

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Sixth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



**Printings & Debates Unit**  
**Parliament Library Building**  
**Room No. FB-025**  
**Block 'G'**

*(Vol. XV contains Nos. 11 to 21)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

**G.C. Malhotra**  
Secretary-General  
Lok Sabha

**Dr. P.K. Sandhu**  
Joint Secretary

**P.C. Chaudhary**  
Principal Chief Editor

**Y.K. Abrol**  
Chief Editor

**A.P. Chakravarti**  
Senior Editor

**Sanjay Srivastava**  
Assistant Editor

## CONTENTS

*Thirteenth Series, Vol. XV, Sixth Session 2001/1922 (Saka)*  
**No. 17, Monday, March 19, 2001/Phalguna 28, 1922 (Saka)**

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
<b>WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS :</b>	
Starred Question Nos. 261 to 280 (15.3.2001) .....	2—22
281 to 300 (16.3.2001) .....	22—41
301 to 320 (19.3.2001) .....	41—78
Unstarred Question Nos. 2705 to 2924 (15.3.2001) .....	79—296
2925 to 3108 (16.3.2001) .....	296—495
3109 to 3338 (19.3.2001) .....	495—769
<b>PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE .....</b>	<b>770—783</b>
<b>MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA — LAID .....</b>	<b>783—784</b>
<b>COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS</b>	
Fourth Report .....	784
<b>STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE</b>	
Twelfth to Seventeenth Reports .....	785—786
<b>DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS — RAILWAYS .....</b>	<b>786</b>
<b>DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS — GENERAL .....</b>	<b>786</b>
<b>MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 .....</b>	<b>786—794</b>
(i) Need to open a Central School at Shajapur in Madhya Pradesh Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot .....	786
(ii) Need to expedite construction work of Raipur-Bilaspur-Raigarh National Highway Shri Punnu Lal Mohale .....	787
(iii) Need to provide adequate funds for early completion of Kanhar Irrigation Project in Sonbhadra district, U.P. Shri Ramshakal .....	787
(iv) Need for early construction of railway overbridge at Maihar under Jabalpur Division, Madhya Pradesh Shri Ramanand Singh .....	788
(v) Need to provide adequate cold storage facility in Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency in Jharkhand Prof. Dukha Bhagat .....	788

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(vi) Need to provide basic facilities to the people living around Atomic Power Plant in Mandvi Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat Shri Mansinh Patel .....	788
(vii) Need to protect the interests of palm cultivators particularly in Karnataka Shri G.S. Basavaraj .....	789
(viii) Need to depute experts to study the reasons of frequent earthquakes in Kollam district, Kerala Shri Kodikunnil Suresh .....	789
(ix) Need to draw a comprehensive plan for the development of Udupi region in Karnataka as an ideal beach resort Shri Vinay Kumar Sorake .....	790
(x) Need to set up an airport at Gulbarga district, Karnataka Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi .....	790
(xi) Need to clear projects of Kerala Government for new fishing harbours of Ponnani and Thalai early Prof. A.K. Premajam .....	791
(xii) Need to restore Vacancy Based Roster in place of Post Based Roster for filling up vacancies of SC/STs Shri Rajaiah Malyala .....	791
(xiii) Need to withdraw orders for enhancing the entrance fee of historical monuments in the country for foreigners Shri V. Vetrivelan .....	792
(xiv) Need to open a Sainik School at Arrah in Bhojpur district of Bihar Shri Ram Prasad Singh .....	792
(xv) Need to clear the proposal of Maharashtra Government regarding issuing of Caste Certificates to SC/ST and backward classes in the State Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale .....	793

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

**Monday, March 19, 2001, Phalguna 28, 1922 (Saka)**

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[ MR. SPEAKER in the Chair ]

*(At this stage Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the table)*

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please switch off the cameras

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am once again appealing to you to go back to your seats. Please do not make noise.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to make any point, then you can make it from your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not good, please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

**11.04 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.*

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Handing Over of Running Multipurpose Berths to Private Sector

\*261. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have handed over the running multipurpose berths of major ports to private parties;

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

(c) the estimated income likely to be earned as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government are taking any effective steps for modernisation of these ports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Policy guidelines on private sector participation inter-alia, provide for lease of existing assets of Major Ports as well as construction/creation of additional assets. The reasons to invite private sector in port sector projects were the need to mobilise substantial resources required for expansion of Ports and to improve efficiency, productivity and quality of service as well as to bring in competitiveness in port services. The following projects involving multipurpose berths have been approved by the Government and handed over to the parties:

1. The construction and operation of two multipurpose cargo berths (5A & 6A) at Mormugao Port by M/s. ABG Goa Port Ltd on Build, Own, Operate & Transfer (BOOT) basis. The Port has handed over the existing berths 5 & 6 to M/s. ABG Goa Port Ltd. for this purpose. The license is for 30 years and investment expected is about 250 crores. The income earned/to be earned is as under:

(i) License Fee for the first year amounting to Rs. 1,54,09,246.00

(ii) License Fee for the second year amounting to Rs. 1,61,70,708.00 (The

license fee to be paid annually for a period of 30 years is to be increased by 5% of the amount paid during the previous year).

- (iii) 18% royalty for a minimum guaranteed throughput of 5 million tonnes per annum subject to a minimum guaranteed amount of Rs. 12.02 crores per annum.
- (iv) One time payment of premium amounting to Rs. 1,54,09,246.00 before signing the agreement.
- (v) Security deposit amounting to Rs. 1,54,09,246.00 which is refundable at the end of License Period.
2. Two berths in Jawahar Dock namely, JD-I and JD-V in Chennai Port were handed over to M/s. T. Arumaidurai & Co. and South India Corporation Agency Ltd. respectively on lease basis for a period of 20 years with a guaranteed traffic of 9 lakh tonnes and 8.2 lakh tonnes per annum respectively.

The Port revenue has doubled by way of increased wharfage charge collections (handling charges). In addition, the licensed has to pay berth hire charges, berth reservation charges, license fee, dredging maintenance, for one year in advance.

(d) and (e) Modernisation of Major Ports is an ongoing continuous process. The Programmes being undertaken at present for this purpose lay emphasis on the following aspects which are expected to enhance standards of the Indian Major Ports and their productivity:

- \* Construction and equipping new Berths
- \* Acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment to match the emerging Cargo Mix
- \* Establishment of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)
- \* Setting up of Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS)
- \* Labour Training and Welfare

In addition the increased role of private sector is expected to bring about increased modernisation through benchmarking of ports to international standard.

#### **Development of Buddhism-based Culture and Heritage Tourism**

\*262. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY;  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to promote Buddhism-based culture and heritage tourism;

(b) if so, the names of the States, where such tourism will be developed;

(c) whether a special task force under the Director-General of tourism has been set up to develop such specialised tourism activity;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the task force in this regard; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government as well as the financial assistance being provided for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While Buddhism based culture and heritage tourism is encourage in all the States which have Buddhist Monuments, it was decided to celebrate Bauddha Mahotsavs in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal in the first instance. These are in addition to the Bauddha Mahotsav already being celebrated in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

(c) A Task force had been set up under the Convenorship of the Director General of Tourism for formulating the concept and suggesting modalities for celebrating Bauddha Mahotsav at Arunachal Pradesh, Darjeeling, Manali and Leh (Ladakh).

(d) The Task Force recommended the locations and dates of the Bauddha Mahotsavs as under:

- (i) Jammu & Kashmir (Deskit-July 24-25, 2001)
- (ii) Himachal Pradesh (Kalpa-August 11-12, 2001)
- (iii) Arunachal Pradesh (Tawang-October 6-7, 2001)
- (iv) West Bengal (Jaigaon-November 24-25, 2001)

It also recommended the proposed programme of celebrations.

(e) The recommendations of the Task Force have been made in consultation with the concerned State Governments and have been accepted for implementation. A sum of Rs. 5.00 Lakhs is to be released to each of the concerned States for this purpose as Central assistance.

#### **Exports of Hand-made Carpets**

\*263. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK;  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of hand made carpet has been declining during 2000-2001 as compared to the previous year;

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

(c) whether the hand made carpet industry is facing difficulties due to increase in cost of raw material and stiff competition in the world market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. This silk carpet sub sector is facing difficulties due to sudden increase in price of spun silk yarn which is used as a raw material for silk carpets, and only partial neutralization of duties.

Taking cognizance of the problems, the Government has initiated a series of measures, which include: import of silk under special import license; reduction in customs duty from 35% to 15% on import of silk waste used in manufacture of spun silk yarn; upward revision in the cap imposed on the draw back with effect from June 1, 2000; assistance for participation in international fairs and exhibitions, organization of buyers-sellers meet, publicity, technological upgradation and design development; assistance for conducting workshops and seminars and organising carpet expo annually.

#### Foreign and Private Investment in Power Sector

\*264. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:  
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the Governemnt propose to ansuure foreign/private investment in power sector and the present number of foreign and private investors in this sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private investors provide electricity to the consumers at higher rates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Under the policy to encourage greater private sector participation in the power sector announced in October, 1991, private sector units can set up thermal projects-coal/lignite or gas based, hydel projects and wind/solar energy projects of any size. As per the policy, up to hundred percent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign investors. A statement indicating private sector power projects proposed to be implemented through foreign/private investment and techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Normally, the private power projects do not sell electricity directly to the domestic/agricultural and/or other small consumers and sell it to the State Electricity Power Transmission Corporations/State Electricity Boards (SEBs). The tariff of electricity supplied from private projects is determined as per the provisions of the two part tariff notifications dated 30th March, 1992 and the Power Purchase Agreement entered with the SEB. The tariff for thermal projects awarded on the basis of competitive bidding is governed by an amendment dated 23rd May, 1997 to the tariff notification. The tariff from the power plant is also dependent on various factors like site of project, type of fuel and its source, financing sources, sourcing of equipment etc. Under the provisions of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act 1998, tariff of intra state projects is determined by State Electricity Regulatory Commissions and by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission for inter state projects.

#### Statement

S.No.	Name of the Project	Cap (MW)	Cost(Rs/Crores)
1	2	3	4
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
1.	Jegurupadu CCGT (M/s. GVK Industries)	216	816
2.	Godavari CCGT (M/s. Specturam Tech.)	208	748.43
3.	Vizag TPS (M/s. HNPCL)	1040	4628.11
4.	Ramagundam Extn. (M/s. BPL Group)	520	2384.57 *
5.	Kondapally CCGT (Lanco Industries Ltd.)	350	1035.471

1	2	3	4
6.	Krishnapatnam 'B' TPP. (BBI Power Krishnapatnam Co.)	520	2221.329
7.	Venagirl CCGT (Ispat Power Limited)	492	1679.907
	<b>Bihar</b>		
8.	Jojobera TPP (M/s. Jamshedpur Power Co)	240	1025.19
	<b>Gujarat</b>		
9.	Paguthan CCGT (M/s. Gujarat Torrent)	654.7	2298.14
10.	Hazira CCGT (M/s. Essar Power Ltd.)	515.0	1666.56
11.	Baroda CCGT (M/s. GIPCL)	167.0	368.22
12.	Surat Lignite TPP (M/s. GIPCL)	250.0	1167.189
13.	Jamnagar TPP (M/s. Reliance Power Ltd.)	500.0	2550.741
	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>		
14.	Baspa Stage - II HEP (M/s. JPIL)	300	949.23
15.	Malana HEP (M/s. Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.)	86	341.911
	<b>Karnataka</b>		
16.	Toranagallu TPS (M/s. Jindal Tractebel)	260	1093.86
17.	Mangalore TPS (M/s. Cogentrix)	1013.2	4253.399
18.	Nagarjuna TPP (M/s. Nagarjuna Power Corporation Ltd.)	1015	5495.99
19.	Bangalore CCPP (M/s. Peenya Power)	107.6	390.593
	<b>Kerala</b>		
20.	Vypeen CCGT (M/s. Siasin Energy Pvt. Ltd.)	679.2	1964.3
21.	Kannur CCGT (M/s. Kannur Power Projects Ltd.)	513	1470
	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
22.	Maheshwar HEP (M/s. S. Kumars Ltd.)	400	1500
23.	Korba (East) TPP (M/s. Daewoo Power)	1070	4690.00
24.	Bina TPP (M/s. Bina Power Supply Co. Ltd.)	578	2443
25.	Narsinghpur CCPP (M/s. GBL Power)	166	531.24
26.	Korba (West) Extn. (M/s. ITPL)	420	1766.78
27.	Guna CCGT (M/s. STI Power India Ltd.)	330	1079.39
28.	Pench TPP (M/s. Pench Power Ltd.)	500	2183.50
29.	Bhilai TPP (M/s. Power Supply Comp.)	574	2489.71
30.	Raigarh TPP (M/s. Jindal Power Ltd.)	550	2411.80
31.	Bhander CCGT (M/s. Bhander Power Ltd.)	342	1048.072

1	2	3	4
32.	Pithampur DGPP (M/s. Shapoorji Pallonji Power Co. Ltd.)	119.7	442.096
33.	Ratlam DGPP (M/s. VGK Power (Ratlam) Ltd.)	118.63	451.294
34.	Khandwa CCGT (M/s. Madhya Bharat Energy Corp. Ltd.)	171.17	550.667
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
35.	Dabhol CCGT (M/s. Dabhol Power Co.)	2015	9051.27
36.	Bhadravati TPS (M/s. Central India Power)	1072	4630.90
37.	Patalganga CCGT (M/s. Reliance Patalganga Power)	447.1	1379.181
<b>Orissa</b>			
38.	Ib Valley TPS (Units 5 & 6) (AES IB Valley Cor.)	500	2369.48
39.	Duburi TPP Units 1 & 2 (Kalinga Power Corporation)	500	2191.534
<b>Rajasthan</b>			
40.	Dholpur CCGT (M/s. RPG Dholpur Power Co. Ltd.)	702.7	2294.078
41.	Barsingar TPP (M/s. Hindustan Vidyut Corporation Ltd.)	500	2106.635
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
42.	Neyveli TPS - Zero Unit (M/s. ST-CMS)	250	1200
43.	Pillaiperumalnallur CCGT (M/s. PPN Power)	330.5	1121.70
44.	North Madras TPS - II (M/s. Videocon Power)	1050	4423.80
45.	Basin Bridge DGPP (M/s. GMR Vasavi)	200	756.77
46.	Tuticorin TPP St. IV (M/s. SPIC)	525	2324.10
47.	Samayanallur DGPP (M/s. Balaji Power Corp. Ltd.)	106	384.221
48.	Samalpatti DGPP (M/s. Samalpatti Power Co.)	106	391.863
49.	North Madras TPP (M/s. Tri-Sakthi Energy Private Limited)	525	2246.77
50.	Cuddalore TPP (M/s. Cuddalore Power Company)	1320	6379.157
51.	Vembar CCGT (M/s. Indian Power Projects Limited)	1873	5060.165
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
52.	Vishnuprayag HEP (M/s. JPIL)	400	1614.6
53.	Rosa TPP (M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers)	567	2432.10
54.	Srinagar HEP (M/s. Duncans North Hydro Power Co. Ltd.)	330	1699.12
<b>West Bengal</b>			
55.	Balagarh TPS (M/s. Balagarh Power Com.)	500	2234.69
56.	Bakreshwar TPP (Bakreshwar Power Gen. Co. Ltd.)	420	1621.588
57.	Gouripore TPP (Gouripore Power Company)	150	659.442

**Conversion of Residential Houses of National Leaders into National Monument/Museum**

\*265. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:  
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residential houses of national leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel have been declared as National Monument/converted into Museum by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to declare the birth place of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at Cuttack and convert the old residence of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar into a national museum; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The house in Porbandar in which Mahatma Gandhi was born, was taken over by the Archaeological Survey of India as a protected monument. The house is protected but there is no museum in that. Adjacent to that is a memorial run by a private trust. Anand Bhawan and Swaraj Bhawan in Allahabad are maintained by private Trusts. Teen Murti House where Jawaharlal Nehru lived for a long time as Prime Minister of India now houses Nehru Memorial Museum & Library which maintains personalia Museum portraying the life and times of the different phases of the Indian freedom movement. The ancestral house of Sardar Patel is maintained by the Sardar Patel Trust.

(c) and (d) Jankinath Bhawan where Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was born was declared as a State Memorial by the Government of Orissa in 1991. There is a high level Trust under the chairmanship of Chief Minister of Orissa for management of the building. Govt. are eager to support this trust and the Govt of Orissa is developing this place as an appropriate commemorative institution. The proposal of Govt of Orissa is awaited.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has released an amount of Rs. 7.12 crores to the Govt. of NCT of Delhi for acquisition of the land and property at Alipur Road Delhi where Dr. Ambedkar had breathed his last.

**Increase in Railway Traffic**

\*266. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway traffic has gone up by six times since 1951;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment of the volume of traffic likely to be generated in the coming decade; and

(d) if so, the concrete plan, if any, being chalked out to handle such a volume of traffic?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The revenue earning freight traffic has increased from 73.2 million tonnes in 1950-51 to 456.4 million tonnes in 1999-2000, registering a 6.23 times increase.

(c) and (d) Formulation of the Indian Railways Corporate Plan is made after detailed discussion with user Ministries; Customers interface; anticipated completion of infrastructure projects, anticipated growth of the economy etc. This is because the demand for rail transport is a derived demand. Initial indications have been given by major user Agencies/Ministries, for the traffic likely to materialize in the coming decades. Further discussions are required to be held to enable Railways concretize its plans, the execution of which will necessarily depend upon the funds available for the purpose.

**Generation of Power by the Gas Based Power Project**

\*267. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas based power projects in the country with their power generation capacity;

(b) the target set for generation of power by the gas based power projects during each of the last two years;

(c) the extent to which the target has been achieved;

(d) the percentage of shortfall in regard to generation of power by the gas based power stations alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) There are 37 gas based power projects aggregating to a monitored capacity of 10497.2 MW in the country.

(b) and (c) The generation target vis-a-vis actual generation of gas based power projects for the last two years are as under:

Year	Generation (MUs)		
	Target (MU)	Actual (MU)	%of Target
1998-99	42,580	43,480	102.1
1999-2000	47,930	49,773	103.8

(d) and (e) There has been no shortfall in achievement of generation targets during the last two years.

#### **Restructuring of Central Silk Board**

\*268. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:  
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are restructuring/propose to restructure the Central Silk Board keeping in view the objective of participative implementation in partnership with the State Governments and the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the non-plan expenditure of the Central Silk Board (CSB) is going up every year;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to cut down unnecessary non-plan expenditure of CSB?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The restructuring of the Central Silk Board (CSB) has been under consideration for some time. The functions, structure and staffing of the CSB have been studied by the National Institute of Science Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS). The report submitted by that organization has been scrutinised further in the Ministry.

The National Textile Policy 2000 has also envisaged the restructuring of the role of the CSB with the objective of participative implementation in partnership with the State Government and the private sector.

(c) to (e) As would be seen from the following figures pertaining to the last 3 years, Government is exercising restraint on allocations for non-plan expenditure of CSB.

Year	Rs. in crores
1998-1999	16.00
1999-2000	17.00
2000-2001	15.30

[Translation]

#### **Import Quota of Readymade Garments**

\*269. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Government has hinted that the import quota of readymade garments from India would be raised only after U.S. textile industry is given marketing facility in India on mutual basis;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Power Generation**

\*270. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether US energy experts estimate that by 2020 India's level of dependence on imported energy is going to be as high as US level at the time of Gulf crisis, and our future power generation will depend significantly on imported gas/oil;

(b) whether Dabhol's high power supply tariff for MSEB is due to high cost of imported feedstock,

(c) whether it is a confirmed fact that the Country have coal reserves enough to last two centuries and hydro power potential of around 1,50,000 MW; and

(d) if so, whether India will abandon future power generation projects based on imported feedstock and concentrate on our own reserves of coal and potential for hydro-power?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) No such report has been received in the Ministry of Power (Government of India).

(b) The high cost of naphtha in the international market has been one of the reasons for the high tariff for the power supplied by the Dabhol Power Project to the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB). The other main reason has been the increase in the dollar exchange rate. Further, MSEB has to take power as per merit order dispatch on the directions of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission. As a result, the purchase of power from the Dabhol project is less than the contracted demand i.e. 90% PLF. However, MSEB has to pay fixed capacity charge.

(c) The total coal reserves of the country as on 1.1.2000 is 211.59 billion tonnes, out of which 38.94% are under "proved" category, 42.30% are under "Indicated" category and 18.76% are under "Interferred" category. Assuming a rate of coal production of 350 Million Tonnes during 2006-07, the life of recoverable proved reserves as on 1.1.1996 is expected to be over 85 years. However, about 3 to 4 Billion Tonnes of proved reserves are being added on an annual basis (as a result of detailed exploration) leading to additional recoverable reserves and extended life.

According to studies for re-assessment of hydro-electric (HE) potential in the country carried out by Central Electricity Authority in (1978 to 1987), the HE potential of the country is assessed of as 84084 MW at 60% load factor from a total of 845 Nos. schemes. The potential when fully developed would result in likely installed capacity of about 1,50,000 MW on the basis of probable average load factor.

(d) The capacity optimization studies carried out recently for the end of the 11th Plan (2011-12) have indicated that apart from hydel, indigenous coal and lignite are the most preferred fuels for power generation in the country. However, choice of fuel for the power projects depends upon a combination of factors like project site, load centres, distance of sources of fuels, likely impact on environment etc. Imported coal has been found to be competitive with the domestic coal at projects site near coastal regions. Though imported fuels (Petroleum products) are sensitive to foreign exchange variations and also to price of crude oil in the international market, their use may be economical in certain areas of the country apart from lesser impact on environment. The role of nuclear power may also be important in view of the indigenous capacity developed and also from energy security point of view.

#### **Trade Union in Textile Mills**

\*271. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Textile mills for permission to downsize the work force by 1%:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these mills have also asked for amendment in Trade Union Law relating to the minimum number for the formation of Trade Union; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The Textile Mills and Garment

exporters have been raising general issues of labour reforms. One of the suggestions recently made by Garment Exporters is that 2% of the labour force should be permitted to be changed each year.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. They have also asked that the minimum number of workers for formation of the Trade Unions be 25% of the total workforce. In this context, the Central Government is proposing to add the following proviso in 'The Trade Unions (Amendment) Bill, 2000'

"Provided that no Trade Union of workmen shall be registered unless at least ten percent or one hundred, whichever is less, of workmen engaged or employed in the establishment or industry, with which it is connected, are on the date of making of application for registration, the members of such Trade Union and in no case a Union shall be registered without a minimum strength of seven members."

#### **Threat to Indian Ocean**

\*272. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that extra regional powers are focussing their attention on the Indian Ocean; and

(b) if so, the details of such threat and the concrete steps taken by Indian Navy to counter it?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) In view of its strategic importance, the Indian Ocean has always received focussed attention of some extra regional powers. The prevailing external strategic/security environment and the emerging threat perceptions are factored in while formulating the modernization and development plans of the Indian Navy so as to ensure maritime security of the country.

#### **Import of LNG**

\*273. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the LNG import plans of the Government owned-Petronet LNG from Qatar based Rasgas has been delayed further as the company is unable to achieve financial closure for its special purpose vehicle as reported in the *Times of India* dated February 16, 2001;

(b) whether due to delay in import of LNG, the user companies would be affected adversely;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand of LNG in case imports are delayed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The date of financial closure has no impact on the project schedule as the promoters of Rasgas, namely, M/s. Qatar General Petroleum Corporation and M/s. Mobil QM Gas Inc. have separately committed to provide equity and debt financing for the construction of the liquefaction facility in Qatar so as to supply LNG by December, 2003 to the terminal of Petronet LNG Ltd. at Dahej (Gujarat).

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

[Translation]

#### Modern Processing Units in Textile Sector

\*274. DR. ASHOK PATEL :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to set up modern processing units in the textile sector is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial provision made for it, locationwise;

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

(d) whether provision has been made in this regard in the new Textile Policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) National Textile Policy - 2000 envisages, *inter alia*, that Government of India will encourage setting up of modern processing units, meeting international quality and environmental norms.

[English]

#### Violation of Indian Air Space by Pakistan

\*275. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been

drawn to the newsitem captioned "2 Pak aircraft violate Indian airspace" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 20, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the intruded planes were spotted by Army and not by the Airforce;

(c) if so, the reasons as to how the planes escaped detection by IAF;

(d) the steps taken to plug the loopholes and to upgrade the vigil on the border posts;

(e) whether the Pakistani aircraft have been violating Indian airspace in J & K;

(f) if so, the details of such violations recorded during the last two years; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to deal with such violations of Indian airspace?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (g) The Government is aware of the News item captioned "Pak violates Indian airspace thrice" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 20th February, 2001.

On the 19th of February 2001, two Pakistani Army reconnaissance aircraft violated Indian airspace in the Chhamb Sector, which was spotted by the Army.

There are set procedures to detect intruding aircraft, either visually or by radars. The visual sighting could be either by the observers of defence forces or para military organizations. These two intruding aircraft flew into the Indian airspace at ultra low level, to evade detection by radars. However, the observers, deployed by the Army, in the area, were vigilant and they sighted these intruders, visually.

Efforts are being made to strengthen the vigil in the border area, by inducting various types of surveillance equipment.

During the years 2000 and 2001, there have been 13 and 2 air violations, respectively by Pakistani aircraft, in the J & K Sector.

#### Inflow of Foreign Tourist from Western Europe

\*276. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tourism has slipped to number 3 slot, after software as foreign exchange earners as reported in the 'Times of India' dated Jan. 27, 2001;

(b) whether inflow of tourists from Western Europe has declined during 2000 which will adversely affect the smaller tourist destinations;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to attract more foreign tourists to the country particularly from Western Europe?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The foreign exchange earning from the export of software has overtaken that from tourism in 1999-2000 as indicated in the following table:

Foreign Exchange Earnings (In Million US \$)	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Tourism	2914	2993	3036
Software Export	1760	2626	4015

(b) and (c) Country-wise tourist arrival figures for the year 2000 are available upto September only. There has been a decline of 2.1 per cent in tourist arrivals during the year 2000 (January — September) from Western Europe as compared to the same period of the previous year. However, there has been an overall growth of 6.4 per cent in the foreign tourist arrivals into the country in the year 2000 as compared to 1999. Causes of this decline can't be pinpointed, but a variety of factors like ease of access, attraction of other competing destinations etc. influence decision of tourists.

(d) Development of Tourism is a continuous process. Various measures taken to attract foreign tourists to India include development and improvement of tourist facilities, publicity and marketing efforts in the foreign countries through overseas tourist offices, strengthening institutions of human resources development, use of information technology and encouraging private investment in tourism sector including hotels.

Government of India Tourist Offices in Western Europe are engaged in many promotional activities to attract more tourists to India which include advertising in print media and on internet, brochure support, joint promotion, direct marketing, participating in travel fairs, etc.

### Defence Budget

\*277. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the proportionate increase in Defence Budget share from 1996-97 to 2000-2001;

(b) the increased share of Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force therein, separately; and

(c) the steps being taken to modernise and increase the fighting capability of Army, Navy and the Air Force to meet the threats perceptions in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The actual Defence expenditure (net Revenue and Capital) from 1996-97 to 1999-2000 and the provision made for Defence expenditure in the Revised Estimates for the year 2000-2001 are as under :

Year	Defence Expenditure (Rs. in crores)	Percentage increase over earlier year
1996-1997	29505.08	9.86
1997-1998	35277.99	19.57
1998-1999	39897.58	13.10
1999-2000	47070.63	17.98
2000-2001 (RE)	54460.91	15.70

The share of Navy & Air Force in the Defence expenditure mentioned above is as under :

Year	Expenditure on Navy	Percentage of Total Defence Expenditure	Expenditure on Air Force	Percentage of Total Defence Expenditure
1996-1997	3976.23	13.5	7492.30	25.4
1997-1998	4764.56	13.5	9126.83	25.9
1998-1999	6015.54	15.0	9046.16	22.7
1999-2000	6836.77	14.5	10243.04	21.8
2000-2001(RE)	8214.19	15.0	11333.98	20.8

The expenditure on Coast Guard is met from the Grants of Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance and not out of Defence Budget. The actual expenditure on Coast Guard for 1996-97 to 1999-2000 and the provision made in the Revised Estimate 2000-2001 are as under :

Year	Expenditure on Coast Guard (Rs. in crores)
1996-1997	220.24
1997-1998	248.55
1998-1999	265.90
1999-2000	343.60
2000-2001 (RE)	415.00

Modernising and increasing the fighting capability of Army, Navy and Air Force is a continuous process which inter alia includes acquisition of new platforms and weapon systems, upgradation of existing ones and

induction of force multipliers. Adequate Budget provisions have been made to sustain these efforts to meet the threat perceptions in future.

[Translation]

### **Production of Combat Aircraft**

\*278. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the successful test flight of the indigenously developed combat aircraft, the production of the same has been started in the country itself;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the striking capacity of the indigenously developed combat aircraft would be better despite its lower cost than that of the foreign combat aircraft; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) is being developed for the Indian Air Force. As part of the development programme, a total of seven aircraft are being built under the Full Scale Engineering Development (FSED) Phase-I and Interim Phase-II. This total is comprised of two Technology Demonstrators and five prototype aircraft, including one Trainer. After the maiden and successful test flight of the LCA in January 2001, action has been taken for seeking approval of Phase-II of FSED which includes manufacture of eight aircraft as part of Limited Series Production.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As a fighter aircraft, the radius of action and weapon suite of the LCA would be equivalent to, if not better than, similar single engine combat aircraft under development in the world. Further, the Electronic Warfare suite would be a state-of-the-art system to increase survivability.

[English]

### **Statutory Tribunals for Armed Forces**

\*279. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had accepted in January, 1999 the demand for setting up of statutory tribunals for armed forces so that serving officers could seek speedy justice on service related matters without resorting to civil courts;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in constituting these tribunals; and

(c) the details of constitution and modus operandi of the contemplated tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Government have decided, in principle, to set up a statutory Tribunal for Armed Forces for hearing of appeals, against orders, in cases of Court Martials and for adjudication of Service matters of Armed Forces personnel. Legislative proposal, in this regard, has been drafted in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments and the matter is under consideration of the Government.

### **Tata Energy Research Institute**

\*280. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the recent research conducted at the Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi regarding isolation of consortium of bacteria which eat up petroleum sludge, a toxic waste product;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide this technology to all the refineries in the country as soon as possible in order to save the huge cost of pits and also to prevent the toxic waste leaking into ground water?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) At present, in the refineries, oil is recovered from the sludge generally using centrifuges and melting pits. The sludge after recovery of oil is stored in lined disposal pits after which it is disposed off. Regular ground water monitoring is being carried out around the disposal sites and no contamination of ground water has been reported. The oil industry is aware of the technology developed by Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi (TERI). This technology considers development of an oil sludge degrading bacterial group of compounds which will convert the oil sludge to non-toxic compounds. Oil industry has joined hands with TERI to further develop this technology and complete the trials being conducted in various refineries for adoption of this technology.

[Translation]

### **Export Promotion Scheme\***

\*281. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the various export promotion schemes under implementation at present;

(b) whether an assessment has been made about the performance of each of these schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of strategy being adopted to give a big boost to the export trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (d) The Export Promotion Schemes being implemented at present essentially aim at providing duty free access to international quality raw materials, intermediates, components, consumables and capital goods required for export production. The Duty Exemption Scheme allow duty free import of inputs through the mechanism of Advance Licenses. Those exporters who source their raw materials from the indigenous market are given the facility of either Duty Draw Back in cash or the facility to replenish these inputs through imports under the Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme and the Duty Free Replenishment Scheme. The Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme allows import of capital goods at a concessional duty of 5% for export production. In addition, there are special Schemes for the Gem and Jewellery Sector allowing import and replenishment of inputs at Zero Duty. The Export Oriented Units, the Export Processing Zones and the Special Economic Zones are customs bonded areas with facility of duty free import of inputs, raw materials, capital goods and all other requirement, as also exemption of profits from Income Tax. All these Schemes are essential because of the restrictions on imports and the relatively high interest rates and customs and excise duty incidence in the country. These Schemes have made significant contribution to the promotion of exports. Almost 80% of the exports are routed through the duty exemption schemes which facilitate neutralization of customs duty on imported raw materials. The EOUs, EPZs account for approx. 12% of the total exports. The Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme has created an export obligation of the order of Rs. 2,44,582 Crores during the period 1990-91 to 1999-2000.

The export promotion measures are reviewed every year at the time of the announcement of the Exim Policy and necessary changes are made as per the requirements of the situation. The overall thrust of the recent Policy has been on reduction in transaction time and cost through procedural simplifications and transparency through computerisation of the DGFT and customs offices and online filing and processing of exporter's applications.

*[English]*

#### **Seminar on Removal of Quantitative Restrictions**

\*282. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether any seminar on 'removal of quantitative

restrictions: How to meet the challenges' was organised recently by the FICCI in Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof and recommendations/suggestions made by the participants in the seminar; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the basis of suggestions/recommendations made in this seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) had organized a seminar on "Removal of Quantitative Restrictions : How to meet the challenges" on 20th February, 2001 at Kolkata.

The prime objective of the seminar was to disseminate information about the impending removal of quantitative restrictions on imports. The seminar also recommended certain safeguard measures for the consideration of the Government in the post QR scenario. These measures include accelerating the economic reforms process to increase the long term competitiveness of Indian industry, reduction in transaction costs, simplification of regulations, reform of labour laws, changes in import duty structure to provide protection to the domestic producers and initiatives for enhancing the market access for Indian Exports.

The suggestions made at the seminar have been brought to the notice of the Government. The present policy of economic liberalization being followed since 1991, aims at increasing the competitiveness of the Indian industry. The process of liberalization is a continuing one. The import duty on certain sensitive products has already been increased in the Budget for the year 2001-2002. Besides, an Inter-ministerial Group, under the Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary, is examining the likely impact of QR removal on domestic producers to suggest suitable measures to be taken by the Government. The Group had made some interim recommendations like imposition of national mandatory quality standards and labeling requirements on import of consumer products and these have already been implemented in November, 2000.

#### **Shortage of Small Denomination Notes**

\*283. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of small denomination notes and court stamp papers in many States including Maharashtra in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure adequate supply of the currency notes and court stamp papers in the States, which are in short supply; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) Currency notes in the denominations of rupee one, rupees two and rupees five are no longer printed and the notes already in circulation will get replaced by coins. There is no shortage of stamp papers in the country including the State of Maharashtra.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Anti-Dumping Duty on Indian Steel**

\*284. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with U.S.A. on the issue of levying anti-dumping duty on Indian steel exports;

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

(c) if not, whether Indian Government are considering legal action against USA; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) No Sir.

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

(c) and (d) The Government of India has referred the matter to WTO against the rulings of the US to impose Anti-dumping and Countervailing duties on CTL Plates exported from India since the rulings violated certain WTO commitments. As a first step in the process, consultations have been held with US authorities in Geneva on 21st November, 2000. Government of India is actively pursuing this dispute under the Dispute Settlement Mechanism of the WTO.

#### **Closure of Rural Branches of Public Sector Banks**

\*285. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many public sector banks in the country have closed down their branches in rural areas in the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of bank branches closed during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for their closure;

(d) whether the closure of bank branches in rural areas have adversely affected agriculturists and rural people; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The number of branches in rural areas of public sector banks which have been closed/merged/converted during the last three years is as under:

1st April to 31st March	No. of Branches closed
1997-98	11
1998-99	10
1999-2000	37

(c) Under the liberalized policy, banks were allowed to close their loss-making rural branches at centers having two or more branches of commercial banks functioning at that center (excluding Regional Rural Banks) on mutual consultation. Further, banks have also been allowed to shift their rural branches under the following conditions with approval of RBI.

(i) branches being shifted are in existence for five years or more and are incurring losses consecutively for the last three years.

(ii) branches located at centers suffering from certain natural risks beyond the control of the bank, such as those which are prone to floods, landslides or likely to be submerged due to construction of dams or affected by natural calamities etc.

(iii) branches functioning in places where law and order problem or terrorist activities posing threats to bank personnel and property.

(iv) branches where the premises occupied by the bank are in a dilapidated condition or burnt/destroyed and no suitable premises are available at the centre/block/service area

Recently, under Reconstruction plan of weak banks approved by Government and Reserve Bank of India, these banks were also allowed to close some of their loss making rural branches within the above policy.

(d) and (e) As per the existing policy of RBI on branch licencing, while closure of a single branch of a bank in a rural area is not allowed, they are permitted to

convert the branch into satellite office which functions for 2/3 days in a week so as to provide banking facilities to the customers at that centre. Also, new branches are being opened at some rural centers. As such it is ensured that people in the rural areas continue to have access to banking facilities. Through the operation of various schemes and initiatives, the credit needs of rural areas and agriculture are being met by commercial banks, Regional Rural Banks and Co-operative banks.

#### Excise Duty Collected from Cigarette Industry

\*286. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of excise duty collected from the cigarette companies and distilleries during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether any company has been apprehended for evading excise duty or giving inaccurate accounts of actual production during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The amount of excise duty collected from cigarette companies and distilleries during the last three years and the current year are as under :

(Rs. Crore)

Description	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01 (Upto Nov-00)
Cigarettes and cigarillos of tobacco or tobacco substitutes	4492	4592	4863	3393

\* Of the products manufactured in distilleries only denatured ethyl alcohol is subject to Central Excise Duty. Revenue figures are not available separately for denatured ethyl alcohol.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details are as under :

Year	No. of cases evasion by cigarette companies	Amount of duty evaded (Rs in lakhs)	No. of cases of evasion by distilleries	Amount of duty evaded (Rs. in lakhs)
1997-98	4	4108.14	9	64.75
1998-99	4	801.26	1	.50
1999-2000	3	211	1	20.82
2000-2001 (Upto Dec.)	7	596.38	1	28.0

(d) Show cause notices have already been issued to these units for initiating the adjudication and recovery proceedings as per law.

#### Restructuring of CBDT and CBEC

\*287. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target of revenue collection during the last three years could not be achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Board of Direct Taxes and Central Board of Excise and Customs are being restructured as a part of a series of efforts to meet the revenue collection targets;

(d) if so, the extent to which restructuring of CBDT and CBEC is going to generate more revenue; and

(e) the other steps taken to meet the revenue shortfall?

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

(b) The main reasons for shortfall in revenue collection during the last three years are instability in crude oil prices, slower growth in industrial sector, new incentives provided during these years for infrastructure development, industrialisation, capital market and housing sector, and change in the pattern of imports.

(c) The Income Tax, and the Customs and Central Excise Departments are being restructured.

(d) The restructuring of the CBDT and CBEC would impart greater transparency and efficiency in their functioning and help widen the tax base, leading to generation of substantial additional revenues.

(e) Other steps taken to meet the revenue shortfall include rationalisation of the rate structure, simplification of administrative procedures in order to increase tax compliance, removal of exemptions, bringing more commodities in the tax net, and widening of the tax base.

#### Nexus between Film Industry and Underworld

\*288. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY :  
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is a nexus between the underworld and the film industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being contemplated by the Government to put an end to this unholy alliance and to finance the film industry;

(d) whether the film industry has been facing threats from mafia gangs and is suffering from other malaise; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (e) "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

In order to facilitate a greater flow of institutional finance to the film industry, Notification dated 16.10.2000 was issued by the Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division), Ministry of Finance, whereunder the "Entertainment Industry including Films" has been specified as an approved activity under "Industrial Concern" in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 2(c) (xvii) of the IDBI Act. The Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) has asked the IDBI to evolve well-recognized and acceptable standards to enable financial institutions to fund ventures relating to the film industry. The Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) has also asked the RBI along with the IDBI to circulate necessary guidelines to banks in this regard.

An Advisory Group comprising key representatives of the film sector has been set up to advise the Ministry on policy and other issues relating to the film industry. A Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector including films, has been set up, in addition, under the Chairpersonship of the Minister for Information and Broadcasting and comprising State Ministers for Information and Public Relations from nine States.

#### **Unutilised Foreign Aid**

\*289. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large amount of foreign assistance is lying unutilised as on date;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper and speedy utilisation of foreign assistance?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Foreign aid is largely project tied and therefore, utilisation of the same

project is spread over the project implementation period. As a result, there would be some unutilised aid at any point of time, reflecting aid in pipeline, which will be used as project implementation takes place.

The State-wise and source-wise details are given in Statement-I and Statement-II.

The pace of utilisation of foreign aid is sometimes affected due to inadequate provisioning of funds by the implementing agency, procurement and contracting delays, delays in land acquisition and other project specific issues.

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Government to improve aid utilization are ensuring adequate provisioning for externally aided projects in the budgets of State and Central Govt., streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediation of flow of external aid to Central Public Sector Undertakings, quarterly review with Executing Agencies, setting up of a Project Management Unit in the Department of Economic Affairs, strengthening of Project Management Units/ Project Monitoring Cells, appointment of Nodal Officers for the States and regular review of projects with respect to quality at entry. A system of monitoring the projects on the basis of quarterly milestones of achievement of important activities is also being followed.

#### **Statement-I**

#### *Statewise Unutilized Balances under Externally Aided Projects as on 31.01.2001*

S.No.	State	Unutilized Balance (Rs. Cr.)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9194.53
2.	Assam	301.81
3.	Bihar	79.23
4.	Central	38960.74
5.	Gujarat	3725.16
6.	Haryana	1078.94
7.	Himachal Pradesh	42.92
8.	Karnataka	3457.36
9.	Kerala	1769.30
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1493.09
11.	Maharashtra	1292.88
12.	Manipur	147.69

1	2	3
13.	Meghalaya	61.64
14.	Multistate	2327.48
15.	Orissa	2484.93
16.	Punjab	140.38
17.	Pondicherry	28.68
18.	Rajasthan	2032.05
19.	Tamil Nadu	2023.12
20.	Uttar Pradesh	5996.38
21.	West Bengal	2875.56
Total		79513.87

**Statement-II**

*Sourcewise Unutilized Balances under Externally Aided Projects as on 31.01.2001*

S.No.	Source	Unutilised Balance (Rs. Cr.)
1	2	3
1.	Asian Development Bank	7063.73
2.	IDA	17789.44
3.	IBRD	15224.13
4.	IDF (WB)	56.12
5.	IFAD	325.23
6.	OPEC	94.87
7.	Belgium	22.14
8.	Canada	17.65
9.	Denmark	427.42
10.	EEC	1558.46
11.	France	137.93
12.	Germany	1606.35
13.	Japan	13774.20
14.	Netherlands	6058.09
15.	Norway	56.75
16.	Russian Federation	11961.60
17.	Saudi Arabia	35.99

1	2	3
18.	Sweden	24.87
19.	Switzerland	38.69
20.	UNDP	148.55
21.	UNICEF	0.00
22.	UNFPA	7.19
23.	United Kingdom	2749.00
24.	United States of America	335.47
Total		79513.87

[Translation]

**Patenting Indian Products**

\*290. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :  
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :

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

(a) the details of products on which patent list has been maintained by the Indian Government;

(b) the details of patent cases filed by the Indian Government against various foreign countries and vice-versa as on date;

(c) the latest status of each case;

(d) the action taken by the Government for patenting many Indian products traditionally produced in the country;

(e) the policy of the Government to save the Indian products being patented by foreign companies;

(f) whether the Government have identified those Indian products, which are being patented by the foreign countries;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps being taken by the Government to deal with this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Patents are obtained by inventors to prevent their unauthorised exploitation by others. Government acts as a facilitator by granting patents to inventions which fulfil the criteria of patentability as per the patents law. In India, patents are granted under the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970. Section 5 of the said Act provides for process patents for inventions in the fields of food, medicine or drug and substances produced by chemical processes.

In other fields, both process and product patents are permissible. Particulars of patents granted in different fields are maintained by the Patent Office and the statistical information is published annually in its annual report which is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Patents are granted under the sovereign prerogative of countries according to their respective Patent Laws and have territorial effect, that is, they are effective only in the country of grant. A patent is normally challenged by the person(s) whose interests are affected/jeopardised. The challenge is to be made under the laws of the country concerned. The Indian patent law provides for pre grant opposition whereas the laws of several other countries provide for post grant opposition only. As and when information is received about patents being obtained on certain items which are not considered patentable and which affect Indian interests, steps are taken to assess whether the grant of such patents can be challenged under the patent laws of the country concerned.

Earlier a patent granted in the United States of America on the use of turmeric for wound healing was challenged. The said patent was also cancelled.

Certain claims in respect of the patent on Basmati Ricelines and grains granted in the United States of America were also challenged since they had the potential of affecting India's commercial interests. Pursuant to the challenge, these claims and an additional claim was withdrawn by the patentee.

(d) Patents are granted by following the basic principles of novelty, inventiveness and industrial applicability. Products, including traditional produce, already existing cannot be a subject matter of patent.

(e) to (h) In order to protect bio-resources, the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999, contains provisions for mandatory disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material used in the invention while applying for patents in India. Provisions have also been incorporated to include the non-disclosure or wrongful disclosure of the same as grounds for opposition and for revocation of the patent, if granted. Provisions in this regard are contained in clauses 8, 17 and 28 of the said Bill.

In order to protect traditional knowledge from being patented, provisions have been incorporated in the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999, to include anticipation of invention by available local knowledge, including oral knowledge, as one of the grounds for opposition as also for revocation of patent. Provisions in this regard are contained in clauses 17 and 28 of the said Bill.

Apart from this, Government has also approved development of a digital database of traditional knowledge in the field of medicinal plants to prevent patenting of products based on such knowledge.

[English]

### Percentage of GDP Growth

\*291. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has stated that 8 to 9 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is not possible under the present circumstances;

(b) if so, whether an on-going study by the Commission has come out with reasons for not attaining a higher GDP growth;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the Plan panels recommendations on economic growth possibilities?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) The Planning Commission has just initiated the exercises for formulating the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007). Alternative growth scenarios are being examined as part of these exercises.

[Translation]

### Policy of Engaging Private Producers by DD & Akashwani

\*292. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the policy on engaging private producers in the production of programmes for Doordarshan and Akashwani;

(b) whether private producers are being allowed to produce programmes for Doordarshan and Akashwani; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of programmes produced by these private parties?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) (a) to (c) According to Prasar Bharati, Doordarshan engages private producers under the following circumstances :

(i) To meet the requirement of Software for a channel.

(ii) For the purpose of preserving works of literature and other creative arts which are of

archival value and also for enriching the programme content of different channels.

- (iii) For programmes on subjects of public interest, which otherwise would not be available to Doordarshan.
- (iv) Programmes are also commissioned keeping in view the international marketing prospects.

In so far as All India Radio is concerned, most of its programmes are produced in-house. However, to involve outside eminent talents, some programmes are assigned to private producers.

The percentage of programmes produced by Private producers varies among channels depending upon the profile of the channels.

[English]

### Testing Standards for Tyre

\*293. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Tyre Dealers' Federation has asked the Government to formulate and enforce stringent and accountable tyre testing standards in tune with the norms in other countries;

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

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the tyres which carry the ISI mark are far below the international standards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) :  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Standards for tyres are comparable with other international standards.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Fifth Pay Commission

\*294. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission by the Central Government has led to an increase in the financial burden of the States;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering any proposal to provide any financial package to the State Governments to meet the situation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) in their report, observed that the impact of the Fifth Pay Commission has aggravated budget imbalances of the States.

(c) and (d) The EFC has made their recommendations on devolution to States after a holistic assessment of the needs and resources of the Centre and each State for the award period. The additional liabilities arising out of the revision of emoluments and terminal benefits etc. to the State Government employees, as a result of the implementation of the recommendations of the 5th Pay Commission have been captured by the EFC within its terms of reference. The EFC have assessed the revenue and expenditure requirement of States, and have recommended a transfer of Rs. 434,905.40 crore to States for the period 2000-05. This constitutes an increase of 91.89 per cent over that of the transfers recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission for the period 1995-2000.

EFC in its supplementary report on the additional term of reference has recommended constitution of an Incentive Fund for release of fiscal performance based grants to States. Pursuant to the recommendations of EFC, on additional terms of reference, the guidelines on 'The States Fiscal Reform Facility (2000-01 to 2004-05)' have been circulated to the States.

[English]

### Release of Foreign Exchange

\*295. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the release of foreign exchange not exceeding US\$ 25,000/- to a person irrespective of period of stay for business purpose has been made effective from June 1, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since evaluated the outgo of foreign exchange under the new scheme;

(c) if so, the comparative figures of foreign exchange roll-out till December, 2000 under the revised order vis-a-vis comparative figures for the last year;

(d) whether the new scheme is likely to dwindle the foreign exchange reserve of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (e) Since a liberal approach of allowing US\$ 25,000/- to a person, irrespective of period of stay, for business travel has been in operation for slightly over 9 months only, no calculation regarding outflows under this scheme has been made as yet.

[Translation]

#### **New Credit Policy of RBI**

\*296. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently announced a new credit policy;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof and details of the changes made therein as compared to the previous policy; and

(c) the likely impact of the new policy on the economic sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) As per the existing practice, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announces its annual Monetary and Credit Policy in April and the Mid-Term Review of the policy in October. The Monetary and Credit Policy for 2000-01 was announced on April 27, 2000 while the Mid-Term Review of this Policy was announced on October 10, 2000. The new credit policy referred to in the question therefore relates to 2001-02, which is expected in April 2001. However, keeping in view the developments in domestic and international financial markets, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) undertakes appropriate monetary and credit policy measures from time to time. Thus, after a review of the recent developments in domestic and international financial markets, the RBI took the following measures on February 16 and March 1, 2001.

*February 16, 2001*

- (i) Reduction in Bank Rate from 8 percent to 7.5 percent with effect from February 17, 2001.
- (ii) Reduction in Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) from 8.50 percent to 8.25 percent with effect from the fortnight beginning February 24, 2001 and to 8.00 percent with effect from the fortnight beginning March 10, 2001.

*March 1, 2001*

Reduction in Bank Rate from 7.5 percent to 7.0 percent with effect from March 2, 2001.

(c) In response to the reduction in Bank Rate, a number of banks have announced reduction in their Prime Lending Rates (PLRs). The reduction in CRR from 8.5 percent to 8 percent increased lendable resources of banks by about Rs. 4100 crore. The softening of interest rates, facilitated by reduction in cost of funds and increase in liquidity, is expected to reduce cost of production and thereby contribute to economic growth.

#### **Ban on Fashion TV Channel**

\*297. MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE :  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to ban the Fashion TV Channel; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) The Government has taken up with the programme producer, the need to adhere to the Programme Code, prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules made thereunder. The producer of the programme has assured to do so.

[English]

#### **Food Deficit States**

\*298. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties of the food deficit State like Kerala due to the present Public Distribution Policy of the Union Government;

(b) whether the Government have received any representations from Kerala and other States in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Some representations in regard to the Public Distribution System (PDS) Policy have been received from Kerala. For instance, on 7.3.2000, the Minister for Food, Tourism and Law, Government of Kerala sent a letter requesting the Government of India to reconsider

the proposals made in the Budget 2000-01 regarding increase in the price of ration articles. Subsequently, the Minister for Food, Tourism and Law, Government of Kerala also sent a memorandum dated 17.4.2000 in which it was, *inter alia*, stated that the recent decisions of the Government of India to charge economic cost for the foodgrains supplied to the people above poverty line, to increase the price of foodgrains for BPL families to 50% of the economic cost and to limit the issue of sugar to non-income tax payers had come as a big blow to the rationing system in the State. In January, 2001, the Chief Minister, Kerala also wrote to the Prime Minister to reconsider the Union Government's decision to do away the distribution of sugar to people above poverty line.

The State Government was informed on 14.6.2000 that it was necessary to increase the Central Issue Prices (CIP) of rice and wheat from time to time to neutralise the increase in the Minimum Support Prices of paddy and wheat, that the allocation of foodgrains to the families above poverty line had been maintained at the economic cost with effect from 1.4.2000 keeping in view the consensus that people living above poverty line did not need help in the form of consumer subsidy, and that the fixation of the CIPs for APL families at 100% of the economic cost had enabled the Government to target the supplies more meaningfully to the families below poverty line. The Government of Kerala was also informed that the monthly allocation of rice and wheat for Kerala (BPL + APL) had been restored to March 2000 level at 1,45,320 tonnes and 37,720 tonnes respectively.

It may be pointed out that consequent upon reduction in the levy obligation of domestic sugar producers to 30% with effect from 1.1.2000 and in order to achieve better targeting in supply of levy sugar under the PDS, the Government had excluded, with effect from 1.7.2000, the income tax assesses and members of their families from the purview of PDS in so far as supply of sugar was concerned. In line with this approach, consequent upon further reduction in levy obligation of domestic sugar producers to 15% with effect from 1.2.2001, the Government has restricted the supply of sugar under the PDS to BPL families except in North-Eastern States/ Hill States/Island territories, where the earlier arrangement is continuing. The Government has, however, increased, with effect from 1.2.2001, the minimum per capita supply of sugar to eligible persons under the PDS from 425 grams to 500 grams per month. At present, the allocation of levy sugar for Kerala is 4103 M.Ts. per month. The Central Government has been making allocation of levy sugar to the States/Union Territories for distribution through the PDS based on the norms fixed from time to time

### 100% Export Oriented Units

299. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are losing a huge amount of revenue from 100% export oriented units;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the detail of such companies;

(c) the factors responsible for revenue loss;

(d) whether any check has been conducted in respect of imports done under various export promotion incentive schemes in order to prevent loss of revenue; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The EOU Scheme provides for duty free import/ indigenous procurement of inputs/capital goods required by the units essentially set up for export production. These benefits are provided to neutralize incidence of duties suffered in inputs/capital goods used for export production as a conscious policy of the Government to boost exports and cannot be termed as leading to loss of revenues. Control measures and checks are prescribed to enforce the provisions of the scheme and to detect abuses, if any. Some cases of abuse and violations of the provisions of this scheme by various 100% EOUs have been detected.

(c) The investigations in cases involving abuse or violations of this scheme show various *modus operandi* and factors responsible include ingenuous and fraudulent manipulation of various prescribed documents and records by the units, abuse of the trust placed and the facility of relaxed physical control with stress on documentary control mechanism provided to encourage exports.

(d) Special checks have been conducted from time to time by issue of specific instructions to field formations to check proper utilization of the imports effected by 100% EOUs. Latest checks were ordered in December, 2000. Even for the imports and exports effected by persons claiming benefit of other export related schemes, critical checks are being carried out by Custom Houses at the time of imports/exports to prevent abuse possibilities/loss of revenue. Intelligence Agencies of the Department of Revenue are also alert to unearth any abuses and violations of the other export related schemes and for initiating necessary action as provided in the law to prevent any loss of revenue.

(e) As a result of the various checks in respect of 100% EOU Scheme, 208 cases involving duty of Rs. 326 crore have been detected in the current financial

year. As a result of the checks/investigations conducted under various other export related schemes, a number of cases of abuse have also been detected. These are at different stages of investigation/adjudication. Action is being taken in all cases where abuse is detected.

### **Non-Performing Assets**

\*300. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has recently called a high level meeting of public sector bank chiefs to take stock of the NPAs of the industry;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed in the meeting; and

(c) the strategy formulated to recover the NPAs speedily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it had taken a meeting with the Chief Executives of Public Sector Banks on 14th February, 2001 to review the progress of recovery of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) under the revised guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India in July, 2000 among other things.

(c) The Chief Executives of the Public Sector Banks were advised to devote their personal attention for recovery of NPAs for the remaining period i.e. up to 31st March 2001 up to which date the revised guidelines issued by RBI are in vogue. Besides, the banks are taking several other steps for speedy recovery of NPAs viz. strict implementation of recovery policy, follow up of cases with Debt Recovery Tribunals, continuous monitoring and follow up of non-performing accounts at various levels in the bank.

### **National Wage Policy**

\*301. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :  
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether leading trade unions have demanded a national wage policy;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Tripartite Cell for rehabilitation of sick units and to arrest increasing unemployment in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The issues relating to national wage policy have been under discussion with the representatives of Trade Unions in various fora over the years. The key elements of a National Wage Policy framework like payment of wage, timeliness of wage payment, non-discrimination in wage between men and women are governed by legislations such as Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and Equal Remuneration Act, 1976.

(c) and (d) Such matters are discussed in tripartite fora which are already available in the Ministry of Labour. As such there is no need to set up a Tripartite Cell.

### **Airport Security Arrangements**

\*302. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO :  
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have not yet signed any agreement with Nepal over the airport security arrangements after one year of Kandhar hijacking incident;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item in the Hindustan Times of December 27, 2000 in this regard; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines have reached an understanding with the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal regarding measures for ensuring security of Indian Airlines flights taking off from Kathmandu.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) After the hijacking incident, the Government of India sent a team to Kathmandu to review the security arrangements at Tribhuvan International Airport and to designate adequate security measures so as to preclude the possibility of any security lapse in future. The recommendations of this team were brought to the notice of His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN), who have already taken a number of measures recommended by the team.

Indian Airlines too implemented the measures suggested by the team to improve the security arrangements of Indian Airlines' flights from Kathmandu Airport, which include strengthening the access control of the aircraft on the ground, 100% frisking of passengers and checking of their hand-baggage at ladder-point before boarding.

**Existing Express-way Projects in Country**

\*303. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the existing express-way projects in the country, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of ongoing express-way project, State-wise;

(c) the time of their completion together with the cost and expenditure incurred so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to develop some more highways as express-way; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. Expressways are high speed, divided highways with Access Control and all intersecting roads are designed to cross at different levels. Central Government has taken up only one expressway project from Ahmedabad to Vadodara in Gujarat. A few expressway projects have also been taken up by some State Governments on their own.

(c) The total cost of the 93 Km long Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway is estimated to be Rs. 680 crore. An expenditure of Rs. 261 crore has been incurred so far on this project and it is scheduled to be completed by December, 2003.

(d) and (e) It is proposed to convert Delhi-Gurgaon section of National Highway-8 in Delhi and Haryana, and Palsit-Dhankuni section of national Highway-2 in West Bengal to expressway standards.

**Central Legislation on Agricultural Labour**

\*304. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :  
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring in the near future a Central legislation for agricultural labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of welfare programmes and activities being introduced all over the country for the welfare of agricultural labourers including protection to their wages and jobs?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) A proposal to enact a central

legislation for regulation of employment, wages, dispute settlement and welfare measures etc. for agricultural workers has been under consideration. This matter has been discussed in meetings of State Labour Ministers and various other fora and in the absence of any definite consensus in this respect, it is now proposed to introduce a social security scheme for agricultural workers.

[Translation]

**Compensation to Labourers died in Accident**

\*305. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether accident in Baghdigi colliery was caused due to negligence on the part of the Directorate General of Mines Safety;

(b) if so, the welfare measures taken by the Government for the dependents of labourers killed in the said accident;

(c) whether the officials involved in safety lapses have been identified; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) After the Baghdigi colliery accident which took place on 2.2.2001, the Ministry of Labour in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952 has constituted a court of inquiry on 1.3.2001 under the Chairmanship of Shri Justice Gurusharan Sharma, Judge, High Court of Jharkhand to inquire into the causes and the circumstances attending the accident and to fix responsibility for the causes leading to the accident. The court of inquiry has been given 3 months to complete its work. Facts regarding the reasons for the accident and the persons responsible for safety lapses could be known only after the completion of the inquiry.

As far as the compensation for the dependents of the labourers who died in the said accident is concerned, the position is that besides statutory compensation under Workman's Compensation Act, it has been decided that the following other payments/benefits given to the dependants of the deceased:

- 1/3 job to a dependent in BCCL
- x-gratia @ Rs. 1.25 lakhs each
- Gratuity and Provident Fund ranging from Rs. 4.0 to 5.5 lakh
- Payable family pension
- Funeral expenses, ad hoc payment and payable benevolent fund.

*[English]***Pollution Over Indian Ocean**

\*306. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pollution over Indian Ocean has assumed serious proportions;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the results of studies conducted in this regard in India and abroad;

(c) whether such air pollution has also been aggravated by man made forest fires in Indonesia/Malaysia in the recent past;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) An international collaborative study on "Indian Ocean Research Experiment (INDOEX)" has indicated haze over the Indian Ocean which may vary from year to year. Conclusive data are not available indicating impacts of forest fires from Indonesia/Malaysia on air pollution in Indian Ocean. Various steps have been taken by the Government to control air pollution in the country.

*[Translation]***Committees on Ganga Action Plan**

\*307. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the State Governments have been adopting indifferent attitude towards implementation of the Ganga Action Plan and have not even constituted citizens' monitoring committees so far;

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

(c) the names of States which have not yet constituted such committees; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) includes pollution abatement works on Ganga and its tributaries namely Yamuna, Gomti and Damodar, and is under implementation in five States i.e. Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Delhi and Haryana. The

details of towns in which GAP is implemented and where citizen's monitoring committees have been formed are given below :

S.No.	State	Number of towns where GAP is implemented	Number of towns where citizen's monitoring committees are formed
1.	Uttar Pradesh	33	33
2.	West Bengal	42	14
3.	Bihar	22	0
4.	Delhi	1	0
5.	Haryana	12	6
Total		110	53

The reasons for non-constitution of citizens' monitoring committees in some of the towns are: (i) the works in a number of towns are yet to begin, (ii) elections to the local bodies under which such committees are constituted have not been held for long and (iii) some of the existing citizen's monitoring committees cover more than one town. Government has been taking up this matter with the State Governments from time to time. This matter was also reviewed in the meeting of the National River Conservation Authority held on 13.3.2001 where certain important decisions were taken to make the river cleaning more effective.

**Minimum Wages for Child Labourers**

\*308. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of child labourers is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring forward any bill to ensure minimum wages for the child labourers;

(c) whether the Government propose to make any provision to provide compulsory education to these children;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of proposals for different States particularly Madhya Pradesh cleared for setting up of special schools for the child labourers during the last two years; and

(f) the number of child labourers likely to be enrolled in these special schools, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Authentic figures of child labour in the country are generated by the decennial Census. According to 1981 census, the estimated figure of working children was 13.6 million whereas the number of working children in the country was of the order of 11.28 million as per 1991 census.

(b) No, Sir. The provision for extension of minimum wages for working children is already exist for certain occupations under the Minimum Wages Act.

(c) and (d) Government has already introduced a Bill in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1997, to provide universal elementary education to all children.

(e) and (f) Details of proposals cleared for setting up of special schools along with their capacities for child labourers during the last two years are given in enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

Name of State	Name of districts (which have been sanctioned Child Labour Projects during last two years)	Number of children to be covered
Madhya Pradesh	Raigarh,	1000
	Gwalior,	2000
	Ujjain	2000
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad,	2000
	Mahboob Nagar	2000
Karnataka	Bangalore Rural District	2000
Orissa	Balasore,	2000
	Cuttack	2000
Punjab	Amritsar,	2000
	Jalandhar	1350
	Ludhiana	2000
Rajasthan	Tonk,	1000
	Jodhpur,	1000
	Ajmer,	1000
	Alwar	2000
Tamilnadu	Tirunelveli	2500
Uttar Pradesh	Bulandshahar (Khurja),	2000
	Allahabad,	2000
	Saharanpur,	2000
	Azamgarh,	2000
	Kanpur Nagar	2000
West Bengal	Murshidabad,	2000
	Calcutta	2000

[English]

#### **Air Cargo**

\*309. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sea freight and express industry are increasingly turning out to be a serious threat to air cargo;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make air cargo more attractive and efficient;

(c) the anticipated annual rate of growth of air cargo traffic in the country in the coming decade; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to further increase the air cargo services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government has taken following major steps to make air cargo more attractive and efficient :

(i) Introduction of "Open Sky" policy in the air cargo sector.

(ii) Introduction of Integrated Cargo Management System (ICMS) at the four Metro airport.

(iii) Provision of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) for integration with the computers of other agencies.

(iv) Construction of Integrated common user Terminal facilities at the four Metro airports.

(v) Provision of Centres for Perishable cargo at Delhi, Hyderabad and Chennai airport.

(vi) Increase in demurrage free period from 2 days to 5 days.

(vii) Increase and synchronisation in working hours for city side operation for export and import activities.

(c) Anticipated annual growth rate of air cargo for the four metro airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata which handle 90% of international air cargo traffic, for the coming decade is 7.3%.

(d) The Government has planned to take following measures to further increase air cargo services:

(i) Long term leasing of metro airports which will include cargo operations to improve the standards of services and managerial efficiency.

(ii) Cargo Warehousing by private airlines.

### Purchase of New Aircraft

\*310. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines/Air India have decided to augment its fleet by inducting more aircraft/airbus in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of aircraft/airbus to be added alongwith names of flight sectors to be benefited from this addition;

(c) the total amount involved in the acquisition to these aircrafts;

(d) the details of the procedure followed for the acquisition of new aircrafts;

(e) whether there is any proposal to acquire smaller aircraft and replace the old Boeing aircraft; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (f) Presently Air India does not have any definite plan to procure new aircraft. Instead, they have decided to take 4 A310-300 aircraft on drylease with a view to augment its routes and passenger carrying capacity.

