academic Council also authorised the necessary changes in the Ordinances and in the Scheme of Examinations for this purpose.

[Translation]

Seizure of Uranium

1391. SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Radio active Uranium has been seized in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty in the matter; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such pilferage in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Creation of Posts in Education Department of Daman and Diu

1392. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for creation of posts in the Education Department of the Union Territory of Daman and Diu is pending with the Union Government for the last many years;

(b) whether as a result of this, the routine work of administration and functioning in the Education Department has been hampered and the local people are facing a lot of problem; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to sanction the required number of posts in the Education Department of Daman and Diu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) A proposal for creation of posts for the Department of Education of the Union Territory of Daman and Diu had been received in the Ministry. The proposal had been processed in consultation with the Finance Wing. Some additional information is required from the Union Territory to take a final decision in the matter.

Subsidy on Ammonium Chloride Fertilizer

1393. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government for the resotation of subsidy on Ammonium Chloride fertilizer;

(b) whether the Government propose any action for subsidizing the price of Ammonia by linking it to average subsidy being given to urea; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) At present, there is no proposal with the Government for the restoration of subsidy on Ammonium Chloride fertilizer.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

National Curriculum for Schools

1394. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA:

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

(a) whether the National Curriculum framework for School education prepared by NCERT has been recently released by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been suggested in the framework that there should not be any examination upto secondary stage and no student should be declared pass or fail till this stage;

(d) if so, the details of other suggestions made therein; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) NCERT has published National Curriculum Framework for School Education as part of the ongoing process of curriculum development. To facilitate a better learner friendly evaluation procedure the Curriculum Framework suggests that public examinations may not be held before the secondary level. The question of implementation of this suggestion depends on the decisions taken by the individual Boards of Education working in different parts of the country.

Allotment of Land

1395. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to the replies given in USQ Nos. 3162 & 2170 dated 18.12.95 and 14.12.99 regarding the allotment of land etc. and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that the enquiries are pending with different Deputy Commissioners/Collectors of Delhi. The Government of the NCT of Delhi have been asked to have these completed expeditiously.

Fake Passport

1396. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Passports are dime a dozen" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated September 23, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the rackets in fake passports are more prevalent in many parts of the country in connivance with the officials of the passport offices;

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

(d) the steps contemplated by the Government to check the growth of fake passports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Passport Offices issue only valid passports on the basis of clear Police verification reports and after examining requisite documents. Whenever fake passport are detected/seized and forwarded to Ministry of External Affairs, these are immediately revoked. Whenever investigations establish any verifiable linkage between touts and employees of offices strict action is taken against passport officials.

(d) Improvements in the Security features of Indian Passport and Visa stickers to minimise tampering are undertaken on a continuing basis. The concerned law enforcement agencies also remain vigilant to curb such practices. All immigration staff also exercise vigilance in this regard and are given special training and equipment to scrutinise travel documents to ascertain their genuineness. New security features in the passports are introduced from time to time to make them tamper proof.

UNDP Report on Human Development

1397. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the latest report on human development by the UNDP 70 per cent of the population is suffering from poor sanitation while 19 per cent have no access to safe drinking water in India;

(b) if so, whether the report is at variance with Government's own claims on these counts;

(c) whether the audit review have also thrown up some different data; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will to be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Entry of Indian Pharmaceutical Companies In American Market

1398. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Pharmaceutical Companies have been denied entry in the American market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Indian pharmaceutical companies have not been denied entry into the US market. As per the US Department of Commerce data, Indian exports of pharmaceutical products was \$ 1.027 million in 1997, which had risen to \$ 8.035 million in 1999.

[English]

Projects undertaken by CAPART in Gujarat

1399. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the projects undertaken by Council for Advancement of People Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in Gujarat;

(b) the names and location of agencies to which assistance has been provided by CAPART during the last three years;

(c) the details of grants sanctioned, amount released and utilized during the said period;

(d) the number of projects sanctioned/cleared during the said period;

(e) whether the working of these agencies have been reviewed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) A statement-I showing the details of the names and location of agencies to which assistance has been provided by Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in Gujarat, indicating the projects undertaken and the details of grants sanctioned, amount released and amount utilized during the last three years, is enclosed.

(d) the number of projects sanctioned/cleared during the said period is as under:

Year	No. of Projects
1997-1998	62
1998-1999	15
1999-2000	11
Total	88

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The working of these Agencies are reviewed by deputing Facilitators cum Evaluators (FCEs) at three stages i.e. before sanctioning a project as Pre-Funding Appraisal, during the implementation of project as Mid-Term Evaluation and on completion of the project as Post Evaluation. The year-wise details of such reviews, Voluntary Organisation-wise are given in enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I
Gujarat : 1997-98

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of the Voluntary Organisation & Address	Name of the project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Lokmitra Dhekdhuki, Chhasiya, Rajkot	Watershed	2,00,000	1,25,000 Amount released in subsequent financial years	1,25,000 Amount Utilized in subsequent financial years
2.	Shree Kundla Taluka Gram Seva Mandal, Savarkundala	Watershed	40,00,000	12,28,870 Amount released in subsequent financial years	12,28,870 Amount Utilized in subsequent financial years
3.	Sarvodya Kendra, At & PO Amigarh, Palanpur, Banaskantha	Watershed	50,000	50,000 Amount released in subsequent financial years	Assessment of Utilisation due.
4.	Maldhari Rural Action Group, B-1, Vrindavan Apts. Nehru Park, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	50,000	50,000 Amount released in subsequent financial years	Assessment of Utilisation due.
5.	Sarvoday Rachnatmak Sangh, Gundi, Post Lothal, Bhurkhi, Tal Dholka	CRSP	3,96,000	1,98,000	1,98,000
6.	Navajagruti Vikas Trust, 227/D/3, Rajiv Nagar. New Acher, Sabarmati, Ahmedabad.	CRSP	1,10,000	55,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
7.	Shri Balvikas Saghan Khsetra Samiti, At & PO Koth, Dholka.	PC & CRSP	3,80,520 4,06,219	1,89,000 4,06,219	Assessment of Utilisation due. Assessment of Utilisation due.
8.	Dahegam Vikas Yojna, Devkaran Ne Muvada, Dahegam	PC	6,16,323	1,81,000	Assessment of Utilisation due
9.	Mahila Ekta Vikas Parishad, Jivankala Society, Vejalpur	CRSP	2,33,139	1,20,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
10.	Centre for Health Education Training and Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA). Lal Vatiben Lalbhai Bunglow, Civil Camp Road, Shahibagh, Ahmedabad	ORP	1,05,000	1,05,000	1,05,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Helping Hand Kutir Gramodyog Charitable Trust, Block No.A/6, Rqom No. T/23, Omkareshwar Apartment, Near Vishvakarma Complex, Vej Pur Road.	CRSP	1,12,584	59,500	59,500
12.	Society for Womens Action & Training Institute (SWATI) B-2, Sunshine Apts., Dr. S.R. Krishna Marg.	ORP	4,27,000	1,05,000	1,05,000
13.	Rural Development Foundation, Adarsh Technical Institute, Station Road, Anand	DWCRA	52,800	45,300	45,300
14.	Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad-380054.	IRDP	42,800	42,800	42,800
15.	New India Khadi Gramodyog Charitable Trust, Ashok Mill, Juni Chali, ANTL Road, Saraspur.	CRSP	1,01,200	50,600	50,600
16.	Trimurti, 43, Shanti Nagar, SOC. Gomtipur	CRSP	1,08,790	58,100	Assessment of Utilisation due.
17.	Insaf Khadi Gramodyog Trust, AT & PO VANID, Tal, Dasada, Surendranagar	CRSP	1,57,491	44,225	44,225
18.	Manav Kalyan Trust, Rampura, TA Kheroj, Sabarkantha.	PC	4,44,060	1,31,000	1,31,000
19.	Sarvangin Gram Vikas Sanstha, First Floor, Riddhi Siddhi Com, Near Gurjar Pole, Prantij	CRSP	1,10,687	51,000	51,000
20.	Bhagwati Khadi Gramodhyog Seva Sangh, PO Kanij, Tal Sami Patan.	CRSP	1,16,041	1,16,041	Assessment of Utilisation due
21.	Uttar Gujarat Gram Vikas Trust AT PO Zilla TA Chansam Mehsana.	CRSP	1,04,615	53,600	53,600
22.	Adarsh Pragati Yuvak Mandal, PO Pundhara TA Vijapur, Mehsana.	CRSP	1,10,687	59,700	Assessment of Utilisation due
23.	Pandu Mewas Development Agency, AT+PO Valavav Tal Savli.	PC	5,84,297	2,87,000	2,87,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Adivasi Rathwa Yuvak Mandal At/PO Dhandhoda, Distt. Baroda	CRSP	2,40,350	2,40,350	1,20,000
25.	Shri Adivasi Majoor Karigar & Kamdar Vikas Mandal, At/PO Pariya, Bhalsad	PC	1,15,920	67,000	67,000
26.	Nandigram Trust Dharampur Road, Valsad	CRSP	2,20,000	1,10,000	1,10,000
27.	Shri Shaktivardhak Yuva Mandal, At/PO Faldhara Distt. Valsad	PC	1,56,529	78,000	78,000
28.	Paryawaran Kelwani Mandal At/PO Balchundi Distt. Valsad	SF	1,13,306	56,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
29.	Shri Sarda Sarvajani Seva Mandal, At/PO Chiloda, Distt. Gandhinagar	CRSP	1,10,687	55,345	55,345
30.	Shri Veivekanand Research & Training Institute (SVRTI), Mandavi, Kutch	PC	3,70,667	2,75,328	2,75,328
31.	Aga Khan Rural Support Programme Choice Premises NR Swasthik Cross Road, Distt. Nawrangpura	PC	2,68,980 2,51,976	1,34,490 1,25,988	1,34,490 Assessment of Utilisation due
32.	Maldhari Seva Sangh, Mota Ravari Wada, Distt. Dholka	CRSP	3,96,000	2,20,000	2,20,000
33.	SHROFF Foundation, At/PO Kalali, Distt. Baroda	CRSP & DWCRA	3,36,490 1,72,000	3,19,000 Amount released in subsequent financial year. 1,72,000	Assessment of Utilisation due. 1,72,000
34.	Sadvichar Pariwar, Dhuleta Darwaja, Near Hanuman Temple Idar	CRSP	3,99,865	2,01,500	2,01,500
35.	Jagruti Seva Sangh At/PO Bhadana, Jaksi, Nr. Bus Stand, PO Rampura, Bhankoda, Viramgam	CRSP	1,08,790	51,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
36.	Centre for Health Education Training & Nutrition Awareness, Lal Bhai Bangalow, Civil Camp Road, Shahi Bag, Ahmedabad	OB	2,33,625	2,30,000	2,30,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
37.	Chandresh Khadi Gramodyog Sangh, At/PO Koth, Distt. Dholka	CRSP	1,20,174	60,100	Assessment of Utilisation due.
38.	Vedchhi Pradesh Seva Samiti, At/PO Udyogwadi,, Distt. Surat	CRSP	4,56,664	2,17,000	2,17,000
39.	Sri Pragati Purushottam Kelwani Mandal At/PO Narayankunj, Distt. Chotaudaypur	CRSP	4,61,472	3,60,525	1,20,175
40.	Ashish Education and Health Promotional Organisation At/PO Limbodara H.No. 293, Mehsana	CRSP	1,35,000	55,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
41.	Chamunda Niketan, At/PO Mote, Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	1,01,200	50,600	50,600
42.	Jai Hind Khadi Gram Udyog Sangh, At/PO Dholi, Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	2,02,400	55,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
43.	Shri Harsidh Mahakali Seva Sangh, At/PO Kinch, Mehsana	CRSP	1,08,790	55,600	55,600
44.	Shri Arya Seva Sangh, At/PO Baspa, Distt. Mehsana	CRSP	4,04,673	1,93,000	1,93,000
45.	Shri Deen Dayal Khadi Gramodyog Trust At/PO Khanpur Distt. Kheda	CRSP	1,10,000	55,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
46.	CEU Detal Society Panchnath Community Centre, Harthar Chow, Rajkot	CRSP	1,10,687	51,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
47.	Shri Savgun Khadi Gramodyog Mandal, At/PO Tokarala, Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	2,16,820	1,09,000	1,09,000
48.	Gram Vikas Trust, Shri Virambha Ashram, Sarvajanic Kumar Chitralaya, Okham	PC	4,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000
49.	Adarsh Charitable Trust, Opp. Railway Station, At & PO Killapardi, Balsad, Gujarat.	CRSP	1,05,600	53,000	53,000
50.	Gujarat Adivasi Pragiti Parishad, Shankar Nagar, Garbada Road, Dahod	IRDP	2,60,500	1,47,750 Amount released in subsequent financial years.	Assessment of Utilisation due

1	2	3	4	5	6
51.	Khadi Gramodyog Sarvodaya Vikas Mandal, At Chiyada, Dholka	CRSP	1,20,174	59,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
52.	Hiral Khadi Gramodyog Sangh, Rohitwas, Samand.	CRSP	4,29,083	1,20,174	1,20,174
53.	Shri Gram Nirman Samaj Mahuva, Bhavnagar	CRSP	4,20,738	1,10,687	Assessment of Utilisation due
54.	Shri Jalram Sarvoday Kalyan Sangh, Lambodiya, Khedbrahma, Sabarkantha.	CRSP	2,20,000	2,20,000 Amount released in subsequent financial years.	Assessment of Utilisation due.
55.	Lok Jagruti Yuvak Mandal, M.P. Kotda, Khedbrahma, Sabarkantha.	PC	1,98,450	1,98,450	Assessment of Utilisation due.
56.	Sri Manav Vikas Mandal Social Society, Bus stand, Chansma.	CRSP	1,43,000	65,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
57.	Shri Sankar Khadi Gramodyog Seva Sangh, Chaluado, Radhanpur, Banskantha.	CRSP	1,09,927	55,000	55,000
58.	Sarvoday Rachnatmak Sangh, Gundi, Lothal, Bhurkhi, Dholka	PC	4,01,925	4,01,925	1,42,000
59.	Sahyog Khadi Gramodyog Trust, 2FC, Mangal Tirth Tower Paldi, Ahmedabad.	CRSP	4,04,800	2,02,400	2,02,400
60.	Gramya Vikas Trust, Dwarka, Okham.	PC	4,94,100	2,47,000	2,47,000
61.	Self Employed Women Association (SEWA), Sewa. Reception Centre, Opp. Victoria Garden, Bhadra, Ahmedabad	DWCRA	3,96,000	1,43,050	Assessment of Utilisation due.
62.	Field Marshal Foundation Trust, C/O P.M. Diesels Limited, PB 1003, Adir Industrial State, Rajkot.	CRSP	95,128	46,600	Assessment of Utilisation due.
Gujarat: 1998-99					
1.	Society for the Training and Vocational Rehabilitation of the Disabled (Sevathirth) Juni Gadhi, Near Muni Quarters, Mill Road, Yakutpura, Vadodara, Gujarat.	Disability Action	9,40,280	4,73,817	4,73,817
2.	Development Support Centre, 2, Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	2,52,300	2,52,300	2,52,300

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Development Support Centre, 2, Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	4,00,000	4,00,000	4,00,000
4.	Lokbharti Gram Vidyapith, E-133, Bhavnagar, Gujarat.	Wathershed	2,00,000	No release due to incomplete documents	Not applicable
5.	Gujarat State Rural Development Helping Committee, Kalapi Nagar, Block No. 122, Room, No. 946, Near Mahakali Temple, Ahmedabad.	CRSP	2,20,000	1,10,000	1,10,000
6.	Siddheshwari Krupa Sewa Sangh, Rohitwas, Unava (Bavla) Tal & Distt., Gandhinagar.	CRSP	2,20,000	2,19,783	1,09,783
7.	Ahmedabad Study Action Group Dalal Building, B/H Hotel Capri, Relief Road, Ahmedabad-380 001.	CRSP	4,02,600	3,82,600	1,82,600
8.	ANANDI, B-1, Divya Apts. Judged Bunglow Road Ahmedabad.	Watershed	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000
9.	Gujarat Jan Seva Khadi Gramodyog Education Trust At Chhatrityala, Valminiwas, Tal. Limdi-363 415 Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	1,10,000	55,000	55,000
10.	Vasundhara Sansodan Vikas Mandal, "Vasudha" C/o Valsad District Co-Op. Milk Producers Union Ltd. N.H. No. 8, At & PO Alipur-306 409 Tal, Chikhti, Distt. Valsad	CRSP	2,20,000	1,10,000	Assessment of Utilisation due.
11.	Bhal Nalkantha Prayogik Sangh Gundi Sarvodaya Ashram Dholka, Distt. Ahmedabad, Gujarat-382 230	PC & CRSP	3,78,255 2,20,000	3,78,255 1,10,000	1,93,255 Assessment of Utilisation due
12.	Pawan Khadi Gramodyog Seva Sangh At Sadapura, Tal. Santalpur, Distt. Banaskantha	CRSP	2,20,000	2,20,000	1,10,000
13.	Adivasi Seva Sangh At PO Ghati, Tal Bhiloda, Distt. Sabarkantha	CRSP	1,10,000	1,10,000	55,000
14.	Drishti Media Collective D-2, Karnavati Apartments, B/H Shraddha Petrol Pump, Bodakdev, Ahmedabad	PR	1,20,000	1,20,000	1,20,000
15.	Social Action for Rural and Tribal in Habitant of India (SARTHI) PO Godhar West A Luna Wada, Taluk Santrampur, Distt. Panch Mahal	Arts	45,05,087	Terms and conditions awaited	Not applicable

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat 1999-2000					
1.	Sarvoday Rachnatmak Sangh Gundi, Block Dholka, Ahmedabad.	PC	6,87,078	2,35,000	2,35,000
2.	Uttan Development Planning Team 36, Chitrakut Twins, NR Management Enclave, Vastrapur, Distt. Ahmedabad	Arts	24,72,000	13,49,393	13,49,393
3.	Development Support Centre, 2 Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	1,50,000	1,50,000 Amount released in subsequent financial years.	1,50,000 Amount Utilized in subsequent financial years.
4.	Development Support Centre 2, Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad	Watershed	4,41,100	4,41,100	4,41,100
5.	Amar Bharti Moti Pavatni, Dehgam, Distt. Gandhinagar	Watershed	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000
6.	Saurashtra Voluntary Actions 102, Panchadeep Nehru Park, Vastrapur Ahmedabad.	Watershed	1,00,000	No release due to incomplete documents	Not applicable
7.	Shree Sahajanand Sarva Seva Trust 102, Madhav Hospital Road, Vijay Nagar, Bhuj, Kutch	Watershed	1,00,000	1,00,000 Amount released in subsequent financial years	Assessment of Utilisation due.
8.	Tata Chemicals Society for Rural Development, Tata Chemical Ltd. Mithapur, Jamnagar	Waterhsed	1,00,000	1,00,000	Assessment of Utilisation due
9.	Maldhari Rural Action Group B/1, Vrindavan Apartment, Nehru Park Vastrapur, Ahmedabad	Watershed	2,00,000	1,00,000 Utilisation due.	Assessment of
10.	Shree Banni Vikas Trust Gorewali, Bhuj.	Watershed	1,00,000	No release due to incomplete documents	Not applicable
11.	Lokmitra, Dheduki, Distt. Rajkot	Watershed	54,07,178	1,25,000	1,25,000

CRSP	-	Central Rural Sanitation Programme
PC	-	Public Cooperation
ORP/OB	-	Organisation of Rural Poor/Organisation of Beneficiaries
DWCRA	-	Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas
SF	-	Social Forestry
PR	-	Panchayati Raj
ARTs	-	Assistance for Rural Technology Scheme

Statement-II**Gujarat: 1997-98**

Sl. No.	Name of the Voluntary Organisation & Address	Name of Project	Summary of the Status of Review
1	2	3	4
1.	Lokmitra Dhedhuki, Chhasiya, Rajkot	Watershed	Funds released recently.
2.	Shree Kundla Taluka Gram Seva Mandal, Savarkundala	-do-	Mid term Evaluation done. Report is Satisfactory.
3.	Sarvodya Kendra, At & PO Amigarh, Palanpur, Banaskatha	do	Review yet to be done.
4.	Maldhari Rural Action Group, B-1, Vrindavan Apts. Nehru Park, Ahmedabad	do	Review yet to be done.
5.	Sarvoday Rachnatmak Sangh, Gundi, Post Lothal, Bhurkhi, Tal Dholka	CRSP	Mid-Term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory.
6.	Navajagruti Vikas Trust, 227/D/3, Rajiv Nagar, New Acher, Sabarmati, Ahmedabad.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is Satisfactory.
7.	Shri Balvikas Saghan Khestra Samiti, AT & PO Koth, Dholka.	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
		CRSP	Post evaluation done. Report is satisfactory.
8.	Dahegam Vikas Yojna, Devkaran Ne Muvada, Dahegam	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is Satisfactory
9.	Mahila Ekta Vikas Parishad, Jivankala Society, Vejalpur	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is Satisfactory
10.	Centre for Health Education Training and Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA), Lal Vatiben Lalbhai Bunglow, Civil Camp Road, Shahibagh, Ahmedabad.	ORP	Post Evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
11.	Helping Hand Kutir Gramodyog Charitable Trust, Block No.A/6, Room No.T/23, Omkareshwar Apartment, Near Vishvakarma Complex, Vej Pur Road.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done Report is satisfacotry
12.	Society for Womens Action & Training Institute (SWATI) B-2, Sunshine Apts., Dr. S.R. Krishna Marg,	ORP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory.
13.	Rural Development Foundation, Adrash Technical Institute, Station Road, Anand	DWCRA	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory

1	2	3	4
14.	Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad-380054.	IRDP	Post evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
15.	New India Khadi Gramodyog Charitable Trust, Ashok Mill, Juni Chali, ANTL Road, Saraspur.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
16.	Trimurti, 43, Shanti Nagar, SOC, Gomtipur	CRSP	Adverse report. Amount refunded. The VO is under FAS category.
17.	Insaf Khadi Gramodyog Trust, At & PO VANID, Tal, Dasada, Surendranagar	CRSP	Post evaluation report satisfactory.
18.	Manav Kalyan Trust. Rampura, TA Kheroj, Sabarkantha.	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory.
19.	Sarvangin Gram Vikas Sanstha, First Floor, Riddhi Siddhi Com, near Gurjar Pole, Prantij	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory.
20.	Bhagwati Khadi Gramodhyog Seva Sangh, PO Kanij, Tal Sami Patan.	CRSP	Adverse post evaluation report. VO is under FAS category.
21.	Uttar Gujarat Gram Vikas Trust AT PO Zilla TA Chansam Mehsana.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
22.	Adarsh Pragati Yuvak Mandal, PO Pundhara TA Vijapur, Mehsana.	CRSP	Adverse report. VO is under FAS Category.
23.	Pandu Mewas Development Agency, At/PO Valavev Tal Savli.	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
24.	Adivasi Rathwa Yuvak Mandal At/PO Dhandhoda, Distt. Baroda	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
25.	Shri Adivasi Majoor Kangar & Kamdar Vikas Mandal, At/PO Pariya, Bhalsad	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
26.	Nandigram Trust Dharampur Road, Valsad	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done Report is satisfactory
27.	Shri Shaktivardhak Yuva Mandal, At/PO Faldhara Distt. Valsad	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
28.	Paryawaran Kelwani Mandal At/PO Balchundi Distt. Valsad	SF	Review yet to be done.

1	2	3	4
29.	Shri Sarda Sarvajani Seva Mandal, At/PO Chiloda, Distt. Gandhinagar	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
30.	Shri Vivekanand Research & Training Institute (SVRTI), Mandavi, Kutch	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
31.	Aga Khan Rural Support Programme Choice Premises NR Swasthik Cross Road, Distt. Nawrangpura	PC PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
32.	Maldhari Seva Sangh, Mota Ravari Wada, Distt. Dholka	CRSP	Post evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
33.	SHROFF Foundation, At/PO Kalali, Distt. Baroda	CRSP DWCRA	Review yet to be done. Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
34.	Sadvichar Pariwar, Dhuleta Darwaja, Near Hanuman Temple Idar	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
35.	Jagruti Seva Sangh At/PO Bhadana, Jaksi, Nr. Bus Stand, PO Rampura, Bhankoda, Viramgam	CRSP	Adverse report received. VO is under Further Assistance Stopped Category.
36.	Centre for Health Education Training & Nutrition Awareness, Lal Bhai Banglow, Civil Camp Road, Shahi Bag, Ahmedabad	OB	Post evaluation done. Report is satisfactory.
37.	Chandresh Khadi Gramodyog Sangh, At/PO Koth, Distt. Dholka	CRSP	Adverse report received. VO is under Further Assistance stopped category.
38.	Vedchhi Pradesh Seva Samiti, At/PO Udyogwadi, Distt. Surat	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
39.	Sri Pragati Purushnottam Kelwani Mandal At/PO Narayankunj, Distt. Chotaudaypur	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
40.	Ashish Education and Health Promotional Organisation, At/PO Limbodara H.No. 293, Mehsana	CRSP	Adverse report received. VO is under further assistance stopped category.
41.	Chamunda Niketan, At/PO Mote, Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory

1	2	3	4
42.	Jai Hind Khadi Gram Udyog Sangh, At/PO Dholi, Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	Project Evaluator not deputed. File is under process for refund of released amount.
43.	Shri Harisidh Mahakali Seva Sangh, At/PO Kinch, Mehsana	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
44.	Shri Arya Seva Sangh, At/PO Baspa, Distt. Mehsana	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
45.	Shri Deen Dayal Khadi Gramodyog Trust At/PO Khanpur Distt. Kheda	CRSP	Adverse report received.
46.	CEU Detal Society Panchnath Community Centre, Harihar Chowk, Rajkot	CRSP	Adverse report received.
47.	Shri Savgun Khadi Gramodyog Mandal, At/PO Tokarala, Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	Progress Report awaited
48.	Gram Vikas Trust, Shri Virambha Ashram, Sarvajani Kumar Chitralaya, Okham	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
49.	Adarsh Charitable Trust, Opp. Railway Station, At & PO Killapardi, Balsad, Gujarat.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
50.	Gujarat Adivasi Pragiti Parishad, Shankar Nagar, Garbada Road, Dahod.	IRDP	Pre-funding evaluation was done.
51.	Khadi Gramodyog Sarvodaya Vikas Mandal, At Chiyada, Dholka	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
52.	Hiral Khadi Gramodyog Sangh, Rohitwas, Samand.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
53.	Shri Gram Nirman Samaj Mahuva, Bhavnagar	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
54.	Shri Jalram Sarvoday Kalyan Sangh, Lambodiya, Khedbrahma, Sabarkantha.	CRSP	Pre-funding evaluation was done
55.	Lok Jagruti Yuvak Mandal, M.P. Kotda, Khedbrahma, Sabarkantha.	PC	Mid-term evaluation conducted Report is satisfactory
56.	Shri Manav Vikas Mandal Social Society, Bus stand, Chansma.	CRSP	Project Evaluator yet to be deputed.
57.	Shri Sankar Khadi Gramodyog Seva Sangh, Chaluado, Radhanpur, Banskantha.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done Report is satisfactory

1	2	3	4
58.	Sarvoday Rachnatmak Sangh, Gundi, Lothal, Bhurkhi, Dholka	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
59.	Sahyog Khadi Gramodyog Trust, 2FC, Mangal Tirth Tower Paldi, Ahmedabad.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
60.	Gramya Vikas Trust, Dwarka, Okham.	PC	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
61.	Self Employed Women Association (SEWA), Sewa, Reception Centre, Opp. Victoria Garden, Bhadra, Ahmedabad	DWCRA	Adverse Report received.
62.	Field Marshal Foundation Trust, C/O P.M. Diesels Limited, PB 1003, Adir Industrial State, Rajkot.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation done. Report is satisfactory
Gujarat 1998-99			
1.	Society for the Training and Vocational Rehabilitation of the Disabled (Sevathirth) Juni Gadhi, Near Muni Quarters, Mill Road, Yakutpura, Vadodara, Gujarat.	Disability Action	Mid-term evaluation conducted.
2.	Development Support Centre, 2, Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	Not applicable being Support Voluntary Organisation (SVO).
3.	Development Support Centre, 2, Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	Not Applicable being Support Voluntary Organisation (SVO).
4.	Lokbharti Gram Vidhyapith, E-133, Bhavnagar, Gujarat.	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done.
5.	Gujarat State Rural Development Helping Committe, Kalapi Nagar, Block No. 122, Room No. 946, Near Mahakali Temple, Ahmedabad.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation completed.
6.	Siddeshwari Krupa Sewa Sangh, Rohitwas, Unava (Bavla) Tal & Distt., Gandhinagar.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation completed.
7.	Ahmedabad Study Action Group, Dalal Building, B/H Hotel Capri, Relief Road, Ahmedabad-380001.	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation completed.
8.	ANANDI, B-1, Divya Apts., Judged Bungalow Road Ahmedabad.	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done.

1	2	3	4
9.	Gujarat Jan Seva Khadi Gramodyog Education Trust At Chhatriyala, Valminiwas, Tal. Limdi-363 415 Distt. Surendranagar	CRSP	Pre-funding evaluation was done.
10.	Vasudhara Sansodan Vikas Mandal, "Vasudha"C/o Valsad District Co-Op. Milk Producers Union Ltd. N.H. No. 8, At & PO Alipur-306 409 Tal. Chikhti, Distt. Valsad	CRSP	Deputed for Mid-term Evaluation
11.	Bhal Nalkantha Prayogik Sangh Gundi Sarvodaya Ashram Dholka, Distt. Ahmedabad, Gujarat-382 230	PC CRSP	Mid-Term Evaluation completed. Deputed for Mid-Term Evaluation
12.	Pawan Khadi Gramodyog Seva Sangh At Sadapura, Tal. Santalpur, Distt. Banaskantha	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation completed.
13.	Adivasi Seva Sangh AT PO Ghati, Tal Bhiloda, Distt. Sabarkantha	CRSP	Mid-term evaluation completed
14.	Drishti Media Collective D-2, Karnavati Apartments, B/H Shradha Petrol Pump, Bodakdev, Ahmedabad	PR	Project completed Evaluated & Closed
15.	Social Action for Rural and Tribal in Habitant of India (SARTHI) PO Godhar West A Luna Wada, Taluk Santrampur, Distt. Panch Mahal	ARTS	Pre-funding evaluation was made.

Gujarat: 1999-2000

1.	Sarvoday Rachnatmak Sangh Gundi, Block Dholka, Ahmedabad	PC	Mid-term completed
2.	Utthan Development Planning Team 36, Chitrakut Twins, NR Management Enclave, Vastrapur, Distt. Ahmedabad	ARTS	Projects Evaluator has been deputed for mid-term evaluation.
3.	Development Support Centre, 2, Prakruti Apts., H.L. Commerce College Road, Ahmedabad.	Watershed	Not applicable being a Support Voluntary Organisation (SVO).
4.	Development Support Centre, 2, Prakruti Apts. H.L. Commerce College Road Ahmedabad	Watershed	Not applicable being a Support Voluntary Organisation (SVO)
5.	Amar Bharti Moti Pavatni, Dehgam, Distt. Gandhinagar	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done

1	2	3	4
6.	Saurashtra Voluntary Actions (SAVA) 102, Panchdeep Nehru Park, Vastrapur Ahmedabad	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done
7	Shree Sahajanand Sarva Seva Trust 102, Madhav Hospital Road, Vijay Nagar, Bhuj, Kutch	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done
8.	Tata Chemicals Society for Rural Development, Tata Chemical Ltd. Mithapur, Jamnagar.	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done
9.	Maldhari Rural Action Group B/1, Vrindavan Apartment, Nehru Park Vastrapur, Ahmedabad	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done
10.	Shree Banni Vikas Trust Gorewali, Bhuj	Watershed	Pre-funding evaluation was done
11.	Lokmitra, Dheduki, Distt. Rajkot	Watershed	Evaluation by a team done before sanction of Action Plan

Train Robberies

1400. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether train robberies have become regular and common:

(b) if so, whether a dozen armed miscreants targetted the passengers in the New Delhi bound Himalayan Queen Express during August, 2000;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) The information received from the National Crime Records Bureau about train robberies during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 in the country is enclosed as statement-I.

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

Statement**State/UT-wise Incidence of Train Robbery during 1997, 1998, 1999**

Sl.No.	State/UT	1997	1998	1999
1	2	3	4	5
States				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	04	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NRT	NRT	NRT
3.	Assam	12	12	09

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	NA	NA	NA
5.	Goa	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	9	23	27
7.	Haryana	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0
10.	Karnataka	0	0	0
11.	Kerala	04	03	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19	22	04
13.	Maharashtra	34	43	60
14.	Manipur	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	NRT	NRT	NRT
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	13	11	11
19.	Punjab	01	0	0
20.	Rajasthan	18	14	04
21.	Sikkim	NRT	NRT	NRT
22.	Tamil Nadu	10	06	03
23.	Tripura	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	25	37	11
25.	West Bengal	33	48	58
UTs				
26.	A & N Islands	NRT	NRT	NRT
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	NRT	NRT	NRT
29.	Daman & Diu	NRT	NRT	NRT
30.	Delhi	NA	NA	NA
31.	Lakshadweep	NRT	NRT	NRT
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
Total (All-India)		178	223	193

1. NA stands for data not available.
2. NRT stands for No Railway Track.
3. Figures are provisional.

Genetically Modified Food

1401. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to protect consumer's rights and interests with regard to the safe food;

(b) whether consumers are being informed about the ill effects of genetically modified food on their lives and choices;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA') (a) to (d) Yes, Sir, Biosafety Guidelines in India are exhaustive and adequate to assess the risks, if any, from the use of Genetically Modified (GM) foods. No GM food has yet been released to the consumers. Before releasing any GM food, biosafety assessment including safety of such food to human and animal health is mandatory under the Indian Environment (Protection) Act. As and when GM Food would be ready for commercialisation, consumers would be fully informed. Work has been initiated to finalise a set of guidelines for this.

Fertilizers Units

1402. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any new schemes to encourage the fertilizer industries in the country;

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

(c) the production and sales of these industries in the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have received proposals for the establishment of new fertilizer units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) (a) and (b) To encourage investment in the fertilizer sector, the following facilities/concessions have

been made available to the fertilizer industry by the Government at present:

(i) As per the industrial policy resolution 24th July, 1991, no licence is normally required for setting up/expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up/expand fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance.

(ii) Deemed Export Benefit to indigenous suppliers of capital goods to fertilizer projects provided such supplies are made under the procedure of international competitive bidding.

(iii) Reasonable return on investment to the entrepreneurs under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme, at present applicable to existing urea capacity.

(iv) Concession on sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers to farmers.

(v) Import of capital goods for setting up of new plant/modernisation of existing units at a concessional rate of customs duty.

(vi) Import of fertilizer raw materials and intermediates at a concessional rate of customs duty.

(c) The State-wise production of fertilizers in terms of total quantity for the years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 is given in enclosed statement-I. The details for the last three years of sales of the major fertilizers, urea, DAP and MOP, the availability and sales of which are monitored by the Government at present, are given in enclosed statement-II.

(d) and (e) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no licence is normally required for setting up/expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperative Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. The details of such public/cooperative sector fertilizer projects in India, submitted for investment approval of the Government under the prescribed are given in the enclosed statement-III.

Statement-I*State-wise production of fertilizers from 1997-98 to 1999-2000*

('000 MT')

Name of Zone/State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
South Zone			
Andhra Pradesh	1856.5	2460.0	2523.3
Kerala	1100.7	1100.4	1281.1
Karnataka	426.4	554.6	478.7
Tamil Nadu	2179.8	2735.6	2939.9
Total (SZ)	5563.4	6850.6	7223.0
West-Zone			
Goa	784.3	552.6	719.7
Madhya Pradesh	2222.5	2400.6	2444.6
Maharashtra	2909.6	2930.8	3200.5
Gujarat	5770.4	5822.4	6413.5
Rajasthan	1622.6	1783.3	1996.6
Total (WZ)	13309.4	13489.7	14774.9
East-Zone			
Bihar	495.4	375.0	352.1
Orissa	1035.2	1007.4	865.4
West Bengal	672.8	550.9	852.4
Assam	197.0	114.8	122.3
Total (EZ)	2400.4	2048.1	2192.2
North Zone			
Haryana	638.6	604.5	578.3
Punjab	1385.2	1265.5	1135.9
Uttar Pradesh	6741.9	7161.6	7003.8
Total (NZ)	8765.7	9031.6	8718.0
Grand Total	30038.9	31420.0	32908.1

The quantity includes Urea, DAP, AS, CAN, Ammonium Chloride, SSP and complexes

Statement-II*State-wise sales of Urea, DAP & MOP During the Last three years*

(000 tonnes)

State	DAP			MOP			UREA		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
South Zone									
Andhra Pradesh	615.91	667.28	694.73	144.99	155.87	228.17	1705.80	2014.16	2016.77
Karnataka	357.06	386.04	439.13	212.46	163.94	224.80	864.30	905.36	954.98
Kerala	8.74	9.66	8.49	137.44	79.97	124.22	116.22	113.19	116.57
Tamilnadu	233.97	223.93	276.74	350.79	296.40	381.67	816.63	813.66	871.16
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0.27	3.01	0.00	0.09	0.64	0.86	0.73
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02
Pondicherry	6.6	6.27	6.97	2.96	5.56	7.30	20.21	19.48	19.43
Total	1222.28	1293.18	1426.33	851.65	701.74	966.25	3523.82	3866.71	3985.66
West Zone									
Gujarat	452.06	568.74	540.84	82.80	92.44	102.53	1193.95	1230.04	1053.98
Madhya Pradesh	480.79	513.75	501.964	51.32	47.27	58.55	1395.76	1262.22	1117.34
Maharashtra	427.01	503.92	569.34	210.19	197.98	230.80	1694.26	1707.47	1876.55
Rajasthan	323.84	327.73	446.564	5.45	6.21	7.39	1131.86	1011.20	1032.10
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.28	0.86	1.01
Goa	0.42	0.73	0.76	0.70	1.14	0.79	3.83	4.32	4.49
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.16
Total	1684.12	1914.87	2059.468	350.46	345.04	400.06	5420.94	5216.33	5085.64
North Zone									
Haryana	340.73	353.35	493.65	5.61	5.59	6.62	1214.04	1292.15	1247.76
Himachal Pradesh	0.23	0	0.44	2.26	3.23	2.94	39.22	48.78	42.97
Jammu & Kashmir	31.42	37.26	37.61	1.73	3.71	1.14	86.31	96.06	94.22
Punjab	508.1	616.68	672.57	32.37	28.24	38.36	1973.91	2065.37	1974.45
Uttar Pradesh	846.4	902.25	1377.2	106.54	112.09	141.64	4662.43	4886.10	4690.92
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.88	0.88	0.73
Delhi	4.92	2.57	7.8	0.50	0.79	0.13	32.07	35.47	27.24
Total	1731.8	1912.11	2589.27	149.01	153.65	190.83	8008.86	8424.81	8078.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
East Zone									
Bihar	276.34	299.5	388.624	87.01	85.75	101.38	1256.83	1305.81	1355.67
Orissa	55.53	67.05	96.8	55.92	65.60	76.29	332.17	323.65	418.55
West Bengal	311.21	385.41	418.94	215.94	249.90	289.12	976.15	950.34	1089.61
Total	643.08	751.96	904.364	358.87	401.25	466.79	2565.15	2579.80	2863.84
North-East Zone									
Assam	15.12	15.26	29.984	25.75	31.66	61.00	74.64	88.53	143.46
Manipur	0	0	0	0.83	0.34	0.05	26.25	30.97	33.02
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0.14	0.30	0.09	5.66	5.30	4.98
Nagaland	0	0	0	0.04	0.00	0.00	1.03	0.08	0.00
Sikkim	2.28	4.54	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.55	0.65
Tripura	0.02	0	0	2.31	0.15	1.47	21.64	14.89	14.69
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0.00	0.22	0.00	0.51	0.10	0.11
Mizoram	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.86	0.33	0.08
Tea Board (NE)	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	5549	37.50	0.00
Total	17.42	19.8	29.984	29.07	32.67	62.75	186.78	178.25	196.99
All India	5298.7	5891.92	7009.416	1739.06	1634.35	2086.68	19705.55	20265.90	20210.42
Complex Manufacture	-	-	-	493.93	569.24	888.58	-	-	-
Grand Total	-	-	-	2232.99	2203.59	2975.26			

Statement III*Projects proposals posed to the Government by public/cooperative units for investment approval*

Sl.	Name of the PSU/ Cooperative	Proposed Location	Estimated Capital Cost (Rs. Crore)	Production Envisaged		Completion Schedule
				Product	Capacity (lakh MTPA)	
1.	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) (Third stream ammonia-urea expansion project)	Hazira, Gujarat	1318	Urea	7.68	36 months from the zero date*
2.	KRIBHCO (New ammonia-urea plant at the existing site of FCI)	Gorakhpur, UP	1536	Urea	7.68	36 months from the zero date*
3.	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) (Grassroots)	Nellore, Andhra Pradesh	1736	Urea	7.68	39 months from the zero date*
4.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF) (ammonia-urea expansion project)	Thal, Maharashtra	1332	Urea	7.68	36 months from the zero date*

*Zero date is the date of approval of the proposal by the Government

Requirement of Fertilizers

1403. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual requirement of fertilizers in the country;

(b) the target fixed for production of fertilizers and quantum thereof produced and imported to meet the demand during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the amount spent on indigenous production and import during the said period;

(d) the number of fertilizer plants approved to be set up during the last three years to improve indigenous

production and the amount allocated in this regard; and

(e) the number of proposals of fertilizers projects pending with the Government for approval and the time by which these project proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) (a) and (b) Consolidate information on the total annual requirement of fertilizers in terms of nutrients, their target and actual production as well as import are given in the enclosed statement-I

(c) Year-wise amount spent on indigenous production and import during last three years in as below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount of concession disbursed on decontrolled fertilizers	Amount of subsidy disbursed on urea		
		Indigenous	Imported	Total
1997-98	2595.85	6600.00	721.96	7321.96
1998-99	3789.94	7473.00	124.22	7597.22
1999-2000	4500.00	8670.00	74.07	8744.07

(d) and (e) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no license is normally required for setting up/expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperative Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. The details of such major public sector fertilizer projects approved by the Government during the last three years

which are under implementation at present are given in Statement-II. The details of public/cooperative sector fertilizer projects submitted for investment approval of the Government under the prescribed procedure are given in the Statement-III. These proposals were approved 'in principle' by the Government subject to investment appraisal by the Public Investment Board (PIB). Investment appraisal of the projects was undertaken by PIB in July, 1999. A proposal for taking a final investment decision on the projects, was considered by the Government in June, 2000 and was deferred.

Statement-I

The total annual requirement of fertilizers in terms of nutrients, targets for production and actual production as well as import is given below:

(in lakh tonnes)

Fertilizers nutrients	Annual requirement			Target for production		
	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000
Nitrogen	109.01	113.54	115.93	96.10	106.82	110.67
Phosphate	39.54	41.12	47.99	28.60	30.27	33.45
Potash*	13.72	13.32	16.78	-	-	-
Total	161.88	167.97	180.70	124.70	137.09	144.12

*The entire quantity of Potash is met through import.

Fertilizers nutrients	Actual production			Imports		
	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000
Nitrogen	100.86	104.80	108.90	13.62	6.35	8.33
Phosphate	29.76	31.41	33.99	6.72	9.68	15.03
Potash*	-	-	-	11.40	15.42	17.39
Total	130.62	136.20	142.89	31.74	31.45	40.75

*The entire quantity of Potash is met through import.

Statement-II

Details of Public Sector fertilizer projects approved by the Government during the last three years, which are under implementation:

S.No.	Name of the project, location and Company/ Cooperative	Estimated capital cost (Rs. crore)	Product	Capacity (in lakh MTPA)	Zero date	Scheduled date of commissioning	Remarks
1.	Revamp of Namrup Plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Namrup, Assam	350.00	Urea	5.30	2.11.98	1.5.2001	A total amount of Rs. 144.69 crore has been allocated for the project upto 2000-2001 through budgetary support.
2.	National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) (urea plant expansion project), Nangal, Punjab	135.13	Urea	1.48	11.5.99	11.5.2001	The project is being funded through internal resources of NFL

Statement-III

Project proposals posed to the Government by public/cooperative units for investment approval

S.No.	Name of the PSU/ Cooperative	Proposed Location	Estimated Capital Cost (Rs. crore)	Production Envisaged		Completion Schedule
				Product	Capacity (lakh MTPA)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) (Third stream ammonia-urea expansion project)	Hazira, Gujarat	1318	Urea	7.68	36 months from the zero date*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	KRIBHCO (New ammonia-urea plant at the existing site of FCI)	Gorakhpur, UP	1536	Urea	7.68	36 months from the zero date*
3.	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) (Grassroots)	Nellore, Andhra Pradesh	1736	Urea	7.68	39 months from the zero date*
4.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF) (ammonia-urea expansion project)	Thal, Maharashtra	1332	Urea	7.68	36 months from the zero date*

*Zero date is the date of approval of the proposal by the Government.

Visit by Minister

1404. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries visited by the Prime Minister and other Union Ministers of the present Government;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the main achievements of the visits?

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

[Translation]

Subsidy for Fertilizers and Bio-Gas Plants

1405. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the subsidy given for fertilizers and bio-gas plants during the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price, distribution and movement control, and is given subsidy under the Rentention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS). Total amount of subsidy including equated freight subsidy and subsidy on imported urea during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 was Rs. 7597.22 crore and Rs. 8744.7 crore respectively.

As regards subsidy on bio-gas plants, the rate of Central subsidy, which is provided by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Resources, for setting up of a family type of bio-gas plant was Rs. 6000/- in North Eastern Region States; Rs. 3200/- in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and other hilly areas; Rs. 2300/- for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and small and marginal farmers and Rs. 1800 per plant for other during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 under the Central Sector Scheme—National Project on Bio-gas Development. Under a separate scheme, community, institutional and night-soil based bio-gas plants were also given Central subsidy in fixed amounts varying according to the size of plants, areas and kind of insitutions.

[English]

Increase in Padma Bhushan Awards

1406. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to increase the number of Padma Bhushan Awards given for excellence in various fields; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI) (a) and (b) The Government have approved increase in the number of 'Padma' awards, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri to 100 in a year, excluding awards given posthumously and awards to foreigners/ NRIs.

POLNET Project

1407. SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Project 'POLNET' for linking all police establishments in the country through satellite and wireless;

(b) the number of bidders and intending providers short-listed for providing the POLNET linkage;

(c) whether the bidders are being further short-listed on the grounds of technology proposed to be adopted;

(d) whether the technology sought to be rejected is a universally accepted state of the art technology; and

(e) if so, the reasons for its rejection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI) (a) to (e) The POLNET is a satellite based integrated and dedicated network, for modernisation of Police Telecommunication in the country. The Tendering process for POLNET began with Pre Qualification of Bidders in which 28 Vendors responded. Eleven firms were short listed for issuing POLNET main tender document. The POLNET main tender has been responded by nine vendors out of the eleven short listed vendors. Their Technical Bids are under evaluation.