As regards Indian Airlines, the evaluation study to identify the type and number of aircraft for replacing B-737 and A-300 aircraft fleet is on and no firm conclusions have yet been arrived at. Indian Airlines is also evaluating suitable aircraft type for replacement of its Boeing aircraft fleet.

The procedure followed for acquisition of new aircraft is as under:

- The capacity requirements of the aircraft in terms of seating and range capability are identified;
- The number of aircraft to be acquired and their areas of deployment are determined;
- The technical parameters of the evaluation are standardised;
- Thereafter, financial bids are invited and a techno-economic evaluation is conducted to determine the most suitable aircraft;
- The recommendation of the in-house committee is submitted to the concerned board for approval and thereafter for the Government's approval; and

CVC guidelines pertaining to post-tender negotiations are also adhered to while conducting the aircraft evaluation.

[Translation]

### Status of International Airport

\*311. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for giving any airport the status of an International Airport;

(b) the names of airports which were given the status of International Airports during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to declare some more airports as international airports;

(d) whether all the international airports so declared have all the facilities required for such airports; and

(e) if not, the steps taken to provide such facilities in such airports which lack them at present?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Adequate demand for international operations, facilities for customs, immigrations & health, and a minimum runway length of 9000 feet with suitable terminal facilities are the main criteria for declaring an airport as international.

(b) Airports at Bangalore, Goa, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Amritsar, Ahmedabad and new Cochin airport at Nedumbassery have been declared as international airports in last three years.

(c) There is no plan, at present, to declare more airports as international.

(d) and (e) All the international airports, except Guwahati airport have the minimum facilities required for international airports. Guwahati airport does not have Customs and Immigration facilities which could be provided as and when the airlines start international operations.

### Death of Animals and Birds

\*312. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL :  
SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :

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

(a) whether a large number of wild animals like tigers, tigresses, bears, rhinos as well as birds have

been killed or died during the last three years and as on date;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, category-wise and National Zoological Park/Sanctuary-wise;

(c) the out come of the inquiries conducted, if any, and the action taken by the Government in each of the incidents;

(d) the target fixed for the Project Tiger for 9th Plan and the achievement made so far;

(e) the steps taken for conservation and protection of these animals and birds in parks and sanctuaries;

(f) the number of National Zoological Parks closed so far due to the lack of scientific management; and

(g) the concrete steps taken by the Government to provide adequate trained doctors for treatment and care of these animals and birds?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Instances of poaching cases of tigers and rhinos detected in various National Park and Wildlife Sanctuaries are given in Statement-I. The details of poaching cases of bear are given in Statement-II. National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary-wise break up in respect of bear is not available. No instances of poaching of birds in national parks/sanctuary have been reported to Central Government. Most of the cases of bird poaching/Poisoning have been reported from outside protected areas.

The details of deaths of tiger, rhino, bear and birds Zoo-wise is given in Statement-III.

While the data regarding natural death of tigers, rhinos and bears is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, the data regarding birds cannot be compiled because most of the carcasses get recycled in nature through predation and other processes.

(c) Whenever any case of poaching is detected, the responsibility of investigations and prosecuting the offenders is that of Forest Department in various States. Government of India has handed over the following cases to Central Bureau of Investigation for inquiry :

- (i) Seizure of 3 nos. of Tiger skins, 50 nos. of Leopard skins and 5 nos. of Otter skins at Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh border on 18.12.1999.
- (ii) Seizure of 4 nos. of Tiger skins, 70 nos. of Leopard skins, 18000 nos. of Leopards claws, 132 nos. of Tiger claws and 221 nos. of Black Buck skins at Khaga on 12.1.2000.

(iii) Seizure of 50 nos. of Leopard skins at Haldwani on 6.5.2000.

(iv) Seizure of 30 nos. of Leopard skins at Haldwani on 21.5.2000.

(v) Central Bureau of Investigation seized 70 shawls in Delhi on 2.2.2001. Of these 26 are pure Shahtoosh shawls and 44 are suspected. Investigation in this regard is being done by CBI.

(d) Out of six new Tiger Reserves proposed to be set up during the 9th five year plan, four have already been approved by the Central Government. These are as follows:

- (i) Bhadra Tiger Reserve in Karnataka
- (ii) Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra
- (iii) Pakhui - Nameri Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh - Assam
- (iv) Bori - Satpura - Panchmari Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh

The remaining two reserves will be approved shortly.

(e) The steps taken by the Government for conservation and protection of animals and birds in parks and sanctuaries are given in Statement-IV.

(f) 37 Zoos/Deer Parks have already been closed down because of lack of scientific management. The list is enclosed as Statement-V. In addition, the State Governments have been asked to close down another 64 Deer Parks/Mini Zoos that have been refused recognition by Central Zoo Authority.

(g) Following steps have been taken to provide trained doctors for treatment and care of animals and birds:

- (i) Nine months training course in Animal Health Care and Diseases is organised at IVRI, Izatnagar.
- (ii) Two workshops on Zoo Animal Health Care and Husbandry Management have been organised by Central Zoo Authority.
- (iii) Central Zoo Authority has sponsored six veterinarians from zoos for specialized training courses in U.K.
- (iv) A Workshop on 'Basic of Zoo Animal Management' is being organised at New Delhi in April, 2001.
- (v) Wherever feasible veterinary doctors have also been appointed on contract basis.

**Statement-I***Details of Poaching Cases of Tigers/Rhinos in National Parks and Sanctuaries*

Year	Name of National Parks/Sanctuaries	State	Number of tigers poached
1999	Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh	2
	Andheri Tiger Reserve	Maharashtra	1
	Melghat Tiger Reserve	Maharashtra	2
	Sunderban Tiger Reserve	West Bengal	2
	Rajaji National Park	Uttar Pradesh	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>8</b>
2000	Rajaji National Park	Uttar Pradesh	1
	Kawal Sanctuary	Andhra Pradesh	1
	Sunderban Tiger Reserve	West Bengal	4
	Orang Sanctuary	Assam	1
	Katarniaghat Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	2
	Dudhwa National Park	Uttar Pradesh	2
	Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh	1
Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh	1	
<b>Total</b>			<b>13</b>
2001	Pench National Park	Madhya Pradesh	1
	Tadoba National Park	Maharashtra	2
	Nagarjuna Sagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve	Andhra Pradesh	1
	Katarniaghat Sanctuary	Uttar Pradesh	1
	Dudhwa National Park	Uttar Pradesh	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>6</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>27</b>
Year	Name of National Parks/Sanctuaries	State	Number of rhino poached
1999	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	4
	Orang National Park	Assam	7
	Pobitora Sanctuary	Assam	6
	Jaldapara Sanctuary	West Bengal	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>18</b>
2000	Jaldapara Sanctuary	West Bengal	1
	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	4
	Orang Sanctuary	Assam	8
	Pobitora Sanctuary	Assam	2
<b>Total</b>			<b>15</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>33</b>
2001	NIL Till 28-2-2001		

**Statement-II***Details of death of Bears*

S.No.	Year	No. of Deaths	State
1	2	3	4
1.	1998	1	Andhra Pradesh
2.	1998	11	Madhya Pradesh

1	2	3	4
3.	1999	6	Madhya Pradesh
4.	1999	1	Andhra Pradesh
5.	2000	2	Andhra Pradesh
6.	2000	1	Mizoram

**Statement-III***Deaths of Tigers, Bears, Rhinos and Birds in Major Indian Zoos (April 1998-March 1999)*

State	Zoo Name	Bear Himalayan Black	Bear Sloth	Rhino- ceros Indian one horned	Tiger Bengal	Birds	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A & N Islands	Haddo Zoo				0	3	3
Andhra Pradesh	Indira Gandhi Zoological Park	0	1		1	12	14
	Nehru Zoological Park	0	0	0	1	28	29
	Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park		0		0	178	178
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar Zoological Park	1			3	2	6
Assam	Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden	0	0	0	1	57	58
Bihar	Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park	0	0	1	0	1	2
Chattisgarh	Maitri Baagh Zoo	0	1		3	4	8
Delhi	National Zoological Park	0	0	1	0	36	37
Goa	Bondla Zoo		0		0	4	4
Gujarat	Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden	0	0		0	130	130
	Rajkot Municipal Corporation Zoo	0			1	0	1
	Sakkarbaug Zoo	0	0		3	10	13
	Sayaji Baug Zoo	1			2	79	82
	Nature Park Surat				0	7	7
	Indroda Nature Park, Gandhi Nagar				0	14	14
Haryana	Rohtak Zoo	0			0	23	23
Himachal Pradesh	Himalayan Nature Park (Kufri)	2			0	13	15
Jharkhand	Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park	0			1	3	4
	Tata Steel Zoological Park		0		0	22	22
Karnataka	Bellary Childrens Park-cum-Zoo		0		0	8	8
	National Park, Bannerghatta Zoological Garden		0		7	15	22
	Sri Chammarajendra Zoological Gardens	0	0	0	0	48	48
	Tiger & Lions Safari, Thyarekoppa				0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kerala	State Museum & Zoo	0	0		0	0	0
	Thiruvananthapuram Zoo	0	0	0	0	11	11
Madhya Pradesh	Gandhi Zoological Park	0			0	25	25
	Kamla Nehru Prani Sanghralay Zoo	0			1	4	5
	Van Vihar National Park		1		0	0	1
Maharashtra	Aurangabad Municipal Zoo				3	0	3
	Maharajbag Zoo		0		1	19	20
	Peshwe Park Zoological Gardens	2			2	1	5
	Sanjay Gandhi National Park	0			1	1	2
	Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan & Zoo	0	1	0	0	45	46
Manipur	Manipur Zoological Garden	1			0	30	31
Meghalaya	Lady Hydari Park Animal Land	0			0	7	7
Mizoram	Aizawl Zoo		1		0	1	2
Orissa	Nandankannan Zoological Park	2	0	0	12	66	80
Punjab	Mahendra Chaudhury Zoological Park	3	1	0	2	64	70
Rajasthan	Bikaner Zoo		0		0	6	6
	Jaipur Zoo	1	1		1	25	28
	Jodhpur Zoo	0			0	8	8
	Udaipur Zoo	0			0	4	4
Sikkim	Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbuley	0			0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	Arignar Anna Zoological Park	1	1		2	14	18
	Children's Corner		1		0	40	41
	V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo	0			0	1	1
Tripura	Sepahijala Zoological Park	0		0	0	1	1
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Zoological Park	0	1	0	0	8	9
	Prince of Wales Zoological Gardens	0	0	0	1	17	18
West Bengal	Alipore Zoological Garden	0	1	0	0	70	71
	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park	0			0	0	0
Grand Total		14	11	2	49	1165	1241

*Deaths of Tigers, Bears, Rhinos and Birds in Major Indian Zoos (April 1999-March 2000)*

State	Zoo Name	Bear Himalayan Black	Bear Sloth	Rhino- ceros Indian one horned	Tiger Bengal	Birds	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andhra Pradesh	Indira Gandhi Zoological Park	1	0		1	16	18
	Nehru Zoological Park	0	0	0	3	9	* 12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park		0		0	8	8
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar Zoological Park	0			0	1	1
Assam	Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden	1	1	1	1	11	15
Bihar	Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park	0	0	0	3	3	6
Chattisgarh	Maitri Baagh Zoo	0			2	0	2
Delhi	National Zoological Park	1	1	0	0	36	38
Goa	Bondla Zoo		0		0	3	3
Gujarat	Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden	0	0		3	126	129
	Rajkot Municipal Corporation Zoo	0			1	0	1
	Sakkarbaug Zoo	0	0		0	2	2
	Sayaji Baug Zoo	0			0	53	53
	Nature Park Surat				0	12	12
	Indroda Nature Park, Gandhi Nagar				0	9	9
Haryana	Rohtak Zoo	0			0	11	11
Himachal Pradesh	Himalayan Nature Park (Kufri)	0			0	4	4
Jharkhand	Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park	0			0	3	3
	Tata Steel Zoological Park		0		0	29	29
Karnataka	Bellary Childrens Park-cum-Zoo		0		0	2	2
	National Park, Bannerghatta Zoological Garden			0	5	81	86
	Sri Chammarajendra Zoological Gardens	0	0	0	1	8	9
	Tiger & Lions Safari, Thyrearekoppa		0		3	0	3
Kerala	State Museum & Zoo	0	0		0	0	0
	Thiruvananthapuram Zoo	0	0	0	0	9	9
Madhya Pradesh	Gandhi Zoological Park	0			0	12	12
	Kamla Nehru Prani Sanghralalay Zoo	0			1	4	5
	Van Vihar National Park		0		1	0	1
Maharashtra	Aurangabad Municipal Zoo				0	1	1
	Maharajbag Zoo		0		0	32	32
	Peshwe Park Zoological Gardens				0	4	4
	Sanjay Gandhi National Park	0			0	22	22
	Veer mata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan & Zoo	0		0	1	26	27
Manipur	Manipur Zoological Garden	0			0	4	4
Meghalaya	Lady Hydari Park Animal Land	1			0	6	7
Mizoram	Aizawl Zoo	0	0		0	1	1
Orissa	Nandankannan Zoological Park	0	1	0	11	129	141
Punjab	Mahendra Chaudhury Zoological Park	0	1	0	0	82	83

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rajasthan	Bikaner Zoo		0		1	9	10
	Jaipur Zoo	0	1		1	21	23
	Jodhpur Zoo	2			1	44	47
	Udaipur Zoo	0			0	7	7
Sikkim	Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbuley	0			0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	Arignar Anna Zoological Park	0	1		0	31	32
	Children's Corner		1		0	0	1
	V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo	0			0	20	20
Tripura	Sepahijala Zoological Park	1		0	0	0	1
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Zoological Park	1	0	0	0	13	14
	Prince of Wales Zoological Gardens	0	0	0	0	7	7
Uttaranchal	Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant High Altitude Zoo	0			0	2	2
West Bengal	Alipore Zoological Garden	1	0	0	0	56	57
	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park	0				11	11
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>1038</b>

*Deaths of Tigers, Bears, Rhinos and Birds in Major Indian Zoos (April 2000-till date)*

State	Zoo Name	Bear Himalayan Black	Bear Sloth	Rhino- ceros Indian one horned	Tiger Bengal	Birds	Grand Total
Delhi	Delhi Zoo	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	7	N.A.	7
Karnataka	Sakkarbag Zoo, Junagadh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Karnataka	Mysore Zoo, Mysore	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Karnataka	Tiger & Lion Safari, Shimoga,	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Kerala	Trivandrum Zoo	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2	N.A.	2
Maharashtra	Sanjay Gandhi Zoo (Borivilli)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	6	N.A.	6
Maharashtra	Maharajbaug Zoo, Nagpur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Nagaland	Kohima Zoo, Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Orissa	Nandankanan Zoo, Bhubaneshwar	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	13	N.A.	13
Punjab	Ludhiana Zoo, Ludhiana	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Tamil Nadu	Hyderabad Zoo	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Tripura	Sepahijala Zoo, Sepahijala	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Zoo	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1	N.A.	1
West Bengal	Alipore Zoo, Calcutta	N.A.	N.A.	1	1	N.A.	2
	<b>Total</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>		<b>39</b>

**Statement-IV****The steps taken by the Government for conservation and protection of animals and birds in parks and sanctuaries****(1) Steps taken at the State level:**

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

**(2) Steps taken at National level**

- (i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.
- (iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.
- (iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (v) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(vi) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and outside protected areas.

(vii) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

**(3) Steps taken at International level.**

- (i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.
- (ii) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Nepal has been signed by India to establish a joint Task Force to check the trafficking across the borders.
- (iii) Indo-Chinese Protocol in tiger conservation Article of the protocol *inter-alia* stipulates joint measures to crackdown illegal activities of poaching of tigers, smuggling and selling the tiger bones and other parts of the tiger as well as its derivatives.
- (iv) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

**Statement-V****List of zoos which is closed down (As on 31.3.2000)**

S.No.	Zoo Name	Location	State
1	2	3	4
1.	Amar Tourist Zoo	Patna	Bihar
2.	Diamond Tourist Zoo	Patna	Bihar
3.	Ajanta Tourist Zoo, Mirshikar Toll	Patna	Bihar
4.	Ramond Tourist Zoo, Mirshikar Toll	Patna	Bihar
5.	Bajrang Zoo	Durbhanga	Bihar

1	2	3	4
6.	Bharat Zoo, Gulzar Bagh	Patna	Bihar
7.	New Ramond Tourist	Patna	Bihar
8.	Tourist Janta Zoo	Patna	Bihar
9.	New Janta Travelling Zoo, Mirshikar Toli	Patna	Bihar
10.	Gemini Tourist Zoo	Patna	Bihar
11.	Sri Pramod (Touring Zoo)	Muzaffarpur	Bihar
12.	Deer Park, NFL	Panipat	Haryana
13.	Lal Bagh Deer Park	Bangalore	Karnataka
14.	SFRI Zoo	Jabalpur	Maharashtra
15.	Mini Zoo at Rose Garden	Ludhiana	Punjab
16.	Mini Zoo, sector-6, Rajbhavan	Chandigarh	Punjab
17.	Mini Zoo, Aram Bagh	Amritsar	Punjab
18.	Manjunatha Mini Zoo (Mobile), Nesapakkam	Madras	Tamil Nadu
19.	Bharat Mini Zoo, Chilkana	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh
20.	New Pardesi Touring Zoo	Hardoi	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Bajrang Touring Zoo	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
22.	Pardeshi Chirya Ghar, Sitapur, Avodh	Hardoi	Uttar Pradesh
23.	Bina Kamal Golden Zoo	Bulandshahar	Uttar Pradesh
24.	Azad Chirya Ghar (Touring)	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
25.	Bharatiya Touring Zoo	Lalbaug	Uttar Pradesh
26.	Chentna Kendra, Ridhani Range	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh
27.	Mrig Vihar Van Chetana Kendra, Moth	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh
28.	Sanjay Gandhi Mrig Vatika, Mangalore	Haridwar	Uttar Pradesh
29.	Shukratal Chirtal Park	Muzaffarnagar	Uttar Pradesh
30.	Van Chetana Kendra, Brrok Land State	Mussoriee	Uttar Pradesh
31.	Van Chetana Kendra, Narora	Bulandshahar	Uttar Pradesh
32.	Jaya Mobile Zoo	Howrah	West Bengal

1	2	3	4
33.	Anita Mobile Zoo, Barulpur	Parganas South	West Bengal
34.	Chitra Touring, J.N. Sarkar Street	Calcutta	West Bengal
35.	Famous Mobile Zoo	Howrah	West Bengal
36.	Birla Industrial & Technological Museum, Animalorium	Calcutta	West Bengal
37.	Krishna Sayar Snake Park	Burdwan	West Bengal

[English]

### Policy on Stone Mining

\*313. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy regarding stone mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments are violating the Supreme Court's directions in regard to stone mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such cases detected so far in each State particularly in Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA) : (a) to (e) Under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957, building stones including marble, granite and other decorative and dimensional stones are minor minerals for which mineral concessions are granted by the concerned State Governments under the provisions of their respective Minor Mineral Concession Rules (MMCR). MMCRs are notified by the State Governments under the powers conferred on them under Section 15 of the MMDR Act. State Governments are free to frame their own policies regarding stone mining under their respective MMCRs. While framing such a policy, the State Governments are expected to keep in mind judicial pronouncements.

In case of Granite which has assumed importance due to its export potential, Central Government have notified Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 in exercise of powers conferred by Section 18 of the MMDR, Act for conservation and systematic development and scientific mining to conserve the granite resources and to prescribe an uniform frame-

work with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite throughout the country.

Central Government does not maintain any information/data about violation of provisions of MMCRs read with MMDR Act. The State Governments are expected to act as per any direction given by the Supreme Court with respect to stone mining. Responsibility for checking illegal mining, if any, rests with the State Governments in accordance with the provisions of their MMCR in this regard and the Central Government does not monitor such information.

### **National Forestry Action Programme**

\*314. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend forest cover from existing 23 percent to 33 percent of nation's total geographical areas under the National Forestry Action Programme;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to double the allocation for afforestation under the plan outlays; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment & Forests have formulated National Forestry Action Programme (NFAP), a comprehensive strategic long term plan for the next twenty years to address the issues underlying the major problems of the forestry sector in the country in line with the National Forest Policy, 1988. The objective of the NFAP is to bring 33% of the geographical area of the country under forest/tree cover by the year 2020 and to arrest deforestation for achieving sustainable development of forests. This would mean increasing the area under forest/tree cover from 76.5 million hectares to 109 million hectares of the country's geographical area of 328 million hectares.

(b) The National Forestry Action Programme has five main components. They are:

1. **Protect Existing Forest Resources:** It has three main-sub programmes. (i) forest protection, (ii) soil and water conservation, and (iii) protected areas and biodiversity conservation.
2. **Improve Forest Productivity:** It has four main sub-programmes. (i) rehabilitation of degraded forests, (ii) research and technology development, (iii) development of Non-Wood

Forest Products, and (iv) assisting private initiatives with community participation.

3. **Reduce Total Demand:** It has three main sub programmes for efficient use of (i) fuelwood and fodder, (ii) timber, and (iii) Non-Wood Forest Products.
4. **Strengthen Policy and Institutional Framework:** It has three main sub programmes. (i) Central forestry administration, (ii) Central forestry institutions, and (iii) State forestry administration and institutions.
5. **Expand Forest Area:** It has two main sub-programmes. (i) tree plantation on forest and non-forest lands, and (ii) people's participation in plantations and their protection.

The implementation of National Forest Action Programme requires huge financial resources and it is estimated that Rs. 133903 crores would be required in the next twenty years to bring one third of the area of the country under forest/tree cover.

(c) and (d) A Working Group of Forestry has already been constituted by the Government to look into various aspects of forestry for X Five Year Plan i.e. 2002-2007. In the meantime, at the Meeting of the Forest Ministers of States/Union Territories held on 29-30 January, 2001 at Coimbatore, a resolution was passed known as "The Coimbatore Charter on Environment and Forests" and one of its major recommendations is that the investment in afforestation has been, on an average, less than one per cent of the total Plan outlay in various Plan periods and it shall be raised to a minimum of two per cent of the total outlay.

### **Utilisation of Rain Water**

\*315. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUND : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government lays stress on harvesting of rain water;

(b) if so, the details of the plan, if any, prepared in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have released any assistance to Karnataka Government for the construction of Rooftop Rain Water Harvesting structures for utilisation of rain water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (d) The Government of India is promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground

water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. The Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources is implementing a pilot scheme on artificial recharge of ground water at a cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. Rain water harvesting is an integral part of this scheme. With a view to promoting roof top rain water harvesting, the Ministry of Water Resources has proposed to the Ministry of Urban Development to consider enactment of suitable legislation for provision of roof top rain water harvesting for buildings in the NCT of Delhi and other cities by the concerned organisations. Accordingly, the Madras Metropolitan Development Authority (MMDA) has issued regulations for conservation of roof top rain water. Delhi Government has decided to make water harvesting compulsory in all new residential buildings, group housing societies and plotted residential areas of over 500 sq. mts. Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana has issued directions that no permission may be given for construction of industrial plants, marriage palaces, commercial complexes, group housing society and multi-storey flats unless the owners of the property include the construction of water harvesting structures.

Government provides funds to the States to supplement their efforts for providing drinking water under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programmes (ARWSP) and, upto 20 percent of the ARWSP funds can be earmarked and utilised for sustainability of drinking water sources including, water harvesting structures. As per guidelines under the Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) for Rural Drinking Water, minimum 25% of total allocation for the component is to be utilised by the respective States/UT's on projects/schemes for water conservation, water harvesting, water recharge and sustainability of drinking water source in respect of DDP/DPAP areas, over-exploited dark/grey blocks and other water stress/drought affected areas. Allocation of 25% of the total allocation for sustainability is not to be insisted upon in areas where the water table and rainfall in high and ground water development is low.

The Central Ground Water Board has received a proposal from the University of Bangalore, Karnataka for carrying out rain water harvesting and recharging works in the University campus to improve the water availability in the area.

The proposal of the Bangalore University has been approved by the Central Ground Water Board for a cost of Rs. 13.75 lakh for undertaking various recharge works.

#### **Shortage of Pilots in Indian Airlines**

\*316. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of pilots with the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the progress of expansion plan of Indian Airlines has been affected as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The number of pilots available with Indian Airlines, at present, is barely adequate to meet the normal requirements of the existing schedule.

(c) to (e) Indian Airlines has taken the following steps to meet the requirement of its expansion plan:

- 19 Trainee Pilots have already been recruited and are undergoing training.
- The process is on to recruit another 55 Senior Trainee Pilots/Trainee Pilots.
- Process has been started to take retired Pilots on contract.

#### **Spending on National Highways**

\*317. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount allocated/spent on the National Highways, Express Highways and other Modern Highways in each State during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any disparity over spending among the States in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action being taken to avoid such disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) State-wise details of allocations for National Highways for last three years are given in the enclosed statement I to III.

(b) Yes Sir, some States are not able to spend the entire amount allocated for development and maintenance of National Highways.

(c) The non-utilisation of fund by some States is mainly due to delay in issuing of Letter of Credit (LOC) by the concerned State Governments. To obviate this problem, this Ministry has introduced Direct Payment Procedure (DPP) in some States.

**Statement-I****Allocation for Development & Maintenance of National Highways During 1997-98**

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States	NH(O)	M&R	EAP	PBFF
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2949.83	3898.00	2420.00	587.36
2.	Assam	1821.00	1162.55	0.00	39.80
3.	Bihar	1900.00	3410.77	52.00	0.00
4.	Chandigarh	30.00	71.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	800.00	330.20	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	900.00	450.39	0.00	71.56
7.	Gujarat	3675.00	3756.96	0.00	647.42
8.	Haryana	1100.00	772.34	8940.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1700.00	2034.32	0.00	0.00
10.	J & K	150.00	87.40	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	2900.00	3002.90	1200.00	136.78
12.	Kerala	3600.00	2268.11	4160.00	282.48
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1700.00	3313.78	2300.00	657.06
14.	Maharashtra	2900.00	5157.68	4350.00	812.43
15.	Manipur	700.00	277.03	0.00	2.19
16.	Meghalaya	920.00	584.54	0.00	59.50
17.	Nagaland	100.00	37.11	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	2600.00	2522.00	3650.00	225.20
19.	Pondicherry	70.00	29.96	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	1300.00	1357.75	3900.00	178.88
21.	Rajasthan	2550.00	3641.71	1270.00	495.83
22.	Tamil Nadu	2500.00	2981.37	0.00	67.92
23.	Uttar Pradesh	4608.00	4949.19	7330.00	597.27
24.	West Bengal	5375.00	3264.94	1960.00	0.00
25.	Joggigappa Bridge	1244.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Ministry	0.17	0.00	7298.00	0.00
27.	BRDB	7031.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	NHAI	0.00	375.00	20000.00	0.00
29.	Other Institutions	0.00	13.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>55124.00</b>	<b>49750.00</b>	<b>68830.00</b>	<b>4861.68</b>

**Statement-II***Allocation for Development & Maintenance of National Highways During 1998-99*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States	NH(O)	M&R	EAP	PBFF
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4500.00	4568.40	24.00	355.82
2.	Assam	2600.00	2815.51	0.00	61.10
3.	Bihar	3405.31	3336.97	0.00	12.04
4.	Chandigarh	82.00	48.04	0.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	1400.00	210.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	1100.00	617.08	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	5346.96	3296.94	0.00	1281.58
8.	Haryana	2613.50	1239.42	4975.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2500.00	2256.01	0.00	0.00
10.	J & K	100.00	129.65	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	3500.00	3111.75	0.00	209.01
12.	Kerala	6744.46	2090.63	0.00	335.70
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2200.00	3945.04	5423.00	624.73
14.	Maharashtra	4811.63	4957.67	6000.00	571.00
15.	Manipur	700.00	365.59	0.00	0.30
16.	Meghalaya	1000.00	625.80	0.00	60.50
17.	Nagaland	200.00	382.90	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	4000.00	2761.15	5500.00	226.82
19.	Pondicherry	100.81	64.18	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	2500.65	1538.81	4569.00	79.23
21.	Rajasthan	3450.00	3718.19	550.00	605.81
22.	Tamil Nadu	3624.75	3740.00	0.00	296.62
23.	Uttar Pradesh	7078.14	6128.44	4850.00	721.21
24.	West Bengal	7150.94	2757.83	3000.00	0.00
25.	Ministry	3.86	0.00	880.00	0.00
26.	BRDB	8500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	NHAI	0.00	274.00	16317.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>79213.01</b>	<b>54980.00</b>	<b>52088.00</b>	<b>5441.47</b>

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

M &amp; R - Maintenance &amp; Repair

EAP - Externally Aided Project

PBFF - Permanent Bridge FEE Fund

**Note:** In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 10100 lakhs was provided to National Highways Authority of India for National Highways entrusted to them.

**Statement-III****Allocation for Development & Maintenance of National Highways During 1999-2000**

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States	NH(O)	M&R	SRP	EAP	PBFF
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5045.00	3440.26	3457.00	50.00	612.87
2.	Assam	4186.83	3420.00	2000.00	0.00	52.49
3.	Bihar	6000.00	5807.64	6100.00	0.00	117.52
4.	Chandigarh	100.00	91.50	50.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	700.00	139.84	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	1700.02	826.69	600.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	7307.17	2318.17	1502.00	0.00	1544.73
8.	Haryana	4200.00	1611.70	400.00	5800.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4000.00	2326.24	400.00	0.00	0.00
10.	J & K	100.00	302.36	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	4600.08	3921.04	4524.00	1224.00	289.76
12.	Kerala	10468.12	4059.00	1250.00	2100.00	268.95
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3226.75	5573.14	1000.00	8810.00	298.05
14.	Maharashtra	10354.31	4654.63	3994.00	7000.00	453.77
15.	Manipur	1010.75	876.08	0.00	0.00	3.40
16.	Meghalaya	1730.26	905.89	400.00	0.00	55.00
17.	Mizoram	300.00	380.00	400.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Nagaland	800.00	501.63	423.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Orissa	3850.00	3622.24	2016.00	5200.00	178.02
20.	Pondicherry	319.46	105.00	164.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	1819.56	1235.80	400.00	3300.00	180.54
22.	Rajasthan	4550.30	3320.00	4500.00	200.00	463.72
23.	Tamil Nadu	6500.00	5479.66	8000.00	0.00	254.08
24.	Tripura	50.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	9155.35	6105.49	4074.00	2865.00	627.10
26.	West Bengal	5138.02	3700.00	2560.00	3680.00	0.00
27.	Ministry	20.00	0.00	0.00	561.00	0.00
28.	BRDB	11230.00	0.00	93.72	0.00	0.00
29.	NHAI	0.00	4000.00	0.00	49160.00	0.00
30.	Other Institutions	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>108462.00</b>	<b>68758.00</b>	<b>48307.72</b>	<b>89950.00</b>	<b>5400.00</b>

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

M &amp; R - Maintenance &amp; Repair

EAP - Externally Aided Project

SRP - Special Repair Programme

PBFF - Permanent Bridge FEE Fund

**Note:** In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 119200 lakhs was provided to National Highways Authority of India for National Highways entrusted to them.

[Translation]

### Change in Climate

\*318. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an international institute named "Hadley Centre Britain" has given a warning to the developed and developing countries about the impending natural calamities in the coming years;

(b) if so, whether India has also received the conclusions of the study done by the institute;

(c) if so, the details of the conclusions;

(d) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to a report appearing in "Navbharat Times" of February 20, 2001 in this regard; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by India to protect environment?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The Government is not aware of such a warning by the Hadley Centre.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The existing policy and legal framework in the country supported by several initiatives adequately address the concerns of environmental protection.

[English]

### Strategy to meet Foggy Conditions

\*319. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CAT-III-A system installed at the airports to facilitate landing in foggy conditions proved ineffective during dense fog in December 2000 and January, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount spent on installation of such system;

(d) the number of flights cancelled/delayed due to dense fog during the said period;

(e) the total loss incurred as a result thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet such conditions in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (f) At Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, Instrument Landing System (ILS) equipment capable of Category IIIA operations alongwith associated facilities have been installed in February, 1999. However, it was operational as Cat-II because additional ground facilities like runway centre-line lights, approach lights etc. were to be provided which have now been provided and after calibration etc. the Cat IIA ILS is likely to be operational by April 2001. The total amount spent on this project is approximately Rs. 50.00 crores which includes resurfacing of the runways.

During the dense fog in December, 2000 and January, 2001, a total of 1265 flights were delayed, 128 flights cancelled and 82 flights were diverted, downover, installation of Cat.III ILS enables aircraft operations in low visibility condition upto 200 metres only. Since the visibility condition sometimes drops below 200 metres as well and aircraft operations have to be suspended during that period, it will not be proper to attribute suspension of aircraft operations at the airports purely to non-installation of Cat.III ILS. Therefore, it is difficult to possess the extent of loss in time and money caused by disruption of commercial flights, on account of this.

### Internet Telephony

\*320. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to legalise Internet Telephony;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has set up a special group for formulating a strategy to achieve this objective;

(c) if so, whether the Group has submitted its report to the Government;

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

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (e) While at present, in accordance with the New Telecom Policy (NTP-99), Internet Telephony is not permitted, Government is also required under this policy to monitor technological innovations and their impact on national development and review this issue at an appropriate time. Accordingly, Government has constituted an Expert Group to review the matter. The report of the Group is awaited.

[Translation]

### Promotion of Tribal/Rural Art and Culture

2705. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received applications from Voluntary Organizations and institutions seeking grants for the promotion of tribal and rural art and culture in various States including Maharashtra during each of last three years and current year;

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

(c) the names of Voluntary Organizations and institutions which have been provided grants along with the amount of grants provided to them during the said period and the details of achievements made by them, till date, organization-wise;

(d) whether allocated grants have not been properly utilised by these organizations;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to make an assessment or hold a probe into it;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

[English]

### Inclusion of New Monuments in World Heritage List

2706. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of monuments proposed and submitted to the UNESCO for their inclusion as World Heritage sites, location-wise;

(b) the criteria adopted in this regard; and

(c) the progress made by the Government for their final inclusion in the World Heritage List, so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The details in this regard are as per the list enclosed.

(b) As per the guidelines laid by UNESCO, monuments, architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and

combinations of features which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science; can be considered for inclusion as a World Heritage site.

(c) Further action in this regard rests with the UNESCO.

Archaeological Survey of India has submitted the following eleven proposals for inclusion in the World Heritage List viz.:

1. Fort Complex, Mandu, M.P.
2. Ancient Buddhist Site, Sarnath, U.P.
3. Rani-ki-Vav, Patan, Gujarat
4. Golconda Fort, Andhra Pradesh
5. Mattancherry Palace, Kerala
6. Dholavira, Gujarat
7. Alchi Monastery, Ladakh
8. Tomb of Sher Shah Suri, Sasaram, Bihar
9. Temples of Bishnupur, West Bengal
10. Pre-historic rock shelters with paintings, Bhimbetka, M.P.
11. Monastery at Hemis, J & K

### Guidelines Issued for Private Sector participation

2707. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has urged the Government to withdraw the guidelines issued for private sector participation in the transmission sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The Electricity Laws were amended in 1998 to enable implementation of transmission projects by Central/ State Power Transmission utilities and also by private transmission companies either on joint venture basis in association with Central/State transmission utilities or independently by obtaining a transmission license from Central/State Electricity Regulatory Commissions depending on whether the transmission line/associated substations are inter-state or intra-state.

Guidelines were issued by Ministry of Power on 31st January, 2000 for private sector participation in transmission so that prospective investors and utilities

could visualize the process of private participation and to facilitate a basis uniform approach for the Central and State Sectors.

In response to a letter received from CERC in February, 2000 directing Government to reconsider the guidelines which were issued on 31st January, 2000, clarifications have been furnished to CERC in July, 2000 indicating that the guidelines issued were based on the recommendations made by an Expert Group to advise Government on the methodology to be adopted for attracting private investment in transmission consistent with a licensing framework and the provisions contained in the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Act, 1998.

#### **Construction of Yatri Niwas**

2708. SHRI PUSP JAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any comprehensive action plan to construct Yatri Niwas in the country particularly in Rajasthan for 2001-2002.

(b) if so, the details of projects prioritised in consultation with the State Government/UTs, location-wise; and

(c) the financial assistance allocated for such projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Development of tourist infrastructure is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides financial assistance for tourism projects including construction of Yatri Niwas prioritized in consultation with them every year. Prioritization of projects starts in the 1st quarter of each financial year for that year.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Supply of Gas by ONGC to Private Power Project**

2709. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private power projects in Andhra Pradesh to whom ONGC has supplied natural gas;

(b) whether allocation of natural gas to these private power projects is between 65 per cent to 70 per cent of PLF;

(c) if so, whether these power projects have requested for allotment of natural gas to 85 per cent of Plant Load Factor;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Andhra Pradesh urged the Union Government not to allot natural gas to any one without their recommendation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) In Andhra Pradesh, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) supplies natural gas produced in the ONGC/joint venture fields to various consumers including power sector. A total of 12 private power projects in Andhra Pradesh have gas allocation.

(b) Most of the private power projects have gas allocation lower than their full requirement.

(c) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has made such a request.

(d) The details of gas allocation along with project capacities of the power plants in Andhra Pradesh are given in the statement enclosed.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

*The details of the gas allocation to power projects in Andhra Pradesh along with their project capacity*

Power Project	Project capacity (in MW)	Gas allocation in million standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD)
1	2	3
GVK Industries (Phase-I)	235	0.75
GVK Industries (Phase-II)	360	1.10
Lanco Kondapalli Power Ltd.	348	1.12
Konaseema EPS Oakwell Power Ltd.	458	2.00
Spectrum Power Generation Ltd. (Phase-I)	208	0.75
Spectrum Power Generation Ltd. (Phase-II)	359	0.75
Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corporation Ltd. (Phase-I)	100	0.50

1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corporation Ltd. (Phase-II)	172	0.82
Gautami Power Ltd.	359	1.22
NCC Power Ltd.	227	0.74
Vemagiri Power Generation Ltd.	458	1.64
Vathsasa Power Project Ltd.	16	0.065

[Translation]

### Employee Working in RITES

2710. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees working in RITES Limited and the number of permanent, temporary and contract employees out of them;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees out of them and the current percentage of SCs and STs representation among those employees;

(c) the percentage of class one to class four employees out of the reserved posts;

(d) the number of reserved posts in each of the cadre and discipline;

(e) the efforts made during the last three years to fill up the quota of reservation if the current percentage of representation is less than the percentage of reservation and the number of posts actually filled up; and

(f) the efforts being made to fill the remaining vacant posts and the time by which the process of filling up those post would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### Statement

Strength of employees as on 12.3.2001 is as under:

Employee details	No.	SC	ST	SC%	ST%
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total number of employees	2127	200	26	9.4	1.2

1	2	3	4	5	6
Permanent employees	1820	199	25	10.9	1.4
Temporary/Deputationist/ Re-employed/Contract employees	307	1	1	0.3	0.3

### Tourist Facilities in Madhya Pradesh

2711. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be allocated for the extension of tourist facilities in Madhya Pradesh by Eleventh Finance Commission;

(b) whether any plan for tourism development has been drawn up for the utilisation of the fund;

(c) the time by which the activities of tourism development in Madhya Pradesh as recommended by Finance Commission is likely to be started and completed;

(d) the name of the authority monitoring for the developmental activities of proposed tourism;

(e) whether the escalation cost owing to the delay in development activities has also been allocated;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the details of activities being carried out in other States in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The Eleventh Finance Commission has not recommended any grant to any State for purpose of tourist facilities *per se*. However special consideration has been shown in the chapter "Upgradation and Special problem grants" by recommended grant of Rs. 45 crores to Madhya Pradesh for development of tourism related infrastructure.

(b) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh have submitted an Action Plan for development of infrastructure for tourism to the Ministry of Finance.

(c) Once the project has been sanctioned by the State Level Empowered Committee, a copy of the same indicating the time schedule for various stages of the project and for requirement of funds is required to be submitted to the Government of India.

(d) Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee chaired by a senior officer of the Ministry of Finance, Government

of India is the authority monitoring for the developmental activities of the proposed tourism projects.

(e) and (f) The authority to sanction individual schemes as well as to determine the unit costs vests with the State Level Empowered Committee.

(g) Eleventh Finance Commission does not provide any grant to any State for the purpose of tourist facilities *per se*, though some activities with a bearing on tourism find mention in the chapter on "upgradation and special problem grants".

### Setting up of Oil Reservoirs

2712. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up strategic oil reservoirs in line with countries like America and Germany keeping in view the last year's steep hike in oil prices in international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Government is considering to provide strategic tankage for crude oil gradually in phases with a view to achieve a total of 45 days' cover.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has received the Detailed Feasibility Reports for underground concrete storage tanks and underground rock caverns for the storage of crude oil. No final decision has been taken as yet.

[English]

### Loan to Konkan Railway Corporation

2713. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has approached Finance Ministry for providing a financial package to Konkan Railways Corporation for long term solution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Finance Ministry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Investment in Power Projects

2714. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment in power projects during the 6th, 7th and 8th Five Year Plans, State-wise;

(b) the investment target for the 9th Five-Year-Plan;

(c) the total investment made by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in power projects during the said periods; and

(d) the extent to which the targets have been achieved, Plan-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The details of total outlay and expenditure for 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th Five year Plans for power sector are given below :

(Rs. in crore)		
Plan	Outlay	Expenditure
6th Plan	19265.44	18298.68
7th Plan	34273.46	37895.30
8th Plan	79589.3	76677.38
9th Plan	124526	40802.36 (upto 1998-99)

State-wise details of outlay and expenditure during the 7th and 8th Five Year Plan are given in statement enclosed. The State-wise details of outlay and expenditure for 6th Five Year Plan are being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Since 1991, the Central Electricity Authority has given techno-economic clearance to 57 private generation power projects proposing a total investment of around Rs. 119000 crores.

(c) and (d) The details of power sector outlay and expenditure together with percentage achievement for the State of Madhya Pradesh are given below :

(Rs. in crore)			
Plan	Outlay	Expenditure	Achievement
7th Plan	2646	2091	79%
8th Plan	3563.36	3701.01	103.86%
9th Plan	3463.81	1439.84 (for 1997-98 and 1998-99)	41.57%

The details of outlay and expenditure for the 6th Plan in respect of Madhya Pradesh are being collected and will be placed in the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(Rs. in crore)

State	7th Plan		8th Plan	
	Outlay	Expenditure	Outlay	Expenditure
Andhra Pradesh	1104.9	1117.4	3040.62	3546.56
Assam	485.0	610.2	1192.46	677.76
Bihar	1065.0	1057.1	2120.83	586.21
Delhi	364.3	832.2	1212.00	1540.54
Gujarat	1437.0	1437.8	2635.00	2502.62
Haryana	1010.3	645.4	1701.99	1197.68
Himachal Pradesh	260.1	347.5	500.00	628.78
Jammu & Kashmir	278.2	422.1	1175.18	1240.23
Karnataka	800.0	873.6	3024.86	2957.61
Kerala	396.8	373.2	1226.20	1616.57
Madhya Pradesh	2646.0	2091.0	3563.36	3701.01
Maharashtra	3048.9	2621.2	4572.64	5493.53
Meghalaya	70.0	122.0	166.48	52.90
Orissa	780.0	537.3	2638.30	1254.68
Punjab	1638.0	1991.1	2417.50	3347.00
Rajasthan	874.2	917.4	3200.00	3078.72
Tamil Nadu	2000.0	1768.2	3000.00	3103.46
Uttar Pradesh	3395.0	2763.1	6974.76	5423.42
West Bengal	1248.0	1244.9	3016.00	2865.49
Arunachal Pradesh	35.9	54.3	148.28	332.46
Goa	35.5	33.0	52.50	65.33
Manipur	36.0	50.2	185.35	184.70
Mizoram	27.8	62.2	101.05	152.27
Nagaland	33.5	28.6	59.00	93.71
Pondicherry	12.0	24.0	102.22	160.09
Sikkim	33.9	58.7	133.00	131.78
Tripura	46.0	79.7	116.50	159.58
A & N Island	-	-	57.97	68.93
Chandigarh	-	-	55.00	45.87
Daman & Diu	-	-	7.37	15.50
Dadra & N.Haveli	-	-	5.11	19.36
Lakshadweep	-	-	6.21	6.63

[Translation]

### Construction of Over Bridges in Bihar

2715. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals sent by the Government of Bihar for the construction of road over bridges, location-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) the present status of the road over bridges under construction in Bihar, location-wise;

(d) the funds allocated for construction of road over bridges during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, project-wise; and

(e) the time by which construction of such bridges is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a), (c) and (d) A Statement is attached.

(b) Firm proposals as prioritized by State Govt. fulfilling requisite formalities have been sanctioned as shown in the statement.

(e) Construction of ROB's is a joint work of Railways & State Govt. The Railway constructs the bridge proper across railway tracks and the State Govt. constructs the approaches. Construction of Bridge proper is planned to be completed by Railway before or along-with the completion of the work of construction of approaches by the State Govt.

### Statement

Name of Work	Outlay during			Present Status
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	
1. ROB in lieu of LC No. 49 at Km 593/9 on MGS-Patna section near ARA.	1000	5000	1000	Railway has completed 100% work of bridge proper. State Govt. has just started work on approaches.
2. ROB in lieu of LC No. 70 'A' Spl at Km 530/16-17 on Patna Sahib-Banka Ghat section near Deedarganj	8250	94	12000	Part estimate sanctioned. Tender finalized. General Arrangement Drawing finalized. Land acquired Railway work in progress.
3. ROB in lieu of LC No. 70 at Km 522/295 near Fatuha	6000	6500	10000	Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. has been requested for handing over of Govt. land for approaches on one side. Work on bridge proper nearing completion. Work on approaches given to M/s. IRCON
4. Replacement of ROB No. 153 Near Bhagalpur	0	0	10000	GAD approved. Estimate for approaches awaited from State Govt.
5. Saharsa-Panchgachhia ROB in lieu of Level Crossing No. 31/Spl.	5	10040	15000	State Govt. has agreed to adopt a grade of 1 in 30 revised plan. Approval awaited from State Govt.
6. Chukati Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No. 28/Spl. (k. 113/5-6) Between Mahesh Khut and Mansi	0	10101	15000	General Arrangement Drawing has been sent to Ministry of Surface Transport for approval, which is awaited.
7. Patna (Cheriyantand) - New cable-stayed ROB in replacement of existing ROB		100	10000	Revised GAD is being prepared due to change in length of approaches by State Govt
8. ROB in lieu of LC No. 193 at Km 543/14-15 on Patna-Gaya section near Mithapur	5	18000	15000	GAD approved for Railway portion. Estimate under progress.

[English]

### Maintenance of Taj Mahal

2716. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Taj Mahal is in bad shape, looking pale and fountains are not working;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard alongwith flood light the monument tastefully and polish the brass chandelier at the entrance lit?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The brass chandelier at the entrance to the monument is well maintained. There is no proposal to flood light the monument.

[Translation]

### Honorary Ranks to Defence Personnel

2717. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the criterion followed in for providing honorary ranks to the soldiers/officers in the army;

(b) the details of pensionary benefits provided to the persons holding the honorary ranks, after their retirement;

(c) the reasons for not providing pensionary benefits to the Hawaldars holding honorary rank of Nayab Subedar on the lines of the regular Nayab Subedars;

(d) whether such facility was already available before the implementation of Fifth Pay Commission report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for its discontinuance?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) Honorary Ranks are granted in the regular Army under the provisions of Defence Services Regulations, to the rank of Honorary Captain (Active list), Honorary Lieutenant (Active list), Honorary Lieutenant, Honorary Subedar Major, Honorary Subedar, Honorary Naib Subedar, Honorary Rank of Havildars and Naiks (On Retirement).

### Criteria for Grant of Honorary Ranks

Army Regulations have laid down the following criteria for grant of various Honorary Ranks:

#### 1. Honorary Captain and Lieutenant on active list

As per para 177 of Regulations for the Army, Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs), who have rendered specially distinguished service, and who are serving, in the Regular Army, may be granted honorary commission as honorary officers in the rank of captain/ Lieutenant. The above nomination will be made by the Chief of Army Staff twice each year on the occasion of Republic Day and Independence Day. The ratio for each occasion will be as under:

(a) Honorary Captains - 1 for every 4  
Honorary  
Lieutenants

(b) Honorary Lieutenants - 12 for every 1000  
JCOs.

#### 2. Honorary Rank of Captain, Lieutenant, Subedar Major and Subedar on Retirement

Under the provisions of Para 179 of Army Regulations, 1987, all eligible JCOs are granted one rank higher than the rank held by them at the time of retirement, within one year of their becoming non effective. There is no fixed quota for these awards. Accordingly, all eligible JCOs are granted one rank higher than the rank held by them at the time of retirement.

#### 3. Honorary Rank of Naib Subedar to Havildars on Retirement.

Under the provisions of Para 180 of Army Regulations, 1987, Havildars who are recipients of gallantry or meritorious awards (MSM) are granted honorary rank of Naib Subedar on retirement within one year of their becoming non effective, twice a year, i.e. on Republic Day and Independence Day. There is no ceiling fixed for recipients of gallantry or meritorious awards (MSM). In addition to these, Army is authorised 500 vacancies of Honorary Naib Subedar on Republic Day and Independence Day for those who are recipients of Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and Meritorious Service Certificate Holders (MSCH). These have been allotted to Arms and Services, based on strength of NCOs, in order of seniority and calculated on the basis of their service as Havildar in the Substantive capacity.

#### 4. Honorary Rank of Havildars and Naiks

Under the provisions of para 181 and 182, honorary rank of Havildars/Naiks will be bestowed to 20% Naiks/ Sepoys retiring annually in the last year of their colour

service. The award is being given on seniority-cum-merit basis by the respective Record Offices.

after the implementation of recommendations of V CPC.

### **Pensionary Benefits**

[English]

- (i) *Officers*: No enhanced/additional pensionary benefits are granted to officers granted honorary ranks during service or after retirement.
- (ii) *JCOs*: JCOs may be granted Hony. ranks of Lt./Capt. while on active service or after retirement. If they are granted honorary rank, as above, while on active service, they are granted pensionary benefits, based on their fixed pay for the rank held at the time of retirement. Presently, fixed Pay of Hony. Lt. is 10500/- and Hony. Capt. is 10850/-. If the Hony rank is granted after retirement, no addition in pensionary benefits is admissible to them i.e. they will get the pension of the substantive rank, held by them, at the time of retirement.
- (iii) *Havildars, Naiks and Sepoys*:
  - Sepoys, granted Hony. rank of Naik during their last year of service, are granted pension for the substantive rank of Naik or equivalent service reduced by one rupee.
  - Naiks granted, Hony. rank of Havildar during their last year of service, are granted pension, as admissible to Substantive Havildar or equivalent service less Re. 1/- p.m.
  - Havildars granted Hony rank of Naib Subedar, at the time of retirement, are entitled to an additional pension at the rate of Rs. 100/- p.m. with effect from 1st October 1991 over and above their pension for the rank of Havildar.
- (iv) - JCOs/OR, granted honorary ranks after retirement, are not entitled to any addition in their pension. This aspect has been considered by Ministry of Defence and the matter was also referred to the V Central Pay Commission (V CPC), who have not made any recommendation in this regard.
  - Havildars granted Hony. rank of Nb. Sub., at the time of retirement, are entitled to an additional pension @ Rs. 100/- p.m. with effect from 1st October 1991 over and above their pension for the rank of Havildar.
  - The additional pension of Rs. 100/- to Havildar, granted Hony. rank of Naib Subedar, has been granted w.e.f. 1st October 1991 and has not been withdrawn

### **Gas Based Power Projects**

2718. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the two 33 mega watt (MW) gas turbines in the joint sector, Vijjeswaram gas-based power plant in Andhra Pradesh was shut down due to technical problems since November 1, 2000;

(b) if so, the main reasons for its shut down;

(c) whether the State Government has decided to connect these two power projects to the State grid;

(d) if so, whether the 100 MW first phase of the plant was shut down resulting reduction in daily power generation to the extent of 14 MW to prevent further damage; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to start this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) 33 MW Gas Turbine-II of the Gas Turbo Power Station (GTPS) established in joint venture with participation of Andhra Pradesh Generation Company and public sector and private entrepreneurs at Vijjeswaram was under shut down from 29.10.2000 to 20.11.2000 due to high vibrations in load gear box. The unit was taken back into production on 21.11.2001 after rectification

(c) Both State-I Stage-II units at GTPS are connected to grid ever since their commissioning

(d) and (e) The load on the 33 MW GT unit was reduced at times to reduce the vibrations of load gear box. The vibration problem has since been rectified and the unit is generating at full load.

### **Construction of Road Over Bridges in Punjab**

2719. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up plans for building road over bridges at important and busy railway crossings in Punjab;

(b) if so, the places where such over-bridges are proposed to be built up during the next one year;

(c) the details and the present status of the under construction road over bridges, location-wise, and

(d) the time by which these bridges are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Proposals for construction of Road Over Bridges are sponsored by State Govts. Railway consider replacement of busy level crossings having traffic density of one lakh or more TVUs (Trains Vehicle Units—a unit obtained by multiplying the number of trains with the number of Road vehicles passing over the level crossing in 24 hours), by ROB/RUBs on cost sharing basis if proposed by State Govt. The proposals received

from Govt. of Punjab fulfilling the preliminary pre-requisites have already been sanctioned by Railway.

(c) A Statement is attached.

(d) Construction of ROB is a joint work of Railways & State Govt. The Railway constructs the bridge proper across railway tracks and the State Govt. constructs the approaches. Construction of Bridge proper is planned to be completed by Railway before or along-with the completion of the work of construction of approaches by the State Govt.

#### Statement

*Railway has planned to construct following Road Over Bridges on cost sharing basis in Punjab*

S.No.	Name of Work	Year of Sanction	Present status
1.	Ludhiana-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. A-2 on LDH-Dhuri section	96-97	Plan and estimate under approval. State Govt. however is reported as considering its execution on Build Operate & Transfer concept.
2.	Jalandhar-ROB in lieu of Do-moria Pul.	97-98	The detailed estimate sanctioned. State Govt. yet to plan the work of approaches. Profile sketch under revision with them. Work on Railways portion shall be taken up after the work on approaches starts.
3.	Sirhind-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 144-B	98-99	Work is in progress. All piles cast, pile caps & 12 nos. columns cast.
4.	Sunam-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. A-76.	99-2000	Revised profile sketch approved. Detailed estimate under process. Tenders opened for Railway's portion. Soil testing done
5.	Rajpura-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 135-A.	99-2000	Revised profile sketch approved. Detailed estimate sanctioned. G.A. Plan under approval & Tender invited.
6.	Bhatinda Yard ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 245A at km. 297/7-8	2000-01	Profile sketch approved. Soil testing completed. Estimate awaited from State Govt.

#### Acquisition of Aircraft Carrier

2720. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to acquire another aircraft carrier for Indian Navy keeping in view the urgent security needs of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Currently the Indian Navy has one aircraft carrier, viz., INS Viraat in its service against the requirement of two operational aircraft carriers. The Government have approved the indigenous construction of an Air Defence Ship for the Indian Navy in 1999.

The Government of the Russian Federation have offered to gift "Admiral Gorshkov", an Aircraft Carrier, to India. However, it will require to be repaired, modified and modernized before it can be inducted into service of Indian Navy. An Inter-Governmental Agreement in this

regard has been signed between Indian and Russian sides on 4.10.2000.

[Translation]

**Availability of Wagons for Transportation of Banana**

2721. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a number of complaints regarding non-availability of wagons in adequate number at Savda, Nimbhora and Raver railway stations in Bhusawal division of Central Railway for transportation of banana;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the shortage of wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No complaints have been received pertaining to shortage of wagons for loading of Raw plantain at Savda, Nimbhora and Raver stations of Bhusawal Division during the last six months.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no shortage of wagons for movement of plantains from above mentioned stations of Bhusawal Division and all demands for transportation of plantain are being met with in full. The details of station wise loading of plantain done from Savda, Nimbhora and Raver during last three years are as under:

Stations	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (upto February 2001)
Savda	4150 wagons + 110 Parcel Vans.	10049 wagons (9509 wagons upto Feb. 2000)	6506 wagons + 212 Parcel Vans.
Nimbhora	2270 wagons + 49 Parcel Vans.	4382 wagons (4082 wagons upto Feb. 2000)	3106 wagons + 104 Parcel Vans.
Raver	1548 wagons + 47 Parcel Vans.	4510 wagons (4300 wagons upto Feb. 2000)	6234 wagons + 313 Parcel Vans.
Total Bhusawal Division	8986 wagons + 385 Parcel Vans.	21421 wagons (20227 wagons upto Feb. 2000)	16690 wagons + 629 Parcel Vans.

The reduction in loading in 2000-2001 in comparison to that of the corresponding period of 1990-2000 is due to poor crop in the current year with corresponding reduction in demand placed on the Railways for transportation of plantains.

[English]

**Touts in Delhi Stations**

2722. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is still awaited from some of the Zonal Railways and an extension has been taken from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for another three months i.e. upto 23.5.2001.

[Translation]

**Terrorist Camps in Pakistan**

2723. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of terrorist camps being operated against India in Pakistan with the help of I.S.I.;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the number of terrorists sent to India from those camps;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to destroy those camps; and

(d) if so, the effective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Government are aware of the existence of certain camps in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir where training is imparted to the terrorists.

Government continue to exercise appropriate vigilance and take necessary measures to safeguard our national security interests.

[English]

**Train Superintendents in Rajdhani Express**

2724. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4126 on December 14, 2000 regarding Train Superintendents in Rajdhani Express and to state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is still awaited and an extension has been sought for another three months i.e. upto 13.06.2001.

#### **ONGC's Stake in Ratnagiri Oilfield**

2725. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has offered a 50 per cent stake in Ratnagiri oilfield to a private firm;

(b) if so, the details of this joint venture at Ratnagiri oilfield;

(c) whether ONGC has already dug 30 wells at Ratnagiri;

(d) if so, whether the production on a commissioned basis started at Ratnagiri; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b), (d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Investment In Railway Projects**

2726. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high-level Railway Safety Committee has recommended that Railways should invest in projects which would ensure a minimum return of over 20%;

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

(c) whether the Committee has identified rail projects which have inherited negative rates of growth;

(d) if so, the details of such projects;

(e) whether the Railways are reviewing such projects; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway Safety Review Committee, under the

chairmanship of Justice H.R. Khanna, retired Judge of the Supreme Court, has recently submitted part-II of their report and it has, *inter-alia*, recommended that Financial justification should be the only consideration for approving and prioritising an investment proposal. Further, only projects which yield a minimum rate of return of 20 percent, slightly more than the prevailing market rate of interest, should henceforth be undertaken. It is also necessary to arbitrate that in view of IR's financial crisis, no authority should be allowed to clear projects that do not fulfil this minimum ROR, except where strategic lines are involved; the concerned codes should accordingly be amended.

(c) No, Sir. The committee has not enlisted projects having negative rate of return.

(d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Recommendations are under examination of the Government. Action will be taken on those recommendations, which are accepted by the Government.

[Translation]

#### **Financial Irregularity in IAF**

2727. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial irregularities in the Indian Air Force Office of Delhi has been noticed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Financial irregularities in procurement of stores through DGS&D rate contract at 7 Base Repair Depot (BRD), Tuglaqabad, New Delhi from civil firms were noticed. Huge quantities of duplicating paper, photocopying paper and mild steel welding electrodes were procured without authorisation and full payment was made by the Pay & Accounts Officer, DGS&D, Department of Supply though very less quantity of the above items had been supplied/brought on charge. The value of discrepant stores is Rs. 26.60 lakhs.

The Court of Inquiry, conducted in the matter by the Air Force, has established a *prima facie* case of financial irregularities. However, the Air Force Court of Inquiry could not obtain conclusive evidence from the suppliers, Pay & Accounts Office, DGS&D, Inspecting Officer, Directorate of Quality Assurance (Ministry of Defence) and Controller of Defence Accounts, Air Force. Hence, the case has been handed over to the CBI for further investigation.

*[English]***Gestation of Power Projects**

2728. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to authorize short gestation power projects to change their fuel from Naphtha to gas or naphtha to diesel;

(b) if so, whether permission has been granted to change from one fuel to other fuel;

(c) if so, the right to claim liquidation damages from these projects;

(d) whether the conversion from Naphtha to Gas saves Rs. 100 to 200 crores in the capital costs; and

(e) if so, the difference in the cost of production per unit of electricity and the steps taken to pass on this difference to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The present policy permits change over of fuel from naphtha to gas or naphtha to diesel, subject to feasibility. Permissions for change from one fuel to another have been given in certain cases on the request of the concerned State Government/project developer after considering the feasibility of such switch over and availability of fuel. The provisions relating to claiming of liquidated damages are covered under the Fuel Supply Agreement entered into between the fuel supplier and the project developer and varies from case to case.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Energy Generated by NCES**

2729. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL :  
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Draught Animal Power Programmes proposed to be organized and coordinated through setting up of Centres for DAP;

(b) if so, the ground work has been laid for Centres of Animal Energy, for organising & co-ordinating such programmes;

(c) the steps taken to set up such centres; and

(d) the finance and infrastructure required for the said programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The proposal for Animal Energy Centre(s) did not get cleared during the Seventh Five Year Plan period and was not included in the subsequent Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans.

(d) A budget provision of Rs. 10.00 lakh is proposed for Animal Energy Programme for the year 2001-02.

*[English]***Production of Fly Ash by TPP**

2730. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR :  
SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that 60 million tonnes of fly ash is produced every year from various Thermal Power Plants across the country;

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

(c) the details of action plan formulated for productive use of fly-ash and lime technology instead of clay bricks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) During 1999-2000 the production of pulverized fly ash (PFA) was 76.894 million tonnes per annum from 74 thermal power stations out of 80 thermal power stations in the country. The State-wise details including the State of Maharashtra in this regard is given in the statement below.

(c) The utilisation of fly ash and its safe management is getting constant attention of the Government. Fly ash-sand-lime bricks are also being promoted alongwith other modes of utilisation of fly ash. Action initiated by the Government include -

(i) Fly ash Mission of Government of India, a joint activity of Ministry of Power, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Deptt. of Science & Technology being implemented by Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), under Department of Science and Technology has taken up technology demonstration project in a number of areas of fly ash utilisation/safe disposal of fly ash and facilitates such activities across the country including that of fly ash-sand-lime bricks

(ii) Ministry of Environment & Forests has issued a Notification under Environment Protection Act on 14th September, 1999 discouraging the use of clay for manufacture of clay bricks within 50 kms. of each thermal power station in the

country and promoting manufacture and use of fly ash bricks,

- (iii) Vide the Notification issued by Ministry of Environment & Forests referred to above, various bricks user agencies in country have been asked to expedite use of fly ash bricks.
- (iv) In order to promote full utilization of fly ash in the country all the thermal power stations (coal/lignite) are required to prepare time bound action plan and submit the same to the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.

### Statement

*Statement showing the State-wise details of fly ash production by thermal power plants across the country*

S.No.	Name of the State	Pulverised Fly Ash Production (in million tonne per annum)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.973
2.	Assam	0.029
3.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	1.769*
4.	Chattisgarh	4.943
5.	Delhi	1.868
6.	Gujarat	5.597**
7.	Haryana	1.161
8.	Karnataka	2.200
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7.622
10.	Maharashtra	10.741
11.	Orissa	3.309
12.	Punjab	3.596
13.	Rajasthan	1.391
14.	Tamil Nadu	6.508
15.	Uttar Pradesh	10.714***
16.	West Bengal	6.673
Total		76.894

\* Does not include data in respect of Barauni, Muzaffarpur and Patratu TPSs.

\*\* Does not include data in respect of Kutch TPS.

\*\*\* Does not include data in respect of Obra and Tanda TPSs.

### Tehri Hydro-Electric Project in Earthquake Zone

2731. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tehri Hydro Electric Project is located in one of the most earthquake prone zones of the world; and

(b) if so, the strategy contemplated by the Government to meet any eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) As per the code 1893-1984 of Bureau of Indian Standards, India has been divided into five seismic zones and Zone V is highly active zone. The Tehri Dam is situated in Seismic Zone-IV.

The Tehri Dam has been designed to withstand the seismic potential of the area and the Dam design incorporates various special features to make it a fail-safe structure. The Dam design has been examined and tested by various Committees/Group of Experts constituted by the Government from time to time and the Dam has been found to be safe even in the context of worst case scenario.

In view of the continuing concern relating to seismic safety of the Tehri Dam, a Group of Experts was constituted in June, 1996 to further examine the issue of seismic safety of Tehri Dam. This Group in its report concluded that the design of the dam was safe to withstand the Maximum Credible Earthquake.

[Translation]

### Procurement of Coal by NTPC, Sipat

2732. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition for using coal with less than 0.24 percent sulphur content only is permitted in Sipat (Chhattisgarh) based NTPC unit; and

(b) if so, the source from which N.T.P.C. procure this coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) There is no emission limit for SO<sub>2</sub> from thermal power projects in India. However, tall stacks as per regulatory norms are required to be provided by the thermal utilities. Accordingly, stack height of 275 meters has been envisaged for Sipat Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) as per regulatory norms.

The Ministry of Coal had indicated in March, 1996 that coal supply to Sipat STPP can be made from Korba coalfields subject to *inter-alia* confirmation by Standing Linkage Committee (SLC) (Long Term). Which decided in October, 1996 to provide coal linkage to Sipat STPP. However, specific mine block for feeding coal to Sipat STPP was not identified at that point of time. In the absence of specific mine block the coal parameters (with 0.24% sulphur) available from Korba STPS which also receives coal from Korba coalfields were assumed for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) purpose.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOE&F) while approving this project from environmental angle, stipulated a condition that the coal to be used should be with sulphur content not exceeding 0.24%.

Subsequently, in June, 1999 the South-Eastern Coalfields Limited furnished coal characteristics of Dipka expansion project, the linked source of Sipat STPP. The sulphur content in coal from Dipka expansion project would range from 0.4% to 0.6%.

NTPC have approached MOE&F for necessary amendments in the stipulation of environmental clearance based on revised impact on air quality furnished by them (which are within the ambient air quality standards prescribed by the regulatory agencies) when firing coal with sulphur content varying between 0.4% to 0.6%.

#### **Use of Hindi Language In Delhi District Courts**

2733. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the arrangement made for carrying out official work in Hindi language in District Sessions and other Subordinate Courts in Delhi which falls under region 'A';

(b) the number of Hindi typists, Hindi stenographer and Devnagri typewriters in District Courts, Session Courts, and other Subordinate Courts in Delhi;

(c) the number of Judges, Officers, and other employees who possess working knowledge of Hindi; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken for bringing facilities upto the desired level in compliance with Official Language Rules?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the Government of NCT of Delhi and the Delhi High Court and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Appointment of SCs/STs in Public Sector Undertakings**

2734. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint adequate number of persons from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes community as Heads/CMD and official/non-official Members of Board of Management/ Governing Councils of the Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous/Statutory Bodies and Corporations under the Ministry;

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

(c) the number of posts in the rank of Heads/CMD, official-non-official Members of Board of Management/ Governing Councils of the Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous, statutory, subordinate, attached offices in the Ministry of Tourism and number of persons from SCs/STs community working against such posts as on January 1, 1999 and January 1, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Appointment to the posts of Heads/CMD and Official/ Non-Official Members of Board of Management/ Governing Councils of the Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous/Statutory, Subordinate and attached offices is done on the basis of merit, seniority and eligibility of all candidates including SCs/STs.

(c) Information is being collected.

#### **Grant to Maharashtra**

2735. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for sanction of grants-in-aid for Simhastha Kumbhamela at Nasik and Trambakeshwar in 2003-2004 has been received from the government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No proposal for providing infrastructural facilities for Simhastha Kumbhamela at Nasik and Trambakeshwar in 2003-2004 has yet been brought forward by the Tourism Department of Maharashtra during the prioritisation meeting for the financial year 2000-2001.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Appointment of Managerial Personnel

2736. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs had issued orders rationalising appointment of managerial personnel and payment of managerial remuneration in case of companies having no profit or inadequate profit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of companies that had submitted applications in excess of limits prescribed for appointments and remuneration during the last three years; and

(d) the number of companies which were granted approvals/rejections during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Company Affairs have issued a circular dated 27.12.2000 in this regard in order to reduce subjectivity and to bring in an element of greater transparency and objectivity in submission of application. The circular brings out various aspects to be taken into account while submitting application. It also brings out deficiencies generally observed in the applications and brings out a check-list so as to ensure that the prescribed forms are completely and properly filed at the time of submission, so that disposal is quicker and faster.

(c) and (d) During the last three years 1998-2000, 1462 applications were received u/s. 269/309 of the Companies Act, 1956 for appointment and payment of remuneration to Managerial Personnel. Out of those 1462 application, 1350 applications were approved. In 20 applications remuneration in excess of limits prescribed under Schedule XIII to the Companies Act were not approved. 29 applications were closed in view of deficiencies/insufficient information.

[Translation]

### Recruitment in Army from Himachal Pradesh

2737. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a decline in the percentage of recruitment of Jawans in the Army from Himachal Pradesh ever since the criteria of recruitment in the Army based on population was adopted;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any letter dated December 9, 1999 from the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh seeking increase in the said percentage based on recruitable male population of the State; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A reply to Chief Minister's letter dated 9th December, 1999 was sent to him on 1st April, 2000.

### LPG Connections

2738. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the dates upto which the registered applicants seeking gas connections have been provided the same day, State-wise;

(b) the time by which all the pending applications are likely to be cleared; and

(c) the number of gas agencies functioning in each district and the number of gas connections provided to each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) At present new LPG connections are released on demand in existing markets throughout the country by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies after following the standard procedure of registration of prospective customers.

(c) As on 1.1.2001, total number of LPG distributorships of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies was 6376 and the total customers holding with these distributors was about 5.63 crore.

[English]

### Removal of Tracks

2739. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large length of rail track was removed at certain spots in South Central Railway in the month of February, 2001;

(b) the exact location of such illegal and dangerous activity;

(c) whether the South Central Railway had advanced information on the vulnerability of this section;

(d) if so, whether any action has been taken to prevent such incidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A 36 metre length of rail was removed on 28.2.2001 at Km. 416/5-7 on Secunderabad - Mudkhed section of Hyderabad Division of South Central Railway.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Security patrolling has been introduced between Mudkhed - Basar stations on Secunderabad - Mudkhed section after the incident.

[Translation]

#### Millennium Cards Scheme

2740. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared the millenium card scheme to the passengers travelling in the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these cards are being issued to the passengers; and

(d) if not, the time by which these cards are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The Scheme of issuing Millennium Cards is under detailed examination.

[English]

#### Recarpeting of Airstrip at Bagdogra Airport

2741. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to stated :

(a) the date on which the recarpeting work of airstrip at the Bagdogra Airport had started;

(b) the target date fixed for its completion;

(c) whether the work has since been completed and the airport is in use for flight operation;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on requests received from Members of Parliament during the period

#### Rajasthan

S. No.	State Utility	Name of Scheme	Project Cost	Grant	Loan	Total Amount Under APDP (Grant+Loan)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jodhpur VVNL	Jodhpur Circle	Distr. Tranf.	27.89	6.97	6.97	13.95

from 1.4.2000 to 28.2.2001 about early completion of work and non-functioning of airport?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The resurfacing work of airstrip at Bagdogra airport was started by Indian Air Force on 10th November, 1999. It was planned to complete the work by 31st January, 2001 but due to operational requirement of Civil airlines and some other factors, including excessive rain etc., the work is, now, expected to be completed by 31st March, 2001. However, special efforts have been made by Indian Air Force to enable civil airlines to continue to operate civil scheduled flights and these airlines have been operating, regularly since 4th January, 2001 after installation of Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) for runway 01.

(e) Requests were received from the Hon'ble Union Ministers of Civil Aviation and External Affairs, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim and one Hon'ble Member of Parliament, who have, already been apprised of the position.

[Translation]

#### Financial Assistance to State for Power Generation

2742. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial assistance for power generation in Rajasthan has been announced by him on behalf of the Union Government on the occasion of foundation laying ceremony of the fifth unit in Suratgarh;

(b) if so, whether Madhya Pradesh Government have also sought financial assistance from the Union Government for increasing their power generation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The Minister of Power while laying stone foundations for Suratgarh Thermal Power Station (Unit-V) announced assistance to Rajasthan State for upgradation of distribution network. In pursuance, three distribution circles namely, Jodhpur, Alwar, Jhunjunu circles have been identified by the State and following schemes with total cost and funds under Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) have been approved:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jodhpur VVNL	Jodhpur Circle	Meter	15.82	3.91	3.91	7.81
RR VPNL	Alwar Circle	Trans	7.12	1.78	1.78	3.56
	Alwar	Meter	9.00	2.25	2.25	4.50
	Jhunjhunu	Meter	8.15	2.04	2.04	4.08
	Jodhpur	Meter	10.85	2.71	2.71	5.43
	Alwar	CAP	3.20	0.80	0.80	1.60
	Jhunjhunu	CAP	3.70	0.93	0.93	1.85
	Jodhpur	CAP	4.45	1.11	1.11	2.23
			89.98	22.50	22.50	45.01

(b) and (c) Madhya Pradesh Government have also sought financial assistance under APDP for Renovation & Modernization of its power stations and also for upgradation of distribution network.

They have also identified three distribution circles for this purpose. The project sanctioned under APDP including fund to be released under APDP are given below:

#### Madhya Pradesh

S. No.	State Utility	Name of Scheme	Project Cost	Grant	Loan	Total Amount Under APDP (Grant+Loan)
MPEB	R&M of 1142.5 MW Satpura TPS (5X625+1X200+3x210MW)	R&M	22.34	5.59	5.59	11.17
MPEB	Gwalior	Meter	12.41	3.10	3.10	6.21
MPEB	Indore	Meter	19.35	4.84	4.84	9.68
MPEB	Ujjain	Meter	21.36	5.34	5.34	10.68
MPEB	Gwalior	CAP	0.42	0.11	0.11	0.21
MPEB	Indore	CAP	2.99	0.75	0.75	1.50
MPEB	Ujjain	CAP	1.70	0.43	0.43	0.85
			80.57	20.16	20.16	40.3

[English]

#### Sky Bus System

2743. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to operate sky buses as mode of public transport in Mumbai on highly crowded routes;

(b) if so, furnish details thereof alongwith the scheme technical soundness, cost effectiveness and total cost of the project, financing pattern etc; and

(c) the present status of proposal along with the time frame for executing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The Konkan Railway Corporation has only suggested that the Sky Bus Metro System could be one of the possible solutions to the urban transport problems faced by some major cities. The State Governments of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Tamil Nadu have evinced interest in this proposal and are in dialogue with Konkan Railway Corporation.

(b) and (c) The proposal is still at a conceptual stage.

**International Naval Fleet Review**

2744. SHRI A. NARENDRA :  
 PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
 SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Navy has organised an International Naval Fleet Review recently in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the countries involved and actually participated in this exercise, along with the number of ships took part in this exercise, country-wise;

(d) the total expenditure incurred in this regard;

(e) whether the Naval Authorities did not allow the Industrial Units around Mumbai to work on the days of rehearsal;

(f) if so, the estimated loss of production occurred due to closure of industries; and

(g) the steps being taken to compensate for the losses accrued to all concerned in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The International Fleet Review was conducted on 17th February, 2001 in which War Ships from 19 foreign countries took part. The details of foreign participants are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) A sum of Rs. 2.87 crores was sanctioned by the Government for conducting the event.

(e) The Naval authorities have informed that they had requested the Government of Maharashtra to examine the feasibility of rescheduling the maintenance periods of various industries so as to coincide with the period of the Fleet Review. This was done as part of the clean air campaign. The industrial units, however, were free to work on the days of rehearsals and also on the Fleet Review, if it was not considered feasible by them.

(f) and (g) Information is being obtained from the State Government of Maharashtra.

**Statement***Details of participation in International Fleet Review 2001*

S. No.	Country Participating	Type/Name of Ship	Delegation
1	2	3	4
1.	Bangladesh	BNS Ali Haider	Comde AKM Azad

1	2	3	4
2.	France	FNS Dupleix  FNS Perle	V ADM Jean-Louis Battet,  VCNS and R ADM Herve Giraud, ALINDIEN
3.	Malaysia	KD Jebat  KD Laksamana Tan Pasmah	V Adm Dato's Seri Abu Baker bin Abdul Jamal, CNS
4.	Sri Lanka	SLNSSayura	V Adm Daya Sandagiri
5.	UK	HMS Cumberland	Adm Sir, Nigel Essenhigh, CNS
6.	Singapore	RSS Endurance	R ADM Lui Tuck Yew, CNS
7.	Poland	ORP Wodnik	Captain Zdzislaw Zmuda
8.	Thailand	HTMS Bangpakong	Adm Navee Santikanavin
9.	Australia	HMAS Darwin	V ADM DJ Shackleton, CNS
10.	Oman	RNOV Qahir A1 Amwaj	RNOV A1 Najah HH Radm Sayyid Shihab Bin Tariq A1-Said, Commander of Royal Navy of Oman
11.	South Africa	SAS Drakensberg	V Adm J Reteif, CNS
12.	Japan	JDS Amagiri	V Adm Nobuchika Makimoti, President JMSDF
13.	USA	USS Cowpens	V Adm James Metzger, Seventh Fleet Commander
14.	Russia	Admiral Vinogradov Admiral Panteleev	Adm VI Kuroedov, CNS
15.	Indonesia	KRI Todak	R Adm SI Putu Ardana
16.	Iran	IRIS A1vand	Captain Yahya Dalvand (SOPA)
17.	Kenya	KNS Shujaa KNS Nyayo	Maj Gen AA Rafrouf, CNS
18.	Mauritius	CGS Vigilant	-
19.	Morocco	Lt. Col. Arrahmani	Major Mohamed Triki, CNS
20.	New Zealand	-	RAdm Peter McHaffie, CNS

1	2	3	4
21.	Israel	Lt Col Arrahmani	V Adm Yedidia Ya'ari, CNS
22.	Turkey	-	Comde Ozer Karabulut, Commander of Aksaz Naval Base
23.	Nigeria	-	R Adm FE Agbiti
24.	Vietnam	-	Snr Col. Tran Quang Khue, Vice Cdr
25.	South Korea	-	Lt Gen Chang Jung-Kil, Vice Chief of Navy
26.	Qatar	-	Brig (Navy) Nasser Al Nuaimi, CNS
27.	Maldives	-	Lt. Col. Ahmed Zahir, DG NSS Coast Guard
28.	Iraq	-	Maj. Gen. Yehya Taha Huesh, CNS
29.	Venezuela	-	VADM Jorge Miguel Sierraalta Zavaree, CNS

#### Fire Threat to Bagdigi Rail Line

2745. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that underground fire threatens to 10.5 long stretch Bagdigi Railway line on Dhanbad-Pathardih route;

(b) if so, whether this is a serious threat for goods and human lives as per the team of the World Bank; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) M/s Bharat Cooking Coal Limited has initiated filling up the trench, which had been dug-up earlier, with earth or sand and are using water for restricting the spread of the fire. As an additional precautionary measure, Railway has imposed speed restriction of 20 kilometer per hour between Lodhna and Patherdih station on train movement. Track patrolling is also being done in the area.

#### Reserves of Petrol and Gas in Gujarat

2746. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey in the desert of Kutch region of Gujarat to find out the new sources and reserves of Petrol and Gas during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the results thereof and the location where oil and gas has been found alongwith the estimated quantum thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) has carried out intergrated Geophysical surveys in Kutch Region under a Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) - funded R&D project. The processing and interpretation of the data acquired by NGRI has been completed by them and their report is under finalisation. However, no survey in the desert of Kutch Region of Gujarat has been carried out for hydrocarbons by the National Oil Companies or private parties during the last three years.

[Translation]

#### Induction of Wagons

2747. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway stations under North Eastern Railway where wagons have been supplied during the last year against the demand of each station;

(b) whether the railways have failed in fulfilling the demands of wagons by Purnea, Patna and Katihar stations;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide sufficient number of wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) No Sir. Railway was able to meet wagon demand at Purnea, Patna and Katihar stations during 1999-2000.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Statement**

*Names of stations on North Eastern Railway where wagons have been supplied during the last year against the demand.*

**BG**

Lalkuan, Rudrapur, Bilaspur, Kashipur, Gaushala, Haldwani, Babhnan, Gonda, Bisvan, Mahmudabad, Nakaha-Jungle, Gorakhpur, Basti, Colonel Ganj, Sarayu, Maijapur, Jarwal-Road, Gonda-Kacheri, Lucknow-City Allahabad City, Varanasi City, Ballia, Chauri-Chaura, Captanganj, Chhupra, Deoria-Sadar, Mau, Mairwa, Siwan.

Begusarai, Barauni, Dighwara, Garhara, Hajipur, Khagaria, Karpurigram, Kanti, Kursela, Kaparpura, Naugachhia, Mansi, Narayanpur-Anant, Sonapur, Semapur, Thana-Bihpur, Betiah, Bugaha, Harinagar, Laheriasarai, Motihari, Muktapur, Raxaul, Samastipur.

**MG**

Bareilly City, Pilibhit, Puranpur, Bilaspur, Baheri, Kichha, Shahjahanpur, Tanakpur, Badaun, Banbasa, Bajpur, Farrukhabad, Kashipur, Lalkuna, Sehramau, Ujhani.

Balrampur, Barhni, Gonda, Gainsri, Gola Gokarannath, Hargaon, Lakhimpur, Mihinpurwa, Mallani, Nanpara, Nautanwa, Naugarh, Deokali, Pardhan, Palikalan, Kheri-Town, Pachperwa, Sohratgarh, Sitapur, Tulsipur, Tikunia.

Chhupra-Kacheri, Dudhai, Dighwa-Dubauli, Gopalganj, Jalalpur, Marhaura, Masrakh, Padrauna, Ramkola, Rajapatti, Sidhulia, Sasa-Musa, Tarya Sujan.

Adapur, Angarghat, Bairagania, Badlaghat, Bhiknathori, Balbal, Chauradano, Banmankhi, Darbhanga, Daurah-Madhepura, Gaunaha, Gokhula, Ghorasahan, Hasanpur, Imli, Khagaria, Kundwa-Chainpur, Mansi, Lalitgram, Khajauli, Murliganj, Nakardei, Nirmali, Narkatiaganj, Olapur, Purneacourt, Riga, Raghopur, Roserraghat, Raxaul, Sonbarsa Kacheri, Simri Bakhtyarpur, Saharsa, Salona Supaul, Samastipur, Narhan, Nayanagar, Sikta, Bagaha.

[English]

**Loan from IREDA for Development of NCES**

2748. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether IREDA has sanctioned loan for the development of non-conventional energy projects till December 2000;

(b) if so, the names of projects along with the amount of loan approved for the projects, State-wise and particularly for Maharashtra; and

(c) the additional power expected from these projects in Maharashtra during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has sanctioned a total of 1402 projects for the development of non-conventional energy with loans of Rs. 4256.89 crores till December 2000 in the country including 203 projects with loans of Rs. 429.88 crores in the State of Maharashtra. The State-wise details of projects and loans sanctioned in the country including Maharashtra are given in the statement enclosed. In the State of Maharashtra, it is proposed to generate 748 lakh units from wind energy projects of an aggregate capacity of 47.5 MW and 5.29 lakh units from solar photovoltaic (SPV) projects of an aggregate capacity of 392 kilowatt peak commissioned (upto December, 2000) during current financial year. (Detailed information on Maharashtra being very bulky is being forwarded separately to the Hon'ble Member).

**Statement**

*State-wise details of projects sanctioned by IREDA till 31.12.2000*

(Rupees in Crores)

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Loan Amount
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	222	1109.00
2.	Assam	3	9.40
3.	Bihar	8	3.27
4.	Delhi	42	40.59
5.	Gujarat	74	123.19
6.	Goa	4	0.26
7.	Haryana	19	17.43
8.	Himachal Pradesh	14	60.34
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0.62
10.	Karnataka	163	776.26
11.	Kerala	27	99.39
12.	Madhya Pradesh	65	153.91
13.	Maharashtra	203	429.88

1	2	3	4
14. Manipur		2	0.37
15. Mizoram		1	0.16
16. Orissa		7	33.65
17. Punjab		23	37.61
18. Rajasthan		34	17.13
19. Tamil Nadu		366	991.46
20. Uttar Pradesh		73	252.64
21. West Bengal		45	90.50
22. Andaman & Nicobar		1	0.11
23. Daman		2	8.13
24. Pondicherry		3	1.59
<b>Total</b>		<b>1402</b>	<b>4256.89</b>

#### **Accident Claims**

2749. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accident cases are lying pending in claim tribunals for more than one to three years;

(b) the reasons for the delay in their settlement; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) 2329 accident cases for more than one to three years old are lying pending in different Benches of Railway Claims Tribunal as on 1.2.2001.

- (b) (i) Non-attendance by the applicants or their counsel,
- (ii) Adjournment sought by the applicant/their counsel for producing their witnesses or other evidence,
- (iii) Non-availability of heirship title with the claimants,
- (iv) Transfer of claims cases from one Bench to the other, sought by claimants.
- (c) (i) Instructions have been issued to all Zonal Railways that as soon as a passenger train accident or untoward incident takes place, all particulars of injured and killed may be obtained, claim application forms sent to claimants, and the record made

available to the concerned Bench of the Railway Claims Tribunal.

- (ii) When claims are filed and put up for hearing, the Railways should give all possible assistance to the Tribunal for speedy settlement.
- (iii) Written Statements are to be filed by the railways in such cases within 15 days of receipt of notice from Railway Claims Tribunal.
- (iv) As per revised guidelines prior finance concurrence for payment of compensation has been dispensed with and Chief Claims Officers of Zonal Railways have been empowered to sanction and arrange payment of the decreed amount to the claimants.
- (v) After the decretal amount of a claim has been sanctioned, Railways have to ensure that cheques are issued and despatched within a period of 15 days.
- (vi) Railway Claims Tribunals have been requested by the Government to take following steps:

- (1) Priority to be given for hearing and disposing of accident claims cases.
- (2) Members of other Benches to be deputed to vacant Benches for specifically hearing and disposing of accident claims cases for expediting their disposal.

#### **Permission to cross the Irrigation Canal under Rail Lines in Orissa**

2750. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the right main canal of Rengali multi-purpose irrigation Project is crossing Railway line between Hindal and Talcher/Angul of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Orissa has sought permission to cross the railway line; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government of Orissa had requested for 3 numbers of canal crossings at different locations on Nergundi-Talcher-Angul section for which permission has been granted. Works at these locations are in various stages of progress by South Eastern

Railway on 'deposit terms'. The State Government of Orissa has not yet deposited the full amount resulting in poor progress of work. Further the State Government of Orissa has requested for a minor canal crossing (Kharagaprasad Branch Canal) through existing Railway culvert (Minor Bridge No. 86) which was not found feasible as the existing Railway Bridge is not designed for carrying additional discharge of canal water. The State Government has been advised to propose a new canal crossing through Railway embankment.

#### Gas based Power Project

2751. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set

up some gas based power projects in the National Capital Region (NCR);

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

(c) the details of other places identified in the country to set up gas based power projects during 9th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Vidyut Board is setting up the Pragati Combined Cycle Gas Based Power Project (330 MW) which is located in the National Capital Region.

(c) The details of gas based power plants which were identified for being set up in the country during the 9th Plan are enclosed in the statement.

#### Statement

##### List of Gas based Power Projects identified for being set up in the country during 9th Plan

S. No.	Project's Name, Cap., State/Impl. Agency & Sanction/TEC Date/Fuel	Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Actual (A)/ Likely Date of Synch.	Constraints
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>A. STATE SECTOR</b>					
<b>I. Southern Region</b>					
1.	Karaikal CCGT (32.5 MW) Pondicherry/PPCL 2/91 Fuel: Gas & Naphtha	GT ST	22.9 9.6	5.3.99(A) 15.10.99(A)	
2.	Kovilkalappal CCGT (107 MW), TN/TNEB State Cleared Fuel: Natural Gas	GT ST	69 38	5.2.2001(A) 3/2001	
3.	Narimanam CCGT (5 MW) TN/TNEB Fuel: Gas	GT+ ST	5	Slipping from 9th Plan	
<b>II. Western Region</b>					
1.	Dhuvaran CCGT (100 MW) Gujarat/GSECL Fuel: Natural Gas/(HSD/LSHS)	GT+ ST	110(100)	Slipping from 9th Plan	
<b>III. North Eastern Region</b>					
1.	Rokhia GT Ph. II (8 MW) Tripura/Govt. of Tripura 8/94 Fuel : Gas	U-6	8	5.8.97(A)	

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Rokhia GT Extn. Ph.II (21 MW) Tripura/ Govt. of Tripura State Cleared Fuel : Gas	U-7	21	3/2001	
3.	Lakwa WH (38 MW) Assam Fuel : Gas	WH	47.5 (38)*	Slipping from 9th Plan	Tying up of funds from the non lapsable central pool of resources
<b>A. PRIVATE SECTOR</b>					
<b>I. Northern Region</b>					
1.	Chambal CCGT (166 MW) Raj./Global Board Fuel : LNG	GT+ ST	130 166*	Slipping from 9th Plan	Financial Closure
<b>II. Western Region</b>					
1.	Paguthan CCGT (655 MW) Guj./Gujarat Torrent Energy Corp. Ltd. 25.11.93 Fuel : Gas/Naphtha	GT-1 GT-2 GT-3 ST	135 135 135 250	22.10.97(A) 24.12.97(A) 14.2.98(A) 13.10.98(A)	
2.	Hazira WHRU (185 MW) Gujarat/Essar Power Ltd. 8/95 Fuel : LNG	ST	185	26.5.97(A)	
3.	Dabhol CCGT Phase-I 740 MS Mah./Dabhol Power Co. 17.4.96 Fuel : Naphtha/LNG	GT-1 GT-2 ST	240 240 260	31.10.98(A) 31.10.98(A) 11.12.98(A)	
4.	Dabhol CCGT Phase-II 144 MW Maharashtra Dabhol Power Co. 17.4.96 Fuel : Naphtha/LNG	Block-I (2 GT+1 ST) & Block II (2 GT + 1ST)		1444	6/2001 10/2001
<b>III. Southern Region</b>					
1.	Godavari CCGT (208 MW) AP/Spectrum Power Gen. Ltd. 14.12.93 Fuel : Gas/Naphtha	GT+ ST	47 67	21.6.97(A) 31.3.98(A)	
2.	Vemagiri CCGT (492 MW) AP/Vemagiri Power Gen. Ltd. 14.1.99 Fuel : Naphtha/Natural Gas	GTs+ STs	468 (492*)	Slipping from 9th Plan	Financial Closure
3.	Gautami CCGT (358.9 MW) AP/Gautami Power Ltd. Fuel : Naphtha/NG	GT-1 GT-2 ST	358.9 (464*)	Slipping from 9th Plan	Financial Closure
4.	Peddapuram CCGT (200 MW), AP/BSES Andhra Power Ltd. Fuel : Nagural Gas	GT ST	200 (220*)	6/2001 11/2001	(i) Financial Closure. (ii) Allocation of Gas as an alternate fuel by Ministry of Petroleum & NG

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Kondapalli CCGT (2x112+1x126MW) AP/LKPL 22.1.98 Fuel : Naphtha/Natural Gas	GT-1 (new GT-2 ST	112 112 126	19.9.00(A) 22.6.00(A) 18.10.00(A)	
6.	Jegurupadu CCGT-II 330.5 MW AP/GVK India Ltd. 12.11.93 Fuel : Gas/Naphtha	ST	77	20.6.97(A)	
7.	PPN CCGT (330.5 MW) TN/PPN Power Gen. Co. Ltd. 24.11.95 Fuel : Natural Gas/Naphtha	GT ST	225 105.5	1/2001 2/2001	
8.	Bidadi CCGT (200 MW) Kar./KPC Bidadi Power Corpn. Ltd. Fuel : Naphtha/LNG	GT + ST	200	Slipping from 9th Plan	Financial Closure
<b>IV. North Eastern Region</b>					
1.	Banaskandi CCGT (3x3.5+1x5 MW) Assam/DLF Power Ltd. Fuel : Gas	GT-1 GT-2 GT-3 ST	3.5 3.5 3.5 5.0	1.10.97(A) 1.10.97(A) 21.11.97(A) 23.6.98(A)	
2.	Adamtilla (3x3 MW) Assam/DLF Power Ltd. Fuel: Gas	GT-1 GT-2 GT-3	3.0 3.0 3.0	1.8.97(A) 1.8.97(A) 23.3.98(A)	
<b>C. CENTRAL SECTOR</b>					
<b>I. Northern Region</b>					
1.	Faridabad CCGT (430 MW) Haryana/NTPC 8.7.97 Fuel : Natural Gas/Naphtha	GT-1 GT-2 ST	143 143 144	29.6.99(A) 18.10.99(A) 31.7.2000(A)	
2.	Auraiya CCGT-II (650 MW) UP/NTPC 30.11.98 (TEC) Fuel : Natural Gas/Naphtha	GT+ST	650		Investment approval by NTPC Board
3.	Anta CCGT-II (650 MW) RAJ/NTPC 19.8.98 (TEC) Fuel : Natural Gas/Naphtha	GT+ST	650		Investment approval by NTPC Board
<b>II. Western Region</b>					
1.	Kawas CCGT-II (650 MW) Guj/NTPC 19.8.98 (TEC) Fuel : Gas/Naphtha	GT+ST	650		Investment approval by NTPC Board.
2.	Gandhar CCGT-II (650 MW) Gujarat/NTPC 12.11.98(TEC) Fuel : Gas/Naphtha	GT+ST	650		Investment approval by NTPC Board

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>III. North Eastern Region</b>					
1.	Kathalguri CCGT (3x30 MW) Assam/NEEPCO 11/87 Fuel : Gas	ST-1 ST-2 ST-3	30 30 30	1.3.98(A) 28.3.98(A) 5.7.98(A)	
2.	Agartala GT (4x21 MW) Tripura/NEEPCO 12/94 Fuel : Gas	GT-1 GT-2 GT-3 GT-4	21 21 21 21	5.2.98(A) 25.2.98(A) 29.3.98(A) 26.6.98(A)	

**Land to Secunderabad Cantonment by  
Nizam Government**

2752. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the area of land given by Nizam Government to Ministry of Defence in Secunderabad Cantonment Area in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Cantonment Board is possessing correct and complete records with regard to Defence lands given by the erstwhile Nizam Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken to get back the land grabbed by certain private individuals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Area of land given by Nizam Government and vested in the Ministry of Defence is as under:

(i)	Secunderabad Cantt	-	6584.7483 acres
(ii)	Golconda/Hyderabad	-	1500.60 acres
(iii)	Area adjoining Secunderabad	-	3848.6050 acres

(b) to (d) Maintenance of Defence land records by Defence Estates Officer is a statutory requirement. No discrepancy or error in the maintenance of records has come to notice.

**On-Going Railway Projects in Orissa**

2753. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the

on-going railway projects in Orissa for the current year in terms of targets set and achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for slow progress and allocation of funds for 2001-2002 in general and for projects in tribal areas/districts in particular, zone-wise;

(c) whether proposals for taking up new projects have been received from M.Ps./State Government;

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

(e) the details of action taken thereon along with the funds provided therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Progress of all Railway projects in terms of target wherever fixed are reviewed regularly. Status of all projects including allocation proposed for 2001-02, on South Eastern Railway covering the State of Orissa, are given in the statement enclosed.

Investment planning on Railways is done in a national perspective, taking an integrated view of the requirements of the system. Geographical boundaries of a state are not a criterion for taking investment decisions on the Railways. Moreover, a number of Railway projects span across a number of States. Therefore, financial details of projects are not maintained Statewise.

(c) to (e) Government of Orissa has proposed the construction of new lines between Talcher & Gopalpur and between Talcher & Bimlagarh. Surveys for these lines have been undertaken. Decision on these proposals and subsequent allotment of funds if any, will depend upon the results of the survey.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of Project	Rly.	Latest Anticipated Cost (Rupees in Crores)	Outlay expected to end of 2000-01	Outlay Proposed for 2001-02	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>On-going Railway Projects in Orissa</i>						
<b>New Line</b>						
1.	Koraput-Rayagada	SER	485.00	483.00	1.00	The work has been completed and commissioned. Tunnel ventilation work is in progress in the 2 long tunnels.
2.	Talcher-Sambalpur	SER	464.38	450.06	1.00	The project line has been completed and commissioned. Sambalpur bye pass work is in progress.
3.	Daitari-Banspani	SER	585.12	251.27	50.00	The Line from Banspani to Joruri (11 km) has been completed on 20-10-2000 and opened for Goods traffic. Land is available on the whole section except from km 140-142.2 and km 147-147.47. Earthwork and bridges are in progress from km 0 to 147 from Banspani end. In this stretch about 109.5 km of the formation is ready in patches. 207 out of 361 minor bridges have been completed and work on 24 major bridges have been taken up. For remaining 2 major bridges tenders have been invited. 1.48 lakhs cum of ballast out of 1.81 lac cum required from km 0 to 58 has so far been collected. Tenders have now been invited for balance length from km 58-123. The line is targeted for completion by Dec. 2003 subject to availability of resources.
4.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	SER	105.08	15.22	2.00	Land acquisition is completed except for forest land for which stage I approval has been obtained. Earthwork and bridge work has been taken up in the first block section Langigarh to Bhavanipatna and in Bhavanipatna yard. The work will be progressed as per availability of resources.
5.	Khurda Road-Bolangir	SER	700.00	22.05	15.00	The work of final location survey is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 23 km length have been submitted to State Government. Tender for earthwork and minor bridge for first two km on Railway land have been finalised. Work would be taken up once land is handed over by State Government.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	SER	301.64	14.54	20.00	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans and papers have been finalised and are with the State Govt. Land has been acquired for 10 km of alignment from Haridaspur end. An amount of Rs 5 crs. has been paid to the State Government for land acquisition. Work would be started as soon as land becomes available.
7.	Angul-Sukinda Road	SER	245.58	1.18	23.00	Final Location Survey has been completed. Report is under finalisation. Soil exploration for all 17 major bridges has been completed.
8.	Rupsa-Bangariposi	SER	80.00	9.64	5.00	Earthwork and bridges are in progress on the entire length. Work upto cess level has been completed from km 0 to 50. Work is in progress on precast box segments for minor bridges from Baripada to Bangariposi (37 km)
9.	Naupada-Gunupur	SER	66.35	5.14	0.00	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained. Process for obtaining the clearances has been initiated.
<b>Doubling</b>						
10.	Raghunathpur-Rahama	SER	70.64	70.14	0.50	Project completed and commissioned. Rehabilitation of existing line is in progress and expected to be completed by June 2001.
11.	Rajatgarh-Nargundi	SER	71.85	69.85	2.00	The section from Rajatgarh to Salegaon has been completed. The remaining section of 6 km has a fly over and expected to be ready by Dec. 2001.
12.	Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep (2nd Bridges on Mahanadi & Birupa)	SER	104.26	14.09	10.00	Soil investigation and detailed design on Birupa bridge has been completed. The estimate has been sanctioned. Retender for the bridge is being done.
13.	Nergundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur	SER	117.24	55.78	30.00	The preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up. Final Location Survey has been completed for Nergundi-Cuttack section. Bridge work and earth work has been taken up in Kendrapara Road yard.
14.	Rahama-Paradeep	SER	40.96	16.91	24.00	The preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up. Land acquisition has been completed except for last 3 km at Paradeep end. The work on major bridges no 242, earthwork and minor bridge in 7 out of 9 is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Titlagarh-Lanjigarh	SER	100.11	21.40	15.00	Land acquisition plans has been taken up. Tenders have been finalised for earthwork in four sections and for 1 major bridge. Kondel road-Nerla road section is targeted to be completed shortly.
16.	Rajatgarh-Barang	SER	166.16	0.11	1.00	Work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained. Process for obtaining clearances has been initiated.
17.	Khurda Road-Puri Phase-I (Khurda Road-Delang)	SER	48.00	5.00	5.00	Work included in the Budget 2000-01. Detailed planning has been taken up.
<b>Railway Electrification</b>						
18.	Bokaro Steel City-Muri-hatia-Bondamunda-Bimlagarh-Kiriburu/Barsuan incl. Purulia-Kotshila	SER	269.63	236.81	15.00	Work on all the sections completed except Bondamunda Muri section which is targeted for completion by Mar 2002.
19.	Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar including Talcher-Paradeep	SER	310.19	142.51	15.01	Work is in progress and is targeted for completion by March 2003.
20.	Bhubaneshwar-Kottavalasa	SER	292.59	239.78	25.30	Work is in progress and is targeted for completion by March 2003.

**Contract Workers Engaging in CONCOR**

(d) Does not arise.

2754. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) has engaged contract workers in perennial nature of work as well as prohibited category work and the labour laws being violated deliberately;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaint in this regard;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the reasons for not regularising contract workers working in prohibited categories on roll of principal employer (CONCOR)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The Govt. is not aware of any substantiated complaint in this regard.

(b) and (c) A reference from Ministry of Labour in this regard, was received and the matter was enquired into but the complaint was not proved.

**Agreement with American Company for Power Project**

2755. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with the American firm for power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of terms and conditions of the distribution of power and its marketing;

(d) whether the power generated from this project is shifted to other States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (e) During the visit of the Prime Minister to the USA in September, 2000, agreements were signed in respect of three power projects in the private sector. The details of these agreements are given below :

- (i) A Memorandum of Understanding/Intent to Finance was signed between the Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (IDFC) and M/s Synergic Energy Development Inc of USA on September 14, 2000 for financing the 330 MW Srinagar Hydro-electric Project of M/s Duncans North Hydro Power Co. Ltd. in Uttar Pradesh (Now Uttranchal). The Central Electricity Authority accorded techno-economic clearance to the 330 MW Srinagar Hydro Electric Power Project being implemented by M/s Duncans North Hydro Power Company Limited in Uttar Pradesh on June 14, 2000 at an estimated completion cost of US\$ 95.054 million + Rs. 1299.89 crores (at an exchange rate of 1 US\$=Rs.42/-). The project is scheduled for completion by September, 2005.
- (ii) A development agreement was signed between M/s Mirant Corporation (earlier known as M/s. Southern Energy Asia Pacific Limited (SEAP), Hong Kong) and the Power Trading Corporation of India Ltd. on September 14, 2000 to jointly develop, construct, own, operate and maintain the 3960 MW Hirma Thermal Power Project in the State of Orissa. The levelised fixed charge per unit of power to be generated from the project has been determined as Rs. 1.3398 per unit at 85% guaranteed availability with super critical boilers and at 74% front loading by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). The 1st Unit is expected to be commissioned 39 months from the date of financial closure. Thereafter, each unit will be commissioned with a gap of 3 months. Power is expected to be exported to five states: Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh in the West by way of a dedicated AC transmission line, and to Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana in North India by way of dedicated DC transmission line to Rajasthan. An AC transmission line will transmit power from Rajasthan through Haryana terminating in Punjab. Both transmission lines will be developed and operated by POWERGRID. Power will be purchased by the Power trading Corporation (PTC) for onward sale to the Off takers.
- (iii) A joint Development Agreement was signed between M/s. Tamil Nadu LNG and Power Company Private Ltd. and Power Trading Corporation of India Ltd. on September 14, 2000 for jointly developing the 1884.645 MW Ennore LNG based power project in Tamil Nadu. The project estimated to cost Rs. 6,500 crores is scheduled for completion 36 months from financial closure. The power generated from this project is proposed to be purchased by the Power Trading Corporation (PTC) for

onward sale to the Off takers, viz. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala. While an MOU has already been signed by PTC with the State of Tamil Nadu for offtaking 750 MWs of power, the commitment of other States is yet to be formalized.

### Production of Wind Energy

2756. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the wind energy potential of the country; and

(b) the quantum of wind energy produced during the last three years and as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The gross wind power potential of the country has been re-assessed at 45,000 MW. The technical potential depends on available grid capacity in the potential States, and is about 10,000 MW at present.

(b) An aggregate wind power capacity of 1270 MW has so far been installed in the country. The capacity addition during the last three years is given below :

Years		Capacity (MW)
1998-99	-	56
1999-2000	-	143
2000-2001 (upto Jan'01)	-	103

About 6.7 billion units have been fed to the State grids from wind power projects.

### Natural Gas In Tripura

2757. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to explore natural gas in Tripura State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on 1.1.2001, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. has acquired 4491 Ground Line Kilometer of 2D seismic

data, and drilled 92 exploratory wells in the State of Tripura. At present two seismic parties and three drilling rigs are in operation in the State.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Foreign Intrusion in Indian E.E.Z.

2758. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the incidents of intrusion in Indian maritime zone adjoining Andaman and Nicobar islands during the current year;

(b) if so, the number thereof;

(c) whether arms and ammunition have been seized from the foreign boats and intruders in the said zone;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the intruders arrested and arms and ammunition seized from them during the last one year;

(f) whether there has been an increase in activities of anti-social elements on the deserted islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There has been an increase in the incidents of intrusion in Indian Maritime Zone adjoining Andaman and Nicobar Islands as is evident from the following figures of apprehension of foreign vessels:

	Years		
	1999	2000	2001 (upto 8.3.2001)
Navy	40	28	Nil
Coast Guard	43	83	32

(c) and (d) There has been no seizure of arms and ammunition from the vessels/foreigners apprehended by Navy and Coast Guard.

(e) The number of intruders arrested by Navy and Coast Guard during the last one year is as under:

Navy	-	342
Coast Guard	-	696

(f) and (g) Andaman and Nicobar Administration has informed that no activities of anti-social elements on deserted islands have been noticed.

#### Balancing of Tariffs

2759. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need for re-balancing the tariffs of the Indian Railways to reduce the rate of cross-subsidisation;

(b) if so, the present position in this regard; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to reduce the rate of cross-subsidisation without putting burden on general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) A degree of cross-subsidisation exists in most industries and Indian Railways are not an exception. As far as Indian Railways are concerned, alongwith its commercial operations, it also is required to discharge various social responsibilities. The assessment for the year 1999-2000 of the total cost of its social services obligations was Rs 4739 crore which included Rs 1790 crore on Staff Welfare and Law and Order. Net of these costs, the figure worked out to Rs 2949 crore. There is a constant endeavour to improve the productivity of assets in order to limit operating losses and to maximise earnings.

[Translation]

#### Construction of Road Over-bridges in Uttar Pradesh

2760. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH . Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals sent by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for construction of road over-bridges at busy level crossings during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01, location-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government on each project;

(c) the details and present status of the under construction road over-bridges;

(d) the funds allocated therefor during the said period and proposed for 2001-2002; and

(e) the time by which these bridges are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a), (c) and (d) A Statement is attached.

(b) Bridges as per firm proposals prioritized by State Govt. and fulfilling requisite formalities have been sanctioned as shown in the statement.

(e) Construction of ROBs is a joint work of Railways & State Govt. The Railway constructs the bridge proper across railway tracks and the State Govt. constructs the

approaches. Construction of Bridge proper is planned for completion by Railway before or along with the completion of the work of construction of approaches by the State Govt.

#### Statement

From 1998 to 2001 following 14 proposals from S.No. 1 to 14 of Road Over-bridges were received from Uttar Pradesh Government fulfilling preliminary requisites which were sanctioned on cost sharing basis

(Rs. in Thousands)

S.No.	Proposals received	Sanctioned during	Outlay provided			Outlay proposed 2001-2002	Present Status
			1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Biraya-Panwari-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 279-B/3	98-99	3164	18206	988		Railway portion work completed in all respects. Approach work in advance stage of completion.
2.	ROB at Lucknow City in lieu of Level Crossing No. 7 ML between Daliganj & Badshahnagar	98-99	100	17001	10000	2500	GAD finalized. Estimate sanctioned State Govt. has taken work on approaches. Agency being fixed for Railway's portion of work.
3.	Iradatganj ROB in lieu of Lxing No. 430/A	98-99	10	-	15000	5000	GAD finalized State Govt. is pursued for sanction of Detailed Estimate
4.	ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 79-D GT Road near Kanpur	98-99	1	2001	25000	15000	Detailed estimate sanctioned. Profile sketch approved. Tender for approach work shall be invited when State Govt. starts work on approaches.
5.	ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 129 between Deoria Sadar - Nunghar	98-99		1000	10000	2500	No decision has yet been taken by State Govt. regarding location of the ROB.
6.	ROB at Lucknow City in lieu of Level Crossing No. 6 between Daliganj & Mahibullahpur	98-99		10005	15000	2500	Location not yet decided by State Govt.
7.	ROB at Lucknow City in lieu of Level Crossing No. 10 at Mahibullahpur Railway Station yard.	98-99	100	600	10000	13000	GAD approved by MOST. Estimate alongwith cost sharing approved. Work started on approaches as well as on Railway portion is in progress.
8.	Const. of ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 25-B/3-T at KM 788/11-13 on MGS-ALD section near Meja Road	98-99	1000	100	10000	20000	Profile sketch approved. Estimate sanctioned. Soil investigation done.
9.	Chaupala-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 356-Spl, and 250/A	99-2000	-	100	20000	5000	State Govt. has advised the Railway that location of the ROB is under reconsideration. Estimate for approaches awaited from State Govt.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Fatehpur-ROB alongwith subway in lieu of level crossing No. 50	99-2000		100	30000	15000	Revised sketch approved. Estimate sanctioned. PWD has changed the scope on approaches. Soil investigation completed.
11.	Rampur-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 403-A near Rampur	99-2000		100	10000	20000	Profile sketch approved. Detailed estimate sanctioned.
12.	Barabanki-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 180-A	99-2000		100	10000	10000	Profile sketch approved. Estimate of PWD portion received in April, 2000 and joint estimate under preparation.
13.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 24'A' at Km.129/4-5 between Gazipur city & Ghazipur Ghat Station on Aunrihar-Chappara Sec.	2000-01		-	10000	2500	Work under planning stage as MOST has advised to construct Bypass in place of ROB. Final decision awaited from State Govt.
14.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 478/A at Km. 1321/2-4 on Delhi - Jhansi at Jajau.	2000-01	-	-	10000	7500	Work under planning stage.
15.	Etawah-RUB in lieu of level crossing No. 29	94-95	2387	2329	-	-	The work of Railway portion completed and work of approaches is in progress.
16.	Partapur-ROB in lieu of level crossing No 21-A.	95-96	5000	1952	3500	1000	Work is in progress. Subway completed.
17.	Delhi-Saharanpur-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 40-B (Sakoti)	96-97	5000	1614	10000	4161	Load testing of test pile done and 10 piles have been cast. The land for casting further piles is yet to be made available by PWD. The GAD is under revision as per request of National Highway Authority.
18.	Hathras-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 95-A.	96-97	5	100	20000	20000	Detailed estimate sanctioned. Profile sketch approved. Tenders called for Railway's portion discharged because State Govt. did not start work on approaches.
19.	ROB in lieu of Level Crossing No. 6 at Km. 4/6-7 near Eye Hospital at Kanpur on Kanpur-Anwarganj-Rawatpur section.	94-95	5	5	15000	15000	Work on approaches is in progress by State Govt. and P-8 to P-15 have been completed upto pier cap level work on P-1 & P-2 and abutment is also in progress. Open tender for Railway portion finalized and work has been taken up.
20.	ROB in lieu of Level Crossing No.1 Spl. At Rampur.	95-96	50000	10000	10000	1000	Revised GAD prepared by SE/PWD received on 30-11-2000 and the same with corrections sent to MOST through State/PWD for approval on 22-1-2001.

Note : Works shown from S.No. 15 to 20 were sanctioned prior to 1998-99 but still are in progress.

\* ,

*[English]***Import of Aircraft Components**

2761. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unsatted Question No. 2893 dated August 10, 2000 and state :

(a) the date on which the Committee was constituted to consider the need of spare parts for the Indian Air Force and to identify the potential for their indigenous development;

(b) whether the Indian Air Force has taken initiative to collaborate with the Association of Indian Industries in order to include private sector industries for indigenous development, production and supply of the requisite items;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the outcome therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The 19th January, 2000, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Indian Air Force has taken initiative to collaborate with the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Society of Indian Aerospace Technology and Industries (SIATI) and Small Scale Industries (SSI) in organising Indigenisation seminars in various parts of the country in order to include private sector industries for indigenous development, production & supply of requisite items. During the last 4 years, this has resulted in increasing the Vendor Base for supply of

indigenous items to the Indian Air Force from a mere 151 nos. to 1250 nos. While Indian Air Force had made a dent in terms of low value/low quantum items, now, attention is turning to medium/high-tech and high volume items. This is a continuous process. As new weapons/systems are inducted, parallel action for indigenisation will also be taken.

**On-going Projects in Tamil Nadu**

2762. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going and proposed Railway projects in Tamil Nadu along with the cost involved therein;

(b) the progress made and the amount spent on each of the project so far; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Details of ongoing Railway projects on Southern Railway, covering the state of Tamil Nadu, including their anticipated cost, expected outlay to the end of 2000-01 and their progress are given in the enclosed statement-I. Likely date of completion of these projects, wherever fixed, are also stated in statement-I.

A list of ongoing surveys on Southern Railway, covering the State of Tamil Nadu, is given as statement-II.

**Statement-I**

S.No.	Name of Project	Latest Anticipated Cost	Outlay expected to end of 2000-01	Status
1	2	3	4	5

**On-going Railway Projects on Southern Railway covering the State of Tamil Nadu****New Lines**

1.	Karur-Salem	229.88	113.42	30% of land has been taken over and work is in progress over 45 km. Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress in 10 reaches and bridge over Kaveri river is also in progress Work of station buildings at Kalagari and Mallur have been taken up and for Nammkal and Rasipuram station tenders are under finalisation.
----	-------------	--------	--------	--

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Bangalore-Satyamanglam	225.00	0.09	Final location survey is in progress and would be completed shortly. Land acquisition plans will be prepared once Final Location Survey is over and alignment has been firmed up.
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>				
3.	Chennai Beach-Tiruchchirappali and Arakonnam-Chengalpattu	696.83	409.53	Main Work has been completed and commissioned. However, 10 crossing stations remain to be provided of which 5 will be completed in 2000-01.
4.	Dindigul-Trichy	131.07	95.84	The work has been completed and commissioned.
5.	Tiruchchirappali-Nagore-Karaikal	146.11	81.23	The section from Trichy to Thanjavur (50 km) has been completed and commissioned. Work on rest of the section is in progress. No target date has been fixed. Nagpattinam - Vallankani has been sanctioned as a material modification to this work but alignment is under modification in consultation with State Government.
6.	Yashwantpur-Salem	176.29	175.34	Work has been completed. Section from Banyapannahalli to Salem has been commissioned. However Banyapannahalli-Yeshwantpur is not getting commissioned due to public agitation for a Road Over Bridge at Hebbal and Lingraypuram. Road Over Bridge has been sanctioned. State Government is being approached for its early commissioning.
7.	Madurai-Rameswram	240.00	5.39	Earthwork and bridges have been taken up. No target date has yet been fixed.
8.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Trichendur & Tenkasi-Virudhnagar	327.61	21.97	In Virudhnagar - Tenkasi and Tirunelveli - Trichendur, bridge work and earthwork has been taken up. Final location survey has been taken up in the ghat section between Punalur and Tankasi to ease gradient and curves to suit BG. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources.
9.	Villupuram-Pondicherry	30.00	0.90	Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.
10.	Thanjavur-Villupuram main line	231.00	6.03	The work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances. Process for obtaining clearances has been initiated.
11.	Cuddalore-Salem via Vriddhachalam	198.68	1.00	Arrangements are being made to start the work.
12.	Trichy-Manmadurai	175.00	4.00	Work included in the Budget 2000-01. Detailed planning has been taken up.
13.	Villupuram-Katpadi	175.00	2.23	Work included in the Budget 2000-01. Detailed planning has been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Doubling</b>				
14.	Irugur-Coimbatore	25.11	2.29	Land acquisition for the project has been taken up. The detailed planning of the facilities to be provided is also on hand. The work as required would be taken up and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
15.	Attipattu-Korukkupettai	40.00	5.09	Preparation of Plans and estimates is in progress. Tender for construction of a important bridge across Ennore Creek has been taken up.
<b>Metropolitan Transport Project</b>				
16.	Chennai Beach-Luz (now Thirumaili) Phase-I Rapid Transit System	268.87	263.53	Line opened for traffic on 19.10.97. Work on additional station is in progress.
17.	MRTS Phase-II from Thirumaili to Velacherry	684.32	128.49	2/3rd cost of the project is being shared by State Government of Tamil Nadu. The substructure works for the entire elevated section from Tirumalai to Taramani has been completed. Work on super structures in elevated section except at one location and work at 7 stations is in progress.
18.	Chennai Beach-Tambaram-Chengalpattu: Gauge Conversion	455.24	37.85	The work is in progress. MG terminal has already been shifted to Tambaram. Work of conversion of MG main line from Chennai Egmore to Tambaram has been completed.
<b>Railway Electrification</b>				
19.	Erode-Palghat-Ernakulam	220.10	207.27	The work has been completed. Residual job is in hand.
20.	Tambaram-Chengalpattu-Vilupuram & Chengalpattu-Arakkonam	38.44	10.00	Estimate has been sanctioned. Preliminary works have been taken up. Target Date of Completion is Mar. 2003.

**Statement-II**

S. No.	Name of the Project	Plan-Head	Status
1	2	3	4
<i>On-going Surveys on Southern Railway covering the State of Tamil Nadu</i>			
1.	Madurai-Coimbatore	Gauge Conversion	In progress. Target Date of Completion is 31.05.2001
2.	Virudhnagar to Manamadurai	Gauge Conversion	Completed. Report under finalisation.

1	2	3	4
3.	Jolarpettai to Hosur via Krishnagiri	New Line	In progress. Target Date of Completion is 31.05.2001.
4.	Kumbakonam to Namakal	New Line	In progress. Target Date of Completion is 30.4.2001.
5.	Madurai-Kottayam	New Line -	In progress. Target Date of Completion is 31.05.2001
6.	Madurai-Tuticorin	New Line	Being taken up. Target Date of Completion is 30.6.2001.
7.	Vaikam-Vaikam Road	New Line	To be taken up.

[Translation]

### Delegation Visited Foreign Countries

2763. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation headed by him visited abroad recently;

(b) if so, the names of the countries visited by the said delegation besides Russia;

(c) the persons in the delegation who visited abroad on the Government expenses and the role of each of them in discharging the official work during their visit; and

(d) the duration of this visit and the total expenditure incurred on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Government of India have offered 25 exploration blocks for exploration of oil and gas under the Second round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). In order to effectively promote the Second round of NELP, it was decided on the basis of the advice tendered by the marketing Consultant for NELP-II namely; M/s IHS Energy Group, U.K. and in consultation with the Director General of Hydrocarbons, that the Delegation having representation at the highest level should visit the potential countries. Accordingly, the Delegation led by the Minister (P&NG) and consisting of Minister of State (MOS), Senior Officers of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Director General of Hydrocarbons visited London (U.K.), Houston (USA), Tokyo (Japan) and Singapore during January-February, 2001 for Promotional Roadshows. The Delegation for NELP-II did not visit Russia.

The details of the Delegation are given in the statement below. Each member of the Delegation had joint as well as individual duties; Minister, MOS, Secretary/Addl. Secretary were present to show the commitment of Government and explain overall sectoral policies during presentation and one-on-one meetings.

The total expenditure on account of the visit of the Delegation for the Roadshows is about Rs 36 lakhs. While the expenditure in respect of the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas was met by the Government of India, the expenditure in respect of the remaining members of the Delegation was borne by the Directorate

General of Hydrocarbons under its relevant Budget head.

### Statement

#### Details of Delegation for NELP-II Roadshows

Countries	Duration	Delegates
London (U.K.)	Jan. 18-19, 2001	1. Sh. Ram Naik, Minister (P&NG) 2. Sh. Apurva Chandra, PS to Minister 3. Sh. Santosh Kumar Gangwar, MOS (P&NG) 4. Sh. P. Shankar, Secretary (P&G)
Houston (U.S.A.)	Jan. 22-23, 2001	5. Sh. J.M. Mauskar, Joint Secretary (E) 6. Dr. Avinash Chandra, DG, DGH 7. Sh. B. Bharali, Adviser (E) 8. Dr. A.R. Sihag, Director (EC)
Tokyo (Japan)	Feb. 5-6, 2001	1. Sh. Ram Naik, Minister (P&NG) 2. Sh. Apurva Chandra, PS to Minister 3. Sh. Naresh Narad, Addl. Secretary
Singapore	Feb. 8-9, 2001	4. Sh. J.M. Mauskar, Joint Secretary(E) 5. Dr. Avinash Chandra, DG, DGH 6. Sh. B. Bharali, Adviser (E) 7. Dr. A.R. Sihag, Director (EC)

[English]

### Use of Navy for Internal Security

2764. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Navy wants to remain away from internal security;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government are taking to keep Navy and other defence forces away from the internal security?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Defence forces including Navy are responsible primarily for meeting external threat to the security of the country. However, the Indian Navy and other Defence forces are employed to assist

the agencies responsible for internal security as and when it becomes inescapable.

#### **Expenditure on Purchase of Army Gadgets**

2765. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure made by the Government in acquiring U.A.V.s, U.G.S. and Hand held Thermal Image Sensors for border areas;

(b) the number of infiltrators caught by use of these expensive gadgets; and

(c) the reasons for failure of such expensive high technology apparatus to catch infiltrators in border areas and the rationale of purchasing them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The value of concluded contracts is as under:

(i) Unarmed Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)	Rs. 129.02 crores
(ii) Hand Held Thermal Imager (HHTI) Sensors	Rs. 83.78 crores
(iii) Unattended Ground Sensors (UGS)	Rs. 71.23 crores

(b) and (c) No inputs are available as yet.

#### **Reduction of Freight Rate of Coal**

2766. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering to reduce the rail freight on coal as it had been increasing at a faster pace than the coal price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have received any proposal in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Status of Porters**

2767. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of licenced railway porters in the country;

(b) whether a proposal is under consideration of the Government to accord the status of fourth class employees to the railway porters;

(c) whether the facility of waiting halls are being provided to the porters on all the small and big stations;

(d) whether they have been provided medical facilities and arrangements for providing education facilities for their children in railway schools also;

(e) whether only "kurtas" have been provided to the Railway porters as against uniform instead of trousers; and

(f) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in regard to according fourth class employees, status to the railway porters and also to extend facilities such as waiting hall, medical, education and uniform etc. to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The total number of licenced porters on Indian Railways is 39,103.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Resting facilities/sheds have been provided to the licenced porters at the major stations and at the stations where these facilities are not provided licenced porters are allowed to use waiting halls, lavatories and bathing facilities available at the stations. The licenced porters, their spouses and depended children can avail of the outdoor medical facilities in the railway hospitals and the health units. The children of licenced porters are admitted in railway schools subject to availability of seats after admitting the children/wards of railway employees. Two red shirts are supplied to the licenced porters every year as uniform and one woollen shirt is also given to them once in two years in lieu of one red shirt.

[English]

#### **ONGC Output In Assam**

2768. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether strength of ONGC's officers posted in Assam is much more than needed for the production of just 1.7 MMT of crude oil which has made this region producing the lowest quantity of oil per employee in comparison to other fields worldover;

(b) if so, whether ONGC has to spent three times more money on each officer posted in Assam;

(c) whether more than half the rigs of ONGC are not operating in Assam for the last many years; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The present strength of officers of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) posted in Assam is just sufficient to meet the operational requirements and programmes of ONGC in the Region.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Rigs of ONGC are being deployed in its different work centres keeping in view the programmes of work.

[Translation]

#### Appointment of RTA at Kalyan Station

2769. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3024 on December 7, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present 6 Rail Travellers' Service Agents (RTSAs) are functioning at Kalyan. The rules provide that no canvassing will be done for booking and reservation by the agents or any person on his behalf within the railway premises and within the distance of 100 meters from the railway reservation office. This is being ensured by repeated checks by Commercial and Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff. As regards complaint regarding nexus between Rail Travel Agents and railway staff, a complaint was received against Chief Enquiry-cum-Reservation Supervisor (CERS) and RPF staff of Kalyan station. While the CERS, Kalyan has since been transferred, the allegations against the RPF staff could not be substantiated during the enquiry.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Generation Capacity of Various Projects

2770. SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Projects operating under various

State Electricity Boards are not utilising their optimum capacity in generating electricity;

(b) if so, the details of the actual generation capacity of various projects under operation of each State Electricity Board of the country;

(c) whether the Government have estimated that the generation cost of electricity is increasing as these projects are not generating electricity according to their installed capacity; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The capacity utilisation in terms of Plant Load Factor (%) of thermal power plants of State Electricity Boards/State Power Utilities for the period April 2000-February 2001 has been 65.2%.

(b) The details of actual electricity generation alongwith monitored capacity of thermal power plants under various SEBs/State Power Utilities are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The cost of power generation at different power stations in the country varies depending upon factors like the nature of the plant, topography/geology of the site of the plant and the type of fuel used etc. Based on information of 15 States, as received by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for the year 1998-99, the average cost of the power generation from hydro power stations varies from 23.16 p/kwh to 153.97 p/kwh, and for thermal power stations it varies from 121.75 p/kwh to 297.57 p/kwh. The average All India PLF of thermal power plants increased from 55.3% in 1991-92 to 67.3% in 1999-2000. The PLF for the State Sector increased from 50.6% to 63.7% in 1999-2000.

#### Statement

##### Details of Power Generation and Capacity of Thermal Power Plants/Various SEBs/State Power Utilities

Sl. No.	Name of SEB	Monitored Capacity (MW)	Actual generation MUs (April, 2000-Feb. 2001)
1	2	3	4
1.	DVB	678.5	2562
2.	J & K	175	2
3.	HPGC	815	3166
4.	RSEB	1388.5	8859
5.	PSEB	2120	* ,13261

1	2	3	4
6.	UPRVUNL	4009	17720
7.	GEB	3996	20957
8.	GSECL	420	2598
9.	MSEB	7308	38355
10.	MPEB	3512.5	18580
11.	APGENCO	2942.5	19908
12.	APGPCL	272.3	1806
13.	TNEB	3169	17668
14.	PONDICHERRY	32.5	213
15.	KPCL	1260	8252
16.	VVNL (KEB)	120	579
17.	KSEB	248	726
18.	BSEB	1300	1897
19.	TENUGHAT (TVNL)	420	1225
20.	OPGPC	420	2722
21.	WBSEB	1110	2947
22.	WBPDC	11680	6658
23.	DPL	390	523
24.	ASEB	574.5	843
25.	TRIPURA	64.5	220
Total (SEB's)		38425.8	192247

#### Outlay for Rural Electrification Corporation

2771. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the outlay for Rural Electrification Corporation during 1999-2000;

(b) whether it has been reduced as compared to preceding financial year;

(c) if so, the justification therefor;

(d) whether the Gujarat State will be adversely affected due to reduction; and

(e) the steps being taken to increase rural electrification in the drought prone States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The budget outlays approved by the Government for Rural

Electrification Corporation for the years 1998 and 1999 are given below :

Year	Normal	Minimum Needs Programme (Rs. in crores)
1998-99	450	175
1999-2000	430	175

It would be seen that the change in financial outlay for REC in the year 1999-2000 in comparison to the preceding financial year was very marginal.

(d) and (e) Notwithstanding the above position, REC disbursed financial assistance of Rs. 362 crore to Gujarat during 1999-2000 as compared to the disbursement of Rs. 313 crore during the year 1998-99. As compared to 26262 pumpsets energised during 1998-99 in Gujarat, 26665 pumpsets were energised during 1999-2000.

#### IREP

2772. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the main features of the Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP);

(b) the manner in which the programme is being implemented in the country;

(c) whether the expected results are being achieved from this programme;

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

(e) whether a study has been conducted by the Government regarding the progress of this programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The main feature of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme—Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) is to provide optimum mix of energy sources for meeting energy needs for subsistence and productive purposes, through preparation and implementation of Block level integrated rural energy plans and projects.

(b) State Nodal Departments and Agencies are implementing the programme. It has two components: (i) the Central Sector component includes support for developing capabilities in the States and Union Territories for preparing energy plans and projects and

(ii) the State Sector component includes funding for demonstration projects, financial incentives for various energy devices, extension and other related activities.

(c) and (d) State Governments are implementing the programme at present in 724 Blocks against the coverage of 860 Blocks sanctioned, with satisfactory achievements in some States. State-wise details of number of Blocks covered is given in enclosed statement-I.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. A project entitled "Analysis of IREP and Development of Capacity Building Strategy", was taken up in twelve States in the year 1999-2000 with the support of United Nations Development Programme. A summary of the State-wise status of IREP mentioned in the project report is given in statement-II.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *State-wise number of Blocks covered under IREP*

State/Union Territory	Number of Blocks covered
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	30
Arunachal Pradesh	10
Assam	19
Bihar	16
Goa	5
Gujarat	19
Haryana	30
Himachal Pradesh	45
Jammu & Kashmir	8
Karnataka	42
Kerala	28
Madhya Pradesh	85
Maharashtra	37
Manipur	19
Meghalaya	15
Mizoram	11
Nagaland	6
Orissa	45
Punjab	40
Rajasthan	18
Sikkim	4

1	2
Tamil Nadu	21
Tripura	6
Uttar Pradesh	115
West Bengal	30
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5
Chandigarh	1
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
Daman & Diu	1
Delhi	5
Lakshadweep	1
Pondicherry	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>724</b>

#### **Statement-II**

##### *State-wise status of IREP indicated in the Project Report on "Analysis of IREP and Development of Capacity Building Strategy"*

#### **1. Uttar Pradesh**

IREP plans for 44 Blocks have been prepared. Survey of 90 Blocks has been done. It remains to be done in 25 Blocks. Energy consumption data has been compiled for 60 Blocks and it remains to be done in 55 Blocks. Evaluation studies have been carried out for seven Blocks by UP Development Systems Corporation Ltd. (UPDESCO), a State Undertaking. As a result of implementation of the IREP only 5.6% of the energy gap has been filled. At this rate there cannot be any prospect of making a dent on the energy gap in the rural areas.