Marketing of Bulk Drugs

1408. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to impose ban on the appointment of sole selling agents for marketing of bulk drugs and formulations; and

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

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

(b) The Department of Company Affairs has issued Notification vide GSR 364 (E) dated 27.4.2000 as amended by Notification No. GSR 749(E) dated 27.09.2000 in this regard. The reasons for issuing the notification have been mentioned therein.

Resources for Development of Wasteland

1409. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4600 dated August 22, 2000; and state:

(a) the amount of investment mobilized since the scheme was launched in 1994-95, year-wise; and

(b) the increase in investment since the scheme was restructured in August, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Under the Central Sector Investment Promotional Scheme of the Department of Land Resources, 16 projects have been sanctioned from 1994-95 to March, 2000 involving total investment of Rs. 1106.41 lakhs, including the central subsidy of Rs. 61.152 lakhs. Year-wise details are given in enclosed statement.

(b) There has been a significant increase in investment after the restructuring of the Scheme in August, 1998. Out of the 16 projects sanctioned up to March, 2000, 12 projects with a total investment of Rs. 998.20 lakhs have been sanctioned after August, 1998.

Statement

Year-wise details of projects sanctioned under Investment Promotional Scheme (IPS)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Projects	Total Area (in ha.)	Total Cost (Rs. lakhs)	Subsidy (Rs. lakhs)	
					Sanctioned	Released
1.	1994-95	1	26.00	34.09	8.52	7.20
2.	1995-96	3	65.00	74.12	18.635	17.699
3.	1996-97	-	-	-	-	0.84
4.	1997-98	-	-	-	-	-
5.	1998-99	3	140	211.50	7.00	4.20
6.	1999-2000	9	539.79	786.7	26.9965	16.1959
Total		16	770.79	1106.41	61.1515	46.1349

Separate ports for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1410. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) propose to construct a separate port for its exports;

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

(c) the annual exports of Steel from VSP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The annual exports of steel made by RINL (VSP) during the last three years are as under:

Year	Steel	
	Qty. ('000 tonnes)	Value (Rs. in crores)
1997-98	393	370
1998-99	201	179
1999-2000	255	203

Running of Courses without Approval of AICTE

1411. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

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

(a) whether there are no penal provisions under the AICTE Act, 1987 for taking action against institutes which are running courses without obtaining the approval of AICTE; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There is no explicit penal provision in the AICTE Act, 1987 to take action against institutes which are running courses without obtaining the approval of AICTE. However, as soon as the existence of any unapproved technical institute comes to the knowledge of AICTE, they serve notice to such institutes and warn them to get formal approval as per the Act or stop functioning. In addition, AICTE has set up a Cell for prevention of malpractices, which will help in curbing the incidence of unapproved institutions.

Losses to Public Sector Steel Plants

1412. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Public Sector Steel Plants have been going deep into the red;

(b) if so, the details of the losses incurred by each of them during the last three years;

(c) the reasons, therefor indicating their capacity, actual utilization and disposal of steel stocks, plant-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to take them out of the red and make them viable in the context of globalisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Details of profits/losses(-) incurred by public sector steel plants during the last three years are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	BSP	DSP	RSP	BSL	ASP	SSP	VISL	IISCO	RINL
1997-98	701	-509	-374	367	-88	-120	-84	-395	-177
1998-99	301	-719	-765	-165	-179	-180	-74	-357	-457
1999-00	92	-651	-704	120	-260	-142	-91	-210	-568

(c) The losses incurred by the public sector steel plants are interalia mainly due to sluggish market conditions, high capital related expenses, cheap imports, competition from private sector, high manpower cost etc.

Details of the capacity, actual production and sales of steel plants of SAIL and RINL for the last three years are as follows:

(Unit 000t)

Plants	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Annual Capacity	Actual	Annual Capacity	Actual	Annual Capacity	Actual
BSP	3153	3524	3153	3352	3153	3411
DSP	1586	1259	1586	1319	1586	1402
RSP	1212	1181	1212	1114	1671	1170
BSL	3156	2748	3156	2541	3780	3246
ASP	184	154	184	99	184	83
SSP	175	177	175	119	175	148
VISL	77	50	77	57	77	69
IISCO	377	315	327	285	242	250
RINL	2656	2250	2656	1933	2656	2382

Sales of Saleable Steel:

(000 tonnes)

Plants	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
	Sales	Sales	Sales
BSP	2901.2	334.0	3233.4
DSP	1111.5	1302.3	1346.7
RSP	940	1117.7	1311.6
BSL	2413.6	2489.8	3175.8
ASP	75.6	78.1	73.1
SSP	172.9	126.2	150.2
VISL	49	62.4	73.9
IISCO	290.9	290.7	245.2
RINL	2.2	2.1	2.2

(d) As for Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), the Government approved plan for its restructuring is under implementation with a view to increase its competitiveness and profitability.

As for RINL (VSP), the Disinvestment Commission has recommended the writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company as on 31.3.99 alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity to a strategic buyer. Not final decision has been taken by the Government on those recommendations.

Engineering Colleges

1413. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines followed for inspecting Engineering colleges to allow opening of new colleges in various States;

(b) the criteria followed for allowing increase of seats in Engineering colleges; and

(c) the number of Regional Engineering colleges inspected during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) gives approval to opening of new technical institutions depending on the availability of infrastructural facilities, inspection of which is carried out after issuance of the Viability Letter but before granting final approval.

(b) In addition to the preparedness of the Institution concerned, the criteria normally followed for allowing increase of seats in Engineering Colleges are availability of infrastructural facility at permanent site, building, faculty, library, equipments, etc.

(c) The details of Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs) inspected by the AICTE during the last two years, State-wise, is as under:

State	Name of the REC
Rajasthan	Malviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur.
Himachal Pradesh	Regional Engineering College, Hamirpur.
Maharashtra	Visvesvaraya Regional College of Engineering, Nagpur.
Gujarat	Sardar Valabhbhai Regional College of Engineering & Technology, Surat.
West Bengal	Regional Engineering College, Durgapur.
Assam	Regional Engineering College, Silchar.
Kerala	Regional Engineering College, Calicut.

Panel of Readers

1414. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government have directed the Central Universities to prepare a panel of Readers for selecting the candidates for the appointment of Vice-Chancellors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vocational Courses

1415. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to various colleges and universities for starting vocational courses during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the amount actually released so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Payment of Dues

1416. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for immediate payment of Rs. One Crore per year per Battalion by the Union Government to the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has sent a proposal to the Union Government for increasing the amount to Rs. 3 crore; and

(c) if so, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) No Sir. Presently as per policy the rates fixed are Rs. 50 lakhs per quarter per BN to be paid as provisional charges. These provisional charges are subject to adjustment on the basis of audited figures of actual expenditure.

(b) and (c) The State Government had proposed deployment charges at par with the rates fixed for the CPMFs. The State Government has already been informed that deployment charges will be based on actuals as per existing procedure.

[English]

Smuggling from Bangladesh Border

1417. DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to recent floods in West Bengal, fencing along the Bangladesh border has been washed away and smuggling activities have increased thereafter; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for fencing the affected area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) Border fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh Border has been damaged extensively at many places due to recent floods in West Bengal. No increase in smuggling activities has been reported.

(b) Sanction has been accorded to reconstruct the damaged portion of fencing.

[Translation]

Vehicles Theft Cases

1418. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicle theft cases registered in different police stations in Delhi during the last three years, till date, year-wise;

(b) the number of cases out of these have been disposed of so far;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that spare parts of stolen vehicles are sold at Jama Masjid and 'Chor Bazaar' of Red Fort;

(d) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry against the persons involved in this illegal trade; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the inquiry and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) There has not been any concrete evidence to establish the sale of the spare parts of the stolen vehicles at these markets. However, a number of stolen vehicles were found to have been re-registered in some other parts of the country.

The steps taken by Delhi Police to check the activities of auto-lifters include formation of Auto-theft squads in every district; setting up of check-posts at all borders; surveillance of criminals earlier involved in vehicle theft cases; deployment of plain clothes policemen to collect intelligence regarding organised gangs of auto lifters; intensification of motor cycle patrol near parking areas; and exchange of information with the neighbouring States.

Statement

Year	Cases Reported	Cases Admitted	Cases Challenged	Pending Investigation	Untraced
1997	7413	7194	844	30	6320
1998	8557	8308	776	49	7483
1999	8078	7864	829	248	6787
2000 (upto 31.10.2000)	6557	6449	345	2817	3287

Development of Chemical Industry

1419. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

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

(a) whether the Government have taken concrete steps for the development of chemical industry and making it environment friendly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any international conference was held in this regard in New Delhi recently; and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) (a) and (b) The Government has been making efforts to promote the development of the chemical industry. The Government is in constant touch with the industry to ascertain their needs.

Some of the steps taken by the Government to promote the development of chemical industry include liberalization of licensing policies, simplification in export-import policy, rationalization of tariff structure, organization of international exhibition and conference on various issues including environment protection.

(c) and (d) An international exhibition and conference, India-Chem 2000 was held in New Delhi from October 6-8, 2000. This event addressed various issues of importance to the chemical industry and led to increased interaction between the Indian and global chemical industry.

[English]

Dumping of Drugs by China

1420. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of increase in dumping of drugs by China;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Indian Pharmaceutical Companies and Members of Parliament have lodged protest against this with the Government;

(c) whether the Pharmaceutical Associations have submitted a detailed Action Plan to the Drug Controller Office in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Industry has demanded certain concessions from the Government;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Instances of dumping from other countries including China are brought to the notice of the Directorate of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties from

time to time. However, anti-dumping investigations are undertaken when the domestic industry files a fully documented petition to the Designated Authority in the Directorate, with prima facie evidence of dumping, injury and casual link between the dumping of the imported goods and injury to the domestic industry.

There is a reference received from a Member of Parliament on the subject.

(c) to (g) No detailed action plan in this regard has been received from pharmaceutical associations except for a general representation for laying down elaborate registration procedure and fee structure for import of every drug including bulk drug in the country. A draft notification has been issued by the Government on 24.10.2000 for amending the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules for this purpose.

[Translation]

Farmers Living in Indo-Pak Border

1421. SHRI PUSP JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is difficult for farmers to work in their fields adjacent to Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to mitigate the problems of the people living adjacent to the international border;

(c) whether the Government propose to compensate the said farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Farmers in Punjab, who have their lands beyond the fencing on the Indo-Pak border have certain problems relating to cultivation in their fields. With a view to minimise the farmers' hardships on account of security fencing, Border Security Force authorities hold meetings with the representatives of farmers and the civil administration.

(c) and (d) As a special case, Government of India had earlier made an allocation of Rs. 6.45 crores to mitigate the hardships faced by the farmers in Punjab whose lands lie across the fence in border areas.

An amount of Rs. 6.40 crores during 2000-2001 has also been earmarked as Additional Central Assistance to

Punjab for creation of infrastructural facilities in the border areas.

[English]

Grant to NGO for Propagation of Hindi

1422. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether utility certificates of Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to whom grants are given for Hindi Prachar have been fully scrutinised;

(b) whether complaints have been received regarding mis-utilisation of funds by these NGOs;

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

(d) the action proposed to be taken to prevent mis-utilisation of funds and ensure proper propagation of Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, under the scheme of financial assistance to voluntary organisations for the promotion of Hindi, the accounts and utilisation certificates that are received from NGOs, duly audited by a Chartered Accountant, are also scrutinised by the Central Hindi Directorate.

(b) Yes.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) (i) Complaints are investigated by the machinery of the Central Hindi Directorate and adequate vigilance maintained.

(ii) Further, a copy of the sanction letter releasing the grant to the NGOs is always endorsed to the State Government so that it can keep a watch over the activities of the NGO.

(iii) Under the provisions of the Scheme, if any complaint of mis-appropriation of Government funds is established, the grant amount can be recovered from the NGO with full interest.

Statement

"Grant to NGO for Propagation of Hindi"

(i) **Andhra Pradesh:** Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha (Head Office Chennai, Andhra Pradesh Branch):

a) A complaint was received from one Shri B. Satish Kumar regarding mis-appropriation of

Government grant. However, when the complaint was subsequently investigated officially, it was found to be totally unsubstantiated.

(b) Another person, one Shri Md. Gouse filed a complaint in the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh against Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Hyderabad for demanding Rs. 25,000/- as donation money from him, but his complaint was summarily dismissed by the Hon'ble High Court.

(c) A third person named Shri N.V. Prasad of Andhra Pradesh also levelled a donation charge against the NGO which is being investigated by the Vigilance Officer of the Central Hindi Directorate at present.

(ii) **Kerala:** A complaint was lodged by one Secretary, Hindi Pracharak Welfare Organisation, Trivandrum, Kerala against the following four NGOs for misappropriation of Government funds:

(1) Hindi Vidyapeeth, Trivandrum;

(2) Gandhi Smarak Gram Seva Kendram, S.L. Puram, Kerala;

(3) Hindi Prachar Kendra, Kodungallor, Kerala;

(4) Gandhi Smarak Hindi Prachar Mandal, Aeeripatt, Kerala.

However, when the complaint was investigated officially, it was also found to be totally baseless.

(iii) **Delhi:** Akhil Bhartiya Hindi Sanstha Sangh:

A complaint was made by Ms. B.S. Shanta Bai, ex-Secretary of the Sangh against the Sangh for the mis-utilisation of government grants. A committee was formed by the Sangh to enquiry into the allegation. It has subsequently been disposed off.

(iv) **Rajasthan:** Jaipur Hindi Prachar Prasara Sansthan, Jaipur:

A complaint was lodged by one Shri Surendra Saxena, Secretary, Rajasthan Hindi Seva Sansthan, Jaipur against the NGO for the misutilisation of Government funds. However, the complaint, when investigated by the Central Hindi Directorate, was found to be totally baseless.

[Translation]

Reservation of Seats in Engineering Colleges

1423. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of seats in the Engineering colleges located in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of seats reserved in these colleges for the students of other States and Union Territories;

(c) whether any requests/proposals have been received by the Government to increase the number of seats in these colleges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The total number of seats in the Engineering Colleges located in Maharashtra is 41125 at present.

(b) 294 degree seats and 99 diploma seats have been reserved in the State of Maharashtra for the students of other States & Union Territories during the academic year 2000-2001.

(c) to (e) In response to advertisements issued by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in July/August, 2000, 202 applications were received. A total of 4940 additional seats were approved after scrutiny of the proposals.

[English]

Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna

1424. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States have fully utilised the funds allocated under SGSY;

(b) if not, the States which have not utilised the funds;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any proposals have been received by the Union Government for the enhancement in allocation under SGSY;

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

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) (1) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is a process-oriented programme.

(2) However, as per the present information, no State has been able to fully utilize the funds allocated.

(3) The Scheme involves identification of Key Activities, preparation of Project Reports/Plans for each Key Activity, selection of prospective Swarozgaris and formation of Self Help Groups and their Capacity Building, Skill Development Training for the Swarozgaris, Credit and Market Support. The Self Help Groups become entitled for assistance after undergoing the process of grading which takes about one year. The year 1999-2000 was the first year of the Programme and the time involved in the initial preparatory works in the central reason for the States not being able to fully utilize the available/allocated funds.

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Fertilizer Units

1425. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to private certain fertilizer units;

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

(c) the present status of these proposals, unit-wise; and

(d) the proposed investment to be invited in these units by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Based on the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission, Government have decided to disinvest 51% of its holding out of 97.65% in National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), 32.74% of its holding out of 58.74% in Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) and

74% of its holding out of 100% in Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL) in favour of strategic buyers alongwith the transfer of management control. The decision on disinvestment in the case of Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd. and Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. has been deferred.

The disinvestment process is at an advanced stage in the case of NFL & MFL. Advisors have been appointed to assist the Government in these two cases.

Recruitment of youths to Counter ISI activities

1426. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to recruit and train the youths of the border areas to counter the activities of I.S.I.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to keep an eye on the industrial units and public sector undertakings in view of the plan of imminent I.S.I. attack; and

(d) if so, the guidelines issued to all the States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing various schemes under Border Area Development Programme for the development of these areas and to generate employment. Youth from the areas are also recruited in Central paramilitary forces. In addition Village Defence Committees have been formed in Jammu & Kashmir comprising of volunteers from the villages.

(c) and (d) Special attention is being paid to vital installations and regular inspection of industrial units is carried out for briefing the authorities on counter-measures. Inputs about threat perceptions emanating from various internal and external extremist/militant forces to the installations are shared with the State Governments/Central agencies & the management from time to time.

[English]

Drinking Water

1427. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have promised to supply potable drinking water to each and every village by the year 2004;

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

(c) the amount sanctioned and spent on each project so far and likely allocation for next financial year;

(d) whether the Union Government have received representations regarding problem of drinking water from States;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the steps taken to construct permanent sources of supply of potable water in villages where water problem is acute during summer season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) Rural drinking water supply being a State subject, the schemes for supply of safe drinking water to the rural habitations of the country are implemented by the State Governments under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

The National Agenda for Governance of the Government of India envisages provision of drinking water supply facilities to all rural habitations in five years. As per the action plans prepared by the State Governments, in consonance with the National Agenda for Governance, all the rural habitations in the country will be provided with drinking water supply facilities in five years, subject to availability of funds.

(c) As the powers to plan, sanction and implement individual rural water supply schemes have been delegated to the State Governments, the schemes are sanctioned and implemented at the State level itself. The amount sanctioned and spent on each rural drinking water supply scheme is hence not maintained at the Central level. However, the Government of India has sanctioned sector reform projects aimed to institutionalise community participation in rural water supply programme in 57 pilot districts since 1st April 1999. A statement indicating the sanctioned projects and the sanctioned projects costs is enclosed. The first instalment of funds in respect of 45 projects have been released to the State Governments/

district implementing agencies towards the fag end of the financial year 1999-2000 and during the current financial year. As physical utilisation of funds/implementation of these projects have just commenced or are yet to commence, it is too early at this stage to analyse the amount spent on implementation of these projects. The funds in respect of these projects are not released on annual allocation basis, but on the basis of achievement in terms of successful implementation of the project concept.

(d) to (f) Reports have been received from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Orissa regarding scarcity of drinking water due to deficient rainfall and lowering of ground water table. In view of the peculiar situation available in these States regarding scarcity of drinking water, the Government of India has decided to relax the priorities fixed in the Guidelines relating to the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to the extent of providing that the funds under ARWSP could also be utilised for activities relating to rejuvenation, renovation, restoration and replacement of existing rural drinking water supply schemes in areas affected by scarcity of drinking water in the above

mentioned States. Further, the second instalment of ARWSP funds for the year 2000-2001 has been released to Gujarat and Rajasthan in relaxation of the requisite conditions.

(g) Attempts are made to tackle the problem of sustainability of drinking water sources through Sub-Missions on Sustainability by taking up projects for conservation of water and rain water harvesting. As per the guidelines for implementation of the Rural Water Supply Programme, out of the 20% of ARWSP fund earmarked for Sub-Mission projects/schemes 25% fund should be utilised for projects/schemes on sustainability. All Members of Parliament have also been requested to encourage/take up water harvesting schemes from their Local Area Development Fund (LADF). Further, under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) — Rural Drinking Water, minimum 25% of the total allocation for the rural drinking water component is to be utilised by the respective States/UTs on projects/schemes for water conservation, water harvesting, water recharge and sustainability of the drinking water sources in respect of Desert Development Programme (DDP) / Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) areas, over-exploited dark/grey blocks and other water stress/drought affected areas.

Statement

Sanctioned Sector reform pilot projects and sanctioned project costs since 1.4.1999

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Pilot District	State	Sanctioned Project Cost
1	2	3	4
1	Chittor	Andhra Pradesh	4000.000
2.	Khammam	Andhra Pradesh	3753.000
3.	Nalgonda	Andhra Pradesh	4000.000
4.	Prakasam	Andhra Pradesh	4000.000
5.	Lohit	Arunachal Pradesh	900.000
6.	West Siang	Arunachal Pradesh	700.000
7.	Jorhat	Assam	1275.000
8.	Kamrup	Assam	1000.000
9.	Sonitpur	Assam	1181.000
10.	Dhanbad	Bihar (now Jharkhand)	4000.000
11.	Vaishali	Bihar	4000.000

1	2	3	4
12.	Mehsana	Gujarat	4000.000
13.	Rajkot	Gujarat	4000.000
14.	Surat	Gujarat	4000.000
15.	Karnal	Haryana	1507.000
16.	Yamuna Nagar	Haryana	986.180
17.	Sirmour	Himachal Pradesh	2005.000
18.	Srinagar	J&K	2511.000
19.	Udhampur	J&K	2500.000
20.	Bellary	Karnataka	4000.000
21.	Mangalore	Karnataka	4000.000
22.	Mysore	Karnataka	4000.000
23.	Kasaragod	Kerala	4000.000
24.	Kollam	Kerala	4000.000
25.	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	2927.940
26.	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh	4000.000
27.	Narsinghpur	Madhya Pradesh	4000.000
28.	Raisen	Madhya Pradesh	4000.000
29.	Sehore	Madhya Pradesh	1795.000
30.	Amravati	Maharashtra	2126.000
31.	Dhule	Maharashtra	3952.780
32.	Nanded	Maharashtra	4000.000
33.	Raigad	Maharashtra	3793.000
34.	Serchhip	Mizoram	268.980
35.	Dimapur	Nagaland	594.000
36.	Balasore	Orissa	4000.000
37.	Sundergarh	Orissa	4000.000
38.	Bhatinda	Punjab	752.190
39.	Moga	Punjab	344.000
40.	Muktsar	Punjab	3992.800
41.	Alwar	Rajasthan	4000.000
42.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	4000.000
43.	Sikar	Rajasthan	2171.000

1	2	3	4
44.	Sikkim South	Sikkim	1322.480
45.	Sikkim West	Sikkim	892.350
46.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	4000.000
47.	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu	4000.000
48.	Perambalur	Tamil Nadu	4000.000
49.	Vellore	Tamil Nadu	4000.000
50.	West Tripura	Tripura	2819.400
51.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	3000.000
52.	Chandauli	Uttar Pradesh	2500.000
53.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	4000.000
54.	Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	3000.000
55.	Sonebhadra	Uttar Pradesh	2500.000
56.	Midnapur	West Bengal	4000.000
57.	North 24 Parganas	West Bengal	4000.000
Total			169070.100

[Translation]

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Mohan Dharja Committee Report

1428. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mohan Dharja Committee on Wasteland Development has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):
(a) The Mohan Dharja Committee constituted in November 1994 had submitted its report to the Government on 8th December 1995.

(b) and (c) The main recommendations of the Committee and action taken by Government thereon are as under:

Sl.No.	Recommendations	Action taken by Government
1	2	3
(i)	Perspective Plans for proper water, land use and wastelands development be prepared by the States.	Report of the Committee was sent to States for implementation of its recommendations. They were specifically requested to prepare necessary 10-15 years Perspective Plans for proper water, land use and wastelands development.

1	2	3
(ii)	To have all afforestation, wastelands development, soil and water conservation and related schemes, under a suitably structured and empowered coordinating authority at the Centre and in States. To create a separate Department of Land Resources to treat non-forest and forest wasteland under the same authority.	A separate Department of Land Resources has since been created in the Ministry of Rural Development to deal with all the Area Development Schemes namely IWDP, DDP and DPAP to have close coordination and development of degraded lands.
(iii)	Reclamation of waterlogged and saline soils.	Seven pilot projects have since been sanctioned in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Orissa for development of waterlogged and saline soils.
(iv)	Greater involvement of women at every level for development of wastelands.	Common Guidelines for Watershed Development applicable to IWDP, DPAP and DDP were modified to provide that one-third of the members of the Watershed Committee should be women.
(v)	Review of flood control and water policy relating to both surface and ground water.	The Minister of Water Resources had informed that more and more emphasis was being placed on the measures like flood forecasting, flood proofing, and flood plain zoning which would result in reduction in flood losses. A model bill had also been prepared and revised and circulated by Ministry of Water Resources to all States to control and regulate the development of ground water. The Central Ground Water Board which has been revamped and revitalized by strengthening it, has also prepared a manual on artificial recharge of ground water.

[English]

World Bank Aided Water Projects

1429. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAKIP: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the World Bank aided drinking water projects under implementation in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch such projects in the rural hilly areas and tribal areas of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):
(a) In so far as Rural Water Supply is concerned, a project entitled "Uttar Pradesh Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project" (SWAJAL Project) is

under implementation in the State of Uttar Pradesh (including Uttranchal) with World Bank assistance with an estimated project cost of Rs. 284.93 Crores, commencing from 1996.

As regards Urban Water Supply, a project entitled "II Chennai Water Supply and Sanitation Project" is being implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu with World Bank assistance with revised project cost of Rs. 546.31 Crores, commencing from 12.6.1997.

(b) and (c) No proposals have been received from any State Governments to launch World Bank aided drinking water projects specifically in the rural hilly areas and tribal areas.

Restructure of Coal India Limited and Other Companies

1430. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives for the restructuring of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries/corporations/PSUs under the Ministry, during 1999-2000 and the current year as per MoU;

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

(c) the details of proposals finalized/under consideration for the purpose;

(d) the policy of the Government to improve the performance of the Public Sector Undertakings;

(e) the terms of achievements as well as short fall;

(f) the progress made on new coal mines projects and loan, assistance received and utilised during the last three years, project-wise;

(g) the reasons for the cost escalation and slow progress in execution of new projects; and

(h) the details of investment proposed for completion of the coal projects and production of coal, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of the answer given to part (a) of the question.

(d) The policy measures to improve the performance of the coal PSUs comprises, inter alia, the following:

(i) Greater autonomy to PSUs.

(ii) Rationalisation of manpower.

(iii) Assist CIL in getting adequate supply of wagons.

(iv) Assists in recovery of outstanding coal sale dues.

(e) The achievements in implementation are as under:

(i) complete deregulation of pricing and distribution of coal with effect from 1.1.2000.

(ii) Increased co-ordination with the Railway Board in matters of supply of wagons.

(iii) Strict enforcement of cash & carry scheme and realisation through deduction from the Central Plan assistance to defaulting States.

(iv) Financial assistance for implementation of voluntary retirement scheme in loss making coal companies.

(f) The following new projects are likely to be completed during 2000-01.

(i) Salunga — Jeenagora OC

(ii) Parej East OC

(iii) Pauni OC

(iv) Saner Exp U/G

No budgetary support is being provided to CIL at present for this purpose.

(g) The capital cost of a project is estimated at constant price i.e. the price prevalent at the time of formulation/approval of the project. No provision is made for escalation in the capital cost of the project over the period of construction and since the coal projects are having long gestation period for Open Cast Projects, the cost of project increases even if project is completed on schedule.

The main reasons for slow progress in execution of new projects are as under:

(i) Delay in acquisition of land including forest land.

(ii) Delay in rehabilitation of affected personnel.

- (iii) Adverse geo-mining condition.
- (iv) Delay in supply of equipments/execution of turn key contracts by manufacturers/contractors and
- (v) Miscellaneous problems like law & order, fire, coal evacuation etc.
- (h) The State-wise details of proposed investment and production of coal in new projects during the IX Plan period and in the terminal year 2001-2001 are as under:

State	Investment (Rs. Crores)	Production (MTC)
West Bengal	534.66	17.48
Bihar/Jharkhand	2237.41	77.02
Orissa	1382.11	44.50
Uttar Pradesh	1125.84	16.50
Madhya Pradesh/Chattisgarh	3923.87	93.24
Maharashtra	1288.42	29.76
Assam & Meghalaya	15.87	0.50
Total (CIL)	10508.18	279.00

Deemed Universities

1431. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received to declare Pali Pratisthan at Nalanda and Prakrit Pratisthan at Vaishali as a deemed University; and

(b) If so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

State Security Commission

1432. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a State Security Commission to oversee the performance of the Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any objections in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said Commission is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) "Police" is a State subject as per the Constitution of India. As such, it is primarily for the State Governments to take a view in this regard.

(c) to (e) Pursuant to the direction of the Supreme Court, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri J.F. Ribeiro was constituted to suggest ways and means for implementation of pending recommendations of the National Police Commission, National Human Rights Commission, Law Commission and Vohra Committee. This Committee recommended for the setting up of the State Security Commission. The reports of the Committee have been filed in the Supreme Court as per its directions and the matter is sub-judice.

Licences for Natural Resources

1433. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1362 dated August, 1, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) The relevant information has not so far been collected. It will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as collected.

Enquiry Commission Report

1434. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Justice Pandian and Lt. General Mukherjee Enquiry Commission on the bloody fall outs of Chittising Pura and Pahalgam have submitted their reports;

- (b) if so, the details of their findings; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Reports in Justice Pandian (about firing at Brakpora on 3.4.2000) and Lt. General Mukherjee Committee (about attack on pilgrims at Pahalgam on August 1,2000) have been received by the State Government of J&K.

The report of the Committee constituted by the State Government headed by Lt. General Mukherjee has recently been received from State Government and is being examined from the point of view of action required by the Union Government, but since a large number of the recommendations pertain to the State Government, consultations with the State Government would be necessary for the Government of India to form its view on the subject. State Government has reported that findings concerning the State Government are under their consideration for appropriate action.

As informed by the State Government, the Justice Pandian Commission's Report is under the consideration of the State Government which had appointed Justice Pandian to carry out the enquiry.

[Translation]

Fertilizer Shops

1435. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of fertilizer shops opened by KRIBHCO and IFFCO in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the other places where the fertilizer shops/centres are proposed to be opened, location-wise;
- (c) the time by which these are likely to be opened;
- (d) whether any new schemes have been formulated by KRIBHCO and IFFCO for providing fertilizer easily to the farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) (a) Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) market fertilisers mainly through State Co-operative network. There are about 6500 such co-operatives in Uttar Pradesh, at present. In addition,

KRIBHCO and IFFCO have established 37 and 66 Krishak Bharati Sewa Kendras (KBSKs) and Farmers Service Centres (FSCs) respectively, through which fertilisers are sold to farmers.

(b) and (c) KRIBHCO and IFFCO have no plans at present to open new KBSKs and FSCs in any of the States including Uttar Pradesh.

(d) and (e) KRIBHCO and IFFCO have not formulated any new scheme for providing fertilisers to farmers as the existing system is delivering fertilisers to farmers effectively.

[English]

Audio-Visual Programmes for Rural Development

1436. MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms of selection of scripts for audio-visuals for various schemes of rural development under the IEC Division of the Ministry;
- (b) the number of audio-visual including films prepared/produced during each of the last three years with duration language and zone-wise break-up thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated and actually utilised on these programmes during the said period;
- (d) the number out of these programmes screened on TV channels especially in the North-Eastern States;
- (e) the impact of these programmes on the rural development scheme; and
- (f) the details of funds allocated to agencies for the implementation of rural development programmes by the said division of the Ministry during this period?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The scripts received in respect of audio visuals are considered keeping in view the relevance of the "message" sought to be communicated.

(b) to (d) The details are given in enclosed statement.

(e) While a specific study has not yet been carried out in this regard, the impact, in overall terms, on Rural Development activities, has been favourable.

(f) IEC is a support activity to Rural Development Programmes, the funds for which are released by the concerned Divisions (of the Ministry).

Statement

(b) Details of Audio-Visuals produced during the last three years:

Year	Details of Audio-Visuals Produced	Agency
1997-98	Four Video spots on National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) in Hindi, 11 regional languages and three languages of North East namely Nagamese, Manipuri and Khasi.	Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity
1998-99	Nil	
1999-2000	Nil	

(c) Funds allocated and actually utilised on these programmes during the last three years:

Year	Funds Allocated	Funds Utilised
1997-98	Rs. 287.20 lakh	Production Rs. 12.98 lakh Telecast- Rs. 55.50 lakh
1998-99	NIL	Telecast- Rs. 38.41
1999-2000	Rs. 412.75 lakh	Telecast - Rs. 42.31 lakh

(d) Number of programmes screened on TV channels during last three years especially in the North-Eastern States:

Year	Details of Telecast	Telecast in N.E.
1997-98	42 telecasts of NSAP on National Network 180 telecasts of NSAP on Regional Kendras	Out of 180 telecasts, 12 telecasts from DDK, Guwahati,
1998-99	75 telecasts of NSAP on Regional Kendras 28 telecasts of Panchayati Raj on Regional Kendras	Out of 75 telecasts, 5 telecasts from DDK, Guwahati
1999-2000	10 telecasts of NSAP on National Network 225 telecasts of NSAP on Regional Kendras	Out of 225 telecasts, 15 telecasts from DDK, Guwahati

Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

1437. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the number of Indian citizens residing in the Indian Enclaves in the Bangladesh territory;

(b) if so, names of these Enclaves where the Indian Prime Ministers have made their visit as on December 31, 2000;

(c) the observations made by them in respect of difficulties being faced by Indian citizens in such Enclaves;

(d) the steps taken to remove the difficulties of the Indians residing there; and

(e) if no such visit had ever been made by any of the Prime Ministers, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI): (a) India has no administrative control or access to the Indian enclaves in Bangladesh. There is no information available about the

number of Indian citizens residing in the Indian enclaves in Bangladesh.

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

(d) The Government of India has received reports on the condition of Indian nationals living in the Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh. The Government of India is aware of the seriousness of the matter and is fully committed to an early settlement of all boundary related issues with Bangladesh.

(e) No visit has taken place since these Enclaves are to be exchanged with Bangladesh according to the provisions of the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974.

[Translation]

Closure of Haldia Unit

1438. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to close down the Haldia unit of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Ltd.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Government has already taken a decision to close/hive-off the Haldia Fertilizer Project of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) which could never be commissioned as the same has not been found techno-economically viable. However, this issue is linked with the rehabilitation package based on unitwise techno-economic viability for the company as a whole, and is dependent on the outcome of the proceedings of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

[English]

Demand/Supply of Coal

1439. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the present production of coal in the country;
- (b) the projection made for the production of different grade of coal for the Ninth Plan period;
- (c) whether there is gap between demand and supply of coal in the country at present;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the extent of rise in the import of coal during each of the last three years;
- (f) whether gap between demand/supply has been abridged as a result thereof;
- (g) the impact of import of coal on its production;
- (h) whether the Government have taken loan from World Bank and other countries to increase the production of coal;
- (i) if so, the details thereof; and
- (j) the achievements made in increasing the production of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Production of coal in the country during the year 1999-2000 was 300.09 million tonnes.

(b) The tentative grade-wise coal production programme in Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for the terminal year of 9th Plan (2001-2002) is given as under:

COAL INDIA LIMITED		(In million tonnes)	
Grade	Target	Grade	Target
1	2	3	4
COKING (MET./LW)		NON-COKING	
ST-I	0.25	Gr. A (LF)	2.21
ST-II	0.70	Gr. B (LF)	19.27
W-I	1.80	Gr-C (LF)	30.67
W-II	2.06	Gr-D (LF)	25.03
W-III	4.89	Gr-A	0.53
W-IV	7.20	Gr-B	2.66
SC-1	0.20	Gr-C	7.85
Sub total	17.10	Gr-D	8.32

1	2	3	4
COKING OTHERS		Gr-E	54.70
W-II	0.20	Gr-F	94.92
W-III	2.74	Gr-G	0.00
W-IV	6.12	Sub-Total	246.15
Sub Total	9.05	CIL-Total	279.00
COKING (NLW)			
NLW-I	0.05		
NLW-III	2.15		
NLW-IV	4.50		
Others (SLV)	0.00		
Sub Total	6.70		

SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED

NON COKING

Gr-B	0.360	Gr-F	5.530
Gr-C	7.467	Gr-G	0.800
Gr-D	6.333	SCCL-TOTAL	32.38
Gr-E	11.890		

(c) to (g) The country is self-sufficient in power grade coal. There is however paucity of reserves of coking coal and superior grades of non-coking coal.

The details of coal imported into the country during the last three years are given below:

Year	Total Import (in million tonnes)
1997-98	17.21
1998-99	15.64
1999-2000	17.50 (Provisional)

Some consumers like cement plants and thermal power stations located near the coastal regions resort to coal imports mainly on account of quality and because such imports are cheaper at the coastal region.

Steel Plants are importing coking coal to (i) bridge the gap between requirement and indigenous availability of coking coal of required quality and (ii) to improve the quality of overall blend for technical reason for improving performance of blast furnaces.

(h) to (j) Coal India Limited entered loan agreements with World Bank (IBRD) and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for financing Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) to improve coal production and maintain commercial viability of 24 profitable mines of Coal India Limited. Total loans comprised US\$ 1030 million, out of which US\$ 522.60 million is being utilised and the balance US\$ 507.40 million remaining unutilised.

Coal India Limited itself requested World Bank and JBIC for the cancellation of the balance uncommitted part of the loan because of various operational reasons. After taking into account the softening of domestic interest rates and the greater flexibility available by recourse to domestic credit on the strength of its balance sheet, CIL was of the view that continuing the World Bank / JBIC project finance for the unutilized portion of the loan was not in its best financial interests.

As the balance of convenience lay in agreed cancellation of the balance uncommitted facility of the World Bank and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) loan, CIL initiated appropriate steps for cancellation in consultation with Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Finance. CIL is confident of completing the projects covered by the loan from its own resources.

Reconstruction of School Buildings in Orissa

1440. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Central Government Departments and agencies have taken up the Work of reconstruction the school buildings damaged and completely collapsed due to super cyclone in Orissa on 29 October, 1999;

(b) if so, whether construction works of these school and college buildings have been started;

(c) if so, the number of such buildings reconstructed so far in the State particularly in Kendrapara district;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite the reconstruction works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Bokaro Steel Plant

1441. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total land acquired under the jurisdiction of Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) the total land on which the right of ownership is with the Bokaro Steel Plant for steel plant and other purposes;

(c) whether Bokaro Steel Plant has allocated land to schools and other social institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether residences built by Bokaro Steel Plant have been allotted by it and some of its residences have been illegally occupied; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) For the setting up of Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) 26,908.565 acres of land was acquired and 4378.675 acres was transferred by Govt. of Bihar. However, the area of land under ownership/utilisation of Bokaro Steel Plant is 28,216.375 acres.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Bokaro Steel Plant has allotted land to Educational Institutions and other Social, Cultural and Religious Organisations as indicated below:

(i) Educational Organisations	200.18 Acres
(ii) Social Organisations	1.70 Acres
(iii) Professional Organisations	1.92 Acres
(iv) Religious Organisations	: 18.25 Acres
Total	: 222.05 Acres

(e) and (f) BSL has about 37,350 quarters available and most of them are allotted. However, 518 and 105 quarters under illegal occupation of ex-employees/their dependents and outsiders respectively.

[English]

Smart Schools

1442. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up Smart Schools with the provision for computer literacy and studies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up; and

(d) the number of such schools proposed to be set up in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) Development of SMART Schools in the field of Information Technology is one of the components of the proposed scheme of Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS).

Initially the schools will be selected one each from the State/UTs and the rest will be distributed suitably among the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas.

[Translation]

World Hindi Conference

1443. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Hindi Conference is likely to be held in U.S.A. from November 15, 2000;

(b) the role of the Government in this Conference;

(c) whether the Government have taken any step on their proposals so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) Information regarding organisation of a World Hindi Conference in America in Nov., 2000 had been given by a Delhi based N.G.O. namely Bhartiya Sanskriti Sansthan.

(b) and (c) A No Objection certificate, from the political angle has been issued by Ministry of External Affairs for Organisation of the said conference. The Govt., however, do not participate in any conference organised abroad by any N.G.O.

(d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Policy for Adolescents

1444. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

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

(a) whether adolescents constitute one-fifth of India's population;

(b) if so, whether despite this they are yet to figure as a separate group in Government policies and programmes;

(c) if so, whether UN has advised the Government to formulate specific programme for adolescents; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Adolescents in the age group of 10 to 19 years constitute 21.4% of India's population according to a recent study.

(b) Various programmes of Government place special emphasis on programmes of this age-group.

(c) UNFPA in India in a recent study titled "Adolescents in India: A Profile" has expressed the need for explicit policy and programme initiative on adolescents.

(d) All such recommendations form input in Government's policy making. At present various programmes of adolescent are being run in health, nutrition, education & training, sports and recreation sectors. The Department of Women and Child Development has launched a scheme specifically for adolescent girls, namely the Kishori Shakti Yojana.

[Translation]

Infrastructural Facilities for Research Work in Science

1445. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Universities in which infrastructural facilities for high level research work in science are available at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance such facilities in some more Universities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Sarkaria Commission Report

1446. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convene a separate conference of the Chief Ministers to study the issue of autonomy and devaluation of powers to all the States on the basis of the Sarkaria Commission Report in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Chief Ministers of all States and the Chief Ministers of the Union Territories having Legislative Assemblies as well as Administrators of Union Territories not having a Legislative Assembly are the members of the Inter-State Council in which the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission are being deliberated and decided upon. The decisions which have been taken by the Inter-State Council, have been sent to the Ministries/ Departments concerned for implementation.

[Translation]

Technical Institutes

1447. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of technical institutes in Bihar is far less in comparison to other States;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to establish Indian Institute of Technology in Patna and to develop Loknayak Jai Prakash Technological Institute as an engineering college; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The number of technical institutes in Bihar is less as compared to some other States where substantial number of institutions have come up on self-financing basis.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal, at present, to establish Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Patna. Establishment of Technical Institute at the State level comes under the purview of the State Government concerned.

Amount Spent on Fertilizer Plants

1448. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on the setting up of fertilizer plants in the country during each of the last three years and till date, plant-wise; and

(b) the number of plants where work has already commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA

MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no license is normally required for setting up/expansion of fertilizer plants. Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environmental clearance. However, Public Sector Undertakings/ Cooperative Societies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. Further, Government does not directly incur expenditure on setting up fertilizer plants in the country. However, the project particulars including the details of amount spent on major fertilizer projects which were under implementation during the last three years where budgetary support has been provided by the Government to the Public Sector Undertakings for funding the projects, are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of amount spent on major fertilizer projects during the last three years

S. No.	Name of the project, location and Company	Estimated capital cost (Rs. crore)	Product	Additional Capacity (in lakh MTPA)	Zero date/ date of commencement	Expenditure incurred (Rs. Crore)			
						1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 upto 31.10.00
1.	Revamp of Namrup Plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Namrup, Assam	350.00	Urea	3.80	2.11.98	-	12.34	18.87	9.26
2.	Revamp Project of Madras Fertilizers Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu	601.43	Urea NPK	0.76 1.84	Project commissioned in March 98	81.70	31.43	-	-

[English]

Nellore Fertilizer Company

1449. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand Nellore Fertilizer Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the expansion work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) No proposal to expand any

Nellore Fertilizer Company has been received by the Government. However, a proposal of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, (IFFCO), to set up a new ammonia-urea plant in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh with an annual urea capacity of 7.68 lakh metric tonnes at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 1736 crore has been approved 'in principle' by the Government, subject to investment appraisal by the Public Investment Board (PIB). Investment appraisal of this project was undertaken by the PIB in its meeting held on 9.7.99. In June 2000, the Government considered and deferred the proposal for taking a final investment decision on the project, taking into account the observations of the PIB regarding the viability of the project, desirability of encouraging use of LNG as feedstock to reduce the incidence of subsidy and the need to stagger the implementation of the proposed projects due to limited demand supply gap forecasts.

Modernisation of Steel Plants

1450. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the projects implemented by the Government under the modernisation programme in Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants;

(b) whether there has been cost-overrun in some of these projects;

(c) whether similar projects are being implemented at Bhilai and other Steel Plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) Under the Modernisation programme of SAIL three modernisation projects were taken up. There has been some cost over-run in these projects. The details of these projects are as under:

Rs in crore

Project	Approved cost estimate	Anticipated cost*	Cost overrun
Durgapur Steel Plant	2668 (Base Date: 3rd Qtr. 88)	4372	1704
Rourkela Steel Plant	3954 (Base Date: 1st Qtr. 92)	4185	231
Bokaro Steel Plant	1793 (Base Date: 1st Qtr. 94)	1998	205

*As arrived at after financial restructuring of SAIL.

Except the above, no major modernisation project was undertaken in public sector steel plants by the Government. However essential replacements, modification and upgradation of existing facilities are taken up depending on technological requirement, availability of funds and market demand.

Closure of Steel Units

1451. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some steel units in some States are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is partially due to the proposal for increasing fuel surcharge which is proposed to be collected from such steel units; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to resolve the disputes and prevent the closure of those units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Government has no specific information about some steel units in some States that are on the verge of closure.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts of Teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1452. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:

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

(a) whether about 6 to 7 thousand posts of teachers in various categories in about 775 Kendriya Vidyalayas in various parts of the country were laying vacant in the beginning of the current session;

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

(c) whether a large number of such posts had been abolished in the last session;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of posts available to be filled by selection list category-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) Due to closing down/merger of some of the KVs about 970 employees have become surplus and they have been redeployed at other KVs against vacant posts. As on 01st November, 2000 about 487 PGTs, 549 TGTs, 172 PRTs and 535 Miscellaneous teachers' (including HMs) posts were lying vacant. State wise records are not kept. The process for filling up the vacant posts has already been initiated and is at an advanced stage. However, pending the completion of afore-said process, instructions have been issued for making contractual appointments and engaging part-time teachers to ensure continued availability of teachers.

Curtailment in Assistance to Educational Institutions

1453. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have curtailed the financial assistance being given to educational institutions and authorised these institutions to mobilise funds on their own;

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

(c) whether the education is likely to become costlier as a result of this new dispensation; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Financial assistance is provided based on demand and overall

availability of resources. Educational institutions are, however, encouraged to raise internal resources to the extent possible. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to raise allocation for education. Central Plan allocation on education for the Ninth Plan is Rs. 24,908 crore as against the expenditure of Rs. 8,522 crore in the Eighth Plan. This represents an increase by 192%. The current year's Central Plan outlay of Rs. 5,449.04 crore represents an increase of 16% over the last year's Plan outlay of Rs. 4,70,000 crore.

[English]

ISO Certification

1454. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all fertilizer units have been directed to obtain ISO 14000 certification;

(b) if so, the number of fertilizers units which have actually obtained ISO certification; and

(c) the time limit prescribed for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Department of Fertilizers had written to all Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperative societies other than sick units and Fertilizer Association of India to strive to achieve certification under ISO 14000.

(b) As per the information available, ten units have obtained ISO 14000 certification.

(c) No time limit was prescribed for this purpose.

[Translation]

Petrochemical Industries in Maharashtra

1455. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrochemical industries functioning in Maharashtra at present;

(b) the proposals received by the Union Government from the Government of Maharashtra and individuals for setting up of petrochemical and ancillary industries in the State as on September 30, 2000; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to ensure early clearance of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As per records available with the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, there are 24 petrochemical industries located in Maharashtra, of which 21 are currently in production.

(b) The Union Government has not received any proposal either from the Government of Maharashtra or from individuals for setting up of Petrochemical and ancillary industries in the State as on September 30, 2000.

(c) Does not arise.

Financial Assistance to Backward Classes for Higher Studies

1456. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grant has given to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to provide financial assistance to the students of backward classes for higher studies;

(b) if so, the date from which such assistance has been given;

(c) whether the State Government have utilised this grant;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) According to the information by UGC, the Commission does not provide any grants to the backward class students for higher studies. However, funds are provided to eligible universities for educational upliftment of students belonging to SC/ST categories.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Drinking Water Projects in Karnataka

1457. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether drinking water projects were taken up in Karnataka with the help of the Netherlands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these projects have not been completed in the State; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to ensure proper implementation of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per information furnished by the Government of Karnataka, the Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project has been taken up with the assistance of Government of Netherlands covering 201 problematic villages in 5 districts in Karnataka comprising of Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri, Bijapur and Bagalkot districts, at a cost of Rs. 88.71 crores. The assistance from the Netherlands Government is to the extent of Rs. 52.62 crores. The project was commenced in 1993.

(c) and (d) The Project has been completed but handing over of the completed schemes has not been achieved fully, due to dwindling of sources in few villages for which alternative sources have been found out, borewells have been drilled and action has been initiated to augment the same and hand over to Village Committees.

Investment by Oman Government

1458. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Oman propose to make investment in the Fertilizer Projects in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the location where these projects are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No proposal has been received from the Govt. of Oman to make investment in fertilizer projects in India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Losses in CCL

1459. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite increase in the production of coal, CCL is still undergoing losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the loss suffered by CCL during each of the last three years;

(d) the number of public coal companies running under losses indicating the reasons thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check their losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) has been posting losses since 1994-95.

The year-wise annual losses of CCL for the last three years are as under:

Year	CCL losses in Rs/crores
1997-98	85.67
1998-99	149.35
1999-2000	121.24

The main reasons for CCL losses are as under:

- (i) Share of production from low grade reserve has increased against the high grade reserves resulting in adverse product-mix.
- (ii) On account of write off/adjustment against old sundry debtors during the last three years amounting to about Rs. 215 crores the company had to post losses.
- (iii) On account of delay in land acquisition, forest land clearance and rehabilitation of villages, the workable coal reserves got depleted. As a result coal production could not be made good.
- (iv) Production of medium coking coal got reduced on account of depletion of workable reserves which resulted in under-utilisation of washeries.
- (v) Seven areas in CCL have old and less productive mines with large work force. This adverse "production manpower" ratio is affecting profitability of the company.
- (vi) Adverse age profile of Heavy Earth Moving Machine (HEMM) in CCL on account of high number of older equipments resulted in poor

availability and utilisation. This situation has led to low productivity of the equipments.

(vii) Uneconomic underground mines of CCL have high incidence of manpower.

(d) Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), besides CCL, are the other two subsidiaries of Coal India Limited running under losses. The main reasons for loss in these two companies are (i) existence of a large number of small underground (UG) mines, most of which were taken over at the time of nationalisation and are no longer amenable to significant increases in productivity, (ii) low productivity from UG mines as compared to successive increases in wages and dearness allowance of the employees, (iii) surplus manpower and (iv) adverse geo-mining conditions and problems of land acquisition and resettlement of land oustees affecting production from a few large coal mines.

(e) In February, 1996, a package of capital restructuring of CIL was approved by the Government whereby CIL's overdue liabilities of Rs. 2228.57 crores were taken care of by waiver of arrears of interest, partly by conversion to preference equity and partly by moratorium on repayment and interest accrual. These benefits were passed on to the loss making subsidiaries such as ECL and BCCL. Further, in order to improve the performance of the loss making companies of ECL and BCCL the CIL had effected an internal restructuring of the equity and loan structure of its subsidiaries whereby debts of Rs. 994 crores in ECL and Rs. 1180.70 crores in BCCL were converted into equity. Despite a number of measures taken to improve the financial position of the loss making companies, these companies continue to incur losses. Therefore, Coal India Limited, the holding company engaged Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI) to suggest measures for revival of ECL. The ICICI report on ECL revival has been received. As regards BCCL and CCL, CIL Board has engaged ICICI and IDBI respectively for suggesting revival plans for BCCL & CCL.

[Translation]

Rural Cleanliness

1460. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received by the Government under the rural cleanliness programme during the years, 1990-2000, 2000-01, State-wise;

(b) the number out of these proposals cleared and the amount earmarked to these, State-wise;

(c) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the position of the rural cleanliness scheme being implemented in the country, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) The details of the proposals received under the Central Rural Sanitation Programme, as per the available information, during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, State-wise, are given in enclosed Statement. The State-wise funds approved during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are also given in enclosed statement.

(c) Out of the project proposals received under Central Rural Sanitation Programme, so far 53 proposals

have already been approved. The project proposals under the Total Sanitation Campaign are considered regularly by a National Scheme Sanctioning Committee and as per the decision, projects are sanctioned accordingly. Some of the Project proposals received for model villages under Central Rural Sanitation Programme could not be considered because of limited availability of the funds. Some total Sanitation Campaign projects could not be considered as they are not for the identified pilot districts.

(d) The Central Rural Sanitation Programme is being implemented throughout the country.

Statement

Details of Projects received and approved; State-wise during 1999-2000 and current year

State/UT	1999-2000			2000-01		
	No. of projects		Approved Project cost Rs. in lakhs	No. of projects		Approved Project cost Rs. in lakhs
	Received	Approved		Received	Approved	
Andhra Pradesh	7	5	6705.38	-	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	494.81	-	-	-
Assam	3	3	660.18	-	-	-
Bihar	2	2	3664.45	-	-	-
Gujarat	3	3	1819.64	-	-	-
Haryana	-	-	-	3	2	1531.31
Himachal Pradesh	1	1	133.13	1	-	-
Karnataka	3	3	2753.59	-	-	-
Kerala	6	3	279.76	2	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	5	5	3901.10
Maharashtra	8	4	5657.14	4	-	-
Manipur	-	-	-	1	-	-
Nagaland	-	-	-	3	1	228.04
Orissa	3	3	6144.41	-	-	-
Rajasthan	4	4	7553.44	1	-	-
Sikkim	2	2	98.60	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	5	4	5102.50	3	-	-
Tripura	-	-	-	1	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	4	4	3390.13	6	1	343.06
West Bengal	1	-	-	2	1	2769.08
Total	54	43	44457.16	32	10	8772.59

Community Development Scheme by SECL

1461. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the funds utilised by South Eastern Coalfields Limited under the Community Development Scheme during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the sanctioned funds could not be utilised properly and lapsed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the officials found guilty in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The funds utilised by SECL under Community Development Programme during the last 3 years in as under:

AMOUNT SPENT (Rs. in Crore)

1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01 Upto Sept. 2000 (Provisional)
0.61	1.59	2.36	0.61

(b) to (d) No Sir, wherever an activity under Community Development Programme is not completed during a particular year it is always carried forward to the subsequent year for implementation. Hence, the question of non-utilisation of sanctioned fund for Community Development or action against any official does not arise.

[English]

Grading System in Examination

1462. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education has finalised the grading system in examinations conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay;

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

(e) whether any special training has been given to teachers to enable them to switch over from marking scheme to grading system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (f) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), currently follows a system of declaring examination results in terms of both marks and grades. The CBSE has taken a decision, in principle, to issue subject wise grades without reference to marks in class X examination. The proposed system of grading envisages declaration of results in terms of subject-wise grades instead of declaring the examinees pass/fail on the basis of fixed cut-off scores. In order to implement the decision, discussions are being held by the CBSE and the NCERT with various schools, Teaching Community, Parents Representatives, Universities and other Boards.

[Translation]

Preparation of MAPs

1463. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have asked to the State Governments to complete the work of preparing maps of urban areas;

(b) if so, the norms recommended by the Union Government for this work; and

(c) the steps taken by the State Governments so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) No such instructions have been issued to the State Governments.

However an Urban Mapping Scheme was taken up by the Government of India during the 8th Five Year Plan period on a pilot basis to cover 50 towns in two phases of 25 towns each with the broad objective of generating large scale urban maps for Geographical Information System applications and for developing technical capabilities of the Town Planning Organisations at the Central and State levels. In the first phase, 25

towns were selected from 6 States. The work of aerial photography and mapping was assigned to the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA).

In the second phase, during the 9th Five Year Plan, 28 towns have been identified in consultation with the State Governments. Of these, work of 13 towns has been

assigned to NRSA. The names of towns covered in phase I and II are given in enclosed statement.

All the maps generated under the scheme under first phase have been sent to the respective State Town Planning Departments for their use not only updating Master Plans but also for use by various utility agencies.

Statement

Annexure-I

PHASE-I TOWNS

Sl. No.	States	Sl. No.	Towns	Status
1.	Tamil Nadu	1	Tindivanam	COMPLETED
		2	Nagapattinam	COMPLETED
		3	Karaikkudi	COMPLETED
		4	Tirchendur	COMPLETED
		5	Rajapalyam	COMPLETED
2.	Uttar Pradesh	1	Agra	COMPLETED
		2	Faizabad	COMPLETED
		3	Nainital	COMPLETED
3.	Orissa	1	Bhuaneswar	COMPLETED
		2	Puri	COMPLETED
4.	Gujarat	1	Valsad	COMPLETED
		2	Bharuch	COMPLETED
		3	Surender Nagar	COMPLETED
		4	Porbandar	COMPLETED
		5	Veraval	COMPLETED
5.	Maharashtra	1	Kalyan & Ulhas Ngr.	COMPLETED
		2	Sholapur	COMPLETED
		3	Nanded	COMPLETED
		4	Nagpur	COMPLETED
		5	Ratnagiri	COMPLETED
		6	Akola	COMPLETED
6.	Andhra Pradesh	1	Nandyal	COMPLETED
		2	Khammam	COMPLETED
		3	Gudiwada	COMPLETED
		4	Bhimavaram	COMPLETED

PHASE-II TOWNS

Sl. No.	States	Sl. No.	Towns	Status
1.	Karnataka	1	Mangalore	Aerial Photographs received
		2	Mysore	Aerial Photographs received
2.	West Bengal	3	Asansol	No Security Clearance
		4	Siliguri	No Security Clearance
3.	Madhya Pradesh	5	Bhopal	Aerial Photographs received
		6	Indore	Aerial Photographs received
4.	Rajasthan	7	Ajmer	Flying Completed
		8	Bikaner	Aerial Photographs received
5.	Haryana	9	Ambala	After Pre-qualification tender
		10	Gurgaon	After Pre-qualification tender
6.	Punjab	11	Muksar	Aerial Photographs received
		12	Moga	Aerial Photographs received
7.	Meghalaya	13	Shillong	Flying Completed
8.	Sikkim	14	Gangtok	After Pre-qualification tender
9.	Chandigarh	15	Chandigarh	After Pre-qualification tender
10.	Assam	16	Guwahati	No Security Clearance
11.	Kerala	17	Kochi	After Pre-qualification tender
		18	Thiruvananthapuram	After Pre-qualification tender
12.	Bihar	19	Gaya	After Pre-qualification tender
		20	Chapra	After Pre-qualification tender
13.	Pondicherry	21	Pondicherry	Flying Completed
14.	Goa	22	Panaji	After Pre-qualification tender
15.	Himachal Pradesh	23	Hamirpur	After Pre-qualification tender
		24	Mandi	After Pre-qualification tender
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	25	Itanagar-Naharlagun	After Pre-qualification tender
17.	Mizoram	26	Aizwal	After Pre-qualification tender
18.	Nagaland	27	Kohima	After Pre-qualification tender
19.	Tripura	28	Agartala	After Pre-qualification tender

Note: Towns in BOLD have been sent to NRSA

[English]

University Status to IIIT, Hyderabad

1464. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted all the recommendations of the National I.T. Advisory Force and issued Gazette Notification in 1998 in regard to Indian Institute of Information Technology to give a University Status to the IIIT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to grant University Status to IIIT, Hyderabad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has accepted recommendation of the National Task Force on IT and Software Development regarding the IIITs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal is under consideration.

Assistance to Drought Prone Areas

1465. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total drought prone area in the country during 1950s, 60s, 80s and 1990s;

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to solve this problem; and

(c) the amount spent to contain droughts in the country so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):

(a) Drought Prone Areas in the country were first identified with the launching of the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) in 1973-74. The coverage of the Programme changed in 1995-96 due to changes in criteria adopted to identify drought prone areas. The criteria under the old DPAP guidelines identified only 55.3 m. ha for coverage under the programme. Subsequently, a High-level Technical Committee (Hanumantha Rao committee, 1994), identified some new areas for inclusion under the Programme at the same time identifying some existing Programme areas for exclusion from its coverage. However, a policy decision was taken by the Government to add the newly identified areas for coverage under the Programme as also not to delete any of the already covered areas under the Programme as these areas had not been completely treated for drought proofing. Consequently, the total Programme coverage increased to 74.6 m. ha with the adoption of the new Guidelines for Watershed development with effect from 1.4.1995.

(b) Since inception till 1994-95, DPAP was implemented on sectoral basis. During this period, an

area of 57.14 lakh hectares was estimated to have been treated under the core sectors of development namely land resource development, water resource development and afforestation/pasture development. Since 1995-96, the programme is being implemented under the Guidelines for Watershed Development exclusively on watershed project basis through people's own organisations at the village level. During 1995-96 to 1999-2000, 8335 watershed projects have been sanctioned under the programme for development of 41.68 lakh hectares of area.

(c) From 1973-74 to 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 2715.65 crore is estimated to have been spent under DPAP which included Central assistance of Rs. 1368.69 crore and State share of Rs. 1346.96 crore.

[Translation]

Distance Education

1466. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to promote distance education in the country;

(b) if so, the number of open universities set-up for the purpose so far, State-wise;

(c) whether they are adequate and fulfilling the objectives; and

(d) if not, the new measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes Sir, The Distance Education Council (DEC) — a statutory body established under the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985, has been charged with the responsibility of promotion, coordination and maintenance of standards in the distance and open education system. DEC also provides developmental grants to State Open Universities as well as Correspondence Course Institutions in the conventional university system.

(b) At present, there are nine State Open Universities one each in Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh, besides Indira Gandhi National Open University, having national jurisdiction.

(c) and (d) The demand for distance education programmes has been high and rising. According to the

recommendations of Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee, each major State should have one open University. The DEC has already requested the State Governments to start new State Open Universities.

[English]

Ad-hoc Workers in Daman and Diu

1467. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Ad-hoc appointments being made in various departments of Union Territory of Daman and Diu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to regularise the workers in the departments who have completed more than three years of service in the respective department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Daman and Diu Administration has had to resort to making ad-hoc appointments/promotions from time to time in certain cases on the grounds of administrative expediency.

(c) The regularisation of persons appointed/promoted on ad-hoc basis is an on-going process and is done as per extant instructions/rules.

Corruption by DDA Employees/Officials

1468. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item, appearing in the "Dainik Jagran" dated September 9, 2000 regarding the involvement of employees and high officials of DDA in corruption;

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

(c) whether CBI is conducting enquiries and have raided the premises of DDA in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof till date, case-wise;

(e) whether DDA officials have sold the land to some individual parties which was earlier allotted to Khadi and Village Industry Commission;

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

(g) the action taken against the DDA employees/officials found involved in corruption; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to tone up the working of the DDA and make it immune from the corrupt practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The Government are aware of the Press report in question. According to the information provided by DDA, a preliminary inquiry was conducted into reports/complaints of irregularities in the restoration/allotment of flats, which prima facie revealed that serious irregularities had been committed in some cases of restoration/allotment of SFS flats, and also in respect of refunds in some cases. On the basis of the preliminary inquiry, 8 DDA officials were placed under suspension on 28.9.2000 and all these cases have since been handed over to the Crime Branch of Delhi Police for further investigation.

In connection with similar complaints, the CBI also conducted raids at the residences and offices of 9 DDA officials and 4 property dealers on 10.11.2000, and recommended suspension of all the 9 DDA officials. This included 3 officials placed under suspension earlier. The remaining 6 officials have also since been placed under suspension. The case is being investigated by CBI.

(e) to (g) According to information made available by DDA, a plot measuring 2 acres was handed over to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) on 24.9.1976. In 1983 KVIC reported that there was encroachment on the land by jhuggis. Since, KVIC happened to be a public Organisation, DDA agreed to help the KVIC in removing the encroachment from the land on payment of cost of relocation. However, jhuggis dwellers took the matter to the Court and obtained a stay order against removal of the encroachment. DDA has not sold the plot to any private person at any point of time.

(h) The Government has been consistently emphasizing the need to step up action against corruption through both preventive and enforcement measures aimed at reducing the scope for corruption; bringing in greater transparency and accountability; focused attention to sensitive areas such as property related matters, illegal and unauthorised constructions and encroachments, etc.; and, effective action against those found guilty of malpractices. In this context measures have been taken in DDA for strengthening the Management Information System and issue of allotment/possession letters; streamlining of procedures for restoration/allotment of flats; computerisation including use of computers in draws of lots; organisation of bi-weekly Public Hearings by officers of the Director's level and above, etc.

Policy for Negotiations with Terrorists

1469. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to frame a State policy for negotiations with the terrorist group/hijackers who at times blackmail the establishment and create panic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to be placed before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission

1470. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the time fixed for the completion of the construction work under the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there has been any delay in its construction work;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):

(a) Rural drinking water supply being a State subject, the schemes for supply of safe drinking water to the rural habitations of the country are implemented by the State Governments under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The powers to plan, sanction and implement individual rural water supply schemes have been delegated to the State Governments. As such the details like completion time for construction, etc. in respect of individual rural drinking water supply schemes implemented by the State Governments are maintained only at the State Government level.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

NGOs Working for Women's Development

1471. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether performance of NGOs working in the field of welfare of women and children has been evaluated;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by these NGOs in their respective areas during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The performance of NGOs who are implementing the programmes of the Department for the welfare of women and children are being evaluated concurrently at different stages. Their work is inspected by the officers of the Central and State Governments and the physical and financial programmes are being monitored regularly. The impact of the programmes is also evaluated through independent research and other organizations.

(c) The NGOs have been implementing their programmes as per the guidelines framed by the Government in this regard.

Schemes for Empowering Women

1472. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of empowerment of women through self-help Groups; and

(b) if so, the components of this scheme and their likely impact on the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indira Mahila Yojana is a scheme for Empowerment of Women through Self-Help Groups.

(b) The components of the scheme are (i) Convergence of inter-sectoral services; (ii) Income Generation Activities; and (iii) A sustained process of awareness generation/education.

It is expected that Group Activities under Indira Mahila Yojana would prepare women to participate in planning, implementation and monitoring activities of village level bodies such as Panchayats, Village Committees and Samitis. Women in the self-help groups at the grassroot level under this strategy would also have access to various developmental programmes.

[Translation]

Public Sector Fertilizer Plants

1473. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) the total number of public fertilizer plants at present, State-wise;

(b) the total production capacity thereof;

(c) the number of plants out of these running at losses since last three years; and

(d) the total losses suffered by them till October, 2000 alongwith the total capital investments made therein upto the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) State-wise number of fertilizer units of public sector undertakings (PSUs) and their production capacity is given below:

S. No.	Name of State	No. of Plants	Annual Installed Capacity ('000' MT)	
			Nitrogen	Phosphate
1.	Assam	2	198.1	0.0
2.	Bihar	1	151.8	0.0
3.	Haryana	1	235.3	0.0
4.	Kerala	3	325.4	131.9
5.	Madhya Pradesh	2	785.2	0.0
6.	Maharashtra	4	955.0	120.1
7.	Orissa	2	249.6	331.2
8.	Punjab	3	467.1	0.0
9.	Tamil Nadu	2	347.5	142.8
Total		20	3715.0	726.0

(c) and (d) HFC, FCI, PPCL & PPL are the four PSUs under the administrative control of Department of Fertilizers which have been continuously recording losses over the last three years. The total losses suffered by

them and capital investments made by the Government therein upto October, 2000, in the form of equity is given in the table below:

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	PSU	Accumulated Loss as on		Govt. equity upto 31.10.2000
		31.3.2000	31.10.2000 (Prov.)	
1.	HFC	4192.07	4565.41	776.11
2.	FCI	5904.11	6473.80	746.74
3.	PPCL	245.50	260.26	95.40
4.	PPL	424.43*	469.81	341.65

*Accounts to be passed at the AGM.

*[English]***Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission**

1474. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals regarding drinking water and sanitation projects and also the projects under Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission received by the Union Government from the Government of Orissa; and

(b) the funds allocated for each of these projects and the achievements made thereunder during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):

(a) and (b) Rural drinking water supply being a State

subject, the schemes for supply of safe drinking water to the rural habitations of the country are implemented by the State Governments under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The powers to plan, sanction and implement individual rural water supply schemes have been delegated to the State Governments. As such, details of rural water supply schemes sanctioned by the State Governments and the achievements made thereunder are not maintained at the Central level.

However, proposals received from the State Government of Orissa in respect of rural water supply sector reform projects and total sanitation campaign projects to institutionalise community participation in the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes in the following identified pilot districts of the state have been sanctioned by the Government of India for implementation:

S. No.	Name of the Pilot District	Sanctioned Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
Rural Water Supply Programme (sector reform projects)		
1	Sundergarh	4000.00
2	Balasore	4000.00
Rural Sanitation Programme (Total Sanitation Campaign)		
1	Sundergarh	2019.38
2	Ganjam	2062.51
3	Balasore	2062.52

The funds in respect of the above rural water supply and sanitation sector reform projects, except for the Balasore rural water supply sector reform project, were released to the State Government/District implementing agencies towards the tag end of financial year 1999-2000 and during the current financial year. The first instalment in respect of Balasore rural water supply sector reform project is yet to be released. As the physical implementation of these projects has just commenced or is yet to commence, it is too early to assess the achievements at this stage. A rural water supply sector reform project received in respect of Ganjam district has not been approved.

*[Translation]***World Bank Assistance for Polytechnic Colleges**

1475. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

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

(a) whether the World Bank provides assistance for setting up and modernisation of polytechnic colleges;

(b) if so, the manner in which the amount of assistance is utilised in each State and the category-wise priorities in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to give priority to the backward, hilly and tribal areas in regard to implementation of the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the year by which the proposed scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) The World Bank has provided assistance for Capacity Expansion, Quality improvement and Efficiency improvement of Technician Education System. 19 States/UTs have received such assistance during 1990-1999 covering 532 Polytechnics. Women Students and students belonging to disadvantaged groups have, amongst others, benefited from this assistance. In order to cover the States left out during the earlier Technician Education Projects, an agreement has been signed with the World Bank in October, 2000 for similar assistance to 8 more States/UTs namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. This will largely benefit hilly and backward areas of the country covering mainly Tribal population and students belonging to disadvantaged groups.

[English]

Awarding of Degrees by Universities

1476. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified only 138 degrees offered by various universities and colleges and in the country under section 22 of the UGC Act;

(b) if so, the details of those degrees notified by the UGC recently;

(c) whether several universities across the country are awarding degrees of those subjects which are not specified by the UGC;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of such subjects and universities; and

(e) the action the Government propose to take against those universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of Mines in ECL

1477. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) have taken a decision to close down its 13 coal mines;

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

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the revival of ECL mines;

(e) whether high valued machinery was allowed to be damaged in Mugna area of Bihar;

(f) whether an enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The Board of Directors of ECL in their meeting held on 22.10.98 resolved to close down 64 mines located in six areas of the company viz Pandaveswar (excluding Khottadih UG and OC), Satgram, Sripur, Sodepur, Salanpur and Mugma. The decision was taken by ECL Board in the context of the financial problems besetting the company for a very long period and after considering in detail the evaluation made in respect of the mines which could not longer be exploited economically. The resolution passed by the ECL Board on 22.10.98 was discussed and deliberated at various fora, including the Central Trade unions, Government of West Bengal and the Central Government. Based on these discussions, it was felt that a revival package, short of closure of mines and retrenchment of workmen, would have better acceptance. Accordingly, pending finalisation of report by ICICI, an interim plan was evolved in a meeting between the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the then Minister of State for Coal held in Calcutta on 25.11.98. The plan was discussed with the Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) of all the Trade Unions of ECL, but the same was rejected by them. Based on the feedback received from the Trade Unions, the subject was further discussed between the Ministry of Coal, CIL and ECL and a modified package was worked out. Despite a series of discussions on the modified package at the level of CIL and ECL and also at the level of the Joint Monitoring Committee, chaired by the Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, the Trade Unions did not accept the plan.

(d) CIL had engaged M/s. ICICI, a premier Public Financial Institution of the country to study working of all mines of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and to formulate plans for revival of the company. The final report of ICICI has been examined in the Ministry of Coal. No final shape to the revival package for ECL has so far been given for seeking approval of the Government.

(e) Due to heavy rain in September, 2000, an old shovel was drowned. This shovel is expected to be recovered by January, 2001.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise in view of the answer given to part (f) of the question.

APM for Coal Sector

1478. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Confederation of Indian Industry has urged the Government for phasing out the Administered Price Mechanism (APM) for Coal sector and also to dereserve some sectors of small scale industries to arrest the decline in industrial growth;

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

(c) whether phasing out of APM for coal sector is likely to have any effect on the production of coal in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such representation from Confederation of Indian Industry has been received by the Ministry of Coal urging for phasing out the Administered Price Mechanism (APM) for Coal sector or to dereserve some sectors of small scale industries to arrest the decline in industrial growth.

(c) and (d) The coal prices for all grades of coal have been fully deregulated after the notification of the Colliery Control Order, 2000 with effect from 1st January, 2000, in supersession of the Colliery Control Order, 1945. Under the Colliery Control Order, 2000 the Central Government has no power to fix the prices of coal.

The deregulation of prices of coal started in phases since March, 1996, and since then the production of coal in the country has been increasing as follows:

Production of Coal in the country in million tones

1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
286.08	297.17	292.27	300.03

Fencing on Line of Control

1479. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the plans for fencing the entire line of control with Pakistan;

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

(c) whether services of any foreign agency are likely to be utilised for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) A Group of Officers constituted by the Ministry of Defence in 1996 had examined measures to curb infiltration of terrorists and smuggling of arms, ammunition

and explosives through the Jammu & Kashmir border. The Group came to the conclusion that in view of the rugged nature of the terrain, gaps due to rivers, nullahs and streams, fencing along the Line of Control was not feasible.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Nexus Between Drug Smugglers and Secessionists

1480. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a nexus between drug smugglers and secessionists in North-Eastern region;

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

(c) whether Pakistan is providing assistance to terrorists and drug smugglers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government and the State Governments to curb their activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) There are reports of a nexus between drug smugglers and secessionist groups in the North-Eastern Region. A number of members of secessionist groups have been found to be in possession of drugs when arrested.

(c) The Government has reports that the Pak ISI has been helping the North Eastern militants/terrorists in purchase and transportation of arms consignments from abroad to the North Eastern Region. The reports also indicate that the Pak ISI is providing assistance to North Eastern militants in terms of money.

(d) The Security Forces deployed along the borders have been alerted and are kept apprised about any reports of smuggling of arms and drugs. Narcotics Control Bureau has taken several steps in close coordination with the Governments of North Eastern States for checking smuggling of drugs and the position is reviewed from time to time at various levels. Besides modernisation/upgradation of State Police Forces by grant of Central financial assistance, information received from various sources is shared with the State Governments for taking appropriate steps for checking smuggling of arms and drugs. The other steps taken are to intensify patrolling in the border areas, erection of observation Post Towers, increase in the number of Nakas, supply of sophisticated gadgets including night vision devices, jeeps, tractors, motor cycles and motor boats as well as the reduction of gaps between Border Out Posts in vulnerable areas.

[English]

Making Elementary education a Fundamental Right

1481. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether two days Conference of the State Secretaries was held in November, 1999 to discuss the issue of Amendment in Constitution to make elementary education a fundamental right and increase investment in education to 60% of GNP during the next five years;

(b) if so, the main decision arrived at the conference; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) The Conference arrived at broad consensus on certain critical issues like amendment of the Constitution to make Elementary Education a Fundamental Right, increasing public investment in education to 6% of GNP over the next five years, launching of the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to attain the goal of Universal Elementary Education, encouraging greater participation of non-governmental sector in education, prevention of commercialisation of education, review and revision of curriculum for school education, introduction of computer education in schools, revision of the scheme of Vocationalisation of Education, etc.

Educational Development is a continuous process and constant efforts have been made to achieve the objectives set out in the National Policy on Education in consultation and collaboration with the States.

Central Law for National Security

1482. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for the enactment of Central Law for National Security;

(b) if so, whether the matter was discussed in Chief Ministers Conference held recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Need for some Central laws for National Security and a Central Enforcement Agency to deal with certain types of crimes such as terrorism, hijacking, espionage, cyber crimes, counterfeit currency etc. was one of the agenda items discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers on Internal Security held on August 5, 2000 in New Delhi. In consideration of the views expressed by most of the States on this subject, it was decided not to pursue the proposal.

Performance of Universities

1483. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DODOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched a massive exercise to assess the performance of universities, colleges and technical institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the nature of recommendations made by the assessing body; and

(d) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) was established in 1994 to assess and accredit all institutions of higher education and their units under the provision of UGC Act. The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) was established under AICTE Act to accredit technical institutions and programme. The Universities and Colleges were asked to undergo the assessment process before the end of December 2000 and December 2003 respectively. NAAC has assessed so far about 150 institutions of which 18 are Universities and the rest are Colleges. 300 courses in 50 technical institutions have been so far accredited.

Self Employment Schemes for Tribals

1484. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4530 on 22.08.2000 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the information is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The information is still being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Improvement of Educational Standards

1485. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any special programmes for the improvement of Educational Standard in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have the updated statistical details of the total expenditure incurred on the development of education in the country during the last three years from primary to the post graduate level;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate the inequality prevailing in the educational system and institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education (NPE) and its Programme of Action provide for a definite edge for education in rural areas. Pursuant to this, a number of schemes are under various stages of implementation which predominantly address the educational needs of rural areas. These schemes include Operation Blackboard, Non-formal Education, Teacher Education, National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, District Primary Education Programme, Total Literacy Campaign, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Community Polytechnics, Lok Jumbish, Shiksha Karmi Project, Area Intensive Project for Educationally Backward Minorities, Integrated Education for Disabled Children Scheme etc. A National Council of Rural Institute has also been set up at Hyderabad for promoting rural higher education. The National Open School and the Indira Gandhi National Open University also play major roles in providing access to education to rural areas through distance learning mode.

(c) and (d) Statement showing details of expenditure incurred by States/UTs and Centre during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 is enclosed.

(e) The NPE lays special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalise educational opportunity by attending to the specific needs of those who have been denied equality so far. Concerns regarding quality and equity in education are continuously addressed and several measures taken which include separate schools and hostels for girls, exemption of tuition and other fees, incentives such as free textbooks, stationery, uniforms, scholarships, free studentships for poor and meritorious students, reservation in admission etc.

Statement**Plan & Non-Plan Expenditure for Education by All Departments (Revenue Account) (1996-97)**

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Education Department			Other Departments			Total		
		Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	126.98	1807.49	1934.47	147.37	431.69	579.06	274.35	2239.18	2513.53
2	Arunachal Pradesh	43.44	43.23	86.67	5.01	4.53	9.54	48.45	47.76	96.21
3	Assam	323.62	685.79	1009.41	40.81	6.88	77.69	364.43	722.67	1087.10
4	Bihar	63.68	2158.90	2222.58	9.06	154.79	163.85	72.74	2313.69	2386.43
5	Goa	23.55	108.04	131.39	5.89	11.77	17.66	29.24	119.81	149.05
6	Gujarat	91.03	1932.26	2023.29	149.17	224.24	373.41	240.20	2156.50	2396.70
7	Haryana	124.36	610.87	735.23	60.85	79.87	140.72	185.21	690.74	875.95
8	Himachal Pradesh	132.40	271.08	403.48	23.93	20.57	44.50	156.33	291.65	447.98
9	Jammu and Kashmir	68.98	347.31	416.29	8.73	59.24	67.97	77.71	406.55	484.26
10	Karnataka	372.87	1479.49	1852.36	129.87	107.92	237.79	502.74	1587.41	2090.15
11	Kerala	86.66	1497.15	1583.81	66.20	165.53	231.73	152.86	1662.68	1815.54
12	Madhya Pradesh	330.96	1522.81	1853.77	63.67	501.28	564.95	394.63	2024.09	2418.72
13	Maharashtra	457.72	3744.80	4202.52	200.95	449.07	650.02	658.67	4193.87	4852.54
14	Manipur	44.25	72.18	116.43	13.32	5.53	18.85	57.57	77.71	135.28
15	Meghalaya	22.77	143.65	166.42	5.54	7.62	13.16	28.31	151.27	179.58
16	Mizoram	23.66	77.73	101.39	10.99	15.04	26.03	34.65	92.77	127.42
17	Nagaland	15.57	88.67	104.24	10.52	13.01	23.53	26.09	101.68	127.77
18	Orissa	335.95	717.48	1053.43	45.85	101.01	146.86	381.80	818.49	1200.29
19	Punjab	112.02	908.39	1020.41	19.00	84.94	103.94	131.02	993.33	1124.35
20	Rajasthan	418.97	1543.79	1962.76	49.44	115.04	164.48	468.41	1658.83	2127.24
21	Sikkim	23.91	31.06	54.97	4.00	1.66	5.66	27.91	32.72	60.63
22	Tamil Nadu	143.61	2326.93	2470.54	101.78	199.05	300.83	245.39	2525.98	2771.37
23	Tripura	60.38	157.40	217.78	22.02	6.03	28.05	82.40	163.43	245.83
24	Uttar Pradesh	414.81	3408.43	3823.24	305.37	297.39	602.76	720.18	3705.82	4426.00
25	West Bengal	79.04	2303.70	2382.74	75.57	106.21	181.78	154.61	2409.91	2564.52

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
26	A and N Islands	8.12	31.90	40.02	1.54	1.88	3.42	9.66	33.78	43.44
27	Chandigarh	8.99	73.35	82.34	21.79	4.08	25.87	30.78	77.43	108.21
28	D & N Haveli	2.23	5.52	7.75	0.40	0.19	0.59	2.63	5.71	8.34
29	Daman & Diu	1.81	6.48	8.29	0.41	0.51	0.92	2.22	6.99	9.21
30	Delhi	114.43	435.55	549.98	14.18	40.56	54.74	128.61	476.11	604.72
31	Lakshadweep	0.99	8.98	9.97	0.86	0.36	1.22	1.85	9.34	11.19
32	Pondicherry	19.90	51.64	71.54	14.60	6.43	21.03	34.50	58.07	92.57
Total (States/UTs)		4097.46	28602.05	32699.51	1628.69	3253.92	4882.61	5726.15	31855.97	37582.12
Centre		2496.75	1175.36	3672.11	2082.45	559.78	2642.23	4579.20	1735.14	6314.34
Grand Total		6594.21	29777.41	36371.62	3711.14	3813.70	7524.84	10305.35	33591.11	43896.46

Plan & Non-Plan (Revised Estimates) for Education by All Departments (Revenue Account) (1997-98)

1	Andhra Pradesh	185.58	1891.05	2076.63	222.15	544.77	766.92	407.13	2435.82	2843.55
2	Arunachal Pradesh	57.12	45.97	103.09	6.24	5.24	11.48	6.16	51.21	114.57
3	Assam	365.11	876.26	1241.37	87.88	42.44	130.32	45.19	918.70	1371.69
4	Bihar	131.59	2784.24	2915.83	45.67	187.51	233.18	177.56	2971.75	3149.01
5	Goa	17.48	153.89	171.37	7.08	13.93	21.01	24.56	167.82	192.38
6	Gujarat	136.95	2076.08	2213.03	180.85	260.20	441.05	317.81	2336.28	2654.08
7	Haryana	120.99	680.50	801.49	50.84	111.03	161.87	111.13	791.53	963.36
8	Himachal Pradesh	121.80	262.14	383.94	23.12	21.83	44.95	144.92	283.97	428.89
9	Jammu and Kashmir	111.55	486.34	597.89	9.64	96.15	105.79	121.19	582.49	703.68
10	Karnataka	302.52	1830.34	2133.26	163.01	147.66	310.67	465.53	1978.40	2443.93
11	Kerala	90.58	1896.56	1987.14	83.10	238.17	321.27	173.68	2134.73	2308.41
12	Madhya Pradesh	341.65	1624.74	1966.39	217.76	608.33	826.09	559.41	2233.07	2792.48
13	Maharashtra	146.17	3861.28	4007.45	174.40	502.46	676.86	320.57	4363.74	4684.31
14	Manipur	68.02	125.13	193.15	31.45	6.04	37.49	99.47	131.17	230.64
15	Meghalaya	25.34	163.44	188.78	12.97	7.57	20.54	38.31	171.01	209.32
16	Mizoram	25.40	80.75	106.15	10.39	15.57	25.96	35.79	96.32	132.11
17	Nagaland	13.35	100.67	114.02	9.91	12.17	22.20	23.26	113.04	136.30
18	Orissa	413.58	801.13	1214.71	66.82	118.24	185.06	480.40	919.37	1399.77
19	Punjab	154.45	1071.12	1225.57	78.62	126.09	204.71	233.07	1197.21	1430.28
20	Rajasthan	287.75	1921.25	2197.00	41.40	125.98	167.38	309.15	2055.23	2364.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21	Sikkim	23.47	38.48	61.95	5.03	1.99	7.02	28.50	40.47	68.97
22	Tamil Nadu	157.74	2832.76	2990.50	86.91	353.96	440.87	244.65	3186.72	3431.37
23	Tripura	96.05	175.83	271.88	24.71	7.22	31.93	120.76	183.05	303.81
24	Uttar Pradesh	503.92	4020.64	4524.56	362.20	493.71	855.91	866.12	4514.35	5380.47
25	West Bengal	209.31	2702.58	2911.89	64.73	157.90	222.63	274.04	2860.48	3134.52
26	A and N Islands	13.04	44.31	57.35	2.11	2.79	4.90	15.15	47.10	62.25
27	Chandigarh	10.91	84.15	95.06	35.32	5.03	40.35	46.23	89.18	135.41
28	D & N Haveli	2.72	7.22	9.94	0.42	0.31	0.73	3.14	7.53	10.67
29	Daman & Diu	2.09	8.75	10.84	0.58	0.69	1.27	2.67	9.44	12.11
30	Delhi	122.35	663.59	791.94	18.99	60.70	79.69	141.34	730.29	871.63
31	Lakshadweep	1.76	10.76	12.52	0.70	0.53	1.23	2.46	11.29	13.75
32	Pondicherry	23.86	49.79	73.65	13.39	6.10	19.49	37.25	55.89	93.14
Total (States/UTs)		4264.20	33386.14	37650.34	2138.39	4282.51	6420.90	6402.59	37668.65	44071.24
Centre		3350.44	1365.40	4715.84	2067.96	1075.55	3143.51	5418.40	2440.95	7859.35
Grand Total		7614.64	34751.54	42366.18	4206.35	5358.06	9564.41	11820.99	40109.60	51930.59

Plan & Non-Plan Budget Provision for Education by All Departments (Revenue Account) (1998-99) (Budget Estimates)
(Rs. in Crore)

1	Andhra Pradesh	241.45	2098.45	2359.90	285.03	628.80	913.83	526.48	2727.25	3253.73
2	Arunachal Pradesh	54.03	45.75	99.78	7.21	5.08	12.29	61.24	50.83	112.07
3	Assam	390.52	1205.92	1596.44	72.50	51.82	124.32	463.02	1257.74	1720.76
4	Bihar	159.01	3571.38	3730.39	55.53	259.38	314.91	214.54	3830.76	4045.30
5	Goa	11.97	152.46	164.43	4.12	14.84	18.96	16.09	167.30	183.39
6	Gujarat	187.32	2210.91	2398.23	234.30	321.08	555.38	421.62	2531.99	2953.61
7	Haryana	180.23	1166.78	1347.01	63.31	174.95	238.26	243.54	1341.73	1585.27
8	Himachal Pradesh	175.26	350.85	525.91	29.99	26.82	56.81	205.25	377.47	582.72
9	Jammu and Kashmir	129.64	546.15	675.79	13.37	105.53	118.90	143.01	651.68	794.69
10	Karnataka	407.22	2158.95	2566.17	108.55	176.90	285.45	515.77	2335.85	2851.62
11	Kerala	93.16	2096.82	2189.98	84.87	497.47	582.34	178.03	2594.29	2772.32
12	Madhya Pradesh	319.05	1697.08	2016.13	234.50	632.18	866.68	553.55	2329.26	2882.81
13	Maharashtra	224.41	4260.10	4484.51	177.72	329.34	507.06	402.13	4589.44	4991.57
14	Manipur	69.85	177.06	186.91	16.18	7.85	24.03	86.03	124.91	210.94
15	Meghalaya	24.39	193.02	217.41	14.92	7.34	22.26	39.31	200.36	239.67

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	Mizoram	22.72	83.64	106.36	10.40	15.93	26.33	33.12	99.57	132.69
17	Nagaland	13.56	108.71	122.27	16.55	12.72	29.27	30.11	121.43	151.54
18	Orissa	375.63	870.10	1245.73	106.51	127.37	233.88	482.14	997.47	1479.61
19	Punjab	177.35	1154.82	1331.97	83.90	169.39	253.29	261.25	1324.01	1585.26
20	Rajasthan	262.99	2612.20	2875.19	42.21	148.73	190.94	305.20	2760.93	3066.13
21	Sikkim	22.04	70.15	92.19	4.41	2.50	6.91	26.45	72.65	99.10
22	Tamil Nadu	182.06	3318.72	3500.78	105.43	416.79	522.22	287.49	3735.51	4023.00
23	Tripura	68.88	173.14	242.02	22.60	8.28	30.88	91.48	181.42	272.90
24	Uttar Pradesh	513.72	4572.59	5086.31	193.07	418.89	711.96	806.79	4991.48	5798.27
25	West Bengal	210.97	2700.54	2911.51	70.05	259.99	330.04	281.02	2960.53	3241.55
26	A and N Islands	16.47	49.93	66.40	2.28	3.06	5.34	18.75	52.99	71.74
27	Chandigarh	4.13	91.52	95.65	35.05	11.68	46.73	39.18	103.20	142.38
28	D & N Haveli	3.67	7.23	10.90	0.45	0.32	0.77	4.12	7.55	11.67
29	Daman & Diu	2.48	8.90	11.38	0.60	0.55	1.15	3.08	9.45	12.53
30	Delhi	211.94	641.86	853.80	24.29	73.41	97.70	236.23	715.27	951.50
31	Lakshadweep	1.99	10.70	12.69	0.96	0.52	1.48	2.95	11.22	14.17
32	Pondicherry	23.83	66.42	90.25	19.49	8.85	28.34	43.32	75.27	118.59
Total (States/UTs)		4781.94	38412.45	43194.39	2240.35	4918.36	7158.71	7022.29	43330.81	50353.10
Centre		4244.17	2802.64	7046.81	2622.08	834.55	3456.63	6868.25	3637.19	10503.44
Grand Total		9026.11	41215.09	50241.20	4862.43	5752.91	10615.34	13888.54	46968.00	60856.54

[Translation]

Subsidy on Fertilizers

1486. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA:

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

(a) the subsidy provided on fertilizers during each
of last three years;

(b) the demand and requirement of the fertilizers
at present in the country and the manner in which the
increased demand is met;

(c) the percentage of financial subsidy provided to
the fertilizers sector at present;

(d) the subsidy provided/increased on fertilizers
during the last three years and upto 31.7.2000 and the
subsidy proposed to be provided during the next two
years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposed to reduce or
withdraw the subsidy from the fertilizers in the near future;
and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA

MOOKHERJEE): (a) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price, distribution and movement control, and is eligible for payment of subsidy under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme. Details of subsidy provided on urea during last three years are as follows:

Period	Amount of subsidy on urea (Rs. in crore)
1997-98	7321.96
1998-99	7597.22
1999-2000	8744.07

Apart from subsidy on urea, Union Government also gives concession on sale of de-controlled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers.

(b) While the demand of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers is met through indigenous production

and imports, the entire demand of Muriate of Potash (MOP) is met through imports as the country does not have any known commercially exploitable reserves of potash.

(c) Provision made for in the Budget Estimates 2000-2001 on major subsidies which include food, sugar, urea, sale of decontrolled fertilizers, export promotion and market development, interest subsidy and other subsidies is of Rs. 22800.29 crore. Out of this, provision for subsidy on fertilizers including the concession on sale of decontrol fertilizers is of Rs. 12651.00 crore. Thus, subsidy on fertilizers constitute 55.49% of the major subsidies given by the Central Government.

(d) Subsidy on urea is paid to the manufacturers of urea, and not to the State Governments. Details of subsidy provided/increased on urea during last three years and upto 31.7.2000 are given in the table below:

S. No.	Period	Amount of Subsidy paid on urea (Rs. in crore)	Increase in amount of subsidy over the preceding year (Rs. in crore)	Remarks
1	1997-98	7321.96	1415.88	
2	1998-99	7597.22	275.26	
3	1999-2000	8744.07	1146.85	
4	2000-2001 (upto 31.7.2000)	2325.64		A budgetary provision of Rs. 8558 crore has been made for 2000-2001.

Since subsidy is provide year-wise and announced in the Union Budget, amount of proposed subsidy for next two years can not be indicated.

(e) and (f) The Government of India has not taken any decision to reduce or withdraw subsidy from the fertilizers in the near future, however the Government intends to move towards a deregulatory regime in fertilizer sector in a phased manner after taking into account its fiscal capacity on the one hand and making available fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices on the other.

[English]

Closure of INSDOC

1487. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to close down the premier Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre (INSDOC); and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No Sir. At present there is no proposal to close down the Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, a constituent unit of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

(b) Does not arise.

National Scheme for Export of Steel

1488. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have formulated any proposal for export of steel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of new market explored/being explored abroad for the export of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) As per the existing policy, exports of iron and steel are freely allowed. Exports of iron and steel and their destination depend on several factors such as domestic and international demand, domestic prices, prices in importing countries, etc. These factors are usually dynamic and change frequently. Based on the prevailing market conditions, enterprises themselves explore and tap the export markets. However, Government have decided to earmark Rs. 5 crores for export promotion and market development. To boost exports of iron and steel, Government have set up a Steel Exporters' Forum under the Chairmanship of Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel with major steel producers/associations as its members to remove bottlenecks in exports. Some of the other measures taken by the Government to facilitate exports include full convertibility of export earnings at market rate of exchange, rationalisation of DEPB rates, facility available to exporters to import their requirements of raw materials duty free under the Advance Licensing Scheme.

[Translation]

NGOs under CAPART

1489. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 2550 dated August 8, 2000 and state:

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) The complete information has not yet been received by CAPART which is being collected.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) There has been delay to receive complete information from the CAPART's Regional Committee Office.

(d) The complete information is likely to be collected by 31st December, 2000.