#### **2. Madhya Pradesh**

The programme is being implemented in 85 Blocks. There is one State level Technical Back-up Unit located at the University of Indore. There is subsidy on solar and pressure cookers, kerosene stoves, lanterns, foot valves, compact fluorescent lights, gasifier pumps and energy plantation in addition to central subsidy on improved chulhas, solar photovoltaic lights and pumps and biogas plants. The State has been reluctant to recruit staff against posts sanctioned for IREP because there is no long-term assurance of funds for the staff.

#### **3. Gujarat**

Although there is a State level Cell, the Block Development Officer holds the additional charge of IREP

programme in the Block assisted by just one clerk. For this reason, the State has received much less central grant than its entitlement.

#### 4. Himachal Pradesh

Himachal is one of the States where this programme is implemented seriously. Himurja was created for IREP but it looks after the entire renewable energy programme. There are 72 Development Blocks in the State and IREP has been extended to 45 of them. Accordingly there are 45 IREP Block level-Project Cells. In 16 IREP Blocks, the plans have been prepared. In other 4 Blocks, surveys have been completed and the report was under preparation. In the remaining 25 Blocks, the data were being collected or the survey work was being initiated. The State level Technical Back-up Unit is located in the Regional Engineering College, Hamirpur. Since the Central grant does not fully cover the expenditure on staff, a part of the State expenditure is spent on establishment also. The officials of Himurja working for the IREP are concentrating on hydrams and hydro-electricity. The IREP is not being planned and implemented in the manner in which it was originally conceived. Energy survey and preparation of energy plan for the IREP Blocks was done only during the initial years and was given up a few years ago. The main reason seems to be that the flow of funds was a small fraction of the funds required and so preparing a plan seemed irrelevant to the officials.

#### 5. Andhra Pradesh

The IREP has been introduced in 30 Blocks in the State. The programme was initiated in the State with enthusiasm, but gradually and steadily it lost its momentum. The appointment of nodal agencies for programme such as biogas plants, resulted in the IREP not getting its share of the programme. The staff was much less than envisaged and the programme was suffering. The financial allocations were too small. The integration with the programmes of Rural Development was inadequate.

#### 6. Haryana

Haryana is one of the States where awareness level is good. The guidelines are followed and the IREP plans are prepared. The efforts of various departments, like Agriculture, Women and Child, etc., are mobilised to contribute to the IREP. The District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) is also involved in the programme. The IREP Cell deals with policy issues, awareness generation, training, identifying beneficiaries, etc. There is an Advisory Committee for Inter-departmental Co-ordination at the State level. To encourage Panchayats

to participate in IREP, awards are given for performance at the Block Level, District and State levels.

#### 7. Rajasthan

The State Level IREP Cell is located in the Rajasthan Energy Development Agency. A District Level Committee under the chairmanship of the District Collector coordinates the activities of the various agencies involved. The State has decided to restructure IREP and restrict it to selected lesser number of Blocks. The State feels that the concept of IREP is not complete in itself.

#### 8. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya

Several happy users of biogas plants were found in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya. IREP would do well to extend its programme to include preventive maintenance. Maharashtra has a successful programme of wind generators and so does Tamil Nadu. But these systems are not handled under IREP.

#### 9. Delhi

IREP was introduced in Alipur Block in 1983-84 and was later extended to all the five Blocks. The State Level Cell is located in the Delhi Energy Development Agency. Institutional financing agencies have not been involved in providing finance for this programme. A few voluntary organisations were involved in the programme. Staff recruited for the IREP was performing other duties. The amount provided for IREP was being used for miscellaneous works.

#### Massive Investments in Power Grid Corporation

2773. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Grid Corporation has decided to lay its proposed 14,000 km. long optical fibre network;

(b) if so, whether the country wide optical fibre network is likely to cost Rs. 1,400 crore;

(c) the names of the cities that are likely to be covered under this scheme, and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) Powergrid plans to develop fibre optic telecom backbone network of about 14,000 kms. In the next 2-3 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 1100 crores. The network will connect all metros and major towns and cities in the country, a list of which is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

S.No.	State	City Names
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakapatnam
4.	Assam	Guwahati
5.	Assam	Tezpur
6.	Bihar	Jamshedpur
7.	Bihar	Patna
8.	Delhi	Delhi
9.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
10.	Gujarat	Vadodra
11.	Haryana	Panipat
12.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
13.	J & K	Jammu
14.	J & K	Udampur
15.	Karnataka	Bangalore
16.	Karnataka	Mysore
17.	Kerala	Ernakulum
18.	Kerala	Kozikode
19.	Kerala	Trivandrum
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
21.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
22.	Madhya Pradesh	Raipur
23.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhilai
24.	Madhya Pradesh	Itarsi
25.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur
26.	Maharashtra	Mumbai
27.	Maharashtra	Nagpur
28.	Maharashtra	Nasik
29.	Maharashtra	Pune
30.	Gujarat	Surat
31.	Manipur	Imphal
32.	Meghalaya	Shillong

1	2	3
33.	Nagaland	Kohima
34.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
35.	Orissa	Rourkela
36.	Punjab	Ambala
37.	Punjab	Jalandhar
38.	Punjab	Ludhiana
39.	Punjab	Moga
40.	Punjab	Panchkula
41.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
42.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
43.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
44.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
45.	Tamil Nadu	Trichi
46.	Tripura	Agartala
47.	U.P.	Agra
48.	U.P.	Allahabad
49.	U.P.	Kanpur
50.	U.P.	Lucknow
51.	U.P.	Moradabad
52.	U.P.	Murad Nagar
53.	U.P.	Varanasi
54.	UT	Chandigarh
55.	West Bengal	Calcutta
56.	West Bengal	Durgapur

**Income through Commercial Programmes**

2774. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of income earned through the permission given to commercial film shooting and visual media programmes as well as live cultural programmes in the Centrally protected monuments during each of the last three years, so far, monument-wise;

(b) whether proposals from the film units of Tamil Nadu were deliberately denied;

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

(d) whether the Government have appointed any committee to fix standard norms and criteria for giving permission for filming in the monuments;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any high level committee to look after the safety and security of the protected monuments during the shooting; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) As per available information, revenue earned through licence fees for filming within the centrally protected monuments during the last three years is as under:

1998	Rs. 15,25,000/-
1999	Rs. 19,60,000/-
2000	Rs. 30,85,000/-

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

(f) and (g) Precautionary guidelines are laid down in the licence itself and their enforcement is ensured by the field staff on duty.

#### Setting up of Gas Based Projects by NTPC

2775. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation is reviewing its decision to set up the four 650 MW each gas-based projects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the NTPC's outstanding payment due to various SEBs as on date; and

(d) the steps proposed to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) had proposed the expansion (Stage-II) of 650 MW each of its Combined Cycle Power Projects at Anta in Rajasthan, Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh and Kawas and Gandhar in Gujarat. These projects were originally proposed to be set up with naphtha as bridge fuel and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as long term fuel. However, in view of abnormal increase in naphtha prices in the recent past,

NTPC has decided to match commissioning of these projects with the availability of imported regasified LNG at a reasonable price.

Based on the expected cost of regasified LNG, the cost of generation is expected to be over Rs. 4.30 per KWH. NTPC had sought reconfirmation from beneficiary States for availing power from these expansion projects at this indicative price to enable NTPC to take up construction of these projects. A number of beneficiary States have expressed their unwillingness to purchase power at this high cost of generation. NTPC will take up further processing of these expansion projects for investment approval only after confirmation of availability of LNG at reasonably firm price and acceptance of the cost of generation based on LNG price by the beneficiary States.

(c) The State-wise details of outstanding dues payable to NTPC as on 31.1.2001 are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) NTPC as well as the Central Government are taking various steps for recovery of outstanding dues of NTPC as indicated below:

(i) NTPC management is actively pursuing recovery of dues with the concerned SEBs/State Governments.

(ii) A Special Incentive Scheme has been introduced by NTPC since September, 1994 to provide financial incentive to States which establish Letter of Credits (LC) to cover full amount of current monthly bills. By enhancing their LC to the required level, SEBs would be in a position to avail 2.5% rebate on payments made in four equated weekly installments and also obtain reimbursement of charges incurred for LC operation.

(iii) NTPC at times also resorts to regulation of power to the defaulting States after giving necessary notices as per law.

(iv) In order to help the PSUs to recover their accumulated arrears, the Government of India has from time to time undertaken appropriation out of the Central Plan Assistance (CPA) to the defaulting States for making payment directly to the PSUs.

The Union Cabinet approved the recovery of outstanding dues as on 31.12.1996 amounting to Rs. 3894.42 crore, such that the deduction in any year for any State does not exceed 15 per cent of its CPA in that year. An amount of Rs. 1614.56 crore has been received till date.

(v) Considering the financial difficulties of the Electricity Boards, NTPC has accepted payment against arrears from the willing SEBs in the

form of Bonds with redemption period varying from 7-10 years. This has helped the SEBs to defer their liability towards NTPC.

(vi) The Government has approved a scheme of securitisation of the dues of SEBs to Central PSUs of Ministry of Power and Department of Coal. The scheme provides for

- Issuance of bonds by SEBs to the CPSUs of Power Ministry and Coal Department to cover the principal amount due up to 31.12.1999 or any other mutually accepted date.
- The bonds would be backed by a State Government guarantee with specific allocations to be made in the State Government's Budget for servicing of the bonds in the event of SEBs not being able to service the bonds.
- Additional comfort to the bond holders by deduction upto 15% of CPA allocations for the State concerned if the State Government is unable to meet the guarantee obligation for redemption of bonds.
- The bonds would have tax free status.

(vii) NTPC is also making efforts for incorporating provision for suitable payment safeguards in the Power Purchase Agreements being signed for its new projects. These include LC payment, provision for Escrow or equivalent comfort, backed-up by State Government Guarantee.

(viii) The position is also reviewed periodically by the Ministry of Power and the matter is taken up at the level of Chief Secretary/Chief Minister.

### Statement

*NTPC Outstanding Dues as on 31.1.2001*

(Rs. in Lacs)

STPS/SEB	Outstanding as on date	Surcharge Billed	Total Outstanding
1	2	3	4
Bihar	180722	118437	299159
Uttar Pradesh	193850	94104	287954
Delhi	145756	140370	286126
West Bengal	81940	56996	138936
Madhya Pradesh	82950	33973	116923

	1	2	3	4
Orissa		82060	10189	92249
Maharashtra		41446	21444	62890
Damodar Valley Corporation		26193	35014	61207
Haryana		26987	26403	53390
Gujarat		28317	21190	49507
Jammu & Kashmir		25759	22336	48095
Tamil Nadu		30527	13364	43891
Andhra Pradesh		34257	9414	43671
Kerala		35204	6229	41433
Rajasthan		28929	9800	38729
Karnataka		17932	8228	26160
Punjab		8343	1836	10179
Assam		3437	1753	5190
Pondicherry		2510	1218	3728
Himachal Pradesh		2063	1330	3393
Sikkim		2321	1043	3364
Others		-76	400	324
<b>Total</b>		<b>1081427</b>	<b>635071</b>	<b>1716498</b>

Abbreviation:

STPS : Super Thermal Power Station

SEB : State Electricity Board.

### Construction of Divisional Office at Rangliya

2776. SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware that Northeast Frontier Railway had sent a detailed estimate of Rs. 19.02 crores for construction of various office buildings required for new railway division at Rangliya;

(b) if so, whether the Railway Board has only approved a part estimate of Rs. 1,16,22,272/- for earth work and hiring of architect; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for approving the remaining amount of the Budget Estimate at 'a' above or part thereof during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Railways are presently facing acute resource constraints necessitating a review of the investment planning. The proposed new zones/divisions including the one at Rangiya, will gradually become operational, depending upon the result of the review and the availability of investible resources for this purpose by the Railways. No time limit for this can be indicated in view of the complexities involved.

#### Construction of ROB in Kerala

2777. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :  
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of road over bridges under construction in Kerala;

(b) the details of funds provided so far for the work of each of ROB's and proposed for 2001-2002;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed;

(d) the details of proposals for construction of ROB's

sent by the Government of Kerala during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, location-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government on each proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Construction of ROB's is a joint work of Railways & State Govt. The Railway constructs the bridge proper across railway tracks and the State Govt. constructs the approaches. Construction of Bridge proper is planned to be completed by Railway before or along with the completion of the work of construction of approaches by the State Govt.

(d) and (e) All the proposals, where there was firm commitment with all requisite formalities, have been sanctioned. In 1998-99, one proposal at SN-2 of statement (attached) was received and sanctioned in same year. In 1999-2000, 14 proposals from SN-3 to SN-16 were received and sanctioned. In year 2000-2001, 15 proposals from SN 17 to SN 31 were received and sanctioned.

#### Statement

*All the firm proposals received from Kerala State Year-wise have been sanctioned and are at different stages of progress. At present work of construction of ROB's/RUB's falling in Kerala State is going at following places. The funds provided so far, proposed during 2001-2002 & present status of work is also shown in juxta position:*

S.No.	Proposals received	Year of Sanction	Funds provided so far	Outlay proposed during 2001-02	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	RUB in lieu of LC No. 561 at Km. 179/13-14 at Varkala.	1996-97	18307	600	Bridge work completed. Approaches in progress.
2.	ROB in lieu of LC No.1 at Km 1/11-12 at Kathrikadavu near Tirupurithura	1998-99	13033	13000	Progress of work on Railway portion 35% and on approaches 70%.
3.	ROB in lieu of LC No. 269 at Km. 805/5-6 between Cheravattur & Nileshwar station in Shoranur-Mangalore section (Cochin Harbour yard)	1999-2000	5905	5000	General Arrangement Drawing approved. Estimate under preparation.
4.	ROB @ Irinjalakuda LC No. 43 @ Km.56/9-10 in Shoranur-Ernakulam section.	1999-2000	12000	20000	General Arrangement Drawing under process.
5.	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 272 at Km. 810/1-2 bet. Kanhangadi and Nileshwar stns. (Padanakkad) in Shoranur-Mangalore sec.	1999-2000	5905	10000	General Arrangement Drawing under finalisation.

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Cherrode-Shoranur-Calicut Section-ROB in lieu of LC No. 215	1999-2000	5000	10000	General Arrangement Drawing finalized. Estimate under process.
7.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 239 at Km. 749/2-3 bet. Ettokot and Cannonore stns. in Shoranur-Mangalore Section	1999-2000	11985	5000	GAD sent to CE/NH/TVC on 12.01.2000 for concurrence.
8.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 48 at Km. 62/9-8 at Chalakudi in Shoranur - Ernakulam section.	1999-2000	12000	20000	GAD under process. Estimate under preparation.
9.	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 196 at Km. 679/1-2 bet. Elattur and Quilandi (Vengalam stns. in Shoranur - Mangalore Section)	1999-2000	10905	20000	GAD approved by CE/NH. Tender invited by BRDCR Cochin.
10.	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 192 @ KM. 673/8-9 bet. West Hill and Elattur stns. in Shoranur - Mangalore Section	1999-2000	10905	20000	GAD approved.
11.	Road over bridge at Km. 666/11-12 bet. Calicut & West Hills in lieu of level crossing No. 186 in Shoranur - Mangalore Section	1999-2000	12105	20000	GAD approved by CE/Roads & Bldgs., Tehnganathpuram.
12.	Road over bridge @ Km. 102/13-14 in lieu of level crossing no. 71 bet. Idapalli & Ernakulam stns.	1999-2000	12015	10000	Details such as longitudinal section and cross section called for is awaited from State Govt. Plan under Preparation.
13.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 238 at Km. 743/3-4 bet. Ettokot and Cannanore stns. in Shoranur - Mangalore Section	1999-2000	10905	5000	GAD sent to CE/NH/TVC on 19.01.2001 for concurrence.
14.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 206 at Km. 695/12-13 Bet. Ettokot and Cannanore stns. in Shoranur - Mangalore Section	1999-2000	1010	15000	GAD approved. Estimate under process.
15.	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 199 at Km. 686/1-2 bet. Elathur and Quilandi stns in Shoranur - Mangalore section	1999-2000	9000	20000	GAD approved. Estimate under process.
16.	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 232 at Km. 738/7-8 bet. Dharmadam & Ettakot stns. (Muzhupliangadi) in Shoranur - Mangalore Section	1999-2000	1010	10000	GAD approved by CE/NH.
17.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 50 at Km.54/12-13 between Palghat-Palghat Town stations on Palghat-Pollachi Section.	2000-01	1000	5000	Work under planning stage.

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 64 at Km.80/12-13 between Angamally & Aluva station of Shoranur-Ernakulam section	2000-01	1000	10000	Work under planning stage.
19.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.17 at Km.28/10-11 on Shoranur-Ernakulam Sec.	2000-01	1000	7000	Work under planning stage.
20.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.2 at Km.EQ3/19-20 on Ernakulam-Quilon Sec.	2000-01	1000	7500	Work under planning stage.
21.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.229 at Km. 732/9-10 on Shoranur-Mangalore Sec.	2000-01	2500	5000	Work under planning stage.
22.	Road over bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.177 at Km. 660/4-5 between Feroke & Kallayi stations of Shoranur-Mangalore section	2000-01	1000	5000	Work under planning stage.
23.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.26 at Km.39/14-15 (Ollur Yard) on Shoranur-Ernakulam Sec.	2000-01	1000	5000	Work under planning stage.
24.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.54 at Km. 67/13-14 on Shoranur-Ernakulam Sec.	2000-01	1000	7000	Work under planning stage.
25.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 73 at Km. 105/5-6 on Pullapady-Thammanam Road on Ernakulam town-Ernakulam Junction Section.	2000-01	1000	10000	Work under planning stage.
26.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 171 at Km. 626/10-11 on Shoranur-Mangalore Sec.	2000-01	1000	5000	Work under planning stage.
27.	Shoranur-Mangalore ROB in lieu of Level crossing No. 271	2000-01	1000	5000	Work under planning stage.
28.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 174 at Km. 639/14-15 on Shoranur-Mangalore Sec.	2000-01	1000	5000	Work under planning stage.
29.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 76T at Km. 1/9-10 between Ernakulam-Thirunettur Stations	2000-01	1000	4000	Work under planning stage.
30.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing in CRL yard at Km. 8/15-16 (Irumanam) on Ernakulam-Quilon Sec.	2000-01	1000	7000	Work under planning stage.
31.	Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level crossing No.67 at Km.95/7-8 on Shoranur-Ernakulam Sec.	2000-01	1000	7000	Work under planning stage.

In addition 6 more works are being constructed on deposit terms i.e. at the cost of State Govt. which are also at different stages of progress.

**Scheme for Popularisation of NCES**

2778. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes formulated by the Government for the popularisation of non-conventional energy sources in Daman and Diu particularly in rural areas; and

(b) the details of funds allocated for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Ministry is implementing various schemes/programmes of non-conventional energy sources for promotion and popularisation for meeting rural and urban energy needs of cooking, heating, lighting and electricity throughout the country including the Union Territory (UT) of Daman and Diu through biogas, improved chulhas, solar photovoltaic systems, solar water heating systems, biomass gasifiers etc.

(b) The UT of Daman and Diu has been allocated a total amount of Rs. 4,66,000 during last three years for popularisation and implementation of various programmes of non-conventional energy sources, especially in the rural areas.

**Supply of Natural Gas for Cooking Purpose**

2779. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Joint Venture Company is supplying piped natural gas for cooking purposes in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of areas covered so far; and

(c) the time by which the remaining areas of the city are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL), a Joint Venture Company promoted by Gas Authority of India Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, is supplying piped gas in the areas of Kaka Nagar, Bapa Nagar, Pandara Park/Road, Sujan Singh Park, Golf Link, Sundar Nagar, Nizamuddin, Maharaniabagh, Kalindi Colony, Friends Colony, New Friends Colony, Sukhdev Vihar, Ishwar Nagar, Zakir Bagh, Sarita Vihar and Jangpura in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(c) The project is under implementation in a phased manner and is expected to be completed in stages by 2018.

[Translation]

**Allocation of Funds for Completion of Nangal Dam - Talwara Rail Line**

2780. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to present level of releasing of funds the work of laying Nangal Dam - Talwara rail line could not be accomplished even in the next 25 years;

(b) if so, whether the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and Members of Parliament from that State have requested the Union Government for allocation of more funds for expeditious completion of Nangal Dam - Talwara and Kamli-Parwanoo rail lines; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for expeditious completion of work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Due to constraint of resources, the work is being regulated as per their availability. The target date for completion of the project has not been fixed.

(b) A request has been received for allocation of more funds for expeditious completion of Nangal Dam - Talwara rail line. For Kamli-Parwanoo rail line, no such request has been received.

(c) Allocation of funds, which is Rs. 8 crore during the current financial year, is proposed to be enhanced to Rs. 10 crore during the year 2001-02.

[English]

**Appointment/Posting of SCs/STs in Autonomous Bodies**

2781. SARDAR BUTA SINGH :  
SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN :  
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :  
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the replies given to Unstarred Question No. 3080 dated August 10, 2000 and Unstarred Question No. 1934 dated November 30, 2000 regarding appointment/posting of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in autonomous bodies and state

(a) whether the relevant information has so far been collected by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The requisite details in fulfilment of the Assurance given to the House in reply to the Unstarred Question No. 3080 dated 10.8.2000, have since been collected and furnished to the Lok Sabha Secretariat on 8.2.2001 for laying on the Table of the House.

As per the information collected out of 160 and 150 number of posts in the rank of Heads/CMD, Official/ Non-Official Members of Board of Management/ Governing Councils in different organisations under Ministry of Textiles as on 01.01.96 and 01.01.2000, the number of persons from SCs/STs community working against such posts were 8 & 11 respectively.

#### **Construction of Mainaguri-Jogighopa Rail Line**

2782. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned a new line to connect new Mainaguri with Jogighopa in North-east Frontier Railway;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for the construction of the project;

(c) whether the construction work has been started;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the construction work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 6 crores has been allocated to this work during the current financial year and an amount of Rs. 20 crores is proposed to be allocated in the Budget 2001-02.

(c) and (d) Tender for Final Location Survey from M/s RITES has been received and is under process. Final Location Survey will be taken up shortly.

(e) Work will be started after the pre-requisites for starting construction like final location survey, technical sanction, land acquisition etc. are completed.

#### **Transmission Projects by Private Sector**

2783. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some power transmission projects are being set up in the country at present;

(b) if so, the details of transmission projects being set up by the Government; and

(c) if not, the details of those projects being executed by the private sector, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) Transmission projects are planned, funded and executed by the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), the Central Transmission Utility under Central Sector and State Transmission Utilities under State Sector. A list of transmission projects being executed by PGCIL is given in the statement enclosed.

The Electricity Laws were amended in 1998. Transmission projects can now be undertaken by private transmission companies also either on a joint venture basis in association with Central/State transmission utilities or independently by obtaining a transmission license from Central/State Electricity Regulatory Commissions depending on whether the transmission line/associated sub-stations are inter-state or intra-state.

In accordance with the above, PGCIL has already identified the transmission lines under Tala Transmission System for evacuation of power from Tala Hydro-electric Project in Bhutan (1020 MW) and other new generation projects in North-Eastern/Eastern Regions, for execution through private investment under Joint Venture arrangement, PGCIL has also decided to take up execution of 400 KV D/C Bina-Nagda Transmission line in Madhya Pradesh under Hirma Thermal Power Project and 400 KV D/C Nagda (Madhya Pradesh)-Dehgam (Gujarat) Transmission Line under Sipat Thermal Power Project, under IPTC route (Independent Power Transmission Company).

#### **Statement**

S. No.	Name of Proj./ Scheme	Estimt. Cost	Common. Fin. Yr.
1	2	3	4
1.	Neyveli Bahoor TL	1356	2001
2.	Feroz Gandhi Unchahar TL-II	13515	2000
3.	Nathpa-Jhakari TL	156163	2002
4.	Ranga Nadi TL	17248	2002
5.	Tehri TL	66271	2002
6.	Dulhasti Combined TL	63480	2004
7.	Rapp B	11632	1999
8.	Kishenpur-Moga TL	93848	2001

1	2	3	4
9.	Agartala Gas TL	2217	2001
10.	ULDC North Eastern Region	16793	2003
11.	ULDC Northern Region	59692	2002
12.	ULDC Southern Region*	56794	2002
13.	Jalandhar-Hamirpur	4105	2000
14.	Hathidah	1169	2001
15.	N-E HVDC B/B Sasaram HVDC	67156	2003
16.	ULDC Eastern Region	29001	2004
17.	Allahabad & Lilo Sigr-Kanpur	8980	2001
18.	Bhiwadi & Lilo Ballabgarh-Jaipur	8675	2003
19.	Lilo of Bongaigon-Malda at Purnea	8020	2002
20.	Convtr XR Rihand-Dadri	1687	2001
21.	Energy Meters	500	2001
22.	Talcher-II TL	262700	2004
23.	Lilo of Neyveli-Trichy at Neyveli	1540	2003
24.	Kaiga-Extn (Kaiga-Narendra)	7599	2003
25.	Lilo of Bongaigon-Malda at Sillguri	6319	2002
26.	Lilo of Purneia-Dalkhola	940	2002
27.	ICT at Malda	945	2001
28.	ICT Jeypore	876	2001
29.	Kolhapur-Mapusa	17960	2003
30.	Ballabgarh ICT	1100	2002
31.	Jamshedpur-Rourkela	7540	2003
32.	Talcher-Mehramundali	4686	2003
33.	Series Capacitors for Kanpur-Ballabgarh	1500	2002

#### Misuse of Tickets by RTAs

2784. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the misuse of rail tickets by rail travellers service agents;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last one year; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the misuse of tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No such complaints have been received during the last one year.

(c) Regular checks are conducted by the Commercial & Vigilance departments against touts and other anti-social elements to detect any misuse of reservations on fake names. Checks are also conducted on the premises of authorised Rail Travel Service Agents to see if any irregularities are being committed by them and appropriate action taken against them. Campaigns are launched from time to time through various media for educating the general public to desist from purchasing tickets from unauthorised persons.

#### Registration of Documents

2785. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the system of on-line registration of the documents has stopped in the office of Registrar of Companies in Delhi and Haryana;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) the number of documents filed in the office of ROC in Delhi during July, 2000 to December, 2000; and

(d) the number of documents taken on record and kept in document file of the concerned company during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 3,29,831 documents have been filed in the office of ROC in Delhi during the period from 01.07.2000 to 31.12.2000.

(d) 98,315 documents have been taken on record and placed in document file during the period from 01.07.2000 to 31.12.2000.

#### Use of Poor Quality Stationery

2786. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Archives has pointed out

of poor quality of stationery used for official documents as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated February 16, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of standards/norms approved by the Bureau of Indian Standards for the paper and ink and other stationery items used by Government departments;

(c) whether the Government departments are not following the standards/norms laid down by BIS; and

(d) if so, the action the Government propose to take against the erring officials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir, the various Organisations of the Government of India have been requested to use good quality paper and ink as per specification of the Bureau of Indian Standards so as to ensure the longevity of permanent public records. This has been done in view of the different types of paper and ink available in the market which do not conform to the standards specified by the Bureau.

(b) Bureau of Indian Standards has laid down norms for good quality paper and ink for creating permanent records in July 1961, June 1971 & May 1972 which are the priced publications of the Bureau.

(c) and (d) The Government Departments by and large are following the standards/norms laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards. However, keeping in view the importance of permanent records, National Archives of India has written to all the Ministries/ Departments to use BIS mark paper and ink for the purpose.

[Translation]

#### Visit of Foreign Tourists

2787. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :  
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the target set for the visit of foreign tourists during 2001-02; and

(b) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to attract more domestic/foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The objective of the Government is to promote tourism and to increase the tourist inflow in the country. No year-wise targets as such are fixed. However, the growth rate of tourist arrivals during the year 2000 is 6.4% over the previous year.

(b) Development of Tourism is a continuous process. Various steps taken to attract more domestic & foreign tourists include development and improvement of tourist facilities, publicity and marketing efforts in the foreign countries through overseas tourist offices, strengthening institutions of human resources development, use of information technology, encouraging private investment in tourism sector including hotels, coordinating the efforts of different Government Departments and agencies in making India a tourism friendly country and facilitating domestic tourism by promoting amenities and facilities for budget tourists.

[English]

#### Establishment of Thermal Power Plants

2788. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to expand the Thermal Power production in Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of companies including public sector undertakings who have applied for grounding such projects;

(c) the action taken by the Government on those applications;

(d) whether Orissa Power Generation Corporation has a plan to establish two units of thermal power at IB valley with a capacity of 210 MW;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) Various proposals for setting up of thermal power projects in Orissa have been received in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC). The details of techno-economically cleared/sanctioned thermal power projects are as follows:

S.No.	Name of Project/Executing Agency	Capacity (MW)	Date of TEC letter	Commission Schedule
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Central Sector</b>				
1.	Talcher STPP St.II by NTPC (U-3, 4, 5&6	4x500	23.10.1997	Unit 3—11/2003 Unit 4—8/2004 Unit 5—5/2005 Unit 6—2/2006

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Private Sector</b>				
1.	Ib Valley TPP St.II by AES Ib Valley Corpn. (U 5 & 6)	2x250	26.2.1999	Unit 5—33 months from F.C. Unit 6—33 months from F.C.
2.	Duburi TPS by Kalinga Power Corpn. (U1 & 2)	2x250	29.4.1999	Unit 1—33 months from F.C. Unit 2—36 months from F.C.

A list indicating the schemes returned/not pursued in Central Electricity Authority is enclosed as statement.

(d) to (f) The Ib Valley TPP comprising Phase-I Units 1&2 (2x210 MW) and Phase-II Units 3&4 (2x210 MW) in the State sector was sanctioned by the Planning Commission in April, 1987. Phase-I of the project has since been completed and units 1&2 were declared

commercial since 21.12.1994 and 20.6.1996 respectively.

Fresh detailed project report in respect of units 3&4 indicating the revised cost estimates for the whole scheme is yet to be prepared and submitted by the Orissa Power Generation Corporation to the Central Electricity Authority. Considering the present availability of the infrastructure, size of units etc., the scheme needs to be techno-economically examined again.

#### Statement

S.No.	Name of the Scheme/ Capacity/Ex. Agency	Estd. Cost Incl. IDC (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt	Remarks
1.	Lapanga TPS-2x250 MW M/s Lapanga Sonlai Power Company, Bhuvaneshwar	1900.00	3/97	Scheme returned by CEA on 29.5.97 for want of essential inputs such as Fuel linkage, Water (C&S) MOE&F etc.
2.	Durgapur TPS-2x250 MW M/s J.K. Corpn. Ltd. (Distt. Angul)	-	3/97	Scheme returned by CEA on 6.6.97 for want of Essential inputs such as Fuel linkage, Water(C&S) Environmental (C&S), Land etc.
3.	Indeck Bomlai TPS-2x250 MW, M/s Indeck Bomlai Energy Centre Ltd., Sambalpur.	2361.87	4/97	Scheme returned by CEA on 18.6.97 for want of essential inputs such as Fuel linkage, Water(C&S) Environmental (C&S), IAA, etc.
4.	Naraj TPS-2x250 MW M/s Orissa Power Partners Ltd.	-	4/97	Scheme returned on 3.6.97 for want of essential inputs such as Fuel linkage, Water (C&S) MOE&F, IAA, Land etc.
5.	CEPA TPS at Hirma - 6x660 MW, M/s Consolidated Electric Power Asia Ltd.	US\$ 3579.5 m + Rs. 61361.7m	9/97	CEA have informed that the project proposed is being deleted from list of the private sector projects under MOU route.

#### Visit by Minister

2789. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the countries visited by him during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each visit, year-wise; and

(c) the achievements of those visits, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected.

#### Assistance For Rural Energy Programme by UNDP

2790. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Development

Programme propose to provide financial assistance for the Rural Energy Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said assistance is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Rural energy has been identified as one of the areas for support under the GoI/UNDP Country Cooperation Framework-I. Three sub-programmes, two through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) and one through Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA) are being implemented with a total UNDP assistance of US\$ 2.8 million. The effective implementation of the sub-programmes was started in January 2000 and the programme is for a three year duration.

(c) UNDP has already released Rs. 3.28 crores for implementation of the sub-programmes.

#### **Transfer of Defence Land to A&N Administration**

2791. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had a proposal to transfer 200 acres of land under its possession in Andaman Nicobar Island to Andaman Nicobar Administration;

(b) if so, whether the land has since been transferred to them;

(c) the purpose for which the land is proposed to be used; and

(d) the terms and conditions laid down therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Government have approved the proposal for transfer of 200 acres of land (from out of the 410 acres of Defence land) held at Hutbay to Andaman & Nicobar Administration. The land is to be utilized for the resettlement of Nicobar tribals from the Car Nicobar Island.

(d) The transfer of 200 acres of defence land to Andaman & Nicobar Administration has been agreed subject to the condition that the Andaman & Nicobar Administration would acquire 70 acres of private land co-located with the Port Blair airfield for defence use on 'No Profit No Loss' basis under Land Acquisition Act.

#### **Company Law Settlement Scheme**

2792. SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount collected by Department of Company Affairs under Company Law Settlement Scheme, 2000;

(b) the manner in which this amount is likely to be utilised;

(c) whether the Registrar of Companies have issued the immunity certificates to all the companies who had filed documents under CLSS-2000; and

(d) if not, the time by which the immunity certificates are likely to be issued to these companies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The Government has collected Rs. 136.85 crore under Company Law Settlement Scheme, 2000 and the amount has been deposited in the Public Accounts of India.

(b) Ministry of Finance has been requested to provide Rs. 125 crore out of the said collection for setting up an Institute of Corporate Excellence and also for carrying out second phase of computerization and modernization of offices of Registrars of Companies.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Issue of immunity certificates to the applicant/companies who have applied following the due procedure is in progress.

#### **Production Cost of LPG in Refineries**

2793. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of 14 Kg LPG cylinder in different refineries and cost of filling of 14 Kg cylinder at the bottling plant;

(b) whether any effort has been made to reduce the operational cost of production of LPG;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the difference in the cost of production of PSUs refineries and the refinery of Reliance as projected in their original proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Oil refining being a continuous process industry with multi-product output, it is not possible to quantify the product-wise cost of production. Most of the LPG bottling plants are owned and operated by the oil marketing companies. The average cost reimbursed to the oil marketing companies towards LPG filling charges have been Rs. 14.98 per cylinder based on 1996-97 costs.

(b) and (c) The following steps have been taken to reduce the cost of domestic LPG:

1. Effective 1-4-1998, cost plus compensation mechanism has been discontinued for refineries and since then, the refineries are being paid the import parity price.
2. Oil companies have taken measures to improve capacity utilization of LPG bottling plants.
3. With a view to reduce the transportation cost, new bottling plants have been set up in a dispersed manner.
4. To reduce LPG transportation cost, one LPG pipeline from Jamnagar to Loni (near Delhi) has been commissioned in January, 2001, besides another proposed pipeline from Vizag to Secunderabad.

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

#### **National Gallery of Arts in Bangalore**

2794. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have already taken a decision to start the National Gallery of Art in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the same during 2000-2001; and

(c) the present status of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Karnataka has handed over the Manikyavelu Mansion, Palace Road, Bangalore to Government of India on a lease basis, for a period of thirty years. This building will be used for setting up of the Bangalore branch of the National Gallery of Modern Art. During the year 2000-2001, an amount of Rs. 100.00 lakhs has been earmarked under capital works for the renovation of the said building by CPWD. Further, an amount of Rs. 3.50 lakhs has also been

provided in the budget at the Revised Estimates stage, towards office expenses of this branch.

#### **Exploration of Oil in Assam**

2795. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil exploration at Champang on Assam-Nagaland border has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to restart oil exploration in this area;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commenced; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) Exploration and production of hydrocarbons in Nagaland were suspended by ONGC since 1993 and 1994 respectively because of prevalent conditions. While attempts are being made to create a conducive atmosphere for resumption of exploration and production work, it is not possible to indicate a specific time frame therefor.

#### **Acquisition of Land**

2796. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work for construction of railway lines in some States has been obstructed for non-acquisition of land by the concerned State Governments;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to provide special assistance to such States for acquiring the land; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Computer Training for Ex-servicemen**

2797. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sainik Welfare Board propose to conduct a free 12-week computer training programme for ex-servicemen, war widows and sons of war-martyrs in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the time by which this programme is likely to be started;

(c) the total number of candidates proposed to be trained every year; and

(d) the details of the action plan formulated to make the programme a success?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Maintenance of Archaeological Monuments by I.O.C.**

2798. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of monuments conserved by Indian Oil Corporation in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon, monument-wise;

(c) whether some monuments of Mughal time have been adopted by IOC for maintenance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No centrally protected monument has been conserved by Indian Oil Corporation in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

**Setting up of Halting Station at Dhaniakhali**

2799. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to set up a

halting station at Dhaniakhali on the Burdwan-Howrah Chord line in Howrah division of Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By 30.6.2002.

**Approach Channel to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Mumbai Port**

2800. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the common approach channel to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) and Mumbai Port Trust (MPT) is not deep enough to accommodate the big vessels;

(b) if so, whether the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust has sought permission to prepare a project to deepen this 18 Km channel for bigger ships;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The present approach channel depth allows Jawaharlal Nehru Port to handle Container Vessels having draft upto 12 metres.

(b) and (c) Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) sought permission from the Ministry of Shipping to appoint a Consultant for preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Project "Deepening and Widening of Main Harbour and JN Port Channel" which had already been granted. The proposed DPR would, *inter alia*, cover field and mathematical studies, technically feasible alternatives, dredging quantity for capital and maintenance dredging, environment impact assessment and environment management plan, economic and financial viability of the Project.

(d) The Consultants for preparation of DPR for this Project have been appointed in February, 2001. The completion of the study (DPR) would take about 6 to 8 months time.

**Construction of Road Over Bridge at Neral Railway Station**

2801. SHRI RAMSHETHH THAKUR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for construction of

road over-bridge across the Neral Railway Station under Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the cost of the project; and

(c) the progress made in regard to construction of road over-bridge so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Inter-Connection of Trains**

2802. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trains of NG lines and BG lines at Pathankot on Northern Railway have any inter-connection between each other;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The following connections of BG trains (Delhi-Pathankot) and NG trains (Pathankot-Joginder Nagar) are existing at Pathankot for the passengers of Delhi desirous of travelling towards Joginder Nagar :

(i) Jhelum Express with 3 PBJ Pathankot-Joginder Nagar Passenger (towards Joginder Nagar)

(ii) 4 PBJ Joginder Nagar-Pathankot Passenger with Shalimar Express (towards Delhi).

[Translation]

#### **Production of Hosiery Products**

2803. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of hosiery products in the country especially in tribal and SCs/STs dominated areas during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and product-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Such data is not maintained centrally.

(b) Government have been taking several steps from time to time to increasing production of textile items,

including hosiery products in the country. Some of the important initiatives are as under:

- (1) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUF) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and Upgradation of this sector.
- (2) Zero Duty Import of certain categories of trimmings & embellishments.
- (3) Government has recently launched Technology Mission for Cotton. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to improve cotton processing facilities by upgrading/modernising the existing ginning and pressing factories.
- (4) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100%, through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.
- (5) To prepare and sensitise our textile and garment industry to conform to the ecological requirements of importing countries by providing facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories.
- (6) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (7) The New Exporters' Entitlement (Quota) Policies announced for the period 2000-2004 to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.
- (8) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of ready-made garment from the SSI sector.
- (9) The new Textile Policy has recently been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.

#### **Enquiry Report of Kuria-Howrah Express Derailment Case**

2804. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry committee set up to inquire into the causes of derailment of Kuria-Howrah Express on December 3, 1998 on Bhusawal Division has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The cause of this accident was inquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Central Circle, Mumbai. As per his findings the accident occurred due to sudden failure of a fatigued Alumino-thermic (AT) weld of the Continuously Welded Rail (CWR).

The detection of cracks in rails or welds is done by Ultrasonic Flaw Detection System, the efficacy of which is under study of a Technical Development Group consisting of Dr. Baldev Raj of Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam and other officers. Action has also been initiated for development of gadgets for detection and thereafter removal of defective wheels of wagons that enhance the impact on the rail, causing this failure. Action to detect weld and rail cracks by patrolling of railway tracks during vulnerable temperature conditions has also been taken.

#### **Progress of Bhopal-Ramganjmandi Rail Line**

2805. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of laying Bhopal-Ramganjmandi railway line is in progress;

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

(c) the time by which the railway line is likely to be laid;

(d) the total amount likely to be spent on this project; and

(e) the funds proposed to be allocated during 2001-02?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Final Location Survey is in progress.

(c) No target date of completion has been fixed.

(d) The anticipated cost of this project is Rs. 425 crores.

(e) An outlay of Rs. 5 crores is proposed during 2001-02.

[English]

#### **Explosion of CNG Cylinders in Vehicles**

2806. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether CNG gas supplied by GAIL in Mumbai has led to explosions in some cars;

(b) the details of car explosion using CNG at Chembur, in North East Mumbai on March 1, 2001;

(c) whether safety experts of GAIL have enquired into this matter;

(d) if so, the findings thereof;

(e) whether the public have been made aware of the potential dangers of CNG being used in vehicles; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The explosion did not take place due to Compressed Natural Gas supplied. Three taxis were adjacent to each other at the CNG dispenser during refueling. The centre taxi was fitted with a standard, approved conversion kit from the engine to the cylinder. But the pressure cylinder fitted was not of an approved make, being constructed from steel pipe with Seam Welded ends. On refueling the pressure cylinder exploded killing four people (three on the spot and one later) and injuring six others.

(c) and (d) The enquiry was conducted by MGL. It confirmed that the explosion did not take place due to Compressed Natural Gas supplied but on account of sub standard quality of cylinder fitted by the owner of the taxi.

(e) and (f) As already indicated at (a) above the explosion was not due to Compressed Natural Gas. However MGL has issued safety and awareness notices in various newspapers which are in circulation in Mumbai. It has also introduced a logging system for checking vehicles and has taken measures to coordinate with transport authorities for inspection of the CNG kits installed in vehicles.

#### **Industry Revival Fund**

2807. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in order to rehabilitate the companies

in red. creation of a Sick Industry Revival Fund has been demanded by the trade unions;

(b) if so, whether these trade unions have also urged the Union Government to take a fresh look at the employment policy in view of liberalisation and globalisation of the economy;

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

(d) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The Department of Company Affairs has not received any such demand from trade unions. Government had constituted on 22.10.1999, a Committee under the chairmanship of Justice Shri V. Balakrishna Eradi, Retd. Judge, Supreme Court of India and experts to examine the existing law relating to sickness. Insolvency related matters and winding up proceedings of companies in order to re-model it in line with the latest development and innovations in the corporate law and governance and to suggest reforms in the procedure at various stages followed in winding up insolvency proceedings of companies to avoid unnecessary delays in tune with the international practice in this field. This Committee had, *inter-alia*, recommended that a Fund for revival, rehabilitation, preservation and protection of companies may be created under the supervision and control of the Government. The Fund shall be maintained and operated by an officer authorised in that behalf by the Government. The Committee favoured the contribution of specified percentage of turnover to the Fund than of contribution based on profits. The companies, formed and registered after the establishment of proposed Tribunal, shall contribute annually specified percentage (say 0.1%) of its turnover immediately after commencement of business. The companies already existing shall contribute annually from the financial year immediately succeeding the year in which proposed National Company Law Tribunal is established. On the basis of the recommendation of the Committee and after taking into consideration the views of the Group of Ministers (GOM), the introduction of Bill is at an advance stage.

#### **Upper Krishna Hydro-Electric Power Project**

2808. SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) has been awarded the Upper Krishna Hydro-Electric Project to build a 237 MW power house

near the Alamatti dam and an 810 MW cascade scheme at the Narayanpur Reservoir;

(b) if so, whether this project was given to one private (CPCL) organisation in 1993; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka (GoK) had accorded permission to The Asia Power Company (M/s TAPCO) for establishing a power plant of 600 MW in the first stage and 360 MW in the second stage, totaling to 960 MW, vide their order dated 10th November, 1993. Later M/s. TAPCO formed an Indian Company, viz. M/s. Chamundi Power Corporation Limited (CPCL) to implement the cluster of hydel power projects at Almatti Dam and below Narayanapura Reservoir. Further, GOK permitted CPCL to implement the cluster of hydel projects with an approximate capacity of 960 MW. However, due to the fact that the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) have offered to implement the Almatti Dam Power House at a cost significantly lower than that submitted by CPCL, and other related factors, GOK, vide their order dated 2nd January, 2001, have withdrawn the Upper Krishna Hydro-Electric project allotted to CPCL and entrusted the said work, which includes 297 MW Almatti Dam Power House and 810 MW cascade power schemes below Narayanapura Reservoir, to KPCL.

#### **Ships Turnaround Period**

2809. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the average ship turnaround time at some ports in India is very high in comparison to the international ports;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being proposed to reduce the high percentage of non-working time at the berth per vessel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Ports differ in their characteristics owing to geographical and historical reasons. The Indian Major Ports in general have the facilities similar to ports in other parts of the world but the performance in respect of each of them does not compare favourably with that of the most efficient Ports of the world on parameters such as turnaround time of ships, throughput and productivity. The port expansion and modernisation programmes being undertaken at present lay emphasis on enhancing standards of Major Ports and their productivity through constructions and equipping new

berths; acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment to match with the emerging cargo mix; establishment of Electronic Data Interchange; setting up of Vessel Traffic Management System; increased role of Private Sector.

#### **Electrification of the Villages of Chhattisgarh**

2810. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special economic package to electrify the rural areas of the newly created States particularly the drought affected Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on Union Budget 2001-02 has stated that a package of initiatives is being launched by the Government to improve the power distribution system in rural areas. This includes:

- Completion of electrification of bulk of the remaining villages in the next six years.
  - Extension of assistance to the States for village electrification works under the Prime Minister's Gramodyog Yojana (PMGY) whose funding is being augmented.
  - Stepping up credit support from Rural Electrification Corporation to SEBs for speedy electrification of dalit bastis.
  - Electrification of households of scheduled tribes and other weaker sections of society on priority.
  - Improving the quality of power supply in villages, augmentation of distribution networks in rural areas supported by REC under the Accelerated Power Development Programme.
- Earmarking a sum of at least Rs. 750 crores out of RIDF for rural electrification works.
- Augmenting the resources of REC, by allowing it to float capital gains tax exemption bonds along with NABARD and NHA under Section 54 EC of the Income Tax Act.

The rural areas of the newly created States including Chhattisgarh would also get electrified under this package of initiatives along with other States.

#### **Sale of Russian Mig-29K to India**

2811. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Russia have prepared a contract document for sale of 25 to 28 Russian Mig-29K aircraft to be attached with the Admiral Gorashkov aircraft carrier;

(b) if so, the present status thereof;

(c) whether India will be able to manufacture the Mig-29K in Indian aviation companies on the basis of previous deals with Russian Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) signed on 4th October 2000, *inter-alia*, provides for the acquisition of 'Admiral Gorshkov', an Aircraft Carrier, from Russia and its refit and modernization. Russia have indicated Mig-29K as the possible deck based fixed wing aircraft for the Aircraft Carrier. A Detailed Project Document (DPD) has been prepared by the Russian Side. An investment decision on the acquisition of 'Admiral Gorshkov' has not yet been taken.

(c) and (d) As a final decision on the choice of the deck based aircraft for the 'Admiral Gorshkov' has not yet been taken, it is premature to consider its indigenous manufacture, at this stage.

#### **Losses to SEBs and T&D**

2812. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA :  
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :  
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the international norms at transmission and distribution of power;

(b) the losses occurred in India as compared to international norms;

(c) the present loss of transmission and distribution suffered by the State Electricity Boards; and

(d) the steps taken to improve T&D?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The Transmission & Distribution losses in advanced countries of the world have been ranging between 6-11%. The transmission & Distribution losses in India,

however, are not comparable with advanced countries as system operating conditions there are different from those in our country. As per the "Guidelines for Reduction of T&D losses" issued by the Central Electricity Authority, taking into consideration the Indian conditions, it would be reasonable to aim at the figures of T&D losses in between 10-15% in different States.

The percentage Transmission & Distribution losses including losses due to technical reasons and unaccounted losses being assessed by the concerned State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments from the year 1992-93 to 1997-98 are shown in the statement enclosed.

Central Electricity Authority have reiterated its Guidelines for the reduction of Transmission & Distribution losses to all the SEBs in February, 2001. State Governments/State Power Utilities are being provided funds by the Power Finance Corporation at concessional rates for installation of meters at all levels.

In the Chief Ministers'/Power Ministers' Conference held on 3.3.2001, it was resolved that State Governments/State Power Utilities would take the following steps to reduce technical and commercial losses:

- (i) Energy audit at all 11 KV feeders will be made effective within the next 6 months and accountability fixed at the local level.
- (ii) An effective Management Information System for this purpose will be made operational.
- (iii) On the basis of the above, an effective program will be launched for identifying and eliminating power thefts in the next 2 years.
- (iv) Full metering of all consumers will be completed by December 2001.
- (v) The quality of power supplied especially in rural areas will be improved through the APDP.

Under the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP), 50 distribution circles have been identified in the first phase for strengthening the distribution system. An Expert Committee has been constituted to assist State Governments/State Power Utilities in the areas of project formulation, implementation and monitoring/evaluation in all the distribution circles. These measures will result in achieving a significant reduction of loss at the distribution stage and will also help in improving the financial health of the State Power Utilities.

#### **Statement**

*Percentage Transformation, Transmission & Distribution losses  
(including commercial losses such as pilferage etc.) in SEBs/EDs*

Region/SEB/ED	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Northern Region</b>						
Haryana	26.78	25.00	30.80	32.39	32.77	34.04
Himachal Pradesh	19.51	18.31	18.21	16.09	18.02	20.13
Jammu & Kashmir	48.28	45.69	48.74	47.52	48.27	49.95
Punjab	19.24	19.37	16.70	18.49	19.10	18.94
Rajasthan	22.74	25.00	24.78	29.27	26.28	26.41
Uttar Pradesh	24.43	24.08	21.69	21.84	24.84	26.18
Chandigarh	26.21	27.27	28.44	33.72	21.88	22.38
DVB (Delhi)	23.56	31.79	34.56	48.57	49.08	47.91
<b>Western Region</b>						
Gujarat	22.03	20.34	20.02	20.08	17.14	21.57
Madhya Pradesh	21.35	20.26	19.61	17.84	19.24	19.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Maharashtra	17.83	16.22	16.33	16.95	16.55	18.75
D&N Haveli	17.98	12.64	11.35	09.31	08.80	12.90
Goa	21.85	24.50	26.87	26.06	23.50	31.02
Daman & Diu	15.67	22.34	16.30	12.80	08.15	14.69
<b>Southern Region</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	19.88	19.91	17.95	19.34	33.19	32.14
Karnataka	19.55	19.55	19.41	19.06	18.73	19.31
Kerala	21.95	20.00	20.05	21.12	20.59	18.73
Tamil Nadu	17.50	17.18	17.11	16.19	17.65	17.29
Lakshadweep	18.72	16.99	17.84	17.23	15.11	15.70
Pondicherry	15.31	15.80	15.00	16.54	17.38	13.56
<b>Eastern Region</b>						
Bihar	22.00	20.35	19.76	15.91	25.31	16.26
Orissa (GRIDCO)	25.25	22.43	23.03	24.17	50.15	50.10
Sikkim	22.55	22.60	21.22	16.47	29.24	22.87
West Bengal	24.87	20.82	21.51	19.26	18.01	19.67
A&N Island	23.62	23.71	22.38	19.25	19.15	20.59
<b>North Eastern Region</b>						
Assam	21.41	22.44	24.18	26.91	25.97	27.32
Manipur	22.35	23.92	25.30	24.85	22.95	21.09
Meghalaya	11.79	18.03	18.47	12.55	19.75	12.28
Nagaland	27.26	33.45	36.12	35.17	26.81	29.79
Tripura	30.64	30.53	31.96	30.86	30.11	31.11
Arunachal Pradesh	32.32	42.04	45.30	37.12	32.61	34.10
Mizoram	29.04	31.89	29.76	25.18	34.35	46.84
All India (Utilities)	21.80	21.41	21.13	22.27	24.53	24.79

### Indo-US Defence Co-operation

2813. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to hold fresh talks with the present Administration of United States on Defence co-operation;

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

(c) whether the present Government of United States of America has also shown their interest on Defence co-operation with India; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The dialogue between the Ministry of Defence of India and that of the USA has been institutionalised by the Indo-US Defence Policy Group (DPG) Chaired at the level of Defence Secretary.

However, no meeting of the Defence Policy Group has been held since the nuclear test in May, 1998. The DPG held its last meeting in October, 1996. While the sanctions imposed by U.S.A. on India have been partially lifted, the same by and large, remain in force. However, limited Service-to-Service cooperation at the lower level has been resumed as have contacts at the Ministry level.

[Translation]

### **Railway Projects**

2814. SHRI RAJO SINGH :  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :  
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received for laying of new railway lines, doubling of railway lines and electrification of rail routes during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 till date, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

### **Private Foreign Investors in Power Sector**

2815. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Independent Power Producers Association in India representing private foreign investors in power sector in India, is worried about the Centre's decision to impose Dividend Distribution Tax and Minimum Alternate Tax;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) the status of 18 power projects being financed by IPP members;

(d) whether such imposition of taxes will cause dearrangement in project schedules;

(e) if so, whether comprehensive reform-based package is likely to be introduced to retain the confidence of overseas investors in Indian power projects; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The Government has received proposals from various

Chambers of Commerce, Trade Bodies and other organizations including from the Independent Power Producers' Association for exemption from payment of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) and from payment of Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT). These proposals have been considered by the Government and in the Finance Bill 2001, the Government has proposed the following:

(i) Surcharge on Minimum Alternate Tax is proposed to be reduced to 2% for domestic companies. No surcharge is levied on foreign companies.

(ii) Dividend Distribution Tax is proposed to be reduced to 10%.

(c) and (d) As on date sixteen private power projects are under various stages of construction. Tax holidays for a period of ten years out of the initial 15 years has been extended to power projects commencing generation of power on or before 31.3.2006.

(e) and (f) With a view to find a solution to the escrow problem in the eighth meeting of the Crisis Resolution Group (CRG) held on March 30, 2000 under the chairmanship of Minister of Power, various alternatives to resolve the escrow issue were discussed. In this meeting, it was decided that IPP financing should be linked with the progress of reforms undertaken by the State Governments. To facilitate IPP power projects to achieve financial closure, the Ministry of Power has proposed to consider a reform based security mechanism as an alternative to escrow to provide financial comfort to the lenders and IPP promoters. The Financial Institutions have also agreed to undertake financing of IPPs on the basis of a legally binding agreement to be made by the State Governments to provide escrow before Commercial Operation Date instead of the present practice of escrow at the time of financial closure.

### **SC/ST in Shipping Corporation of India**

2816. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether SC/ST Parliamentarians' in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on December 17, 1996, September 1, 1997 and July 23, 1998 have demanded appointment/posting of persons belonging to the SCs/STs to the posts/assignments such as Heads/Chief Executives/CMDs and Directors, Official/Non-Official Members of the Boards of Management of various public sector organisations and corporations under Government of India;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the above category of the posts to the Board of

management/Governing/Executive Councils of the Shipping Corporation of India during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the number of SCs/STs persons among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of persons appointed; and

(e) the reasons in case the above demand of the SC/ST Parliamentarians is not met satisfactorily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

### Foreign Loans by PFC

2817. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Finance Corporation is tapping the international money market to raise foreign loans;

(b) if so, the total borrowings so far achieved;

(c) the extent to which this will help to improve power generation in the country; and

(d) the names of countries from where Power Finance Corporation has been able to obtain the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The Power Finance Corporation is tapping the international Market to raise foreign currency loans from multi-lateral, bi-lateral and commercial sources since 1990. The details of foreign currency loans so far raised by Power Finance Corporation are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Credit	Year of signing	Amount of foreign currency	Amt. Equivalent in million rupees
1	2	3	4	5
1.	ADB co-Financing loan	1990	US\$ 60 million & Japanese Yen 7500 million	2724.90
2.	French Bi-lateral Credit	1990	FF 304.74 million	1402.25
3.	DFID/ODA Grant	1993	UK Pound 25.1 million*	652.00
4.	KFW Mixed Credit	1995	DM 46.5 Million**	543.94
5.	Syndicated Bank Loan	1997	US\$ 75 Million	2690.53

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Euro Bond Issue	1997	US\$ 100 Million	3780.00
7.	Syndicated Loan-II	1998	US\$ 100 Million	4369.50
8.	Floating Rate Notes	1999	US\$ 100 Million	4284.00

\* UK, Pound 9 Million + Rs. 166.4 Million utilized so far.

\*\* DM 23.31 Million utilized so far.

The above amount excludes the World Bank and ADB Loan amounting to US\$ 390 million routed through budget.

(c) Funds raised by the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has been used for PFC's normal loan disbursement operations programme for construction of thermal/hydro power projects, renovation & modernisation projects in India.

(d) Apart from World Bank and Asian Development Bank, the Power Finance Corporation has been able to obtain the bi-lateral funds from France, U.K. and Germany and commercial funds from Bank and other investors located in various other countries.

### Eviction Notice to Shop Owners of Santushti Complex

2818. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Estate Officer has issued eviction notices to a large number of shop owners at the controversial Santushti complex.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response thereon;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed on those who allowed private organisations to develop the complex unauthorisedly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There are 44 shops, in the Santushti Complex, out of which, 6 shops were vacated by the shopkeepers. Eviction orders were issued to 37 shopkeepers. For the remaining one shop, too, eviction proceedings have been started. In 36 cases, the eviction orders have been challenged before the Additional District Judge, Tees Hazari, New Delhi under section 9 of Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants), Act. The court has directed the Estate Officer not to take any action till further orders.

(c) and (d) The matter is under consideration.

**Allotment of Telephone Booths**

2819. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :  
SHRI RAM SAJIVAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced new policy in regard to allotment of telephone booths at railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reservation made for different categories;

(c) whether the Government have invited tender for the allotment of telephone booths in various zones;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these booths are likely to be allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The new policy stipulates eligibility conditions, procedure for selection of candidates, terms and conditions for allotment, monitoring system etc. Besides, the revised policy provides for 75% of the allotments to the highest bidder on open tender basis and the remaining 25% to various categories of society viz., physically handicapped persons including Blind persons, women, Other Backward classes, Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and people below poverty line.

(c) to (e) Some of the zonal railways have invited tenders for allotment of space to set up STD/ISD/PCO/FAX/Internet Booths at various stations which are at different stages of finalisation.

**Computerization of Ordnance Depots**

2820. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether efforts were made by the Army towards computerizing its inventory but the PCs have been used for generating internal reports and other major activity of all the depots i.e. provision function is being performed manually;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to look into the matter of not using the PCs for the purpose they were procured; and

(c) the steps taken to computerize the Ordnance Depots for meaningful control of inventory and poor stock visibility?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Personal Computers are being

used for carrying out Inventory Management functions in all Ordnance Depots. For these functions, Army Ordnance Corps has developed software packages like Divisional Ordnance Unit package/Regional Ordnance Depot package/Ammunition Inventory Central package/Civilian Personal Management package etc.

There are no internal reports generated by the Computer which are not related to Inventory Management as mentioned in the Question.

2. The Computers in all Ordnance Depots are being effectively utilized only for the purpose for which these have been installed namely Inventory Management. The computer is a versatile & effective tool which can be used for a wide variety of official purposes.

3. Among steps taken to computerize the Ordnance Depots for meaningful control of Inventory, a Computerized Inventory Control Project has been sanctioned by Ministry of Defence to automate the Inventory Management functions of Central Ordnance Depot, Delhi Cantonment and Management Information Service/Decision Support System requirements of Ordnance Directorate at Army Headquarters and Ministry of Defence. This also involves setting up of a Wide Area Network connecting all Ordnance Units to Army Headquarters. The project is under implementation and Phase-I of the Project is to be completed by 31st December, 2001. Subsequently, the system is to be installed in all other Central/Regional Depots and Ordnance Units.

**Tariff Charged by NTPC**

2821. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power tariff charged by NTPC and other central power utilities from the States alongwith its effective dates;

(b) whether there is a proposal to revise tariff charges from the State Governments/SEBs;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of outstanding dues of Central Power Utilities from the State Governments/SEBs during the last three years and as on date-State-wise; and

(e) the present status of proposals finalised for revision in power tariff and recovery of outstanding dues from the States/SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The details of power tariff charged by NTPC and other Central Power Utilities from the States are given in enclosed statement I and II.

(b) to (e) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) had issued an Availability Based Tariff (ABT) order on 4.1.2000 linking recovery of fixed charge to availability and introducing an Unscheduled Interchange to enforce grid discipline. This order was reviewed by CERC vide their orders dated 15.12.2000 and 21.12.2000 on a review petition filed by the Central Sector Utilities. These orders were challenged by NTPC in the High Court of Delhi. Hon'ble High Court vide its interim order dated 7.3.2001 has *inter alia* allowed NTPC to continue to charge tariff on the basis of earlier norms. CERC had also issued orders setting "Terms & Conditions" of tariff for Central Utilities on 21st December, 2000. Central Utilities have sought a review of the CERC order dated 21st December, 2000. The

review petition is being considered by CERC and will be disposed in due course following due process.

The details of outstanding dues of Central Power Utilities from the State Governments/SEBs is given in enclosed statement-III.

In July, 2000, the Government of India approved a scheme for securitisation of dues of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs). In the Conference of Chief Ministers'/ Power Ministers' held on 3-3-2001, it was *inter alia* resolved to set up an expert group to recommend one time settlement of all power sector past dues to Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and dues from CPSUs to State Power Utilities. The Ministry of Power has already constituted the expert group on 5-3-2001.

#### Statement-I

Tariff for Sale of Power from Existing Power Stations of NTPC (as on 14.5.99)

Name of the Power Stations	Capacity (MW)	State	Variable charges* (P/Kwh)	Annual Fixed Charges (Rs/Crs)@ 16% ROE w.e.f. 1.11.98	Tariff (P/kWh)** at norm level of 68.5% PLF	Remarks/Tariff validity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Singrauli STPS	2000	U.P	37.05	325.90	66.65	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.11.97
Rihand STPS	1000	U.P	34.83	478.74	122.51	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.11.97
NCTPP (Dadri)	840	U.P	90.56	447.58	196.87	1.12.95 to 31.3.98
FUGTPS ST-I	420	U.P	55.83	221.71	153.03	Further revision due w.e.f. 1.4.97
Dadri GPS	829.78	U.P	69.39	240.14	119.40	1.4.97 to 31.3.99
Auralya GPS	663.36	U.P	61.92	160.20	103.41	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.4.97
Anta GPS	419.33	Rajasthan	61.27	92.92	99.34	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.4.97
Farakka STPS	1600	W.B	46.16	668.33	124.89	1.7.96 to 31.3.2000
Kahalgaon STPS	840	Bihar	50.86	477.88	163.05	1.8.96 to 31.3.2000
Talcher STPS	1000	Orissa	32.72	644.39	155.89	1.7.97 to 31.3.2002
Vindhyachal STPS st-I	1260	M.P	34.74	390.33	92.13	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.11.97
Korba STPS	2100	M.P	20.42	380.04	53.36	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.11.97
Gandhar GPS	657.39	Gujarat	49.38	646.49	219.18	1.11.95 to 31.3.2000
Kawas GPS	656.20	Gujarat	61.84	294.63	138.99	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.4.98
Ramagundam STPS	2100	A.P	37.68	463.40	77.82	Tariff due for revision w.e.f. 1.11.97
TTPS	460	Orissa	61.57**	144.67	120.45**	
TANDA	440	U.P	149.38**	294.93	276.60**	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vindhyachal-II	1000	M.P	59.62	535.95	156.74	
Unchahar-II	210	U.P	98.30	188.49	244.31	
Kayamkulam	350.58	Kerala	275.33**	259.83	398.49**	
Faridabad	281.854	Haryana	140.43	194.82	256.78	

\* Variable charges excludes fuel price adjustments

\*\* Excluding the impact of tariff on account of additional capitalization done by NTPC and effect of F.E. Variation during the period 1992-93 to 1996-97 recently notified by MOP.

### Statement-II

*Year-wise tariff details of Hydro Projects of NHPC (as on 14.5.99)*

ACC & AEC figures in Rs. crores

S. No.	Name of the Projects	Capacity (MW)	1997-98		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01		2001-02	
			ACC	AEC	ACC	AEC	ACC	AEC	ACC	AEC	ACC	AEC
1.	Sala st-I & II (Paise/kWh)	690	63.09	103.64 38.60	67.64	106.30 39.59	50.55	108.72 40.49	40.59	111.59 41.56	32.30	114.80 42.75
2.	Chamera st-I (Paise/kWh)	540	251.90	144.83 99.87	217.56	147.94 102.02	184.92	151.61 104.54	150.74	155.53 107.25	91.15	159.37 109.90
3.	Tanakpur (Paise/kWh)	94.2	49.28	24.21 61.33	40.27	24.85 63.07	32.43	25.53 64.80	21.15	26.21 66.53	13.65	27.08 68.75
4.	Uri (Paise/kWh)	480			344.78	219.16 97.23	356.50	224.53 99.61	335.98	229.70 101.90	293.82	234.95 104.23
5.	Bairasiul (Paise/kWh)	180		27.44 42.00		27.44 42.00		27.44 42.00		27.44 42.00		
6.	Loktak (Paise/kWh)	105		22.35 57.00		22.35 57.00		22.35 57.00		22.35 57.00		

Note : (i) For Bairasiul and Loktak no. GO.S. Tariff notification has been issued. So far, Billing is being done on above energy rates/Energy charges. This billing rate has been provisionally approved by CERC.

(ii) W.e.f. 1.4.2001 above rates are no more valid and 'ABT' as ordered by CERC shall be applicable.

ACC — Annual capacity charge

AEC — Annual Energy charge

### Statement-III

*Outstanding dues payable by State Governments/SEBs to the Central Power Utilities*

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	States/SEBs	1997-98				1998-99			
		NTPC	NHPC	PGCIL	NEEPCO	NTPC	NHPC	PGCIL	NEEPCO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	158.16	0.00	34.03	0.00	273.50	0.00	65.31	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	1.08	0.48	5.75	0.00	0.41	2.66	6.34

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Assam	10.87	0.33	21.67	175.70	36.68	-0.74	58.50	384.30
4.	Bihar	1030.92	0.24	13.16	0.00	1793.95	33.08	102.56	0.00
5.	Gujarat	221.45	0.00	3.52	0.00	371.64	0.00	26.50	0.00
6.	Goa	8.84	0.00	0.08	0.00	5.27	0.00	-0.50	0.00
7.	Haryana	253.80	397.54	13.04	0.00	234.27	689.46	9.91	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	23.87	22.06	-0.94	0.00	9.26	54.91	1.57	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	435.71	126.58	29.61	0.00	485.35	387.60	75.64	0.00
10.	Karnataka	82.09	0.00	9.24	0.00	106.35	0.00	30.53	0.00
11.	Kerala	54.98	0.00	6.19	0.00	69.30	0.00	9.38	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	368.47	0.00	4.07	0.00	513.11	0.00	26.43	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	196.85	0.00	3.87	0.00	322.05	0.00	9.11	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	3.41	4.19	30.87	0.00	3.34	16.01	60.07
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	1.06	0.45	1.40	0.00	2.32	1.76	1.97
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.69	1.51	6.43	0.00	2.68	2.34	12.87
17.	Nagaland	0.00	2.99	2.31	17.56	0.00	4.40	7.51	28.81
18.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	353.39	0.87	3.67	0.00	461.35	12.38	10.30	0.00
19.	Punjab	32.30	83.24	5.72	0.00	9.81	200.66	7.44	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	99.76	44.73	20.91	0.00	83.51	76.23	62.05	0.00
21.	Sikkim	7.61	-0.09	2.20	0.00	18.95	0.17	6.04	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	63.03	0.00	13.82	0.00	140.94	0.00	31.54	0.00
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.55	0.07	4.24	0.00	3.72	4.30	17.12
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1356.63	477.03	238.51	0.00	2036.05	833.04	369.34	0.00
25.	West Bengal	467.01	0.00	20.31	0.00	944.32	14.70	52.41	0.00
26.	DVB (DESU)	1363.78	159.65	34.62	0.00	2024.54	353.11	116.46	0.00

*Outstanding dues payable by State Governments/SEBs to the Central Power Utilities*

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	States/SEBs	1999-2000				2000-01 (upto 31/1/2001)			
		NTPC	NHPC	PGCIL	NEEPCO	NTPC	NHPC	PGCIL	NEEPCO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.05	0.00	5.25	0.00	436.71	0.00	19.23	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	1.70	4.04	12.54	0.00	2.62	9.02	15.05
3.	Assam	36.32	-1.02	99.48	578.83	51.90	0.22	190.10	692.86
4.	Bihar	2118.55	29.14	185.71	0.00	2991.59	35.83	199.64	0.00
5.	Gujarat	428.78	0.00	37.25	0.00	495.07	0.00	43.52	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6	Goa	4.61	0.00	-0.45	0.00	3.05	0.00	-0.20	0.00
7.	Haryana	251.38	831.86	20.51	0.00	533.90	972.68	18.69	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	22.26	68.10	1.23	0.00	33.93	70.61	1.04	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	497.18	644.82	133.34	0.00	480.95	822.62	159.87	0.00
10.	Karnataka	215.51	0.00	40.25	0.00	261.60	0.00	41.51	0.00
11.	Kerala	182.25	0.00	9.48	0.00	414.33	0.00	14.59	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	784.47	0.00	34.83	0.00	1169.23	0.00	58.09	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	481.00	0.00	22.03	0.00	628.90	0.00	5.49	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	12.95	26.18	109.15	0.00	19.34	45.31	116.61
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	3.33	3.72	11.44	0.00	2.22	5.91	11.91
16.	Mizoram	0.00	2.46	6.58	28.65	0.00	4.59	8.67	38.84
17.	Nagaland	0.00	6.77	12.83	53.41	0.00	7.68	23.17	63.51
18.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	662.71	12.64	7.00	0.00	922.49	18.48	31.42	0.00
19.	Punjab	26.99	254.94	3.28	0.00	101.79	310.79	7.48	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	305.29	135.86	90.31	0.00	387.29	98.02	41.89	0.00
21.	Sikkim	28.60	0.17	10.34	0.00	33.64	2.33	12.61	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	309.46	0.00	26.19	0.00	438.91	0.00	-5.07	0.00
23.	Tripura	0.00	4.53	6.35	37.02	0.00	4.44	15.57	42.28
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2121.29	796.16	493.47	0.00	2879.54	874.31	215.34	0.00
25.	West Bengal	1206.28	11.64	63.91	0.00	1389.36	18.17	76.09	0.00
26.	DVB (DESU)	2458.74	434.79	150.09	0.00	2861.26	502.93	167.30	0.00

#### Allocation of Power from Gas based Power Station

2822. COL.(RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan enjoyed a special allocation of one-third of total capacity in NTPC Anta Gas based power station since 1993, to mitigate the acute shortage of power prevailing in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons for withdrawal of this special allocation during October, 1999;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the Government of Rajasthan for restoration of this arbitrary cut; and

(d) if so, the time by which the special allocation are likely to be restored keeping in view the acute power shortage in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) As a special case, full generation of one unit of Anta GPS was allocated to Rajasthan in October, 1993 due to acute power shortage conditions prevailing in the State. This special allocation was continued due to prolonged outage of units 1 & 2 of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) with effect from February, 1994 and August, 1994 respectively.

(b) Anta GPS (419 MW) is a regional power station and all the constituent States/UTs of Northern Region have firm shares in the power station in accordance with the sharing formula. The Unit-1 of RAPS was restored in April, 1997 and Unit-2 in June, 1998. Consequent to restoration of units 1 and 2 of RAPS and persistent pressure from the other constituent states of Northern Region for restoration of their entitled shares in Anta GPS, the special allocation to Rajasthan from Anta GPS had to be withdrawn in October, 1999.

(c) and (d) Request has been received from Government of Rajasthan for restoration of the special allocation of one third output from Anta GPS. However, restoration of the special allocation to Rajasthan would deprive the other states in the Northern Region of their entitled shares in Anta GPS is likely to attract stiff opposition from other beneficiary States.

#### **Upgradation of Posts of Chiefs of Navy/Army**

2823. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the posts of the Intelligence Chiefs in the Indian Air Force and Navy;

(b) if so, the main objectives of upgrading these posts; and

(c) the steps taken in that regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Safety Audits of Oil Installations**

2824. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ordered "safety audits" at all oil installations in earth-quake prone areas;

(b) if so, the earth-quake prone areas thus affected;

(c) whether there is no safety audit at present in such areas;

(d) whether safety and preparedness are totally absent at all our oil installations;

(e) whether the Government have any impact from the fire in the Godavari basin a few years ago at oil wells; and

(f) if so, the details of measures taken after that large fire?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The safety and preparedness plans are formulated at all oil installations in line with the Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) standards and other applicable statutory regulations, and necessary facilities are provided. The safety audit of PSU oil installations all over the country, including those located in earth-quake

prone areas, are carried out regularly by the OISD in line with the approved procedure. Only minor damage has been reported by some of the public sector companies at few of their installations in Gujarat.

(e) and (f) Investigation of the incident of blow out in well Mandapetta - West in 1997 was carried out and based on the findings/recommendations of the investigation, a number of action have been taken by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC).

[Translation]

#### **Train-Truck Accident at Level Crossing**

2825. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the train accident between inter-city Express and a truck at a level crossing near Ismailapul, Sampla, Haryana, on February 14, 2001 as appearing in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated February 15, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this was the fifth accident at the same level crossing during the last one year;

(d) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 14.02.2001 one truck dashed against train engine of 4721 Up Inter-city Express at unmanned level crossing between Sampla-Kharawar stations on Shakurbasti-Rohtak section of Delhi division, Northern Railway.

(c) Only one accident has occurred at the same level crossing on 01.02.1999 during last two years;

(d) This accident was enquired into by a Committee Officers which concluded that this accident occurred due to negligence on the part of road users while crossing the unmanned level crossing.

(e) In this accident no railway staff has been held responsible so question of action taken does not arise.

[English]

#### **Upgrading of Trains**

2826. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have announced

upgrading of Mumbai-Howrah Mail, Secunderabad-Varanasi Express and Pune-Howrah Azad Hind Express into Super fast trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the fares are likely to be increased in each class in these trains;

(d) the extent to which the distance running time is likely to be saved; and

(e) the additional passenger facilities and amenities which are likely to be provided in these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Instructions have been issued to classify 8001/8002 Mumbai-Howrah Mail and 1029/1030 Pune-Howrah Azad Hind Express as Superfast trains with effect from 1.4.2001 and renumbered as 2809/2810 and 2129/2130 respectively. Train No. 7091/7092 Secunderabad-Varanasi Express is not being classified as Superfast.

- |                        |   |          |
|------------------------|---|----------|
| (c) (i) AC First class | - | Rs. 50/- |
| (ii) AC - 2 tier       | - | Rs. 30/- |
| (iii) 1 class          | - | Rs. 30/- |
| (iv) Ac - 3 tier       | - | Rs. 30/- |
| (v) AC Chair Car       | - | Rs. 30/- |
| (vi) Sleeper Class     | - | Rs. 20/- |
| (vii) Second Class     | - | Rs. 10/- |

(d) The average speed from originating station to terminating stations in both UP and DN direction will be more than 55 KMPH.

(e) 8001/8002 Mumbai-Howrah Mail which has been upgraded provides better amenities like availability of Train Superintendents and other support staff for convenience of passengers and improved catering.

[Translation]

### Power Projects

2827. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power projects which were not completed in time inspite of foreign assistance and the Government have to pay commitment charges for not doing so till March 31, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the amount of commitment charges paid so far; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to complete such projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Commitment charges which are payable as soon as the loan is sanctioned are to be paid by the Government in respect of a few multilateral/bilateral agencies irrespective of whether the project is commissioned within the scheduled time or not. However, the projects which have foreign assistance and which have time overruns are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Project & Capacity (MW)	Name of Executing Agency
<b>Thermal Power Projects:</b>		
1.	Chandrapur (500)	Maharashtra State Electricity Board
2.	Brahmapuram DG sets (5x200)	Kerala State Electricity Board
3.	Agartala GT (4x21)	NEEPCO
4.	Kathalguri CCGT (6x33.5+3x30)	NEEPCO
5.	Budge-Budge (2x250)	Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation
6.	Bakreshwar (3x210)	West Bengal Power Development Corporation
7.	Neyveli (2x210)	Neyveli Lignite Corporation
<b>Hydro Power Projects:</b>		
1.	Nathpa Jhakri (6x250)	Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation
2.	Ghatghar PSS (2x125)	Government of Maharashtra
3.	Srisaillam LBPH (6x150)	Andhra Pradesh Generation Corporation
4.	Purulia PSS (4x225)	West Bengal State Electricity Board
5.	Dhauliganga St-I (4x70)	National Hydro-electric Power Corporation
6.	Tuirial (2x30)	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation
7.	Dulhasti (3x130)	National Hydro-electric Power Corporation
8.	Tehri St-I (4x250)	Tehri Hydro Development Corporation

The details of commitment charges paid is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The Government regularly monitors all on-going projects including the ones which receive foreign

assistance through various Monitoring Committees including Empowered Committee and Sectoral Task Forces.

[English]

#### **Permanent Army Camp on Indo-Nepal Border**

2828. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a permanent army camp at Indo-Nepal border;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the motive behind it;

(c) whether the Government have discussed with the Government of Nepal in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Nepal thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) There are no plans, presently, to establish any new permanent army camps along our border with Nepal.

#### **Capacity of High Density Corridors**

2829. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of capacity of high density corridors;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to augment the capacity of high density corridors; and

(c) the percentage of total outlay spent for this purpose during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Line capacity on most section of the high-density corridors has reached saturation levels.

(b) In order to increase capacity of the Railway system including on its high density corridors, following measures have been adopted as per requirements of the system and as per the availability of resources:

- (i) Splitting of long block section
- (ii) Upgradation standard of interlocking and signalling
- (iii) Installing Automatic Signalling
- (iv) Doubling/laying of additional lines
- (v) Use of higher capacity Wagons
- (vi) Running more Wagons/Coaches per train

(vii) Introduction of Air Brakes

(viii) Use of high Horsepower Locomotives

(c) A major portion of the plan-outlay of Railways is spent on Rolling Stock, which contribute to the augmentation of capacity on high density as well as on other Railway routes. It is, therefore, not possible to accurately segregate the investments made on capacity augmentation of high-density corridors.

[Translation]

#### **Deployment of RPF**

2830. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :  
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Railway Police has been failed to provide protection to passengers at railway station and in trains and even sometime they themselves involved in looting the passengers;

(b) if so, whether the high Powered Committee on Railway Safety has recommended the deployment of Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel at the railway stations and in trains for the safety of passengers; and

(c) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government for deployment of RPF personnel at Railway Stations and in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The High Level Committee has submitted its report which is under consideration.

#### **Power Generation Capacity**

2831. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :  
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power generation capacity of plants owned by the Union Government and State Electricity Boards; and

(b) the details of total annual actual average power generated by the power plants owned by the Electricity Boards along with the reasons for wide-gap in power generation capacity utilization of both the sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The installed generating capacity of power plants in the Central Sector and State Sector as on 28th February, 2001 is as under:

Category	Installed capacity (MW)		
	Central Sector	State Sector	Total
Thermal	24896.50	39190.39	64086.89
Nuclear	2900.00	0.00	2900.00
Hydro	2644.01	21703.60	24347.61
Total	30440.51	60893.99	91334.50

(b) The actual electricity generation of power plants owned by State Electricity Boards during the period April 2000-February 2001 is given below:

Category	Generation (MUs)
Thermal	192247
Hydro	48683
Total	240930

The gap in capacity utilisation is on account of higher outages and comparatively lower PLF in the plants owned by State Electricity Boards as compared to the Central projects. The details are as under:

	SEB's Plants	Central Plants
FORCED outages (FO%)	14.1%	10.8%
Planned Outages (PM%)	8.7%	5.7%
Plant Load Factor (PLF%)	65.2%	73.6%

#### Tourist Circuits

2832. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :  
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Tourist Circuits established/proposed to be established in the country, State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided for the development of these circuits, circuit-wise; and

(c) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken for the development of these tourist circuits?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations has identified 21 Travel Circuits in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

(b) and (c) The States have the primary role in the development of tourist infrastructure at the places of tourist interest including travel circuits. However, Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administration every year for specific proposals identified in consultation with them. Financial assistance sanctioned for prioritised projects/schemes for these states including the places covered in the circuit is as given below:

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1997-98	2932.92
1998-99	5522.55
1999-2000	6824.51

[English]

#### Conferences Organised by ONGC and IOC

2833. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued instructions to observe extreme austerity in organising conferences etc.;

(b) whether ONGC and IOC have organised conferences in November, 2000 and January, 2001;

(c) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to stop such colossal wastage of money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) ONGC has organised AAAPG (Afro-Asian Association of Petroleum Geochemists) exhibition and conference from November 25-27, 2000 at estimated cost of Rs. 99.11 lakhs in New Delhi. PETROTECH-2001 was organised by Indian hydrocarbon industry from 9-12th January 2001 with IOC as a host company at an estimated cost of Rs. 510 lakhs in New Delhi. Government guidelines are followed while organising such conferences.

#### Inhouse Dispute Settlement Forum

2834. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court had directed the

Government, Public Sector Undertakings and Banks long ago to set up an in-house dispute settlement forum;

(b) If so, whether the Government have set up an internal forum in this regard;

(c) If not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to take to ensure that appeals are not filed as a matter of routine and the Government officials responsible for litigation and then losing the cases are brought before the justice; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has set up a High Power Committee consisting of Cabinet Secretary; Secretary, Department of Industrial Development; Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises; Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs; Finance Secretary and Secretary of the concerned Department to ensure that no litigation reaches the Court or a Tribunal without the matter having been first examined by the Committee. Apart from this, the Government has set up a Permanent Machinery of Arbitration in the Department of Public Enterprises to settle all commercial disputes between the Public Sector Enterprises inter se as well as between a Public Sector Enterprise and a Government Department.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Appeals are filed by the Government Departments after obtaining legal opinion from the Department of Legal Affairs. Special Leave Petitions before the Supreme Court are filed only after obtaining the opinion of Law Officers viz. Attorney General, Solicitor General, Additional Solicitor General.

#### **Investment in Petroleum Sector**

2835. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to allow 100 per cent investment by foreign companies in hydrocarbon sector;

(b) whether a 10 year tax holiday has also been introduced for foreign investment in the oil sector;

(c) if so, whether the Minister of Finance has announced that during the next 25 years, India requires \$100 billion investment in petroleum sector; and

(d) if so, the extent to which India has been able to attract the investment from the foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been allowed ranging from 51% to 100% for projects in different areas in hydrocarbon sector.

(b) Under Section 80-IB of the Income Tax Act a seven-year tax holiday is allowed.

(c) A group headed by Finance Minister prepared 'Hydrocarbon Vision 2025'. It envisages an investment of Rs. 2,50,000 crore (US\$ 59.52 billion) and Rs. 1,35,000 crore (US\$ 32.14 billion) upto 2025 for infrastructural development in Refinery and Marketing Sectors respectively.

(d) During the period, August 1991 to December 2000 the total inflow of FDI is Rs. 89,286.53 crore including for Hydrocarbon Sector.

#### **Identification of Unviable Projects**

2836. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have identified unviable projects and decided to be given up;

(b) if so, the details of such projects;

(c) the amount spent on the such projects till date;

(d) whether the Railways have undertaken the steps to downsizing the employees' strength as proposed by Fifth Pay Commission; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The Railways have a system whereby continuous review of staff strength takes place so as to ensure right-sizing. The Fifth Central Pay Commission had also made certain recommendations in regard to down-sizing of the government workforce by 30%. This recommendation was, however not accepted by the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **HT and LT Lines in Daman and Diu**

2837. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of high transmission and low

transmission lines laid in the rural areas of Daman and Diu during the last three years; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The details of HT and LT lines laid down in rural areas of Daman and Diu during the last three years and expenditure incurred therein are given below:

<i>Length of HT Lines</i>	<i>Expenditure Incurred</i>
49 Ckt. Kms	Rs. 122 lakhs
<i>Length of LT Lines</i>	<i>Expenditure Incurred</i>
12.5 Ckt. Kms	Rs. 33.87 Lakhs.

In the UT of Daman and Diu, all villages have been electrified.

[Translation]

#### LPG Agencies in Himachal Pradesh

2838. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh had urged for opening of 64 new LPG agencies in the State;

(b) if so, whether a meeting of officers of his Ministry and the State Government officials was held on August 11, 1999 in the State Capital Shimla in which decision was taken for immediate opening of 11 LPG agencies in the State and installation of LPG bottling plant at Damtal in Kangra district; and

(c) if so, the progress made so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Out of 64 (Sixty Four) locations proposed by the Government of Himachal Pradesh for setting up of LPG distributorships, 13 (Thirteen) locations have been found as viable locations by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies. As on 1.2.2001, Oil Marketing Companies have issued LOI for 10 (Ten) locations under Operation Vijay Special Scheme (OVSS) and 3 (Three) locations have been included in the Marketing Plan for the setting up of LPG distributorships. However, at 1 (One) location, allottee under OVSS has not accepted the LOI.

Setting up of a LPG capacity Bottling Plant at Damtal by Indian Oil Corporation Limited under 9th Plan was earlier conceived. However, due to logistic consideration and non-availability of suitable land, the same has now been decided to be set up at Una.

[English]

#### V.R.S. in ITDC

2839. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in addition to roll back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years the Government have also decided to introduce the voluntary retirement scheme in ITDC; and

(b) if so, the number of ITDC employees likely to exit from the organization during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of employees who may opt for the scheme and exit from the organisation would be known in due course.

[Translation]

#### Employees on Deputation in Railways

2840. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 865 dated 23-11-2000 regarding employees on deputation in Railways and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which this information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information has been collected from the Zonal Railways and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs have been requested to place the implementation report on the Table of the House on 19.02.2001. The details of the information are as under:

(i) The following number of officials are working in Zonal Railways and Railway Board on deputation from other Ministries and State Governments:

<i>Group A</i>	<i>Group B</i>	<i>Group C</i>	<i>Group D</i>
23	13	33	1

(ii) The posting of officers/staff of Zonal Railways to Railway Board and within the Zonal Railways and Production Units is not considered as deputation since these postings are within the Railway Organisation

[English]

### Performance of Rail Production Unit

2841. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of each railway production unit during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to revamp the loss making public sector undertakings under Railways; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve the performance of each Rail Production unit in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The production performance of the six production units in terms of output during last three years has been as under:

Production Unit	Year of production		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
1. Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan. Electric Locos	165	165	120
2. Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi. Diesel Locos	164	161	137
3. Integral Coach Factory, Chennai. Coaches	1010	1057	1006
4. Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. Coaches	1031	1087	1182
5. Wheel & Axle Plant, Bangalore. Wheels	92015	99688	88161
6. Diesel Component Works, Patiala. Loco-rebuilding	74	78	70

(b) The Production units under the Ministry of Railways are not Public Sector Undertakings but are Railways own inhouse manufacturing units. Practically the entire capacity of Production Units, barring small quantity of exports/supplies of Rolling Stock to non-Railway customers, is utilised for meeting Indian Railway's own requirements. The debits raised on zonal Railways for the Rolling Stock/materials supplied, is based on no-profit/no-loss concept and therefore there is no question of incurring losses.

(c) Railway Production Units have been fully meeting the requirements of the Railways. There has

been a constant endeavour to improve quality and productivity. All the units have obtained ISO 9000 quality certification. Consequent upon implementation of 5th pay commission report, while fixing revised incentive rates, allowed timings were suitably revised. In consultation with the representatives of recognized labour, effecting improvements in productivity of the production units.

### Installation of Electronic In-Motion Weigh Bridges

2842. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are installing Electronic in-motion weigh bridges and also replacing mechanical weigh bridges with electronic weigh bridges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the location where the work has been taken up in this regard; and

(d) the amount allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir, however, replacement of mechanical weighbridges is only on condition basis.

(b) and (c) 39 electronic in-motion weighbridges have been ordered. At 14 locations these have been commissioned and for the balance, matter is under process. Details are furnished in the statement enclosed.

(d) The funds required for 39 weighbridges ordered are approximately Rs. 3.5 crores.

### Statement

S.No.	Railway	Location
1	2	3

#### I. Weighbridges already commissioned

1.	Central	Jhansi*
2.		Hotgi
3.	Eastern	Andal
4.		Andal
5.	Northern	Chanheti
6.	North East Frontier	Jogigopha
7.		Rangapani

1	2	3
8	Southern	Perambur*
9.		Royapuram
10.	South Central	Guntakal
11.		Guntapalli*
12	South Eastern	Kharagpur
13.		Champa
14	Westerb	Viramgram
<b>II. Locations where work is in progress:</b>		
1.	Central	Jhansi
2.		Nagpur
3.	Eastern	Jamalpur*
4.		Dhanbad
5.	Northern	Jagadhari*
6.		Juhi
7.		Merta Road
8.		Bhatinda
9.	North East Frontier	Rangiya
10.	Southern	Ernakulam
11.		Attippattu
12.		Chengalpatu
13.		Melapakkam
14.	South Central	Bhanapur
15.	South Eastern	Raipur*
16.		Bimalgarh
17.		Hindol Road
18.		Amlai
19.		Waltair
20.		Muri
21.		Marauda
22.		Dangoaposi
23.	Western	Udhna
24.		Jamnagar
25.		Swai Madhopur

[Translation]

**Completion of Narkhed-Amravati Rail Line**

2843. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the railway line between Narkhed and Amravati is likely to be completed; and

(b) the amount spent so far on construction of the said railway line;

(c) the funds required for the completion of the railway line; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to release the required funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No target date of completion has been fixed.

(b) Rs. 34.27 crores have been spent upto the financial year 1999-2000 and a sum of Rs. 6 crores has been allocated for the current financial year.

(c) The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 175.30 crores.

(d) The outlay for this project is proposed to be increased to Rs. 8 crores in the Budget of year 2001-2002.

[English]

**Assistance for Setting up of Biogas Plants**

2844. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Orissa to provide central assistance for setting up of bio-gas plants with the public toilets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total grant provided during each of the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a non-governmental organisation, namely, Sulabh International Social Service Organisation, New Delhi has taken up setting up of a night-soil based biogas plant linked with public toilet complex involving a central financial assistance of about Rs. 5.52 lakh at Police Lines, Bhubaneswar during 2000-2001. \* ,

(c) Under the Central Sector Scheme - Community, Institutional and Night-soil based Biogas Plants Programme, which envisages setting up of plants linked with public toilets also, the State nodal agency, namely, Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency was given funds in advance as mentioned below:

Year	Amount released
1997-98	Nil
1998-99	Rs. 1.50 lakh
1999-2000	Rs. 7.00 lakh

(d) The State nodal agency has not set up any community, institutional or night-soil based biogas plant linked with public toilet during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 and has reported taking up of five community plants, mainly based on cattle dung during 2000-2001.

#### **Production of Wheelsets**

2845. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of wheelsets made by wheels and Axle Plant, Bangalore, during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total number of wheelsets imported by the Government during the said period;

(c) the steps Government have taken to produce Wheels and Axles in the country; and

(d) the target achieved in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The total production of wheelsets assembly made by Wheel and Axle Plants, Bangalore, during the last three years, year-wise is as under:

1997-98 = 38500, 1998-99 = 38624, 1999-00 = 30258

(b) Railways has not imported wheelsets (wheel disc & axle assembly) as such during the last three years for their own use.

(c) Railways are presently manufacturing wheels and axles in house at Wheel & Axle Plant, Bangalore besides getting indigenous supplies from Durgapur Steel Plant. The installed annual capacity of Wheel & Axle Plant/Bangalore was earlier augmented from 76,000 wheels to 95,000 wheels and is now under the process of further augmentation to 1,15,000 wheels per annum. Similarly the capacity to manufacture axles has been augmented from 35000 to 50000 axles.

Durgapur Steel Plant had been supplying mainly BG coaching wheels, BG coaching wheelsets and Axles till 1999-2000. BG loco wheels were developed by DSP during 1995-96. However supplies had been meagre till 1999-2000 and bulk of the requirement was being met by imports. Durgapur Steel Plant have modernised their wheel plant and augmented their capacity and are now in a position to meet bulk of the requirement of BG loco wheels (about 25,000).

(d) Wheel & Axle Plant was primarily manufacturing wagon wheels upon 1993. In 1993 WAP developed the capability to manufacture BG coaching wheel. Now WAP have developed capability to manufacture Cast wheels for MG coaches and BG locomotives (for freight operations). MG cast loco wheels are also being developed, thereby eliminating the need for imports.

Durgapur Steel Plant is also now in a position to meet bulk of the requirement of BG locomotive wheels (about 25,000). Thus no order has been placed for import of BG loco wheels during 2000-2001 and the full requirement is being met by DSP.

#### **Establishment of Port between Paradeep and Vizag**

2846. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to establish major port between Paradeep and Vizag for smooth transporting of coal from Orissa for South India Thermal Project and ores from Orissa to other neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to provide necessary facilities and assistance for which the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the Government of Orissa with AEL Ltd.;

(d) whether the Union Government has any alternate proposal for establishing a major port at Gopalpur on sea in Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**ONGC's Payment for Yudurulanka Yanam Project**

2847. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has released the balance payment of Rs. 7.5 crores towards contribution for Yudurulanka-Yanam bridge for which ONGC agreed to contribute Rs. 10 crores and released first instalment of Rs. 2.5 crores; and

(b) if not; the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The ONGC has agreed to contribute a sum of Rs. 10 crores towards cost of construction of the Yedurulanka-Yanam bridge in 4 equal instalments of which the first instalment of Rs. 2.50 crores has been released so far. Release of the second, third and final instalment will be made on receipt of a certificate from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh that 40%, 70% and 100% of the construction work respectively has been completed.

**Generation of Energy**

2848. SHRI M.V.V.S MURTHI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the uniform draft policy to remove bottleneck in generating energy from non-conventional energy sources is prepared by the Union Government;

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

(c) whether the State Governments are also consulted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details and the manner in which it is useful for the country; and

(e) the time by when the policy is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) The Government envisions a major role for non-conventional energy sources in the energy sector in the coming decades. For this, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has formulated a Draft Renewable Energy Policy Statement. The main objective of the Policy Statement is to accelerate the generation of energy from non-conventional energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass and small hydro.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The contribution of non-conventional energy sources is proposed to be enhanced for meeting

minimum rural energy needs; providing decentralised/off-grid supply for agriculture, industry, commercial and household sectors in rural and urban areas; and, grid quality power generation and supply. The draft Statement envisages a target of generating 10,000 MW of power from renewable energy sources or upto 10% of new power capacity addition projected for the period upto 2012.

(e) The draft of the Policy Statement has been submitted for further approval.

**Discovery of Inscriptions**

2849. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inscriptions discovered and copied by ASI during the last three years, till date, State-wise and language-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the ASI to publish the corpus of Brahmi inscriptions found in Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the line of corpus of Asokan Brahmi inscriptions;

(c) whether the ASI has published any catalogue on ancient South Indian coins collected during the past 20 years;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to document and catalogue these coins in private possession;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the reasons for not deputing separate officer (Dravidian language) for the study of ancient South Indian coins and preparation of catalogue; and

(h) the steps taken for the proper case of these inscriptions?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The number of inscriptions discovered and copied by ASI in the last three years may kindly be seen in the enclosed statement.

(b) ASI is planning to publish the Brahmi inscriptions found in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

(c) to (f) ASI has not published any catalogue on the ancient South Indian coins. The Epigraphy Branch, however, has prepared an inventory for about 640 coins preserved in the Directorate of Epigraphy. A catalogue of these coins is under preparation.

(g) A Dy. Superintending Epigraphist (Numismatics) has already been posted.

(h) Necessary steps have been taken to preserve these inscriptions.

**Statement**

No. of inscriptions copied	
1	2

**Year 1997-98***State-wise*

1. Andhra Pradesh	15
2. Karnataka	02
3. Kerala	04
4. Madhya Pradesh	19
5. Maharashtra	09
6. Orissa	11
7. Rajasthan	01
8. Tamil Nadu	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>

*Language-wise*

1. Prakrit	01
2. Sanskrit	25
3. Sanskrit and Telugu	01
4. Kannada	24
5. Tamil	68
6. Telugu	02
7. Local Dialect	08
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>

**Year 1998-99**

1. Andhra Pradesh	26
2. Karnataka	01
3. Madhya Pradesh	50
4. Orissa	11
5. Rajasthan	71
6. Tamil Nadu	248
7. Uttar Pradesh	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>430</b>

*Language-wise*

1. Prakrit	45
------------	----

1	2
2. Sanskrit	83
3. Kannada	31
4. Local Dialect	13
5. Tamil	243
6. Telugu	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>430</b>

**Year 1999-2000**

1. Andhra Pradesh	10
2. Assam	15
3. Karnataka	40
4. Kerala	01
5. Manipur	30
6. Madhya Pradesh	10
7. Maharashtra	11
8. Orissa	87
9. Rajasthan	18
10. Tamil Nadu	244
11. Uttar Pradesh	04
<b>Total</b>	<b>470</b>

*Language-wise*

Inscriptions are being transcribed and studied.

*Inscriptions (Arabic and Persian)***Year 1997-98**

1. Andhra Pradesh	95
2. Delhi	21
3. Maharashtra	11
4. Tamil Nadu	01
5. Uttar Pradesh	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>

*Language-wise*

1. Arabic	43
-----------	----

1	2
2. Persian	55
3. Urdu	27
4. Others/Bilingual/Trilingual	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>

**Year 1998-99**

1. Andhra Pradesh	42
2. Delhi	15
3. Maharashtra	31
4. Karnataka	01
5. Kerala	08
6. Uttar Pradesh	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

*Language-wise*

1. Arabic	32
2. Persian	37
3. Urdu	27
4. Others/Bilingual/Trilingual	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

**Year 1999-2000**

1. Delhi	38
2. Madhya Pradesh	03
3. Maharashtra	51
4. Tamil Nadu	02
5. Uttar Pradesh	45
6. West Bengal	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>

*Language-wise*

1. Arabic	33
2. Persian	61
3. Urdu	23
4. Others/Bilingual/Trilingual	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>

**Regional Branch of Indira Gandhi Centre of Arts in Bangalore**

2850. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Regional Branches of the Indira Gandhi Centre of Arts have been established in the country;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to open a regional branch of the Indira Gandhi Centre of Arts in Bangalore;

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

(e) the amount allocated for the said branches during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) has a Regional Centre at Guwahati. Another Centre at Varanasi is implementing the project on preparing a lexicon of fundamental concepts of Indian art.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The Executive Committee of the IGNCA decided in principle to establish a Regional Centre at Bangalore. The Executive Committee had also set up a Sub-Committee to work out the proposal giving details regarding availability of land, building, etc.

(e) The budget allotted for Varanasi Centre is about Rs. 20.50 lakhs and that for Guwahati Centre is Rs. 3.00 lakhs.

**CAG Report on Electrification**

2851. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General in their report No. 9 of 2000 (Railways) for the year ended March 1999 on pages 42 to 45 carried a paragraph of electrification of tracks/routes;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government on those observations;

(c) whether the audit scrutiny of an on-going electrification project costing Rs. 290 crore on Delhi-Ambala-Ludhiana section of the Northern Railway revealed that against savings by the Audit of Rs. 11.52 crore the Internal Rate of Return was depicted as 14.48 per cent leading to savings of Rs. 22.17 crore;

(d) if so, the reasons for not being accurate in the working of cost of project and the savings that are accruing etc.; and

(e) the details of other discrepancies pointed out by the CAG and the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Page 42 to 45 in the said Audit Report carry a paragraph entitled 'Choice of traction'.

(b) to (e) The documents which formed the basis for arriving a various conclusions were not available and have been recently received from Audit. The observations are yet to be examined on the basis of laid down norms.

#### **Disruption of Production and Supply of Oil**

2852. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total losses suffered as a result of disruption of production and supply of oil due to agitations and other insurgent activities in the country during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure uninterrupted production and supply of oil and gas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The estimated loss in crude oil production suffered by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) due to agitation and other insurgent activities during the last three years is as follows:

State	(Million Metric Tonne)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	0.0003
Assam	0.0365	0.0502	0.0515
Gujarat	-	-	0.0130
Tamil Nadu	-	-	0.0005
Tripura	-	-	-
Off Maharashtra Coast	-	-	0.0460

Requisite information in respect of Private/Joint Venture companies is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Various steps taken by Government to ensure uninterrupted production and supply of oil and gas include:

- (i) Periodic meetings with the respective State/ District Administration, Police Authorities and other intelligence agencies through the system of Offshore and Onshore Security Coordination Committees set up by the Government to review the threat perception and take appropriate remedial measures.
- (ii) Regular patrolling of vital installations by the security personnel of the concerned oil companies, Central Industrial Security Force, Local Police and Home Guards.
- (iii) Deployment of additional manpower at sensitive installations and locations.

#### **Construction of Stadium at Solapur**

2853. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3301 on March 16, 2000 regarding construction of a stadium at Solapur and state:

- (a) whether the construction work has been started;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its estimated cost;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be completed; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Tenders for work has been floated. Estimated cost of work is 45 lakhs.

(c) and (d) Due to resource crunch faced by Railways, it has not been possible to give a specific target for completion of the work. The work will be progressed as per availability of funds in coming years.

#### **Inland Water Transport Policy**

2854. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to formulate Inland Water Transport Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has already been forwarded.

(b) The policy envisages empowering Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) to raise Tax-free bonds to borrow from the market as provided for in other infrastructure sectors, enlarging the role of IWAI to enter into commercial/joint ventures to encourage investment in this sector subject to financial exposure of the Government being limited to equity participation, policy guidelines for private sector participation subject to the actual capital subsidy with a ceiling of 40% for BOT project being worked out on case-to-case basis, grant of 100% tax exemption to be given to investors for five years and 30% in the next five years to be availed of within a period of 20 years as in the case of national highways, the rate of depreciation for all vessels ordinarily operating on Inland Waterways to be fixed at 20% to bring them on a par with ocean going vessel, introduction of vessel building subsidy of 30% for inland water vessels built in Indian Shipyards and discontinuation of the present Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme and levying minimum customs duty on imported equipment and machinery for the development of Inland Waterways by Inland Waterways Authority of India.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Development and Capital Funds

2855. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL :  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development fund and capital fund in Indian Railways are adequate; and

(b) if not, the details of measures taken for mobilising the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The position under both these funds has been affected consequent upon the implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission. Railways are taking steps to both control expenditure and increase revenues. Measures have been taken to control expenditure by improving staff productivity, asset utilisation, inventory management, fuel consumption and by ensuring austerity in areas such as travel, publicity, hospitality etc. Concurrently earnings are expected to improve with increased economic activity coupled with aggressive marketing and improved services. Non-traditional sources of revenue such as leasing of railways' right of way for Optic Fibre Cable communication, commercial utilisation of railway land and air space, advertising rights at stations and on rolling stock etc. are also planned to be tapped. Besides, efforts are also being made to curb leakage of revenue and pilferages.

[English]

#### Duty Free Treatment of Indian Cotton Fabrics

2856. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the USA has lifted the suspension of duty free treatment for Indian cotton fabrics in a follow-up Memorandum of Understanding reached between the two countries in September 2000;

(b) if so, whether the lifting of this suspension has been beneficial to India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether agreements reached in this regard between the two countries have been implemented in full; and

(e) if so, the other steps being taken to increase export of Indian cotton fabrics to US?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Pursuant to the Understanding reached with US during consultations held in September 2000, India has notified the revised combined tariff bindings to WTO. On the other hand, US has lifted their reservations on the tariff binding notification and has extended GSP concession on 9 Indian handloom fabrics. The restoration of GSP benefit on these handloom fabric lines would increase the cost competitiveness of these items in US market.

(e) The Government has been taking several steps from time to time to increase textile exports including cotton fabrics exports to US market. Some of the important initiatives are as under:

- (i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUF) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and Upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade.
- (ii) The facility to import capital goods under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at 5% concessional rate of duty.
- (iii) Government has recently launched Technology Mission for Cotton. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to improve cotton processing facilities by upgrading/modernising the existing ginning and pressing factories.
- (iv) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.

- (v) To prepare and sensitise our textile and garment industry to conform to the ecological requirements of importing countries by providing facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories.
- (vi) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (vii) The New Exporters' Entitlement (Quota) Policies announced for the period 2000-2004 to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.
- (viii) The National Textile Policy 2000 has recently been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.

#### **Threat from Hizbul**

2857. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hizbul Mujahidin operating in Kashmir has threatened to shoot Indian Planes with auto aircraft missiles; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the action taken to counter such threats and also to check the activities of this militant group?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) There are reports available that certain terrorists operating in J&K have acquired a capability to target low flying aircraft.

Appropriate measures continue to be taken to thwart the designs of the militant groups.

#### **Volume of Traffic Handled by Major Ports**

2858. SHRI RAMSHETHH THAKUR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of aggregate volume of traffic handled by the major ports during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, till date;

(b) whether present infrastructure of ports are capable to handle the port traffic; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The details of aggregate volume of traffic handled by the Major Ports during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (upto February, 2001) is as follows:

(In million tonnes)	
1999-2000	271.92
2000-2001 (upto Feb., 2001)	256.85

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Special Action Plan for Pending Schemes**

2859. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any special action plan to complete the pending schemes in power sector for newly created States especially Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The Government is taking the following measures to complete the pending power sector schemes in the country including those located in the newly created State of Chhattisgarh:

1. Periodic review by Empowered Committee chaired by Secretary (Power) and also by various Task Forces which have been set up.
2. Ensure full funding of on-going hydro projects.
3. Extending loans for power projects under the Accelerated Generation Supply Programme (AG&SP) scheme of the Power Finance Corporation.
4. Resolving the 'last-mile' problems of private sector project through Crisis Resolution Group headed by the Ministry of Power.
5. Evolving an alternative payment security package in view of the low escrow ability of State Electricity Boards.
6. Augmenting fund for electrification of the remaining un-electrified villages.
7. Providing assistance for renovation & modernisation of old hydro/thermal plants and for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system to the reforming states under the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP).

*[English]***Trans Asian Railway Project**

2860. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Trans Asian Railway link project;

(b) the names of countries through which the proposed rail link is passing; and

(c) the efforts made by the Railways for globalisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Trans-Asian Railway (TAR) Project, conceived by the UN-ESCAP as a component of the Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development Project of ESCAP, is still at a conceptual stage. The TAR project as envisaged includes three rail-land bridges connecting Europe to China, South East Asia and South Asia. India is to form part of the Southern Corridor, which passes through Bulgaria, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, China/Thailand-Cambodia/Malaysia and Singapore.

A report highlighting the alignment and other bilateral issues concerning TAR was published by ESCAP in 1999.

Further action for taking Cabinet approval on the various issues involved is being taken by the Ministry of Commerce, which is the nodal ministry for this purpose.

**LPG Pipeline**

2861. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether world's longest LPG pipeline was commissioned on December 25, 2000;

(b) if so, the extent to which it will bring down the diesel prices;

(c) the States through which the pipeline likely to pass;

(d) whether any such new LPG pipelines are planned in the near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) A 1264 Km

long pipeline laid by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) for transportation of liquified petroleum gas (LPG) in bulk from Jamnagar in Gujarat to Loni in Uttar Pradesh has been commissioned on January 31, 2001.

(b) This pipeline has no bearing on the diesel prices.

(c) The pipeline passes through the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) GAIL proposes to set up a 600 Km long LPG pipeline from Visakhapatnam to Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh scheduled to be commissioned by September 2003 at an estimated cost of Rs. 492 crore.

**Assistance to DVB under Accelerated Power Development Programme**

2862. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Vidyut Board has sought assistance from the Union Government for installation of electronic meters;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government under the Accelerated Power Development Programme propose to provide assistance to DVB; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) DVB has submitted a proposal of Rs. 51.0 crores in February, 2001 for Replacement of Existing electro-mechanical Poly phase (11 KW - 16 KW) & LT CT operated meters (11 KW - 100 KW) with electronic meters for financial assistance under APDP.

The scheme has not yet been approved under the APDP as the same is not for identified distribution circles as provided in the guidelines dated 22.02.2001 from Ministry of Power.

The proposal, however, is being appraised in PFC for sanction of financial assistance under Gol's AG&SP (Accelerated Generation & Supply Programme) being implemented by PFC.

**Import of LPG and Kerosene**

2863. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are going in for the increase import of LPG and Kerosene; \* ,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Indain Oil Corporation Limited has floated a tender for buying Kerosene;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is shortage of Kerosene in the country particularly in the rural areas; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The LPG imports during 2001-02 are expected to be higher than the present level due to increase in domestic demand being more than the increase in domestic availability. Imports of kerosene next year are expected to be less than the present level.

(c) and (d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited has floated a tender for import of kerosene oil during March 2001.

(e) and (f) Government has not received any report this year on the shortage of kerosene oil in the country.

#### **Defence Pact with Indonesia**

2864. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed any defence pact with Indonesia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions laid down therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An Agreement has been signed between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and India on cooperative activities in the field of defence. This covers bilateral projects relating to defence equipment and product support and services as well as cooperation in the areas of defence science and technology, training, visits and exchange of personnel. A Joint Defence Cooperative Committee is being set up to implement the objectives set out under this Agreement.

*[Translation]*

#### **Earning from Optical Fibre Cable**

2865. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways had set a target to earn

Rs. 500 crores in the current financial year by laying and leasing optical fibre cable;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that only Rs. 50 crores was earned so far through optical fibre cable network;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to earn targeted amount from OFC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Indian Railways have formed a separate corporation called Rail Tel Corporation of India Ltd. (RCIL) for laying optical fibre cable and for earning revenues by commercially exploiting the telecom capacity. Since the Rail Tel Corporation of India Ltd. (RCIL) has been set up only during the current financial year and is not fully functional yet, no commercial earning is expected in the current financial year, 2000-2001. A consultant who was appointed to draw up a business plan for RCIL has since submitted the report and it is under examination by the Ministry of Railways for implementation.

*[English]*

#### **Development of CRYO Engine by H.A.L.**

2866. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether HAL has developed an indigenous CRYO Engine for ISRO's Geo-Stationary Launch Vehicle Project;

(b) if so, the time by which this Engine is likely to be ready for the test;

(c) the total amount spent on development of this engine so far;

(d) whether any technical know-how has been taken from any foreign country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and not Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is developing the Cryogenic upper stage including the CRYO Engine for application in the Geo-Stationary Launch Vehicle Project. HAL is participating only in fabrication of stage structures and propellant tanks which will be ready by July, 2001.

(c) The expenditure incurred on this project, till end March, 2000 is Rs. 250.07 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

### Japan's Collaboration in Hydro Power Projects

2867. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has shown any interest to develop upto 5000 MW of hydro power generation projects;

(b) if so, whether the Power Finance Corporation held talks with Japan on this subject;

(c) if so, the possible role of Japan in future hydro-electric power generation;

(d) whether any power plant will be set up on a turn-key basis using hydro-resources; and

(e) if so, the details of plans by Japan and PFC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (e) The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Japanese Study Group, constituted in July, 1996 by the Government of Japan, with the participation of several Japanese companies. The MoU is an expression of intent regarding potential partnership between PFC and the Study Group. The MoU, *inter-alia*, envisages establishing a financial & technical support scheme for Renovation, Modernisation and Uprating (RM&U) of Hydro-electric Power Plants which were supplied by Japanese Manufacturers and have been in operation over 20 years. The Study Group and PFC shall coordinate together and work to utilize as much financial assistance from Japan as feasible for the RM&U works of appropriate hydel projects.

MoU also provides that the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and the Japanese Study Group will coordinate with interested project implementing agencies and power utilities in developing new hydro-electric projects aggregating upto about 5000 MW. The Study Group will further coordinate with PFC in preparing Detailed Project Reports of appropriate individual hydro projects.

The selection of power projects and funding modalities are to be worked out in consultation with the concerned project authorities as per the guidelines.

### Stagnation in Sales of Petroleum Products

2868. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been no increase in the sale of petroleum products in the country during April-December, 2000 in comparison to the corresponding period of previous year;

(b) if so, the reasons for not achieving any growth;

(c) whether the Government has worked out any concrete steps to boost the sale of petroleum products in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The overall demand of petroleum products for the period April to December, 2000 recorded a growth rate of 2.8% as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

### Laying of Tracks for Sea Port Cargo Traffic

2869. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering to lay exclusive tracks for sea-port cargo traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether RITES has conducted any study for ascertaining financial viability of such projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any proposal is pending with Railways for clearance in this regard; and

(f) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) All major ports of the country are already well connected by rail. Efforts are being made by the Government to provide the connectivity to new ports being built to attract more traffic from hinterland to ports and *vice versa*. Some of the new Ports like the Port of Pipavav and the Mundra Port have shown interest in investing in Railway infrastructure.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. RITES have conducted the following three seaport related techno-economic feasibility studies:

- (1) Provision of a BG rails link between Bharuch and the port of Dahej by way of conversion of the existing rail route from NG to BG (Client: Gujarat Maritime Board)
- (2) Techno-Economic feasibility of Surendranagar - Rajula gauge conversion from MG to BG and a new line from Rajula to the port of Pipavav (Client: Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited)
- (3) Techno-Economic feasibility for gauge conversion from MG to BG between

Gandhidham and Palanpur (Client Ministry of Railways, Kandla Port Trust and Gujarat Adani Port Limited)

As the funding of the above projects involve several Parties, it is not possible to set a timeframe for clearance of the projects. However, two of these projects i.e. Gandhidham - Palanpur conversion and the Surendranagar - Pipavav project have already been cleared by the Government. Funding for the Surendranagar - Pipavav project through the SPV route has also been finalised and Cabinet's approval taken for this.

#### Expansion of Railway Network

2870. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to

expand Railway network to the mineral rich hinterland in the eastern region;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been drawn up thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Details of projects taken up for expansion of network in hinterland in eastern region, including their cost, expected outlay to the end of 2000-01, outlay proposed for 2001-02 and their present status is at Appendix. Target dates for completion, wherever fixed, have been indicated in the status of the projects. Action taken on each project is also mentioned in the statement below:

#### Statement

S.No.	Name of Project	Rly.	Latest Anticipated Cost	Outlay expected to end of 2000-01	Outlay Proposed for 2001-02	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			(Rupees in Crores)			
1.	Giridih-Koderma (Phase-I)	ER	145.00	0.13	6.00	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition is in progress. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
2.	Koderma-Ranchi	ER	491.20	0.10	20.00	Final Location Survey has been completed up to Hazaribagh (63.5 km). Papers for Land acquisition have been submitted for 37.5 km Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
3.	Koraput-Rayagada	SER	485.00	483.00	1.00	The work has been completed and commissioned. Tunnel ventilation work is in progress in the 2 long tuneels.
4.	Talcher-Sambalpur	SER	464.38	450.06	1.00	The project has been completed and commissioned.
5.	Daltari-Banspani	SER	585.12	251.27	50.00	The Line from Banspani to Joruri (11 km) has been completed on 20-10-2000 and opened for Goods traffic. Land is available on the whole section except from km 140-142.2 and km 147-147.47. Earthwork and bridges are in progress from km 0 to 147 from Banspani end. In this stretch about 109.5 km of the formation is ready in patches. 207 out of 361 minor bridges have been completed and work on

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						24 major bridges have been taken up. For remaining 2 major bridges tenders have been invited. 1.48 lakhs cum of ballast out of 1.81 lac cum required from km 0 to 58 has so far been collected. Tenders have now been invited for balance length from km 58-123. The line is targeted for completion by Dec.'2003 subject to availability of resources.
6.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	SER	301.64	14.54	20.00	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans and papers have been finalised and are with the State Govt. Land has been acquired for 10 km of alignment from Haridaspur end. An amount of Rs. 5 crs. has been paid to the State Govt for land acquisition. Work would be started as soon as land becomes available.
7.	Angul-Sukinda Road	SER	245.58	1.18	23.00	Final Location Survey has been completed. Report is under finalisation. Soil exploration for all 17 major bridges has been completed. The Railway has been advised to check up the detailed position of the Steel plants proposed to be served by this line.

### Oil Refinery at Paradeep

2871. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa is unwilling to provide sales tax moratorium for 7 years to oil refinery at Paradeep in Orissa;

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

(c) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited is thinking of shifting the project to some other States; and

(d) if so, the details with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Government of Orissa had in December, 1998/August, 1999 approved exemption/determent of sale tax on sale of products from the proposed Refinery at Paradeep in Orissa for a period of 11 years. Govt. of Orissa later in February, 2000 restricted sales tax incentive to only those industrial units which will start commercial production before 1.1.2002. Since Paradeep refinery's

completion is scheduled in 2003, for competitiveness and viability of the project Government of Orissa has been requested to provide sales tax incentive to the proposed Paradeep refinery.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Compulsory Jute Packaging

2872. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 20% relaxation has been permitted in case of shortage of jute bags for packaging;

(b) whether the Government have decided that parameters in respect to price, quality, origin etc., to decide when to use the said relaxation and determine shortages; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 provides for the compulsory use of jute packaging materials in the supply and

distribution of certain commodities in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material and of persons engaged in the production thereof and the matters connected therewith.

The Sub section (1) of Section (3) of the aforesaid JPM Act 1987 also empowers the Central Government to specify the percentage of packaging of commodities which are required to be packed in jute packaging material.

While issuing the Notification dated 25.10.2000 for specifying the percentage of commodities required to be packed in jute packaging material, it was *inter-alia* specified that in case of any disruption in supply of Jute packaging material, Ministry of Textiles, may in consultation with the user Ministries concerned, relax these provisions upto a maximum of 20% for Foodgrains & sugar.

#### **Modernisation of Electronics and Mechanical Core in Defence**

2873. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the need for upgrading the technology in Electronics and Mechanical Engineers Core; and

(b) if so, the measures initiated to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

#### **Statement**

With the induction of State of art weapon systems and equipment in the Indian Army there is a need to upgrade the facilities and human resources in the Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers. In consonance with the same, modernization of Electronics and Mechanical Engineering Workshops has been undertaken in a phased manner and a sum of Rs. 57 crore has been earmarked in the 9th plan for this purpose. During the 10th plan, an amount of Rs. 85 crore, has been proposed for this purpose. As regards human resources development, all officers and other Ranks of this Corps are being trained on new equipment either through in-house training institutions or abroad in case of imported equipment.

#### **Sanitation and Hygienic Condition in Trains**

2874. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the TTE is also assigned the duty to

check the sanitation/hygienic condition in compartments;

(b) if so, the action the Government takes against TTEs and TS for not maintaining hygienic condition in the trains;

(c) the sanitation and hygienic standards/norms fixed for the trains;

(d) whether this standards are being maintained by the railways;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Travelling Ticket Examiners check the sanitary/hygienic conditions only in trains on run and bring the same to the notice of the concerned maintenance staff. The main responsibility of checking the sanitary conditions on trains is, however, of the Coaching Depots. Travelling Ticket Examiners and Train Superintendents are not directly responsible for maintaining hygienic conditions.

(c) The norms for sanitation and cleanliness of coaches are as under :

(i) Complete washing and cleaning of all trains at the end of each trip except selected short distance trains which return from one end with dry sweeping and toilet cleaning.

(ii) Monthly intensive cleaning and pest control treatment of each coach.

(iii) Enroute cleaning of toilets at nominated stations by using High Pressure Jet cleaning machines.

(d) These norms are fulfilled and the quality of attention is closely supervised.

(e) and (f) The main constraints in achieving very high level of sanitary condition on trains are overcrowding, intensive use of coaches and inadequate sense of public hygiene in both users and sanitation personnel. Railways are constantly striving to achieve better levels of cleanliness despite these constraints through introduction of high pressure jet cleaning machines, use of better cleaning agents and implements, use of specialised agencies for work like pest control, etc. Drives are also launched from time to time to improve the public hygiene consciousness of passengers and railway personnel.

#### **Delay in Project Implementation**

2875. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to failure of the Regional Director,

Light Houses and Lightships to obtain lawful ownership of land has resulted delay in the implementation of a project involving Rs. 24.53 lakhs;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action taken in the matter; and
- (d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) It appears that this question relates to Puri Lighthouse. The project has been delayed in implementation due to delay to obtain the ownership of land from Puri Administration and not due to failure on the part of the Regional Director, Lighthouses & Lightships. The possession of the land could not be taken in time due to dispute between Puri Administration and Puri Municipality about ownership of the land.

(c) The possession of the land has been taken and the construction work is in progress.

(d) The project is likely to be completed by 31st March, 2002.

#### **Computer Wing at Government Press, Chennai**

2876. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ASI has installed a separate computer wing at the Government Press, Chennai, to speed up the process of publishing the South Indian Inscription Volumes;

(b) if so, the number and details of S.I.I. volumes published during the last three years, so far, year-wise;

(c) whether any publication officer was posted to look after the publication work;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the ASI in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The Government of India has made arrangements for the printing of South Indian Inscription volumes in the State Government Press, Chennai.

(b) One volume of South Indian Inscriptions (SII) vol. XXII, pt. III (1999) has been Printed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no administrative requirement for such an arrangement.

#### **Pipeline Project between Bangalore and Mangalore**

2877. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gram Panchayats in Belthagady Taluk in Dakshin Kannada have opposed the pipeline project of HPCL;

(b) whether this pipeline is likely to be laid between Bangalore and Mangalore to carry petroleum products;

(c) If so, the main points of objection by Panchayats;

(d) whether the State Government has been helpful in removing the apprehensions of the Gram Panchayats; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) A pipeline is being laid from Mangalore to Bangalore via Hassan for transportation of petroleum products.

Nerriya Gram Panchayat in Belthaganady Taluk has asked for stopping all construction activities related to mainline pipe laying work in their jurisdiction, stating that for the pipeline laying work, no permission has been sought from the Gram Panchayat.

(d) Government of Karnataka has issued an order on 23.01.1999 stating that no permission from Gram Panchayats is required to lay a petroleum pipeline. However, a Public Interest Litigation has been filed in the High Court of Karnataka challenging this order.

(e) The project is targetted to be mechanically completed by February, 2002.

#### **Development of Rail Infrastructure Abroad**

2878. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways have any proposal to develop rail infrastructure abroad;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the IRCON and RITES have undertaken any project abroad;

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

(e) the revenue likely to be earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF  
RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) A statement is attached.

**Statement**

(d) and (e) The details of projects, under execution by IRCON International Ltd. and RITES Ltd. abroad, are given below:

(Value in Million US\$)

S.No.	Country	Name of Project	Cost of project
1	2	3	4

**(I) IRCON International Ltd.**

1.	Bangladesh	Sylhet-Tambli-Jaflong Road Improvement Project (Contract No. 1)	8.37
2.	Bangladesh	Bangabandhu (Jamuna) Bridge Railway Link Project Contract No. 2	54.00
3.	Malaysia	Installation of Track and associated ancillary supply of Track Materials including testing, Commissioning and Maintenance for the proposed Kuala Lumpur Central Station and Related Infrastructure works	3.34
4.	Malaysia	Supply of locomotives on Hire and Maintenance basis to KTMB (Malaysian Railway)	Varies on month to month basis.
5.	Malaysia	Rail Link to Port of Tanjung Pelepas	121
6.	Iran	Signalling project for Ministry of Roads & Transport, Islamic Republic of Iran	25
7.	Syria	Design and Supply of 5 No. 66/20 KV and 66/6.3 KV Conventional outdoor Sub-stations.	9.01

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

**(II) RITES Ltd.**

1.	Bangladesh	Construction supervision of Shrikarpura Doarika Bridge and approaches - Lead Consultant - Roughton International	US\$ 0.200 M
2.	Bangladesh	Maintenance of locomotives	Rs. 1800.00 lakh
3.	Bangladesh	Conversion of non-AC coaches to AC coaches	Rs. 250.00 lakh
4.	Bangladesh	Supply of 10 BG locos including provision of 2 experts and trainees etc.	Rs.8677.31 lakh
5.	CFM Mozambique	Professional services of Financial Expert	US\$ 0.170 M
6.	Botswana Railways	Professional services of Management Accountant	US\$ 0.256 M
7.	Bhutan	Preparation of DPR and tender documents and construction supervision of 3 bridges in Bhutan	Rs. 80.00 lakh
8.	Bhutan	Design of expressway between Thimphu and Babesa	Rs. 23.50 lakh
9.	Nepal	Preparation of feasibility report and detailed project report of Tanakpur to Mahendra Rajmarg	Rs. 38.00 lakh
10.	Nepal	Construction Supervision of 3 inland container terminal at Birgnj, Biratnagar and Bhairahwa	Rs. 348.00 lakh
11.	Nepal	Feasibility study for construction by road transport for multi-purpose project	Rs. 35.00 lakh
12.	Malaysia	Positioning of Track Design specialists	US\$ 0.115 M
13.	Malaysia	Deployment of 2 bridge experts	US\$ 0.099 M
14.	Malaysia	Positioning of MOSS/Mxrail expert with Ranhill	US\$ 0.087 M
15.	Malaysia	Positioning of Track Engineer with Minconsult	US\$ 0.069 M

1	2	3	4
16. Malaysia	Management & Maintenance of KTMB passenger coach and wagon		Rs. 42.58 lakh
17. Malaysia	Consultancy services for rolling stock maintenance services for KTMB		Rs. 14.62 lakh
18. UK	West Coast Main Line U.K. OLE design support - WSA - BB Design Joint Venture, Rugby, Warwickshire, England		US\$ 0.873 M
19. U.K.	Deputation of signalling experts for signalling design and drawing work		Varies on month to month basis.
20. U.K.	Deputation of IT Experts as a part of collaboration between RITES and SIEMENS for their NSS Data Extraction project		US\$ 0.018 M
21. Mauritius	Study on enlargement and clearance of passes around Mauritius study on Hydrodynamic of Seas around Mauritius		Rs. 492.00 lakh
22. Colombia	Technical assistance for workshop management and maintenance and rehabilitation of rolling stock - Atlantic Network of Colombia		US\$ 0.648 M
23. Iran	Engineering supervisory services for Karadj workshop		US\$ 0.456 M
24. Ghana	Secondment of expert to M/s. Conterra of Ghana for supervision of sea wall construction		US\$ 0.158 M
25. Tanzania	Maintenance of locomotives		Rs. 1800.00 lakh
26. Sri Lanka	Upgradation of maintenance practices and facilities in electric loco shed		Rs. 54.00 lakh
27. Sri Lanka	Supply of M8 class locomotive spares		Rs. 448.32 lakh
28. Sri Lanka	Supply of 2BG locos		Rs. 1339.80 lakh
29. Sri Lanka	Supply of M&P for ELS		Rs. 514.62 lakh

1	2	3	4
30. Sri Lanka	Rehabilitation of three bridges		Rs. 791.70 lakh
31. Sri Lanka	Supply of coach spares		Rs. 0.16 lakh
32. Sri Lanka	Supply of loco spares		Rs. 98.04 lakh
33. Sri Lanka	Supply of 2 Nos. BG locos		Rs. 1170.00 lakh
34. Vietnam	Supply of 72 units MG 1000 MW coach bogies with wheel sets		Rs. 388.08 lakh
35. Vietnam	Supply of 700 units double automatic brake slack adjuster		Rs. 49.55 lakh
36. Vietnam	Supply of 500 units hydraulic shock absorber for coach bogies		Rs. 22.00 lakh
37. Myanmar	Supply of 10 MG in service locos warranty parts, assemblies and spare parts		Rs. 2085.50 lakh
38. Myanmar	Supply of 30 sets of HF (SSB), 20 sets of warranty of VHF wireless and radio receivers complete with antenna and warranty		Rs. 91.85 lakh
39. Myanmar	Techno-economic feasibility study for highway along river Kaladan from Indo Myanmar border to Siwa Port		Rs. 76.40 lakh

Note: The cost indicated is in rupees or US dollar based on the contract awarded in Indian Rupee or US dollar.

#### Equity of Rural Electrification Corporation

2879. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reverse its decision on buyback of 17 lakh equity shares of Rural Electrification Corporation;

(b) whether the Group of Ministers headed by Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission has considered this proposal mooted by the present Power Minister;

(c) if so, the views expressed by the Group of Ministers in this regard; and

(d) the main reasons for reversing this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its

meeting held on 23.3.2000 constituted a Group of Ministers (GOM) under the Chairmanship of Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission to review the existing schemes relating to electrification of tribal villages, dalit bastis and benefiting other weaker sections and suggest modifications for accelerating the pace of electrification. Besides, CCEA in its meeting on 13th May, 2000 had also directed that the proposal relating to buy back of shares of Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) should also be considered by GOM along with the general review of future role and manner of operation of Rural Electrification Corporation and its sources of funding.