White Paper on Public Sector Fertilizer Factories

1490. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

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

- (a) whether the Government have decided to release white paper on the public sector fertilizer manufacturing factories;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be released;
- (d) whether there is any difficulty in including the profit making units in the white paper; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The Government is seized with the formulation of a comprehensive white paper on the sick fertilizer units in the public sector, which, inter alia, includes an overview of the fertilizer industry, industrial sickness in the country, sickness and reasons thereof in the fertilizer public sector undertakings and other related matters. In view of the above, the paper does not include profit making fertilizer units.

Discretionary Quota of Coal

1491. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he has released a huge quantity of coal from various coal mines under Coal India Limited under his discretionary quota; and
- (b) if so, the details of the persons/firms and the quantity of coal supplied to them during each of last two years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Coal is released

by the coal companies on the basis of linkages and sponsorships, as well as under Open Sale Schemes. There is no discretionary quota in the Ministry of Coal for release of coal.

(b) Does not arise, in view of the reply to part (a) of the question.

[English]

Plan Outlays under Panchayati Raj

1492. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the plan outlays for the Rural Development and spent through the Panchayati Raj System during the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan Period, till date, State-wise;

(b) the total amount spent during the said three plan period State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring amendments in regard to the mandatory audit of the

accounts at different levels at the behest of Comptroller and Auditor General of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU) (a) and (b) A major Programme of Rural Development implemented through the Panchayati Raj System was the erstwhile Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) which was in operation w.e.f. 1.4.1989. Under JRY, the funds were released and utilised by all the three tiers of the Panchayat viz District, Intermediate and Village in the ratio of 15:15:70 respectively. The programme was restructured and renamed as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) w.e.f. 1.4.1999. A statement indicating year-wise and State-wise total allocation, total releases and utilisation of funds under JRY/JGSY since inception (which covers Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan period) up to 2000-2001 is enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

Total Allocation (Centre+State) under JRY & JGSY since inception

(Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94*	1994-95*	1995-96*	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000**	2000-01**
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andhra Pradesh	19319.51	19166.20	19166.20	23132.28	30863.84	33343.71	37232.40	17372.39	19410.49	14629.93	12426.03	11636.45
2	Arunachal Pradesh	307.15	330.68	330.68	322.51	322.51	322.51	329.58	178.30	199.21	321.65	273.20	609.19
3	Assam	5278.90	5114.59	5114.59	6420.76	8104.85	8921.21	10820.18	5718.18	6389.03	8357.73	7098.69	15828.99
4	Bihar	38711.91	38466.78	38466.78	47934.30	65522.65	70386.81	78598.18	34075.58	38073.25	47925.96	40706.24	38119.67
5	Goa	378.75	357.28	357.28	421.93	348.46	348.46	356.09	192.65	215.25	215.25	182.82	171.21
6	Gujarat	7954.79	8090.71	8090.71	9811.93	12925.05	13835.36	14754.11	8376.25	7124.30	5586.98	4677.39	4380.17
7	Haryana	2068.19	1926.83	1926.83	2291.06	2170.94	2389.61	3398.28	1531.81	1711.53	3239.85	2751.79	2576.93
8	Himachal Pradesh	1153.50	1135.28	1135.28	1254.69	1107.26	1107.26	1149.09	612.16	683.98	1364.43	1158.88	1085.24
9	Jammu and Kashmir	1682.74	2000.00	1611.51	1818.63	2425.49	3103.75	3381.00	1243.93	1389.86	1688.66	1434.28	1343.14
10	Karnataka	12093.58	12059.70	12059.70	14377.71	21246.33	22911.44	24422.41	11665.34	13033.90	11047.66	9383.41	8787.17
11	Kerala	6569.99	6396.19	6396.19	7659.26	6238.34	6620.11	8029.34	4244.16	4742.08	4957.05	4210.30	3942.77
12	Madhya Pradesh	25618.79	26402.50	26402.50	31473.50	46440.99	49583.34	51118.46	22014.51	24597.23	24292.41	20632.92	19321.86
13	Maharashtra	20993.90	20424.84	20424.85	25815.64	37056.78	39760.18	41658.79	18937.55	21159.28	21838.53	18548.70	17370.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	Manipur	441.73	423.83	423.83	623.25	413.36	413.36	425.45	228.53	255.34	560.30	475.89	1061.17
15	Meghalaya	458.13	495.91	495.91	703.58	483.68	483.68	496.31	267.40	298.78	627.74	533.17	1188.89
16	Mizoram	187.41	208.90	208.90	244.43	203.75	203.75	208.04	112.65	125.86	145.26	123.38	275.10
17	Nagaland	504.99	610.00	531.58	627.76	518.46	518.46	526.28	286.64	320.26	430.60	365.73	815.53
18	Orissa	12655.81	13094.93	13094.93	16036.90	27116.41	29128.18	30642.94	14093.11	15746.50	16733.63	14212.82	13309.70
19	Punjab	1608.66	1675.65	1675.65	1982.54	1634.30	1699.26	1969.93	1089.39	1217.19	1574.54	1337.34	1252.37
20	Rajasthan	12594.24	12805.28	12805.28	15172.01	17530.08	18835.61	20825.10	9146.40	10219.44	8388.86	7125.14	6672.39
21	Sikkim	197.83	193.54	193.54	231.98	188.76	188.76	341.93	104.36	116.60	160.83	136.60	304.60
22	Tamil Nadu	17659.64	17223.66	17223.66	22550.48	25511.18	27752.94	32634.06	15704.96	17547.45	12936.006	10987.33	10289.17
23	Tripura	541.43	550.49	550.49	653.83	536.90	536.90	558.65	296.83	331.65	1011.64	859.24	1915.97
24	Uttar Pradesh	51706.13	51093.28	51093.28	61016.78	68333.40	74376.76	87188.55	42334.91	47301.56	52742.94	44797.57	41951.03
25	West Bengal	21610.16	21786.94	21786.94	25923.84	28188.20	30410.53	33287.71	15569.34	17395.93	18596.09	15794.71	14791.07
26	A and N Islands	164.80	156.56	156.56	152.70	152.70	152.70	154.18	84.41	94.31	117.89	93.87	84.64
27	Chandigarh	40.77	38.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28	D & N Haveli	83.80	84.99	84.99	91.02	82.89	82.89	83.92	45.81	51.18	77.81	61.96	55.87
29	Daman & Diu	52.40	50.07	50.07	48.83	48.83	48.83	49.28	26.99	30.16	37.70	30.02	27.07
30	Delhi	187.42	184.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	Lakshadweep	81.75	78.49	78.49	78.58	76.55	76.55	76.70	42.32	47.28	59.10	47.06	42.43
32	Pondicherry	157.80	153.25	153.25	232.38	149.47	149.47	151.86	82.64	92.11	115.42	91.91	86.00
Total		263066.57	262780.29	262090.40	316905.09	405942.41	437692.38	484869.77	223679.48	259711.10	220996.39	211155.86	

*Includes IJRY.

Note: Allocation includes State's share also.

**JGSY started in 1999-2000.

Total Releases (Centre + State) under JRY & JGSY since inception

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94*	1994-95*	1995-96*	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000**	2000-01** (as on 23.11.20)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andhra Pradesh	19319.51	19535.69	19124.26	21418.39	32114.03	33842.26	35933.21	18243.70	20857.30	14628.11	12822.77	10726.03
2	Arunachal Pradesh	314.33	319.31	93.03	251.50	188.84	178.93	304.48	129.85	127.58	594.08	190.28	272.89
3	Assam	5598.51	5099.69	4334.33	6194.14	8971.90	9281.94	9649.70	3983.66	6905.19	18890.35	5049.22	0.00
4	Bihar	37703.61	36325.34	35825.21	46904.44	64141.45	69672.79	68022.66	28568.09	36653.45	37167.28	37977.80	17678.39
5	Goa	378.75	214.36	353.49	406.13	426.81	348.46	356.09	146.10	130.48	129.15	165.48	85.81
6	Gujarat	8753.00	7416.84	8188.77	10244.79	122424.23	13587.69	13857.04	5524.16	7184.65	5561.79	4677.26	3525.60
7	Haryana	2068.66	2040.29	2352.21	2366.87	2098.40	2733.79	3735.78	1494.23	2030.93	3239.85	2407.81	1288.51
8	Himachal Pradesh	1153.50	1085.66	1035.25	1182.10	1235.76	1486.20	1221.28	483.15	504.33	1277.69	2336.49	523.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	Jammu and Kashmir	1772.87	1982.13	2537.49	2211.82	2718.01	2817.18	2554.36	1499.69	1218.28	1368.28	1196.96	657.13
10	Karnataka	12655.90	10934.61	10100.38	14252.56	20296.14	23737.01	23860.96	11091.40	12942.49	13547.66	9383.18	4393.69
11	Kerala	6569.99	6076.38	6594.09	7899.60	6327.35	7172.66	9731.61	4108.25	4667.65	4957.06	4210.19	527.01
12	Madhya Pradesh	25618.78	23164.06	23885.31	33629.94	42668.44	49748.43	44104.58	19316.44	23721.44	21229.23	22567.94	14647.16
13	Maharashtra	20993.90	19924.41	17060.46	25049.79	30328.31	34844.74	40876.70	17923.14	21020.06	21476.01	18548.16	8685.20
14	Manipur	439.81	463.98	141.28	645.13	355.49	363.80	344.79	162.40	310.65	627.05	154.05	352.31
15	Meghalaya	715.92	245.23	612.24	461.10	241.20	457.60	415.25	135.69	199.48	1189.69	176.24	536.95
16	Mizoram	187.41	833.66	263.66	249.82	459.30	203.38	229.00	105.26	128.59	371.11	123.16	236.32
17	Nagaland	504.99	617.46	723.55	746.51	672.01	518.45	749.36	263.33	303.91	969.99	298.53	407.77
18	Orissa	12767.26	12739.07	10438.69	16389.03	25861.23	26103.33	27522.29	13387.43	16776.65	16804.14	21298.32	7585.63
19	Punjab	1675.59	1602.37	1785.37	1702.19	1614.09	3421.11	98496	1011.58	1115.99	1949.54	1300.07	708.75
20	Rajasthan	12788.50	13150.40	9475.52	17064.22	16791.90	18350.98	18825.93	9039.76	10439.83	7510.63	7124.96	6455.51
21	Sikkim	197.76	155.96	344.68	394.60	240.03	188.78	553.15	101.71	120.98	360.00	136.60	152.31
22	Tamil Nadu	19844.74	20428.37	21336.44	23241.95	24452.77	28462.98	36774.35	15110.64	18205.48	12936.06	12217.21	10342.29
23	Trpura	575.94	509.76	563.99	669.91	679.71	1124.80	839.60	296.81	595.44	2280.48	650.58	958.01
24	Uttar Pradesh	53452.72	48538.62	44549.52	58887.46	67363.58	78891.23	86920.98	40553.36	44867.69	52794.88	44789.73	20829.23
25	West Bengal	21610.16	19821.15	12690.30	25220.33	25279.31	29032.40	31870.59	11956.08	11333.74	12576.51	14399.99	10232.17
26	A and N Islands	163.14	78.29	52.16	62.58	81.93	152.70	151.14	42.21	50.95	39.70	13.00	15.63
27	Chandigarh	41.07	28.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
28	D & N Haveli	86.52	81.54	80.67	91.02	73.75	81.47	93.92	44.57	50.22	48.94	30.98	37.25
29	Daman & Diu	52.18	25.04	4.38	20.28	20.08	36.60	59.28	28.99	16.21	10.06	0.00	0.00
30	Delhi	187.42	92.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
31	Lakshadweep	84.47	92.67	28.18	60.08	56.48	76.06	86.70	21.16	25.41	35.46	23.53	0.00
32	Pondicherry	181.58	241.40	120.36	315.82	126.23	149.45	77.12	64.68	74.37	82.14	45.96	88.76
Total		268456.49	253863.97	234695.27	318233.80	388308.96	437067.20	46706.84	204837.51	242579.36	254652.92	224316.45	121949.89

Note: Releases include the State matching share.

*—Includes I.JRY.

**—JGSY started from 1999-2000.

Utilisation under JRY & JGSY Since Inception

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl No.	States/UTs	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94*	1994-95*	1995-96*	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000**	2000-01** (Aug.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pr.	18415.55	19317.09	19065.78	19866.06	32815.59	36264.38	34556.00	17488.47	18745.52	14710.40	9954.72	771.95
2	Arunachal Pr.	165.40	223.75	221.17	234.80	191.60	222.22	357.12	198.33	241.82	326.12	461.48	21.36
3.	Assam	4801.66	5648.57	5000.44	4039.49	7911.51	10386.94	9583.33	4543.21	5546.71	10967.57	7800.48	685.39
4.	Bihar	31690.69	42582.90	37580.16	41257.59	68523.99	50731.49	62281.95	30653.53	36250.75	41851.12	35324.14	12769.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
5.	Goa	292.35	277.12	364.56	340.36	353.83	372.24	363.47	236.26	155.77	166.80	114.34	144.77
6.	Gujarat	8076.28	7513.03	10039.31	8327.77	11715.95	14166.06	12824.42	6280.49	6999.43	5958.62	4774.39	3297.12
7.	Haryana	1970.95	2085.43	2353.04	2012.13	2164.35	2583.42	3304.78	1371.79	1995.94	2908.76	2666.87	1374.90
8.	Himachal Pr.	987.48	1270.68	1186.15	1049.73	1303.08	1150.10	1001.19	745.94	693.88	1083.72	1163.94	386.84
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1767.50	1636.31	2379.98	2118.67	1406.91	3813.23	2534.38	994.37	1475.73	1489.06	805.55	163.37
10.	Karnataka	10942.81	10892.31	11082.63	12533.91	19257.68	23746.02	24908.76	12015.31	12578.33	11288.71	10191.73	2253.15
11.	Kerala	6587.35	6819.92	7252.79	6843.94	7788.38	7234.60	8888.24	4458.15	3655.38	4089.65	3652.85	540.04
12.	Madhya Pr.	20562.93	24234.17	31681.83	29328.16	40178.27	50503.16	42377.25	19724.06	24574.06	22760.85	20841.39	9285.07
13.	Maharashtra	21059.06	19254.92	18124.11	18648.24	27015.01	36760.33	39801.56	18664.14	21438.52	20780.48	18748.46	4878.83
14.	Manipur	440.01	490.06	206.77	292.23	301.82	370.54	506.22	186.36	114.80	430.78	93.87	—
15.	Meghalaya	172.29	339.35	481.47	413.10	359.46	407.31	200.28	365.90	247.74	348.96	180.98	—
16.	Mizoram	188.07	833.41	260.51	213.27	350.70	336.38	284.56	138.25	124.18	318.37	187.19	117.18
17.	Nagaland	504.89	617.46	733.84	637.21	668.66	410.70	264.07	485.57	383.06	956.77	291.76	—
18.	Orissa	10445.27	12845.26	14033.59	13067.13	21493.65	25542.96	28671.48	14426.64	15073.72	15218.63	13751.03	5777.64
19.	Punjab	1720.68	1222.55	1053.97	2590.84	1922.31	1673.48	408.38	705.63	1310.34	1381.15	1014.24	609.43
20.	Rajasthan	10648.94	17087.49	13206.41	12246.06	15875.91	19909.03	18204.39	8766.70	10330.83	9780.60	8149.69	5120.55
21.	Sikkim	155.85	197.78	328.62	303.56	273.07	189.21	618.83	167.26	185.97	411.41	206.97	46.30
22.	Tamil Nadu	20162.77	19661.60	21134.07	20094.35	27324.02	33982.35	39415.70	18040.03	20699.98	14974.42	13391.37	5220.78
23.	Tripura	542.26	525.40	602.99	485.40	838.66	1131.61	788.23	566.91	351.51	2296.83	812.95	53.87
24.	Uttar Pr.	52950.57	45773.98	48146.83	52257.00	71511.16	74606.88	83562.16	42123.49	48122.11	55507.20	35804.80	1033.36
25.	West Bengal	19975.36	17019.09	18342.16	21412.74	25915.32	29856.99	30492.80	12837.59	12404.99	12372.19	13074.47	2078.93
26.	A & N Islands	95.59	102.02	86.73	67.50	107.20	161.26	161.26	54.95	14.36	37.07	14.29	0.86
27.	Chandigarh	27.00	12.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	D & N Haveli	89.01	66.53	103.31	76.31	80.68	91.41	33.18	49.75	46.94	36.75	0.85	0.00
29.	Daman & Diu	32.28	15.46	27.23	5.33	25.94	27.36	55.02	27.61	30.28	6.04	0.00	0.00
30.	Delhi	90.39	56.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Lakshadweep	52.12	64.72	49.15	61.66	73.58	80.27	40.86	49.22	78.98	29.29	10.43	7.93
32.	Pondicherry	194.20	164.48	193.27	139.39	122.53	121.21	199.85	121.96	66.55	72.83	41.90	20.53
Total		245807.66	258851.97	266322.87	270958.93	387870.82	426833.14	446690.62	216397.87	243938.18	252560.95	203527.13	56659.85

*Includes IJRY

Blank Column denotes non-reporting of figures by States/UTs

**JGSY started from 1999-2000.

[Translation]

**Import/Export of Coal by CIL
and its Subsidiaries**

1493. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of different varieties of coal exported by the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the profit earned in foreign exchange or loss incurred by such export;

(c) the quantity and value of coal imported during the said period indicating the names of the countries from which it has been imported;

(d) whether imported coal contains sulphur and produces less ash;

(e) if so, the facts in this regard;

(f) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out its ill-effects on environment;

(g) if so, the outcome thereof;

(h) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(i) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the import of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) State-wise quantity of coal exported by the Coal India Limited during the last three-years is given below:

('000 tonnes)			
Year	West Bengal	Bihar	Total
1997-98	54.83	0.97	55.80
1998-99	36.34	7.72	44.06
1999-2000	64.54	0.92	65.46
Apr-Oct'2000	42.72	NIL	42.72

(b) The export of coal to Nepal and Bhutan is being made in Indian currency as per bilateral agreements entered into between the countries whereas export to Bangladesh is made in US \$ Exchange.

Year	Profit	
	Nepal and Bhutan	Bangladesh
1997-98	Rs. 1.5 Crores	0.59 Lakh US \$
1998-99	Rs. 0.32 Crores	—
1999-2000	Rs. 0.65 Crores	—

During the last three years, only in 1997-98, coal was exported to Bangladesh.

(c) The quantity and value of coal imported into the country during the last three years are as under:

Year	Total Import (in million tonnes)	Value in Rs. Crores (Approx.)
1997-98	17.21	4422.30
1998-99	15.64	3640.20
1999-2000	17.50 (Provisional)	Not available

Coal is imported from Australia, Indonesia, South Africa, China etc.

(d) to (h) Ministry of Coal does not monitor import of coal. Neither Coal India Limited nor Ministry of Coal have data on coal imports such as origin, quantity, ash content, characteristic, price, payment term etc. However, it is reported that imported coal is of superior grade and low ash content.

(i) Coal is under Open General Licence (OGL). Import of coal is resorted to by the consumers themselves because the present level of custom duty and railway freight structure make such imports cost competitive per unit of calorific value on certain locations. However Government has increased the basic import duty on non-coking coal from 15% to 25% in the current year.

[English]

Adult Education

1494. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether fake and inflated figures regarding literacy rate are being furnished by the District authorities and NGOs working for Literacy Programmes; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases that have come to the notice of the Government, State-wise and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No Sir. Figures regarding literacy rate are furnished by Census Reports and National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).

(b) Question does not arise.

Network of Universities and Colleges

1495. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to network all universities, engineering and medical colleges in the country for a supplementary programme of distance education for improving the quality of education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Bilingual Equipment for Hindi

1496. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued the orders to make all the modern equipments bilingual without specifying the use of Devnagari machines because the entire noting in the files of Government is done in Roman/English; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Orders have been issued that only bilingual (Hindi/English) electronic equipments should be purchased in all Central Government Offices and maximum work in Hindi be done on them. In this direction, Gist card/Gist Terminal and other bilingual software have been made available by National Informatics Centre to the Ministries/Departments. Training programmes are being organised from time to

time by National Informatics Centre and Department of Official Language for working in Hindi on computers.

[*English*]

Computer Education

1497. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prescribed any criteria to introduce computer education in schools and colleges of urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide computer education at higher level education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Government has not prescribed any criteria to introduce computer education. Schools are free to introduce computer education as an optional subject upto secondary level and offer it as an elective subject at senior secondary level.

To provide computer education at higher level, University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced a scheme on computer education and development under which the grants are given to universities for establishment of computer centre, upgradation of computer education, MCA courses, computer education at PG level and training programme for college teachers and Admn. staff for awareness of computers.

Cloud Harvesting and Artificial Rains

1498. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to support 'cloud harvesting/artificial rains' activity taken up by NGOs?

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to consider providing the grants for recurring expenditure for research in the field; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH

RAWAT (BACHDA): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal by the Government to support cloud harvesting/artificial rains activity taken up by NGOs. Many countries including India have carried out experiments in this area but these are only at the research stage.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise, Sir.

[Translation]

Hindi to Foreigners

1499. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahatma Gandhi Hindi University has been contemplating to formulate any curriculum for teaching Hindi outside the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The basic effort of Mahatma Gandhi Antrarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya is directed towards upgrading, renovation and refinement of courses of Hindi prevalent in the universities, centre and institutes abroad. For this it is necessary to develop new course materials and pedagogy in this respect. The effort includes the upgradation of curriculum, incorporation of new linguistic and intellectual developments in India and proper utilization of information technology in literature, language, culture and translation. Besides, it has also to be kept in view that the difficulties that students with different foreign mother tongues face in learning Hindi differ widely and have to be tackled in distinctive ways. The University has started effort in all these directions.

[English]

Production in Steel Authority of India

1500. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has prepared any plan to increase the production in coming years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any emphasis is being laid by SAIL to produce better quality items and at the less cost; and

(d) if so, the details of programme drawn up by SAIL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Details of the production plan for saleable steel formulated by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for the next four years are given below:

Year	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Saleable steel (in MT)	10.21	10.26	10.60	10.75

(c) and (d) The modernisation of three SAIL plants together with regular monitoring of cost reduction at its plants is designed to enable SAIL to improve the quality of its products and profitability of its operations.

The thrust areas, inter-alia, in this regard are:

- Maximising production through continuous casting.
- Utilisation of secondary refining facilities.
- Reduction in specific consumption of raw materials
- Reduction in power and fuel expenses.
- Reduction in consumption of stores & spares consumption.
- Improving yields and efficiency of various processes.

National Register for Citizens

1501. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to maintain a National Register containing particulars of all bonafide citizens of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The feasibility study in respect of scheme of issue of Multi-purpose National Identity Cards, inter-alia, recommended the creation of a national Register of the Citizens. However, no final decision in this regard has been taken by the Government as yet.

**South-Western Regional Office
of UGC in Bangalore**

1502. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to establish South-Western regional office of University Grants Commission in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount required for the construction of the building and the amount proposed to be sanctioned by the Union Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The South-Western Regional Office of UGC was established in April, 1999 at Bangalore to cater to the needs of the colleges in Karnataka and Kerala. The accommodation for the above office has been provided by Government of Karnataka.

**Demolition of Unauthorised Construction
by MCD.**

1503. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be

pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Nos. 7676 dated May, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of illegal and unauthorised constructions demolished by MCD (South Zone) during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 7676 dated 16.5.2000 has since been fulfilled. The implementation Report has been laid on the Table of the Sabha on 22.11.2000. A copy thereof is enclosed as Statement.

(c) MCD has reported that demolition/sealing action in 452 cases has been taken by the Building Department of MCD (South Zone) during the period from 1.4.1999 to 31.10.2000.

Statement

*III Session, 2000 of XIII Lok Sabha, Ministry of Urban Development
& Poverty Alleviation, date of fulfilment 21.09.2000*

Q. No. Date & Name of MP	Subject	Promise Made	When & How Fulfilled	Reason for Delay
1	2	3	4	5
USQ. No. 7676 DATED 16.5.2000 BY SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI.	DEMOLITION OF SHOPS BY MCD Asking:— (a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "MCD demolishes shops despite angry protests" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated May 03, 2000; (b) if so, the facts reported therein;	(a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.	(a) Yes, Sir. (b) & (c) MCD has reported that three properties, bearing Nos. E-3, H-2 and T-16 in Green Park Extension were sealed by it on 2.5.2000. The Sealing/ demolition action is taken as per provisions of DMC Act, 1957 and as per law. (d) & (e) Divisional Commissioner, Delhi (Government of NCT of Delhi) has informed that the areas	The matter was under correspondence with MCD and Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

1	2	3	4	5
	(c) whether the MCD is sealing/ demolishing the shops without following the procedure as per law;			as mentioned in the news-item, namely Green Park and Greater Kailash does not fall under the jurisdiction
	(d) if so, the number of such cases filed in the court of Revenue Assistant, Vasant Vihar, Delhi under Section 81 of Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 during the last two years; and	of Vasant Vihar sub-division.		
	(e) the action taken thereon?			

*[Translation]***Reservation of Seats for NRIs**

1504. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reserve seats for Non Resident Indian or Indians having citizenship of foreign country for admission in professional institutions in the field of technical education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) For admission in professional institutions in the field of technical education, at present, 5% seats are reserved for Non Resident Indians (NRIs), out of payment seats, in self-financing colleges. Regarding admission in professional institutes for Indians having citizenship of foreign country, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has not yet issued any guidelines.

Coal Mines in Bihar

1505. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Coal Mines in Bihar at present;

(b) the quantum of coal reserve in these mines;

(c) whether the Government propose to start coal mining in this State;

(d) if so, the quantum of coal likely to be mined from the coal mines in the State during the next year;

(e) whether some cases have been registered for illegal mining, selling and smuggling of coal from these mines during each of the last three years;

(f) if so, the details thereof, mine-wise; and

(g) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) After the formation of Jharkhand State there is no reserve of coal in the present State of Bihar.

(b) to (g) Question does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

Revision of urea prices

1506. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States are not getting the required quantity of fertilizer due to the pending decision for revising the price of urea and other fertilizers;

(b) if so, the latest details of the demand and supply of the quantity of urea and other fertilizers in each State;

(c) the target of production for urea and other fertilizers in the country; and

(d) the reason for delay in the release of adequate quantity of fertilizers to States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a), (b) and (d) Urea is the only fertiliser which is under price, distribution and movement control

of Government of India and for which allocations are made under Essential Commodities Act (ECA). All other fertilisers are decontrolled and their availability is governed by the market forces of demand and supply. The price revision of urea was last made in February, 2000 and the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of urea is currently Rs. 4600/- per tonne. The MRP of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP) and complex fertilisers had been determined by the Central Government for current year.

The Government of India monitors the availability of major fertilisers namely urea, DAP and MOP. A Statement indicating the State-wise requirement and availability of these fertilisers for Rabi 2000-2001 is enclosed.

There was no delay in allocation of urea to the State Governments and the demand of each State is being met in full.

(c) The target of production of fertilisers in nutrient terms in the country for the year 2000-2001 is given below:

(Lakh MTs)	
Nutrient	Target
Nitrogen (N)	112.14
Phosphate (P)	39.93

The target of production of urea for the year 2000-2001 was fixed at 200.80 lakh metric tonnes.

Statement

State-wise requirement and availability/supply of Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) during Rabi 2000-01

Sl. No.	State	Urea		DAP		MOP	
		Requirement Rabi 2000-01	Availability/Supply upto 31.10.2000	Requirement Rabi 2000-01	Availability/Supply upto 31.10.2000	Requirement Rabi 2000-01	Availability/Supply upto 31.10.2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pr.	1102.00	378.73	325.00	86.36	120.00	46.46
2.	Karnataka	390.00	161.96	140.00	41.92	100.00	29.44
3.	Kerala	60.00	22.02	5.00	2.82	65.00	21.79
4.	Tamil Nadu	515.00	130.92	140.00	61.95	215.00	46.58
5.	Gujarat	625.00	74.65	260.00	57.82	65.00	30.48
6.	Madhya Pradesh	700.00	312.25	360.00	154.63	30.00	13.32
7.	Maharashtra	760.00	224.16	230.00	93.14	125.00	32.23
8.	Rajasthan	650.00	173.47	210.00	106.72	5.00	2.78
9.	Goa	1.70	2.02	0.20	0.03	0.40	0.02
10.	Haryana	800.00	274.79	280.00	209.64	7.50	6.23
11.	Punjab	1110.00	341.53	430.00	248.02	10.00	21.11
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2315.00	730.46	900.00	423.97	90.00	80.02
13.	Himachal Pradesh	22.00	5.65	0.50	0.00	4.00	2.33
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	47.81	11.91	29.23	7.13	7.10	1.02
15.	Delhi	20.00	1.37	8.00	0.03	0.50	0.00
16.	Bihar	700.00	235.16	200.00	87.94	80.00	55.15
17.	Orissa	140.00	100.22	50.00	19.54	40.00	12.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	West Bengal	690.00	169.20	320.00	89.21	225.00	50.14
19.	Assam	82.00	45.23	34.97	15.05	34.34	16.00
20.	Manipur	8.50	2.14	1.50	0.00	1.00	0.00
21.	Meghalaya	2.75	0.43	0.80	0.00	0.25	0.02
22.	Nagaland	0.32	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.03	0.00
23.	Sikkim	0.55	0.20	0.45	0.00	0.10	0.00
24.	Tripura	9.35	6.94	1.00	0.00	2.57	0.02
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.38	0.17	0.15	0.00	0.10	0.00
26.	Mizoram	0.50	0.06	0.85	0.00	0.70	0.02
27.	Others	11.70	3.93	5.17	1.25	4.45	1.18
Total		10764.56	3409.55	3933.19	1707.21	1233.04	468.53

[English]

Kutcha/Pucca Houses under IAY

1507. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pucca houses in rural areas in the country at present;

(b) ratio of pucca/kutcha houses in rural India;

(c) the funds given for these houses during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the details of basic facilities likely to be provided to these houses;

(e) the contribution of Centre to States for this purpose, State-wise; and

(f) the estimated loss or mud/thatched houses due to flood each year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):

(a) No recent survey has been conducted to assess the number of pucca houses in rural areas in the country at

present. However, according to 1991 Census, there were about 738.78 lakh pucca/semi pucca houses in the rural areas in country.

(b) According to Census 1991, the ratio of pucca/semi pucca and kutcha (mud) houses is 2:1 (i.e. 738.78 lakh pucca/semi pucca and 337.60 lakh kutcha houses) in the rural areas.

(c) The funds provided under the Indira Awaas Yojana during the last three years is enclosed as Statement.

(d) and (e) Under Indira Awaas Yojana funds are shared between the Centre and States on 75:25 basis. The sanitary latrine and fuel efficient smokeless chulha, are an integral part of the Indira Awaas Yojana house. In addition, provision is also there to provide for habitat related infrastructure development under the Indira Awaas Yojana. The ceiling on construction assistance under IAY including sanitary latrine, smokeless chulha and other common infrastructure facilities is Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 22,000 in plain areas and hilly/difficult areas respectively.

(f) No estimation has been carried out by the Ministry of Rural Development with regard to loss of mud/thatched houses due to flood each year.

Statement**Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
	Total Allocation		
	Centre+State	Centre+State	Centre+State
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	11212.93	10044.49	13795.00
Arunachal Pradesh	100.89	220.84	942.50
Assam	3691.04	5738.18	19572.50
Bihar	211996.36	32904.62	48247.50
Goa	109.54	23.04	85.00
Gujarat	4116.21	3780.94	4053.75
Haryana	988.70	2224.39	1463.75
Himachal Pradesh	345.90	936.77	643.75
Jammu & Kashmir	703.33	1159.39	772.50
Karnataka	7530.54	7585.02	7372.50
Kerala	2739.81	3403.44	4440.00
Madhya Pradesh	14210.73	16678.49	11478.75
Maharashtra	12224.69	14993.72	13231.25
Manipur	129.71	384.68	866.25
Meghalaya	151.34	430.99	1321.25
Mizoram	63.41	99.73	325.00
Nagaland	161.43	295.63	816.25
Orissa	9097.18	11488.84	11442.50
Punjab	703.31	1081.03	931.25
Rajasthan	5904.80	5759.56	4041.50
Sikkim	59.09	110.42	152.50
Tamil Nadu	10137.75	8881.56	7307.50
Tripura	168.63	694.56	1791.25
Uttar Pradesh	27328.99	36211.82	29456.25
West Bengal	10049.84	12767.54	15080.00
A & N Islands	47.27	44.40	129.00

1	2	3	4
D & N Haveli	25.37	43.80	69.00
Daman & Diu	14.99	1.82	27.00
Lakshadweep	24.21	3.65	3.00
Pondicherry	47.27	56.57	67.00
Total	144085.22	178049.95	199926.00

Computerised Land Records

1508. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- whether the Government propose to computerise the land records in Daman and Diu;
- if so, the amount likely to be spent thereon;
- the status of this scheme at present; and
- the benefits likely to be accrued therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHAS MAHARIA): (a) to (d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records is in force throughout the country including Union Territory of Daman & Diu. 100 per cent central grants is provided to States/Union Territories for implementation of this scheme. The main objective of the scheme is that land owners should get computerised copies of ownership and plot-wise details of their Records of Rights (RORs) at a reasonable price so that farmers can borrow money from financial institutions. The ultimate objective of the scheme "on-line" Management of Land Records in the country.

Daman & Diu Administration has informed that steps have been taken to computerise Land Records in the Union Territory and necessary software has already been developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited

1509. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government propose to privatize the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Disinvestment Commission in its twelfth report had classified the activities of Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL) as "non-core" and had recommended part disinvestment of the Government of India holding to a "strategic buyer", retaining 26% with Government. The Cabinet Committee on Disinvestment in its meeting held on July 19, 2000 had approved disinvestment of 32.61% out of the total Government equity in HOCL of 58.61% alongwith transfer of management control to the "strategic buyer". The disinvestment process is on.

Patrolling by Delhi Police

1510. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether major lapses have been noticed in the general patrolling of the Delhi Police and their working in the Police Stations, particularly at night; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Delhi Police have a well conceived system of patrolling by the Police Control Room vans, mobile patrol on motor cycles and beat patrol. This arrangement is further strengthened by conducting routine and surprise patrolling by senior police officers and continuous review of the existing system to bring about its qualitative improvement.

*[Translation]***Sportsmen in Bhilai Steel Plant**

1511. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) has the privilege of selecting sportsmen;

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

(c) whether persons other than employees of the said plant can participate in the competitions held by the plant;

(d) whether any complaints have been received in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Bhilai Steel Plant selects sportsmen who are inducted as apprentice trainees on stipend basis for three years. Depending on their performance, they are considered for employment.

(c) Besides employees of BSP and other local persons, the wards of the employees and children studying in schools are allowed to participate in various competitions conducted by the plant.

(d) No complaint has been received about participation in competition.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Regional Office of Kendriya Vidyalyaya Sangathan

1512. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to open some more regional offices of the Kendriya Vidyalyaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the number of such offices proposed to be opened, State-wise;

(c) whether a demand has also been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to open a regional office in the State; and

(d) if so, the time by which these offices are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to open new Regional Offices of the Kendriya Vidyalyaya Sangathan anywhere in the country.

(c) and (d) KVS has not received any demand from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for opening of any Regional Office in the State. However, two Regional Offices are already functioning in the State, one each at Bhopal and Jabalpur. In view of this, the question of opening more Regional Offices does not arise.

*[English]***Corruption in Central Coalfields Limited**

1513. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are aware of large scale prevalence of corruption in Central Coalfields Limited;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received representations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to investigate the matter through CBI or any other intelligence agencies. and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Some representations were received in the Ministry from some Members of Parliament and other organisations, alleging increase in losses of CCL, manipulation in the purchase of spares, irregularities in disciplinary action initiated against officers on the basis of R.N. Mishra Committee Report, irregularities in the transportation of coal by Ex-Servicemen Transport companies, etc.

(d) and (e) The aforesaid complaints inquired into, in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission. As the allegations could not be substantiated, these cases were closed. However, as reported by the CBI, they had conducted searches at the premises of a former Coal Controller, CMD, CCL and four other officials of CCL/CIL on 17.11.2000. A RC 13(A)/2000(R) has been registered by the CBI, Ranchi Branch on 15.11.2000. The matter is under investigation.

Plantation Work by CIL in Orissa

1514. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Ltd. (CIL) propose to conserve, protect, maintain and undertake plantation work in Bio-sphere reserves in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) (a) No. Sir. There is no proposal by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) to conserve, protect, maintain and undertake plantation work of Bio-sphere reserve beyond MCL command area. MCL is doing plantation work in its command area.

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

[Translation]

Old Age Pension and National Family Benefit Schemes

1515. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the target set under the National Old Age Pension Scheme and National Family Benefit Scheme, State-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the funds allocated/utilised under these Schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, Scheme-wise, State-wise; and

(c) the achievements made under these Schemes during the same period State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) A Statement-I showing the targets set under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) and the National Family Benefit scheme

(NFBS) during the year 2000-01 is enclosed Statements-II to III containing allocation, utilization and physical achievement made under these Schemes, State-wise, during the last three years and in the current year, are enclosed.

Statement-I

Year: 2000-01

S. No.	State	Physical Target	(Nos. of beneficiaries)
		NOAPS	NFBS
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pr.	466000	29188
2.	Arunachal Pr.	19365	556
3.	Assam	280378	14931
4.	Bihar	549664	11869
5.	Chhattisgarh*	162400	15970
6.	Goa	2985	118
7.	Gujarat	60000	1527
8.	Haryana	57244	521
9.	Himachal Pr.	25272	295
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	33895	552
11.	Jharkhand*	185084	4477
12.	Karnataka	316200	6242
13.	Kerala	149178	3674
14.	Madhya Pr.	357077	27924
15.	Maharashtra	444285	9872
16.	Manipur	27449	497
17.	Meghalaya	37678	694
18.	Mizoram	10525	208
19.	Nagaland	27364	347
20.	Orissa	343400	12949
21.	Punjab	41324	1290
22.	Rajasthan	157536	4502
23.	Sikkim	10104	208
24.	Tamil Nadu	350000	18315

*New State.

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
25.	Tripura	60412	1181	31.	D & N Haveli	1260	27
26.	Uttar Pradesh	839931	26687	32.	Daman & Diu	265	27
27.	Uttaranchal	43063	2370	33.	NCT Delhi	26665	303
28.	West Bengal	353900	9382	34.	Lakshadweep	199	27
29.	A & N Islands	1857	27	35.	Pondicherry	5240	27
30.	Chandigarh	1459	27	Total		5448660	206810

*New State

Statement II

Statement Showing Allocation, Release, Utilisation and Physical Achievement of National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) During 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

(Rs. in Lakh)

S. No.	State	Allocation				Release			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4361.76	4361.76	4361.76	4361.76	4327.75	4439.38	4361.76	3217.56
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.86	45.86	57.12	181.26	15.26	1.94	7.07	7.65
3.	Assam	656.14	656.14	826.98	2624.34	333.25	724.49	745.87	1268.28
4.	Bihar	7248.38	6552.00	6877.24	5144.85	4766.66	6685.08	5761.09	2892.57
5.	Chhatisgarh*	—	—	—	1243.22	—	—	—	789.06
6.	Goa	10.30	20.59	27.94	27.94	7.73	23.17	27.94	13.98
7.	Gujarat	825.77	514.80	561.60	561.60	369.99	357.14	320.92	280.83
8.	Haryana	352.87	352.87	535.80	535.80	274.96	295.46	498.94	253.98
9.	Himachal Pradesh	108.58	108.58	236.55	236.55	97.79	125.53	233.29	143.84
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	248.98	248.98	317.26	317.26	138.24	201.91	299.55	188.93
11.	Jharkhand*	—	—	—	1732.39	—	—	—	930.50
12.	Karnataka	2959.63	2959.63	2959.63	2959.63	1771.37	3649.63	2959.63	1479.89
13.	Kerala	1352.52	1252.37	1396.31	1396.31	815.67	1377.55	1274.72	685.19
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4584.53	4585.46	4585.46	3342.24	4870.56	4660.82	4610.76	2221.95
15.	Maharashtra	2347.96	3996.72	4158.51	4158.51	2423.45	3252.35	3047.39	2306.47
16.	Manipur	97.34	97.34	103.06	327.06	33.69	18.82	87.71	147.46
17.	Meghalaya	94.54	94.54	111.13	352.67	34.07	81.33	94.79	158.59
18.	Mizoram	37.44	37.44	37.44	98.51	21.72	47.55	29.20	50.24
19.	Nagaland	66.46	66.46	80.71	256.13	37.18	9.41	41.02	97.81
20.	Orissa	2652.62	3120.82	3120.62	3682.21	2550.36	2289.62	3573.63	2006.04

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21.	Punjab	341.84	280.80	386.79	386.79	170.82	159.72	317.91	235.82
22.	Rajasthan	1030.50	1404.00	1474.54	1474.54	495.33	941.57	1420.79	907.80
23.	Sikkim	22.47	22.47	29.80	94.57	6.72	38.21	14.90	47.30
24.	Tamil Nadu	3668.18	3276.00	3276.00	3276.00	3629.66	2384.62	3158.57	2167.98
25.	Tripura	146.02	146.02	178.19	565.46	124.32	137.68	178.18	282.73
26.	Uttar Pradesh	9617.40	7956.00	8264.83	7861.76	8676.49	7155.07	7315.09	4557.57
27.	Uttaranchal*	—	—	—	403.07	—	—	—	233.89
28.	West Bengal	3312.50	3312.50	3312.50	3312.50	2431.37	2909.68	4216.81	1656.25
29.	A & N Islands	2.81	5.62	17.38	17.38	0.00	0.00	8.69	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	6.08	12.17	13.66	13.66	2.92	0.00	13.66	6.83
31.	D & N Haveli	2.81	2.81	11.80	11.80	1.41	1.41	0.00	5.90
32.	Daman & Diu	1.88	1.87	2.48	2.48	0.94	1.87	2.48	1.24
33.	NCT Delhi	177.84	177.84	249.58	249.58	177.84	88.92	124.79	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.94	0.94	1.86	1.86	0.47	0.00	0.93	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	14.04	14.04	49.05	49.05	21.06	21.06	49.05	24.53
Total		46396.79	45685.24	47623.58	51260.75	38629.05	42080.99	44797.13	29268.66

*New State

NR: Not Reported

1	2	Exp. Reported				Physical Achievement (No.)			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001**
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2634.80	4347.59	4772.39	2325.65	42773	466001	466000	466004
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.04	5.71	4.00	NR	277	445	2347	NR
3.	Assam	290.84	691.70	760.11	256.13	45853	100136	85052	50347
4.	Bihar	4492.48	6556.47	6904.00	1579.22	705445	705471	741195	379408
5.	Chhattisgarh*	NR	NR	NR	505.89	NR	NR	NR	131395
6.	Goa	8.46	24.93	20.24	12.74	1758	2195	2195	2195
7.	Gujarat	437.63	490.67	337.22	76.04	54071	66830	63862	6035
8.	Haryana	264.53	343.84	368.80	60.63	34212	37700	33201	8846
9.	Himachal Pradesh	95.96	97.91	190.98	120.37	11343	10688	15176	24015
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	170.77	226.41	295.14	0.31	28580	35194	26932	2634
11.	Jharkhand*	NR	NR	NR	209.36	NR	NR	NR	114538

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12.	Karnataka	2697.06	2924.41	2518.49	668.28	765005	186825	195235	162342
13.	Kerala	1029.61	1243.74	1191.70	340.77	96256	118974	119507	54250
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5565.32	6278.26	4933.75	1572.71	828769	731149	586400	406115
15.	Maharashtra	1584.71	2989.27	3076.50	1378.85	279660	304696	70714	256486
16.	Manipur	38.15	35.17	73.55	9.26	7456	2720	5836	1022
17.	Meghalaya	54.59	97.78	77.40	58.85	10068	8897	9102	7146
18.	Mizoram	17.78	46.77	35.80	41.33	3596	3360	4094	8581
19.	Nagaland	17.63	17.98	30.59	23.98	3215	2251	4617	4100
20.	Orissa	2434.33	2843.69	2970.34	1152.53	279473	332290	330272	343597
21.	Punjab	211.87	328.50	280.99	20.37	27571	36500	32859	0
22.	Rajasthan	688.36	1201.42	96.35	420.16	124194	240253	451325	41192
23.	Sikkim	21.60	3173.44	3789.20	1835.31	2628207	316125	378791	2090833
24.	Tamil Nadu	2916.92	165.63	164.70	1.08	15600	15503	15507	8004
25.	Tripura	121.24	165.63	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	8029.60	8830.51	8447.25	1650.63	975527	981692	940539	214845
27.	Uttaranchal*	NR	NR	NR	206.71	NR	NR	NR	32426
28.	West Bengal	2538.63	3616.09	3627.51	1512.59	329365	346565	350810	329434
29.	A & N islands	0.06	0.49	0.00	NR	303	NR	NR	NR
30.	Chandigarh	9.71	3.84	6.80	NR	1368	NR	1763	NR
31.	D & N Haveli	1.42	1.65	0.57	NR	271	NR	252	NR
32.	Daman & Diu	0.79	1.50	2.36	0.76	95	203	262	259
33.	NCT Delhi	166.77	101.65	109.00	NR	19814	24156	24156	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	0.55	0.01	0.00	0.05	112	2	NR	23
35.	Pondicherry	21.06	6.87	29.17	NR	1500	1500	1500	NR
Total		36572.87	46715.50	45136.50	16087.90	7324137	5080721	4980109	5150976

*As on 24.11.2000.