(c) and (d) Two meetings of the GOM were held on 8th January and 9th February, 2001. The recommendations of the Group of Ministers are yet to be finalized.

[Translation]

#### Programme of On-Going Power Projects

2880. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending projects, project-wise/ State-wise till date;

(b) the details of progress of on-going power projects in Maharashtra;

(c) the number of proposals pending for approval with the Union Government for starting new projects in Maharashtra;

(d) whether the foreign investors/private power producers have shown any interest for setting up of power generation especially in tribal and downtrodden areas during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Project-wise detail of the various projects in Private and Public Sector which are under consideration in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) as on 28.2.2001 is enclosed as statement enclosed.

(b) The details of on-going Hydro and Thermal Projects in Maharashtra are given as under:

Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Status
1	2	3
Khaperkheda Extn. St.II U-3&4	2x210	Unit-3 was synchronized on 31.5.2000 Unit-4 has been synchronized on 7.1.2001

1	2	3
Dabhol CCGT Ph.II	1444	Combustion Turbo Generator (CTG) - 2A&2B were synchronized on 21.1.2001 and 11.2.2001, respectively. Erection of both CTG 3A & 3B commenced in 5/2000. Oil flushing of CTG 3A & 3B were completed on 17.11.2000 and February 2001, respectively. St Unit: Hydraulic test of HRSG 2A, 2B, 3A & 3B were completed in 9/2000, 10/2000, 12/2000 and 1/2001; respectively.  Steam blowing of HRSG-2A was completed on 29.1.2001.  TG erection for ST unit B&C were commenced in 4/2000 and 6/2000, respectively.
Parli TPS Extn. St.I	250	The investment approval has been accorded by Planning Commission on 9.2.2001.
Ghatghar TPS	2x125	All major civil works except of dam have been awarded and are in progress. TG sets ordered and model test on pump-turbine conducted.
Bhivpur PSS	90	Project to be executed by Tatas involves utilisation of waters of Krishna river which is governed by Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal award. Dispute among Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka not yet resolved and works not yet started.

(c) As on 28.2.2001, no Detailed Project Report (DPR) in Maharashtra is pending in CEA for accord of TEC.

(d) and (e) The response to the private power policy initiated by the Government has been positive and at present 57 projects of around 29500 MW capacity (including those being set up by foreign companies) have been accorded Techno-economic Clearance (TEC) by Central Electricity Authority (CEA). As on June, 2000, the total foreign investment made by Independent Power Producers (IPPs) has been of the order of Rs. 13585 crores.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of the Project/State	Capacity (MW)
1.	Dhamwari Sunda HEP (H.P.)	2x35
2.	Jawaharpur TPP (U.P.)	2x400
3.	Rajgarh CCPP (M.P.)	343.48
4.	Jhabua CCGT (M.P.)	360
5.	Hassan CCPP (Karnataka)	189
6.	Nanjangud CCPP (Karnataka)	96.7
7.	Telgi (Bijapur) TPP (Karnataka)	350
8.	Konaseema CCPP (A.P.)	445
9.	Mean Shivpur Konnur LNG based CCPP (Karnataka)	483
10.	Torangallu TPP (Karnataka)	2x250
11.	UHL HEP St. III (H.P.)	2x50
12.	Matnar HEP (M.P.)	3x20
13.	Kolodyne HEP St. (Mizoram)	120
14.	Tipaimukh Multipurpose (Manipur)	1500
15.	Suratgarh TPP St. II (Rajasthan)	250
16.	Dhuvaran Gas PP (Gujarat)	107.238
17.	Sanjay Gandhi TPS Extn. (M.P.)	500
18.	Kahalgaoon STPP St.II (Bihar)	2x660
19.	Barh STPP (Bihar)	3x660
20.	Mejia TPS Extn. (Bihar)	210

*[English]*

**Purchase Order to DRDO from  
Polish Defence Industry**

2881. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electronic and Radar Development Establishment (ERDE), DRDO Lab has bagged an order from Polish Defence Industry for slatted array Antenna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount likely to be earned by fulfilling the said order;

(d) the schedule time for completion of the order;

(e) whether the Government are expecting such order from other countries;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the total cost of defence equipment in US\$ supplied by Indian Government to foreign countries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) An MoU has been signed on 28th February, 2000 between Director, ERDE and Director, M/s. Przemys Owy Instytut Telekomunikacji, Telecommunication Research Institute, Warszawa, Poland for supply of Slotted Waveguide Antenna.

(c) The total amount likely to be earned is US\$ 55,000.

(d) The scheduled time for completion is 12 months.

(e) and (f) The same Polish company has indicated the requirement of 2 more Nos. of similar Antennas.

(g) The total cost of exports in last three years is about US\$ 8.70 crore.

**Modernisation of Hydro Power Projects**

2882. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation entered into an agreement with Japan for modernisation of hydro-power projects;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement;

(c) the hydro-power projects selected for study; and

(d) the details of funding pattern for this cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Japanese Study Group, constituted in July, 1996 by the Government of Japan with the participation of several Japanese companies. The MoU is statement of intent regarding potential partnership between PFC and the Study Group. The MoU, *inter-alia*, envisages for establishing a financial & technical support scheme for Renovation, Modernisation and Upgrading (RM&U) of Hydro-electric Power Plants which were supplied by Japanese Manufacturers and have been in operation over 20 years. The Study Group and PFC shall coordinate together and work to utilize as much financial assistance from Japan as feasible for the RM&U works of appropriate hydel projects. Selection of power projects and funding modalities are to be worked out in consultation with the concerned project authorities as per the guidelines.

### Setting up of Committee for Cost of Power

2883. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PAṬIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Committee to examine the factors affecting the cost of power to the consumer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main features of the report; and

(e) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (e) The Government has set up an Inter Disciplinary Group under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary Power in the context of the need to reduce the cost of delivered power to the end users and bring transparency in the bidding process of power projects. The Inter-disciplinary Group has deliberated upon and consulted experts on various issues and is likely to submit its report shortly.

### Development of Two-Seater Aircraft

2884. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to develop a two-seater fighter aircraft;

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

(c) the time by which the work on developing the same is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has accorded an interim sanction in February, 2000 for developing a two-seater type trainer variant of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA). It is a single engine, supersonic, light weight, all weather, multi-role aircraft with advanced avionics and a quadruplex digital flight control system.

### N.C.A.E.R. Report on Jute Growers

2885. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether N.C.A.E.R in its study has estimated that the number of jute growers is four million;

(b) if so, the source of estimate of correct figure;

(c) whether the N.C.A.E.R in its report of 1994 had also concluded that "Jute Grower in fact seems to be

losing by growing jute" due to exploitation by middlemen and mill owners; and

(d) if so, the action the Government is taking to protect the interests of jute farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Council of Applied Economic Research (N.C.E.A.R), New Delhi issued a report in April 1994 titled "Economic implications of Jute retting Practices on its quality and price" which has also stated *inter-alia* that jute provides sustenance to some 4 million farm families inhabiting the eastern region. Their study was based on field survey and collection of data from field units.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, in order to protect the interest of jute growers, Jute Corporation of India (JCI) with the help of State Cooperatives has been doing Minimum Support Price (MSP) Operations. Efforts are made by JCI to involve more and more State level Cooperatives in jute growing areas for conducting MSP Operations.

### World Bank Loan to MRVC

2886. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the list of items to be finalized for World Bank loan, their detailed specification and procurement schedule has been finalized in regard to MRVC;

(b) whether the World Bank raised no objection certificate from the Government;

(c) if so, whether any discussion has been held in this regard and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that World Bank team visited MRVC in the second week of February for no objections raised by the bank;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the difference between the Ministry of Finance and her Ministry has been sorted out; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) At present only detailed specifications and bid documents for procurement of rolling stock and equipment proposed to be funded by the World Bank loan are being finalised, as per World Bank guidelines and based on Indian Railways' requirements.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The on-lending arrangement of World Bank loan between Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Railways is at present under discussion.

### **Plight of Indian Fishermen**

2887. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :  
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to provide safety to the Indian fishermen;

(b) whether a large number of Indian fishermen were caught in the high seas by the patrolling authorities of the neighbouring countries, particularly Sri Lanka and Pakistan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and the number of Indian fishermen killed and arrested by the Sri Lankan and Pakistan authorities separately during each of the last three years;

(d) the number of persons released during the said period and the number of persons still detained in Sri Lankan and Pakistani jails; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to get them released?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Navy and the Coast Guard maintain regular surveillance in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and along the International Boundary Line. Assistance is provided to the Indian fishermen observed to be in danger.

(b) to (d) The details based on the available information are contained in the statement below.

(e) The Government of India keeps regular contact with the Governments of Sri Lanka and Pakistan through diplomatic channels for securing the release and repatriation of Indian fishermen.

#### **Statement**

(1) Details of Indian fishermen arrested by Pakistan and Sri Lanka authorities during the last three years:

	1998	1999	2000
Pakistan	187	159	44*
Sri Lanka	55	26	25

\* Of these, the Government of Pakistan have confirmed detention of only 29.

(2) Details of Indian fishermen who died due to alleged firing in the last three years:

	1998	1999	2000
Sri Lanka	07	02	05

No Indian fisherman is known to have been killed by Pakistan Maritime Safety Agency.

(3) Details of Indian fishermen released by Pakistan and Sri Lankan authorities during the last three years:

	1998	1999	2000
Pakistan	195	122	22
Sri Lanka	55	26	25**

\*\* One fisherman died while in detention.

As per records, at present there are 130 Indian fishermen in Pakistan custody. Of these, the detention of 15 is yet to be confirmed by Pakistan authorities. At present, there is no fisherman in the custody of the Sri Lankan Government.

### **Allocation of Naphtha to IPPs**

2888. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Naphtha allocated to the Independent Power Producers (IPPs) in various State Governments, particularly in Karnataka during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from the State Governments particularly from Karnataka regarding allocation of sufficient quantity of Naphtha to IPPs.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) The following Independent Power Producers (IPPs) in different States including Karnataka were given allocation of naphtha during the period from 1.4.1999 to 31.3.2001:

S. No.	Name of the Project/Project developer	Capacity (MW)	Date of Allocation of naphtha
1	2	3	4

#### **Andhra Pradesh**

1.	Jegurupadu CCGT Phase-II, GVK Industries	360	6.8.1999
----	--	-----	----------

1	2	3	4
2.	Godavari CCGT, M/s Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.	208	28.4.1999 (enhanced allocation)
<b>Gujarat</b>			
3.	Pipavav CCGP, KRIBHCO	615	15.7.1999
4.	MITO, Core Parental Healthcare (captive plant). Phase-II	84.2	26.6.2000
5.	Indian Petrochemical Corporation Ltd. (IPCL) Phase-II	80	5.12.2000
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
6.	Trichy Power Limited (Thuvakudy)	102.66	18.8.1999
<b>West Bengal</b>			
7.	Captive/Cogeneration power plant of M/s. Haldia Petrochemicals	75	1.2.2000
<b>Rajasthan</b>			
8.	Indo Cal Power Ventures (Pvt.) Ltd.	166	22.6.2000 (enhanced allocation)
9.	Chambal Power Ltd.	166	7.7.2000 (enhanced allocation)
10.	Peeraj International	166	22.6.2000 (enhanced allocation)

(b) to (d) Due to the high cost of naphtha in the international markets, it is no longer considered a viable fuel for generation of electricity and most of the State Governments do not seem to be interested to pursue naphtha based projects any longer. No request has been received in the recent past from the Government of Karnataka for any additional allocation of naphtha to IPPs.

#### ISI Activities

2889. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ISI activities in Kargil sector are reported to have been increasing;

(b) whether he has also reportedly said that there is no decrease in ISI activities since Kargil operations;

(c) whether the Government are aware of ISI activities in Nepal;

(d) whether ISI agents have also infiltrated into Indian defence set-up; and

(e) if so, the details of the concrete action plan chalked out to curb the ISI activities in the country and elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) No concrete inputs are available that may suggest enhanced ISI activities in the Kargil sector. Reports are, however, available about the activities of certain over ground workers and supporters of ISI in the area.

No instances of ISI agents infiltrating the defence set up have come to notice. Government are aware of certain anti-India activities of ISI operatives from across the border. Appropriate action continues to be taken to monitor and curb the activities of such organisations.

[Translation]

#### Textile Industry in Maharashtra

2890. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the place of Maharashtra in Textile Industry in the country;

(b) the present number of units engaged in production of handloom, powerloom, synthetic yarn, readymade garments and hosiery in Maharashtra, location-wise;

(c) the total amount spent by the Government on development of textile industry in Maharashtra during the last these years, so far, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken on proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the export of the garments produced by these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Maharashtra occupies an important place in the textile industry in the country. As per information available there were 36104 looms in Maharashtra as on 31.3.2000. The number of spinning mills was 128 and those of composite mills 77. The number of spindles on that date was 5143.

The number of handlooms in Maharashtra as per 1987-88 census of handlooms is 68000 and the number of powerlooms registered in 1999-2000 is 692603. The

information regarding the number of readymade garment units as well as hoslery units is not maintained. Production figures for all yarn during the year 1999-2000 in Maharashtra was 362529 thousand kgs.

(c) Textile Units being basically in the private sector, Government does not give direct assistance to them. However, for the development of the handloom sector during the last three years, the following amounts have been released under various schemes:

(Rupees in lakhs)		
1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
265.41	303.92	91.77

(d) The following are some of the main initiatives taken by the Government to promote export of textiles and clothing in the country, including Maharashtra.

- The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI Sector.
- Government has imposed a combination of ad-valorem and specific duty on 'whichever is higher basis' on import of a number of textile items to safeguard the interest of domestic industry.
- In case any unfair trade practices come to the notice, action, if necessary, under anti-dumping, countervailing measures etc. of the WTO could be taken.
- The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate modernisation and technology upgradation so that the industry can become more competitive in international trade.
- National Institute of Fashion Technology, its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- Weavers Service Centres and Powerloom Service Centres are being equipped with computer aided design facilities to improve design, colour matching and product development.
- The new Textile Policy has recently been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.

[English]

### Upgraded MIG from Russia

2891. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Russia had decided to supply two upgraded MIG-21 aircraft to India by mid-January, 2001 but these fighter aircraft are still being modernised in Russia;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay;

(c) whether the Indian Air Force remaining 123 MIG aircraft are proposed to be modernised at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in Nasik, Maharashtra, with Russian technical assistance; and

(d) if so, the time by which all the upgraded MIG are likely to be supplied to India by Russia?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The two upgraded MIG-21 Bis aircraft have, already, been received in India, in December, 2000.

(c) and (d) The remaining 123 Mig-21 Bis aircraft are to be upgraded at HAL, Nasik with some technical assistance from the Russian specialists. The task of upgrading the aircraft is expected to be completed in the Financial year, 2004-2005.

### Electoral Reforms

2892. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken/propose to take fresh initiatives in consultation with political parties on contentious issues relating to electoral reforms;

(b) if so, the details of agenda discussed in the meetings and decisions arrived at; and

(c) the present status of electoral reforms?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) The Government is continuously exploring ways and means of bringing about reforms in electoral laws. In this connection, it may be stated that the Government has before it the recommendations made by different bodies/individuals like the Dinesh Goswami Committee, the Indrajit Gupta Committee, the Election Commission of India, the Law Commission of India, etc. and various proposals based on their recommendations are required to be discussed with the political parties at an appropriate time and concretized. In this connection, the Government has also

held a meeting with political parties on 13.5.2000 on the subject of fresh delimitation of electoral constituencies, in view of the fact that the existing constitutional embargo in this regard is going to expire with the publication of the figures of the current decennial population census, and certain other allied issues. Based on the consensus arrived at among the political parties in that meeting, the Government has introduced the Constitution (Ninety-first Amendment) Bill, 2000 in the Lok Sabha on 27.11.2000 seeking to extend the constitutional embargo on undertaking readjustment of electoral constituencies up to the year 2026 as also rationalization of the constituencies, including those reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, based on the population census for the year 1991, without altering the number of seats allocated to States in the legislative bodies. The process of reform of electoral laws is, however, a continuous and ongoing process and can be carried out only through consensus among political parties, which is a time consuming process and, therefore, no time frame can be suggested in this regard. The Government, however, intends to continue interaction with the political parties on various proposals to carry forward the process of electoral reforms.

#### **Closure of Cases**

2893. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 3782 on August 17, 2000 and to state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Presently information is 'NIL' and further steps are being taken to collect the same. Since the information is to be collected from all the State Governments and Union Territories, it is likely to take some more time.

#### **LPG through Pipeline in Chandigarh**

2894. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had initiated any steps for laying a pipeline to Chandigarh for direct supply of LPG to the Union Territory; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter, reasons for delay and the time by which the scheme is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies do not have any plan for laying a pipeline for transportation of LPG to Chandigarh.

[Translation]

#### **Share of Rajasthan in Hydel Power Projects with Punjab**

2895. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :  
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the share of Rajasthan in the hydel power projects undertaken with Punjab;

(b) whether the Government of Punjab has allocated electricity to Rajasthan in proportion with its share; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The Central Government is committed to an amicable settlement amongst the concerned States with regard to Inter-State aspects referred to in the Agreement dated 10.05.1984 drawn amongst the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and the Central Government relating to the claims of Haryana and Rajasthan for a share of power generated in the Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project, Mukerian Hydel Project, Thein Dam Project, UBDC Stage-II and Shahpur Kandi Hydel Scheme.

Accordingly, Ministry of Power have approached the concerned State Governments for indicating their convenience for holding a separate conference of the Chief Ministers as per the resolution of Northern Zonal Council adopted at its meetings held at Srinagar in 1997 and at Surajkund (Haryana) in February, 1999.

[English]

#### **Cargo Transactions**

2896. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether technical defect of Sore crane is the cause of delay in cargo transactions and holding up of ships at Paradeep;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to study the cause of huge loss due to these technical defects;

(d) whether any enquiry has been made for the disfunction of Sore cranes thereby immobilising port activities;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the expenditure incurred on repairing the Sore cranes during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The expenditure incurred on repairing the Shore cranes during the last two years are as under:

1998-99	Rs. 21,74,460/-
1999-2000	Rs. 3,11,389/-

#### Demand of Naphtha

2897. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of Naphtha for the power plants is increasing in the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Vote Bank Politics in Elections

2898. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the impact of various factors like caste-based vote bank politics for free and fair elections and the democratic system; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken to get rid of such parochial influences for holding free and fair elections?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Every right thinking Indian citizen

would be concerned with the influence of the caste factors on the voting pattern and free and fair elections to the Houses of Parliament or State Legislatures. However, much would depend on the candidates set up by the political parties themselves. The role of caste factors could be minimized if each political party decides its candidates for the elections without taking into consideration such factors. However, this is a matter which can be best regulated by the political parties rather than by law or through Government intervention.

As far as provisions of the law are concerned, section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 disqualifies a person for being chosen and for being a member of either House of Parliament or of the State Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State if he has been convicted, *inter alia*, for an offence attracting section 153A of the Indian Penal Code, which punishes an act prejudicial to maintenance of harmony or promotes enmity between different groups on such grounds as race.

#### Public Auction of Petrol Pumps

2899. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court had given directions in the past to allot petrol pumps and LPG agencies and other petroleum outlets through public auction only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether agencies of petrol pumps and LPG are still allotted by the Selection Boards; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not following the directives of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has not given any direction for allotment of retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps), LPG distributorships and SKO-LDO dealerships through public auction only. However, while disposing of the writ petition (C) No. 26/95 filed by Common Cause, a registered society challenging discretionary allotments, cancelled through its order dated 25.9.96, allotments of some retail outlets involved and directed that each of the commissioned outlets shall be disposed off by way of public auction.

As per the existing policy, in order to make selection of dealers/distributors of petroleum products, the Government have constituted 59 new Dealer Selection Boards (DSBs) all over the country.

**Posting of SCs/STs Abroad**

2900. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding posting of persons from SC/ST category in foreign assignments under UNO/its affiliated organizations;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of persons from the Ministry of Railways and affiliated organizations deputed to UNO and its affiliated organizations/other international organizations to the above assignments as on January 1, 1996 in different grades;

(d) the number of persons belonging to the SCs and STs among them; and

(e) the reasons in case no satisfactory action has been taken on the above demand of SCs/STs and Parliamentarians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Three; one each is Senior Administrative Grade, Selection Grade and Junior Administrative Grade.

(d) Nil.

(e) Does not arise.

**Storage of Safety Equipments**

2901. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it took seven long years in obtaining sanction of work services required for storage of safety equipments by the Air Force;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into and the steps taken to cut short such delays; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) In March 1987, it was proposed to construct "Safety Equipment Storage" at Air Force Station, Awantipur. But due to other operational priorities, the proposal was kept pending and the same was sanctioned in November, 1998. It has been planned to complete the work by September, 2001.

(b) and (c) As the proposal was kept pending in view of higher prioritisation of other important operational works, there was no violation of any instructions. As such there was no need of any enquiry into the matter.

**Acquisition of used Aircraft**

2902. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air Force was to get 8 SU-30K aircraft during 1997 from the manufacturers alongwith the associated equipments;

(b) if so, whether the Air Force got delivery of items which were old used and unserviceable thus violating the terms of agreement;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to ask the manufacturer to refund the payments made in advance or replace the items supplied; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Air Force got delivery of 8 SU-30K aircraft, along with associated equipment, during 1997. Out of all the equipment, supplied by the manufacturer, only two Air Field Air Conditioner Vehicles were found to be old and corroded.

(c) and (d) The payment on account of the said items has been withheld for getting the items replaced.

**Purchase Orders for SU-30K**

2903. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electronic warfare system of SU-30K aircraft are unsuitable to Indian environment and the radar performance is below expectations and yet the Air Force has placed orders for the purchase of SU-30K aircraft; and

(b) if so, the logic behind purchasing such aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The performance of Electronic Warfare Systems as well as, Radar of SU-30K aircraft has been satisfactory. SU-30K was inducted as an interim arrangement and its upgraded version SU-30MKI aircraft would be configured with superior Electronic Warfare Systems and Radar. The 18 SU-30K that have been inducted will also eventually be upgraded to MK-I standard.

**Passenger Monitoring Cell**

2904. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passenger amenity special monitoring cells have been set up at divisional and regional railway headquarters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Monitoring Cells have been set up at the headquarters and divisional offices in the various zonal railways which are manned by commercial staff and are provided with facilities like phone, fax etc. These cells monitor passenger amenities, public grievances and functioning of various passenger services on day to day basis and initiate action for redressing the same.

#### **Purchase of Second Hand Mirage**

2905. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government bought ten Mirage 2000-H from France as second hand while Jordan bought such Mirage brand new;

(b) the reasons as to why the Government had negotiated for second hand aircraft of a 20 years old version at first hand prices;

(c) whether the French Government have refused to entertain India's request for an upgraded version of the aircraft; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Government has contracted purchase of 10 Mirage 2000 H/TH aircraft from France in September, 2000. These aircraft are not old aircraft but new Mirage 2000 H/TH aircraft. A few components of the aircrafts were manufactured earlier but are new and never used. The aircrafts are currently under manufacture in France and deliveries will start two and a half years from now.

(c) and (d) The Government has not approached the French Government for an upgraded version of the Mirage 2000-H/TH to maintain commonality with the existing fleet.

#### **Telecom Business in the PSU**

2906. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PSUs under the Ministry, which is diversifying in the telecom business;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether investment would affect the objectives for which it was formed;

(d) if so, the impact it will have on consumer in respect to power tariff;

(e) whether the Ministry has appointed foreign consultant to guide them to diversify in telecom business;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the qualification prescribed for this post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) has plans to enter into telecom communication sector as infrastructure provider by leasing end-to-end bandwidth. The power transmission lines owned by PGCIL provide excellent connectivity throughout the country, which would enable setting up an optic fibre network on all India basis for broadband communication. Power Grid plans to develop telecom backbone network of about 14,000 Kms. in the next 2-3 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 1100 crores which will connect all metros and major towns and cities in the country.

(c) and (d) Telecom business is one of the objects included in the Memorandum of Association of PGCIL. The additional resources generated by PGCIL from telecom business will be ploughed back with the ultimate aim to provide power to the consumer at comparatively lower cost.

(e) and (f) In view of complexities involved PGCIL had appointed M/s IVO Power Engineering, Finland as consultant to advice in its diversification plan.

(g) The requirements prescribed for pre-qualification of consultant are given in the statement below.

#### **Statement**

##### *Requirements prescribed for pre-qualifications of Consultant to Advise Powergrid in its Diversification Plan*

1. The consultant should have experience of its own/ should have advised at least one power utility, for entering into telecommunication business and establishment of a long distance optical fibre network utilizing overhead EHV power transmission lines (with parameters as defined in para 2 below) for telecommunication purposes on a commercial basis in following areas:

(a) Regulatory, Contractual, Commercial aspects including commercial viability analysis and market assessment, tariff formulation and marketing strategy.

(b) Evaluation of business options and preparation of business plans and organizational plans.

- (c) Technology assessment including Planning, Design, Engineering, preparation of specifications and supervisions of implementation.
- (d) Operation of the network on commercial basis.
2. The optical fibre network established should have been in successful operation for at least one year as on date of submission of proposal and should have the following minimum parameters:
- (a) Minimum route length 500 Kms. of the optical fibre network of EHV overhead power lines
- (b) Technology Synchronous Digital Hierarchy with self healing feature
- (c) Services supported Voice/Data/Video

#### **Crash of MIG in Delhi**

2907. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a MIG which crashed in the recent past in Delhi killing a person or so and registration of a criminal case by Delhi Police against the IAF;

(b) whether the IAF has enquired into the causes of the accident;

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

(d) whether the Delhi Police has taken any action against the IAF; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the fact if the police are empowered to file criminal cases in such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) A MIG-21 aircraft had crashed on 5th August, 2000 at Palam airport in which the pilot was fatally injured. A Court of Inquiry has been conducted to investigate the accident. It is found that the accident had occurred due to a Bird Hit. To reduce the bird menace, extensive measures have been taken by implementing well-planned, preventive programme at the airfield level. For the area, outside the airfield, measures are being taken to sterilize the area within a 10 Kms radius to prevent concentration of large bird population.

Delhi Police has lodged an FIR in the case on 5th August, 2000 u/s 304A of I.P.C. for causing death by negligence. The civil Police is empowered to lodge an

FIR in case of such occurrences. Investigation is in progress.

#### **Protest by Global Energy Companies on Policy of Subsidy on LPG**

2908. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether six global energy companies have protested over the policy of continued high level of subsidy on LPG and demanded a level playing field for private sector;

(b) if so, the details of memorandum received by the Government in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government to the points/issue raised therein; and

(d) the details of final decision taken/proposed to be taken in the matter and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Indian LPG Industries Association have made a representation to the Government requesting the following:

1. Private LPG marketers may also be allowed to sell subsidized domestic LPG.
2. In the terminal year of deregulation, the 15% subsidy on LPG be absorbed in the general budget as a reduction in excise duty.

(c) and (d) As per the Government resolution of November, 1997 on the details of phased dismantling of the administered pricing mechanism, domestic LPG will be subsidized to the extent of the 15% of import parity price and subsidy will be met from the fiscal budget. No decision has been taken as yet in regard to allowing the private marketers to sell the subsidized domestic LPG.

*[Translation]*

#### **Disciplinary Jurisdiction Over Staff on Election Duty**

2909. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission has obtained the right to initiate action against the employees on election duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this right of the Election Commission is likely to come into force; and

(d) the extent to which the election are likely to be free and fair after conferring such a right to the Election Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The Election Commission has been of the view that for ensuring free and fair elections, the election machinery must be under the control of the Commission, and answerable to it, for any acts of omission and commission. The extent of disciplinary jurisdiction of the Election Commission under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 etc. was *sub judice* in the Supreme Court in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 606/1993-Election Commission of India Vs. Union of India and Others. The Election Commission of India and the Government filed a joint application before the Supreme Court containing the terms of settlement on the issue. In terms of the settlement, the case was disposed of by the Hon'ble Court vide its Order dated 21.9.2000. A statement containing the terms of settlement is laid on the Table of the House. The terms of settlement have been circulated by the Government on 7.11.2000 and 8.11.2000 to all the concerned authorities in the Union Government and the State Governments/Union territories for information and compliance.

#### **Statement**

*Terms of Settlement reached between the Union of India and the Election Commission of India on the issue of granting disciplinary jurisdiction to the Election Commission over the Government servants deputed for election duties:*

"The disciplinary functions of the Election Commission over officers, staff and police deputed to perform election duties shall extend to-

- (a) Suspending any officer/official/police personnel for insubordination or dereliction of duty;
- (b) Substituting any officer/official/police personnel by another such person, and returning the substituted individual to the cadre to which he belongs, with appropriate report on his conduct;
- (c) making recommendation to the competent authority, for taking disciplinary action, for any act of insubordination or dereliction of duty, while on election duty. Such recommendation shall be promptly acted upon by the disciplinary authority, and action taken will be communicated to the Election Commission; within a period of 6 months from the date of the Election Commission's recommendation.

(d) the Government of India will advise the State Governments that they too should follow the above principles and decisions, since a large number of election officials are under their administrative control."

[English]

#### **Journey in 'Palace on Wheels' by Railway Officers**

2910. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether journey on 'Palace on Wheels' has been permitted to officers of SAG & above level officers against their privilege passes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of officers, level-wise have undertaken journey on this train with formalities required to be undertaken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to allow such journey to Group A&B Gazetted Officers to remove discrimination amongst the officers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ten officers, including six SAG and four above SAG level, were permitted to travel on the "Palace on Wheels" on complimentary basis so far during the current tourist season starting from September 2000. The officers submit their requests to the Board. After approval, the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation is approached to issue complimentary ticket.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

#### **Missing of Key Defence Files**

2911. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government kept any record regarding missing of Key Defence Ministry files.

(b) if so, the details of such files missed during each of the last three years, category-wise;

(c) the number of files traced during the above period; and

(d) the action taken against the persons found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No files were reported missing during the last two years. However, during the current year, as per the available records, four files relating to defence purchase deals and one file relating to banning of middleman/agents/middle companies in the procurement of weapons and weapon systems were reported missing. However, all these files have since been retrieved.

(d) Does not arise.

### Pricing Mechanism of Naphtha

2912. SHRI A. NARENDRA :  
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to give a fresh look to the pricing mechanism of Naphtha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the realistic approach followed in arriving at price of Naphtha without reference to import parity pricing;

(d) the price per MT of Naphtha during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the quantity of Naphtha imported every year during the last three years and its price thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been suggested that the pricing mechanism of Naphtha may be given a fresh look and a realistic approach may be adopted to arrive at the price of Naphtha without referring to import parity pricing.

(c) As the domestic refineries pay tariff adjusted import price for their raw material crude oil, the oil companies are pricing Naphtha on the principle of import parity. The Government have advised the oil marketing companies to match the price of domestic Naphtha with imported Naphtha before State taxes and local levies.

(d) The ex-storage point prices of Naphtha during the last three years are given below:

Period	Price Range (Rs./MT)
1998-99	6,250-7,475
1999-2000	7,100-12,940
April, 2000-February, 2001	10,860-15,960

(e) The quantity of Naphtha imported by Indian Oil Corporation during the period 1998-99, 1999-2000 and April, 2000-January, 2001, and average prices are as follows:

Period	Qty. (MMT)*	Average Price (\$per MT)
1998-99	0.168	133.17
1999-2000	0.241	238.64
April, 2000-January, 2001	0.287	279.37

\* (MMT - million metric tonne)

### Foreign Direct Investment in Delhi Metro Rail Project

2913. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has permitted foreign direct investment in Delhi Metro Rail project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which funds are likely to be raised through FDI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System (commonly known as Delhi Metro) is being executed by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., a joint sector company owned by the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. The Ministry of Railways is not involved in the funding of Delhi Metro Rail project.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Export/Import of Goods from Ports

2914. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :  
SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has a very long coastal line;

(b) if so, the details of imports and exports handled at each port during the last three years, location-wise, State-wise, value-wise and year-wise;

(c) the percentage of imports/exports handled by each port during the last three years;

(d) whether the Indian ports handling lower percentage of import and export as compared to the other parts in the Asian region;

(e) if so, the steps taken to improve this percentage in future;

(f) whether the delay has been noticed in export/import of goods to and from foreign countries; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government to ensure the timely export/import of goods from Kandla Port Trust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) India has main coastline of 5660 km. length passing through the States of West Bengal, Orissa Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The details of imports and exports handled by each ports during the last three years, location-wise, State-wise, value-wise are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

State/Major Ports	Value-wise Import & Export		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
<b>West Bengal</b>			
Calcutta	9194.05	10967.01	11065.62
Haldia	1883.84	3083.12	3778.73
<b>Orissa</b>			
Paradip	1885.44	1939.21	2011.53
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
Visakhapatnam	6660.29	5900.28	5800.94
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
Chennai	22367.70	24667.02	24502.07
Tuticorin	6352.89	7766.16	10197.16
<b>Kerala</b>			
Cochin	6574.96	8042.32	7558.67

	1	2	3	4
<b>Karnataka</b>				
New Mangalore	2077.04	2758.75	2941.95	
<b>Goa</b>				
Mormugao	1533.27	1715.16	1545.63	
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
J.L. Nehru	26982.55	26860.38	40631.94	
Mumbai	49092.97	44402.39	38107.25	
<b>Gujarat</b>				
Kandla	10459.11	12863.65	10651.29	

\*Provisional figures.

(c) The entire imports & exports of cargo in the country are handled through Sea Ports and Air Ports. During the last three years about 95% of the total import & export, volume-wise handled through Sea Ports and rest of the cargo handled through Air Ports.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) Do not arise.

#### LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps in Orissa

2915. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allot more petrol pumps and LPG outlets in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Regional Dealer's Selection Board constituted for the purpose is going to be reconstituted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) In order to meet the increased demand, in addition to the locations pending from the previous Marketing Plans, 3 locations for retail outlet dealerships and 19 locations for LPG distributorships have been included in the Marketing Plans for 1999-2000 for Orissa.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal at present.

[Translation]

**East West Airlines deal with IOC**

2916. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :  
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Indian Oil Ko Sava Krore Ke Chapat Lagai" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated January 2, 2001;

(b) if so, the manner in which this loss has been caused to the Government by the East West Airlines;

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. East West Airlines was allowed by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) interest free credit equivalent to 21 days sale value against Bank Guarantees. For outstanding amounts beyond the approved credit limit, interest at the bank rate plus 2% was charged as per long term contract signed with the airlines. The East West Airlines defaulted payment and about Rs. 2 crores including interest is due from them to the IOC.

(c) to (e) IOC has filed a suit No. 2992 of 1999 before the Mumbai High Court for the recovery of the dues. The IOC has also filed a criminal case with the CID which was later on transferred to the CBI, who arrested various officials of the airlines including its Directors. The matter is *sub judice*.

[English]

**Reserves of Mukta Panna Oilfields**

2917. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given on December 14, 2000 to Unstarred Question No. 3992 and state :

(a) the date on which the original estimate of reserves of Mukta-Panna Oilfield was assessed at 31.5 mmt. and by which agency and by when the ONGC

placed the reserves at only 14 mmt. Before being handed over; and

(b) the reasons for depletion of the reserves from 31.5 mmt. to merely 14.5 mmt.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) As on 1.1.92, the ultimate reserve estimates of Oil and condensate made by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) for Panna and Mukta fields were 31.22 Million Metric Tonne (MMT). At the time of bid evaluation, ONGC had taken oil reserves for Panna Mukta at 14.05 MMT. The downward revision of the reserves was mainly due to the results of interpretation of 3-D data and 3 exploratory wells drilled in the Mukta field.

**Operation of Benami Dealerships**

2918. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had directed the oil corporations to allow the dealers to reconstitute their dealerships as per policy to avoid the operation of benami dealerships;

(b) if so, whether the HPCL is not giving permission to their SKO/LDO dealers to reconstitute their dealership; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the officers responsible for the delay in granting such permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) The Government have delegated the powers for reconstitution of retail outlet dealerships, LPG distributorships and SKO-LDO dealerships subject to certain norms to the Oil Marketing Companies. However, as per the existing policy, the deserving cases which are not strictly covered under the guidelines, may be referred by the Oil Companies to the Government for decision. A decision is taken on the merits of each case. All the Oil Marketing Companies follow the guidelines for reconstitution of dealerships/distributorship issued by the Government.

**Surplus Resources for Oil Exploration by PSUs**

2919. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with public sector

oil companies to concentrate their surplus resources on oil exploration rather than marketing strategies;

(b) if so, the present policy in this regard;

(c) whether the major oil PSUs are not contributing their resources for oil exploration;

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to change this tendency;

(e) whether the Government is unable to get adequate financial resources for oil exploration; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to review the spending and investment pattern of oil PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (f) Major oil PSUs, viz. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) and Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) are Navratna Companies who take investment decision based on their long and medium range business strategy. To attract investment and technology for oil exploration, Government have introduced New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) which envisages that National Oil Companies (NOCs) will compete with Indian and Foreign companies for award of exploration blocks. In the first round of NELP, ONGC, Oil India Ltd. (OIL), IOC and GAIL were successful awardees, either alone or as part of a consortium of exploration blocks. The second round of NELP has been initiated and the bid closing date is 31.3.2001 wherein Oil PSUs will be free to participate. Performance including revenues, expenditure and strategies of Oil PSUs are regularly monitored through Quarterly Progress Review (QPR) etc.

#### **Cess on Crude Oil**

2920. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :  
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had levied cess on crude oil in 1989 to create a fund for development of oil sector;

(b) if so, the amount collected therefrom;

(c) the manner in which that sum was utilised;

(d) whether the CAG has commented upon this in their report No. 2 of 2000—Transaction Audit Observations — Union Government (Civil); and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) Government has been levying cess on crude oil from 1974 onwards and the total amount of cess collected till March, 2000 is Rs. 36,011 crores (approx.) after deducting collection charges out of which Rs. 902 crores has so far been given to OIIB by the Central Government. The proceeds of the cess are utilised for development of "Oil Industry" which includes Petroleum & Natural Gas, Chemicals & Petro-chemicals and Fertilizer sectors, as provided under the Oil Industry Development Act. The expenditure incurred on the Ministries/Departments of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Chemicals & Petro-chemicals and Fertilizers since 1974-75 exceeds the total amount of cess collected so far. The comments of CAG on the above has also been reflected in Report No. 2 of 2000—Union Government (Civil)—Transaction of Audit Observations. An Action Taken Note has already been sent on Audit Observations.

#### **Supreme Court's Guidelines on Crash of MIG-21**

2921. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued certain guidelines to the Government in regard to crash of MIGs-21;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **I.L.O. Norms for Packaging**

2922. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to implement 50 kgs. of weight for packaging foodgrains and sugar like Cement and Urea for Non-Jute-Packaging as decided in C.C.E.A. meeting held on July 18, 2000, while extending J.P.M. Act, 1987 provisions for 2000-2001;

(b) if so, whether it was done to implement the I.L.O. Norms for protection of health and safety of millions of our workers?

(c) whether the Government have issued instructions for strict enforcement in Jute Bags both for domestic and imported items for packaging; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for violation of the Orders by Jute Mills as 50 kgs. Bags are not available, particularly for Sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention No. 127 prescribes the maximum permissible weight as 55 kgs. This is pending for ratification. However, efforts are being made to shift to packaging in 50 kgs bags.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Jute bags of 50 kgs can be supplied by jute industry on demand. Such bags are being supplied for procurement of wheat.

#### **Profit Earned by ONGC from Neelam Oil Fields**

2923. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a gross profit of Rs. 750 crore is expected by the ONGC during the current fiscal year from the Neelam Oil-fields;

(b) if so, whether the Government has succeeded in turning around middle-aged Mumbai offshore field which is currently producing 32,000 barrels per day;

(c) to what extent it will save the foreign exchange;

(d) whether a target of 1.5 million tonnes output will be achieved by the Neelam oil-fields; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) According to the latest estimates during the year 2000-01 expected operating profit, before adjustment of depreciation, depletion, amortization, corporate tax and interest from Neelam oilfield is likely to be of the order of Rs. 525 crores

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Any domestic production of crude oil helps the country to reduce import and save foreign exchange. Since the oil prices are volatile, the actual quantum of foreign exchange saving would depend on the prevalent prices of crude oil.

(d) and (e) During an ONGC mid term review carried out in September 2000 for enhanced oil production from ONGC fields, the target for Neelam field was enhanced

from the original 1.30 MMT to 1.454 MMT for 2000-01. This target is likely to be surpassed.

#### **Resettlement of Jhuggi Dwellers**

2924. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3932 on December 14, 2000 regarding resettlement of Jhuggi Dwellers and state:

(a) whether the encroachment in the safety zone in Harbour lane in Mumbai has been removed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which the encroachment is likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) 1322 hutments out of the remaining unauthorised constructions in Harbour line, have since been removed.

(c) and (d) Since the process of removal of encroachments involves resettlement and rehabilitation of the encroachers being implemented by the State Govt., it has not been possible for the Railways to fix any target time for the same.

*[Translation]*

#### **NABARD Loans for Roads and Bridges**

2925. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NABARD is providing financial assistance to the State Governments for the construction of roads and bridges;

(b) if so, the State-wise funds provided for this purpose during each of the last three years, particularly to Bihar;

(c) whether some State Governments had asked for loan from NABARD for constructing metallic link roads in the rural areas;

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the State-wise number of roads/bridges for which construction work has been started/is to be started with the assistance of NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is providing financial

assistance to the State Governments for the construction of roads and bridges. The details of State-wise disbursements for construction of rural roads and bridges during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are given in statement.

(c) to (e) NABARD has reported that State Governments have been asking for loan for constructing

metallic link roads in the rural areas. State-wise details of projects sanctioned under rural roads since 1997-98 under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) are given in statement-II. In all these cases either the constructions have started/are in the process of being taken up for implementation by the Governments. Some of the projects which were taken up for construction have since been completed by the State Governments.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise Funds Disbursed under RIDF by NABARD for Rural Roads and Bridges during last three years*

S.No.	State	(Rs. in Crores)					
		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Rural Roads	Rural Bridges	Rural Roads	Rural Bridges	Rural Roads	Rural Bridges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.70	5.67	96.70	21.05	66.37	26.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.81	0.00	43.84
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.87
6.	Gujarat	5.00	2.70	14.80	0.00	78.64	11.58
7.	Haryana	2.69	0.31	2.07	0.47	6.07	1.14
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.16	0.87	28.14	1.79	33.90	4.56
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.36	4.28
10.	Karnataka	12.80	10.82	67.38	27.42	90.75	19.65
11.	Kerala	0.00	17.05	0.00	18.44	9.57	22.66
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.91	3.11	13.28	16.35	21.71	13.89
13.	Maharashtra	25.10	1.02	11.88	0.46	233.46	13.02
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Meghalaya	2.04	0.75	0.43	0.17	6.84	3.69
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.89	0.00
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.09	0.15
18.	Orissa	3.53	32.02	0.00	0.00	4.37	66.39
19.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	7.71	0.53	24.50	1.66
20.	Rajasthan	36.29	4.62	34.88	6.64	49.78	7.86
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.94	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	83.98	0.00	110.85	0.02	143.93	29.65
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.96
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20.98	16.00	99.20	44.84	154.93	33.64
25.	West Bengal	24.32	4.69	42.74	4.94	88.07	8.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>283.50</b>	<b>99.67</b>	<b>530.06</b>	<b>179.93</b>	<b>1073.17</b>	<b>319.99</b>

**Statement-II**

*State-wise number of Bridges and Roads assisted by NABARD Under RIDF during 1997-98, 1998-99 & 1999-2000*

S.No.	States	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Roads	Bridges	Roads	Bridges	Roads	Bridges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50	191	17	325	56	140
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	5	2
3.	Assam	11	-	39	-	43	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	1	1	3	-
5.	Goa	-	-	1	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	959	260	-	143	-	7432
7.	Haryana	5	37	-	25	-	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	8	14	19	7	22
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	5	51	10	116
10.	Karnataka	66	425	59	459	36	326
11.	Kerala	33	128	39	37	22	81
12.	Madhya Pradesh	55	128	34	93	49	84
13.	Maharashtra	68	654	245	654	285	1284
14.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	11	10	16	-	4	45
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	2
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	2	34
18.	Orissa	26	5	24	2	19	2
19.	Punjab	9	40	6	21	6	95
20.	Rajasthan	10	195	6	22	-	461
21.	Sikkim	-	-	25	32	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	53	509	92	378	106	463
23.	Tripura	-	-	24	-	89	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	25	1333	102	2455	39	1081
25.	West Bengal	7	96	10	75	18	45
Total		1390	4019	759	4792	799	11715

[English]

**Pension for Bank Employees**

2926. DR. S VENUGOPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether pension admissible to employees of

public-sector banks under Voluntary Retirement Scheme is calculated on the basis of pre-revised pay scale; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per provisions contained in the Seventh Bipartite

Settlement signed by the workmen unions with Indian Banks' Association (representing the Banks Managements) on 27th March, 2000 and understanding reached with the officers associations, the pay for the purpose of pension has to be revised with reference to merger of dearness allowance on 1616 points in the All India Average Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers in the series 1960 = 100 in the pre-revised pay scale. This formula is applicable to all the employees/officers retiring on or after 1.4.1998 whether under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme or otherwise.

### **Welding and Cutting Industry**

2927. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an International Welding Conference 2001 was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of countries participated in the said Conference;

(c) whether exports in Welding and Cutting Technology from India and abroad have formulated three pronged strategic action with a view to enhance technological expertise in the welding industry through international cooperation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether keeping in view the emergent requirement of cutting instrument in Gujarat earthquake, the Government propose to import cutting technology from the countries who actually participated in the earthquake; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) An International Welding Conference was held from 15th to 17th February, 2001 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. It was jointly organised by the Indian Institute of Welding (IIW), a body of welding professionals and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Nine countries viz. India, Russia, UK, Sweden, France, Singapore, Australia, Brazil and Egypt participated in the conference. 85 papers on various aspects related to welding were presented by delegates representing Industry, Institutes and R&D centres.

(c) and (d) It is envisaged to enhance international cooperation especially with ASEAN region, Australia and the International Institutes of Welding for mutual benefits.

(e) and (f) Presently there is no such proposal under consideration.

### **Withdrawal of Special Facilities by Russia**

2928. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Russia alongwith Egypt, formed traditionally the largest market for Indian tea;

(b) if so, whether Russia has withdrawn the special facility being accorded to Indian Tea by way of requirement of payment of value added tax by importers at the time of sale of the tea and not at the time of import;

(c) whether this decision of Russia has caused a set back for the Indian tea;

(d) if so, whether the Government took up the matter with the Russian authorities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of Russian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The facility of 20% VAT exemption at the point of customs clearance which was available to importers of Indian tea into Russia under Rupee Debt Repayment Route, has been withdrawn with effect from 1st January, 2001. Earlier, on such tea imports VAT was payable after one month of customs clearance in Russia.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. Consequent to such decision by Russia, Indian tea buying under Rupee Debt Repayment Route has become less attractive for Russian importers. Withdrawal of the special facility is an internal decision of the Russian authorities. However, various issues concerning bilateral trade and economic co-operation and steps for further development including problems being faced by exporters of tea to Russia were discussed in the Seventh Session of the Indo-Russian Working Group on Trade and Economic Co-operation under the aegis of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Co-operation held in January, 2001 at Moscow. Yet the Russian side response on the VAT question for Tea has not so far been encouraging.

### **Excise Benefit to Cigarette Industry**

2929. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to withdraw the Central Excise benefits extended to cigarette industry in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such excise concessions were extended to other products also in Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir. Cigarettes have been excluded from the scheme of excise duty exemptions applicable to industrial units in the North East with effect from 22nd January, 2001.

(b) This has been done in view of cigarettes being demerit goods and reported misuse of the exemption.

(c) and (d) Two schemes of excise concessions are applicable to units in the North East *viz.*, (i) exemption from excise duty to all excisable goods (except cigarettes, and other tobacco products) cleared from industries located in specified areas within the States of Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur, or (ii) exemption from excise duty to specified excisable goods (except cigarettes and other tobacco products) cleared from industries located anywhere in the North East. Notification Nos. 32/99-Central Excise (GSR. No. 508(E), dated 8.7.1999) and 33/99-Central Excise (GSR. No. 509(E), dated 8.7.1999), both dated 8.7.1999 extending the said exemptions have already been laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Acquiring Land for HEC, Ranchi

2930. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have acquired thousand acres of tribal land for construction of a complex for the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi and for other purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation has allotted a large tract of the said land for its own residential/commercial purposes;

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

(e) the details of the rates at which the above land was acquired from these tribals alongwith the total amount of compensation provided;

(f) the rates at which the land has been allotted to non-tribals; and

(g) the details of other benefits provided to these tribals in lieu of their land acquired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Bihar Government

during 1958-63 acquired 6530.3 acres of Land for Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) Ranchi, under Land Acquisition Act which belonged to both tribals & non-tribals.

(c) to (f) Out of the total acquired land, 1961.3 acres have been utilized for Factory purpose and 4569 acres have been utilized for Township purpose.

HEC has paid a sum of Rs. 242.62 lakhs to the State Government and State Government has paid compensation to the tribals & non-tribals.

HEC has not allotted any part of the land to any individual (tribal or non-tribal).

(g) The details of the other benefits given by HEC in lieu of the acquired land are as under :

- (i) Employment was provided by HEC as per the one person one family norm to 2658 families.
- (ii) More persons belonging to this category have been provided employment in HEC, in various capacities off and on from time to time.
- (iii) 428 Hatia displaced/affected persons have been imparted training in the HEC Training Institute under the Apprentices Act, to help them in acquiring gainful employment.
- (iv) The female members of the displaced/affected families were given general nursing and mid-wifery training and 21 of them have been offered employment in the medical division of HEC, and
- (v) Preference has been given to them in the allotment of shops in the various sectors in the township and a full-fledged rehabilitation market has been set up in one of the sectors of the township.

[English]

#### SC/ST in executive posts in Disinvestment Commission

2931. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SC/ST Parliamentarians in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on December 17, 1996, September 1, 1997 and July 23, 1998 have demanded posting/appointment of adequate number of persons from SC and ST community as Heads/CMD and Official/Non-Official Members of Board of Management/Governing Councils of the Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous, Statutory, Sub-Ordinate and Attached Offices of various Ministries and Departments;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of posts in the rank of Heads/CMD, Official/Non-Official Members of Board of Management/ Governing Council of the Disinvestment Commission and the number of persons from SC/ST community working against such posts as on January 1, 1996 and January 1, 2001 and their percentage as compared to the total posts; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate representation to SC/ST in these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Telecast of Programmes Produced by Central Production Centre, Doordarshan**

2932. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether programmes produced by Central Production Centre, Doordarshan are not telecast;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is proposed to telecast the programmes produced by Central Production Centre during prime time in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (e) Programmes produced by Central Production Centre (CPC) are being telecast regularly. Three major Doordarshan Channels viz. DD-News, DD-Sports, DD-World are transmitting programmes round the clock from CPC. All major news bulletins, hourly News Headlines, discussions on major national events like Budgetary discussions, Election Analysis, Issues before Parliament, Mirror of the World and various other current affairs programmes are recorded and telecast from CPC. Pre & Post Cricket matches programmes & other important international sporting events like Sydney Olympics, French Open, Wimbledon Tennis are relayed through CPC.

[Translation]

#### **Import Duty Exemption**

2933. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has made a request for waiving-off the import duty over the purchase of ten thousand Japanese Light Weight Orchard Machinery for spraying and jetting agro-chemicals (Maruyama Ms 160 EMM) to be imported from Japan in order to promote horticulture and saving the fruit trees from the infestation of pests; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this matter?

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

(b) The request was duly considered. However, the same could not be acceded to in view of the amended provisions of Section 25(2) of the Customs Act, 1962, which has restricted the Government's powers for exemption in particular cases & the request falls outside the scope of the said Section.

[English]

#### **Investment In Export Promotion Industrial Parks**

2934. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

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

(a) the total investment made in each Export Promotion Industrial Parks so far, indicating the share of Union Government and State Governments separately;

(b) the achievements made by each EPIP so far; and

(c) the amount likely to be invested by Union Government in each EPIP during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) An amount of Rs. 22 crores has been proposed for Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EIPs) in the budget estimates for 2001-2002. Funds are not earmarked EPIP-wise and the Central grant for development of EPIP is released based on progress of implementation and utilization of funds.

**Statement**

S. No.	Name of State	Location of EPIP	Central grant Released (Rs. Crores)	State Contribution (Rs. Crores)	Achievements/Status of Implementation
1.	Kerala	Kakkanad, Distt. Ernakulam	10.00	29.50	Completed
2.	Maharashtra	Ambarnath, Distt. Thane	10.00	22.44	Completed
3.	Karnataka	Hoodi, Distt. Bangalore	10.00	26.47	Completed
4.	Rajasthan	Sitapura, Distt. Jaipur	10.00	29.45	Completed
5.	U.P.	Surajpur, distt. Gautambudhnagar	10.00	10.95	Completed
6.	Tamil Nadu	Gummidipoondi, Ghengalpattu, Distt.	10.00	5.04	Completed
7.	Assam	Amingaon near Guwahati, Distt. Kamrup	10.00	4.30	Completed
8.	A.P.	Pashamylaram, Ditt. Medak	9.00	1.17	Completed
9.	Haryana	Kundli, Distt. Sonipat	10.00	7.65	Under Implementation
10.	Punjab	Dhandari Kalan, Distt. Ludhiana	5.90	1.65	Under Implementation
11.	H.P.	Baddi, Distt. Solan	9.70	1.56	Under Implementation
12.	Gujarat	Savli, Distt. Baroda	8.20	5.81	Under Implementation
13.	Bihar	Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali	5.00	2.95	Under Implementation
14.	Meghalaya	Byrnihat, Distt. Ribhoi	10.00	2.60	Under Implementation
15.	M.P.	Pithampur, Distt. Dhar	9.00	4.67	Under Implementation
16.	West Bengal	Durgapur, Distt. Burdwan	8.35	3.46	Under Implementation
17.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar, Distt. Khurda	10.00	3.67	Under Implementation
18.	J&K	Samba, Distt. Jammu	10.00	7.02	Under Implementation
19.	Nagaland	Ganeshnagar, Dimapur	1.00	0.05	Under Implementation
20.	Manipur	Khunuta Chingjin (Thoubal Distt.)	-	-	Under Implementation
*21.	U.P.	Agra	1.25	2.35	Under Implementation
*22.	Karnataka	Mangalore	-	-	In-principle approval granted.
*23.	Rajasthan	Tapukara (Distt. Alwar)	-	-	In-principle approval granted.

\*Second EPIP approved.

**Industrial Projects in NE States**

2935. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the industrial promotion strategy adopted by the Government for North-Eastern States including Sikkim; and

(b) the number of Central Sector Industrial projects that have been awarded and established in each State

of North-Eastern Region during the last three years alongwith the names of said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Sir, the New Industrial Policy for the North Eastern Region notified on 24.12.1997 includes schemes like development of (i) Growth Centres (ii) Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres (IIDC) (iii) Transport Subsidy Scheme (iv) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (v) Comprehensive Insurance Scheme (vi)

Central Interest Subsidy Scheme and (vii) Central Excise & Income-tax exemption with a view to develop infrastructural facilities and to promote investment in the North Eastern States. The funds for all these schemes of North East Industrial Policy are now channelised through a single agency - North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFL). A proposal to extend the policy to Sikkim is under consideration of this Department.

(b) Nil.

[Translation]

#### Telecasting of News from Shimla DD Kendra

2936. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested to start broadcasting of daily news bulletin in Hindi from Shimla Doordarshan Kendra; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prasar Bharati have intimated that a regional Hindi news bulletin for a duration of 15 minutes, at 7.00 p.m. daily, has been introduced from Doordarshan Kendra, Shimla with effect from 1st November, 2000.

[English]

#### Scales of Translator-cum-Announcer

2937. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of Translator-cum-Announcer are existing in Indian as well as foreign languages in All India Radio;

(b) how many posts out of this are vacant, language-wise;

(c) whether there is disparity in the pay scales of Translator-cum-Announcer of Indian languages and that of foreign languages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) There are 89 (7 in Indian language and 82 in foreign

languages) sanctioned posts of Translator-cum-Announcer in External Services Division of All India Radio. Besides 6 temporary posts under Software Programme have been sanctioned in the grade of Translator-cum-Announcer in External Services Division.

(b) Language-wise vacancy position is given below:

(i) Arabic	1
(ii) Burmese	3
(iii) Chinese	2
(iv) French	2
(v) Indonesian	1
(vi) Nepali	1
(vii) Pushtu	3
(viii) Swahili	3
(ix) Thai	1
(x) Tibetan	4
(xi) Baluchi	2

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Translator-cum-Announcers of Indian Languages are in the pay scale of Rs. 6,500-10,500/- while Translator-cum-Announcers (Indian National) of foreign language are in the pay scale of Rs. 8,000-12,500/-. Since higher pay scale to Translator-cum-Announcers (Foreign Language) has been based on functional justification, question of any remedial action does not arise.

#### PIB Offices in Remote Areas

2938. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the units of Press Information Bureau are fulfilling the objectives for which these were set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to open more PIB units in the country particularly in the remote, hilly, tribal, backward and border areas to cover the anti-national propaganda;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the structural modifications required to make PIB more effective?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (f) Press Information Bureau is the nodal agency of the Government to disseminate information to the print and electronic media on its various policies, programmes, initiatives and achievements. It also provides feedback to the Government on people's reaction being reflected in media towards Government policies and programmes. It disseminates information through different formats such as Press Releases, Conferences, Briefings, Interviews, Feature articles, Bulletin Board Services etc. During 9th Plan, there is a proposal to open Branch offices of PIB at Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh and at Raipur, Dehradun and Ranchi, the capitals of the newly constituted States of Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand respectively.

[Translation]

#### Interest on Advance Tax

2939. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given a permission in the Income Tax Act that interest will be payable on the amount deposited as advance tax by the tax-payer; and

(b) if so, the total amount of interest payable at the extra deposited amount during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and rate of interest thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The provisions of section 244A(1)(a) *inter alia*, provide that where the refund is out of any tax paid by way of advance tax during the financial year immediately preceding the assessment year, the assessee shall be entitled to receive, in addition to the said amount, simple interest thereon calculated at the rate of 1% for every month or part of a month comprised in the period from the 1st day of April of the assessment year to the date on which the refund is granted. The Finance Bill, 2001 proposes to reduce the said rate of interest from one per cent for every month or part of the month to three-fourth per cent for every month or part of the month with effect from 1st June, 2001

(b) The total amount of interest paid under the provisions of section 244A of Income tax Act, which relates to refund of excess tax on account of excess payment of advance tax. Tax Deducted/Collected at Source and due to any other reason, comes to Rs. 1144.39 crores during the financial year 1999-2000. Similar figures of interest for financial year 2000-2001 are not available as the financial year is yet to close.

#### Priority Sector Lending

2940. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of priority sector advances out of total advance given by each public sector banks during the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government to these banks in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the target was met by these banks during the above period;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken by RBI against such banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The details of priority sector advances of public sector banks for the last three years are given State-wise at statement-I and bank-wise at statement-II.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has prescribed for public sector banks a target of 40 per cent of net bank credit for lending to the priority sector.

(d) to (f) Public sector banks as a group have achieved the target for lending to priority sector during the last three years as given in statement-II.

Individual banks which are having shortfall in lending to priority sector have been asked to contribute to Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) established with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The position in respect of lending to the priority sector is reviewed on the basis of periodic returns and banks, which do not achieve the target, are advised to take steps to improve the flow of credit to the priority sector so as to achieve the target.

#### Statement-I

Priority Sector Lending of Public Sector Banks: State-wise

State/Union Territory	(Rs. Crore)		
	March 1997	March 1998	March 1999
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	7205.62	8727.8	9202.44
2. Arunachal Pradesh	20.27	23.79	29.93

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
3. Assam	1018.89	963.16	1083.8	18. NCT of Delhi	3743.13	4639.57	5902.95
4. Bihar	2993.98	3107.43	3604.2	19. Orissa	1901.25	2089.2	2105.74
5. Goa	269.47	339.87	421.09	20. Punjab	4695.32	5502.57	6583.48
6. Gujarat	4675.29	5542.48	6228.66	21. Rajasthan	2808.41	3614.73	4197.77
7. Haryana	2487.61	2893.73	3506.5	22. Sikkim	17.63	24.67	27.82
8. Himachal Pradesh	487.06	558.05	640.79	23. Tamil Nadu	9049.19	9736.06	10467.29
9. Jammu & Kashmir	247.54	302.8	342.98	24. Tripura	122.53	132.43	138.73
10. Karnataka	5971.12	7017.59	8601.58	25. Uttar Pradesh	7435.39	8360.68	9298.93
11. Kerala	3395.4	3499.6	3918.86	26. West Bengal	4639.25	5155.67	5680.61
12. Madhya Pradesh	4205.57	4909.41	5638.55	27. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15.97	16.9	24.89
13. Maharashtra	10453.26	12697.68	15457.85	28. Chandigarh	509.34	509.27	576.5
14. Manipur	96.31	102.86	111.1	29. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6.36	11.99	17.04
15. Meghalaya	49.26	62.05	67.02	30. Daman & Diu	6.59	7.5	8.4
16. Mizoram	19.18	22.72	27.35	31. Lakshadweep	1.76	2.16	2.27
17. Nagaland	66.46	58.92	65.9	32. Pondicherry	104.73	104.33	113.1

**Statement-II***Priority Sector Lending of Public Sector Banks*

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

	Net Bank Credit (NBC)			Priority Sector (PS) Lending			%age PS Lending to NBC		
	March 1998	March 1999	March 2000	March 1998	March 1999	March 2000	March 1998	March 1999	March 2000
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. SB of India	60127.00	65775.00	79003.04	22523.00	26527.00	32273.67	37.459	40.3299	40.8512
2. SB of B&J	3875.60	3956.33	4339.81	1573.77	1767.66	2125.10	40.6071	44.6793	48.9676
3. SB of Hyderabad	4903.82	5019.77	5760.00	1843.64	2037.58	2492.50	37.596	40.5911	43.2726
4. SB of Indore	1907.27	2137.63	2765.65	862.39	972.54	1220.10	45.2159	45.6365	44.1162
5. SB of Mysore	2559.38	2739.93	3016.68	1070.92	1258.51	1377.34	41.8429	45.9322	45.6575
6. SB of Patiala	4368	4639	5363	1742	1986	2236.47	39.881	42.811	41.7018
7. SB of Saurashtra	2476.04	2708.08	3189.68	1099.64	1326.3	1460.35	44.4112	48.9757	45.7836
8. SB of Travancore	2372.34	2313.63	2573.51	1375.65	1524.46	1843.34	57.9871	65.8904	71.6275
9. Allahabad Bank	5928.63	6934.77	8361	2140.24	2821.09	3572.66	36.1001	40.6804	42.7301
10. Andhra Bank	3373.84	4274.65	5221.86	1395.71	1874.08	2358.06	41.3686	43.8417	45.1575
11. Bank of Baroda	12927.82	13383.56	15548.61	6058.17	6560.14	7670.55	46.8615	49.0164	49.3327
12. Bank of India	13007.87	14166.1	16733.45	6278.28	6855.93	7567.5	48.2652	48.3967	45.2238

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13. Bank of Maharashtra	3947.67	4304.02	5339.83	1619.3	1875.32	2289.06	41.0191	43.5714	42.8677
14. Canara Bank	13586.79	15131.88	17622.35	6598.85	6966.53	7717.38	48.5681	46.0388	43.7931
15. Central Bank of India	10840	12885	15350	4396.31	5595.47	6635.26	40.5564	43.4262	43.2264
16. Corporation Bank	3098.66	4697.63	6071.65	1321.59	1887.73	2561.14	42.6504	40.1847	42.1819
17. Dena Bank	5191.11	6243.32	7080.18	2197.14	2772.45	3063.49	42.3251	44.4067	43.2685
18. Indian Bank	5709.26	5931.66	6946.25	2465.31	2489.2	3190.78	43.1809	41.9646	45.9353
19. Indian Overseas Bank	6179.5	7445.26	7820.54	2756.62	3159.09	3603.81	44.6091	42.4309	46.0813
20. Oriental Bank of Commerce	5794.88	8000	9708	2560	3300	4080.4	44.1769	41.25	42.0313
21. Punjab National Bank	15960.3	18282.49	22035	6489.4	8038.87	9833.91	40.6596	43.9703	44.6286
22. Punjab & Sind Bank	3303.35	4136.86	4281.36	1461.3	1750.27	2079.05	44.2369	42.3091	48.5605
23. Syndicate Bank	5362	7546.64	8760	2286	3598	4170	42.6333	47.6768	47.6027
24. Union Bank of India	9144.54	9939.79	13467	4220.76	4683.77	5414.04	46.1561	47.1214	40.2023
25. United Bank of India	4182	4696	5634	1754	1891	2459.87	41.9417	40.2683	43.6612
26. UCO Bank	5213.37	5305.42	6843	1943.65	2128.03	2550	37.282	40.1105	37.2644
27. Vijaya Bank	2877.85	3609	4107.09	1285	1550	1961.31	44.6514	42.9482	47.7542
<b>All PS Banks</b>	<b>218218.89</b>	<b>246203.42</b>	<b>292942.54</b>	<b>81318.64</b>	<b>107200.02</b>	<b>127807.14</b>	<b>41.8473</b>	<b>43.5412</b>	<b>43.6287</b>

[English]

#### Auto Industries

2941. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start more automobile industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to promote automobile industries particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any standard norms and criteria for the States to give required permission and land to start new automobile industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the automobile industries functioning at present in the country alongwith performance of production and sale of last three years, year-wise, State-wise and unit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Automobile Industry has been delicensed and investors are free to

start auto projects. There is no proposal to start any such unit in the public sector.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Information is being collected.

[Translation]

#### Damage to Wheat Due to Pest

2942. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of wheat was destroyed in the Government godowns last year due to the attack of pests and other insects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the guilty persons?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

### Level Playing Field for Industry

2943. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a demand for ensuring a level playing field for Indian Industry particularly in the matter of charges of electricity that Indian industry has to pay;

(b) whether high cost of finances as compared to international level cost is also another concern;

(c) whether cost of organised labour is also high and its productivity is low; and

(d) if so, the Government's response on these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Several industrial organisations in their Pre-Budget memoranda had highlighted high interest & energy costs, and cascading effects of taxation on manufactured cost of domestic products as inhibiting factors for efficiency and growth.

(c) According to Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), cost of organized labour measured in terms of wages paid to workers, and labour productivity measured in terms of Net Value Added per worker has declined since 1994-95 with a marginal increase during 1997-98, for which the latest data is available.

(d) The Government has taken several steps to mitigate various cost burden on Indian industry by initiating measures such as rationalization of excise and custom duty structure, reduction in Cash Reserve Ratio & the Bank Rate, and restoration of 100% MODVAT credit. To enhance labour productivity Government has launched various schemes for skill development through vocational training and worker's education.

### Fake Currency Notes

2944. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any estimate of the extent of fake currency in circulation at present in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to enact a legislation to curb the smuggling of fake currency into the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which a legislation is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The estimate of the extent of fake currency in circulation made on the basis of the total fake currency seized/recovered by the Government during the 1999 and 2000 is as under:

Year	Fake currency seized/recovered
1999	Rs. 1,83,35,315/-
2000	Rs. 3,56,57,820/-

The total quantity of fake notes seized/recovered is only a miniscule proportion of the total notes in circulation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### CNG Run Scooter

2945. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scooter manufacturing company in the country is considering to manufacture CNG run scooter;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has reported that the use of CNG in scooters (two-wheelers) does not appear to be feasible due to the heavy weight of CNG cylinder and space occupied by the cylinder.

### Declaration of Gift Received by Cricketers

2946. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :  
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make it

mandatory for cricketers to declare their gift items received in the country and from abroad in view of match fixing scandals:

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

#### Entry of Co-Operative Sector in Insurance

2947. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3191 on 8 December, 2000 and state :

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has intimated that the matter regarding issue of guidelines for co-operative banks is under examination by them.

[English]

#### Collection by Non-Banking Companies

2948. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some major non-banking financial institutions and residuary Non-Banking Companies have started a scheme of daily collection from the investors;  
(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of these companies;  
(c) whether these companies have been permitted to adopt the scheme which specifically belong to the banking sector; and  
(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has been observed that some of the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)/Residuary Non Banking Companies (RNBCs) had collected deposits under the scheme of daily collection from the investors. The list of

companies as collected from Regional Offices of RBI which had collected deposits under the scheme of daily collection is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) NBFCs which fulfil prescribed criterion are permitted to accept public deposits by RBI. However, RBI has put in place regulatory and supervisory mechanism for protection of depositors' interests. This *inter alia*, includes the rate of interest payable on deposits, minimum and maximum period of deposits, quantum of deposits etc.

#### Statement

##### List of Companies Collecting Daily Deposits

Name of Regional Office	Name of the NBFC/RNBC	Amount of deposits Rs. in lakh As on 30.9.2000
1	2	3
Bangalore	Ennoble India Savings & Investment Co. Ltd.	Rs. 103.62 (as on 31.3.2000)
Calcutta	Peerless General Finance & Investment Ltd.	Rs. 2355
Chennai	Sinnamani Leasing Company Ltd.	Rs. 41.80 since repaid
-do-	Syed Shariat Finance Co. Ltd.	Rs. 84.87
Guwahati	Jai Savings Hire Purchase Co. (I) Ltd.	Rs. 78.72
-do-	Panchratna Finance & Investment Ltd.	Rs 554.04
Hyderabad	Asra India Savings & Investment Ltd.	Rs. 38.94 (as on 28.10.2000)
Jaipur	Yogeshwar Savings & Hire Purchase (I) Ltd	Rs. 0.65 (as on 31.12.2000)
-do-	Sanklecha Capfin Ltd.	Rs. 10.30 (as on 31.1.2001)
Kanpur	Sahara India Financial Corporation Ltd	Rs. 110223.04
Patna	Janam Kundali Savings & Investment Co. Ltd.	Rs. 19.44
-do-	Helios Finance & Investment Ltd. (Application for Certificate of Registration is rejected)	Rs. 3226.00 (as on 31.3.97)

1	2	3
Patna	Standard Savings & Investment Co. Ltd. (Application for Certificate of Registration is rejected)	Rs. 500.00 (as on 31.3.1995)
Thiru' puram	Assalam Financial Investment Co. Pvt. Ltd. (Registered as 'A' category)	Rs. 4.95
-do-	Balthul Islam Finance & Investment (India) Pvt. Ltd. (Registered as 'A' category)	Rs. 1.65
-do-	Balthul Islam Finance & Investment Pvt Ltd. (Application for Certificate of Registration is rejected)	Rs. 13.00

[Translation]

#### Industries in the Country

2949. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

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

(a) the total number of industries operating in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of industries out of them owned by private/public sector separately in each State; and

(c) the funds provided to each State by the Union Government for the development of industries during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The total number of industries set up in the non-SSI sector in various States/Union Territories since August, 1991 till January, 2001, in terms of industrial licenses issued, is given in Statement-I.

(b) Out of the 5077 units set up since August, 1991 till January, 2001 in the Non-SSI Sector, about 84% are privately owned units.

(c) The plan funds allocated to each State/Union Territory by the Union Government for the development of "industry and mineral" sector during last three years are given in Statement-II.

#### Statement-I

State-wise details of the number of Industries set up in the country

Name of the State/U.T.	In the non-SSI Sector (Between Aug. 1991 and Jan, 2001)	
	1	2
Andhra Pradesh		357
Assam		18
Arunachal Pradesh		2
Bihar		15
Chhattisgarh		39
Goa		59
Gujarat		888
Haryana		343
Himachal Pradesh		22
Jammu & Kashmir		9
Jharkhand		30
Karnataka		179
Kerala		86
Madhya Pradesh		271
Maharashtra		835
Manipur		0
Meghalaya		1
Mizoram		0
Nagaland		0
Orissa		21
Punjab		266
Rajasthan		264
Sikkim		0
Tripura		0
Tamil Nadu		523
Uttar Pradesh		426
Uttaranchal		24
West Bengal		198
Andaman & Nicobar		0

1	2
Chandigarh	4
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	44
Daman & Diu	54
Delhi	52
Lakshadweep	0
Pondicherry	30
More than one state	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>5077</b>

**Statement-II**

*The details of approved plan outlays for the "Industry & Mineral" Sector from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 (State-wise)*

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the State	Approved outlay		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	42.44	80.44	60.44
Arunachal Pradesh	10.06	8.68	6.33
Assam	70.02	70.69	58.62
Bihar	27.78	35.00	52.00
Goa	3.86	2.42	2.68
Gujarat	141.00	268.32	297.90
Haryana	27.77	115.54	71.10
Himachal Pradesh	25.00	27.39	30.24
Jammu & Kashmir	65.11	70.89	55.49
Karnataka	181.93	146.69	155.55
Kerala	211.33	225.00	225.20
Madhya Pradesh	208.38	72.86	74.13
Maharashtra	105.11	112.54	130.44
Manipur	19.77	32.48	44.84
Meghalaya	13.44	15.00	15.00
Mizoram	10.87	11.94	14.31
Nagaland	11.72	10.05	10.05

1	2	3	4
Orissa	36.19	54.92	39.17
Punjab	51.49	53.01	56.94
Rajasthan	224.22	250.47	195.88
Sikkim	9.26	6.63	5.37
Tamil Nadu	177.20	104.12	107.38
Tripura	13.12	11.12	7.12
Uttar Pradesh	101.12	151.86	74.76
West Bengal	278.86	338.68	377.08
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9.61	15.54	14.00
Chandigarh	0.56	0.35	0.38
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.38	0.43	0.41
Daman & Diu	0.51	0.67	0.26
NCT of Delhi	8.00	21.10	25.00
Lakshadweep	1.83	1.79	1.64
Pondicherry	31.46	33.68	36.33

[English]

**Consumer Courts**

2950. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court, on January 8, 2001 have sought information from State Governments about the steps, they have taken to revitalise 'consumer courts' in line with the Bagla Committee Report;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have furnished the said information so far; and

(c) if so, the State-wise details of information provided and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) In its interim order dated 8.1.2001 on Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) No. 6928/1999, the Hon'ble Supreme Court asked the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to submit an affidavit spelling out the action, if any, taken on the Bagla Committee Report.

(b) and (c) As informed by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, they have furnished the required

information through an affidavit to the Hon'ble Supreme Court explaining their difficulties in creating additional posts as per the recommendations of the Bagla Committee Report.

[Translation]

### Production/Import of Cement

2951. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL :  
SHRI R.L. JALAPPA :

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

(a) the estimated annual production of cement in the country;

(b) whether the above quantity is sufficient for the country;

(c) if not, whether the shortage of cement had adversely affected the prices of cement;

(d) if so, the steps being taken to meet the shortage and to arrest the rise in prices of cement;

(e) whether the State Governments including Karnataka have requested the Government to allow import of cement; and

(f) if so, the quantum of cement likely to be imported and from which country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The cement production during the first 11 months of the current year, i.e. April-2000-February, 2001 was 84.24 million tonnes (Provisional). The cement production during the corresponding period of last year was 84.65 million tonnes. The estimated production for the current year is 92 million tonnes.

(b) The cement industry is demand driven and has adequate capacity to meet additional demands.

(c) No, Sir. There is no shortage of cement and market forces determine the price of cement.

(d) The prices are being closely monitored. Meetings have been held with cement manufacturers in this regard and it has been reported that the price rise has been arrested and a marginal decline has occurred in some places. Government have also announced reduction of import duty on cement from 35% to 25% and this is likely to have stabilising effect on prices.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. State Governments of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have requested the Government to liberalise imports. As the Cement is in

OGL, the above State Governments and others are free to import cement.

[English]

### Disinvestment in Hindustan Zinc Limited

2952. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the disinvestment of Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL);

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) the percentage of equity proposed to be divested;

(d) whether the disinvestment process of HZL has started; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has decided for disinvestment of 26% equity in Hindustan Zinc Ltd. through strategic sale giving appropriate role in management to the strategic partner.

(d) and (e) The disinvestment process in HZL has started and the "Qualified Interested Parties" are now engaged in due diligence exercise.

### Banking Procedure for NRIs

2953. SHRI K YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the banking procedure have been simplified for NRIs who are investing in Government securities and shares; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the simplified procedure, it is no longer necessary for the NRIs to make any application to RBI before making investments in Government securities. NRIs can invest in Government securities both on repatriation and non-repatriation basis. No permission from RBI is needed for such investments. >

**Proforma Accounts**

2954. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mandatory for departmentally managed Government Undertakings of commercial or quasi-commercial nature to maintain such subsidiary and proforma accounts as may be prescribed by the Government;

(b) if so, whether these Government undertakings are not maintaining the said proforma accounts for the last many years;

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

(d) the details of departmentally managed Government undertakings indicating their position of proforma accounts; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to get these proforma accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

**New PDS Policy**

2955. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government intend to announce any new public distribution policy for earthquake affected areas of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, Government does not intend to announce any new Public Distribution policy for earthquake affected areas of Gujarat. However, a quantity of 80,000 tonnes of wheat and 20,000 tonnes of rice has been allotted to Government of Gujarat as special additional allocation for distribution to families affected by the earthquake. Similarly, 10,000 tonnes of advance levy sugar has been allocated for distribution in the earthquake affected areas in Gujarat and an *ad hoc* allocation of 45,000 kilolitre of kerosene over and above the normal quota has been sanctioned to meet the situation arising out of earthquake.

**Ex-Factory Prices of Cement**

2956. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ex-Factory cement prices in India are the lowest in the world;

(b) whether cement is the second highest revenue contributor in India in terms of excise duty amounting to Rs. 3500 crores per annum;

(c) whether the entire cement industry has been adversely affected by depressed cement prices; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to improve cement Industry in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) This information is not centrally monitored.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Cement prices have increased in the last six months.

(d) Cement industry is decontrolled and delicensed. Government is providing infrastructural support like coal linkage to cement industry to maintain cement production. Rail wagons are also allotted on priority basis.

Recent initiatives of Government in the areas of urban infrastructure development and tax benefits for Housing sector is likely to boost up the demand for cement.

Accelerated implementation of Prime Minister's National Highways Development Project with emphasis on construction of concrete roads is likely to give a major fillip to cement sector.

**Export of Cardamom**

2957. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of production of Cardamom as of now;

(b) whether Cardamom is being imported/exported;

(c) if so, the details of import/export of Cardamom with value thereof in rupee terms during the last three years;

(d) whether there is demand to declare support price for Cardamom;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):  
(a) According to the rough estimates made by NABARD/ Spices Board, the cost of production of small cardamom is approximately Rs. 275 per kg and for the large cardamom is approximately Rs. 40 per kg.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of import/export of cardamom (small and large) during the last 3 years are given below:

#### Cardamom (Small)

Year	Export		Import*	
	Qty.(MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	Qty.(MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1997-98	370	1266.78	88	151.38
1998-99	476	2525.27	277	838.26
1999-00*	646	3201.84	175	538.92

\*Provisional.

Source: Spices Board

#### Cardamom (Large)

Year	Export		Import*	
	Qty.(MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	Qty.(MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1997-98	1648	1264.46	3048	1342.59
1998-99	1288	1269.46	3860	1431.99
1999-00*	1211	1696.89	3728	1828.36

\* Provisional.

Source: Spices Board

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

#### Export of Iron, Manganese and Other Minerals

2958. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :  
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV:  
SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

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

(a) whether the export of iron, manganese and other minerals from various States including Orissa and Bihar have declined during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of various minerals exported from each state during the above period;

(c) the reason for decline in the export of these minerals;

(d) the countries presently importing iron ore, manganese and other minerals from different states;

(e) the action plan formulated by the Government to increase the export of iron, manganese and other minerals from these States;

(f) whether some mine owners in the private sector are exporting minerals directly to different countries;

(g) if so, the details of such private sector mine owners who are directly exporting minerals from Orissa and other States; and

(h) their annual export turn-over during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):  
(a) to (d) Central Government maintains export data for the country as a whole and not State-wise. The export details in respect of minerals and ores to various countries during the last three years are given in enclosed Statement-I. There has been a marginal decline in the export of minerals in 1998-99 as compared to 1997-98 due to East-Asian crisis which started around 1997 and led to serious drop in demand for minerals in important markets, like Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, etc. but with the return of investor confidence in the Asian markets, the exports picked up in 1999-2000, by 4.5% (Rs. 170 crores) more than the corresponding period in 1998-99.

(e) The Government annually fixes export targets depending on previous years' export performance and demand situation in the international market to boost exports. The Government has also identified major minerals such as Iron ore and Chrome ore for exports as per their availability when surplus to domestic demand, and has permitted private exporters on certain specifications to export high-grade iron ore to bring in healthy competition. Apart from the traditional markets for export of minerals i.e. Japan, South Korea, Australia, Germany, Hong Kong, Taiwan, recently China, Pakistan and the Middle-East have shown their willingness to import minerals from India.

(f) to (h) Yes, Sir. private exporters are directly exporting minerals from different States. Details of annual export turn-over of major mine-owners (registered with CAPEXIL, an export promotion council under Department of Commerce) directly exporting minerals from various States for the last three years are given in enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

(Qty. in Million Tonnes; Value in Rs. Crore)

Minerals Exported	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000 (Prov.)		Major Countries
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	
Iron Ore	29	1770	22	1616	16	1151	Australia, Belgium, Chinese, Taipei, China PR, France, Germany, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Pakistan, Romania, U.K.
Mica	0.05	40	0.05	43	0.02	41	Belgium, China PR, Germany, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, U.K., U.S.A.
Coal	0.54	88	0.82	141	1.11	111	Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal
Processed Minerals	N.M.	1251	N.M.	1065	N.M.	1004	Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chinese Taipei, China PR, Denmark, Germany, Hongkong, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Srilanka, U.A.E., U.K., U.S.A.
Other Ores & Minerals	N.M.	793	N.M.	894	N.M.	1622	Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Chinese Taipei, China PR, Germany, Hongkong, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, U.A.E., U.K., U.S.A.
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>3942</b>		<b>3759</b>		<b>3929</b>	

(N.M.: Not maintained. DGCI&amp;S maintains only value-wise data) (Source: DGCI&amp;S)

**Statement-II**

S.No.	Name of the Firms (M/s.)	Export Turnover (Rs. Crore)			Product Exported
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	(M/s.)				
1.	Ashapura Mine Chem. Ltd., Mumbai	47.22	36.20	11.5	Bauxite other than calcined
2.	Chowgule and Co. Ltd., Goa	165.67	161.88	137.17	Iron Ores
3.	Dempo Mining Corporation Ltd., Panaji	N/A	13.22	16.42	Iron Ores
4.	Essel Mining and Industries Ltd., Kolkata	2.14	1.71	2.08	Iron Ores
5.	Hari and Company, Thoothukudi	1.54	N/A	7.07	Salt
6.	Hindalco Industries Ltd., Kolkata	111.72	83.33	171.43	Aluminium Metal
7.	Misrilal Mines Pvt.Ltd., Kolkata	11.31	5.41	11.15	Chrome Ores
8.	MSPL Ltd., Bellary	30.77	45.30	54.34	Iron Ores
9.	Orint (Goa) Ltd., Panaji	17.29	17.07	7.97	Iron Ores
10.	PKS Ltd., Kolkata	5.58	0.14	3.66	Coal

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	R. Dapmon Pala, Jayantia Hills, Meghalaya	13.72	12.30	5.12	Coal
12.	Rankars Salt Works, Kachchh	Nil	Nil	2.98	Salt
13.	Rawmin Mining & Ind. Pvt.Ltd., Porbandar	0.11	1.70	3.09	Bauxite other than calcined
14.	Resources Intl., Panaji	28.39	33.20	16.89	Iron Ores
15.	Salgaoncar Mining Ind. Ltd., Marmugoa	57.12	83.49	66.85	Iron Ores
16.	Sandur Manganese & Iron Ore Ltd., Bangalore	26.29	20.29	18.15	Manganese Ore
17.	Saurashtra Calcined Bauxite & Allied Metals, Porbandar	Nil	5.04	7.46	Bauxite other than calcined
18.	Timblo Ltd., Marmagosa	16.11	17.07	7.04	Iron Ores
19.	V.M. Salgaocar & Brothes Ltd., Vascodagama	113.87	98.41	91.21	Iron Ores
20.	V.M. Salgaocar Sales International, Vascodagama	26.69	12.65	9.88	Iron Ores
21.	V.S. Dempo & Co. Ltd., Goa	119.28	98.52	88.47	Iron Ores
22.	Vaas Exports, Tuticorin	2.20	6.16	15.86	Salt
23.	Gem Granites, Chennai	142.46	76.19	99.60	Granites
24.	Indian Aluminium Co. Ltd., Kolkata	149.32	130.20	201.10	Calcined Aluminium
25.	Madhav Marbels & Granite Ltd., Udaipur	26.65	33.24	29.40	Granite Tiles
26.	G.T.P. Granites Ltd., Salem	23.75	24.76	26.71	Granite Monuments
27.	P.R.P. Granite, Madurai	9.98	24.10	27.81	Granite Dimensional Block
28.	Crystal Granite & Marble Ltd., Mumbai	16.89	16.59	25.96	Granite Slabs
29.	Pokarna Granite Ltd., Secunderabad	12.98	14.77	25.34	Granite Building
30.	Padmawati Buildmat, Udaipur	9.49	15.81	20.59	Marble Slabs & Tiles
31.	Aro Granite Ind. Ltd., Hosur	11.45	15.07	20.40	Granite Tiles
32.	Amman Granites, Horur	12.64	10.66	19.69	Granite Monument
33.	Ashok Granites Ltd., Salem	13.28	16.06	18.89	Granite Monument
34.	Village Craft (International), Delhi	6.47	9.25	13.88	Other Stone & Products thereof

(Source: CAPEXIL)

#### Loan Sanctioned by Financial Institutions

2959. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise amount of loan sanctioned by various FIs during the last three years, FI-wise;

(b) the State-wise amount of loan sanctioned by these FIs during the above period;

(c) whether these institutions have achieved the target fixed for this period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The State-wise and Institution-wise details of amount of loans sanctioned by various financial institutions during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Institutions are not having State-wise targets for sanctioning of loans. However, the total sanctioning depends upon various factors including overall exposure limits set by RBI for individual companies and groups, internal exposure limit for each industry, resource constraints and availability of support-worthy projects.

## Statement

State-wise/Institution-wise assistance sanctioned by IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, SIDBI, IIBI and EXIM Banks

State	(Rs. in crore)												
	IDBI			IFCI			ICICI			SIDBI			
	1998-99	2000-01	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Andhra Pradesh	1865.1	4394.8	1517.1	475.5	287.2	27.8	1645.1	3406.9	1118.3	180.9	253.5	102.5	
Arunachal Pradesh													
Assam	48.1	43.4	24.5	13.6			27.0	181.7	197.0	8.2	13.3	1.9	
Bihar	678.3	241.5	13.0	35.6	23.2		292.5	607.6	111.5	95.9	103.0	9.0	
Goa	187.1	71.5	16.0	10.0		4.1	45.0	136.0	38.0	86.2	54.5	23.5	
Gujarat	2091.4	4538.9	1803.3	318.3	615.6	180.1	4615.0	5677.5	6657.6	457.6	552.4	198.0	
Haryana	520.2	572.8	656.5	89.6	43.7		780.5	959.9	833.2	306.3	247.9	36.9	
Himechal Pradesh	66.7	373.0	28.7	192.5	64.3	30.0	0.0	175.0	79.6	38.7	37.0	17.6	
Jammu & Kashmir		41.5	40.0				15.0	262.5	121.5	20.1	17.3	10.3	
Karnataka	2319.7	1262.3	876.3	292.7	206.4	80.5	1427.8	2689.2	2767.9	418.5	353.1	291.3	
Kerala	367.4	222.0	162.1	55.0		5.0	179.1	162.0	112.5	265.6	353.5	33.0	
Madhya Pradesh	700.8	1122.7	464.7	184.5	22.8	35.0	1169.9	631.0	1111.2	243.2	263.2	58.2	
Maharashtra	5539.4	4878.5	3371.3	1305.1	317.5	180.4	11678.1	11755.4	15353.8	865.5	738.0	72.9	
Manipur										3.7	4.8		
Meghalaya			12.3							4.8	4.1	5.4	
Mizoram										1.0	1.1		
Nagaland										1.5	1.5	0.1	
Orissa	142.4	46.3	366.8			40.0	616.4	2275.3	327.3	135.2	141.7	9.6	
Punjab	546.8	1526.2	1352.5	115.3	84.8	22.0	817.2	443.1	509.5	226.2	270.0	30.5	
Rajasthan	1020.5	778.2	547.8	91.9	38.8	5.0	150.1	419.1	1076.0	151.7	243.6	62.1	
Sikkim	0.4								100.0	6.6	2.5	0.4	
Tamil Nadu	2532.0	3368.1	2094.9	510.9	54.6	13.8	3573.2	3801.9	2519.2	509.4	557.1	126.5	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Tripura										3.9	5.0	2.1
Uttar Pradesh	2048.7	810.9	829.8	458.8	178.2	72.0	865.2	2112.8	2016.5	271.7	186.5	58.9
West Bengal	509.4	925.2	1453.5	57.7	75.1	152.5	2145.6	1920.8	1700.2	294.6	218.2	28.8
National Capital Territory of Delhi	2251.5	1927.2	2998.6	76.0	108.2	115.2	1842.5	5739.4	5073.8	186.5	261.9	27.0
Union Territories:	213.7	169.8	88.0	162.4	255.8	28.8	65.2	166.3	209.0	25.6	28.6	4.8
(a) Andaman & Nicobar										0.1		
(b) Daman & Diu	56.8	56.0	50.0	10.0			12.0	65.0	51.0	0.2	2.2	1.1
(c) Dadra & Nagar H.	105.5	66.4	18.0	92.4	255.8		37.7	51.3	10.0	15.7	16.2	1.8
(d) Chandigarh	22.7	42.4		55.0					75.0	2.4	8.4	1.0
(e) Lakshadweep												
(f) Pondicherry	28.7	5.0	20.0	5.0		28.8	15.5	50.0	73.0	7.1	1.9	0.9
Multistate/non-specific areas							420.3	955.5	2717.1			
<b>Total</b>	<b>23649.7</b>	<b>27315.0</b>	<b>18717.5</b>	<b>4445.2</b>	<b>2376.2</b>	<b>992.2</b>	<b>32370.6</b>	<b>44478.8</b>	<b>44750.6</b>	<b>4810.3</b>	<b>4914.5</b>	<b>1211.1</b>

  

State	IIBI		EXIM Bank		Total				
	April-Dec.		April-Dec.		April-Dec.				
	1998-99	1999-2000	1998-99	1999-2000	1998-99	1999-2000			
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Andhra Pradesh	109.7	88.4	173.0	189.8	188.2	19.0	4466.1	8619.0	2957.7
Arunachal Pradesh							1.5	1.5	
Assam	2.4						99.3	238.4	223.3
Bihar	12.6	12.9					1114.9	988.3	133.5
Goa	85.0	20.0					413.3	281.9	81.6
Gujarat	278.8	154.9	10.0	94.9	84.5	72.0	7855.9	11623.8	8921.0
Haryana	28.2	51.8	40.0	14.5	2.0		1739.3	1878.1	1566.6
Himachal Pradesh							302.9	694.3	155.9
Jammu & Kashmir	5.0	45.0					35.1	321.3	171.8

(Rs. in crore)

	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1									
Karnataka	122.7	190.3	49.8	49.0	28.4	27.3	4630.4	4729.6	4093.0
Kerala	20.0	8.0		6.0			893.1	745.5	312.6
Madhya Pradesh	51.0	69.9	33.0	5.0	22.0	30.0	2354.4	2131.5	1732.0
Maharashtra	644.9	456.4	143.7	84.5	213.6	118.7	20117.5	18359.3	19240.7
Manipur							3.7	4.8	0.0
Meghalaya							4.8	4.1	17.7
Mizoram							1.0	1.1	0.0
Nagaland			3.0				1.5	1.5	3.1
Orissa	105.0	300.0	11.0				998.9	2763.3	754.6
Punjab	50.9	5.8	56.4				1756.3	2329.8	1970.9
Rajasthan	78.0	100.0	18.0			3.8	1492.2	1579.7	1712.8
Sikkim							7.0	2.5	100.4
Tamil Nadu	228.1	349.6	260.0	55.5	166.7	33.1	7409.1	8298.0	5047.4
Tripura							3.9	5.0	2.1
Uttar Pradesh	140.5	60.9	25.0	83.0	50.0		3867.8	3399.4	3002.2
West Bengal	185.4	319.7	235.0	111.4	78.3		3304.1	3537.3	3570.0
National Capital Territory of Delhi	17.5	103.6	20.0	4.7	12.3	114.6	4378.7	8152.7	8349.1
Union Territories:	9.5	1.0	2.0			0.0	476.3	621.5	332.6
(a) Andaman & Nicobar							0.1		0.0
(b) Daman & Diu							79.0	123.2	102.1
(c) Dadra & Nagar H.	9.5		2.0				260.8	389.7	31.8
(d) Chandigarh		1.0					80.1	51.7	76.0
(e) Lakshadweep									0.0
(f) Pondicherry							56.3	56.9	122.7
Multistate/non-specific areas			376.2				420.3	955.5	3093.4
Total	175.2	2338.1	1456.1	698.2	846.9	418.5	68149.1	82268.4	67546.0

**Effect on FDI from US**

2960. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that FDI into India would be discouraged of US by global over capacity and foreign portfolio investment may shrink dramatically due to plunging US stock market and increasing trade deficit; and

(b) if so, the steps being considered by the Government to face the worst?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The foreign investment is dependent on several factors such as domestic economic conditions; policy regime governing foreign investment; world economic trends and strategy of global investors. US ranks No. 1 in so far as foreign investment into India is concerned.

(b) With a view to further refining the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy and enhancing India's attractiveness as an investment destination, Government has already put in place a transparent, dynamic and investment friendly FDI policy placing almost all activities under the automatic route for FDI upto 100% except a small list.

**Shortage of Edible Salt**

2961. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether salt industrial area adjacent to the NH-4 near Bhachan in Bhuj had been completely wiped out; and

(b) if so, the action taken/planned to ensure that there is no shortage of edible salt in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) No, Sir. However, some cracks have appeared in various compartments of the salt works.

(b) Enough stock of edible salt is available in Gujarat and also in other salt producing States. As such, shortage of salt in the country is not anticipated.

**Supply of Foodgrains**

2962. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where the scheme for providing ten kgs. foodgrains per family at half rates under public distribution system has been implemented;

(b) the number of families being benefited under the said scheme, State-wise;

(c) the rates at which foodgrains are being provided, State-wise; and

(d) the names of States where foodgrains are not being provided at ration shops at half of the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) A quantity of 10 Kg. foodgrains per family per month were allocated to BPL families in all States/UTs except Delhi and Lakshadweep at highly subsidized prices under the Targetted Public Distribution System introduced in 1977. From April, 2000, the allocation for BPL families has been doubled from 10 Kg to 20 Kg per family per month at 50% of economic cost. TPDS has been implemented in all States/UTs except Lakshadweep.

(b) The number of BPL families covered under TPDS is given in enclosed statement-I.

(c) The Central Issue Price at which foodgrains are made available to the States under TPDS are as follows:

Commodity	(Rs. per quintal)	
	Below Poverty Line (BPL)	Above Poverty Line (APL)
Wheat	415	830
Rice		
(a) Common	565	1087\$
(b) Grade 'A'	565	1130

\$ - Applicable to Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, North-East States, Sikkim and hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(d) Under TPDS guidelines, States have been instructed to keep the end retail price at fair price shops level at not more than 50 paise per Kg over the Central Issue Price for the BPL families. A Statement-II indicating end retail prices of foodgrains in the States/UTs at the FPS level is enclosed.

**Statement-I***Projected Population, % BPL as per expert group, Total no. of Household, BPL & APL Household as on 1.3.2000*

S.No.	State/UT	Total Population (Projected) as on 1.3.2000	% BPL as per Expert group	Total No. of the household as on 1.3.2000	No. of the BPL household as on 1.3.2000	No. of APL household as on 1.3.2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	754.66	25.68	158.21	40.63	117.58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.92	40.86	2.42	0.99	1.43
3.	Assam	261.96	40.86	44.93	18.36	26.57
4.	Bihar	999.42	54.96	162.24	89.17	73.07
5.	Goa	15.95	14.92	3.20	0.48	2.72
6.	Gujarat	482.52	24.21	87.57	21.20	66.37
7.	Haryana	198.31	25.05	31.48	7.89	23.59
8.	Himachal Pradesh	67.11	40.86	12.57	5.14	7.43
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	99.45	40.86	18.02	7.36	10.66
10.	Karnataka	520.91	33.16	94.37	31.29	63.08
11.	Kerala	322.62	25.43	61.10	15.54	45.56
12.	Madhya Pradesh	797.47	42.52	141.15	60.01	81.14
13.	Maharashtra	911.15	36.86	177.27	65.34	111.93
14.	Manipur	25.13	40.86	4.07	1.66	2.41
15.	Meghalaya	24.34	40.86	4.49	1.83	2.66
16.	Mizoram	9.52	40.86	1.67	0.63	0.99
17.	Nagaland	16.84	40.86	3.02	1.24	1.78
18.	Orissa	353.57	43.56	67.91	32.98	34.93
19.	Punjab	235.36	11.77	39.76	4.68	35.08
20.	Rajasthan	535.59	27.41	88.67	24.31	54.36
21.	Sikkim	5.59	41.43	1.05	0.43	0.62
22.	Tamil Nadu	617.74	35.00	138.82	43.63	90.19
23.	Tripura	37.82	40.86	7.22	2.95	4.27
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1701.88	40.85	273.61	111.77	161.84
25.	West Bengal	790.06	35.66	145.23	51.79	93.44
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	3.86	34.47	0.81	0.23	0.53
27.	Chandigarh	8.88	11.36	2.03	0.23	1.80
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.90	50.84	0.36	0.18	0.18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29.	Daman & Diu	1.40	14.69	0.26	0.04	0.22
30.	Delhi	139.64	141.69	27.82	4.09	23.73
31.	Lakshadweep	0.71	25.04	0.11	0.03	0.08
32.	Pondicherry	11.11	37.40	2.24	0.84	1.40
Total		9969.44		1803.68	652.04	1151.64

**Statement-II***Issue Prices at Fair Price Shops in States/UTs*

S.No.	States	BPL		APL			Reported As on
		Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Common**	Rice Gr.A	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	-	5.25	9.00	-	12.00	26.7.2000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6.40	9.50	11.85	12.30	1.4.2000
3.	Assam#	-	6.54-6.80	9.94-10.20	-	13.00-13.26	1.4.2000
4.	Bihar	5.10	6.48	9.84	-	12.89	1.4.2000
5.	Delhi	4.65	-	9.50	-	12.30	25.1.2001
6.	Goa	-	6.30	9.50	-	12.40	1.4.2000
7.	Gujarat *	2.00	3.00	10.65	-	13.80	1.4.2000
8.	Haryana	4.65	-	8.80	-	-	27.7.2000
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5.00	7.20	9.80	-	13.00-13.50	1.4.2000
10.	Jammu & Kashmir #	5.10	6.50	9.50	12.00	12.50	1.4.2000
11.	Karnataka *	4.65	6.15	9.10	-	12.25	17.8.2000
12.	Kerala	-	6.20	8.90	-	11.90	27.7.2000
13.	Madhya Pradesh #	4.65	6.15	9.04	-	12.15	25.7.2000
14.	Maharashtra #	4.00	5.40	9.80	-	13.50	1.8.2000
15.	Manipur	-	4.00	7.60	7.64	9.77	Feb. 1999
16.	Meghalaya	-	6.40	9.60-10.00	11.85-12.15	12.30-12.60	1.4.2000
17.	Mizoram	-	4.00	7.90	7.50	9.55	31.3.2000
18.	Nagaland	5.98	6.15	10.34		11.90	1.8.2000
19.	Orissa	4.90	6.30	9.81	-	12.76	14.2.2001
20.	Punjab	4.58	5.96	9.06	-	11.86	1.4.2000
21.	Rajasthan	4.60	6.15	8.90	-	12.00	25.7.2000
22.	Sikkim	-	6.40	9.50	-	12.50	1.4.2000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Tamil Nadu	2.00	3.50	9.75	-	N.A.	1.4.2000
24.	Tripura	-	6.15	9.05	11.60	12.25	1.9.2000
25.	Uttar Pradesh	5.00	6.40	9.50	-	12.30	1.4.2000
26.	West Bengal	5.00	6.40	9.70	-	12.60	1.4.2000
27.	Andaman & Nicobar	4.65	6.15	9.40	-	12.35	1.8.2000
28.	Chandigarh	4.87	6.28	10.12	-	12.44	1.4.2000
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4.65	6.00	9.00	-	11.90	31.8.2000
30.	Daman & Diu	5.00	6.40	9.80	-	12.80	1.4.2000
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	4.00	8.00	-	11.80	20.9.2000

TPDS not launched in Lakshadweep.

\* Additional subsidy borne by State Government.

\*\* Applicable only to J&K, H.P. and hilly areas of North Eastern States including Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh

N.A. - Not available (to be intimated by the State Government)

# - Differs from area to area.

#### Limit for Repatriation for MNCs

2963. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any limit for the repatriation by way of royalty, profit etc. by the multinational companies/foreign direct investors in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Payment of royalty upto 8% on exports and 5% on domestic sales is permissible to joint venture companies/wholly owned subsidiaries of foreign companies under the automatic route. Payment of royalty upto 2% on exports and 1% on domestic sales is also allowed under automatic route on use of trademarks and brand names of the foreign collaborator without technology transfer.

[Translation]

#### Discontinuation of Regional News Bulletins

2964. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :  
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently taken a decision to discontinue the news being broadcast in

regional languages in National broadcast from Akashwani Kendra, Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to restart the broadcasting of these regional news bulletins; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati had earlier decided to shift some Indian language units from Delhi to the respective State capitals. On receipt of representations against this decision, Prasar Bharati reconsidered the matter and decided to continue to originate the Indian language news bulletins from Delhi.

#### Recovery of Loans Disbursed under PMRY

2965. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the loans disbursed to the educated unemployed youths under the self-employment scheme are not being recovered satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the State-wise recovery of such loans made by public sector banks during each of the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise number of persons who actually started some business on the basis of loans given

under the Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) As per the information provided by Reserve Bank of India, the loans disbursed to educated unemployed youth under the self employment scheme are not being recovered satisfactorily. The all India average of recovery under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the last three years reflects the declining trend recovery being 44.2% for year ending March, 1988, 41.9% in 1999

and 37.2% in the year ending March, 2000. The reasons for poor recovery under PMRY include under financing of the projects, project mismanagement, inadequate marketing facilities, borrowers getting job elsewhere and losing interest in the project and also willful default.

The State-wise details of recovery of loans against loan demand raised at the half year ended March 1998, 1999 & 2000 and number of persons assisted under PMRY during the last three years at the end of March 1998, 1999 and 2000 (provisional) are given in the statement below.

### Statement

*State-wise loan demand raised, recovery made & number of persons assisted under PMRY by all scheduled commercial banks during the year ended 31st March 1998, 1999 & 2000.*

Name of the States/UTs	Half Year ended March, 1998		End of March 1998	Half Year ended March, 1999		End of March 1999	Half year ended March, 2000		End of March 2000
	Demand raised	Recovery	No. of person assisted	Demand raised	Recovery	No. of person assisted	Demand raised	Recovery	No. of person assisted
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	7405.89	3435.93	20557	11153.19	4578.92	15186	17413.12	8209.81	10633
Assam	3105.27	408.66	7437	6234.11	991.21	5525	16684.90	2186.35	4088
Bihar	5963.07	1994.69	12146	8187.35	2621.15	8364	14085.79	4163.23	7009
Gujarat	4237.52	1903.63	7110	4477.03	2874.25	10607	3906.18	2425.69	10028
Haryana	2003.43	1141.69	4925	2985.43	1458.82	5742	3407.90	1735.91	5468
Himachal Pradesh	999.07	527.38	2009	1226.96	717.64	1913	1280.04	663.37	1943
Jammu & Kashmir	241.64	101.24	1969	1228.56	288.34	835	855.32	271.14	868
Karnataka	5447.42	2528.57	14021	7020.54	3132.23	13188	11466.08	4889.27	13391
Kerala	3742.67	2035.63	11542	7438.40	4104.62	11749	8932.88	4096.37	11907
Madhya Pradesh	12030.84	4970.58	22271	10972.83	4512.45	19102	15210.12	5717.79	15863
Maharashtra	13553.00	6228.96	30514	15119.63	6709.87	26346	20596.94	8751.92	23985
Manipur	1434.73	115.38	658	2681.91	200.70	407	3706.34	80.83	228
Meghalaya	244.47	102.93	377	445.26	171.41	202	1076.36	203.97	318
Nagaland	264.90	53.69	335	361.30	128.99	40	1741.59	9.05	72
Orissa	1628.56	605.55	4903	4242.72	1456.65	3106	5809.71	1258.06	1578
Punjab	3170.20	1942.55	7934	4725.88	2791.99	8075	6036.43	3683.92	8188
Rajasthan	2523.50	1207.28	9681	3635.19	1707.99	10059	4044.76	1981.89	10154
Sikkim	39.31	17.77	58	66.58	31.12	45	82.37	19.22	44
Tamil Nadu	7125.71	3683.35	12770	9742.21	3939.67	11422	10609.73	4372.16	11100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Tripura	250.78	71.19	216	663.38	191.82	110	1099.67	205.77	200
Uttar Pradesh	9812.49	4712.25	31523	14368.82	6824.71	35023	23578.25	11325.23	34501
West Bengal	2551.65	826.26	4021	3957.98	1133.85	2726	6229.08	1570.67	2348
Andaman & Nicobar	56.13	24.10	61	85.73	37.25	77	53.47	17.93	100
Arunachal Pradesh	120.69	42.95	178	152.75	68.06	166	1033.14	294.00	112
Chandigarh	199.05	77.04	114	181.78	75.56	75	227.45	91.85	49
Dadar & Nagar Havelli	163.23	36.62	67	201.48	45.62	28	125.04	54.32	25
Delhi	723.86	306.03	755	913.66	365.00	508	1289.40	378.26	553
Goa	310.52	195.68	251	270.36	179.41	300	475.44	275.41	404
Mizoram	105.19	49.54	334	134.01	55.96	37	855.37	193.36	38
Pondicherry	375.21	147.10	308	283.91	122.27	330	267.13	88.76	238
Lakshadweep	10.70	9.90	40	12.00	9.82	31	-	-	33
Daman & Diu	135.00	40.00	23	9.51	1.18	21	6.08	4.62	25
Not Specified	3270.64	1678.38	-	4244.23	1881.59	6	1399.58	638.10	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>93246.34</b>	<b>41222.5</b>	<b>208103</b>	<b>127624.68</b>	<b>53379.72</b>	<b>191351</b>	<b>182579.68</b>	<b>67858.23</b>	<b>175522</b>

Note: Data Provisional

[English]

### Equity Share Capital of IFCI

2966. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the authorised and paid-up Equity share capital of the industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) as on date;

(b) whether the public sector banks and financial institutions are the major shareholders of IFCI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and their respective stakes in IFCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The authorised and paid-up capital of IFCI is as under:

Authorised Share Capital of IFCI	Rs. 3000.00 crores
Paid up Equity Share Capital (as on 31.12.2000)	Rs. 638.68 crores
Paid up Preference Share Capital (as on 31.12.2000)	Rs. 457.27 crores

(b) and (c) The share holding pattern of IFCI including the share holding of Public sector Banks and Financial Institutions as on 31.12.2000 is given in the statement.

### Statement

The shareholding pattern of IFCI, including the shareholding of public sector banks and financial institutions, as on 31.12.2000, is as under

(Rs. crores)

S.No.	Particulars/Category of shareholders	Equity Shares		Preference Shares		Total	
		Amount	% Holding	Amount	% Holding	Amount	% Holding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Industrial Development Bank of India	202.50	31.71	Nil	0.00	202.50	18.48
2.	Nationalised Banks	45.63	7.14	175.19	38.31	220.82	20.15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3. Life insurance Corporation of India		53.61	8.39	Nil	0.00	53.61	4.89
4. General Insurance Corporation of India and its subsidiaries		58.04	9.09	5.65	1.24	63.69	5.81
5. State Bank of India and its subsidiaries		13.40	2.10	86.00	18.80	99.40	9.07
6. Unit Trust of India		28.56	4.47	Nil	0.00	28.56	2.61
7. Cooperative Banks		24.64	3.86	Nil	0.00	24.64	2.25
8. Other Bodies Corporates including Private Banks, Mutual Funds FIs etc.		47.42	7.42	189.16	41.37	236.58	21.58
9. Public		164.88	25.82	1.27	0.28	166.15	15.16
Total		638.68	100.00	457.27	100.00	1095.85	100.00

### Branches of IFCI

2967. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) proposes to open more branch offices at all the remaining State Capitals and other cities of the Country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the IFCI is considering to upgrade its branch offices at Patna, Guwahati, Kochi, Bhubaneshwar and Pune as regional offices to facilitate and generate resources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present IFCI has its corporate office in New Delhi and 11 Regional Offices at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Jaipur, Bhopal, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and New Delhi. In addition, IFCI has six other offices at Pune, Panaji, Kochi, Bhubneshwar, Patna and Guwahati. IFCI has no proposal at present to open any other office.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. IFCI does not propose to upgrade its Branch Offices at Patna, Guwahati, Kochi, Bhubneshwar and Pune as Regional Offices.

### Scarcity of Sugar

2968. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is scarcity of sugar in the country;

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

(c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the country self-reliant in sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) As against the requirement of sugar of 155.36 lakh tonnes during the season 1999-2000 (Oct.-Sept.), the production of sugar in the country was 181.41 lakh tonnes. The Sugar season 2000-2001 has commenced with a carry over stock of 92.97 lakh tones. The production in the current season is anticipated at the level of about 181 lakh tonnes meaning thereby that the total availability of sugar during the current season would be 273.97 lakh tonnes as against the anticipated annual internal requirement of 162.13 lakh tones.

### Interview of Stephen Hawkings

2969. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan announced to telecast live Prof. Stephen Hawking's Albert Einstein lecture in New Delhi on January 17, 2001 but failed to do so;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the matter has been inquired into and responsibility fixed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) The lecture by Professor Stephen Hawking, world renowned Physicist, in New Delhi on 17th January, 2001, was organized by the Centre for Philosophy and Foundation of Science. The telecast rights of the said event were with Discovery Channel. DD approached Discovery Channel and obtained the permission for telecast and thereafter issued a press release about the live telecast of the said lecture. Discovery Channel withdrew the permission for the live telecast on the evening of 16th January, 2001 on the grounds that the organizers had not agreed to the live telecast. However, DD made special arrangements with the Discovery Channel to obtain a recording of the said lecture and this was telecast on the News Channel on 18th January, 2001 at 10 PM and on DD-I on 21st January, 2001 at 7 PM.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Mutilated Notes**

2970. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India in Delhi and Mumbai has appointed certain individuals and firms to deal with exchange of torn, mutilated and soiled currency notes;

(b) whether these persons and firms have also been permitted to get bulk supplies of coins of different denominations;

(c) if so, the details thereof with formalities and eligibilities required for such appointment separately for individuals and firms;

(d) whether the Reserve Bank of India has been issuing currency notes of denominations of Rupee 1, 2 and 5 to general public on demand for their family functions;

(e) if so, the details thereof with formalities required in this regard especially for marriages;

(f) whether exchange of torn, mutilated and soiled currency notes has been authorised to certain public sector banks; and

(g) if so, the names of branches of these banks in Delhi and Mumbai separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) All currency chest branches of Public Sector Banks and certain Private Sector Banks having currency chest have been delegated powers for exchange of torn/mutilated/defective notes. All branches of Public Sector Banks have been instructed to freely exchange soiled notes tendered by the members of the public.

(g) The names of the currency chest branches located in Delhi and Mumbai are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

#### **Statement-I**

*List of Controlling Offices of currency chests located in the States of Delhi, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir*

The Regional Manager, Allahabad Bank, Regional Office, 13/34, Arya Samaj Road, New Delhi - 110005

The Regional Manager, Bank of India, Jeevan Bharati Building, Tower-1, Level - 5, 124, Connaught Circus, New Delhi - 110001

The Chief Manager, Central Bank of India, Zonal Office, Link House, Bhahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110002

The Regional Manager, Canara Bank, Regional Office, Kunjpura, Karnal.

The Deputy General Manager, Dena Bank, Regional Authority's Office, 2nd Floor, Keliran Chambers, 18/7-8, Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

The Assistant General Manager, Indian Bank, World Trade Centre, Upper Ground Floor, Babar Road, New Delhi - 110001

The Assistant General Manager, Bank of Baroda, Front Office, 1B Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001

The Regional Manager, Central Bank of India, 4, Queen Road, Civil Lines, Ambala, Punjab

The Regional Manager, Canara Bank, Regional Office, 35 Ansal Tower, 6th Floor, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019

The General Manager, Corporation Bank, Northern Region, Main Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi.

The Regional Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, Regional Office, Rachana Bldg., Pusa Road, New Delhi - 110005

The Deputy General Manager, Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd., Divisional Office, Padam Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi

The Deputy General Manager, The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd., Town Hall Building, Jammu.

The Assistant General Manager, Oriental Bank of Commerce, 97, Sonapat Road, Rohtak - 124001 (Haryana)

The General Manager, Oriental Bank of Commerce, 4/65, Padam Singh Road, W.E.A. Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

The Chief General Manager, Punjab National Bank, Regional Office, North-Delhi Region, 22 K.G. Marg, Antriksha Bhavan, New Delhi - 110001

The Chief Manager, Punjab National Bank, Regional Office, South Delhi Region, 12th Floor, Atma Ram House, 1, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi - 110001

The Assistant General Manager, Punjab & Sind Bank, Head Office, Asstts. & Audit Cell, D-38/39, Naraina Phase I New Delhi-110028

The Asstt. General Manager, State Bank of India, Zonal Office (Haryana), Sector 8-C, Chandigarh.

The Asstt. General Manager, State Bank of India, Zonal Office Region III, 122-A/D, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu

The Deputy General Manager, State Bank of Patiala, Zonal Office, C-31, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001

The General Manager, State Bank of Patiala, Head Office, The Mall, Patiala

The General Manager, State Bank of Hyderabad, Surya Kiran Building, 16, K.G. Marg, New Delhi

The ASstt. General Manager, State Bank of Mysore, AGM-II, Central Zone, Bangalore

The Regional Manager, Syndicate Bank, Regional Office, 6, Bhagwan Dass Road, New Delhi

The Asstt. Manager, Union Bank of India Regional Office, 64/65, bank Square, Chandigarh

The Zonal Manager, UCO Bank, Zonal Office, SCO 1092-93, Sector 22 B, Chandigarh

The Deputy General Manager, The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd., Srinagar.

The Assistant General Manager, Oriental Bank of Commerce, 841, Sector-I Karnal (Haryana)

The Deputy General Manager, Punjab National Bank Zonal Office, PNB House, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh.

The Deputy Control Manager, Punjab National Bank, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001

The Zonal Manager, Punjab & Sind Bank, Zonal Office, New Delhi

The Asstt. General Manager, State Bank of India, Zonal Office, 11, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001

The Asstt. General Manager, State Bank of India, Zonal Office Region II, Jammu

The Asstt. General Manager (BOD), State Bank of India, Local Head Office, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001

The Deputy General Manager, State Bank of Patiala, Zonal Office, Sector 8C, Chandigarh.

The Asstt. General Manager, State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur, Delhi Zonal Office, Shankar Road, New Delhi

The Asstt. General Manager, State Bank of Indore, Regional Office, 16/15, W.E.A. Karol Bagh, New Delhi

The ASstt. General Manager, State Bank of Saurashtra, Region A, Zonal Office, Ahmedabad.

The Chief Manager, Union Bank of India, Regional Office, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Place, New Delhi

The Zonal Manager, UCO Bank, Zonal Office (New Delhi Zone), 6, Sansad Marg, New Delhi

The Deputy General Manager, Vijaya Bank, Zonal Office, Vijaya, 3rd Floor, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi

#### **Statement-II**

##### *List of Controlling Offices of currency chests located in Mumbai*

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Mumbai Main Branch, Mumbai Samachar Marg, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Irla Road, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, LBS Marg, Ghatkopar (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Linking Road, Bandra (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Sakinaka, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Chembur, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, S.B. Road, Malad (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, International Air Cargo Complex, Satellite Building, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Shantilal Modi Marg, Kandivali(W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, 76 A. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Matunga, Mumbai.

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, LBS Marg, BEST Depot, Kurla, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Backbay Reclamation, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Ranade Road, Shivaji Park, Dadar Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Kalpataru, 39, Peddar Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Central Bank of India, M.G. Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of Baroda, Sanjay Building, Road No. 1, 111, Jawahar Nagar, Goregaon (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of India, 56, Hill Road, Bandra (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of India, 408 A, Veer Savarkar Road, Prabhadevi, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of India, 70/80, M.G. Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of Maharashtra, 333, Jagannath Shankarseth Road, Thakurwadi, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Canara Bank, 24, Adi Marzaban Street, Ballard Estate, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Canara Bank, Morni Apts., Sion Koliwada, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Canara Bank, B. Cama Indl. Estate, Goregaon (E), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Syndicate Bank, Jolly Maker Chambers, Nariman Point, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, UCO Bank, Jashoda Niwas, Vile Parle(E), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Union Bank of India, Hill Road, Bandra (E), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Vijaya Bank, Emca House, S.B. Singh Road, Mumbai.

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Allahabad Bank, 18, Peddar Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of Baroda, Mumbai Main Branch, Mumbai Samachar Marg, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, HDFC Bank Ltd., Dr. Annie Beasant Road, Worli, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of India, Mahakali Caves Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur, Fort, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur, Lokhandwalla Complex, Andheri (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of Saurashtra, S.A. Brelvi Road, Fort, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, State Bank of Hyderabad, Opp. Sion Hospital, Sion, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Central Bank of India, Khergaon, Bandra (E), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Central Bank of India, Bandra Kurla Complex, E Block, Bandra (E), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Dena Bank, 17, Hornlimon Circle, Fort, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Indian Bank, Mittal Tower, Nariman Point, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Dena Bank, Juhu Vile Parle, V.M. Road, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Indian Bank, Sagarvilla, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Punjab National Bank, Worli, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Punjab National Bank, N.C. Kelkar Road, Dadar (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Syndicate Bank, Matunga Bazar Branch, Shankar Mattam Bldg., Matunga, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, UCO Bank, Mafatlal Centre, 1st Floor, Nariman Point, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Union Bank of India, 239, Backbay Reclamation, Nariman Point, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Indian Overseas Bank, Bactawar, Nariman Point, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Corporation Bank, Veena Chambers, 21, Dalal Street, Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of India, M.G. Road Ghatkopar (W), Mumbai

The Currency Chest-in-charge, Bank of Baroda, Station Road, Ramakrishna Wadi, Bhandup (W), Mumbai

**World Bank Aided Projects in Bihar and Jharkhand**

2971. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects started in Bihar and Jharkhand with the assistance of World Bank and other foreign agencies;

(b) whether all these projects are being monitored properly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of projects of the said States pending with Government for assistance from World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The details of projects in Bihar and Jharkhand undertaken with the assistance from the World Bank and other foreign agencies are as per Statement enclosed. The monitoring of the projects is being done both at the level of State and Central Government.

Due to creation of the new State of Jharkhand, some components of the projects now fall under the state of Jharkhand. The identification of these components is being finalised.

(d) No project proposal from Government of Bihar or Jharkhand is pending for World Bank assistance.

**Statement**

(As on 31.12.2000)

S.No.	Name of the Project	Sector	Source	Loan/ Grant	Starting Date	Currency	Amount (Million)	Cumulative Drawal
1.	Bihar Plateau Developments	State	IDA	Loan	17.12.1992	SDR	80.70	67.90
2.	Energy Ser. for Rural Ind. Angara Bihar	State	UNDP	Grant	13.10.1999	USD	0.60	0.03
3.	Eco Development Project	Central	IDA	Loan	30.09.1996	USD	28.00	8.60
4.	DPEP-III	Central	IDA	Loan	23.02.1998	USD	152.00	24.71
5.	Integrated Child Development Project-II	Central	IDA	Loan	23.03.1993	SDR	141.60	68.56
6.	Second National HIV/AIDS Control Project	Central	IDA	Loan	14.09.1999	SDR	140.80	22.50
7.	Tuberculosis Control	Central	IDA	Loan	14.03.1997	SDR	98.40	15.01
8.	Reproductive and Child Health (RCDS)	Central	IDA	Loan	30.07.1997	SDR	179.50	56.92
9.	Malaria Control	Central	IDA	Loan	30.07.1997	SDR	119.20	24.48
10.	Immunisation Strengthening	Central	IDA	Loan	19.05.2000	SDR	106.50	21.67
11.	Third National Highway	Central	IBRD	Loan	11.08.2000	USD	516.00	30.16
12.	Cooperative Rural Storage	Central	EC	Grant	24.02.1988	EURO	7.62	0.47
13.	National Agriculture Technology	Central	IDA, IBRD	Loan	19.11.1998	USD	196.80	19.98
14.	Rural Women Development and Empowerment	Multistate	IDA, IFAD	Loan	26.04.1999	USD	38.70	2.09

Note: In case of Central Sector/Multistate Projects the amounts indicated are for entire Project

**Borrowing of Andhra Pradesh**

2972. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has borrowed more than Rs. 26,000 crore during the last six years;

(b) if so, whether it amounts to more than twice to that of total borrowings of the State upto 1995 since independence;

(c) if so, the manner in which these funds have been utilized by the State Government; and

(d) the manner in which the State Government plans to repay the loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Borrowings of the State Government comprise primarily of loans from Central Government under Plan Assistance, open market borrowings approved by Central Government and loans against Small Savings

collections in the State. As per information supplied by the State Government, the answer to (a) & (b) is in the negative.

(c) and (d) State Government are accountable to their respective legislatures for appropriations of expenditure and their accounts are audited by the C&AG.

### LIC Loans

2973. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation is providing loans to State Governments under various schemes on the basis of proposals submitted by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the proposals received by LIC from various State Governments particularly from Maharashtra and

Karnataka seeking loans during each of the last three years, till date; and

(d) the loans provided by LIC to them during above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of the allocation by Planning Commission, LIC grants loans to State Governments for Housing, State Electricity Board/Power Corporation/ State Government in Power Sector, State level Water Supply and Sewerage Boards/Municipalities/Zilla Parishads/State Governments for various Water Supply and Sewerage schemes and State Road Corporations/ State Governments for Road Transport.

(c) and (d) Details of Loans provided by LIC for social sector schemes mentioned in (b) above to various State Governments, including Maharashtra and Karnataka are enclosed in Statements I to IV.

### Statement-I

#### LIC Investment in State Housing during the year 1977 to 2001

S. No.	State	(Rs. in Crores)								
		2000-2001		1999-2000		1998-99		1997-98		
		All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	103.40		80.96	80.96	80.96	153.25	72.29		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh							1.00		
3.	Assam									
4.	Bihar									
5.	Goa	4.00		4.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	
6.	Gujarat			51.83	51.83	51.83	51.83	46.07	36.33	
7.	Haryana					28.40		21.13		
8.	Himachal Pradesh					4.00	4.00			
9.	Jammu & Kashmir									
10.	Karnataka	159.99	159.99	184.94	184.94	137.83	58.32	41.13	41.13	
11.	Kerala	299.65	299.65	179.68	179.68	148.71	148.71	110.03	110.03	
12.	Madhya Pradesh			35.00	30.00	30.00		13.18		
13.	Maharashtra	42.53		11.11		11.11				
14.	Manipur	7.02		6.00		6.00	6.00	2.00	2.00	
15.	Meghalaya			2.89		1.98				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Mizoram	31.48		40.98	40.98	25.98	25.98	8.60	8.60
17.	Nagaland					5.00		4.62	
18.	Orissa	7.28		7.28				6.50	
19.	Punjab							8.60	
20.	Rajasthan	10.00		15.39	15.39	15.39	15.39	13.74	13.74
21.	Sikkim	8.03	8.03	6.86	6.86	16.86	16.86	1.10	1.10
22.	Tamil Nadu			37.02	37.02	37.02	37.02	46.23	71.22
23.	Tripura	53.16	53.16	45.44	45.44	21.20	21.20	10.00	10.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh							22.30	
25.	West Bengal	28.00				28.00		27.00	
Total		754.54	520.83	709.38	677.10	655.27	543.56	461.52	300.15

**Statement-II***LIC Investment in State Electricity Boards (SEB)*

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	State	2000-2001		1999-2000		1998-99		1997-98	
		All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh					37.26		33.27	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh								
3.	Assam			12.12		12.12		12.12	
4.	Bihar			85.59		54.66		48.80	
5.	Goa								
6.	Gujarat			116.95	116.95	113.69	113.69	107.01	107.01
7.	Haryana			60.00		51.80		67.13	101.51
8.	Himachal Pradesh	185.68	185.68	115.00	115.00	65.00	65.00	18.73	18.73
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	72.48		60.00	60.00	45.00	45.00	32.00	32.00
10.	Karnataka	60.00						122.08	122.08
11.	Kerala	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	25.00	25.00	57.87	57.87
12.	Madhya Pradesh			123.31	123.31	155.41	246.29	60.88	
13.	Maharashtra	84.00		84.00	84.00	84.00	84.00	75.00	75.00
14.	Manipur								
15.	Meghalaya			22.20		11.20		6.70	
16.	Mizoram	5.00	5.00						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	Nagaland								
18.	Orissa	47.42		35.00				33.00	
19.	Punjab	146.25	146.25	125.00	125.00	95.00	95.00	28.93	28.93
20.	Rajasthan (RVUN) (RVPN)	51.94		155.50	155.50	140.50	140.50	148.16	148.16
21.	Sikkim	51.95				16.86			
22.	Tamil Nadu	73.40		86.75	66.75	136.75	136.75	146.31	146.31
23.	Tripura								
24.	Uttar Pradesh	262.85				420.00	420.00	225.00	
25.	West Bengal	92.51		103.00		75.00	75.00	100.00	100.00
	NEEPCO			39.60	39.60	33.00	33.00	27.50	27.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1163.48</b>	<b>366.93</b>	<b>1254.02</b>	<b>916.11</b>	<b>1572.05</b>	<b>1479.23</b>	<b>1350.49</b>	<b>965.10</b>

**Statement-III***LIC Investment in Water Supply & Sewerage Schemes*

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	State	2000-2001		1999-2000		1998-99		1997-98	
		All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.00		3.36	3.36	3.36		3.00	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.13	1.13	1.13					
3.	Assam								
4.	Bihar								
5.	Goa	15.89		13.00	1.53			6.23	6.23
6.	Gujarat			38.70	2.00	2.00		34.55	
7.	Haryana								
8.	Himachal Pradesh					4.23	4.23	19.87	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.44		13.44	5.80	15.00	10.00	13.00	
10.	Karnataka	80.00		40.50	15.53	15.50	15.50	10.76	10.76
11.	Kerala	30.00		30.00	30.00			27.83	27.83
12.	Madhya Pradesh			15.00	3.27	8.50	5.00	28.51	3.50
13.	Maharashtra	75.00		75.00	75.00	75.00	73.00	68.00	73.12
14.	Manipur								
15.	Meghalaya			7.09				4.59	
16.	Mizoram	4.50	1.13						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	Nagaland			4.00	3.51	4.00		5.38	0.39
18.	Orissa			30.80		30.80		27.50	
19.	Punjab							32.10	
20.	Rajasthan	10.00		10.00		10.00	10.00	9.27	17.70
21.	Sikkim								
22.	Tamil Nadu	413.05	343.05	196.23	196.23	121.23	121.23	83.52	83.52
23.	Tripura								
24.	Uttar Pradesh								
25.	West Bengal							2.00	
Total		646.01	345.31	478.25	336.23	289.62	238.96	376.11	223.05

**Statement-IV***LIC Investment in State Road Transport Corporations (SRTC)*

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	State	2000-2001		1999-2000		1998-99		1997-98	
		All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.	All	Disb.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48.05		47.69	47.69	40.43	40.43	9.31	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh								
3.	Assam								
4.	Bihar								
5.	Goa								
6.	Gujarat							11.93	
7.	Haryana								
8.	Himachal Pradesh								
9.	Jammu & Kashmir								
10.	Karnataka			25.00	17.60	17.60		10.50	
11.	Kerala								
12.	Madhya Pradesh							5.71	
13.	Maharashtra	14.70		14.70		14.70		11.75	11.75
14.	Manipur								
15.	Meghalaya								
16.	Mizoram								
17.	Nagaland	7.50				14.00	14.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
18. Orissa									
19. Punjab									
20. Rajasthan (RVUN)									
21. Sikkim									
22. Tamil Nadu									
23. Tripura									
24. Uttar Pradesh		69.84						26.77	
25. West Bengal									
Total		140.09	0.00	87.39	65.29	86.73	54.43	75.97	11.75

[English]

#### Export Promotion Zones near Harbour

2974. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up various zones like, enterprise, business-development and export zones near harbours to boost export;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which these measures have been helpful in giving a boost to export;

(c) the amount spent by the Government on these export-business development zones;

(d) the facilities provided for the encouragement of entrepreneurs;

(e) whether the Government have any more schemes to develop these centres; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) and (b) The Government have set up seven Export Processing Zones (EPZs)/Special Economic Zones (SEZs) near Ports/Inland Container Depot at Kandla (Gujarat), Santa Cruz, Mumbai (Maharashtra), Noida (Uttar Pradesh), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Cochin (Kerala), Falta (West Bengal) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) to boost exports. The export from EPZs/SEZs during 1999-2000 were of the order of Rs. 6708 crores as compared to Rs. 5252 crores during 1998-1999 representing a growth of 28%.