Statement III

Statement showing Allocation, Release, Utilisation and Physical Achievement of National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	State	Allocation				Release			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pr.	2247.96	3823.04	3035.50	3035.50	2211.43	3861.30	3035.52	2276.44
2.	Arunachal Pr.	22.88	22.88	22.88	57.78	5.52	3.04	1.90	2.32
3.	Assam	646.36	646.36	646.36	1552.78	309.62	339.74	464.33	802.59
4.	Bihar	1934.04	1768.00	1700.02	1234.38	1114.26	1024.96	1632.27	649.36
5.	Chhattisgarh*	—	—	—	1053.35	—	—	—	742.00
6.	Goa	11.44	13.00	12.22	12.22	5.72	6.50	18.72	6.12
7.	Gujarat	377.52	156.00	158.76	158.76	0.00	75.54	122.56	90.32
8.	Haryana	77.22	31.20	54.21	54.21	53.92	27.69	44.48	24.31
9.	Himachal Pr.	21.39	40.04	30.72	30.72	20.67	24.81	29.37	16.29
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	52.36	62.40	57.38	57.38	26.74	38.11	52.19	35.72
11.	Jharkhand*	—	—	—	465.63	—	—	—	233.89
12.	Karnataka	649.22	143.52	649.22	649.22	18.91	108.90	637.66	307.51
13.	Kerala	213.80	530.40	382.10	382.10	198.89	347.14	406.72	209.81
14.	Madhya Pr.	2816.52	5106.40	3957.46	2904.11	2595.08	3901.15	4358.63	1829.01
15.	Maharashtra	1026.74	1026.74	1014.01	1026.74	653.57	789.29	877.61	609.54
16.	Manipur	28.60	28.60	28.60	65.00	9.85	6.15	23.40	29.21
17.	Meghalaya	34.32	34.32	34.32	72.22	9.78	19.68	21.23	41.36
18.	Mizoram	11.44	11.44	11.44	21.67	6.64	9.73	5.73	9.33
19.	Nagaland	17.16	17.16	17.16	36.11	5.01	2.58	6.30	18.08
20.	Orissa	948.78	1744.60	1346.69	1346.69	699.34	1124.14	1346.11	787.88
21.	Punjab	125.84	142.48	134.16	134.16	62.92	74.51	117.03	65.14
22.	Rajasthan	468.16	468.16	468.16	468.16	252.66	399.19	464.23	274.22
23.	Sikkim	5.72	5.72	5.72	21.67	2.28	2.28	2.86	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1904.76	1904.76	1904.76	1904.76	1758.69	1463.87	1776.25	1476.01
25.	Tripura	51.48	93.60	72.54	122.78	39.63	63.64	55.84	51.35
26.	Uttar Pr.	2923.81	3120.00	3021.90	2775.42	1452.17	1996.23	2871.76	1563.89
27.	Uttaranchal*	—	—	—	246.48	—	—	—	157.09
28.	West Bengal	903.76	1047.70	975.73	206.88	332.37	849.43	469.06	
29.	A & N Islands	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	0.00	0.00	1.43	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	0.00	0.00	2.86	1.43
31.	D & N Haveli	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	4.29	1.43	0.00	1.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
32.	Daman & Diu	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	1.44	0.29	0.28
33.	NCT Delhi	31.46	31.46	31.46	31.46	31.46	15.73	15.73	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	0.00	0.00	1.43	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	1.42	2.86	1.43	0.00
Total		17581.88	22037.14	19790.64	20914.35	11760.21	16064.00	19245.30	12780.99

*New State

NR · Not Reported

Exp. Reported						Physical Achievement (No.)			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001**
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pr.	2764.42	4042.25	3132.97	1567.69	36760	38661	30418	19069
2.	Arunachal Pr.	3.03	2.49	3.23	NR	21	41	35	0
3.	Assam	233.51	387.28	464.67	324.88	3916	5545	4863	3214
4.	Bihar	1159.51	1510.79	1718.08	600.01	20654	23184	21538	5848
5.	Chhattisgarh*	NR	NR	NR	622.16	NR	NR	NR	4726
6.	Goa	8.20	7.05	22.67	6.64	123	123	260	81
7.	Gujarat	55.69	158.78	220.59	33.36	780	2552	2540	83
8.	Haryana	65.17	50.98	29.33	12.65	661	867	461	284
9.	Himachal Pr.	13.67	19.97	40.47	13.42	351	289	451	128
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	38.65	39.49	53.83	1.95	586	478	515	22
11.	Jharkhand*	NR	NR	NR	103.69	NR	NR	NR	1053
12.	Karnataka	102.54	232.89	542.04	187.00	1412	2105	4012	2542
13.	Kerala	254.19	384.72	329.55	123.93	5100	6501	4701	1544
14.	Madhya Pr.	2828.77	4319.98	4001.60	1214.51	47912	54353	37766	10814
15.	Maharashtra	567.35	1064.55	1026.51	444.69	7172	20944	16884	6116
16.	Manipur	11.67	0.00	17.59	2.84	39	66	103	27
17.	Meghalaya	7.43	15.37	24.74	12.30	109	211	202	58
18.	Mizoram	0.97	8.83	2.75	9.33	14	91	73	90
19.	Nagaland	4.24	1.70	7.70	1.59	50	0	58	NR
20.	Orissa	685.82	1019.63	1291.95	499.00	16605	16328	16858	6125
21.	Punjab	72.10	54.26	87.06	8.20	1364	949	407	NR
22.	Rajasthan	424.90	629.57	461.66	77.60	8001	9498	4747	376
23.	Sikkim	2.28	2.28	2.76	NR	20	13	NR	NR
24.	Tamil Nadu	1414.76	1742.29	2039.74	1314.44	26455	36184	18591	13371

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
25.	Tripura	33.81	51.14	65.31	1.39	900	788	631	9
26.	Uttar Pr.	1777.97	2350.47	2838.32	691.57	31223	35624	38768	6293
27.	Uttaranchal*	NR	NR	NR	130.35	NR	NR	NR	1437
28.	West Bengal	452.28	679.12	952.81	358.76	7422	10730	9886	NR
29.	A & N Islands	0.55	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
30.	Chandigarh	1.30	NR	2.86	NR	22	NR	20	NR
31.	D & N Haveli	0.08	5.47	NR	NR	NR	53	NR	NR
32.	Daman & Diu	2.05	0.55	0.60	0.30	30	9	3	2
33.	NCT Delhi	53.10	10.70	13.65	NR	658	197	156	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	2.55	0.15	0.20	NR	54	3	2	NR
35.	Pondicherry	1.42	2.57	1.46	NR	25	24	27	NR
Total		13043.98	18795.32	19396.70	8364.25	218439	266411	214976	83312

*New State

NR: Not Reported

**As on 24.11.2000.

*[English]***Performance Reports of Coal Companies**

1516. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the periodical reports from various coal companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate the inequality prevailing in the functioning and net results of the various coal companies in the country;

(d) whether the Government have the updated statistical details of the total expenditure incurred on the development of the coal units in the country during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government receives the performance reports from the coal companies. The performance reports include achievements of parameters viz. Production, Overburden Removal, System Capacity Utilisation, Output per Manshift, Off-take, Despatch, Plan Expenditure, generation of profit and State Electricity Board dues etc.

(c) To improve the performance of coal companies, the Govt. has advised the coal companies to take steps in the following thrust areas:

- (i) To open new mines and increase efficiency and productivity in the existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and to ensure timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities;
- (ii) To take steps to remove the bottlenecks in land acquisition and forest land clearance for speedier implementation of coal projects;
- (iii) To take steps to securities the outstanding coal sale dues of coal public sector undertakings (PSUs) against defaulting SEBs;
- (iv) To take steps in co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in coalfields areas having potential for enhanced production;
- (v) Apart from above coal companies should make concerted efforts to reduce the production cost of coal by resorting to various measures viz. rationalisation of manpower, improvement in capacity utilisation, removal of bottlenecks in timely completion of coal projects, judicious planning, economy in expenditure, and maintaining good industrial relation;
- (vi) To take steps to improve the quality of coal through selective mining and beneficiation;

- (vii) To supplement the resources required for investment in new projects and infuse modern technology and management systems and practices by entering into joint venture for development of green field project; and

- (viii) To integrate environmental & social mitigation measures with mine development plans.

(d) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Govt. monitors the monthly and quarterly expenditure of the coal companies. The total expenditure of the coal companies in the country during the last three years is as under:

(Fig. in crore)

Year	Coal India Ltd		Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.	
	Target (RE)	Actual (Prov.)	Target (RE)	Actual (Prov.)
1998-99	1700.00	1831.97	280.00	206.09
1999-2000	2676.19	2804.28	217.20	141.07
2000-01	1767.00	692.88*	235.00	51.98*

*Upto Sept., 2000

Cyberspace Partnership

1517. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether FICCI and US-India Business Council have decided to pursue vigorously the cyberspace partnership initiative to promote trade and investment in the field of chemicals, petro-chemicals and pharmaceuticals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some sanctions are likely to be lifted by United States imposed on this field;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to support the initiative taken by FICCI and US-India Business Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The US-India Business Council and FICCI have signed a joint statement which states, inter-alia, that they will jointly pursue vigorously a cyber space partnership initiative for promotion of trade and investment between US and Indian small and medium enterprises in the fields of chemicals, petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has conveyed to the US Authorities that sanctions are unjustified and

should be completely lifted. While a number of unilateral restrictions have been removed, the US Government has not indicated any time frame for lifting the remaining restrictions.

(e) A vision statement has been signed by US-India Business Council and FICCI. The Government of India would support within its policy parameters, initiatives for the development of Indian Industry and trade.

[Translation]

MPs as President of DRDA

1518. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to nominate local Member of Parliament as Chairman of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Members of Parliament nominated so far as Chairman of such committees in each State;

(d) the time by which the rest of Members of Parliament are likely to be nominated as Chairman of such committees; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (e) While Hon'ble Members of Parliament are Members of the Governing Bodies of the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) and of the District and Block-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, the question of further enhancing their role in the functioning of the DRDAs is separately receiving attention.

Hindustan Steel Corporation Limited

1519. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced any special economic package for the Hindustan Steel Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees are not being paid their salaries for the last 18 months and also who are opting for voluntary retirement under the V.R.S. are not being paid G.P.F., gratuity and other pensionary benefits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A financial cum restructuring package was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 6th July, 1999. The package inter-alia contains the following:

- (1) Consersion of plan loans amounting to Rs. 97.10 crores as on 31.3.1999 into equity.
- (2) Grant of moratorium on repayment of and interest holiday on all Government of India loans upto 31.3.99 for 10 years.
- (3) Waiver of interest accrued and outstanding on all Government of India loans as on 31.3.99 amounting to Rs. 957.81 crores.
- (4) HSCL has been received Rs. 79.33 crores as non-plan during 1999-2000 for meeting its statutory liabilities only. This will have a moratorium on repayment and interest holiday for five years, subject to review at the end of five years.

(5) Exemption of payment from corporate tax in 1999-2000 on account of windfall profits due to waiver of interest on loans.

(6) Continuance of Government Guarantee for Rs. 12 crores cash credit and Rs. 80 crores bank guarantee facilities, with waiver of guarantee commission of 1%.

(7) Govt. will provide Govt. guarantee and full interest subsidy thereof for raising loan of Rs. 318.36 crores by HSCL from Banks during the three year i.e. 1999-2000 to 2001-02 for separating 2000 employees per year.

(c) and (d) Due to recession in the Steel Industry, excessive manpower in HSCL, inadequate work orders from public sector steel plants, HSCL could not earn adequate income to pay salaries and wages to its employees in time. In some of the Units of HSCL, salaries are not being paid to the employees of the company for the last 18 months.

In regard to VRS, till 31st October, 2000, 5661 employees have been separated and released. Against this 4234 employees have so far been paid their VR benefits. Govt. Guarantee for remaining loan of Rs. 108.54 crores has been given and VR benefits of remaining employees will be settled on disbursement of loan from bank to HSCL.

Central Hindi Committee

1520. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Hindi Committee has set up three committees for monitoring the proper use of Hindi;

(b) if so, whether these committees have presented their reports;

(c) if not, the time by which these are likely to be presented; and

(d) the date on which the meeting of Central Hindi Committee is likely to be held again and the time by which the reports are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) In a meeting of the Kendriya Hindi Samiti held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22 Sept. 2000, it was decided that two Sub-Committees will be constituted to consider the views of the members of the Committee.

Accordingly, two Sub-Committees under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Home Minister and Hon'ble Human Resource Minister have since been constituted on 07 November, 2000. These Sub-Committees will prepare their reports within six months and submit the same in the next meeting of the Kendriya Hindi Samiti. The date for the next meeting of the Kendriya Hindi Samiti has not yet been fixed.

[English]

Training to Municipal Chairmen and Councillors

1521. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to extend training to Municipal Chairmen and Municipal Councillors in order to prepare them for their role;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided proposed to be provided for the purpose;

(c) the details of institutes/organisations recognised by the Government which organise such training programmes;

(d) whether any State Governments have requested such help in this regard; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to inject a degree of professionalism in the elected officials of the Municipalities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) For imparting training to functionaries of Municipalities, Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation is providing grant-in-aid to Regional Centres for Urban and Environmental Studies located at Hyderabad, Lucknow and Mumbai, Centre for Urban Studies, IIPA, New Delhi and also to National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi. These institutes organise short term orientation and training programmes on various management issues relating to urban administration for Municipal Chairpersons and Councillors. During the year 2000-2001, grants-in-aid of Rs. 3.29 crore is earmarked to be released to these institutions for conducting training programmes and other activities for the benefit of various functionaries of municipal bodies.

(d) and (e) then training institutes also conduct training programmes for municipal employees as per

request/demand of State Governments. The objective of the training programmes is to induct professionalism and management capabilities among elected municipal executives. This being an ongoing exercise, efforts in this direction are continuously being made by these institutions by inducting modern/innovative training facilities.

Restricted Area Permit

1522. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Restricted Area Permit has been withdrawn from some North-Eastern States like Assam, Tripura and Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the States in which RAP system exists; and

(c) the time by which these restrictions are likely to be abolished completely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Restrictions on the entry of foreigners under foreigners (Protected Area) Order 1958 exists in the North-Eastern States of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

(c) The policy relating to Restricted/Protected area regime is reviewed from time to time and appropriate decisions taken keeping in view the sensitivity of the area, general law and order situation and insurgency problem.

[Translation]

Sea Wealth

1523. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are abundant reserves of mineral oil and natural gas available in the ocean;

(b) if so, the present position of India in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to exploit these resources?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The prognosticated hydrocarbon resources as on 1.4.1999 in the off shore areas are 18,725 million metric tonne.

Various measures are being taken by the Government through the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to find new hydrocarbon reserves and to increase the production of oil, inter alia, extending exploration to deepwaters and frontier areas, increasing private participation in exploration activities through various rounds of bidding for exploration Blocks and New Exploration Licensing Policy, etc.

[English]

Education Programme for Disabled

1524. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

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

(a) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) have launched a special education programme for the disabled;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed between IGNOU and RCI in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the facilities provided to disabled under the programme; and

(d) the extent to which this programme is likely to be beneficial for such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the University and Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on September 21, 2000 to make a joint effort in promoting and implementing extension, training and education programmes for the empowerment of the special target group of people with disability. IGNOU will collaborate with RCI in programme design and development of special education and rehabilitation programme through multi-media distance mode and will also facilitate delivery and certification of such Certificate and Degree programmes.

[Translation]

White Paper on Article 356

1525. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions have been received by the Government about holding a general discussion in the Parliament on Article 356 and issuance of a white paper thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto stating latest position in matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Article 356 has been the subject matter of discussion in the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council. In the sixth meeting of the Standing Committee, the subject was re-nitted to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Finance Minister of West Bengal under the convenorship of the Union Defence Minister. The matter was also discussed in the fifth meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 22nd January, 1999 in which it was decided that the Sub-committee under the convenorship of the Union Defence Minister should continue deliberations to evolve a consensus.

The Sub-Committee under the Convenorship of the Union Defence Minister has been reconstituted, in April 2000, with the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Finance Minister of West Bengal as members.

[English]

Houses for All

1526. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a plan to provide "Houses for All";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds provided for this purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the share of State Government in this plan;

(e) whether some sections in rural areas are not being covered under this plan;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken to cover all the citizens especially agricultural and landless labourers under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is making all efforts to achieve the goal of ending all shelterlessness by the end of the IXth Plan Period and conversion of all unserviceable kutch houses to pucca/semi pucca by the end of the Xth Plan Period.

(c) The details of funds provided under Indira Awaas Yojana and Credit-cum Subsidy Scheme for Rural Housing, which are the two allocation based Centrally sponsored programmes, during the last three years and the current financial year are given in enclosed statement.

(d) Under the Centrally sponsored schemes of India Awaas Yojana and the Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme for Rural Housing, the funds are shared between the Centre and State in the ratio of 75:25. In so far as the Samagra Awaas Yojana, Innovative Stream for Rural Housing & Habitat Development and the Rural Building Centres programmes are concerned, these being project based, the Central Government provides the entire funds. Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana: Gramin Awaas, funds are provided by the Ministry of Finance as per prescribed criteria.

(e) to (g) Rural areas in the entire country are being covered under Indira Awaas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (Gramin Awaas). Both these Schemes are meant primarily for the below poverty line rural households belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labour categories. This also includes Below Poverty Line (BPL) agricultural and landless labourers categories. Samagra Awaas Yojana is being implemented on pilot basis in 25 select Blocks in 24 States and 1 UT.

Statement

Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) & Credit-Cum-Subsidy Scheme for Rural Housing

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State	1997-98* Central Release	1998-99* Central Release	1999-2000**# Central Release	2000-2001***# Central Release (Upto date)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9603.38	9515.81	11811.54	9660.54
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	103.21	118.47	841.47	271.75
3.	Assam	2931.07	5004.32	14332.95	8177.40
4.	Bihar	15130.72	23478.11	30780.78	16791.56
5.	Goa	51.46	29.21	64.47	27.20
6.	Gujarat	3424.02	3503.67	3332.10	3243.00
7.	Haryana	758.55	2035.25	1485.04	585.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	467.78	712.84	465.82	257.50
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	607.12	1079.80	143.62	0.00
10.	Karnataka	5820.36	5657.27	4531.78	2957.91
11.	Kerala	2148.56	3210.84	3199.89	1776.01
12.	Madhya Pradeshh	11695.62	14391.74	9568.53	4763.52

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Maharashtra	9968.74	13644.95	10773.02	5248.45
14.	Manipur	56.69	163.08	177.45	122.75
15.	Meghalaya	46.73	159.16	651.49	398.65
16.	Mizoram	54.47	85.75	297.05	224.94
17.	Nagaland	435.83	454.13	773.28	371.66
18.	Orissa	7443.57	10225.13	13822.56	14427.11
19.	Punjab	478.32	950.27	702.97	364.38
20.	Rajasthan	3888.40	5221.40	2808.49	1767.35
21.	Sikkim	41.21	104.13	123.90	99.64
22.	Tamil Nadu	8708.09	8375.09	6609.32	3202.31
23.	Tripura	144.84	654.95	1501.52	840.62
24.	Uttar Pradesh	22995.15	32561.68	22438.90	10807.93
25.	West Bengal	4547.01	6363.00	8599.70	6887.18
26.	A & N Islands	47.27	0.00	0.00	38.37
27.	D & N Haveli	11.63	30.66	34.50	0.00
28.	Daman & Diu	7.49	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	1.50	0.00
30.	Pondicherry	93.85	64.01	33.50	33.50
Total		111711.14	147794.72	149907.14	93346.73

*Only Indira Awaas Yojana

**Indira Awaas Yojana and Credit-Cum-Subsidy Scheme

**# From 1999-2000 and 2000-01, Central Releases includes Indira Awaas Yojana & Credit-Cum Subsidy Scheme. Credit-Cum-Subsidy Scheme for Rural for Rural Housing is being implemented in 20 States.

Exploitation of Coal

1527. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the grade-wise production of coal through open cast and under ground mines;

(b) whether Coal India Limited has been able to locate high quality coal in the country;

(c) if so, the details in this regard, location-wise and quantity-wise;

(d) the extent to which imports are likely to come down as a result of such discoveries; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to exploit the high quality coal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The grade-wise production of coal in underground (UG) and open-cast (OC) mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) during the year 1999-2000 is as follows:

(in lakh tonnes)

Grade	UG	OC	Total
1	2	3	4
Coking Coal	111.14	161.26	272.40

1	2	3	4
Non Coking Coal			
Grade "A"	30.31	5.48	35.79
Grade "B"	152.03	51.53	203.56
Grade "C"	131.98	255.69	387.67
Grade "D"	82.83	244.16	326.99
Grade "E"	10.29	439.62	449.91
Grade "F"	4.66	924.85	929.51
Total Non Coking	412.10	1921.33	2333.43
Grand Total	523.24	2082.59	2605.83

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The reserves of superior grade (grades A, B, C & D-proved category estimated by the Geological Survey of India, as on 1.1.2000 in the command areas of CIL, are given below:

(in million tonnes)

Depth (Meter)	Grade-A	Grade-B	Grade-C	Grade-D	Total
0-600	1158	3966	8481	10338	23943

The proved reserves are established through detailed drilling which is mainly conducted by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) and Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL).

(d) Establishment/discovery of proved superior grades of coal will not immediately give rise to increase in production of superior grade as detailed geological study, preparation of detailed project report, infrastructure planning and development, typing up of consumers, environmental clearance, source of funding and economic viability are some of the extra steps which will be taken before a project can be approved and started. In view of this, no significant impact on import of coal on this account is foreseen immediately.

(e) Steps taken for improvement in production of high quality coals are:

- Scientific mining of coal in U/G mines so as to avoid mixing up stones/shale bands with coal production.
- Cleaning of coal bench before blasting manually or mechanically to avoid any dirt/overburden mixing with the blasted coal in case of mining.

- Keeping the overburden faces sufficiently ahead to reduce any chance of overburden mixing with coal produced.
- Picking of stone/shale pieces at the coal depot at the railway siding, and during loading of coal to wagons by manual means to improve quality.
- Installation of mini CHP/CHP for mechanised loading of proper quality of coal and segregation of extraneous material.
- Installation of washeries for both coking and non-coking coal.

[Translation]

Infrastructural Facilities for Anganwadi Centres

1528. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested Union Government for the enhancement of central funds for providing infrastructural facilities in Anganwadi centres in the State:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of New Samadhis

1529. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently taken certain decisions in regard to the development of new samadhis;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the financial implications; and

(c) the circumstances leading to these decisions?

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

(b) It has been decided that henceforth the Government shall not develop any samadhi for departed leaders. However, the CPWD shall continue to maintain the Samadhis of the national leaders already developed. A capital expenditure amounting to above Rs. 42 crores has been incurred on the construction and development of various Samadhis in Delhi and Sriperumbudur.

(c) The available Government land along the bank of river Yamuna where these Samadhis are situated has been shrinking steadily with the development of one Samadhi after another. Any attempt to take away any portion of land once allotted to a particular Samadhi, is likely to evoke strong protests from the family members and followers of the departed leaders. Requests are bound to be made by the family members and followers of departed leaders unless a clear cut policy is evolved in this regard. Raising of such samadhis not only involves allocation of large chunk of available land in Delhi, which as already became scare, but this also requires large amount of funds for the development and maintenance of these Samadhis.

[Translation]

Exploration of Sea Water

1530. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ocean activities undertaken in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the outcome thereof;

(c) whether underwater exploration activities have slowed down during the said period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for the exploration of water activities in the ocean?

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

The ocean activities undertaken in the country including Research & Development efforts are an on-going process. The Department of Ocean Development has been coordinating the ocean activities in the following areas.

- I. Antarctic Science
- II. Marine Living Resources
- III. Marine Non-living Resources
- IV. Ocean Observation and Information Services
- V. Marine and Coastal Area Management
- VI. Marine Research and Capacity Building

Some of the major milestone/achievements/outcomes of these programmes in the last three years are;

- (I) Continuation of the annual Antarctic expedition and related polar research activities through the launching of annual expeditions and maintaining a permanent scientific station, Maitri.
- (II) Continuation of mission mode programmes of National Institute of Ocean Technology in areas of Ocean Energy, Deep Sea Mining Technology, Coastal and Environmental Engineering, Marine instrumentation.
- (III) A multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional programme for assessment of the marine living resources beyond 70 meter depth within the Indian EEZ.
- (IV) Enhancing capability and capacity in ocean observing system by operationalising the National Data Buoy Programme by deploying 12 data buoys for collection and dissemination of oceanographic and meteorological data on real time basis.
- (V) A dedicated Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services set up at Hyderabad in February, 1999. This Centre will generate and disseminate ocean data products to user agencies on operational basis.
- (VI) Research & Development Programme of drugs from sea particularly anti-diabetic, anti-viral, anti-amoebic, anti-anxiety.
- (VII) Initiation of Delineation of Outer Limits of Continental Shelf to extend India's jurisdiction in the ocean beyond EEZ for resource augmentation and exploitation.

- (VIII) Implementation of Coastal Ocean Monitoring & Prediction System programme and operation and maintenance of Coastal Research Vessels for monitoring marine pollution in a systematic manner.
- (IX) Capacity building for Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management (ICMAM) and preparation of ICMAM Plans for selected areas.
- (X) Design and finalisation of engineering parameters for construction/procurement of various systems and sub-systems for establishment of a floating 1 MW Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) technology demonstration plant off the coast of Tuticorin.
- (XI) Demonstration of the deep sea mining system developed under a joint collaboration programme at a water depth of 410m off Tuticorin, for the first time.
- (XII) Improved ROV capable of operating upto 250 m. depth was designed, fabricated and tested in the sea off Chennai coast.
- (XIII) An Acoustic Tide Gauge designed and fabricated indigenously was deployed at Chennai port and Port Blair.
- (XIV) A wide band acoustic sub-bottom profiler transducer has been successfully designed, fabricated and tested.
- (XV) A proto-type of Acoustic Pinger was developed and tested at a depth of 700 m.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Allotment of Garages

1531. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the norms prescribed for the allotment of Garages in Kidwai Nagar;

(b) the number of Garages allotted to the allottees of D-II Flats at East Kidwai Nagar during the last three years;

(c) whether the procedure has been strictly, followed in the allotment of garages there;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof;

(e) the number of allottees of D-II Flats in the waiting list of the garages;

(f) the names, flat numbers and designation of these officials; and

(g) the time by which the garages are likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) As per the allotment of Garages (General Pool in Delhi) Rules 1964, the garages are allotted, locality wise, in the order of their priority counted from the date of receipt of such application.

(b) to (d) During the last 3 years, beginning 1.1.1998, 25 garages have been allotted in Kidwai Nagar East, as per rules.

(e) to (g) The details of allottees waiting for allotment of garages in Kidwai Nagar East may be seen in the enclosed statement. As allotment is made on availability of vacancies, no specific time frame can be indicated.

Statement

Waiting List for the Allotment of Garages in Kidwai Nagar (East)

S. No.	Name & Designation	Flat No.
1	2	3
	S/Sh/3mt.	
1.	A.K. Singh, Director Lok Sabha Sectt.	65
2.	K.K. Gupta Commdt. D.G.B.S.F.	85
3.	Dr. D.K. Sharma, CMO Safdarjung Hospital	17
4.	N.S. Rathor, Commdt. D.G.B.S.F.	106
5.	K.S. Nambodaripal, Commdt. I.T.B.P.	4
6.	K. Ramamurthy, Chief Eng. C.S.I.R.	76
7.	Dr. U.C. Biswal, Sr. Surgeon. Dr. R.M.L. Hospital	5

1	2	3
8.	Puranmal, Chief Eng. M/O Defence	9
9.	T.K. Aryavir, DD(G) D/O Posts	110
10.	Dr.N.N. Sharma, CMO D.G.B.S.F.	12
11.	N.K. Gupta, G.M. P & T (MTNL)	32
12.	Dr. Chitamani, Surg. Spl. Safdarjung Hospital	50
13.	Dr. P.K. Verma, Spl. Gr. II Safdarjung Hospital	102
14.	Dhirendra Kumar, Scientist. D/O Atomic Energy	83
15.	A.K. Dubey, Director M/o Petrolems, N.G.	99
16.	S.K. Mathur, Jt. Secty. M/O External Affairs	36

Village/States/Union Territories Population

1532. SHRI GAJENDER SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The number of villages in the country at present; and

(b) the names of villages having population above five thousand, between one thousand to five thousand below 500,500 to 1000 State and Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) As per Census 1991, there are 580779 villages in the country.

(b) Central Government do not have names of villages. However, a statement indicating the number of villages, population-wise, in various categories is enclosed.

Statement

*No. of the Villages in the country population-wise and State-wise**

S.No.	State/UT	Less than 500	500-999	1000-4999	5000 & above
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	7092	4764	12943	1787
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3316	222	107	4
3.	Assam	11323	6461	6781	120
4.	Bihar	28820	16344	20415	1934
5.	Goa	92	64	172	32
6.	Gujarat	3894	4634	8850	650
7.	Haryana	1083	1544	3724	408
8.	Himachal Pradesh	14695	1666	631	5
9	Karnataka	9686	7427	9283	670
10	Kerala	4	3	118	1259
11.	Madhya Pradesh	34895	21673	14690	268
12.	Maharashtra	11703	12408	15347	954
13.	Manipur	1523	311	327	19

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Meghalaya	4832	484	167	1
15.	Mizoram	461	155	80	2
16.	Nagaland	649	280	278	9
17.	Orissa	28583	10726	7573	107
18.	Punjab	3838	3609	4758	223
19.	Rajasthan	16998	10125	10315	451
20.	Sikkim	176	160	108	3
21.	Tamil Nadu	2064	2851	9389	1518
22.	Tripura	88	107	551	109
23.	Uttar Pradesh	45289	29577	36472	1465
24.	West Bengal	13474	9227	13884	1325
Union Territories					
1.	A & N Islands	380	65	59	0
2.	Chandigarh	5	2	14	4
3.	D & N Haveli	12	15	42	2
4.	Daman & Diu	3	6	12	3
5.	Delhi	16	13	130	40
6.	Lakshadweep	2	—	4	1
7.	Pondicherry	99	75	86	3
INDIA		245095	144998	177310	13376

*excluding Jammu & Kashmir where 1991 Census was not conducted.

Coal Projects

1533. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a rehabilitation plan for the coal sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project is being funded by any external agency;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of projects under different coal companies included under the rehabilitation projects;

(f) the extent to which the production of coal especially in Singareni Collieries is likely to increase under this programme;

(g) whether all the collieries have been able to submit their plan under the programme; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) was prepared with the help of World Bank and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) to make Coal India

Limited (CIL) commercially viable, self-sustaining and increase coal production for meeting the future demand of the country.

The project consists of an investment component, technical assistance and training component. The investment component was to finance procurement of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) in 24 profitable mining sub-projects and also construction of Coal Handling Plants (CHPs) in four of them. The technical assistance component was envisaged to finance Coal India's institutional capacity development in the project implementation, mining operations and management.

(c) and (d) The Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project was to be co-financed by the World Bank (IBRD) and the Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) on 50:50 ratio. Total loans comprised US\$ 1030 million, out of which US\$ 522.60 million is being utilised and the balance US\$ 507.40 million remaining unutilised.

Coal India Limited itself requested World Bank and JBIC for the cancellation of the balance uncommitted part of the loan because of various operational reasons. After taking into account the softening of domestic interest rates and the greater flexibility available by recourse to domestic credit on the strength of its balance sheet, CIL was of the view that continuing the World Bank/JBIC project finance for the unutilized portion of the loan was not in its best financial interests.

As the balance of convenience lay in agreed cancellation of the balance uncommitted facility of the World Bank and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) loan, CIL initiated appropriate steps for cancellation in consultation with Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Finance. CIL is confident not completing the projects covered by the loan from its own resources.

(e) The Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) has been conceived in the 24 profitable mining sub-projects under five subsidiaries i.e. Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) of Coal India Limited (CIL).

(f) CSRP does not cover any project of Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. (SCCL).

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. All the collieries under Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) will be able to support the programmes undertaken in CSRP.

[Translation]

Conversion of Sea Water Into Potable Water

1534. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently conducted any study to convert the sea water into potable water with a view to augment supply of drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. This Ministry has not conducted any study to convert sea water into potable water with a view to augment the supply of drinking water. However the Government of Kerala has informed that a study was conducted to convert sea water into potable water with a view to augment the supply of drinking water and it has been found that the same is not economical. A case study shows that the cost of purification of sea water comes to approximately 10 times that of normal purification of river water. The Government of Tamil Nadu on the other hand has accorded administrative sanction for installation of a 3.6 mld capacity desalination plant at Narippaiyur in Ramanatha Puram district to cover 296 rural habitations at a total cost of Rs. 55.00 crores. The plant is now in operation.

The U.T. Administration of Andaman & Nicobar has informed that Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute studied and installed one 5 cum capacity electrodialysis desalination plant at Port Blair for demonstration which is being utilised by the Electricity Department. Subsequently, one desalination plant of 20 MT capacity was installed at Chowra, where no surface/ground water source is available. The plant is providing good quality water.

[English]

Allotment of Land to AIIMS/Institutions

1535. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of sites allotted by the Government/DDA to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and other such institutions remained unutilised for a long time for the purpose for which these were allotted;

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

(c) whether the allotted sites have been encroached by the Jhuggi Jhonpri clusters,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to vacate the encroached sites?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (e) As per the information furnished by the AIIMS, the Institute was allotted the following lands over the years;

(i) 254.40 acres at Ansari Nagar in 1953.

(ii) 55 acres at Andrews Ganj in 1966.

(iii) 32.08 acres at Masjid Moth in 1974.

(iv) 4.00 acres at Ansari Nagar adjacent to Safdarjung Hospital.

AIIMS have already constructed 1132 residential units on the land at Andrews Ganj and plans for construction of 700 more units have already been sanctioned by the municipal authorities. At Masjid Moth 80 housing units and two hostels for resident doctors and nurses have been constructed. There is a plan to construct 678 residential units and 2 more hostels in the area. The area of 4 acres at Ansari Road is for play ground proposed only and is being used accordingly.

It has been reported that around 4000 jhuggis had come at Masjid Moth (Gautam Nagar) behind AIIMS for the removal of which AIIMS has deposited the contribution payable by land owning agency for relocation of jhuggis to the Slum Wing of MCD. The process of relocation of jhuggis dwellers has been initiated and 2750 jhuggi dwellers have already been shifted.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the National Human Rights Commission Chairperson and Members (Salaries, Allowances and other Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 837(E) in Gazette of India dated 25th October 2000, under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the Protection of Human Rights Act 1993.

[Placed in Library, See No. 2440/2000]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992:

- (i) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Armourer Cadre (Group A and B posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 671(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2000.

- (ii) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, General Duty Cadre, (Group B and C posts) Recruitment Rules 2000, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 741(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd September, 2000.

- (iii) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Group B (Gazetted) and (Group B non-Gazetted) Accounts Cadre Recruitment Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 833 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 2000.

- (iv) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, 'A' Posts Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 849(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2441/2000]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAG MOHAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Recruitment Regulations for the Post of Deputy Secretary Hindi (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 313(E) in Gazette of India dated 6th April 2000 under section 58 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2442/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT: 2443/2000]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table: a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619(A) of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (1) Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1999-2000.
- (2) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT: 2444/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (2) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT: 2445/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir on behalf of SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2446/2000]

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Minutes

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (BANDA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the 3rd and 4th sittings of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House held on 2nd and 21st August, 2000.

12.03½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

Sixth Report

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table Sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence (1999-2000) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixth Report of the Committee (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Ordinance Factories.

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE**Statements***[English]*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): I beg to lay on the Table the Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Committee (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) relating to the Demands for Grants of Ministry of Defence (1999-2000).

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY**Ninth Report**12.04¹/₂*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay Ninth Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy (1999-2000) on 'The Energy Conversion Bill, 2000'.

12.05 hrs.

RE: PROBLEMS BEING FACED BY FARMERS*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up the 'Zero Hour'.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: At first we will take up the farmers, issue and then flood.

*... (Interruptions)**[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Speaker, Sir the farmers are not getting the minimum support price. Nobody is ready to procure their produce of paddy and maiz even at half price. The Government has not made any arrangement for this. I give you a

specific example. The F.C.I. had set up 123 procurement centres in Bihar in 1997-98 but not a single procurement centre has been set up so far. Even an ounce of foodgrains has not been purchased from the farmers, therefore, they are taking to streets. Roads are being blocked there. People are burning foodgrains. A huge agitation is proposed to be launched by the farmers. People are raising questions as to why the farmers of the entire country are not being treated at par with their counterparts in Punjab? Therefore, the future of the farmers is in jeopardy. Their next crops will also meet the same fate. The Government should give a specific statement on this. All the farmers of the country from Kerala to Jammu whether they are producing bathwa (pod herb) coconut, oilseeds, pulses, wheat, potato, cauliflower, fruits and vegetables have been ruined. A committee of the House should be constituted for the purpose so that the problems of the farmers are solved. What I want to say that the Government should come out with a categorical statement on these two points since the farmers producing paddy and maize in Bihar are in great distress. People have started agitation there. Roads are being blocked. I want to know as to how many procurement centres are proposed to be set up by the F.C.I. this year? They just put up papers-pamphlets to the effect that banks are issuing credit cards to the farmers but no such cards have been issued. The State Governments do not have funds to enable them to purchase produce of the farmers. Therefore, this job has to be done by the F.C.I. as this has been entrusted upon him. Foodgrains is lying all around. They have almost would up the Public Distribution System. ...*(Interruptions)* Lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains are lying in the godowns of the F.C.I....*(Interruptions)*. What I want to say these should be vacated immediately.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Other Members have also to speak.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madhavrao Scindia, you can speak before the Minister.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajesh Ranjan.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we brought the Motion day before yesterday they voted against the motion...(Interruptions) Then why are they talking about this today...(Interruptions)

[English]

They voted against the Motion which we brought here. When we brought the Motion on the other day they did not support it. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday there was a meeting.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): Our Members also were there. ...(Interruptions) You must give an opportunity to the principal Opposition.

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday they had given the notice. Yesterday we had a meeting. We decided that something has to be discussed.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi should have been informed about it. We are the principal Opposition Party. We had brought the Adjournment Motion. You must give us the first chance. You are calling others.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the problem. Yesterday we had a meeting with the leaders. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi was also present.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Why are you not giving us an opportunity?

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling you. I am giving a chance to you.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: We have the largest number; we have 120 Members of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: I called his name.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madhavrao Scindia, yesterday we had a meeting with the leaders and others. It was decided that about the farmers' issue somebody should raise the matter. Some hon. Members have given notices today also. I will call you after them.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): You were so kind!

Sir, you will allow other Members to speak including myself. Then, the hon. Minister will react. I think, Shri Rajesh Ranjan will speak definitely. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling Shri Madhavrao Scindia. Shri Rajesh Ranjan to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: But, first, you give a chance to the principal Opposition Party. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: This is not fair. ...(Interruptions)

You said that Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh should speak first. After that we must get our turn. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is Zero Hour. Those who have given the notices, I am calling them. I am also calling you, please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Please consider what was decided yesterday. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, we have to be called on Party lines. We are 150 MPs sitting on this side. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the good practice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: That has to be respected. ...(Interruptions) The numbers have to be respected. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am also calling you after Shri Rajesh Ranjan.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is the established practice of the House that the principal Opposition should be given the highest importance. ...(*Interruptions*) Sir, how can you ignore that thing? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Please go as per the convention. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called another Member.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): The Parliament is the Supreme institution of democracy and a debate is going on here on the issue of the farmers. The farmer of this country is its backbone and despite this fact, he is driven to commit suicide. In many States be it Andhra Pradesh or Kerala farmers have committed suicide in support of their cause. Farmers in Punjab have also committed suicide for their cause. And Bihar has come to such a pass that on the one hand it has been divided and on the other, the 27 districts out of the remaining 37 in Bihar has been ruined due to floods and drought. Farmers have been left with no capacity to grow foodgrains in the real sense and they are not in a position to grow foodgrains. There is no mandi in Bihar today for the procurement of his produce. There is one Gulab Bagh Mandi in Bihar where two farmers had committed suicide. They took their produce to the above mandi but when their foodgrains were not sold, they committed suicide. Their dead bodies were found in the morning. The F.C.I. and NAFED maintain that unless they get 67 per cent, they will not procure foodgrains from them because they do not have any storage facility for foodgrains whereas the farmers in Bihar are ready to give only 64 per cent and on the other hand they are ready to produce at the rate of Rs. 13.20 while mill is ready to procure from Rs. 30 to Rs. 35. FCI and NAFED maintain that unless the Government increase it from Rs. 30 to Rs. 35, they will not procure the foodgrains from the farmers. Shri Shanta Kumar ji and Nitish ji have started that many procurement centres would be opened in Bihar. But neither the FCI is ready to procure foodgrains there nor did any procurement centre open in Bihar till date. No action has been taken despite the repeated statements of the ministers in this regard.

Just now our colleague was referring to Punjab. The farmers have always been at the receiving end on the one hand some people are cornering the benefits while the farmers are being side-lined on the other. Farmers are the most neglected lot today. The farmer of Bihar is on the verge of death.

Hon'ble Minister is sitting here. It should be decided that as to when the retail outlets will be opened and whether the Government is giving us any loans or not on the lines of Punjab and Haryana. The farmer of Bihar is being ruined by paying taxes and because of the drought in Bihar. That is why this is my personal appeal that the Government should write off the loans of the farmers of Bihar. I do not talk of other loans but agriculture loans should be written off.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister has come. Please conclude now.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Shri Shanta Kumar ji is present here. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have also called the hon'ble Minister, please sit down. Please speak one by one. We will also call your name.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Whether the loans of the farmers of Bihar would be written off or not?

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. We will solve your problem.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. This is Zero Hour. Please, try to understand.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: My request is that a House committee at the National level should visit the place which should have some representation from the farmers also. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, please take your seat.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: The committee of the House should visit the place for a week for resolving the problems of the farmers in the entire country. For this a commission should be set up, so that issues of the farmers can be taken up. We want a statement from the hon'ble Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not fair, what are you talking. We are calling other Members also, please take your seat. Hon'ble Minister will also give statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the way to raise matters during Zero Hour. Please understand that there are other Members also who want to raise their matters and I have to give chance to them also. You are always fighting with the Chair. What purpose does it serve?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: We are not fighting. Bihar is on fire. It is a matter concerning the farmers, we represent them in the House. We are not even allowed here to raise a matter concerning them. Today farmers of the entire country are suffering. ...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a procedure in the House which should be followed according to which permission from the Chair should invariably be sought before getting up. Prior permission from the Chair should be sought for resolving any problem. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Madhavrao Scindia is saying.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the condition of the farmers of the entire country is becoming

pitiable day by day and there are reports from various parts of the country that they are committing suicides because of this. Which clearly indicate that the agricultural policy of this Government and the attitude of this Government towards the farmers is not at all good. ...*(Interruptions)* We will have to overhaul the complete system since agriculture is the very basis of the country's economy. If we want to improve this country's economy then the very first thing required is that we should develop our rural areas and our farmers should prosper and progress well. It is absolutely necessary. If the condition of our farmers remains the same then future of this country is definitely going to be bleak. On one side the price of fertilisers, diesel etc. and their costs are escalating and on the other side the prices being received by the farmers for their produce are declining day by day. The reports being received from Bihar these days are quite alarming. The situation there is becoming critical and this may create a law and order problem there and the farmers may not have any other option but to commit suicide. It has been reported that procurement work has been stopped in Punjab and Haryana.

Minimum support price has not been given and the reason stated was that the quality of paddy in Punjab and Haryana has not been found up to the mark. Whereas the University of Punjab has contradicted this after testing the quality minutely. They have stated that the standard and quality of paddy in Punjab and Haryana is superfine and it should have been procured. Same thing is happening in Bihar. The same situation is likely to arise there. We would like to warn this Government that today the farmer is being compelled to sell the paddy below the minimum support price. I would like to reiterate what Raghuvansh Prasad Singh ji has stated about procurement centres that they should immediately be opened in Jharkhand and Bihar so that procurement work can be started by giving minimum support price to the farmers. So that they may get some relief in this regard otherwise the paddy would start rotting and the farmer will be on the roads. ...*(Interruptions)* We had also moved an adjournment motion in this regard but the Government is still not giving any statement in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that this is an important subject. If you want to discuss matters in the House in this way, it is very difficult to take up the Zero hour everyday.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Let me finish please...(*Interruptions*) The reply given by hon'ble Minister for Agriculture was not satisfactory. Today godowns are full of foodgrain. Why they are full? The prices under Public Distribution System were increased by this Government from 60 per cent to 80 per cent whether it was wheat or rice. The consumers below poverty line are not able to buy this wheat and rice. That is why your godowns are full and the poor people are crying. The information received on the other side is that you are planning to export this very wheat and rice. There are rumours that a major deal is about to take place in this regard. I am not putting a question mark on this but there is a rumour that the wheat and rice in the FCI godowns are likely to be sold in the foreign countries. There is a big conspiracy, a big scandal behind that and the charges of corruption are also being levelled...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Sir, all of us have given notices. Please give us also a chance to raise important matters...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Now what is the factual position. This is what we want to know...(*Interruptions*) We want that paddy procurement centres may be opened at an early date for procurement of paddy produced in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and other States. As regard constituting Parliamentary committee as suggested by Shri Raghuvansh Prasad, we are with him so that committee may discuss the grievances of the farmers from time to time with the Prime Minister without any delay and seek his advice and arrive at the right decision. This is all in continuation of the Adjournment Motion that we had moved in the House so as to support the farmers. We want that till we are satisfied. We would go on raising this issue inside the Parliament and the Congress Party would raise this issue even outside the Parliament. We want that the honourable Minister should make a statement in this regard and a House Committee should be constituted.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the burning question raised in this House today by Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh ji does not relate to any particular party. It is a question related to the whole nation and especially to the farmers of Bihar. The farmers in Bihar are in distress. They are facing starvation. They are not getting any medicines. The education of their

children is going to be discontinued. They are facing problems to procure fertilizers and seeds. They are not getting the support price for paddy and maize as determined by the Government of India. The farmers are compelled to sell their foodgrains at the rate of rupees three hundred a quintal but there is none to purchase that. The Government has not been able to open ar./ F.C.I. Centres despite its repeated announcements to open such centres. It has been said that letters have been written to the State Governments that they may also open procurement centres of their own. Nobody is aware of the financial position of Bihar State. The Government of Bihar can not do anything despite wishing so. That is why I would like to impress upon the Minister of Home and the Minister of Food that if the farmers of Bihar are to be saved then there should be no playing with their life otherwise it would lead to dire consequences...(*Interruptions*) We would be compelled to revolt against that ...(*Interruptions*) That is why I request you once again to pay your special attention towards it...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): Sir, there has been a detailed discussion on the problems being faced by the farmers. Now the way the agony was being expressed in regard to procurement by the Members of Parliament from Bihar State. I would like to draw your attention towards a small matter in that connection. When Shri Raghuvansh Ji was a Minister in the Central Government ...(*Interruptions*) production of paddy in Bihar was 61,000 tonne...(*Interruptions*). Only 24000 tonne of paddy has been procured and the remaining stock of paddy is rotting in grains markets of Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record, except Shri Rudy's speech.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, whenever matter about procurement of paddy is raised, then it is obvious that arrangements should be made for the same...(*Interruptions*) The State Governments should make their own arrangements for procurement, they should have grain markets...(*Interruptions*) No arrangements for procurements have been made in Bihar... (*Interruptions*)

*Not recorded.

Sir, State Government can not be left without any responsibility. State Government wants to keep itself aloof. The State Government has also some responsibility...(Interruptions) Now Punjab is procuring paddy from its own procurement centres but Bihar Government has not set up any procurement centre in the State...(Interruptions) Sir, there is a place in the market to store paddy...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): Sir, I may be permitted to speak.

Thank you very much for this opportunity. Through you, Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the Central Government to miserable conditions of the farmers in the country, especially the miserable conditions of the coconut farmers in the Kerala State...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, it is a very important subject.

MR. SPEAKER: You sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Sir, how can I speak in this confusion?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Sir, I wish to bring to the attention of this august House the miserable conditions of the farmers, especially the coconut farmers in Kerala...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, State Governments can not escape their responsibility...(Interruptions). The Minister of Agriculture had announced that if the State Government finds any difficulty in procurement, then Central Government would help them...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now you please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Now the paddy is being rotten in Bihar because no arrangements for its procurement have been made there. ...(Interruptions)

12.29 hrs.*

At this stage Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Rajo Singh and some other hon. members came and stood on the floor near the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. Through you, I would like to bring to the notice of this Government the miserable conditions of the farmers in the country, especially the coconut farmers in the State of Kerala. The farmers in Kerala depend on their coconut crop for their day-to-day existence...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)

12.31 hrs.

At this stage Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Rajo Singh and some other hon. members went back to their seats.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Other Members have also given the notice. Shri Rudy, Please take your seat. I have called Prof. A.K. Premajam to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, please ask the Minister to reply...(Interruptions). Bihar should be put under President's Rule. The Politicians have created all these problems there...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: I will ask him to reply. But you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, you are disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: The cost of production of coconut has gone up very high. With the anti-people and anti-poor policies that this Government is following, the prices of all commodities have come down to the minimum, and the farmers are finding it difficult to sell their products. Throughout the country, the farmers are committing suicide...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. What is this? Please take your seat.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: It is reliably learnt from the Press that the Costs and Price Commission have advised the Government not to revise the MSP of coconut. Actually, the people sitting in the air-conditioned rooms do not know the truth and the facts that exist at the grass-root level. They do not know as to what is going on in respect of the farmers in Kerala and also in the remaining part of the country. The farmers are starving and they are on the verge of committing suicide in Kerala. The Government of Kerala had requested the Government of India to raise the support price. Now, they are going to stop the fixation of minimum support price. Since this Government is anti-people and anti-farmer, I urge upon the Government to change the policy. They are only paying lip service to the farmers and they do not have any real love for the farmers. So, I urge upon the Government, especially the hon. Minister incharge of this Department to see that the minimum support price for coconut is raised, as per the demand from the Government of Kerala. Thank you...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, please understand that other Members have also given the notices.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): What about my Adjournment Motion?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that they have given notices on problems being faced by the farmers. Please understand the position.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, you have assured us that during 'Zero Hour' it will be heard. What about that?...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker Sir, the farmers are not getting the support price of their produce because there is a shortage of godowns with the Government. The Government had determined the support price of paddy as Rupees five hundred ten per quintal but the farmers are compelled to sell their paddy between Rupees two hundred fifty and rupees three hundred...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record, except the speech of Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Government of Punjab was given an interim assistance amounting to Rupees three hundred fifty crore to mitigate the problems of the farmers whereas the position of the farmers of that State is far better in comparison to other States. The position of farmers of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh is not good even today and the farmers in these States are in distress. Through you I would like to impress upon the Government to treat farmers of all the States at par. A committee should be constituted comprising of the Members of Parliament to look into this matter so as to ameliorate the condition of the farmers of all the States.

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to submit to the honourable Members of Parliament from Bihar that the Government does not want that the farmers should not get appropriate prices for their produce and that they should suffer and the Government are conscious about this problem. Whatever you have said and expressed their woe...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the speech of the Minister.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Our Government is very much with you on this matter. You should not think that the Government is not bothered about the farmers or we do not want to solve this problem...(Interruptions) Please listen...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajesh Ranjan, are you not interested in the reply of the Minister?

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Mr. Speaker Sir, according to the procedure followed by various States to procure foodgrains, the concerned State Government, after identifying certain places, tells the centre prior to the season as to which are crop producing areas and what could be the estimated production therefrom and suggest to open procurement centres in those areas. As far as Bihar is concerned, wherever procurement is made, all that is not done by F.C.I. itself; various agencies of the State do so on our behalf. You have mentioned about Punjab. More than 70 per cent procurement there is made through other agencies. F.C.I. is not the only agency. As regards Bihar, there are 150 centres of the Rural Agriculture Primary Society in that State. We have authorised those 150 centres to procure on our behalf.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: They do not have the money...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Bihar had asked us to open 19 centres. That we have opened. Yesterday we were asked to open 30 centres. We have decided to open 30 centres. I want to assure this House that we are ready to open as many centres as would be asked by the Bihar Government.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: By what time those godowns will be set up. Please set up as many godowns as requested by them...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: They should tell us...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: (Miryalguda) Sir, the hon'ble Minister must say something about Andhra Pradesh?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not good. Please sit down.

[English]

Mr. Minister, would you say something about Andhra Pradesh also?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: I have applied my mind to this question and I have also received information from my department about the number of our godowns at present in Bihar...(Interruptions) Raghuvanshi, Please listen to me.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Minister, please say something about the State of Andhra Pradesh also.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Sir, there are about 120 to 125 godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Bihar. There is no regular mandi in Bihar where the people can take their produces for sale. It will be not possible for the Government to make this arrangement at once but I assure the House to provide assistance to the poor farmers of Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, it is not good. No running commentary please.

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: There are about 120 to 125 godowns in Bihar and on demand of the State Government we are even ready to declare these as procurement centres without any delay. You should make a demand to this effect...(Interruptions) We are ready to set up the number of godowns suggested by the State Government...(Interruptions)... Earlier 19 godowns were set up in the State and the State Government sent a requisition to set up 30 godowns and we have issued orders to set up 30 godowns in the State. We are ready to set up any number of godowns for which the State Government will sent the requisition...(Interruptions).

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: By what time these godowns will be set up?

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: I can only say that we are ready to set up these godowns immediately if the State Government request us to do so. The Food Corporation of India has already set up 19 godowns. The State Government have requested us to set up 30 godowns and we have issued orders to set up 30 godowns. We are ready to set up hundred godowns if the State Government request us to do so. But the State Government should make a request for this. All the arrangements in this regard have to be made by the State Government. We are ready to set up as many godowns as desired by the State Government.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: What about Uttar Pradesh?

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: I would like to quote the points made by Shri Madhavrao Scindia. He had said one thing about Punjab. The agriculture department of Punjab Government informed us that their crop of Paddy has damaged.

Thereafter we conducted tests and after confirming that it has damaged we decided to procure up to eight percent but to ensure the quality of Rice we have made arrangements to procure Paddy damaged up to eight percent. Besides out turn ratio of rice has been reduced to 64 from 67 so that good quality rice could be procured for export. Scindiaji you are levelling allegations. It was not expected from you. You are saying all this on the basis of rumours. Do you want a discussion here in the House on the basis of rumours? A discussion can not take place in this way. *...(Interruptions)...* I was not expecting all this from you. Mr. Speaker Sir, the Government are taking bold steps. We have surplus stock of wheat in the country. We are trying to export it. Shri Scindiaji instead of levelling allegations against our Government you should have appreciated the move that we are trying to export surplus stock of wheat. You have started to criticise the Government on the basis of rumours even before the export have started. *...(Interruptions)* Our line of action would be different then that of the Congress Government. Our Government would function in a proper way. If we decide to export it we will follow the due course.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I have pointed out that such rumours are in circulation. *...(Interruptions)...* I am not levelling any allegation against the Government. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, what about our Adjournment Motion? *...(Interruptions)*

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

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, just a minute.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, we had given notices of Adjournment Motion. You also assured us to give your ruling. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, please take your seat. Let us first take up the issue of Adjournment Motion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, we have also given notice under Rule 193 about the serious drought and floods situation in different parts of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: We will decide it in the BAC of today.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister should say something about the farmers of Andhra Pradesh also. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the name of Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are facing the same problem. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

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

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, nothing has been said about the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are facing same problem in this regard...(Interruptions) Paddy is not being procured from the farmers in the State.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister is silent. What about the farmers' of Andhra Pradesh?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister would you say something about the farmers of Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, he should say something about Andhra Pradesh also. ...(Interruptions)

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

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU: Shri the hon'ble Minister should respond in context of the whole country and not in a piecemeal manner.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh accompanied by some of his cabinet colleagues had come to see me and we discussed this matter in that meeting. The Government have solved almost all the problems put forth by them in the said meeting. This matter is being discussed at the officer level meetings and we have fully convinced the Chief Minister and his colleagues in this regard. They have some problems about procurement of rice. Last year also we have given them 55 lakh tonnes of rice but this year there is excess production of Paddy in the State and the Food Corporation of India is fully geared up to procure that and we will procure the entire paddy...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to clear a point made here in this House. Last year we have procured 86.71 lakh tonnes of paddy and this year this process is still on. We have already procured 102 lakh tonnes. This year we will procure more as compared to the last year and the process of procurement is still going on...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Please say something about Uttar Pradesh. The Food Minister of Uttar Pradesh has said that we have not been able to procure paddy...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: We have had talks with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and other concerned people in this matter. Due to damaged paddy there was some problem in procurement. We have got the paddy tested in Laboratories and procurement is being made after giving the necessary relaxation in this regard...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has given notice of adjournment motion.

...(Interruptions)

12.47 hrs.

Observation by the speaker

RE: ISSUE OF PROVIDING RELIEF TO FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE IN WEST BENGAL

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice of an Adjournment Motion...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, you have called my name. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is on a notice of an Adjournment Motion. I will allow you later.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, a number of other hon. Members have given their support. It is a matter of serious concern that although that matter was raised and the entire Opposition supported our demand and the demand of the people of West Bengal for Central assistance to meet the serious damage that has been caused in West Bengal because of the unprecedented floods, not a single paisa is being provided. ...(Interruptions) It is amazing that not a single paisa is being provided. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, a senior Member is speaking. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)



SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, the problems of coconut growers and the copra industry of Kerala are being ignored. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: He has not made a reference to Kerala. How can it be?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, please sit down. If you want to raise any matter, you can raise that after Shri Somnath Chatterjee concludes but not now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been compelled to give notices of Adjournment Motions with regard to the serious situation that is still prevailing in West Bengal because of the calculated denial of the Government of India in providing any relief to the afflicted people of West Bengal. *...(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister himself has said that the flood was of a national proportion, a national disaster. The Minister of Agriculture has also said that. *...(Interruptions)*

I have already given the figures. The entire Opposition supported my demand but it seems that the Government of India is turning a deaf ear to the legitimate demands of the people of West Bengal and the Government of West Bengal for minimal assistance to meet the costs of reconstruction and rehabilitation of the affected people in a calculated manner. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, you have gone to the next matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is about an Adjournment Motion notice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: We will support them in the next matter but here the hon. Minister has not given any reply and ignored the question regarding the coconut growers of Kerala. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand. This is about an Adjournment Motion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, this is some other matter, which we shall support. There is no doubt about that. But what happened to our demands from Kerala? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We are continuing with the 'Zero Hour'. You can speak later and not now. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Justice must be done to us. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I support the demands of Shri Banatwalla and other friends. They are legitimate.

This is a serious matter; you have been kind enough to call me. It seems that there is a studied and calculated denial of the Government of India towards the demands of the people of West Bengal. I do not know why Shri Yerrannaidu is also keeping quiet.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): I am also supporting his cause.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It seems the pressure of one of the allies of the Government is hampering this because one of the Ministers says that it was a man-made flood. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, what is he talking? *...(Interruptions)* He is bringing politics into this. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Politics had been brought in.

Sir, it is a deliberate denial of demands of the people of West Bengal. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Somnath Chatterjee says.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, more than two crore people had been affected and more than 1300 people have perished or died. Standing crops worth crores of rupees have been damaged. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Unscientifically they released water from the barrages. It was a man-made flood. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudhip Bandyopadhyay, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: An amount of only Rs. 2.45 crore has been released for the families of people who died. ...*(Interruptions)* This is a very serious matter. Whatever money was given, it was against the dues of the Government and not an extra pie has been given. Whatever has been given, it is against the dues of the State Government under different heads. Ways and Means Advance of Rs. 200 crores was given, even that has been adjusted against the next payment. How do we carry on? Total liability or total damage is to the extent of Rs. 5660 crore.

An amount of Rs. 101 crore out of NCF has been given. But then, new Fund has not been constituted, in spite of the Eleventh Finance Commission's recommendations. We were told that no Ordinance can be passed. On every other issue we are passing Ordinances. But when the question of survival of the people of this country who are affected by natural calamity comes up, this Government does not think of bringing an Ordinance. This is a deliberate attempt to deny payment of reasonable dues to the people of West Bengal. They have declared a war on the people of West Bengal. We will not allow this to continue. ...*(Interruptions)* We want a definite answer from the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)* This Government cannot run for the purpose of its own supporters alone. Therefore, I am strongly demanding the Government to immediately announce proper relief to the people of West Bengal who are very seriously affected by floods. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, I would like to associate myself with the views and the sentiments expressed by Shri Somnath Chatterjee. I have also moved a notice for discussion under Rule 193 on drought situation affecting five States and floods affecting three States. I would like you to consider that also. I associate with the views of Shri Somnath Chatterjee. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have to make some observations. Please sit down.

Hon. Members, I have received from S/Shri Moinul Hassan, Nikhilananda Sar, Subhodh Roy, Lakshman Seth, Mahboob Zahedi, Basu Deb Acharia, Sunil Khan,

Somnath Chatterjee, Rupchand Pal, Hannan Mollah, Anil Basu and Ajoy Chakraborty, Members, notices of adjournment motion on devastating floods and natural calamity of severe nature in West Bengal. The adjournment motion is an extraordinary device which, it admitted, leads to setting aside the normal business of the House for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance. Though the subject is an important one, for it to merit discussion in the House, I do not consider it appropriate to adjourn the entire business for this purpose. Therefore, I have disallowed the notices.

I may, however, inform the Members that I have received, on the same subject, notices under Rule 193 from several Members.

The meeting of the Business Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held this afternoon. The Business Advisory Committee may decide the manner in which this has to be taken up and the time to be allotted for the subject.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, in West Bengal, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Muslim minorities are being killed at random everyday. Parliamentary democracy is under serious threat there. ...*(Interruptions)* Civil war is going on. Blood bath will take place in the next Assembly Elections if this situation is not controlled. ...*(Interruptions)* 250 workers belonging to Trinamool Congress and 20 workers belonging to BJP have been killed in the last two years by the CPI(M).

12.56 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Anil Basu and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This afternoon we have Business Advisory Committee meeting. In that meeting we will decide about it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: There, one Chief Minister is functioning as extra constitutional authority. ...*(Interruptions)* Minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to be protected. ...*(Interruptions)* They do not believe in parliamentary democracy.

...(Interruptions) They want to kill us and kill the democracy. ...(Interruptions) We would like the Home Minister to respond. ...(Interruptions) When two bodies of the workers of Trinamool Congress were brought from Midnapore to Calcutta to pay homage, the police took the bodies to Midnapore surreptitiously and forcefully. ...(Interruptions) Muslims, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and weaker sections have to be given protection in West Bengal. ...(Interruptions) We want the intervention of the Home Minister to protect the lives and properties of the people of West Bengal. The Central Government should rise to the occasion. ...(Interruptions) They should intervene. ...(Interruptions) They do not have respect for parliamentary democracy. ...(Interruptions) The Communists are out to kill parliamentary democracy. ...(Interruptions) We sought the intervention of the Home Minister. I request Shri Advani to respond to our request. ...(Interruptions) They know that they will be defeated in the Assembly elections. ...(Interruptions) So, they have become violent. ...(Interruptions) At every step they are indulging in violent activities. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for
Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five
minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) **Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by malaria epidemic in tribal dominated districts of the State**

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat): Sir, there is outbreak of malaria in the tribal dominated districts of Mandla, Siwani, Balaghat, Narsinghpur, Jabalpur and Dindori in Madhya Pradesh. 80% districts in the State have been affected by deficient rains resulting in scarcity of drinking water. The impoverished rural people are

compelled to drink contaminated water as a result of which the deadly diseases like malaria and diarrhoea are assuming epidemic proportions. Therefore, the Union Government are requested to direct Madhya Pradesh Government to provide compensation to the families of those who died of malaria. Malaria has become an epidemic. Therefore, the Union Government should provide adequate funds to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh to save the lives of poor people and a central team should also be sent to make an assessment of the dangers of deadly diseases and scarcity of drinking water and measures being taken to tackle the problem.

- (II) **Need for a separate capital and High Court for the State of Haryana**

[English]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat): On November 1, 2000, Haryana State entered into 35th year of its being. After the lapse of such a long period, the basic requirements such as its own capital, High Court, etc. have not been provided and they are not even in sight. Whereas the recently formed States like Chhatisgarh, Uttranchal and Jharkhand have been provided with the capitals of their own and would be demanding for creation of separate High Courts. The Punjab and Haryana High Court at Chandigarh, at present, caters to the requirements of both the States besides providing legal services to the Union Territory of Chandigarh. With the pending cases burgeoning, the Court is unable to dispose of the cases speedily. There is strong resentment brewing up among the justice seekers and the legal fraternity of the State. Hence, there is an urgent need to identify the places/areas where the capital and the High Court are to be set up and start working at war footing.

- (III) **Need for parking terminal for petroleum tankers at Chamboor, Mumbai**

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Attention of Minister of Petroleum is drawn to the traffic jam and pollution created by various public sector undertakings like BPCL, HPCL, IOC in Chamboor, Mumbai. Traffic jam has become routine due to the tanker parking by all public sector undertakings and all contractors. These public sector undertakings are taking possession of tanker parking plot reserved by the State Government for this purpose. Immediate possession and parking terminal is necessary to stop traffic jam and reduce pollution.

I request the Government to look into the matter.

[Translation]

(iv) Need to provide funds to Government of Gujarat for development of Tourism in the State

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Sir, Gujarat is the holy land and also the motherland of the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi and iron man Vallabh Bhai Patel. On religious plane, Gujarat is credited to have the highest number of temples constructed in the world and the name of Gujarat finds entry in the Guinness Book of World records. The temple of the lord Swami Narayan is located in Gadhdhe tehsil of Bhavnagar district. Vallabhipur has Gayambak Nath Mahadev temple and Ram Mahal temple is situated in Viramgaon. Bhopani has the world renowned Jain pilgrim place, and Somnath temple is there in Somnath. Dwarika is legendary town belonging to Lord Krishna. The holy place of Mahashakti, Mahakali, Ma Chamunda and Khodipar pilgrim place are situated in Ambani, Pawahargh, Chotila and Bhavnagar respectively. The historic Rasoi (Kitchen) of Pandavas and temple of Lord Madhavnath in Dholoka and Meenal Devi pond in Viramgaon are worth seeing places. Kakkaria pond and world famous Sardar Sarovar dam are located in Bharuch. However, all these tourist places are deprived of tourism development.

Therefore, I earnestly request the Union Government to provide special funds to Gujarat Government for the development of tourism in the State and the Union Government should also construct resorts, rest houses and highway motels for the tourists.

(v) Need to announce special relief package for Rajasthan to tackle the drought situation in the State, particularly in Barmer Parliamentary constituency

[English]

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer): I represent the entire Barmer and Jaisalmer districts and one segment of Jodhpur district. I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to the drought situation in Rajasthan. Most of the districts of Rajasthan State have been reeling under severe drought and famine for the last two to three years. It is submitted that last year 26 districts out of 32 districts of Rajasthan were affected and this year 31 districts consisting of 30,583 villages covering 410 lakh people are affected as against 26,000 villages last year. These figures are based on the report submitted by the Government of Rajasthan to the Government of India. There is acute shortage of drinking water, fodder for animals and employment opportunity this year.

In Barmer constituency, there are about 3,000 villages out of which 2,900 villages are adversely affected by drought and famine. A large number of people along with their animals have started migrating to other States. The left over people are panicked and are in distress. In case immediate relief measures are not taken, there is likelihood of famine deaths and suicide there, especially because of poverty, drying of water sources and non-availability of fodder.

I, therefore, request the Government to take following actions on top priority basis:

- (a) Immediate relief package to drought/famine affected people to mitigate their sufferings.
- (b) Fodder and grain from other States be rushed for human beings and livestock.
- (b) A Parliamentary Committee to be sent for on-the-spot study of drought and famine situation.
- (vi) **Need to take concrete steps for removal of regional imbalance in the country**

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (Jorhat): The Second National Family Health Survey 1998-99 of basic facilities reveal a glaring disparity among different States. While a small group of States attain remarkable improvement, the overall position continues to be dismal. At the national level, 72 per cent of households live in rural areas and 28 per cent in urban areas. While 40 per cent do not have electricity, 61 per cent go without piped water and 64 per cent do not have any toilet facility. It is true that access on all these counts has improved as compared to the First Survey of 1992-93 as electricity coverage figure has gone up by 9 per cent and the piped water availability has gone up by 6 per cent.

Considered State-wise, however, in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab more than 95 per cent households have electricity, while less than 35 per cent in Bihar and Assam have this facility. While nine out of ten households own a house, one-third of all live in poor quality house.

I urge the Union Government to take a millennium determination to end this disparity and direct Planning Commission and other agencies to work for reduction in regional imbalance.

(vii) Need to safeguard the interests of workers engaged in coir industry in Kerala

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): The coir workers in Kerala are facing a crisis. The minimum export price has been withdrawn. This has led to serious labour problems in the State. Thousands of workers are likely to be thrown out of employment.

I request the Central Government to continue with the system of minimum export price in the matter of coir products.

(viii) Need to take concrete steps for eradication of AIDS from the country

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH (Machilipatnam): Sir, there are a number of press reports that India will have the largest number of deaths due to AIDS in the coming years. The Government of India has started National AIDS Control Organisation many years ago. There is no impact of NACO on controlling AIDS in the country. News reporters have also identified the places of origin of AIDS. Highways and hospitals are the most vulnerable places where infection of AIDS starts. No efforts have been made to involve NGOs like the Lions Club, Rotary Club and other organisations to take up AIDS through education and information.

Therefore, steps should be taken to control the spread of AIDS and also to educate the people about its damages. The second aspect is to make available medication and treatment to hospitals on vast scale to AIDS patients.

Considering the magnitude of the problem, I request the Government to treat AIDS with the highest priority and review the existing failures and also chalk out a time-bound plan to prevent AIDS and provide treatment facilities.

(ix) Need to provide stoppage of Vaishali Express at Khalilabad Railway Station, UP

[Translation]

SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV (Khalilabad): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, Khalilabad is very important from trade point of view in Uttar Pradesh. Khalilabad has now become a district and the population of the town is also constantly increasing. However several important trains especially the Vaishali Express does not have stoppage at the Khalilabad railway station as a result of which the people's representatives and the businessmen have to board this train from Basti which is 50-60 k.m. off Khalilabad thereby facing a lot of inconvenience.

Therefore, I request the hon'ble Railway Minister to provide stoppage of important trains including Vaishali Express at Khalilabad railway station and Gorakhpur-Gonda line be converted into broadgauge rail line.

(x) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Haryana for providing relief to the farmers of the State

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the paddy crop has brought the farmers of all the States on the verge of ruin and the farmers of those States have been the worst hit where most of the farmers are engaged in cultivation of paddy and get maximum yield. Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are the main victims in this regard. The Union Government identified this problem, made the assessment, gave relaxation in the procurement procedure of paddy and provided financial assistance to meet the losses however, the farmers of Haryana have been left out. A package of 350 crores of rupee was announced for Punjab and now a sum of Rs. 313 crores is being sanctioned to Uttar Pradesh on the insistence of the newly sworn in Chief Minister but the Haryana Government has got empty assurances only as a result of which resentment is brewing among the farmers of Haryana. Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government to announce a relief package of atleast 500 crore of rupee in the first phase so that the farming community of Haryana do not have to bear huge losses.

(xi) Need to declare Haldia-Raimangal stretch in West Bengal as the Sunderban National Waterways

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sir, the Sunderbans is renowned for its unique flora, fauna and tiger project. It is also the largest delta in Asia with an all season river stretch of 220 km. However, it continues to be one of the most industrially-backward and poverty-stricken areas of our country. I have raised this issue many times in this August House. However, the Central Government has not given adequate attention to it.

The Centre conferred the national waterways status on the river Godawari even though only 90 km of the river is navigable during the lean seasons. The Sunderbans rivers are all-season rivers and best suited for navigation.

The Centre has a proposal to declare as national waterways from Haldia to Raimangal which has a stretch of 191 km.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to expeditiously declare the Haldia-Raimangal stretch as the Sunderban National Waterways. This would not only help the local people in getting employment opportunities but the Centre would also be benefited out of increased tourist activities.

(xii) Need to safeguard the interests of farmers particularly in Gulbarga Parliamentary Constituency in Karnataka

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the crash in prices of several crops in the State of Karnataka including *toor-dal*, maize, paddy, oil-seeds etc. The farmers of the State have been severely affected by heavy rains, floods and the crash in prices of agricultural produce.

In my constituency, Gulbarga, the farmers are growing *toor-dal*. The farmers of *toor-dal* have to invest a lot of money to grow this crop. Due to increased cost of pesticides and other labour charges, most of the farmers have to take a loan from the banks, cooperative societies and from individuals. The crash in prices will, thus, greatly affect the farmers. The new crop has already reached the market and the price is very low it has gone lowest so far. Therefore, it is necessary that the following measures are taken:

1. Stop imports of all *toor-dal*;
2. Fix minimum price of Rs. 2,000/- per quintal; and
3. FCI and other State Government organisations should intervene in the market and purchase the same from the farmers.

14.23 hrs.

**WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL—AS PASSED BY
RAJYA SABHA**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up item No. 13. Dr. Satyanarayan Jatia to move the Bill. We have allotted two hours.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the bill further to amend the workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Speaker, Sir, as the Hon. members know that the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 provides for payment of compensation to workmen or their families in case of personal injury caused by accident or certain occupational diseases arising out of and in the course of employment and resulting in disablement or death. The Act, at present applies to railway servants and persons employed in certain hazardous employments specified in schedule II of the Act. Persons employed in factories, mines, plantation, construction works have been included in scheduled II. Due to phased expansion in the scope of the Employees State Insurance Scheme, the utility of the Workmen's Compensation Act has been increased to some extent. However, the scope of the Employees State Insurance is confined to factories and some other installations established in notified areas. The Workmen's Compensation Act is applicable to the remaining areas. The Workmen's Compensation Act was last amended in 1995. The Standing Committee of Parliament on Labour and Welfare had made certain recommendations in the past for liberalising compensation and benefits. The recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament have been examined in consultation with State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Keeping in view the recommendations of the committee and relevant suggestions received, the following amendments have been carried out in the Act.

The Section 2(i) (d) of the Act is being amended in order to ensure inclusion of all regular workmen in it without any exception.

The rates for compensation provided in the Workmen's Compensation Act were last amended in 1995. Since then, there has been general increase in the wages and prices of goods and commodities. Therefore, minimum amount of compensation for death is being proposed to be enhanced from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 80,000 and that for permanent total disablement from Rs. 60,000 to 90,000. For determining the maximum amount of compensation, the ceiling on monthly wage prescribed in explanation II specified in section 4 (1) (b), it is proposed to enhance from Rs. 2,000 to 4,000. The maximum amount for compensation for a wage or Rs. 4000 in case of death will be Rs. 4 lakh 56 thousand and that for permanent total disablement, it will be Rs. 5 lakh 48 thousand.

The amount to be paid for funeral rites under section 4 is being enhanced from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,500 for workmen. In the case of undue delay in payment of compensation, the employer under section 4 A(3) of the Act is liable for payment of interest and penalty upon fifty percent is payable to the workmen or his dependants and the amount of penalty is being credited to State Government. Due to delay in payment of compensation,

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

the affected family has to bear all the hardships. Therefore, the amount of penalty is also proposed to be provided to the workman or his dependant. In brief, the amendments proposed to be carried out through this Bill are significant and I hope that the Hon. Members will accord their consent to this motion and the amendments.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: motion moved.

"That the Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I rise to support this Bill. But I have certain suggestions which I want the hon. Labour Minister to consider.

Sir, the Workmen's Compensation Act was passed in 1923. This Act was last amended in 1995. When this Act was amended in 1995, we made some suggestions because we did not agree to the amount of compensation which was increased at the time of amending the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. What was enhanced at the time of amending the Act was a small amount, from Rs. 25,000 it was increased to Rs. 50,000. What we wanted at the point of time was that it should be increased to Rs. 1.00 lakh in case of death. But that was not accepted.

14.28 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

Now, Sir, in the present amendment Bill, the Minister is making a proposal to increase the amount to Rs. 80,000 in case of death. Rupees eighty thousand is too small an amount for payment of compensation in case of death. That is why I have also tabled an amendment to increase the amount of compensation to at least Rs. 2.00 lakh because if one worker dies in accident, that worker's dependents should get at least Rs. 2.00 lakh as compensation for death. Because of death of that workman, all sources of income of the family are lost.

So, that amount should be enhanced. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare examined this proposal and they have also recommended that this amount should be increased substantially in case of death and permanent disablement. But the Minister has not fully implemented or fully accepted the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee. I do not know whether there was any Conference of Labour Ministers of the States and Union Territories on

this matter and whether he had consultations with the Central Trade Unions, who are dealing with this matter, for eliciting their opinion. He has not mentioned about it in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. He has stated that he had consultations with the State Governments and Union Territories.

Sir, last time also, we had mentioned about the difficulties that the dependents of the workmen have to face to get the compensation in case of death and disablement of workmen. I can give you a number of examples where compensation was not paid after the death of workmen. The Indian Railways employs a lot of contract workers these days and most of the work in the Indian Railways like maintenance of track, maintenance of coaches, maintenance and beautification of railway stations, ticket checking etc. are being given to contract workers now. I can give you a number of examples where the compensation amount of Rs. 50,000 or so was not paid as per the existing law, even after the death of contract workers engaged in civil works.

When people go to the Labour Court, the cases take a number of years for completion, because there are a lot of vacancies of the post of judges and they are not being filled up. In the Labour Court at Asansol and Dhanbad there are vacancies but they are not being filled up. About a year back, one of my friends, who was a judge at the Labour Court at Dhanbad was killed, but that vacancy has not yet been filled up. So, the existing law is also not being implemented. The employers blatantly violate the provisions of the Act, but the Ministry of Labour of the Government of India is silent on the matter.

I write a number of letters about the violation of labour laws. There are a number of labour laws in our country like the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Payment of Wages Act. I have raised this issue on the floor of this House a number of times that the workers are not being paid their wages for months together. Just now, I spoke to the Minister of Water Resources. The National Projects Construction Corporation is under his Ministry. The workers have not received their wages for 17 to 20 months in that organisation. If the workers do not get their wages for 20 months, can you imagine how are they living? There is a starvation death.

I met the Minister of Labour umpteenth times. I discussed this problem with him a number of times. He is also helpless. He cannot direct the other Department or the other Ministry. The Government of India's Act is being violated by the Government itself. The Government is the owner of Central public sector undertakings. If the workers do not get their wages, who is violating the

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

Payment of Wages Act? It remains unanswered. I did not get any reply from the Minister when I raised this issue. Whom will he catch if the statutory dues are not paid? What is the amount due? Shri Jatiya, you told me two months back that the amount was Rs. 2,000 crore. Now, it is more than that figure. These are statutory dues. A worker is not getting his own amount deposited in the Provident Fund. The Minister of Labour is helpless. He is writing to the Minister of Finance and that Minister is not doing anything.

Just now, I attended a rally held by the workers of the Cement Corporation of India. It is a Central public sector undertaking. They have not received their wages for six months. Shri Muni Lal, then, you were Deputy Commissioner and now the Minister of State for Labour. Can you imagine the plight of the workers? If they do not get their wages for six months, then, what is the use of this Act? If the Central Acts are being blatantly violated and the Ministry of Labour is helpless, what is the use of the Ministry of Labour? Now, the workers are to give an undertaking. In an independent country — after 53 years of independence — the workers will have to give an undertaking before entering into the gates of the Maruti Udyog Limited. The Minister of Labour is helpless. Who is dictating the terms? The multinational companies are dictating.

Now, he has set up the Second Labour Commission to amend the Industrial Relations Act of 1948. To protect whose interests it is being set up? It is not the interests of the workers but the interests of the multinational companies so that they can loot freely. Without any obstacles, they can loot and garner the profit and repatriate it to their own country.

We have been assured because the demand from both sides of this House is about removing the ceiling in the case of payment of bonus. That has not yet been decided. The Government has not yet accepted and announced or made any amendment to the Payment of Bonus Act. It is good that he has moved a Bill to increase the amount. But is it sufficient?

Before deciding what should be the amount for this? What should be the amount for permanent disablement? What criteria has he adopted? I would request the hon. Labour Minister to tell to the House what is the criteria. What was the criteria adopted in 1995 when the amount was enhanced and what is the criteria now? Only consultation! Why were all the recommendations of the Standing Committee not implemented?

Mr. Chairman Sir, the amount, in case of the ceiling on monthly wages also, is not sufficient. It should also

be increased to, at least, minimum Rs. 5000. Why is it Rs. 4000? What is the criteria that he came to the conclusion that it should be Rs. 4000? So, it should also be enhanced.

Now, I will come funeral expenses. Within these five years, because this Act was last amended in 1995, there has been escalation and substantial increase in the prices of all the commodities. So, the funeral expenses should also be increased substantially.

Moreover, this is good that in sub-Section 1 in regard to casual workers, now he is deleting, 'Other than a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise and then the purpose of employer's trade and business'. My suggestion is that the workers engaged by the contractor anywhere, like in shops and establishments — maybe four or five workers — also be included. He should include the workers handling works of Food Corporation of India.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is time for you to attend the meeting.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I will go at quarter to three. I am concluding in five minutes. It is a very important question. You will also speak on this issue when you leave the Chair.

[English]

Sir, the Food Corporation of India is violating the convention of ILO. The convention of the ILO in this regard is that the workers should not carry more than 50 kg. bag. But, I have seen that in the godowns of FCI, the workers carry 90 kg. bag till now. The FCI is violating the ILO Convention. So, the workers engaged by FCI and workers engaged in hazardous industries should also be included. There can be disablement because of environmental hazards. So, they should also be included. My suggestion is that there should be a comprehensive Act for this.

This Bill was enacted in 1923 and after so many years, we amended this Bill lastly in 1995 and again we are amending it today. Why all these aspects were not examined and not covered by this Act when we amended it last time? This Act still will not cover all the aspects. There would be loopholes and there would be scope for violation of this Act. We will not be able to catch the defaulting employers. It takes years and years to catch them. This is our experience in our trade union movement. I have seen this in many cases.

[Translation]

It is inscribed in Dr. Jaitia's room that nothing could be achieved without labour, you might have read it. I often visit him, I am supposed to go to see him. We have been together since 1980. We are in the Lok Sabha continuously. He has been allotted a room here since a long time. Earlier he used to sit here but now he has taken over the charge of the Ministry. He could not be elected to the Lok Sabha only once in 1984. There were only two members of his party, but I was a member then also. Nothing could be achieved without labour, therefore he is sympathetic towards workers but this sympathy should not be shown only in words but in deeds also. Merely writing something will not serve any purpose. Therefore, we want that this Bill should be more comprehensive. We have agricultural labourers in our country but no law could be enacted for them so far. Though there are 2-3 crore agricultural labourers in our country. But there is no law enacted for them, no provision of provident fund and job security is there for them. Can't we enact a law for them. He had told that they would bring in many a legislation but only one legislation has been brought in. But anyway, it is just a step forward in this direction. You just make it more rational and enhance the amount and it should be made more effective so that employer could not violate the law and its proper enforcement should also be ensured.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: (Bijnor) Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am obliged for the opportunity given to me by you to speak on the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2000. I support this Bill.

I also feel obliged to the hon'ble Minister for having presented this Bill to provide relief to the poor, labourers and the downtroddens of the country. Where it has proposed to increase the amount of compensation from Rs. 50 thousand to Rs. 80,000, I would request to further increase it to Rupees two lakhs. Where it has been proposed to enhance the amount of compensation from Rs. 60 thousand to Rs. 90 thousand, I would request to enhance the amount of compensation from Rs. 60 thousand to Rs. 2.5 lakh. Where the hon'ble Minister has proposed to provide Rs. 4000 instead of Rs. 2000, I want that it should be raised to Rs. 5000. Where funeral expenses have been increased from Rs. one thousand to Rs. two thousand five hundred it should be at least Rs. 10 thousand, in view of the rising prices.

The consideration you have shown towards the casual workers alongwith other workers, you need to be congratulated for that. You have taken up a very good

subject. Today, in the entire country and particularly in Uttar Pradesh brick kiln, sugar Mill and kiln crusher are the three industries where labour is shown on papers only in name. In brick kiln industry only 2-3 workers are shown on paper whereas entire work of hiring the labour is carried out through the contractor. In kiln crusher only 5-6 workers are shown on the list whereas 3-4 hundred people actually work in the form of contractor's labour. The labour hired by these contractors is not shown anywhere, neither in the form of permanent labour nor casual labour. This is true of farming society and industrial cooperative committees too. There are lakhs of societies in the form of farming society where entire labour force is hired through the contractors.

But, it's record is not kept anywhere. Whenever any issue which concerns the workmen comes up or any problem relating to labour crops up then labour are not covered under the ambit of the Bill. Tractors and trollies are now being used for carrying sugar canes to the crushers and sugarmills. The labour which is employed for carrying out this work is mentioned nowhere. Whereas if labour is not engaged for supplying sugarcane to the crushers and if drivers are not employed for moving tractors then these mills would stop functioning. But these workmen do not find any mention anywhere. The labour is nowhere mentioned on papers. Simultaneously, I would like to impress upon the Hon'ble Minister that it has been felt with regard to the temporary and casual workmen that whenever they are hardpressed for money, their family members have to run from Commissioner to Inspector for it. If Compensation of Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 40,000 is to be taken, the family members have to spend a lot of money in running from pillar to post. Sometimes, such a situation arises in the family that if the head of the family dies and the compensation amount is drawn by the brother of the deceased, the widow and the children do not get anything. Therefore, it should be decided that the widow should get an employment on compassionate grounds so as to earn bread for the family.

Another thing is that instead of Rs. 50,000 the Government have decided to pay Rs. 80,000 as compensation. I want to say that the head of the family who draws around Rs. 5000-6000 a month and suddenly dies then what benefit the family is going to accrue from merely Rs. 80,000 compensation? This amount would suffice only for ten months. Thereafter, how the children will be brought up, how they will be looked after? This provision should be made that the widow should be given employment till the children in the family grow up and are being educated. Earlier, my seniors were talking about helping workers in the industries who are not mentioned anywhere even in all the FCI mills where they carry sugar. No agreement concerning that labour is made. My request

[Shri Sheesh Ram Singh Ravi]

is that attention should be paid to this and that labour attached with the contractors engaged in collecting toll tax who are engaged for Rs. 500 or 800 a month should also be covered under this scheme in case he meets an accidental death during work. Since the hon'ble Minister has great love for the Dalits and the downtrodden and wants their welfare, I would request him to include the labour engaged in brick kiln industry also so that even those workmen can accrue the benefits under this scheme who have been deprived so far.

A list should be prepared including all those workmen. Simultaneously, an amendment should be made by fixing a criterion for the family which is likely to get compensation and an officer should be appointed for this work. The amount of Rs. 90,000 given as compensation for fracture should also be enhanced since it has been realised that the amount is spent only on operation. While supporting this Bill, I would request that in view of the rising prices this amount should be enhanced. All the labourers working in the industries, farming societies and under the contractors should be covered under this Bill and benefits should be given to them. With these words I would like to conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): I rise to support the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2000. This is a welcome step. This Workmen's Compensation Act has been enacted by this Parliament in 1923. Till now this Act has been amended 25 times and this is the 26th amendment. This itself shows that there is a need for overhauling this Act. The fact that we are amending this Act 26th time clearly shows the need for a comprehensive Act based on the Report of the Standing Committee of Parliament on Labour and Welfare this amendment has been brought by our hon. colleague and hon. Minister Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya. Definitely this is a welcome step and I congratulate him.

There are three aspects in this Bill.

First one is, all the casual labourers are covered by this Bill.

Secondly, the existing compensation has been enhanced.

Thirdly, if there is an inordinate delay in the payment of compensation, the interest and penalty up to 50 per cent will go to the dependents.

So, these are the three important points in this Bill.

14.57 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

The security and welfare of the workers form the bounden duty of the Government as well as the society. We should give more care to the workers because they are building the nation. They are working for the betterment of the nation in different fields. So, it is the duty of every democratic government to ensure their safety and welfare.

A proper insurance coverage is one of the safety measures, which we can extend to these workers including the casual labourers. The Government should think about the insurance coverage for all the workers and casual labourers who are working in different firms and with different contractors. Lack of insurance is creating a lot of problems which were explained by our hon. colleague.

We are now living in a changed situation and society. We are living in a changed industrial environment. Globalisation and liberalisation are existing today. So, the mode of working of the industries is also changing day by day.

15.00 hrs.

New technological know-how is coming up; new industries are coming up and new machines are coming to our industrial sector. So, altogether, we are in a changed situation. The occupational diseases are also changing. As far as occupational diseases are concerned, I can give you umpteen number of examples. The occupational diseases differ from State to State. The Government should take care of that aspect very seriously. There is a definite departure from the age-old system of industries. So, on the basis of the changed situation, we should give more care to the workers. We should classify the occupational diseases and we should help them according to the needs.

Sir, here, it has been rightly explained by Shri Basu Deb Acharia regarding the Maruti Udyog Limited, the Cement Corporation of India and a lot of other public sector undertakings which are existing in our country. Most of these public sector undertakings are on the verge of closure. Unfortunately, in the Maruti Udyog Limited, the workers are suffering. In this House also, so many times, hon. Members have raised this issue and about the treatment which the workers get from the multinational companies. These are all facts. I think, the Ministry of Labour should take more interest and give more attention to these issues.

Sir, the main issue here is about the inordinate delay in disposing of the compensation cases. A large number of cases are pending with the Assistant Labour Commissioners, the Labour Commissioners' Courts and the compensation is not given to the victims in time. So, what is the way out to dispose of these cases? The Ministry has to ponder over this issue seriously.

Here, it is mentioned, the amount for permanent disablement has been enhanced to Rs. 90,000. It is inadequate. I am suggesting that we should provide at least Rs. 1.5 lakh for the permanent disablement instead of Rs. 90,000. Pension may be given to these people till death.

I want to give one more suggestion and, that is, that the next kin of these people may be given some employment opportunities in the same place where they work. The expenditure for funeral may be enhanced to Rs. 10,000. These are the certain suggestions I wanted to make.

Finally, once again, I urge upon the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, that a comprehensive Bill for these workmen's compensation has to be brought before this House. This is the need of the hour. The Government should think about it and in the next Session, the Government should come forward with a comprehensive Bill.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this amendment Bill to the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

I appreciate the gesture of the hon. Minister for recommending to this House to accept this amendment for the benefit of workers. But there are certain things that have not been taken into consideration. As the earlier speakers unanimously said, the compensation has been enhanced from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 80,000 over a period of five years. It was last raised in 1995. Now, it is year 2000. Even if Rs. 50,000 is deposited in a public sector undertaking, with 15 per cent quarterly interest, it comes to Rs. 2 lakh.

So, in all fairness, taking into consideration the standard of living and the interest that accrues to the kith and kin of the deceased or the disabled person, Rs. 50,000 compensation is grossly inadequate. Even people living below poverty line cannot live with the interest that accrues on that and they are not expected to spend away the compensation money also. So, it should be reasonable and in tune with the living standards, at least of the ordinary workers. I am sure, the hon. Minister will reconsider this aspect.
 ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Murthi, you address the Chair, please.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: So, Sir, I am asking for a compensation of Rs. 2 lakh, instead of Rs. 50,000 because Rs. 50,000 is too small a compensation. Also, if there are eligible members in their kith and kin, then, on humanitarian grounds, they should also be given an opportunity for employment. This is another suggestion.

Another welcome sign is the removal of the difference between the casual worker and the permanent worker. At the same time, it is not very clear whether it will be applicable only to directly employed workers or also to indirectly employed workers who are employed through an agent. The compensation should be paid to all, whether directly employed or indirectly employed through an agent or a contractor. This also is necessary because death is a death and the family has to live upon the compensation. So, I want the hon. Minister to make it very clear as to who will receive the compensation.

The other thing is a very small one. As asked by many Members, the funeral expenses of Rs. 2,500 may be raised to Rs. 5,000 because nowadays that much of expenses are required to be incurred for the last rite of anybody. So, this also may be taken into consideration.

This is the 26th Amendment of the Act. I would suggest that a detailed study may be made before a comprehensive Bill is brought. I am sure, the hon. Labour Minister is coming out with some other Bills also in future. So, keeping in view the assurance given to the employer that the right to work depends upon the sincerity and the turn out of the worker, the hon. Minister may come out with a comprehensive Bill, keeping both sides, the employer and the employee, in mind because ultimately it is the employee's blood and sweat that creates the assets. So, they should not be ignored. They should be properly treated and they should get their due share in this multinational *raj*. Today, they are making huge amounts and, therefore, while coming to the question of compensation, they should not hesitate to pay them on realistic ground.

As several other Members have also stated, where is the question of having a higher limit on bonus? If there is more profit, there should be more bonus. So, that also should be taken into consideration as and when it is necessary.

Another point is that many of the factories do not pay timely wages to their workers.

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

As my friends have stated earlier, wages are not paid for several months — two or three or even four months. If compensation is not paid in time, there is a provision of penalty of 50 per cent. That is a welcome sign. At the same time, if they do not pay the wages also in time, the worker should get a reasonable interest. The wages have to be paid along with the interest. If they make this also a compulsory thing, certainly the employers also will be very alert and make the payment of wages in time. If this is not paid in time, let them pay the wages with 24 per cent rate of interest as the Income-Tax Department is collecting. The Government is collecting at 24 per cent interest if the taxes are not paid in time. So, the same rate of interest should be paid here also. The wages should be paid with the same rate of interest.

With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I also welcome this Bill but not to the extent my colleagues did but to the limited extent that it makes some small welcome changes. When you go through the Bill before us, you can see that the bracket has been removed from the main Act in Section 2 and it now reads:

"...other than a person whose employment is a casual nature and who is employed otherwise than for the purpose of employee's trade or business..."

I think the intention of the hon. Minister is to make the payment of compensation a broad-based one that is for work of any casual nature. But I have got my own suspicion. What do you mean by this — work of casual nature? That has not been defined in the main Act. It is not defined in the other Act also. The wordings — a casual worker or a worker doing work of a casual nature — would create problem for the enforcement authority. The work can be of a casual nature and then a permanent worker may be asked to do the casual work.

There is one more thing which is a very serious matter. What about the daily wage workers? I have always had great appreciation for the hon. Minister of Labour for his sincerity. You take the entire statute on labour in this country. It is all directed towards the organised sector like railwaymen, workers in the factories, workers in the Government offices etc. All are organised workers everywhere. How many Acts are there or how many Bills are coming for the welfare of the workers in the unorganised sector? Eighty per cent of this country's workforce is in the unorganised sector like construction workers, agricultural workers, loading workers etc. No Act is there for them.

Here also if a person is engaged on daily wage basis — that is how I started this point — and does a work of a casual nature what does the hon. Minister do about it? I do not understand it. It is not clear also. If a person is engaged for a day and if he meets with an accident, will the provisions of this Act be attracted to this case? It is not clear.

Secondly, my submission to the hon. Minister is that the ambiguity in this Act should be removed. I appreciate the sincerity of the hon. Minister. But it will finally lead in an entanglement saying who is a daily wage worker and who is a casual worker. If the hon. Minister wants this Act to be applicable to all the workers, he may have to look into it. Please go through the definition in Section 2. It ultimately boils down to one thing. I may be pardoned if I take two or three minutes more because no one else has mentioned about this earlier.

Workman is defined in Section 2(i). According to this Section, Workman means a person other than a person whose employment is of casual nature and who is employed for otherwise than for the purpose of employer's trade or business. If that bracket is taken away, it becomes like this. Workman means any person. I directly come to Railway servant and also such other persons as specified in Schedule II.

Sir, Schedule II enumerates more than 50 or 60 types of works. So, the position of a daily wage worker is very pathetic. If the work is of casual nature, even one day employment will become of casual nature. I would like to know how many days of employment would make the employment of casual nature. A person who is employed for a day will not be covered under this Act. That is the one defect that I find in it.

Secondly, as everybody has suggested, this is a very clumsy or rather half-baked amendment. This is 26th amendment which is being brought here. I may point out to the hon. Minister Item Number 8 of Schedule II. It reads:

"Employed in the construction maintenance, repair or demolition of any building which is designed to be or is or has been more than one storey in height above the ground or 12 feet or more from the ground level to the apex of the roof."

Sir, I do not understand the meaning of that. If a worker who is engaged in the construction work meets with an accident when the construction is at the ground level or at the foundation level, he is not entitled to compensation. If he constructs one storey and meets with an accident, he is not entitled to compensation. It is very clearly written. If he meets with an accident, after one

storey is constructed and another one started over it, only then, he is entitled to compensation. I do not take the entire Schedule. It is an outmoded way of doing it. It started in 1923 and after that patch work has been done many times. Now, a comprehensive Act is needed.

My suggestion to the hon. Minister is — I am not talking to the hon. Minister about the amount of compensation as there could be no limit for any amount—that in a world where most-modern things are taking place, it is a shame to have this particular type of Act in our Statute Book. So, I would request him to bring a comprehensive Act without any delay.

He is a Labour Minister and he may kindly look into other aspects also. Shri Basu Deb Acharia mentioned about Bonus Act. That Act is of the year 1964. Nobody knows what the position is. What is the difficulty in bringing a comprehensive Act? Every year, salary pattern is changed and work norms are changed. And, every year, you have to issue a notification and the workers protest against it or the management protests against it. This is not a happy situation. We have to have a comprehensive Bonus Act. Similar is the case with Provident Fund Act. I would request the hon. Minister to tell us what the position of the Provident Fund is. They say that there is an amount of Rs. 90,000 crore in the Provident Fund of workers. I do not know and nobody knows the actual amount lying with the Provident Fund Commissioner. If the interest can be taken and properly worked out, the entire work force of this country can be given pension.

Family pension is not being given to certain people. The workers who really contributed to the provident fund are not getting any raise in the pension amount, like the Government servants. The hon. Minister is well aware that from time to time, the Government declares the increase in dearness allowance and other allowances to its staff, and also to the pensioners, whereas the people who have contributed to the provident fund are not getting the same benefit. They are regularly getting the same amount, and that amount is not being enhanced by anybody. They would have got a salary hike when they were working, but they are not getting the hike in the pension amount. You have fixed the pension amount as Rs. 500, and from time immemorial, they are getting that amount notwithstanding the fact that the living standards and the prices have gone up. In the case of Government servants and bank employees, they are getting their due benefits, but the workers who have contributed to the provident fund and for whom a particular amount has been earmarked are not getting the same benefit.

Now, the Government has taken a decision to treat the provident fund as a mutual fund. It is a welcome

step because it gets more interest. In this context, I urge the Minister to have a full-fledged system for the provident fund management. The provident fund offices are working in a very clumsy fashion and because of red tapism, the workers are not getting what is their due.

This Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill is a welcome step. But I would like you to make it clear whether the casual workers and the workers who are engaged on daily wages are going to be benefited by this. In India, the workers fall under three or four categories. One is the monthly paid or the salaried worker; second is the contract worker; third is the casual worker, who is employed for 120 days or 180 days and then discharged before hiring somebody else; and the fourth is worker employed on daily wages. Eighty per cent of the workers are in the unorganised sector, like the agriculture and construction workers. The Government is not taking care of them.

Sir, I do not to take much time of this august House. My submission is that the Labour Ministry should take into consideration two or three aspects relating to these workers. One is the Compensation Act; second is the Bonus Act; and the third is Provident Fund Act. The Minister may kindly bring forward a comprehensive Bill on this.

With these words, to this limited extent, I welcome this Bill.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (Nawada): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, first of all I thank the hon'ble Labour Minister for his efforts in the constitution of the Second Labour Commission. Because of his efforts, attitude towards Indian worker has been reflected through the ILO. Apart from that pro-labour things have happened from various world level fora during his tenure, we all welcome this on our behalf and also on behalf of this House.

Though the effort made by him to bring forward amendment in the Workmen's Compensation Bill, is not adequate yet it is very pious. He has made this effort very sincerely. He has enhanced the compensation amount for permanent disability. Some workers become partially handicapped but still continue to work. Suppose somebody is incapacitated with one hand or one foot or suffers from occupational diseases. It is not clear what are the measures to deal with particular diseases contracted due to some toxic gases, or emission of some chemical substances from some particular factories and what are the efforts being made in this regard. I would like to know about this as well. The efforts being made to deal with partial disability apart from permanent

[Dr. Sanjay Paswan]

disability should also be explained. If efforts are not being made in this direction then the Bill or Amendments which will come later on should incorporate such measures. First of all I would like to say that nowadays labour is not in the economic agenda of any political party. This is the scenario at global level. Labourers have been neglected. Labour Ministry has also been neglected. I want to say that once again labour welfare should be given priority. The attitude of the Government, court and bureaucracy used to be pro-labour earlier but now that has shifted towards corporate governance. I want to express my resentment towards it in this House. Hon'ble Minister is making efforts during his brief stint which reflects his good intentions. Therefore I want to say that this small effort is not going to result in far reaching consequences. There are too many acts like ESI Act, Factory Act and a separate act regarding P.F. These acts have wide coverage. Some companies are covered by one act and other companies are covered under another act. Coverage under this law constitutes only small share. I want to know the percentage of workers likely to be benefited from it. However, the effort made by the hon'ble Minister must bear fruits for the workers. Mr. Ramesh Chennithala has said that there should be compensation. Yesterday we had about one to two hours of debate for amendment in the Company Act and it took two hours to get it passed, too many amendments had to be incorporated because it was necessary. Today we want that Industrial Disputes Act, Factory Act, ESI Act, Workmen's Compensation Act etc. should be amended immediately. If the hon'ble Minister has a clear concept about labourers he can take guidance from the Indian Constitution wherein liberal and special attention has been given towards the labourer. When it comes to corporate governance, attention needs to be given by the Government to participation of labourer in it. We want to bring industrial democracy which could not be brought so far. But we want that through this amendment participation of workers should increase. With this purpose a comprehensive Bill should be brought because a sizeable chunk of labour workers with both the organised as well as unorganised sector.

The concern shown by the hon'ble Minister towards the workers is justified and this could lead to their welfare and upliftment because as long as the workers do not progress, country can not move forward. Whether it is the Finance Minister or the hon'ble Prime Minister, they will have to pay attention towards upliftment of workers because without taking care of the welfare of workers country cannot become prosperous. The initiative taken by the hon'ble Minister towards this end is commendable and we believe that now hon'ble Minister has got an open mind and therefore, the labour department should not take care of only PFs but also work for the welfare of workers. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thanks a lot for giving me a chance to speak on behalf of AIADMK, a party known for its ideology and conviction for industrial growth on the one side and welfare of the downtrodden, oppressed, depressed and the deprived on the other.

When AIADMK was in power it came to the forefront to render assistance to labourers and workers and to give legal protection to them. A striking example for this is the conferment of permanent status to workmen in Tamil Nadu. It was a unique measure. It was the first of its kind in the country. None of the other States was able to frame such a legislation. People are making tall claims now in regard to work done for the unorganised sector. When it was in power the AIADMK Government brought forward the Manual Workers' Act and brought the manual work including several other employments under the schedule. For construction workers they started a special employment Board. All these things go to show that AIADMK Government was very much concerned over the unorganised sector also. That was why during that time, industrial peace and harmony was in perfect existence.

Unfortunately, thanks to the policy adopted by the present Government, several labourers have been thrown out of their jobs now. A number of industries have been closed down and lockouts have been declared in several industries.

SHRI V. VETRISELVAN (Krishnagiri): How can he say that? It is totally wrong.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: I will elaborate it with facts and figures. I can say from the report that I have with me that the highest mandays lost in Tamil Nadu are ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vetriselvan, kindly resume your seat.

SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: When that Member is misleading the House, I have a right to intervene.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him continue his speech.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Sir, if he wants to, he can speak in his turn.

Before I touch upon the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, I cannot resist my temptation to cite some statistical data to highlight the magnitude of the problem. More than 5000 people in India are dying every

year due to occupational diseases. India ranks the highest in the world in accidental deaths. The ILO also goes to show that a worker is killed every three minutes. Accidental deaths among labour is causing so much of problem. That is why accident are a major threat to industrial growth, industrial profitability and even survival and sustenance of an industry. Workmen's Compensation Act should play a very vital role in this regard.

As far as the amendments proper are concerned, I have got a mixed feeling of both pleasure and pain. I am very happy to comment that there are a number of good and welcome features. I appreciate the concept of widening the definition of the workman. They have now rightly included the casual labour and the contract labour. Shri Jos talked about casual labour and the casual nature of work. After this definition, it does not matter whether the work is of casual labour or permanent nature. I think it explains itself. You have rightly widened the scope of definition of workman and you have rightly included others.

At the same time I am sorry to say that there are so many people whose job is clerical in nature, but they are as good as workers. They go to the spot and get exposed to the danger. They do everything that the labour does. But you have not included that kind of category. Even the Parliamentary Committee recommended that. But somehow you have not included them. Your definition can afford to be complete if you conclude the clerical category also in the workman category.

Coming to the rates of compensation, I would like to say that you have rightly increased that. As far as the quantum is concerned, I would hasten to join other Members who wanted an increase. For accidental deaths, the compensation has been increased from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 80,000 whereas for the permanent disablement, the compensation has been increased to Rs. 90,000. I am not able to understand the logic. I thought that death is more serious than permanent disablement. When permanent disablement is being given Rs. 90,000, why in case of death it is only Rs. 80,000? If at all you want to increase the quantum of compensation, then it should be more for death. On the other hand, a disabled man can afford to get a little less. In the principal Act also, this anomaly exists. I would like to be clarified.

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN (Nilgiris): In the case of permanent disablement, the person has to suffer for many years. For that he should be given more.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: A permanently disabled person can be of some use.

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN (Nilgiris): We have to understand the agony that he has to undergo.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: But my concept says that death is more serious than permanent disablement. This is what I am trying to say. Please think over.

Let met now come to the question of migrant labour. A labour, whenever he migrates to other city or country, should be enabled to file his claim where his heirs or dependants are residing. That also can be clarified during the time of Minister's reply.

The employer or the management has got the knack of avoiding and evading the payment to the workers claiming that they are poor and lost all the assets and that they are not to pay the compensation which is awarded by the courts. To obviate this kind of difficulty, every employer should be compelled to go in for compulsory insurance. If this is done, avoiding and evading of payment on legal grounds can be definitely averted.

Then, I will come to scheduled and non-scheduled injuries. Laws are quite clear about the definition of scheduled injuries. As far as the non-scheduled injuries are concerned, I would like to say that they have to depend on the doctor's certificate. Most of the time the doctors won't come. Even if they come, the management has got the nicety of taking several adjournments and they ultimately ask for constitution of Medical Board. Here, things get delayed. Please see whether the power for constituting the Medical Board can be given to the Labour Commissioner who is also the Compensation Commissioner.

Coming to eligibility of compensation, only dependants are eligible for compensation. Dependants mean people who are of 18 years of age. If a son is below 18 years, then he can get it. If he is above 18, he cannot get it.

I am given to understand that there had been umpteen number of cases in which though the award was given, there was no claimant to take the award because the dependants had already crossed over 18 years of age. Something has to be done. Instead of the word 'dependant', we can have the words 'legal heir'. I think that will be better.

I now come to a point which no Member has so far touched. I am told that for 15 years, the revenue recovery proceedings are pending. The revenue authorities have got umpteen number of priorities, out of which this is the least. Unless the revenue authority collects, recovers the money and gives it to the awardee, money does not come at all. In such a situation, whether the Workmen Compensation Commissioner himself can be given the authority to invoke the recovery Act? For this, he can draw a few people, either the Deputy-Collector or

[Shri K. Malaisamy]

Tehsildar and keep them on deputation so that they can go on with the recovery proceedings.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Workmen Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2000. While welcoming the spirit behind the provisions of the Bill, I would like to put forth a few points for the consideration of the hon. Minister.

Since the time the Act was last amended, there has been a significant increase in prices. Erosion in wages is also there. Due to liberalisation and globalisation, the prices have escalated like anything. Medical expenses have also gone up. So, I would like to suggest for the consideration of the hon. Minister that the compensation for death may be enhanced to Rs. 3 lakh and for permanent disablement, to Rs. 4 lakh. Here I would like to add that the funeral expenses may also be increased to Rs. 5,000.

I do not know about other States but as Tamil Nadu is concerned if an employee dies in harness, his ward is given employment on compassionate grounds. So, I request the hon. Minister to include a clause enabling or compelling the management to give employment to the wards of the workmen who die in accidents. I welcome the significant changes made in the principal Act to include casual workers, industry, trade and business. It is a welcome step. I would like to thank the hon. Minister for his humane approach in this regard and congratulate him for including such a good provision.

I would also like to say that if the contract workmen, who are employed in perennial nature of work, are involved in some accident they should also be given compensation on par with the permanent employees. Practically what happens is, in many cases compensation or relief is not given in time. Undue delay is there in giving compensation. I would like to request the Minister to look into this aspect and bring in a suitable legislation to avoid the delay.

Sir, while appreciating the provisions making penalty payable to workmen or dependants under section 4(a)/3(a), I would like to say that when there is a delay in payment of compensation, this would give some relief to the family.

However, I am not satisfied with the explanation to Section 41(B) for determining the compensation on the basis of the maximum monthly wages. Sir, as you know, the ordinary workman and skilled workman is getting more than Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 7,000 due to periodical increase in

wages and other things. So, while computing compensation on the basis of wages, there should not be any ceiling on that.

Sir, I think the hon. Minister will appreciate most of the suggestions. Sir, I belong to Dravida Munetra Kazagam which is headed by Dr. Kalaignar. Sir, in Tamil Nadu even unorganised sector workmen are given social security. Welfare boards are constituted in Tamil Nadu by Dr. Kalaignar, Chief Minister. This is a unique thing. Sir, please do not laugh at it. It is a unique effort. Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya knows it. We have given a note for it. So, I am proud to belong to such a State. I am happy to congratulate Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya since he has brought such amendments and hope that he will note down all these points and he would bring in a suitable comprehensive legislation for this.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 2000 is being discussed in the House. In this regard I want to say this much only that Jatiya Saheb has good intentions but whatever he is doing is not practical at any rate. Enhancing the compensation for death from 50,000 to Rs. 80,000 and for permanent total disablement from Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 90,000 ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): This is the minimum amount.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I want to say that the increase from Rs. 60 thousand to Rs. 90 thousand is not adequate because a Minister spends this much amount in a single day. Today prices are very high and there are a lot of problems in family. Keeping that in view kindly make it Rs. 5 lakh each in case of death as well as disablement.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: The maximum amount in it is Rs. 5 lakh 48 thousand.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Similarly you have enhanced the funeral expenses from Rs. 1 thousand to Rs. 2 thousand. I want it to be raised to Rs. 10 thousand. This much enhancement is necessary. Shri Munilalji is sitting beside you. He has been a senior officer. An arrangement should be made under which this amount should be provided immediately ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You people have not brought amendments.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make a submission that if Jatiya Saheb wishes

then it could be made more rational. If a worker dies at the age of 25 and the other at 55 then their age and responsibility towards family should also be taken into consideration. If he could think in this direction then I think it will be very kind of him.

There are glass industries in my constituency, Firozabad. Earlier this industry was being run with coal but the Supreme Court passed an order to protect the Taj Mahal from being polluted. Under this order, a Taj trapezium zone was created and within this Zone no industry was allowed to be run with coal. Industries based on coal in Firozabad are now being supplied gas. I know that when industries were run with coal than many people were suffering from respiratory diseases, many people had tuberculosis and many people had various kinds of diseases. I request that those who suffer from serious diseases, a certain amount of money should be spent on their medical care.

Today, I would like to avail of this opportunity to request that labour laws are being violated in factories and industries, as a result of which the people are suffering. More often this complaint is received that though the timings for work are fixed at eight hours but some factories are running for eleven hours and some others for twelve hours. I request that the hon. Minister should write strongly to State Governments in this regard in order to check the cases where labour laws are being violated, workers are forced to work for twelve hours and the local Labour department's set up is involved in it, local administration is involved in it. Factory owners are doing injustice to the workers. They are being forced to work for such long hours. I welcome the amendments brought by the hon. Minister because of his good intentions but kindly provide maximum compensation to workers. This is all I want to say.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the Minister of Labour for bringing a very good bill. The Bill seeks to provide a maximum amount upto Rupees 5,48,000 to the low age group people on their demise. Certainly he really deserves to be congratulated. I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister two-three points that whatever development the country has witnessed, that is due to the hard work of these workers and we cannot neglect their contribution. Even now big industries in various cities are running by the dint of hardwork rendered by these workers. Whosoever Government, is in power, they make laws in their favour, amend laws from time to time and talk of giving facilities to the workers. But in reality, these laws are not followed in the public sector and private sector. For example I would like to tell that people from poor States, which includes many areas of Bihar and Uttar

Pradesh where there are no industries, come in a very large number to the metropolitan city Delhi for their livelihood and have already come. But here they are treated with injustice. Munilal ji hails from Bihar and I feel that he would be aware of the facts. I would be his personal experience as to how many steps are taken in this direction and whether these steps result in success? I would like to tell that the workers are engaged at a meagre salary of Rupees 1200/- per month. Not only this, they are thrown out of job even after rendering two-three years of service and at times even not paid for about six months during this period. Then those people rush to us and say that legislation has been enacted but it does not appear that only rupees 1200 a month would have been fixed. But the educated persons are forced to work at 1200 rupees a month to run their families. God knows how those people lead their lives with only 1200/- rupees a month in a metro city like Delhi. It is a matter to be realized and not only to be talked about. But even that much salary of the worker is not being paid. He runs from door to door in search of another job. As such mere enacting legislation on the papers would not do. I don't say that all the officers are not good, there are some genuine officers also. If any person goes to court to file a suit under the labour Act, it is seen that in many cases the judgements are not delivered in favour of the workers because of influence of the owners. If in some cases the judgements go in favour of the workers, then the owner do not accept that judgement and the orders conveying the court's judgement are thrown like waste papers.

If they make a law, they should seriously think about its strict compliance and provide teeth to that law to such an extent that there should be no violation of the law. The workers engaged in private sector, public sector and in many other government establishments are kept on contract basis. This is done in the departments like Railways, ONGC, Indian Oil and also in KRIBHCO. I would like to ask from the minister that when you are in need of the workers, you take work from them. Then why you do so by involving touts and contractors in between. If you have got vacancies for the workers, then why don't you appoint them. Whatever money you give to the workers, that is gobbled by the middlemen. So, it is better if you go for direct appointments. If you don't have vacancies, then it is a different thing. But when you have got the work and get the same done through contractor, then it is not good. I want that this system of engaging workers on contract basis be stopped. If the workers engaged on contract basis met with an accident, then they don't get anything. They become handicapped and live in penury. People hardly bother even if they die. You stop this system of deployment of workers on contract basis and employ them on regular basis so that they can manage their families properly.

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

Apart from it, I would like to give one more suggestion and then conclude. I would like that the bureaucracy at the higher level should be toned up. The higher officers connive with the big capitalists. The Minister must be aware as he is also an M.P. that everybody gobbles money and the workers are let to suffer. You please ask them to use a bit of their sharpness in the interest of the workers. Whosoever officer is employed by you, he is employed in the interest of the workers. We don't say that all the officers are wrong, but you should make them efficient officers.

You really deserve congratulations for the piece of legislation brought by you. But the way you are continuously hiking the prices of petrol and diesel, only your government is doing this, and the way the prices are increasing, the value of rupee is also going down at the same pace. It is your government and we are also your alliance partner. The way you are increasing the prices, likewise you should increase the wages of the workers also. If you will do it, once again I will congratulate you. With these words I conclude my speech.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the bill brought by the honourable minister seeks to enhance compensation amount from rupees fifty thousand to rupees eighty thousand in the case of death and rupees sixty thousand to rupees ninety thousand in case of permanent disability. He has claimed that he has moved the amendment in view of the recommendations made in the committee report. I don't know whether the Minister knows that

[English]

every year, in India, over 5000 people die due to diseases at their work places. Yet, awareness about industrial hygiene remains low and only a few specialists are available to deal with this problem.

[Translation]

This is the position. 5000 workers die because of unhygienic work place conditions and because they are not provided any facilities. They are leading miserable life. This bill has been brought earlier on two or three occasions. About this everybody in the House be it from this side or that side, had said that a comprehensive bill should be brought for the workers; what happened to that? Why this Bill is being delayed. It is so because this is an anti working class Government. Why are you not bringing that bill?

16.00 hrs.

Charges have been levelled that this is an anti working class Government and that is why they are not bringing a comprehensive bill in favour of the workers

...(Interruptions) The compensation in case of death has been enhanced from rupees fifty thousand to rupees Eighty thousand and in case of disability, it has been increased from rupees sixty thousand to rupees ninety thousand. This is your policy towards the workers that something is better than nothing. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): We want to do many things and as such we are heading towards this direction ...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This is the anti working class Government.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: This is a baseless allegation. ...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: In what way these allegations are baseless? Contractors are exploiting the workers and the workers are taken from one place to another, especially from Bihar to North east. Recently I had gone to Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Sikkim and I came to know that labour is brought there from Bihar and if any worker falls ill, he is left unattended and no body cares for him. There should be some legislation for taking care of their health. As such there is a rationale behind bringing the comprehensive Bill. Workers from Bihar are engaged as agriculture labour in Punjab and Haryana. What arrangements have been made for taking care of them. They remit rupees seven hundred crore yet it is said that there is starvation in Bihar. Labourers are migrating to every State from Bihar. This time the farmers of Punjab have engaged labourers from Bihar to harvest paddy. I want to say as to why laws are not being enacted in respect of the unorganised agricultural labourers who are working in farms in their own States or in other States? Just now Shri Prabhunath Singhji has said that some legislation must be enacted to safeguard the interests of the agricultural labourers. The services of labourers are required for production of foodgrains, milk, vegetables, construction of roads and laying of railway lines. In olden days it has been said that the person actually doing physical labour will be inferior in comparison to the person who is not doing any physical labour and sitting in the offices. This is an age old practice. What action the government have taken to remove this disparity? Only the amount of compensation has been increased to Rs. 80,000 from Rs. 50,000 and it is being said that we have brought a revolutionary Bill and it is in favour of the workmen. But I want to say that this is not sufficient. I would like to request the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill for the workmen who are working in the unorganised sectors and who are not exploited only by the contractors but also by the Government agencies.

A comprehensive bill should be brought in for there. I have visited the Maruti Udyog Limited. The workers of the Maruti Udyog Limited are agitating for the last three months. This has caused a loss of Rs. 3000 crore to the Maruti Udyog Limited. The management has adopted oppressive measures and has terminated 83 employees of the company. Production has come to almost a standstill. The Maruti Udyog is a reputed industry and it is a joint venture of the government with private participation. A serious conspiracy is being hatched to sell out the company by showing huge losses. All this is being done to sell out the said company. Today the Bank employees are also on strike because the government intend to reduce its stake in the Banks from 51 per cent to 33 per cent. The employees of the Cement Corporation of India have also taken out a procession today. The labourers have been ruined and terror is prevailing among them. Therefore, the oppression and exploitation wherever it is prevailing should be stopped at once and adequate compensation should be given to dependents of the labourers who die at their places of work while on duty.

What happened in the Bhopal gas tragedy? Similarly labourers die at other places due to certain calamities. Not only compensation should be paid to their dependents but employment should also be provided to their next of kin. Today their dependants and their wards face a lot of difficulty for getting a job on compassionate ground. The department of labour should see as to how maximum facilities can be provided to the labourers. The government say that this Act was passed in 1923 and we have brought a very minor amendment to it. Therefore, I demand that the government should bring a comprehensive bill in this regard. The government should bring a comprehensive Bill in respect of the labourers who work hard to produce foodgrains for the country. The government have brought a minor Bill.

I met the hon'ble Minister on the occasion of Mahavir Jayanti. The hon'ble Minister is the well wisher of the poor but it appears to me that being the part of the NDA government he is unable to do much. He should muster some courage and bring a Bill to enact law in the interest of the labourers and should ensure implementation of that law all over the country. With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this amendment is insufficient and it is not going to benefit the labourers much. Today the condition of the labourers in the country is deplorable. Though the law in this regard is in place but the prescribed compensation of Rs. 50-60 thousand is not actually being paid to the workers. The employers are not ready to pay that amount to the workers. For redressal of such matters the workers approach the courts but they have no money to pay the fees to the advocate for pleading their cases. Through this amendment the government have enhanced the

compensation amount from Rs. 50 thousand to Rs. 80 thousand and Rs. 60 thousand to Rs. 90 thousand.

[English]

Where death results from the injury — an amount equal to fifty percent of the monthly wages of the deceased workman multiplied by the relevant factor or an amount of fifty thousand rupees, whichever is more.

[Translation]

You are making a provision to provide Rs. 80 thousand instead of Rs. 50 thousand to the dependent of the workman who dies during course of his duty and Rs. 90 thousand instead of Rs. 60 thousand to the dependent of the workman who sustains injury while discharging his duties. You consider the life of a man worth Rs. 90 thousand while he is alive and Rs. 80 thousand if dead.

Under the motor vehicle Act compensation ranging from 10 to 50 lakh is to be provided to the victims of the road accidents but what is paid to the labourers, you have made their life so cheap. It would have been better had you not brought this Bill. Therefore, I would like to ask as to what amendments were effected in the law before constituting the said committee and on the basis of recommendations of which committee this amendment is being effected. Whatever was the decision of the said committee, it was wrong. You are playing with the lives of thousands of crores of workmen of the country. Their lives are considered worth Rs. 70-80 thousand. Even not a single penny will be given to the kith and kin of the deceased workmen. With a heavy heart I have to say that you should go through these lines of the Bill which are damaging:

[English]

"It is the injury of the workman results in his death, the employer shall, in addition to the compensation under sub-section (1) deposit with the commissioner, a sum of one thousand rupees for payment of the same to the eldest surviving dependent of the workman towards the expenditure of the funeral of such workman."

[Translation]

One thousand rupees will be deposited with the Commissioner, if the person dies then the amount will be handed over to the son of the deceased person for funeral arrangements. But in reality, the son of deceased person won't be allowed to enter into the office of commissioner and he tries to contact the Commissioner and you are claiming that Rs. one thousand will be given for funeral

[Shri Rashid Alvi]

arrangemnets. This money will be given by employer. I want to say with due regards that this amendment has been moved without giving it a proper thought and this won't remove the difficulties of workers.

I want to urge upon this Government and as one of our colleague has also said that a comprehensive Bill should have been brought as there are a large number of workers in our country.

16.12 hrs.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN *in the Chair*)

One of our colleagues has mentioned about Maruti Industry Ltd. It has been rightly mentioned that the worker out there are facing difficulties. Some workers from the same industry had approached me. They are being forced to sign an undertaking which is illegal. When there is discrimination among workers in the industry being run by the Government then how the attention would be paid in case of private employers. There is Gajraula Industrial Area in my constituency. Workers are being forcibly removed from their jobs. They are staging a Dhama and are on strike. They have nothing to eat. I would request the hon'ble labour minister that keeping all these in mind attention should have been given to incorporate amendments in this act and a comprehensive Bill should have been brought later. No purpose will be solved by introducing this Bill.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on my legs to speak on the Workman's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2000. Just now Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has said that as per the ILO reports one person dies out of three who meet an accident. The number of such deaths as per his information is 5000 whereas as per my knowledge it is 8000 and number of persons disabled is more than that. The Government is providing support to them. I want to request you earnestly. Today 45 lakh workers are working in textile looms which is an unorganised sector. There are no labour laws for them, no law is applicable there. It is not known what they do and if something happens to them then who will be responsible for this. Contract labour is there. I want they should be included in this Bill. These workers belong to unorganised sector. They do not have any support but you. I request that they should be covered by this Bill.

You should make insurance schemes like mediclaim etc. compulsory, as it will be good for labourers. There is a concern named Richards & Crudas in my constituency, once I went there for a visit. Some labourer was injured at that time. Some goods had fallen on his feet but he was not being given compensation though

the Government have control over the concern. You should mention in your reply that what action you are going to take in case where rules are not being applied and people are not getting compensation. This is my suggestion which you should consider.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri G.M. Banatwalla.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, I will speak about the other Bill. If you want, I will speak here also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Hon. Minister.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Sir, name is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On behalf of your party, two Members have already spoken.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: My name is also there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The name is there. But on behalf of your party, some Members have spoken.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: I will also speak.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, he is the main speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time. Now, the hon. Minister will speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. On behalf of his party, one Member has already spoken.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, he should ask the other Member to cooperate with you.

SHRI ANIL BASU. He will speak mainly on 'compensation'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not now; we will give him some other time.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: The Minister is ready to hear me. You please allow me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: I shall take only five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: What should I do?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I told you that on behalf of your party, one Member has spoken. You understand the difficulty about time.

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the Bill which has been brought is about disabled and deceased workers, those workers who are alive...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want anything, you can ask for a clarification later.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly cooperate with the Chair. I told you that your Member has spoken.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia has already spoken as the main speaker. Now, you can speak on the next Bill.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is already on his legs.

SHRI ANIL BASU: He is yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The difficulty is about the time. Kindly cooperate.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Shri Basu Deb Acharia spoke about the bonded labour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is also a Member. Kindly resume your seat.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Shri Topdar is talking about the organised labour. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Basu Deb Acharia talked about the bonded labour. There is some difference.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Sir, it is a question of compensation...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, this is very important issue, it is a question of life and death for labourers. What this Government want to do about labour. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale, kindly resume your seat.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: He does not get any chance to speak on any issue. Please give him a chance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It could be for the next Bill. You cannot argue for him. Here, you have not been engaged by him.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: He is working for the working class

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will take your time and speak about the next Bill. Now, the Minister will continue.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Hon. Chairman, Sir, the amendment which is sought on this issue in the Bill and the concern of the Hon. Members thereon and the hon. Members who wants to speak their mind on this issue now and the anguish in their hearts for the labourers and workers, they certainly wants all these things to be included in the debate.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (Nandurbar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the Hon. Minister that system of contract labourers should be stopped.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Ministers for their valuable suggestions. The Hon. Members spoke at length about workers in this Bill which is not very comprehensive and most of the members said that a comprehensive Bill should be brought in so as to cover all the aspects. I would like to inform the House through you that we have set the work in motion by setting up the second Labour Commission. It will submit its report in two years and after receiving the report all the necessary amendments would be made in the laws. We know, this is a long pending demand of the trade unions.

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU: Does it cover agricultural workers also? I think, they are not included in this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not have direct talk with the Minister.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I consider it my responsibility and duty to convey the House about the efforts made by the Government relating to the concern of the August House. I have taken note of the debate that has taken place in this regard and what the Hon. Members have spoken. What the Hon. Members have spoken will be taken into consideration. But at the same time this is not very comprehensive Bill, we cannot incorporate all the things in it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, 13 members have expressed their views on it. Some very good facts were brought by the Hon. Members like Shri Basu Deb Acharia, Shri Sis Ram ji Ravi and Shri Ramesh Chennithala; Murthy ji, Jain Saab, Kuppu Swami ji, Malaiswami ji, Sanjay Paswan, Ramji Lal Suman, Prabhu Nath Singh and Dr. Raghuvansh Babu told so many things.

Shri Rashid Alviji was just saying that efforts should be made to do all these things at a time. I would like to tell him that doing these things at a time will be of no use. Mohan Rawaleji was just speaking. I want to make one thing clear as far as increase in the compensation is concerned, it has not been increased from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 80,000.

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, I am asking him through the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is replying. Please allow him to reply.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: I want to tell the Hon. Member that it is minimum.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to what is the basis for fixing it at Rs. 80,000. How it has been fixed. And the second thing I would like to say then it should be raised to Rs. one lakh. You should also make it clear as to what is the basis on which it has been fixed.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot argue like that with the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to tell that the maximum amount of compensation is Rs. 5 lakh 48 thousand. The amount which I have told is the minimum.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we would like to ask the hon. Minister about the minimum amount of compensation and the hon. Minister is telling us about the maximum.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot interrupt like that.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, he has introduced the Bill on minimum labour and the he is talking about maximum labour. There is no use of talking all that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He knows that.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will try to give a reply to every hon. Member's question, but it is not possible for me to furnish all the details they want to know. I am not at liberty to do so. I am as concerned about the workers as they are.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: The Hon. Minister has fixed the minimum amount of compensation as Rs. 80,000. But we want it to be enhanced to Rs. one lakh.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have brought this Bill for making amendment. Amendments were last made in 1995 and now the amendments are being carried out in the year 2000. And we have mentioned in the Bill there were some limitations about the medical care of the workers and the subject of enforcement of the labour laws is also concerned with the State Governments. We want that the scope of the E.S.I. should also be extended by the State Governments to the areas where it is not applicable. And thus they will automatically come under the insurance cover. At present more than 80 lakh workers in the country have been covered by it and four and half crores people are getting benefitted therefrom. There is no scheme in the world under which such a large number of people are being benefitted. By extending insurance cover to one person, his entire family gets the medical facility. I would like that

the States should expand the scope of the E.S.I. thereby covering most of the workers under it. If it is done like this I am sure that the Government will make efforts to cover the remaining workers.

We will do that. I am ready for discussion at any time. And if the House gives me an opportunity for this, certainly we can discuss all the aspects. The facts which have been brought before the House and facts which have been recorded in the House, it is my duty to touch upon them. If the hon. Members want that they should be heard in person, they are welcome to come to my Ministry. If the Hon. Members want, they can let me know about the ideas which come to their mind since the process of continuous deliberations at times can lead to something new.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: This should be discussed in the House.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: This issue will be raised in the House and I will give a reply to the points raised by the Hon. Members. If still any member has any doubt, I shall try to clear his doubts. ...*(Interruptions)* I have pleasure in telling the members that the amount of compensation is based on the age of workers. If the age of worker is less, he will get more compensation. It has been fixed at Rs. 5 lakh 48 thousand. If a worker becomes disabled in early age then certainly he will. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Where is it mentioned Rs. 5 lakh 48 thousand in the Bill.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: That I will tell you later on.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am asking the Member to resume his seat. A Member cannot cross-examine a Minister. It amounts to cross-examination. What is this? This is not the way. You cannot straightaway cross examine a Minister in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will answer in his own way. He knows his way.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Then, this is my way-out. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you are not permitted, how can you say like that?

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: You have brought in a Bill to enhance the amount of compensation to Rs. 80,000.

[English]

Sir, you kindly go through the Bill.

[Translation]

You are just misleading the House by telling the amount Rs. 5 lakh 48 thousand in place of Rs. 80,000. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Hon. Basu Deb Acharia has told that all these things are based on the report of the Standing Committee. We have a tripartite mechanism in place i.e. the employer, the worker and the Government. We have a Standing Committee. We have the Indian Labour Conference. We try to update all the laws by incorporating all those things. Even the suggestions received through the international conference are taken into account. All the laws cannot be changed at a time. Therefore, wherever there is a need to change the laws, we try to change them contemporarily.

In addition to above, Basu Deb Acharia has also expressed concern about the contract labour, payment of wages and bonus. Certainly, these things are under the consideration of the Government and the Labour Ministry has also sent a proposal to the Government for the purpose. Now it is for the Government to dispose the same at the earliest. Now, the Government has to decide it. We have done our job. Hon. Members have also expressed concern about the works in the unorganised sector. The Government is taking all these things into consideration which are concerning agriculture labourers and contract labourers. Some break-through was achieved in the last minister's conference about the issue of agriculture labourers.

On that very basis the Government are trying to do something in this regard for their welfare. Joss Saheb has also expressed his concern about contract labourers. The Central Government have indeed already passed a law in this regard. Now the State Governments have to frame laws and see as to how they can work for their welfare. Such law is already there in Tamil Nadu. In Kerala, this law has already been implemented. Several State Governments can safeguard their workers by way of framing laws in this regard. The views expressed by the hon. Members in this regard are very important.

[Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya]

Moreover, they have also stated that the liabilities of undertakings of Central Government should also be cleared. However, we are deliberating on a Bill which has a specific purpose. Vast subjects have been covered whereas it was a limited Bill. Our efforts are to effect three-four changes through this Bill. This is however a beginning. We want to bring an overall change and we also want to cover more people. We are also including more hazardous industrial units in the list of hazardous industries. We have taken up this matter on this ground. Several of our colleagues stated that its limit should be increased. In a way this is an on going process. The limit in 1995 has been increased in 2000. Such possibility cannot be denied even in future. So far as framing law to cover the rest of the workers is concerned, we can make amendments in this regard from time to time.

You told about schemes of the Government Shri Chennithala, besides mentioning about several things, has also mentioned about casual labourers, Compensation and penalty, you know the affected family has to suffer a lot if there is any delay. Amount of penalty imposed should be paid to the labourers and moreover a provision in this regard has also been made. The Government have to provide safeguards to labourers in view the impact of globalization and economic liberalisation. This is certain that in the changing scenario avenues of traditional employment are shrinking. New trained persons will be required for new jobs and existing staff need training. All these things are required now because if any Government accepts it, this will yield its benefits. If there are some shortcomings we need to impart training to the concerned persons and enhance their skill. What I have said is that if the capital can flow from one corner of the world to another in this phase of economic liberalisation, then why not our labour skill can go to another countries. I had also raised this issue of unrestricted labour skill in International labour conference. This is another thing that capital is flowing in this phase of economic liberalisation and congenial atmosphere is being created for that. But at the same time it is also our responsibility to provide safeguards to the interests of labourers. Being the Minister of labour this is my responsibility to safeguard the interest of the labourers. My colleagues Shri Munilal ji is sitting here. We are trying together to ensure that labourers get compensation and any delay in this regard will not be tolerated. Efforts will be made to provide social security and medical facilities to our labourers and to make arrangements for education of their wards. We have no time to mention about the works undertaken during the last year, but as we have told that we have established the second Labour Commission and have passed cess in favour of Bidi workers. The rate of cess which was 50 paise per

thousand bidi has been raised to Rs. 2 per thousand bidi. This cess amount will be used for constructing houses for the labourers and for giving scholarship to them. As the money will come we will spend it for the welfare of the labourers. The amount for ESI scheme, meant for health has been raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600. In this way we have made several efforts. But all the efforts do not yield result at once. But our efforts are to provide relief to the labourers, to be sympathetic towards them and that way we have to discharge our responsibility towards them. Views expressed by our hon. Members will help us in formulating our policy.

You have asked about providing base to them. We had sought suggestions in this regard from the State Governments also and we have accepted the suggestions which could possibly be accepted. The work we are undertaking will not be completed at once but certainly we are trying to complete it.

Therefore, the hon'ble Members have extensively discussed it today. Thirteen hon'ble Members have spoken on this subject and I have noted their contents ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Still 5-6 Members had stood up to speak.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: The entire House was interested in it because it is a matter related to worker's interest. There are 36 crore workers in our country and if we provide training to 36 crore workers, and act towards assuring employment to them, then it would be a very good thing. If we go into family details of 36 crore then we would find that the total figure would reach to sixty crore population and no Government can neglect sixty crore people. As such what I and the Government want is that they should be helped properly after taking their security into consideration. I believe that we have done this work despite our limited resources. The Members while speaking have often said that the Government should have drafted a comprehensive bill. But whatever time is going to be consumed to draft a comprehensive bill, that work is being done through the Second Labour Commission. But today we are here to make amendments in this bill keeping with the times.

Normally all the members have announced to support this Bill and told it to be good. They may intend to make it better but taking everything into consideration, what I know is that we would have to act to maintain coordination amongst the employers, the factories, the workers and the country. Worker's interest is very essential for us. Industry's interest is also essential for us. The super most

interest that we have to keep in mind is the National Interest. Taking all these things into consideration we have made an attempt. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Members that our attempt may appear to be good or inadequate to them, but we have taken an initiative to go ahead in this directive. If you would agree with us and support this bill and help us in passage thereof, then certainly it would help in doing an important job. With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Hon'ble Minister Sir, I will not go in details but submit that the amount of rupees eighty thousand be replaced by rupees one lakh and rupees ninety thousand by rupees one lakh twenty five thousand, please do this much at least. This is not a very big demand, please do this much in the bill.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister that the bill brought by him is a very important bill and he is very well aware of the problems of the workers. But the amount that has been announced here to be enhanced is Rupees 80,000 in place of Rupees 50,000. I would like to submit that it should be Rupees 1,50,000 place of Rupees 50,000. And where you have enhanced the amount to Rupees 90,000 in place Rupees 60,000, it should be enhanced to Rupees 1,80,000 inter-alia, I would like to give one more suggestion that where you are going to enhance the amount of Rupees 2,000 to rupees 4,000, it should be enhanced to Rupees 15,000.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can seek clarifications. The Hon. Minister may note his suggestions. Whatever you have spoken, he has noted.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: That's what we are suggesting to him that it should be enhanced. My another suggestion is that the contract labour system is spoiling all the workers and the whole system. As such I would like to ask that whether the Government of India and the Ministry of Labour are contemplating to abolish the Contract Labour System? Contract Labour System should be abolished. What are you going to do to abolish it? Whether your Government and the Cabinet propose to bring such a Bill?

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): I appreciate the feelings of the hon'ble Minister. This Bill would be passed today but 36 crore people depend on the unorganised sector. If any worker in that sector met with an accident, what scheme you are going to formulate to protect their interest. They would get benefit on

formulation of this scheme. But if any worker happens to die in the meantime, whether he would be provided the benefit from today or after two-three months? What orders you are going to issue to take safety precautions in this matter?

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our hon'ble Minister has been a poet, but he has not recited anything. I hope that whatever he would speak, that would be in poetry:

'Mazdoor Hota Jata Hai, Ham se door,
 Ur Gaya Uske Mukh se Noor,
 Uska Swapan Ho Gaya Hai Choor,
 Kaun Karega Uska Dukh Door,
 Kya Aap Badhayenge Uska Utsah Bharpoor?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, 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 Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3

Amendment of Section 4

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia — absent.

The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"The clause, 1 the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title
were added to the Bill.*

[Translation]

DR. SATYANAYARAN JATIYA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"The the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.42 hrs.

FORFEITURE (REPEAL) BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I
beg to move:

"That the Bill to repeal the Forfeiture Act, 1859, as
passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

This Bill meant to repeal the Forfeiture Act of 1859,
a very archaic Act, was introduced in Rajya Sabha and
unanimously passed by voice vote on 21st August.

Sir, it is evident from the Bill itself that certain powers
were given in that time, during the British Raj, to some
of the officers who were appointed as Commission when
there was no Cr. P.C., no rule or procedure code, etc.
Those officers used to frame their own rules of procedure
and such actions of officers who had taken actions of
forfeiture of property/seizure of property could not be
challenged in a court of law. Some such provisions were
there, but the coercive nature of the provisions, the very
uncivilised nature of the provisions of this Act, which
were not in consonance with any civilised society were
repealed even in the year 1868 itself.

The total Act, at that time, had contained only 20
sections and 16 sections were removed and released
even in the year 1868. I do not know how these four
sections were left out and they remained for some time.
There was a purpose. They could remain because if
certain officers had taken action under those provisions,
they could be prosecuted and they were to provide the
immunity. Now, in the year 2000, these provisions were
still existing and this Bill is only meant for removing the

vestiges of the obsolete Act, which were coercive in
nature. The history of this Forfeiture Act of 1859 goes
back to 1857 and that predates even the Cr. P.C.

Sir, with these few words, I commend this Bill for
consideration of this august House and I am sure this
House would unanimously pass it. If they like they can
discuss it. But this is only an old Act of 1859 which is
being abrogated, which is being repealed at this time,
that also when it is toothless.

The main provisions, the substantive provisions of
this Act had been removed long back during the British
Raj. Now, with the new Constitution, with a civilised
society, with our own laws, we do not have anything to
do with it. A Commission was appointed to study all
such archaic laws, irrelevant and baseless laws should
be removed from the statute book. This is one of the
efforts to attain that objective and this redundant thing is
being removed by this Bill.

Sir, with these few words, once again, I commend
that this House may consider and pass this Bill
unanimously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to repeal the Forfeiture Act, 1859, as
passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: No Member can have any objection
to repealing of this Bill. I think we can straightaway pass
it.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkhil): Sir,
I am not raising any objection but it is a matter of regret
that. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, I shall call you, though you
have not given your name.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN
(Sivaganga): Sir, this is a truncated Act which is having
only Sections 16 to 20, with other Sections already
repealed as early as 1868. My submission is only to
draw the attention of the hon. Minister that even today,
Section 18 is relevant. Even though it is a colonial law
giving too much power to the Executive, the relevancy of
this particular Section is still there. There should be an
Act to satisfy the ingredients of this Section 18. I shall
just read out the Section, which will give the answer.

"18. Whenever any property shall have been attached
or seized without either conviction or an adjudication
of forfeiture by any officer of Government as property
forfeited or liable to be forfeited to Government for
an offence for which, upon conviction, the property

of the offender would be forfeited, the validity of such attachment or seizure shall not be called in question by any Court or other authority in any suit or proceeding, unless the offender or alleged offender shall, within one year after the seizure of his property have surrendered himself for trial" — this is the main point I want to stress — "and upon trial before a competent Court shall have been or shall be acquitted of the offence, and shall prove to the satisfaction of the Court that he did not escape or keep out of the way for the purpose of evading justice."

The principle should be brought in by some other amendment in the Criminal Procedure Code or any other such law so that the people who are evading justice by escaping the warrant, or escaping from the arrest, jumping the bail, etc., should be facing this forfeiture clause. For example, the share market had crashed but the accused could not be caught immediately. In the same way, now the LTTE is a banned organisation. They are having a lot of things in Tamil Nadu. But nobody's property can be forfeited. Pirbhakaran is the first accused in the assassination case but he could not be caught and his property cannot be forfeited. In the same way, a lot of things are happening. Many secessionists are there, many terrorists are escaping, but their property is not forfeited. They are not coming before the court. Even the country is not having faith upon the court when they are jumping the bail and are going away. Now in Thailand, that famous person is escaping from the clutches of the law. Then how are we going to face the situation? How are we going to create confidence among the people that the law is protecting the law-abiding citizens and not those who are evading the law? This particular Section which is having a spirit behind it, should be brought in by some other way on the Statute Book. That is my submission.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I do not have to say anything in particular in this regard. This law is of British regime. It is quite redundant now. It was not a criminal law and the Court was in a queer state in this regard. There was no rule with regard to forfeiture of property. That is why, I would like to say that the 1859 Act which is sought to be amended has no relevance now. I support the Bill brought by the hon'ble Minister. I do not have to say anything in particular in this regard. That is why I want that this Bill should be passed and the next Bill should be moved.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hindi translation of forfeiture given in this is 'Sampaharan'. It sounds like 'Apharan' (Kidnap). This is how it is translated in Hindi. This 1859 Bill was

enacted by the British Government. At that time I.C.S. people were in High Court and were honorary Magistrates. They were not conversant with the law yet they were appointed to this post and used to conduct trials of the cases. Shri Daroga Prasad was the Chief Minister in Bihar. Shri Yashwant ji might recall it was repealed this law there. The Central Government also want to repeal it and in the year 2000 has brought this Bill for repeal. ... (Interruption) It was repealed in Bihar 15-20 years ago. You have brought it late. During British regime powers on the lines of a Commission were provided to the I.C.S. officers and they were made the Magistrates. Trials were conducted and punishments as per Cr. P.C. were awarded. The Bill which has been to repeal Forfeiture Act is alright but it has been brought late. Why this provision was made during the British regime? The purpose was to dispose of the cases speedily. That is why power was delegated wherever necessary. Now, the number of cases have increased to such an extent that they cannot be disposed of speedily. The Government should explain its position. The objectives with which the British Government had framed this law were not technically found viable and practical. But what will be its alternative? Today, the poor man is running from pillar to post to get justice. The Government should explain its position in this regard! I support this repeal. What about the objectives for which this Bill was enacted? When Administrative Laws Review Commission questioned the legality of this Bill then Government made a move to repeal it. So many Bills are there which need to be repealed. Review Commission was set up in 1997. It recommended to repeal all those laws which were obsolete and out dated. Its recommendations are being implemented. You will have to give its alternative. What about the objectives for which they were empowered? Have you thought about it? Population is increasing and so are the cases. They are not disposed of in time. You may please see to it. This is my suggestion.

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, two or three hon. Members have given some useful suggestions. I am grateful to them. For their information, I may add that so far as the spirit of Section 18 of the archaic law is concerned, that has already been incorporated in the Cr. P.C. and the Cr. P.C. was amended twice. All these things have already been included in that. So, there is no fear on that count.

So far as the other objection about the ISI activities and the bandits going through and roaming about etc., on all those things, the Government has always been keen to have some federal laws to try the federal crimes

[Shri I.D. Swami]

which have repercussions all over the country concerning the Central Government or the federal Government. Activities like smuggling of narcotic drugs, fake currency notes, ISI activities etc., have ramifications all over the country.

For this, the thinking of the Government has been to prepare a consensus in consultation with Chief Ministers of States because unless and until they agree we cannot do it. Because of the scheme of the Constitution as it prevails today, we have to consult them and we have to prepare a consensus. I would request the hon. Members to prepare a consensus in this country so that if TADA has been repealed, we can have some other such law whereby we can meet the exigencies of such situations.

Of course, an hon. Member has pointed to the pendency of cases in different courts. That is also in the view of the Government.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): TADA is a lawless law.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: It has been allowed to lapse. Shri Banatwalla, with due respect, I am only saying that lawless law, which was very much set to be abused and misused, has been allowed to lapse by this hon. House.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: They should not think in the same direction.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: We are not thinking in that direction.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Banatwalla, you must get prior permission of the Chair. What is the use of my sitting here?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, I thought that I had that permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must take prior permission.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj U.P.): Mr. Chairman Sir, through you I could like to know from hon. Minister that the people who are in the Government...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have not spoken. Kindly take your seat.

Nothing will go on record. What the hon. Member is speaking will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: All those suggestions will be taken care of so far as pendency of cases in various courts is concerned. Most of the recommendations of the Law Commission are there. The Government has been thinking over them. For that also, criminal justice system needs to be reformed. For that, as and when such a thing comes before this House, these suggestions would, of course, be kept in view.

Once again, I thank you.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, I want to bring one thing on record. Please permit me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, it is a very important thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, you have not participated in the debate.

Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will not answer and he should not answer.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not recorded.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, I want to bring all these things on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not be recorded. The Minister will not reply to the unrecorded speech.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Kindly allow it to be recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you raise anything without prior permission, it will not go on record.

Now, we will take up motion for consideration of the Bill.

*Not recorded.

The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Forfeiture Act, 1859, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will not take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.00 hrs.

PASSPORT (ENTRY INTO INDIA) AMENDMENT BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

As the hon. Members are aware, the 'Entry into India' was governed by the Indian Passport Act, 1920 which requires that persons had to be in possession of a valid document for entry into this country. At this time, the same Act also governed the exit of persons from the country. In 1967, this Act was amended and was bifurcated into two by providing a separate law for persons exiting the country. Consequently, the Act was enacted, and at the same time, the Indian Passport Act, 1920 was renamed as the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 which is being amended now. Sub-section 3 of Section 3 of this Act provides *inter alia* that any contravention of

the rules made under this Act, namely, the Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950 or any of the orders issued under the authority of any such Rules shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine or with both.

It is only with this purpose and keeping in view the problems of illegal migration, clandestine activities, such as smuggling of arms, ammunition, narcotics, movement of persons having links with terrorist organisations warrant a substantial enhancement of the penalty under the Passport (Entry into India) Act.

So far as the Passport Act, 1967 is concerned, that Act has such a provision where the penalty is on the higher side. But unfortunately, all these years, the penalty was only three months imprisonment, and the quantum of the fine was not at all mentioned in the Act. It is for this purpose that this Bill is being brought.

After giving this matter a careful thought, it has been decided that the best is of achieving this objective would be bringing penalty in this Act at par with that which was provided in the Passport Act, 1967. Accordingly, this Bill has been placed before this august House. Now, the penalty would be enhanced to imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, and the fine has also been quantified, with a fine which may extend to Rs. 50,000 or with both. Another Section has been provided for the second or repetitive offences. In the case of a second conviction under this Act, all the penalties would be doubled. The third provision is only consequential. But basically, this Bill has been brought so that the penalty in this Passport (Entry into India) Act is made really preventive, really deterrent. With the earlier provision, three months imprisonment and no quantum of time mentioned therein, it was not at all working as a deterrent. In the present situation and the security scenario as prevailing in the country, I think, it is very urgently needed that we have some such provision in the Passport (Entry into India) Act. For this purpose, I commend it to the august House that this Bill, as has been passed in Rajya Sabha, may also be passed unanimously. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this piece of legislation. This is for a limited purpose, and I welcome this Bill.

As rightly pointed out by the hon. Minister, this is a deterrent to discourage the terrorist activities in our

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

country. This will also prevent people who are smuggling arms, illegal migration, and act as a deterrent against people who are involved in clandestine activities.

Looking at the changed scenario and the security aspects, this insertion of the new clause is very much essential. The Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Bill will be very much helpful for preventing these kinds of clandestine activities in our country. We are all aware that the ISI activities are increasing, and the separatist and the terrorist forces are trying to create a lot of trouble in our country. Cross-border terrorism is also increasing like anything.

Sir, by looking at all these issues, I feel, insertion of this new section would be very much helpful.

Sir, when we are discussing matters relating to passport, a few very important points come to my mind. I come from a State where a large number of people are working abroad, especially in the Gulf countries. Unfortunately, our people are facing a lot of difficulties in getting the passport. We are not in a position to provide them employment so it is our duty to at least give them passport and other facilities when they are seeking employment outside the country.

Sir, we have three passport offices in our State. One is at Trivandrum, one is at Calicut and the third one is at Cochin. All these three passport offices are flooded with applications either for issuance of passport or for renewal of passports or for some other purposes. All these applications remain pending with these offices. There is no speedy disposal of these applications in these passport offices. We have been receiving a lot of complaints from our people about this. Earlier it was decided to have some kind of an Advisory Committee, attached to each passport office, comprising of the Members of Parliament from that area. But that proposed Advisory Committee was not constituted. Also, earlier there was a system where an officer from the Passport office used to go to the various districts and conduct some kind of an *Adalat* for early issuance of passports. But that system now has been discontinued. As a result of this, a large number of people are facing a lot of difficulties in getting the passports and their applications are pending and they have to face a lot of harassment.

Sir, the Members of Parliament from Kerala are sitting here. They know the kinds of difficulties we are facing. When we contact the Passport offices they say that they are short of staff. Enough staff is not available in the Passport offices to scrutinise the applications for renewal and issuance of passports. The inordinate delay in issuing passports to the applicants is detrimental to the interest

of the people who are seeking jobs outside the country. I would like to request the hon. Minister to streamline the functioning of the Passport offices so that the issue of passports could be expedited. The legal formalities should be completed within a specific period so that our people could get their passport and seek jobs outside the country.

Sir, my second point the renewal of passports. Renewal of passport is a necessity after every ten years. Even the people who are coming from the foreign countries also are facing a lot of difficulties in getting their passports renewed. My point is this. Why can we not simplify the procedure so that the people who are coming from outside get their passports renewed as early as possible? I can cite umpteen number of cases where people have lost their jobs for non-availability of passports in time. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to see that people are not subjected to such difficulties. We, of course, have to see whether the passports that are being issued to the people are not involved in criminal cases. The security aspect is important. We have to view it differently. But the ordinary people who are fulfilling all the requirements should get their passports without inordinate delay. But we have a different experience in the three passport offices that we have in our State.

Sir, finally I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to take care of all these aspects and particularly review the functioning of these passport offices so that the harassment to the ordinary people could be stopped.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA(Dhandhuka): Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you very much for calling me to speak. I support the passport amendment Bill. First of all, I want to congratulate the hon'ble Minister for bringing this amendment Bill to enhance the provision of penalty to the persons indulging in smuggling of arms into the country and trafficking of narcotics.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir, as you are aware that having a passport has become a status symbol these days and everybody is eager to get a passport. But the hon'ble Member who spoke before me has stated that it is an arduous job to get a passport these days. I agree with him fully. Passports are not issued to the people easily. A time frame of five weeks has been fixed for police enquiry but enquiry is not completed within the stipulated time which results in great difficulty to the passport seekers.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I have come to know from the newspapers and other information media that there is heavy demand of our people abroad. They are given a number of incentives there. It is a matter of pride that

our experts of information technology are getting opportunities to go to other countries of the world and number of countries across the world have opened their doors for our I.T. Experts. But it is very sad to say that we have not been able to issue passports to our citizens in time. There have been several instances that our children could not take the examinations abroad merely due to non-availability of passports. I would like to cite an incident in this regard which occurred in my area. A student was to appear in an examination abroad but he did not have the passport. I rang up five times in the concerned passport office and it was after a great difficulty that passport was issued to him and he could take the examination. I request that passports should be issued promptly to the students who intend to go for studies in foreign universities. Though "Tatkal Passport Scheme" has been introduced in the country but that is not being implemented in the way it ought to be implemented.

Mr. Chairman Sir through you I would like to request the hon'ble minister that the passport should be issued to the applicants within the stipulated period. In case of non-issuance of passport to the applicants within the stipulated time people are compelled to go to the touts and agents who manage to procure passport on receiving extra money. I request the hon'ble Minister to simplify the procedure of issuance of passports so that people are not compelled to approach the touts and agents. I think it is very essential. It is also true that the work relating to issuance of passports is done manually in the passport offices and there is shortage of staff as well. An employee prepares 25 to 30 passports in a day. I request that all the passport offices should be computerised. Besides, I have a suggestion that 'Tele-enquiry' facility should also be introduced to facilitate the applicants to find out whether their passport is ready and when it will be delivered. At present the people stand in queue for hours together in the passport offices and finally when they reach the window they are told that their passport is not ready. Thus they have to suffer a lot and have to stand in queues next day again for hours together.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the period of validity of passport should be enhanced from ten years to twenty year. It will yield double benefits. It will reduce the workload of the passport offices and provide relief to the people as well. The police enquiry for issuance of passport is a time consuming process. When people approach the passport officers to issue passports to them early the passport officers asks them to go the police department to bring their verification report personally to expedite issuance of their passport. When any person approaches the police for his verification report the police do not do this work for nothing. One has to grease their palm. Several such people are not allowed even to meet the police officers.

They are turned away from the gate. Such incidents are common. I request that immediate steps should be taken to check such things. Besides this I have another suggestion to make. Suppose relatives of any person live abroad and some tragedy occurs with them and he wishes to visit them immediately. In such a situation passports should be provided instantly to such people.

I belong to Gujarat and regional passport office is functioning at Ahmedabad in that State. The said passport office has issued 1,32,919 passports between 1.1.99 to 31.10.99 and 30,067 people are still there in the waiting list for the passports. There were 75,323 persons in the waiting list at the passport office at Trichirapalli in Tamil Nadu. Similarly in Andhra Pradesh 57,054 applicants were there in the waiting list at Hyderabad passport office. I mean to say that there is long waiting list in every passport office. In Delhi there are 56,648 persons in the waiting list of the passport seekers. In the passport office.
 ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should confine to the provisions of the Bill. This is not a debate.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: I am giving the information and not asking it. The Hon. Minister will make necessary changes in it. Some persons of dubious character are also making passport taking the advantage of eagerness of people to visit abroad. You will be surprised to know that our intelligence personnel arrested some people making fake passports and visas only 8-10 months back. Foreign passports and visas were recovered from them. Many persons are eager to go abroad for employment and study. Due to this very reason, many innocent persons fall in their trap and this causes them heavy losses.

I also want to submit that the people who need passport immediately, they should be issued the same by charging more fees. Besides, the passport form should also be simplified. If the form is simple, one need not seek the help of any tout or agent. Just now members were referring to people of the criminal background. We agree that the people having criminal background should not be issued passport but I am very sorry to say that such people are having more than one passport but who genuinely need it, they do not get even one passport easily.

Finally, I would like to say that strict action should be taken to prevent the activities of such people. The

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

punishment for them which you have prescribed should be more stringent than that. This is what I feel. The photographs of the passport-holders should be made available in every Court so that one cannot manage a second fake passport because generally people manage to make passport in different States. The information which I could get from some magazines, in the light of the above, I would like to submit that there is a need for taking more stringent action. Similarly, the touts or agents who are operating in some cities, some responsible persons should be appointed to prevent their activities. Likewise, some particular people work as agents for R.T.O. Therefore, there should be some authorised people for the purpose so that people do not approach to unscrupulous elements.

Finally, I support the Bill which has been brought forward by the Hon. Minister.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, generally speaking, I support the principle involved in the Bill. All along, the punishment provided has been very simple. Imprisonment of only three months has now been increased. At the same time, we cannot check it merely by announcing a higher punishment. The extra-territorial activities cannot be prevented merely by announcement of punishment. We will have to look at other methods also. Of course, we can put a person in jail for a longer period but that will not solve the problem. Police must be very vigilant and very alert in dealing with these offences.

While supporting the Bill, I may draw the attention of the hon. Minister to another aspect of the Passport Act. While associating myself with the views expressed by Shri Ramesh Chennithala, I want to emphasise on one very particular point regarding the appeal provision. Even for a very simple correction in the passport, the appellants will have to come to Delhi to prefer an appeal here. This is too much to expect. The application of a worker who is applying for a renewal of his passport will be summarily rejected if there is any discrepancy or defect in the application and the aggrieved party will have to come to Delhi to prefer his appeal here. The appeal provision should be decentralised. There should be a provision for the authorities in Chennai or Thiruvananthapuram or some other Southern capital to deal with the appeals. Otherwise, all people seeking jobs abroad, mainly in the Gulf countries would find it very difficult to renew their passports. Even for a correction in the initials or a correction in the name, they will have to come here to present an appeal. If the appeal is presented through post, the appellant will have to come here for a personal hearing. This is very harsh on the poor worker who is

seeking employment abroad. We cannot provide them employment in India. At least, they are getting employed abroad. So, when they proceed abroad, they are handicapped by these difficulties.

There is also the question of visa. The visa is issued for a short period, say, 30 days or 45 days, after which it would expire. But if the passport is not obtained before that period, the poor worker will have to forfeit his visa. He cannot proceed to Gulf countries. That is the tragedy of the situation. So, the hon. Minister may take a humanitarian approach to all these problems. If at all there is any defect or irregularity in the application, the poor applicant should not be brought to Delhi. This is a long-standing demand and I once again raise this issue on the floor of this House. I think that the passport seekers of the southern States would be very much relieved if they are allowed to prefer their appeals in the nearest station. I hope, the hon. Minister, would consider these suggestions and make appropriate provisions in the law.

With these words, I support the amending Bill that has been moved before the House.

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Hon. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has brought before this House a good Bill.

The Passport Act was first passed in 1920. It was in 1967 that a new legislation was enacted. In 1993, some amendments were also brought in.

The present laws for violation of the provisions of the Indian Passport Act are not deterrent enough to stop these violations and illegal transactions.

Another important aspect is the provision with regard to Pakistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Pakistan and Bangladesh were not separate countries earlier. Later on, they became separate countries. There have been changes that have happened in these countries. The conditions have changed. There are also the problems that are faced by our country in the border States that have to be taken into account. We are facing severe problems of illegal immigration, smuggling and other anti-Indian activities.

The terrorist activities from across the Indian border are going on. Smuggling of weapons, drugs and such other activities are also increasing. The hon. Minister has said that the punishment that is being given is very simple and that they are not able to effectively curtail such activities. The present enactment stipulates five years imprisonment and a penalty of Rs. 50,000. It is really a good one. But unfortunately it requires the Home Minister

to be more effective. Border security is very important. It is because substantial amount of such things may not be coming through proper channel and those people may not be having passports at all. That is why, the borders must be protected properly. That is more important and along with this Bill, he has to consider this.

I am quite sure that the hon. Minister will be able to make some effort in this direction because of the tremendous amount of expenses being spent on naxalism and such other things. They are happening mainly because of these activities. They are illegal activities happening from outside.

The next thing is that there are forged passports and duplicate passports. Different types of things are there. There should be some mechanism to curb this and this should be investigated. In the present day of electronic systems and computer systems that are operating, they should be able to identify them and to verify them. They should also be able to take very strong and deterrent action against all these things. Somehow, these things are causing big problems. The present system, as our hon. Members made it, can be made effective. They can increase the charges for passport issue also because the systems are being modernised or computerised. With that, they can use better methods also and they can make and develop better type of passports. In any case, this passport system is going to cause substantial amount of money.

In fact, a number of persons with forged passports leave this country and go abroad, and also, they come back. This shows that the Passport Section in the airports or the shipping areas has to be more vigilant about incoming persons as well as outgoing. Both are important from the viewpoint of the prestige of this country and also the problem that we may face.

In any case, this Bill is a very important Bill. I am sure, with the passing of this Bill, the hon. Minister may also take proper action in order to prevent those things.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Bhilwara): Sir, I rise to support the Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Bill, 2000.

This amendment of the Bill has a very limited purpose. The sole objective of this Bill is to enhance the punishment and to put it on par with the Passport Bill of 1967, that is taking care of 'exit' (policy). Now, I really fail to understand one thing. When this Bill was amended in 1967, why was it bifurcated (exit and entry). It must have been bifurcated for some reason or the other. Passport issuance is actually done by one Ministry, that is, the Ministry of External Affairs; and the punishment

and the verification, etc. are done by the Ministry of Home. It is a sort of a mix, in the sense that both the Home Department and the Ministry of External Affairs have a lot to do with the passport. That is why, I suppose that this Bill is not being piloted by the Minister of External Affairs, but by the Minister of Home.

I support this Bill. Actually, the purview of this Bill is not to discuss the whole passport affair of what goes wrong and how the whole system can be changed. But I would like to mention one or two things which are of prime importance concerning passport.

I think we are going very slow as far as computerisation is concerned. For renewal of passport, if I have to move from Chennai to Delhi or from Mumbai to Chennai. Have I to go all the way to Chennai to get the passport renewed? If it is computerised, it can be done in any of these metropolitan cities. That is a flaw which has to be looked into. It has got to do more with the system than with the amendments. The other thing which is of importance, especially when the Bill is moved by the Home Minister, is regarding photographs. In our country, the passports have photographs which are stuck on with a plastic film on it which can be removed. This is how passports are forged and faked. In other countries it is not so. There they are imprinted. If you imprint the photographs as it is done in other countries, this problem will not be there. This must be looked into by the Home Ministry. Here, you have enhanced the punishment very rightly. You have put it on par with the 1967 Exit Laws. But it is very important. It is because this is how the forged and fake passports are coming. This must be looked into and stopped. As far as entry into India is concerned, there was a move to have some sort of an Orange Card on the lines of Green Card for the NRIs. In the days of globalisation, people are travelling to the US and the UK from India for business as they used to travel from Mumbai to Delhi once. NRIs are coming to India quite often. There should be a proper system for the entry. We should have some sort of an arrangement. There was a proposal to have an Orange Card. I do not know what happened to that. If that is sorted out, it would lessen the harassment for getting the visas. In the end, I support the Bill.

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): Sir, we have no other go but to support this Bill because it is for a limited purpose. As the hon. Member who spoke before me has mentioned, as far as passport is concerned, entry and exit is done by different Ministries. The Home Ministry is in charge of the entry and the External Affairs Ministry is in charge of the exit. We have no scope to speak on the subject. It is because passport is a matter concerns the External Affairs Ministry. All the hon. Members who

{Shri A.C. Jos}

participated in the discussion spoke about issuance of passports, its format, delays etc. I do not know whether the Minister who piloted it is capable of answering it or is liable to answer it. But we have to air our grievances, especially the Members from Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat because large number of people are migrating to other countries from these States and passport has become a real issue for them. Every citizen of India, unless and otherwise proved, is entitled to get a passport. The problem is passport is issued only after a certain period. In Kerala it is 33 days and in some other States it is 40 days. It depends on the rush in each station. Mr. Chairman, as a lawyer, you are aware that an affidavit should be shown before the Magistrate or any other authority that he is not involved in any criminal case.

That is the only thing. There is an inquiry and it results in delay. Since an affidavit is obtained from the person, passport can be issued within a week or two. The employment-seekers from outside get visas within a span of one or two weeks. Students going abroad for studies have to go immediately. Many people have lost their jobs, because of the delay in getting passport. I request the hon. Minister to convey our feelings about the difficulty faced in obtaining the passport. I do not want to go into the aspect of computerisation, etc.

Coming to the entry part, the punishment awarded is very good. If any person is illegally entering into India, we should give punishment. Stringent punishment should be there. Our borders are very wide and we face a number of problems but while enforcing the law we have to safeguard the tourist aspect also. The State of Kerala attracts a lot of tourists but obtaining visas is a problem abroad. In certain cases the Home Ministry has given them permission to come to India. My submission before the Minister, through you, Sir, is, in many countries tourist visas are given at the airports. Why can we also not do the same thing? Genuine tourists should be given visas at the airport itself. People from Europe, especially Latin America, cannot come to India because of the difficulty in obtaining visas. All this is due to lack of communication between the Home Ministry and the people concerned in different countries.

Recently, a person had to come to Kerala to attend some conference. The sanction has to be given to him by the foreign desk of the Home Ministry. He got it in the last minute and that too after getting many recommendations. There was no necessity of it. He was coming here for just three or four days. My suggestion is, if a person is coming to India for a week or two, arrangements should be made or permission should be given to him at the airport itself or before alighting into the flight. That is what is happening in Gulf countries.

I would like to confine myself to my own State. Our State is famous for Ayurvedic treatment, which may go on for three months and in some cases even more than that. In such cases the Home Ministry is creating a lot of hurdles. The Ministry is not issuing the tourists' passport or visa for the persons who come here for treatment. Especially from Europe or Gulf countries, a lot of people are coming for getting Ayurvedic treatment. We earn good foreign exchange because of that. Many reputed Ayurvedic clinics are coming up. They are functioning very well in Kerala. They attract a lot of foreign patients but they are also not given visa in time.

Ours is a country which has a long history of migration to different foreign countries. The Indians settled there have acquired nationalities of those countries. In Africa, North America, Europe or Gulf, the former citizens of India have acquired citizenry of those countries. If such people come to India, we have to have some laxity. Every three months or six months they have to report to the police station.

It is a sort of harassment. This harassment will have to be avoided. The Home Minister has to do it. That is an entry position. We cannot say that Pakistan is an alien country or an enemy country. Many people who got trapped in Pakistan at the time of partition, have acquired Pakistani citizenship. Many of them are from Malapuram, Calicut, Hyderabad and other places. They do not want to live there. But they happen to be the citizens of that country. When they come here and even if they genuinely want to stay back, they have to report to the Police Station. That is a harassment.

Similarly, many Indians are living in North America. They have acquired citizenship of that country. Recently, when the Prime Minister went there, those people demanded dual citizenship. The people who have acquired citizenship of other countries and when they come to India, they have to go to the Police Station irrespective of whether that person is a man or woman. So, we have to consider the demand of dual citizenship very seriously because many people have migrated to other countries from India. When the people who have acquired citizenship of other countries by compulsion come here, some laxity should be given to them. Sir, I generally agree with this amendment Bill and support it.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill. I feel that the hon'ble Minister intends to give more teeth to this Bill which is very necessary also. Those who are coming from abroad there is a need to have a strict vigil on them because our neighbouring country is spreading terrorism in our

country through ISI. People of Criminal background and smugglers also come to this country and they over stay here even after expiry of the period mentioned in their passports which is creating an atmosphere of terrorism and unlawful activities. Therefore there is an urgent need to have a strict vigil on persons coming from abroad.

Poor, learned and educated persons go abroad in search of employment. Those who are educated have some approach and they get their passports made by influence but those who are poor and uneducated fall in the hands of touts for getting their passports made. Poor people from the villages who are facing economic crisis already they loose their money to the touts in the cities like Mumbai and Delhi and go back to their villages. Many people have told met that touts have taken Rs. 50 thousand or one lakh from them but are not sending them abroad. Therefore, there is a need to enhance the penalty. One more thing is there that applications remain pending in passport offices for long. Therefore some time limit should be stipulated in this regard. In the absense of any time limit employees of passport office delay the issuance of passports on one pretext or the other by saying that it is being examined or an enquiry is being made compelling the concerned person to pay money as bribe to them. Still the poor people could not go to foreign countries. A close monitoring in this regard is necessary. Time limit for issuance of passport is necessary.

With these words, I would like to say if close vigil is not observed then the country will suffer a lot in future due to the ISI network. Therefore a watch must be kept on it. With these words I conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Minister has claimed in this Passport Amendment Bill that this Act has been amended only twice viz. in 1968 and again in 1993. Now in the year 2000 it is being amended. Penalties are being enhanced by this Bill. He has claimed that the law was less harsh when India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar were together. Now these countries are separate ones or divided, thereby creating more problems. This Bill has been brought to enhance the penalties. When amendments were incorporated in 1968 and in 1993 at that time also these countries were separate. Hon. Minister has claimed that terrorism could be counterby enhancing the penalty. Those who reside in the country and spread terrorism, do they possess any passport? Have you checked it? Nothing could be achieved by enhancing the penalty. You should ponder over it. Why don't you do away with this passport system? You should abolish it here and get it abolished in other countries also. WTO agreement has been there. Goods from abroad will come here under this agreement. Why do you want to leave the poor persons in the hands

of the touts? You should make everything free and do away with passport system so that our people may be settled everywhere in the world. If this happens than nobody will be poor on this earth. Poverty will be eradicated. He says that foreign goods can be brought. They why don't you allow your people to go anywhere? Why do you trouble your people to make passports, get photographed, get examined, and take a visa. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (Thane): Licence is required for importing goods. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot sit and talk like that. The hon. Member may please address the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Goods do not have legs. It cannot move on its own. I am not ready to accept that by enhancing the penalties terrorism will be contained. Terrorism can not be removed this way. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the way. You must study the rule and come. You can not sit and talk like that.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: You should listen what our party has to say. Why are you disturbing me from that side? If you do not like it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: You are being advised...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a public place. You must address the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Shall I accept your suggestion? We give many suggestions here. Some Members may not like my suggestion.

Today, extremism is rampant in the country, ammunicions and drugs and being brought in the country.

Do not deceive. Those who are involved in illegal activities would they bother for a passport? Terrorists and

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

ULFA people get training in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Burma and they are moving freely. If they violate the Passport Law then five years imprisonment will be there and such activities will not take place. They go and meet Veerappan they talk and the Government surrenders. Whether this cheating would go on? The law framed by the Government and the claim made by it is regarding the limited Passport law. I would state that this practice of passport should be discontinued. A man should be allowed to become a world citizen so that one can move freely from one country to another. It will put an end to inequality, poverty and unemployment. If one is not getting a job here, he will get it somewhere else. Here, there are workers but no work and where there is work there is nobody to do the same. Therefore, this passport practice should be discontinued. Such a law should be framed so that literates and illiterates should move freely around the world.

Mr. Chairman Sir, earlier Pakistan, Bangladesh and Burma were one country. Corruption has cropped in only after introduction of the system of Passports. Terrorism is not going to end with this. When hon. Members would give suggestions, inquiries will be made and by that time delay would be caused. That is why this practice should be discontinued. The Government should contemplate on all these points and streamline the whole thing so that people do not face problems.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Bill, 2000. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to how many persons from Pakistan came to India and did not go back as on date. A lot of Pakistani citizens have been coming to India after the Lahore Bus Yatra and have not been going back. So far more than one crore persons have come from Bangladesh and even their ration cards have been made here. Our ex-Home Minister Shri Indrajit Gupta said that one crore Bangladeshis have come but how many went back. Fake ration cards of all of those persons have been made due to which their number swelled to 3 crores now. These very people travel with Indian Passports later on. Mr. Jos was just now asking what the Government is doing about such people. The passport office in Mumbai is in my neighbourhood where people face a lot of problems since it takes 2-3 months to get passport. If some one has to accompany a delegation or is getting a job abroad he would get the passport in 2-3 months. He is deprived of the job for want of a passport. My request is that this passport should be given within 15 days. This number is 57 thousand in Gujarat and 8800 in Mumbai. My request is that this number should be curtailed. It takes 2-3 months in police verification why do people have to rely on agents?

17.55 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

Please tell about the Entry and Exit simultaneously. I would like to ask you one thing as to how many politicians have entered India carrying foreign passports. Hon'ble Minister may kindly pay attention. How many politicians are carrying dual passports? Just as Shri Joseji talked about dual passports. We would like to know whether Shrimati Sonia Gandhi comes in this category or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Whether Advani ji has brought dual passport. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I am asking him, he will reply. We will also come to know. He talked about entry and exist. He took the entry and is carrying two passports. He talked of origin where does it begin from we should also be made aware of that. If we start discussing this matter it can be stretched further. I do not wish to take much time of the House since time is limited upto 6 o'clock. But I wish to say that passports should be given immediately. I would like to request about those people who are here in the country and the terrorism which is rampant. We should keep a watch on Myanmar border, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Pakistan Border and borders along the eastern countries. Please keep a watch on the people who enter India without passports but exit with Indian passport. I would like to conclude with these words.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Sudarsanda Natchiappan to speak. He is the last speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, you can seek a very good clarification.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one aspect I thought that the hon. Finance Minister would also be here. However, as the Information Technology Minister is here, I would like to draw his attention to the fact that the passport is very much a sanctioned document nowadays. When the Act was there in 1920, only hundreds of people were having the passport but millions of people are having the passport now. People who are investors here and people who are earning by going to foreign countries are also possessing

the passport. Therefore, when the investors are coming to India, they should not be treated on par with the terrorists. I say this because the Act now gives more power to the Executive. Hence, there should be some differentiation in this regard. We can very easily find out how much an air passenger is harassed in the security check. All the investors, who are having millions of rupees in their possession, are coming to India and they are harassed by an ordinary policeman in the security check. The same thing will not happen in any foreign country. With all the respect, they are receiving a person who is entering the country. Therefore, I would say that this Act gives total power to the Executive. If all the sections are read, this fact would become clear. Sections 3, 4 and 5 of the principal Act are giving total rule-making powers. Section 3 (5), by a subsequent amendment, is giving the statutory rule-making power. It has been presented before the Parliament. But we are not going through the rules which are placed on the Table of the House. Therefore, Mr. Minister, there should be a clear enactment which you should make. You should give it to the investors, especially who are coming from foreign countries when they are entering India. You should clearly say that if they are not having a passport, that is punishable under the law. If that is enacted into a proper law, that would help instead of having executive orders. Then, more investors will be coming to this country with a passport. They will be very happy to invest in this country. I say this because a passport is getting more and more powerful in the present situation of economic reforms.

Finally, I would like to submit that the present law gives ten years' punishment. Actually, the Assistant Sessions Court has to punish a person for five years for an offence. Now, it goes to the District and Sessions Judge. Can we give power to an executive authority to that extent without any specific Act to make the rule? Only three things are there in the Act. One is, possessing the passport; another one is non-possession of the passport and the third one is with or without authority to possess a passport. Other than these three, other things are with Executive. Therefore, that aspect has to be gone into thoroughly. The Executive should be very judicious in making the rules. It should also come out with a fresh enactment especially when the reforms are being made.

18.00 hrs.

We should not be worried too much about the problem of terrorism alone. We should have a thinking of broadened India; we should also have global economy in India.

SHRI G.M. BANATAWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bill enhances the punishment for unauthorised entry in our country. I rise to emphasise that under the pretext that a person has made an unauthorised entry into India, the genuine citizen must not be harassed. This is a complaint which is rampant, and therefore, deserves every attention. All sorts of highly inflated figures are in circulation. For example, the magnitude of the number of those people who have unauthorisedly entered into our country is made out as if there is an invasion of our country. If that is so said then the situation becomes worse.

MR. SPEAKER: Just a minute. If the House agrees, we can extend the sitting of the House till the completion of the Bill. There are two or three speakers more.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir, by 15 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: The propaganda goes on that those persons, especially from the neighbouring countries, who have unauthorisedly entered India, easily mingle with the people because of the similarity of language, religion, culture, dress and so many other things. A scare is created and the entire problem is blown out of its proportions. A scare is created and certain minorities are made a suspect in the eyes of the nation. This requires a proper attention, as I have said earlier. The infiltration into our country, especially from the neighbouring countries, is on the decline.

I would like to quote the reply of the hon. Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani to the Starred Question No. 708:

"There is no information to indicate that infiltration into India by illegal immigrants is increasing."

The whole answer is there. But because of paucity of time, I have mentioned that unnecessary scare should not be created. Of course, effective steps should be taken. There can be no two opinions about that. But in the name of the effective steps, the innocent citizens be not harassed and scare be not created.

In another reply to the Unstarred Question No. 1161, dated 6th November, 1999, the hon. Home Minister gave the year-wise figures of infiltration intercepted by the BSF. When we go through those figures, we find a phenomenal decline. From 1997 to 1999, there is a one-third decline. Of course, do not be complacent. Take effective steps but see to it that unnecessary scare is not created in the country, and see to it that the genuine citizens are not harassed. This is especially because the Government has sent instructions to the States and Union Territories asking them and I quote:

"To sensitise the local population about the magnitude and seriousness of the problem."

These things create a lot of problems and it is unfortunate that such unbaked ideas and light statements lead to the aggravation of the problem.

I would also like to emphasize that there should be no discrimination in the treatment meted out to persons who have entered unauthorisedly from the neighbouring countries and those who are from other countries. There should not be any such discrimination. At the same time, I would also like to remind the Government of the fact that the bulk of those who come here do so in search of their livelihood. This matter needs to be considered sympathetically. It has to be considered in a humanitarian manner. Our hon. Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani has made a statement to this effect, distinguishing between infiltrators and unauthorised immigrants. So, I would like

[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

to emphasize the fact that when people are here not with a design for any perverse activity, but in search of livelihood, then humanitarian consideration must prevail. At present, there is a scare that we, almost, have an invasion from the external agents, illegal migrants and so on and so forth. It is necessary for the sake of peace in our country that such a scare should not be created and such mischief should be nipped in the bud. This is not to say that effective steps need not be taken, but what I am emphasizing is that due care should be exercised in the implementation of laws.

Sir, I may also briefly refer to various difficulties that people face in getting their passports. There are inordinate delays in getting passports due to various reasons like shortage of staff in our passport offices, shortage of application forms, shortage of printed booklets and so on. This matter needs urgent attention. There are a number of occasions when persons receive intimation of their visas and such persons should be in a position to get their passports without and delay. In such cases, special consideration should be given in order to see that they do not lose the opportunity presented to them because of the intimation that they have received their visas.

The question of issue of passport may relate to the Ministry of External Affairs, but I hope that the hon. Minister here would convey our sentiments and observations to the Minister of External Affairs. The main reason for the delay in getting the passport is due to the fact that information on police verification does not come in time. This is a very serious thing. Many times, the police authorities do not even respond. In this respect, strict action has to be taken and a time-bound programme should be implemented. Now, we are in the era of information technology revolution. So, all the modern information technology can be used in order to see that the necessary information is obtained and conveyed to the authorities concerned in time. Then, there should be proper coordination between the Regional Passport Officers and the police authorities. They should, at least, meet once a month or once in two months and develop a proper coordination mechanism.

Sir, I would now refer to the difficulties of those persons who are coming from Pakistan wanting visa for going to Punjab, because their relatives may be there.

They may be wanting to visit their relatives. There may be emergencies in this case. But to my information, it is extremely difficult to get a visa for visiting the relatives even in Punjab. I do not know whether any instructions have been given that visas for Punjab should not be given. But, in any case, the difficulties are many and the Government must look into it.

I must also emphasise one more fact, that is, the question of extension of visas and then resume my seat. At times, the extension of visas is wanted for genuine purposes like medical treatment. In Kerala, for example, we have the world-famous 'Kottakkal'. The Ayurvedic treatment takes its own time. Under all these cases, a proper attitude should be taken and seen to it that the visa is given.

In the extension of these visas also, there is a lot of corruption. Now, the time does not permit me to go into that. But let us strengthen the machinery in order to see that such corruption is not there.

Finally, there are people who are of Indian origin. They went abroad in search of work. Somehow they became citizens over there. In their old age, they come back. They want to stay here. Their question has also to be considered sympathetically and with humanitarian considerations.

With these words, I support the Bill as far as the enhancement of the punishment is concerned. But I must emphasise that the machinery that implements it must be very impartial and considerate wherever sympathetic and humanitarian considerations are needed.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am on my legs on behalf of my party to support this Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Bill 2000. I have to say only that the terrorists who penetrate into our country, are getting support within the country. Therefore hon. Minister has brought this Bill to check terrorists to punish them and to maintain peace in the country. Though this matter is related to the Ministry of External Affairs but as the question of giving punishment to them is also involved in it, therefore Home Ministry has brought this Bill. I also have to add that there are agents or touts in our country who provide passports to such people by taking Rs. One Lakh or two lakh and ensure their entry in the country. This way, they disrupt the peace of our country. I submit that such people should be examined. For instance there are gangsters and smugglers in Mumbai, therefore the Passport Office in Mumbai needs to be strengthened and computerised because most of the people come to Mumbai. Therefore there should be some effort on your part to check them.

Finally, I support this Bill but also would like to warn you that after this, not a single terrorist should be allowed to penetrate into our country. If even a single terrorist is seen in the country, then you people will be held responsible and we will charge you for that.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill has only a limited purpose of enhancing the punishment for those people who enter into our country without proper travel documents. It is a fact that a lot of people enter into our country unauthorised especially from the neighbouring countries — Pakistan and Shri Lanka. These people indulge in smuggling, narcotics trade and also other anti-national activities.

These people can easily mix with our people. They cannot be identified easily. It is not because our laws are so simple that these things happen. There are enough stringent laws in our country to get hold of these people and punish these people. To detect this and to prevent this, we need the cooperation of the common people of our country. That is the most important point.

There should also be eternal vigilance. In this situation we should take a note of the fact that in Kargil intrusion we could not find them out in time and we had to wage a whole war to oust the intruders. The need of the hour is that the vigilance should be strengthened, our intelligence set up should be strengthened, so that we can detect these people and send these people out of this country.

Normally, what the police do all over the country is that they check up the hotels and lodges and look for the foreigners staying there. Those people who are staying in proper lodges and hotels have proper travel documents. The people who intrude into our country do not stay in any hotels or lodges. They have their own contacts in the country and they hide in there. What is needed is the people's cooperation in every front. That is the most important thing. For that the Government should take the people into confidence.

This Government attacks the people on every front. It has disrupted the PDS, and the farmers are in disarray in the regime of this Government. In every walk of life, common people are suffering. So, my point is that this Government can seek the cooperation of the people for detecting these anti-national elements and getting hold of them.

Anyway, I welcome this Bill. I reiterate that you can have enough stringent laws in the statute book but that does not mean that this can be prevented. The point is that you have to implement it effectively. You have to detect these people effectively and you have to get hold of these people effectively. That is the need of the hour.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, our relations with the neighbouring countries are deteriorating day by day, smuggling and terrorism have also increased. Taking asylum is not limited to one State or village but it has become country wide phenomena. Mr. Minister has formulated the law to check it but I feel that this law won't be sufficient to contain terrorism and smuggling. Shri Rawale and other hon'ble members have said that law should be amended at the earliest, what should be done to check this. There is a farmer named Madhukar Vitthal Bhavale in my constituency. His son was to go to New York therefore he went to passport office three-four times to get his passport. I also gave him a letter but of no avail. Thereafter, he met the babus and agents of the office and got his passport in no time. Passport laws are of no effect for the people of Dowood's ilk, but the same is effective for good people. India is a large country. Many people come from abroad and they have very hectic scheduled. They should get passport without any hassle. This is my request.

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the 14 hon. Members who have participated in this debate. The debate was very useful, very suggestive, and very informative also. But by and large, this pertained to the procedures and delays in obtaining Indian passport or in the procedure of appeals for correction of names or minor mistakes to be corrected in the passport or the location of appellate authorities.

I have taken note of most of these suggestions, which have come from the hon. Members. I can assure all of them that all these would be brought to the notice of the Ministry of External Affairs because primarily the issue of passport, the streamlining of the procedure, the speedy issue of passport, the enquiries to be got done within a limited period, the limit to be fixed for the passport offices for issue of passport within a particular stipulated time—all these questions relate to the Ministry of External Affairs, and the Home Ministry has nothing to do with those. But I can assure you that all of your useful suggestions will reach the quarters concerned.

There have been some suggestions so far as the Ministry of Home Affairs is concerned. The Indians holding foreign passports who have been living for a long time, permanent immigrants to foreign countries, should not be harassed and they should not feel any difficulty about it. Already the persons of Indian origin holding foreign passport are entitled to have a card, the person of Indian Origin Card, which is valid for 20 years and they do not

[Shri I.D. Swami]

require any separate visa at all. Even as at present, the procedure is such.

Certain hon. Members mentioned about the tourist traffic coming to Kerala or some other tourist places, and they should not feel harassed or they should not feel any difficulty in getting visas, and as in many other countries, visas can be obtained at the airport. Tourist visas for six months are freely available in all our Indian missions abroad even at present, and the visas are available for tourist groups of four or more than four on arrival and travelling on a pre-determined itinerary, there is no difficulty, for 60 days they can have the visas very easily, and there is no difficulty about that also. They can have that through travel organised by any recognised travel agency.

Another suggestion which was pointed out was that some people who have come from the neighbouring countries, of course foreign countries, are required to report to the police station, they get harassed by that, they get humiliated, and all that. I may inform this august House that registration by foreigners is required only if they hold a long-term visa of more than six months. If they have come for a lesser period than six months, this formality of reporting to the police station, the question of harassment or humiliation does not arise. If the duration of each stay exceeds six months...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Sir, it is still there. Those people who are coming from the foreign countries, for example from America, have to report to the police station. Then, you have to publicise this. You have to give instructions to the State Governments in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: We will certainly look into your suggestion. We will see that there is no unnecessary harassment on account of the reason that if the visa is less than six months, and they are coming to stay here for less than six months, they should not be required to go to the police station for registration, for reporting, etc. That is what I understand.

There was another point, which was raised by Shri Banatwalla. I may assure him that there is no question of anybody getting harassed or any rumour or any scare or any panic being spread on the part of the Government at all. As many as 25 lakhs of Foreign people have come during this year itself. About 25 lakhs of people have visited this country during 1999. There is no scare about that. Of course, what he has mentioned about it is that—he has agreed with this—we should also take all precautionary measures.

We should keep all our vigil, all our guards intact so that no unauthorised person, no anti-social elements and elements inimical to India get an entry into our country on forged passport or by infiltration without any regular authorised documents. Of course, the Government is always aware of this. We are sure that this will not be allowed to happen.

Most of the grievances of the hon. Members have been about the delay, the corruption, there being no definite stipulated period having been fixed for issuing a passport and the enquiry taking a longer time. So far as the Home Ministry is concerned, we have been sending advisories. We can assure you that we will again ensure this. So far as enquiry about the verification of the applicants is concerned, this goes to the district police authorities and this should be expedited. Nothing should be delayed there on their part so that the verification is done in a particular period. On that account, the Passport Authority should not make any pretext for not issuing the passport early.

Of course, the Tatkal scheme has already been put in vogue. But again under the Tatkal scheme also, after the deposit of some money, so many people have applied. Then, there also, it becomes a long list and it takes time. So far as computerisation or making use of the latest technology is concerned, I think all the Departments and Ministries of the Government of India are trying their best to implement all these technological developments so that speedy work is done in all the Departments for not only passport but for all other purposes.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: What is the number of persons whose visa has expired. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: I do not have any figures about them because it is not Question Hour. It is an amendment of a particular Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I have asked particularly about the dual passport of Sonia Gandhiji, you have not answered that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: The issue of dual passport has been under the consideration of the Government for a long time. It is a very complicated issue. It is the issue of double passports. It pertains to dual citizenship. My dear friend, I have not come here to answer a question. I have only moved a Bill for enhancement of the punishment. It is not very relevant to this but still I admire and value those suggestions and those proposals which you have put forth. So far as the Home Ministry is concerned, I assure you that all these would be kept in view. The other suggestions, which pertain to the Ministry of External Affairs, would be passed on to the quarters concerned. With these words, I once again request you that this Bill with which the whole House has agreed, and is unanimous that enhancement of punishment is necessary, may be passed.

Another complaint has been that it has been done after a very long delay. It should have been done earlier. It is because of Myanmar, Pakistan and Bangladesh coming into being, because of many other security scenarios changing, and keeping all these things in view, we should have moved earlier. But now we have moved it. I hope the august House would pass this Bill unanimously.

With this request, I once again thank all the hon. Members who have participated and who have helped me in knowing many things which were perhaps not in my knowledge. Thank you very much. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale, you have already participated in the debate. Again you are asking for clarification.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): There was a report that of all those people coming through Samjhuta Express to India, most of them are carries of narcotics. They are being used by the ISI for subversive activities in this country. So, my suggestion is that the proposal for cancelling this Samjhuta Express should also be considered actively by the Government. This is my suggestion to you. ,*

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: I have taken note of it.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, November 29, 2000/Agrahayana 8, 1922 (Saka)

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