(c) The Central Government have incurred a total expenditure of Rs. 291 crores towards cost of land and development of infrastructure in the EPZs/SEZs as on 31.3.2000.

(d) As per the Policy, the entitlement to units in SEZs/EPZs includes exemption from Customs duty on capital goods, raw materials etc; exemption from Central Excise Duty on procurement of capital goods, raw materials, consumables etc. from the domestic market; reimbursement of Central Sales Tax; upgraded infrastructure and simpler procedures.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal to set up any new EPZ/SEZ by the Central Government. However, EPZs/SEZs may be set up in the private, joint sector or by the State Governments.

#### National Grain Management Programme

2975. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested Union Government to nominate Kakinada Deep water port for grain export under National Grain Management Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in the matter?

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

(b) The locations for creations for creation of bulk food-grain handling, storage and transportation facilities are yet to be finalized..

#### Loan from IBRD

2976. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) names of the projects for which loan have been

provided by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, State-wise;

(b) whether the World Bank has provided loan for the power sector restructuring projects in certain States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith its terms and conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The World Bank has approved loans of specified amounts for the following power sector restructuring projects:

Name of Project	Amount in USD Million
Orissa Power Sector Restructuring Project	350
Haryana Power Sector Restructuring Project	60
Andhra Pradesh Power Sector Restructuring Project	210
Uttar Pradesh Power Sector Restructuring Project	150
Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring Project	180

Loans for the above projects are in accordance with General Terms and Conditions applicable for LIBOR Based Variable Single Currency loans.

#### Statement

State	Name of Project
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Irrigation Project State Highway Project Economic Restructuring Project Power Restructuring Project
Gujarat	State Highway Project
Haryana	Power Restructuring Project
Karnataka	Water Supply Management & Multi State Project
Maharashtra	Bombay Sewage Disposal Project

1	2
Multi State	Naptha Jhakri Power Project Second National Highway Project State's Road Infrastructure Development Technical Assistance Project Integrated Watershed Dev. (Hills II) Project
Nagaland	Capital Restructuring Project
Orissa	Power Sector Restructuring Project
Rajasthan	Power Sector Restructuring Project
Tamil Nadu	Second Madras Water Supply Project Second Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project
Uttar Pradesh	Rural Water Supply & Environment Power Sector Restructuring Project Fiscal Reform and Public Sector Restructuring Program
West Bengal	Calcutta Water Supply sewerage and drainage project

[Translation]

#### Shortage of Coins

2977. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether shortage of Re. one, Rs. two and Rs. five coins is creating several problems in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to print small denomination notes again;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) There is a general shortage of coins in the country due to supply and demand gap. To overcome this, as a long term measure, it was planned to modernise the Mints at Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai which is nearing completion. Coins are also being imported to bridge the gap between the indent of coins from RBI and supply of coins by Mints. Reprinting of lower denomination currency notes is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

**Food Requirement**

2978. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of food requirement required in West Bengal in Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) category through PDS in 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) the actual quantity allotted and augmented for West Bengal State; and

(c) the issue price and actual retail price for BPL category in those years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) The allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) was made under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), introduced in June, 1997, for the families below poverty lines (BPL) @ 10 kg. of foodgrains per family per month on the basis of the poverty estimates of the Expert Group appointed by the Planning Commission. The difference between the average annual lifting over the past 10 years at the time of introduction of TPDS and requirement for BPL families was given as transitory allocation for the families above poverty line (APL). The allocation of foodgrains for BPL families to States/UTs was doubled from 10 kg to 20 kg per family per month from 1.4.2000.

The quantities of foodgrains (rice and wheat) allotted to West Bengal under TPDS during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are as under:

(in '000 tonnes)			
Year	BPL	APL+ADDL	Total
<b>Rice</b>			
1998-99	288.490	278.760	567.250
1999-2000	264.840	253.760	518.600
2000-2001	537.984	336.840	874.824
<b>Wheat</b>			
1998-99	260.150	787.200	1047.350
1999-2000	283.800	777.300	1061.100
2000-2001	576.496	778.40	1354.896

(c) The central issue prices (CIPs) of rice and wheat for BPL category, ex-FCI godowns of, have been as under:

(in Rs./quintal)		
Applicable from	Rice	Wheat
1-06-1997	350	250
1-04-2000	590	450
25-07-2000	565	415

The retail prices of rice and wheat for BPL category in West Bengal during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 have been as under :

(in Rs./quintal)		
Year	Rice	Wheat
1998-99	400	300
1999-2000	400	300
2000-2001	640	500

**Under Invoicing by Companies in Telecom Sector**

2979. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain cases of over invoicing/under invoicing of telecom equipments for import purposes by Indian companies with 100 percent multinational equity have come to light during the last few years;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed by the Government against defaulting companies?

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

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

**Funds spent by Banks for recovery of NPA**

2980. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by each Public Sector Bank on services for litigation for recovery of Non-Performing Assets during the last three years; and

(b) the recent policy initiatives taken for better results in recovery of bad debts/outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued guidelines in July, 2000 to all public sector banks for recovery of dues relating to Non-Performing Assets (NPAs). These guidelines cover :

- (i) All NPAs in all sectors irrespective of the nature of business, which have become 'doubtful' or 'loss' as on 31st March, 1997 as well as 'substandard' as on 31.3.1997 which have subsequently become 'doubtful' or 'loss' category with outstanding balance of Rs. 5 crore and below on the cut-off date.
- (ii) Cases pending before Courts/DRTs/BIFR.
- (iii) Cases of wilful default, fraud and malfeasance will not be covered.

These guidelines also contain the settlement formula, mode of payment etc. As regards NPAs of Rs. 5 crore and above, the guidelines provide for personal supervision of such cases by the Chairman & Managing Directors. The guidelines will remain operative upto 31.3.2001.

#### **Smuggling from Bangladesh**

2981. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large scale goods are being smuggled into India from Bangladesh and Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last one year; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, it is not possible to assess exact quantum of smuggling into India from Bangladesh and Myanmar. However, the seizure reports available do indicate smuggling of goods from Bangladesh and Myanmar into India. During last one year, i.e., 2000-2001 (upto Feb., 2001), smuggled goods valued at Rs. 34.01 crores (approx.) have been seized by the field formations under the Customs Department, including DRI.

(c) Field formations under the Customs Department are alert and vigilant to detect and prevent any attempt of smuggling, including smuggling from Bangladesh and Myanmar.

#### **Price Stabilisation Plan for Coffee Growers**

2982. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has discussed with Vietnam in regard to coffee price stabilisation plans;

(b) if so, its likely impact on prices for the Indian coffee growers;

(c) whether any minimum price has been set with the Vietnamese coffee establishment; and

(d) if so, the details of stabilisation plans for Indian coffee growers in 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Sale of Huge Stock of Wheat**

2983. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international prices have made Indian wheat competitive and global tenderers have set their eyes on the huge stocks available here;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated quantity of wheat available for sale at present;

(c) the details of the foreign firms that have approached the Government for the bulk purchase of wheat; and

(d) the stage at which the matter stands at present and the prices at which it is likely to be sold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) It is not possible to compare the export price and the domestic price of wheat as export of wheat would depend upon international market forces.

(b) Export of wheat is freely allowed subject to quantitative ceilings as may be notified by the Department of Commerce (DGFT) from time to time and Registration-cum-Allocation Certificate issued by APEDA. For the year 2000-2001, a ceiling of 20 lakh MTs has been fixed. In addition, the Government has decided to export wheat from the surplus stocks available with it. A ceiling of 20 lakh MTs has been fixed for export of wheat during 2000-2001.

(c) No foreign firm has approached the Government for bulk purchase of wheat.

(d) Wheat is being made available by the FCI for export at a price not lower than the CIP for BPL category which, at present, is Rs. 4150/- per MT. A quantity of 13.70 lakh MTs (approx.) of wheat has been lifted from FCI stocks for export as of 12-03-2001.

**TV Game Shows***[Translation]*

2984. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether several TV shows have been started by different TV channels involving renowned Actors/Actresses during the period 1.1.2000 and 28.2.2001;

(b) if so, the number and details of such shows during the above period;

(c) whether the Government propose to impose the ban on such TV game shows which tend to encourage gambling and spoiling the studies of school going children as they are telecast between 19.00 and 22.00 hrs;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Government is aware that TV channels telecast programmes anchored by renowned Actors/Actresses. However, details of such programmes are not maintained by Government.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal to ban TV game shows. They are closer to quiz programmes and prima facie do not attract any specific objections under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules made thereunder.

**EXIM Bank**

2985. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved a complete revamp of the EXIM banks organizational structure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a new structure is expected to enable the bank to become more customer responsive with focus on marketing particularly with requirement of exports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which new organizational structure is to be ready for operations.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. ;

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

**Trade Centre for Raw Leather**

2986. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

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

(a) whether Hapur in Uttar Pradesh has emerged as a main trade centre of raw leather in view of large number of cattle in the state of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether raw leather is transported to Chennai for processing and thereafter transported back to Agra, Kanpur, Delhi and Noida for manufacturing of shoes and other leather goods;

(d) if not, the facts explained by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up a leather processing centre in northern India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bovine animals from Neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and UP are brought to Hapur for meat purposes. Hapur is currently a major centre of meat production in the region. It is estimated that about 2000 bovine animals are processed daily for meat and raw hides and skins are recovered.

(c) and (d) The raw hides and skins move to Calcutta, Chennai, Kanpur, Jalandhar, etc. for processing. For manufacture of shoes and other leather goods, the manufacturers of these items may obtain finished leather from these centres. Product units in Agra, Delhi and Noida are predominantly dependent on production of leather at Jalandhar and Kanpur. Only some speciality leather with finishing techniques is sourced by the leather product units of Delhi-Noida region from tanneries in Tamil Nadu.

(e) and (f) By way of various policy initiatives, the Government is encouraging setting up of leather processing centres/tanneries in different parts of the country including Northern India through State Governments/agencies and private entrepreneurs. The leather processing activity at Kanpur and Jalandhar has registered high growth in the last seven years.

[English]

### Disinvestment in Fertiliser Units

2987. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a time bound schedule for disinvestment of equity in the public sector fertiliser units;

(b) if so, the respective plans for the units where the Government have plans to disinvest;

(c) the extent to which this enable the fertiliser industry to modernise;

(d) whether any arrangement has been made with financial institutions to inject capital into such units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) The Government, as of now, has taken decision in principle to disinvest in Paradeep Phosphates Limited, National Fertilisers Limited and Madras Fertilisers Limited. The disinvestment through strategic sale is proposed for 74% of the equity of PPL; 51% of the equity of NFL and 32.74% equity of MFL. The process of disinvestment has been taken up and has not yet been completed.

(c) The management, after the induction of the strategic partner, is expected to adopt such measures as would be necessary to modernise the units.

(d) and (e) As of now, there is no proposal for any arrangement with financial institutions for injection of equity capital in these undertakings.

[Translation]

### New Technology to Save Foodgrains

2988. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scientist from Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore has invented a new technique to save the foodgrains in various Food Corporation of India godowns, which are getting damaged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to propagate this technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (d) The Government is not aware of any such new technology invented by Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) Mysore. However, the CFTRI, Mysore has been involved in development and providing assistance in application of techniques for safe storage of foodgrains. The techniques include fumigation with use of chemical fumigants such as phosphine and carbon-di-oxide for control of insect infestation and good storage practices.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) also practices fumigation techniques in their godowns to protect the stored foodgrains from insect infestation.

### FEMA

2989. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999 become an impediment in receiving foreign assistance for the Gujarat earthquake victims;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to abolish this Act or amend it suitably so that there may not be any such obstacle in future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No Sir.

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

[English]

### Expansion of Trade with Belarus

2990. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to expand trade ties with Belarus;

(b) if so, whether several steps have been initiated with the Belarus to increase economic cooperation between two countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the present level of investment between India and Belarus;

(e) whether the Government have identified the products which would be exported to Belarus; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the expected inflow of foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Steps initiated for expanding our trade with Belarus include :

Reviewing of bilateral trade through regular meetings of Inter-Governmental Commission and Working Group;

Exchange of trade related information;

Exchange of business delegations; and

Participation in trade fairs in each other's country.

(d) During August, 91 to December, 2000, the Government of India has accorded approval to only one Foreign Collaboration with Belarus involving an equity participation of Rs. 4.90 lakhs in Chemical sector.

(e) and (f) During Inter-Governmental Commission's Meeting both countries agreed to explore the possibilities of diversifying the trade basket. India offered to export to Belarus a wide range of industrial, commercial goods & agricultural items, pharmaceuticals and healthcare products. The above measures are expected to result in increased bilateral trade. However, the exact impact on the foreign exchange can not be predicted as of now.

#### **Privatisation of News-Bulletins**

2991. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether even after the privatisation of FM broadcast, the news-bulletins and current affairs programme still remains with AIR;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to privatise broadcast of news bulletins and current affair programme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The private FM Stations are allowed to broadcast music, education, entertainment based programmes

and local information on subjects like business, capital market and local market, airline/railway and bus schedules, traffic, sports and weather etc.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to privatise the broadcast of news bulletins and current affairs programmes.

[Translation]

#### **Inspection of Export Firms**

2992. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

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

(a) the number of exporting firms inspected by the Export Inspection Council during 1999-2000;

(b) the total number of exporting firms against whom the Export Inspection Council has received complaints and has put out such firms on the blacklist;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action against the blacklisted firms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) Five Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) have been set up under the administrative and technical control of the Export Inspection Council (EIC) for quality control and pre-shipment inspection of commodities notified by the Government under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. During 1999-2000, EIAs have inspected 587 export firms in connection with quality control and pre-shipment inspection.

(b) During 1999-2000, nine complaints on quality were received against such export firms. None of them was blacklisted. However, such complaints are attended to as per established procedure.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Import Duty on Titanium Dioxide**

2993. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties experienced by the Indian industrial units producing Titanium Dioxide Pigment due to the influx or foreign made Titanium Dioxide Pigment into the Indian market;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the import duty on Titanium Dioxide Pigment to save the Indian companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (e) Government had received some pre-budget representations for increasing the customs duty on Titanium Dioxide Pigment. They were examined in the context of general approach that was decided with regard to customs duty structure and followed in the Budget for 2001-2002. It was not found feasible to increase the customs duty on Titanium Dioxide Pigment. There is also no proposal currently under consideration of the Government in this behalf.

#### Withdrawal of Subsidy

2994. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are committed to put a complete halt to Direct/Indirect Subsidy being enjoyed by Jute mills;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified the areas for halting such subsidy;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has recently extended by provision of JPM Act, 1987 as demanded by Jute Mill Owners and continued the Indirect Subsidy enjoyed by them; and

(e) if so, the reasons for this double approach by the Government and action taken to halt such subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) No direct/indirect subsidy is being given by the Government to jute mills. However, the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 provides for the compulsory use of jute packaging materials in the supply and distribution of certain commodities in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material and of persons engaged in the production thereof and the matters connected therewith.

The Sub section (1) of Section (3) of the aforesaid JPM Act, 1987 also empowers the Central Government to specify the percentage of packaging of commodities which are required to be packed in jute packaging material.

Under the aforesaid provisions, the Government has prescribed the norms of 100% each for Foodgrains & sugar and 20% for urea for Mandatory Packaging in jute bags for the jute year 2000-2001 vide notification dated 25.10.2000, which is valid upto 30.06.2001. In case of any disruption in supply, there is a provision of dilution, after consultation with the user Ministry to the extent of 20% each for Foodgrains and sugar and 5% for urea.

Since this compulsory Packaging Order extends to all over the country irrespective of Government or Private Sector to fulfill the objective of the Act, this can not be termed as direct or indirect subsidy. The prices are determined by market forces.

#### New Varieties of Tea

2995. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tea Board has introduced some new varieties of tea in the country during 1999 and 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas identified for plantation of these new varieties of tea;

(d) whether the Government have asked the Tea Board to introduce new varieties of tea for non-traditional growing areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) Breeding of new varieties of tea is an ongoing process undertaken by research institutes recognized by the Tea Board. The Tea Research Association in Assam and United Planters' Association of Southern India in Tamil Nadu are the major institutes dealing with research in tea.

(c) No specific areas have been identified for planting of new varieties of tea.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Global Centre for Corporate Governance

2996. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to consider setting up of a Global Centre for Corporate Governance at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to the request of the State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (d) No proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up of Global Centre for Corporate Governance at Hyderabad has been received.

[Translation]

#### **Retirement Age of Bank Employees**

2997. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 987 dated November 24, 2000 and be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied recommendations of Committee regarding lowering of the retirement age of bank employees from 60 years to 58 years;

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

(c) whether keeping in view the opposition from employees the Government propose to retain retirement age as 60 years; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The recommendations of the Committee are under examination.

[English]

#### **MoU with Greece**

2998. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has recently signed memorandum of understanding with Greece on "Economic Co-operation in Tobacco";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage the tobacco production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The MoU on Co-operation in the field of agriculture signed by India and Greece on 5th

February, 2001 does not identify tobacco as a priority area.

(c) Government, through the Tobacco Board, is making efforts to help tobacco farmers to improve yield and quality of FCV tobacco by assistance in obtaining loans from bank, insurance coverage for the curing barns and arranging supply of inputs like high-yielding varieties of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc.

#### **Intellectual Property Rights**

2999. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether two crucial laws pertaining to protection of intellectual property rights were notified in December, 1999 and there was a proposal to constitute the Intellectual Property Appellate Board for implementation;

(b) if so, whether the Board has been constituted and started to enact the laws;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in constituting the Board;

(d) whether the Government are aware that overseas parties are taking undue advantage of the non-enactment of said laws by marketing various products under Indian brand names; and

(e) if so, the time by which the Board is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The Trade Marks Act, 1999 and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999 were notified on 30.12.1999 after approval of both Houses of Parliament. The Trade Marks Act, 1999 provides for the establishment of an Intellectual Property Appellate Board as an appellate forum for appeals against orders of the Registrar of Trade Marks and Geographical Indications respectively. The Intellectual Property Appellate Board will not implement these Acts which would be implemented by the existing Trade Marks Registry and the proposed Geographical Indications Registry.

(b) The Board has not yet been constituted.

(c) The constitution of the Board requires inter-ministerial consultation which have now been completed. Administrative steps to commence the operations of the Board have been initiated.

(d) The scope of the Trade Marks Act, 1999 and the penal provisions thereunder have been amplified and strengthened vis-a-vis the Trade and Merchandise

Marks Act, 1958 which will be repealed and replaced. The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act seeks to provide protection for goods bearing Indian geographical indications. The enactment of this Act is expected to prevent the abuse of products bearing geographical indications of goods originating in India in order to deceive or cause confusion in the relevant markets.

(e) Government's endeavour is to constitute the Board at the earliest.

### Supply of Wheat to Malaysia

3000. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

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

(a) whether India has signed an agreement with Malaysian Government for supply of wheat to Malaysia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the rates at which this wheat has been supplied to Malaysia; and

(d) the names of the countries with whom India has signed agreement for supply of wheat alongwith the rate at which wheat is likely to be supplied?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No Government to Government agreement for supply of wheat has been signed with any country. However, wheat is being made available by the FCI for export at a price not lower than the CIP for BPL category which, at present is Rs. 4150/- per MT.

[Translation]

### Import of Textile Machinery

3001. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

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

(a) whether provisions relating to textile machinery industry have not been included in the textile Policy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether India is importing foreign textile machinery under World Trade Organisation;

(d) if so, the details of textile machinery imported during the last one year; and

(e) the details of impact of the import on domestic textile machinery.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) and (b) No provision directly relating to textile machinery sector has been included in the Textile Policy as machinery does not come within the meaning and scope of textiles in the strict value addition chain of textiles and clothing. However, emphasis has been laid at more than one place regarding the need for technological upgradation and modernisation of all sectors of textile industry in the National Textile Policy, 2000 announced on 2.11.2000. Upgradation and modernisation of textile industry would also provide increased opportunity for investments and improvement in capacities in the textile machinery sector and the other support segments of the industry.

(c) to (e) Textile machinery has been freely importable since prior to 1996. As per the details provided by DGCI&S Calcutta, the statistics for the import of textile machinery during the last one year is as under:

Description of the Items	(Rs. in crores)
Spinning and allied machinery	335.96
Weaving and knitting machinery	441.02
Parts and accessories of spinning and weaving machinery	228.56
Processing machinery and allied machinery	261.25

[English]

### Export of Coffee

3002. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coffee exported during the last nine months upto December 2000, month-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the efforts made to boost the export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) and (b) The quantum of coffee exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during April-December 2000, month-wise, is given below:

Month	Quantity (in MTs)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
April 2000	34437	18425
May 2000	36425	18462
June 2000	26028	13804
July 2000	19400	13901
Aug. 2000	13288	8226
Sept. 2000	12223	8055
Oct. 2000	8132	5293
Nov. 2000	5301	3666
Dec. 2000 (P)	54	18

(c) For boosting exports of coffee, the Coffee Board is concentrating on targeted import markets like Italy, USA, Japan, Russia, Middle East countries etc. The Board also participates in selected food fairs/exhibitions abroad, releases advertisements on unique features of Indian Coffee in selected overseas trade journals, sponsors trade delegations/invites roasters' delegations from all target markets to India, arranges service of Indian coffee abroad through our embassies, distributes gift packets of Indian Coffee through our embassies on special occasions and festivals, publishes and distributes literature on Indian Coffee.

#### Export of Soya Meal

3003. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total export of soyameal from the country during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether there is a sharp decline in the export of soyameal in 2000-2001;

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

(d) the steps to increase the export of soyameal; and

(e) the target set for the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) The total quantity and value of soyabean oilmeal exported during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and Apr.-Oct., 2000 is as under:

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3
1997-98	2880477	2728.53
1998-99	2882714	1136.71

1	2	3
1999-2000	2405696	1587.95
Apr-Oct. 2000	1024395	728.98

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Some of the steps taken to explore the possibilities for increasing the export of soyabean and its products include participation in International trade fairs, arranging buyer-seller meets, and sponsoring trade delegations abroad.

(e) No specific target has been set for export of soyabean and its products for the next financial year. Performance of the previous year serves as a benchmark for increasing export of agricultural products including soyabean and its products.

#### Proposal of HMT unit to Karnataka

3004. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up an "Assembly Unit" of the Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) at Hassan in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this unit would be set up at Hassan in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Exchange to MPs for Study Tours

3005. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange being provided by the Government to the Members of Parliament for study tours at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the said amount so that the members of Parliament are able to make best use of study tours;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 1,00,000 is permitted to a Member of Parliament for study tour during his/her tenure as a Member of Parliament. Besides, a Member of Parliament can also avail of the facility of basic travel quota (Foreign Travel Scheme), which has recently been enhanced from US\$ 3,000 in one calendar year to US\$ 5,000 in one calendar year under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, from 1st June, 2000.

[English]

#### Growth of GDP

3006. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has pointed out that deepening and strengthening of economic reforms particularly in the power sector will be critical for India for pushing up its growth rate beyond the current 6 percent;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has pointed out that 9 percent Gross Domestic Products growth is impossible for India;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have decided to give more incentive in power sector reforms; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to achieve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The World Bank has not made any such pointed reference to Government of India.

(c) and (d) Does not arise. However, Union Government is implementing an Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) to provide incentive for power sector reforms in States.

[Translation]

#### Loan from World Bank

3007. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the status of India among those countries which take loans from the World Bank or International Development Agency;

(b) the amount of loan India has secured so far from World Bank and International Development Agency; and

(c) the number of projects being implemented in the country with the help of loans taken from these institutions mentioned above, sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) India has been the largest borrower from the International Development Agency and fourth largest borrower from the World Bank (IBRD) as on 30.6.2000.

(b) By June 2000, India had secured loan of USD 53.03 billion comprising of US\$ 26.10 billion from World Bank (IBRD) and US\$ 26.93 billion from the International Development Agency.

(c) Sector-wise number of projects currently under implementation as on 31st January, 2001 are as under:

Sector	Number of Projects
Agriculture & Rural Dev	7
Urban Development	4
Social	24
Infrastructure	8
Industry & Finance	4
Energy	8
Water Resource Management	7
Environment & Forestry	5
Others	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

[English]

#### Supply of Foodgrains

3008. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have planned to increase the foodgrain supply to some States such as Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to supply adequate food supply to these States to look after the poorest of the poor;

(c) whether the Government have any standard norms and criteria for the States to get additional foodgrain supply from the Central pool;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the foodgrain supplied for Tamil Nadu during last three years under targeted PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) There is no plan to increase the foodgrains supply under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for only some States including Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. However, to serve the poorest of the poor in rural and urban areas in the country Antyodaya Anna Yojana has been launched. Under this Scheme, 5% of the projected population as on 1-3-2000 amounting to one crore families would be identified as Antyodaya families by the States/UTs. The Antyodaya

families which are part of the below poverty line (BPL) families would be provided foodgrains @ 25 kg. per family per month at highly subsidized rates - @ Rs. 2/- per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3/- per kg for rice.

(c) and (d) Under TPDS foodgrains (rice and wheat) are allotted to the States/UTs from the central pool for families below poverty line (BPL) and families above poverty line (APL) at central issue prices applicable for BPL & APL respectively. States are allotted additional foodgrains on their demand at APL rates or the rates fixed under open market sale scheme, whichever are lower.

(e) The details of the foodgrains allotted to Tamil Nadu during last three years viz. 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 under TPDS are as under :

(in '000 tonnes)

Year	Rice			Wheat		
	BPL	APL+ADDL	TOTAL	BPL	APL+ADDL	TOTAL
1998-99	549.480	761.280	1310.760	0.000	360.000	360.000
1999-2000	549.480	1265.280	1814.760	0.000	360.000	360.000
2000-2001	1121.664	461.280	1582.944	0.000	0.000	0.000

[Translation]

#### Expenditure Incurred on IMD Scheme

3009. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made in regard to total expenditure incurred on the implementation of the IMD scheme introduced by SBI last year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) An expenditure of Rs. 461.96 crore has been incurred so far on mobilisation of India Millennium Deposits.

[English]

#### Closure of Banks

3010. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) recommended for closure of three banks;

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

(c) whether five members of the CII task force on NPAs had defaulted to the tune of 102.82 crore;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government/banks to recover the NPAs from the above mentioned persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have withdrawn the recommendations, of a Task Force appointed by it, regarding the closure of the weak public sector banks.

(c) to (e) Under the current provisions of banking laws, disclosure of details of borrowers of banks and financial institutions is not permissible. However, Reserve Bank of India publishes a list of borrowal accounts against whom banks and financial institutions have filed suits for recovery of dues aggregating Rs. 1 crore and above as on 31st March every year. The last such list has been published as on 31.03.2000. It is available on website at <http://www.rbi.org.in>

Govt. of India and RBI have advised banks to take several steps for recovery of bank dues such as evolving and implementation of recovery policy by banks, filing of suits with civil courts, filing cases with Debt Recovery Tribunals, compromise settlement through Settlement Advisory Committees and monitoring and follow up of

non-performing accounts at various levels in the bank. RBI vide its circular dated 27th July, 2000 has framed non-discretionary and non-discriminatory guidelines for settlement of NPAs upto Rs. 5 crore. For loan outstanding of above Rs. 5 crore, personal supervision by Chairmen has been advised.

[Translation]

#### Appointment of Staff at Transmitter Centres

3011. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHAURVEDI :  
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether 24 Doordarshan transmitter centres constructed at different places are not operational even after their works are technically complete;

(b) if so, the date on which the work of those transmitter centres were completed;

(c) the action taken to depute staff in those places; and

(d) the time by which staff would be deputed to these places?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Twenty nine low power transmitters of Doordarshan are presently technically ready for commissioning. These transmitters were completed, in phases, over the last two years.

(c) and (d) It is Prasar Bharati endeavour to commission these transmitters at the earliest possible by redeployment of staff.

#### Production of Sugarcane

3012. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of sugarcane in the country and particularly in Maharashtra during the last year;

(b) the number of public sector and private sector sugar mills, location-wise/State-wise in each State particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether the number of sugar mills functioning in Maharashtra commensurate with total sugarcane production in the State;

(d) if not, whether the Government are considering to issue more licences to set up sugar mills in Maharashtra;

(e) whether the Government have received any representations in this regard; and

(f) if so, the State-wise details thereof and particularly that of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) The total production of sugarcane in the country during the season 1999-2000 (October-September) was 299.23 million tonnes, out of which 53.14 million tonnes was of the State of Maharashtra.

(b) Statement showing statewise/location-wise, public and private sectors sugar mills in the country is enclosed.

(c) During the season 1999-2000, 124 sugar mills were in operation. Taking into account the installed capacities of these sugar mills and the requirement of sugarcane for seed, chewing etc. purposes the cane available in the State of Maharashtra during the season 1999-2000 was adequate. Further, during the years of higher production, the sugar factories normally have extended period of crushing to enable them to crush all the available cane in their areas of operation.

(d) to (f) The sugar industry has been delicensed w.e.f. 11.9.1998. The entrepreneurs are now free to set up new sugar mills as per techno-economic viability of their projects while maintaining radial distance of 15 kms. from the existing sugar mills.

#### Statement

*The State-wise/Location-wise, Public & Private Sectors Sugar Mills in the Country (as on 28.2.2001)*

S.No.	Name & Location of Sugar Factory	Sector
1	2	3
<b>Haryana</b>		
1.	The Saraswati Sugar, Mills P.O. Yamunanagar, Distt. Ambala	Pvt.
2.	Naraingarh Sugar Mills Ltd. Naraingarh, Distt. Ambala	Pvt.

1	2	3
3.	M/s Piccadily Agro Industries Ltd., Sector-17-A, SCO.40-41 Chandigarh, Location at indri, Distt. Karnal	Pvt.
<b>Punjab</b>		
4.	Oswal Agro Mills Ltd., Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala	Pvt.
5.	Bhagwanpura Sugar Mills Ltd., Dhuri, Distt. Sangrur	Pvt.
6.	Rana Sugars Ltd., Butter-Saviyan, Teh. Baba-Bakala, Distt. Amritsar	Pvt.
7.	Oswal Sugars Ltd., Industries Ltd., Patran, Teh. Samana, Distt. Patiala	Pvt.
8.	Nahar Sugar & Allied Industries Ltd., Amloh, Teh. Nabha, Distt. Patiala	Pvt.
9.	Oswal Sugars Ltd. Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur	Pvt.
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>		
10.	The Modi Industries Ltd., Modinagar, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
11.	The Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Simbhaoli, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
12.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit: Mohiuddinpur, Distt. Meerut	P.S.
13.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Maliana, Distt. Meerut	P.S.
14.	Daurala Sugar Works, Daurala, Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
15.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd Unit: Sakhoti-Tanda, Distt. Meerut	P.S.
16.	Mawana Sugar Works, Mawana, Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
17.	SBEC Sugar Ltd. Malakpur Teh. Baraut, Distt. Baghpat.	Pvt.
18.	Triveni Engineering Works Ltd., Sugar Unit, The Upper India Sugar Mills, Khatauli, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
19.	Mansurpur Sugar Mills Ltd., Mansurpur, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
20.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., P.O. Rohana Kalan Distt. Muzaffarnagar	P.S.
21.	The Upper Doab Sugar Mills Ltd., Shamli, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
22.	Monnet Industries Ltd., Un, Teh. Kairana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
23.	Siel Ltd., Titawi, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
24.	Tikaula Sugar Mills Ltd. Tikaula Teh. Jansath, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
25.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Panninagar, Distt. Bulandshahr	Pvt.
26.	Willard India Ltd., Sugar Division (Agauta Sugar & Chemicals), Agauta, Distt. Bulandshahr	Pvt.
27.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Doiwala, Distt. Dehradun	P.S.
28.	Gangeshwar Ltd., Deoband, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
29.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Saharanpur, Distt. Saharanpur	P.S.
30.	Shakumbari Sugar & Allied Industries Ltd., At Todarpur (Raghar), Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
31.	Rai Bhadur Narain Singh Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Lhaksar, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
32.	The Mahalakshmi Sugar Mills Co. Ltd., Iqbalpur Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.

1	2	3
33.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Bijnor, Distt. Bijnor	P.S.
34.	Upper Ganges Sugar & Industries Ltd., Seohara, Distt. Bijnor	Pvt.
35.	Dhampur Sugar Mills., Dhampur, Distt. Bijnor.	Pvt.
36.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Chandpur, Distt. Bijnor	P.S.
37.	Dwarikesh Sugar Ind. Ltd., Bundki, Distt. Bijnor	Pvt.
38.	The Ajudia Sugar Mills, Raja-Ka-Sahaspur, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
39.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit Amroha, Distt. Moradabad	P.S.
40.	Chadha Sugars Pvt. Ltd., Dhanaura, Distt. Muradabad	Pvt.
41.	Venus Sugar Ltd., Mazhawali (Bhartra), Teh. Sambhal, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
42.	Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd., Asmoli, Teh. Sambhal, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
43.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit Rampur, Distt. Rampur	P.S.
44.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Bareilly, Distt. Bareilly	P.S.
45.	The Kesar Enterprises Ltd., Baheri, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
46.	J.K. Industries Ltd., Mirganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
47.	Oswal Overseas Ltd., Nawabganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
48.	Rosa Sugar Works Ltd., Prop. Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd. Rosa, Distt. Shahajahanpur	Pvt.
49.	L.H. Sugar Factories Ltd., Pillbhit, Distt. Pilibhit	Pvt.
50.	DSM Agro Products Ltd., Unit DSM Sugar (Kashipur), Kashipur, Distt. Nainital	Pvt.
51.	Kichha Sugar Co. Ltd., Kichha, Distt. Nainital	P.S.
52.	The Neoli Sugar Factory, Manpurnagar, Neoli, Distt. Etah	Pvt.
53.	The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd., Hargaon, Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.
54.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Maholi, Distt. Sitapur	P.S.
55.	The Seksaria Biswan Sugar Factory Ltd., Biswan, Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.
56.	Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd., (Unit Ramgarh Chini Mills), Ramgarh, Teh. Misrikh, Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.
57.	Bajaj Hindustan Ltd., Golagokarannath, Distt. Kheri	Pvt.
58.	The Gobind Sugar Mills Ltd., P.O. Aira Estate, Distt. Kheri	Pvt.
59.	Bajaj Hindustan Ltd., Paliakalan, Distt. Kheri	Pvt.
60.	Ghaghara Sugar Ltd. Ajabapur, Block Pasgaon, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri	Pvt.
61.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Hardoi, Distt. Hardoi	P.S.
62.	Kitply Industries Ltd., Rupapur, Distt. Hardoi	Pvt.
63.	The United Provinces Sugar Co. Ltd., Seorahi, Distt.	Pvt.
64.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit Baitalpur, Distt. Deoria	P.S.
65.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., P.O. Gauribazar, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
66.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit, Deoria, Distt. Deoria	P.S.

1	2	3
67.	The Kanoria Sugar & General Mfg. Co. Ltd., Captainganj, Distt. Padrauna	Pvt.
68.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., P.O. Rajabazar, Unit Khadda, Distt. Padrauna	P.S.
69.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Chittauni, Distt. Padrauna	P.S.
70.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., unit. Lakshmiganj, Dist. Padrauna	P.S.
71.	Triveni Engg. Industries Ltd., Unit. Ramkola, Distt. Padrauna.	Pvt.
72.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Ramkola, Distt. Padrauna.	P.S.
73.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., Padrauna, Distt. Padrauna	Pvt.
74.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., Kathkuiyan, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
75.	The Pratappur Sugar & Ind. Ltd., Pratappur, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
76.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Bhatni, Distt. Deoria	P.S.
77.	Saraya Sugar Mills Pvt.Ltd., Sardarnagar, Distt. Gorakhpur	Pvt.
78.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Pipraich, Distt. Gorakhpur	P.S.
79.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn.Ltd., Ghughli, Distt. Maharajganj	P.S.
80.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Siswabazar, Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
81.	Swadeshi Mining & Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Anandnagar, Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
82.	J.H.V. Sugar Corporation Ltd., Gadaura Teh. Nichloul Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
83.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Munderwa, Distt. Basti	P.S.
84.	The Basti Sugar Mills Co. Ltd., P.O. & Distt. Basti	Pvt.
85.	Govindnagar Sugar Ltd., P.O. Walterganj, Distt. Basti	Pvt.
86.	Khalilabad Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Khalilabad, Distt. Basti	Pvt.
87.	The Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd., Babhnan, Distt. Gonda	Pvt.
88.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn Ltd., Nawabganj, Distt. Gonda	P.S.
89.	Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd., Balrampur, Distt. Gonda	Pvt.
90.	Tulsipur Sugar Co. Ltd., Tulsipur, Distt. Gonda	Pvt.
91.	Indo Gulf Industries Ltd., Maizapur, Distt. Gonda	Pvt.
92.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit, Jarwal Road, Distt. Bahraich	P.S.
93.	Chilwaria Sugar & Chemicals Ltd., Chilwaria, Distt. Baharaich	Pvt.
94.	The U.P.State Sugar Corpn Ltd., Unit. Barabanki, Distt. Barabanki	P.S.
95.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn.Ltd., Unit, Burhwal, Distt. Barabanki	P.S.
96.	Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd., Rouzagaon, Teh. Ram Snehi Ghat, Distt. Barabanki	Pvt.
97.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Shahganj, Distt. Jaunpur	P.S.
98.	Kamalapat Motilal Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., P.O. Motinagar, Distt Faizabad	Pvt.
99.	Chhata Sugar Co. Ltd., P.O. Chhata, Distt. Mathura	P.S.
100.	Nandganj Sihori Sugar Co. Ltd., Daryapur, Distt. Rai Bareilly	P.S.

1	2	3
101.	Nandganj Sihori Sugar Co. Ltd., P.O. Nandganj, Distt. Ghazipur	P.S.
102.	Ghatampur Sugar Co. Ltd., Teh. Ghatampur, Distt. Kanpur	P.S.
103.	Daya Sugar, Nayabas, Teh. Gagalheri, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
104.	Dewan Sugar Ltd., Agwanpur, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
105.	Kamlapur Sugar & Industries Ltd., Kamlapur, Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.
106.	Associated Sugar Mills Ltd., Village Thoi, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
<b>Bihar</b>		
107.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Lohat, Distt. Madhubani	P.S.
108.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Sakari, Dist. Madhubani	P.S.
109.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Ryam, Distt. Darbhanga	P.S.
110.	New India Sugar Mills Ltd., Hassanpur Road, P.O. Hassanpur Sugar Mills, Distt. Samastipur	Pvt.
111.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Samastipur Unit, Distt. Samastipur	P.S.
112.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Motipur, Distt. Muzaffarpur	P.S.
113.	Righa Sugar Co. Ltd., Righa, Distt. Sitamarhi	Pvt.
114.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Garaul, Distt. Vaishali	P.S.
115.	Motihari Chini Udyog Ltd., Lessee of M/s Eastern Sugars Industries Ltd., Motihari, Distt. East Champaran	Pvt.
116.	Motilal Padampat Udyog Ltd., Majhulia, Distt. West Champaran	Pvt.
117.	Champaran Sugar Co. Ltd., Chanpatia, Distt. West Champaran	Pvt.
118.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Lauriya, Distt. West Champaran	P.S.
119.	Bagaha Chini Mills Ltd., P.O. Naraipur, Distt. West Champaran	Pvt.
120.	The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd., Champaran	Pvt.
121.	Harinagar Sugar Mills Ltd., Harinagar, Distt. West Champaran	Pvt.
122.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Sugauli, Distt. East Champaran	P.S.
123.	Champaran Sugar Co. Ltd., Barachakia, Distt. East Champaran	Pvt.
124.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., P.O. New Savan, Distt. Siwan	P.S.
125.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., P.O. Siwan, Distt. Siwan	P.S.
126.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., P.O. Mirganj, Distt. Gopalganj	P.S.
127.	Bharat Sugar Mills Ltd., Sidhwalia, Distt. Gopalganj	Pvt.
128.	Sasa Musa Sugar Works Pvt. Ltd., Sasa Musa, Distt. Gopalganj	Pvt.
129.	The Vishnu Sugar Mills Ltd., P.O. Vishnu Sugar Mills, Gopalganj, Distt. Gopalganj	Pvt.
130.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., Marhowrah, Distt. Saran	Pvt.
131.	Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Gararu, Distt. Gaya	P.S.
132.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Warisallganj, Distt. Nawadah	P.S.

1	2	3
133.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Banmankhi, Distt. Purnea	P.S.
134.	The Bihar State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit. Bihta, Distt. Patna	P.S.
<b>Maharashtra</b>		
135.	The Saswadmali Sugar Factory Ltd., P.O. Malinagar, Distt. Sholapur	Pvt.
136.	The Ravalgaon Sugar Farm Ltd., Ravalgaon, Distt. Nasik	Pvt.
137.	Shri Changdeo Sugar Mills Ltd., Changdeonagar, Distt. Ahmednagar	Pvt.
138.	New Phaltan Sugar Works Ltd., Tk. Phaltan P.O. Shakarwadi, Distt. Satara	Pvt.
139.	Natural Sugar & Allied Industries Kallam, Distt. Osmaanabad	Pvt.
140.	Lokmangal Agro Industries Ltd. Vill. Bibi Darphal Tk. North Solapur, Distt. Solapur	Pvt.
141.	Gangamai Sugar Industries Ltd. Ghatnandra Tk. Sillod Distt. Aurangabad	Pvt.
142.	Dwarkadhish Sakhar Karkhana Ltd. Shevare, P.O.Taharabad, Tk. Bagdan, Distt. Nasik	Pvt.
<b>West Bengal</b>		
143.	Khaitan Agro Industries Ltd., Plassey, Distt. Nadia	Pvt.
144.	West Bengal Sugar Industries Development Corpn. Ltd., Ahmedpur, Distt. Birbhum	P.S.
<b>Assam</b>		
145.	Arihant Sugar Ltd., P.O. Ratabari, Chargola, Distt. Karimganj	Pvt.
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
146.	The Mewar Sugar Mills Ltd., Bhupalsagar, Distt. Chittorgarh	Pvt.
147.	The Ganganagar Sugar Mills Ltd., Sriganganagar, Distt. Sriganganagar	P.S.
<b>Orissa</b>		
148.	Jeypore Sugar Co. Ltd., Rayagada, Distt. Koraput	Pvt.
149.	Western India Sugar & Chemicals Industries Ltd., Dharamgarh, Teh. Dharamgarh, Distt. Kalahandi	Pvt.
150.	Ponni Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., At Bolaangir, Distt. Bolangir	Pvt.
151.	Sakhti Sugars Ltd., Haripur, Village Teh. Dhankanal Sadar, Distt. Dhenkanal	Pvt.
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
152.	The Kirlampudi Sugar Mills Ltd., P.O.Pithapuram, Distt East Godavari	Pvt.
153.	Shri Sarvaraya Sugar Ltd., P.O. Chelluru, Tal. Ramchandrapuram, Distt. East Godavari	Pvt.
154.	Nava Bharat Ferro Alloys Ltd., Samalkot, Distt. East Godavari	Pvt.
155.	Andhra Sugars Ltd., Tanuku, Distt. East Godavari	Pvt.
156.	VVS Sugars (The Jeypore Sugar Co. Ltd.) P.O. Chagallu, Distt. West Godavari	Pvt.
157.	The Andhra Sugars Ltd., Tuduvai, Distt. West Godavari	Pvt.

1	2	3
158.	Varalakshmi Sugars Ltd. Sankil in Rigidi Amadalavalasa Mandal, Distt. Srikakulam	Pvt.
159.	The KCP Sugar & Industries Corpn. Ltd. Vuyyuru, Distt. Krishna	Pvt.
160.	The KCP Sugar & Industries Corpn. Ltd., Lakshmpuram, Distt. Krishna	Pvt.
161.	The Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., Shakarnagar Distt. Nizamabad	P.S.
162.	NCS Gayatri Sugar Pvt. Ltd. Adluryellareddy, Teh. Sadashivnagar, Distt. Nizamabad.	Pvt.
163.	Shree Vanni Sugars & Industries Ltd., Kummaranatham, Distt. Chittoor	Pvt.
164.	Prudential Mouli Sugars Ltd., At Nindra Village, Teh. Nindra Mandal, Distt. Chittoor	Pvt.
165.	Sudalagunta Sugars Ltd., Butchinaidu Kandriga Distt. Chittoor	Pvt.
166.	The Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., P.O. Didgi, Tal. Zaheerabad, Distt. Medak	P.S.
167.	The Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., Taluka & Distt. Medak	P.S.
168.	Ganapati Sugar Industries Ltd., Kulubgur, Sangareddy Mandal, Distt. Medak	Pvt.
169.	The Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., Miryalguda, Distt. Nalgonda	P.S.
170.	Gayatri Sugar Complex Ltd. Prabhagiri Patnam, Podalakur Mandal, Distt. Nellore	Pvt.
171.	Empee Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Ayyappareddy Palam, Naidupet Mandalam, Distt. Nellore	Pvt.
172.	Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., P.O. Metpalli, Distt. Karimnagar	P.S.
173.	Shri Kailash Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Peruvuncha, Teh. Kallur Mandal, Distt. Khammam	Pvt.
174.	Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., P.B. No.1, Khairatabad, Hyderabad AT Lakshayyapeta, Distt. Vizianagaram	P.S.
<b>Karnataka</b>		
175.	Mysore Sugar Co. Ltd., Mandya, Distt. Mandya	P.S.
176.	ICL Sugars Ltd. Makkavalli, Tal. Krishnarajpet, Distt. Mandya	Pvt.
177.	Chamundeshwari Sugars Ltd., K.M. Doddi, Tal. Madur, Distt. Mandya	Pvt.
178.	The India Sugar & Refineries Ltd., P.O. Chitwadgi, Hospet, Distt. Bellary	Pvt.
179.	Siruguppa Sugars & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Siruguppa Taluk, Distt. Bellary	Pvt.
180.	Salarjung Sugar Mills Ltd., Munirabad, Distt. Raichur	Pvt.
181.	Gangavati Sugars Ltd., Pragatinagar, Tal. Gangawati, Distt. Raichur	P.S.
182.	The Ugar Sugar Works Ltd., Ugarkhurd, Distt. Belgaum	Pvt.
183.	Tungbhadra Sugar Works Pvt. Ltd., Shimoga, Distt. Shimoga	Pvt.
184.	Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., Bhadravati, Distt. Shimoga	P.S.
185.	Davangere Sugar Co. Ltd., Davangere, Kukkavada, Distt. Chidradurga	Pvt.
186.	The Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd., Sameerwadi, Mudhol, Distt. Bijapur	Pvt.
187.	Khodey Distilleries Ltd., Kollegal, Distt. Mysore	Pvt.
188.	Bannari Amman Sugars Ltd., Alaganchi Village, Tal. Nanjangud, Distt. Mysore	Pvt.
189.	Renuka Sugars Ltd., Manoli, Tal. Sawadathi, Distt. Belgaum (Shifted From A.P. Unit Hindupurer, Implimention.)	Pvt.

1	2	3
190.	Sundari Sugar Ltd., Kampli, Distt. Bellary	Pvt.
191.	Shamnur Sugars Ltd. Duggawati, Tal. Harapanahalli, Distt. Bellary	Pvt.
192.	Prabhulingeshwar Sugar 0.3366 Works Ltd., Siddapur, Tal. Jamkhandi, Distt. Bangalkot	Pvt.
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		
193.	EID Parry (India) Ltd. P.O. Pugalur Sugar Factory, Distt. Tiruchirapalli	Pvt.
194.	Cauvery Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Pettaivayasalai, Distt. Tiruchirappali	Pvt.
195.	Kothari Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Kattur, Lalgudi, Distt. Tiruchirappali	Pvt.
196.	Perambalur Sugar Mills Ltd., Eraiyur, Taluka Perambalur, Distt. Tiruchirapalli	P.S.
197.	EID Parry (India) Ltd., Nellikuppam, Distt. South Arcot	Pvt.
198.	The South India Sugars Mundiappakkam, Distt. South Arcot	Pvt.
199.	Shree Ambika Sugars Ltd., Pennadam, Distt. South Arcot	Pvt.
200.	Tamil Nadu Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Pandiarajapuram, Distt. Madurai	P.S.
201.	Rajshree Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Periyakulam, Distt. Madurai	Pvt.
202.	The Thiru Arooran Sugars Ltd., Kollumangudi Village in Peralam/ Agarathirumalam Firka in Nannilam Taluk, Nagai, Quid-e-Milleth Distt.	Pvt.
203.	Arignar Anna Sugar Mills Ltd., Kurungulam, Distt. Thanjavur	P.S.
204.	Thiru Arooran Sugars Ltd., Papanasam, Distt. Thanjavur	Pvt.
205.	Shee Ambika Sugars Ltd. Kottur T.K. Thiruvaidaimaruthur Distt. Thanjavur	Pvt.
206.	Dharani Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Karaipoondi, Tak. Polur, Distt. Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar	Pvt.
207.	S.V. Sugar Mills Ltd., Waljabad Firka, Distt. Chegalpattu MGR	Pvt.
208.	The Sakhti Sugars Ltd., Sakhtinagar, P.O.Erode, Distt. Periyar	Pvt.
209.	Bannari Amman Sugars Ltd., Village Althukombai, Sathyamanglam, Distt. Periyar	Pvt.
210.	Ponni Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Pallipalayam, Tal. Tiruchengode, Distt. Salem	Pvt.
211.	Dharani Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Tal. Sivagiri, Distt. Tirunelveli	Pvt.
212.	Sakhti Sugars Ltd., Tal. Sivganga, Distt. Pasumpan Muthuraalingam	Pvt.
213.	EID Parry (India) Ltd. Arantangi, Distt. Pudukottai	Pvt.
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
214.	The Gwalior Sugar Co. Ltd., Dabra, Distt. Gwalior	Pvt.
215.	Jaora Sugar Mills, Jaora, Distt. Ratlam	P.S.
216.	The Bhopal Sugar Industries Ltd., P.O. & Distt. Sehore	Pvt.
217.	The Jiwaji Rao Sugar Co. Ltd., Dalauda, Distt. Mandsour	Pvt.
218.	M.P. State Industries Corpn. Ltd., P.O. Mohidpur Road, Distt. Ujjain	P.S.
219.	Girdhari Lal Sugar & Allied Industries Ltd., Teh. Thikri, Distt. Khargone	Pvt.

1	2	3
	<b>Kerala</b>	
220.	The Travancore Sugar & Chemicals Ltd., Valanjavattam, P.O. Tiruvalla, Distt. Quilon	Pvt.
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	
221.	New Horizon Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Sagrur (Aniyur) P.O. Kandamanglam, Distt. Pondicherry	Pvt.
	<b>Nagaland</b>	
222.	Nagaland Sugar Mills Co. Ltd., Dimapur, Distt. Kohima	P.S.

**Procurement of Sugarcane****Statement**

3013. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of such sugar mills which pay the lowest procurement price of sugarcane alongwith the names of those which pay comparatively more procurement price; and

(b) the reasons for such imbalances in payments alongwith the steps proposed to be taken to improve the procurement of price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of Sugarcane for each sugar season taking into account the following:

- (i) the cost of production of sugarcane
- (ii) return to the growers from the alternative crops
- (iii) the general trend of prices of agricultural commodities
- (iv) availability to the consumer at a fair price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by the producers of sugar
- (v) the recovery of sugar from sugarcane

Under the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the price paid to the sugarcane growers by sugar mill cannot be below the SMP. Most of the sugar mills pay either the State Advised Price of Sugarcane or the Price agreed to which is higher than the SMP.

The system of payment of cane price in various State is given in the enclosed Statement.

*System of Payment of Sugarcane Price by Different States*

*Sub-tropical belt:* In the sub-tropical States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the State Governments have been announcing higher cane prices payable by the sugar factories.

*In Gujarat* the cane prices are paid in instalments. In the South Gujarat zone, the cane prices are paid in three instalments, first instalment is paid at the time of crushing, second instalment at the closure of the season and the third and final instalment after the end of the sugar year taking into account the estimated profit and loss. In the Saurashtra region, the cane prices are paid in two instalments, the major amount is paid as first instalment at the time of crushing while the second and final instalment is paid after the end of the sugar year taking into consideration the estimated profit and loss.

*In Maharashtra* the cane price is paid in two instalments. The first instalment is paid taking into account the SMP fixed by the Central Government, overall availability of the sugarcane, market prices of sugar etc. The first instalment to be paid is decided by a Committee headed by Chief Minister. The second and final instalment is paid taking into account the working results of the factory after permissible deductions.

*In Karnataka* a minimum cane price is fixed linked to a recovery of 8.5% by the Government through negotiations with the management of the factories as also the cane growers associations. However, the factories negotiate final cane price with the cane Growers depending upon the profitability of the factory, under the aegis of Directorate of Sugar.

*In Andhra Pradesh* the cane price is fixed taking into account the cost of cultivation for sugarcane and other related aspects. The State Advised Prices are linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% of cane. The prices

are generally higher than the SMP. After the close of the season the additional cane price on the basis of Bhargava formula is worked out and paid to the farmers.

In Tamil Nadu according to the State Government, the cooperative and public sector mills are paying State Advised Price (SAP) while the private sector sugar mills of the State are not doing so. The cane price paid by the private sugar mills is, however, more than the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) fixed by the Central Government.

[English]

### **Export of Leather**

3014. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any target has been fixed for the export of leather products during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of leather products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Indicative export targets are fixed in consultation with exporters based on the previous year's export performance. The targets for the year 2001-2002 are yet to be fixed.

(c) At the initiative of the Government, the Council for Leather Exports has formulated a plan for a more focussed approach for exports of leather products by identifying specific products to be marketed in specific countries.

### **Incentives on Natural Rubber**

3015. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to improve the consumption of Natural Rubber in the country;

(b) whether there are any incentives for value addition of Natural Rubber;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is exemption of Excise Duty on products of Natural Rubber as in the case of other agricultural products;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) Yes, Sir. Rubber Board is implementing a scheme providing financial assistance to local bodies like Panchayats, Municipalities and Corporations for encouraging rubberisation of roads using natural rubber modified bitumen. The Board is also undertaking research on product development to broaden the use of Natural Rubber.

(b) and (c) Rubber Board provides training and technical advice to rubber goods manufacturers for improving the quality of rubber products and reducing the cost of production.

(d) to (f) Like most other agricultural products Natural Rubber, balata, gutta-percha, guayule, chicle and similar natural gums in primary forms or in plates, sheets or strips attract nil rate of basic central excise duty. However, industrial products like tyres, tubes and flaps which contain natural rubber do attract central excise duty.

### **Problems of Tea Industry**

3016. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the major problems being faced with by the tea industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to save the Indian tea industry from crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The major problems being faced with by the tea industry include decline in prices of tea at the auctions, slow down of domestic consumption rate, stagnant export, old age of tea bushes affecting productivity and high cost of production.

(c) The Government and Tea Board have taken various steps to increase production and export of tea. These steps include implementation of various developmental schemes by the Tea Board under which financial assistance is provided by the Tea Board for encouraging extension planting, re-planting, rejuvenation pruning, infilling, creation of irrigation facilities and drainage etc.

To promote Indian Teas in the overseas markets, Tea Board has taken various steps which include registration of Tea Board Logo and Speciality Tea Logo in major tea importing countries, remove bottlenecks in exports to individual markets, participation in major trade fairs/exhibitions abroad; field sampling at speciality

stores and in principal markets; media campaign to increase consumer awareness of speciality Indian teas and to popularise the Tea Board marketing symbol; exchange of tea delegations etc.

In order to help the tea industry to come out of its problems of low price realisations at auctions, Govt./Tea Board has taken various steps which include:

- \* implementation of a price subsidy scheme through the Tea Board with effect from 1.5.2000 under which subsidy is provided to the small growers of tea (holding upto 10.12 hectares of tea plantation) for an amount equal to the shortfall between the auction price and Rs. 55 per kg subject to a maximum of Rs. 8 per kg.
- \* amendment of Tea Marketing Control Order 1984 to remove the condition of obligatory sale of 75% of tea production through public tea auctions
- \* launch of a Quality Upgradation Programme in the Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu for improving quality of tea manufactured by small growers
- \* increase in basic customs duty on tea from 35% to 70% in the Budget of 2001-2002
- \* ban on sale of tea in the Domestic Tariff Area by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in Export Processing Zones (EPZs)
- \* increase in the allowance under the Section 33 AB of Income Tax Act from 20% to 40% in the Budget 2001-2002

#### Unclaimed Money in Banks

3017. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a large unclaimed money lying with the nationalised banks amounting to Rs. 345.39 crores, private banks – Rs. 291 crores and foreign banks – Rs. 251 crores;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to amend the banking laws to take the unclaimed money lying with foreign banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the unclaimed deposits lying with banks as on 31st December, 2000 are as under:

Nationalized Banks	-	Rs. 401.94 crores
Private Sector Banks	-	Rs. 29.84 crores
Foreign Banks	-	Rs. 31.28 crores

RBI has reported that these figures are provisional as final data from few banks have not yet been received.

The Bank-wise details of amount is furnished in the statement.

(c) to (e) RBI has submitted a proposal to the Government to insert a new Section in the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for creation of Depositors' Protection Trust Fund wherein such unclaimed deposits (including foreign banks) would be credited. The proposal is under examination of the Government

#### Statement

Nationalized Banks		Amount (Rs. in '000)
1		2
1.	Andhra Bank	137137
2.	Allahabad Bank	53423
3.	Bank of Baroda	209897
4.	Bank of India	208725
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	89791
6.	Canara Bank	624722
7.	Central Bank of India	208147
8.	Corporation Bank	33168
9.	Dena Bank	66362
10.	Indian Bank	119294
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	130676
12.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	133062
13.	Punjab National Bank	808158
14.	Punjab & Sind Bank	142331
15.	Syndicate Bank	189203
16.	Union Bank of India	426668
17.	United Bank of India	132775
18.	UCO Bank	174975
19.	Vijaya Bank	130681
<b>Nationalized Banks Total</b>		<b>4019391</b>

	1	2
<b>Private Sector Banks</b>		
1. Bank of Madura Ltd.		3193
2. Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.		41636
3. Benares State Bank Ltd.		2959
4. Bharat Overseas Bank		10415
5. Catholic Syrian Bank		21014
6. City Union Bank		10443
7. Dhanalakshmi Bank		6488
8. Federal Bank		34376
9. Jammu & Kashmir Bank		36930
10. Karnataka Bank		21617
11. Karur Vysya Bank		8538
12. Lakshmi Vilas Bank		9812
13. Lord Krishna Bank		339
14. Nainital Bank		6367
15. Nedungadi Bank		8114
16. Ratnakar Bank		5607
17. Sangli Bank		31976
18. South Indian Bank		981
19. Tamilnad Mercantile Bank		10863
20. United Western Bank		2810
21. Vysya Bank		23355
22. Ganesh Bank of Kurundwad		514
23. Development Credit Bank Ltd.		1
<b>Private Sector Banks Total</b>		<b>298348</b>

**Foreign Bank**

1. Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank		716
2. ABN Amro Bank		31
3. American Express Bank		7923
4. Stan. Chart Grindlays Bank Ltd.		155021
5. Bank of America		4718
6. Mashreq Bank		28
7. Bank of Tokyo - Mitsubishi Ltd.		2017
8. Credit Agricole Indosuez		104

	1	2
9. BNP Paribas		1995
10. Citi Bank		317
11. HSBC Ltd.		26006
12. Oman International Bank		11
13. The Sakura Bank		310
14. Standard Chartered Bank		113585
<b>Foreign Banks Total</b>		<b>312782</b>

[Translation]

**Date of Manufacture on Labels**

3018. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the availability of such Gutakas and bidis in the market where manufacturers do not mention the date of manufacturing, weight and number on the packets;

(b) whether the Government have initiated action against such manufacturers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (d) Under the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 all commodities in pre-packed form, including Gutakas and bidis are required, among other things, to carry declaration of the month and year of manufacturing/packing, quantity of product in the package in terms of weight or measure, on their labels. The responsibility for such declaration rests with the manufacturers/packers. Non-declaration of such information attracts penal provisions. The Rules are enforced by the State Government implementation authorities. Whenever a violation is detected action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the law. However, packages containing quantity less than 10g or 10ml are exempted from the provisions of the Rules.

**Proposals for Establishment of Export Oriented Units**

3019. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals to establish Export

Oriented Units received by the Government from various State Governments since 1998 onwards and the number out of them sanctioned so far for each State; and

(b) the number of those units which have been provided infrastructural and other facilities to start production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No proposals have been received from the State Governments for establishing Export Oriented Units.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Loan for Women

3020. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed all public sector banks to earmark at least two percent of their net credit for women and raise it to five percent over the next five years;

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

(c) the present percentage of net credit to women in public sector banks including State Bank group of banks, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India has advised public sector banks to earmark at least 2 per cent of their net bank credit for women and raise it to 5 percent in five years. Public sector banks have also been instructed that they should redefine their policies by taking into account women's requirements in a focused and integrated manner. They should prepare long term plans with a view to outreach credit to women. For this purpose they may take into account credit extended to women directly for smaller projects, credit under different schemes of banks/Government sponsored schemes and credit to companies where majority of the promoters shares are held by women, partnership firms where majority partners are women and proprietary concerns where proprietors are women. Banks are also to ensure that the benefits under various poverty alleviation and employment promotion schemes go to the women in the prescribed ratio.

(c) RBI has reported that separate data about credit flow to women is not presently available with all banks. Banks have been advised to create a separate data

base for women for amounts advanced through micro-credit, credit to small scale industries, credit to medium and large scale industries, Government sponsored scheme and other different schemes of banks and submit quarterly reports to Government/RBI beginning from the quarter ended March 2001.

#### Cess on Sugar Production

3021. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'cess' is collected on sugar produced in the sugar factories and on the sugar exported;

(b) if so, the cess collected during each of last three years; and

(c) the manner in which cess amount utilized by the Government during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) A cess is levied and collected on all sugar produced by any sugar factory in India. The cess collected during the last 3 financial years is indicated below :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1997-98	20805.82
1998-99	18801.76
1999-2000	18886.60

(c) The cess collected and credited to the Fund in the above period has been utilized for providing loans to sugar factories for modernization/rehabilitation and development of sugarcane, providing grants for research projects aimed at development sugar industry payment of subsidy to sugar factories for maintenance of buffer stocks, expenditure on NISST, Mau and administration of SDF according to the Budget outlay for each year, as per the provisions of section 4 of the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982.

#### Law for Governing Print/Electronic Media

3022. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the law governing print/electronic media;

(b) whether any action can be taken against print/electronic media for mis-reporting; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) The Print and Electronic Media are governed by the laws of land which include the following:

- Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867
- Official Secrets Act, 1923
- Parliamentary Proceedings (Protection of Publication), Act 1977
- Press Council Act, 1978
- The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- Indian Telegraph Act, 1865
- Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990
- The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995

(b) and (c) The Press Council of India (PCI) has been set up as a self regulatory body of the Press under the Press Council Act, 1978. As per Section 14 of the Act, the PCI may warn, admonish or censure the Newspaper, the News Agency, the Editor or the Journalist or disapprove the conduct of the Editor or the Journalist as the case may be, for offending the standards of journalistic ethics or public taste or for professional misconduct.

No separate law has been enacted with reference to the electronic media. However, the programmes of All India Radio and Doordarshan are governed by policy guidelines/programme code framed for the purpose.

The programmes of Satellite channels, when transmitted through cable networks, are required to adhere to the programme/advertisement code prescribed under Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994. Rule 6(1)(d) prohibits the carriage of any programme in the cable service which contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendoes and half truths. Enforcement of the provisions of the Act and Rules rests with the authorized officers i.e. DMs, SDMs, Commissioners of Police and other officers as may be notified by the Central/State Governments.

#### **Tea Export to Germany**

3023. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Germany has refused tea from india;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the likely impact on the Indian tea industry as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Lifting of Ban on Export of Onion**

3024. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to lift ban on the export of onions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the move is based on the record production of onions in Maharashtra and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) There is no ban on the export of onions. Export of onion of all varieties, except Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram onions, is canalised and allowed within an annual quantitative ceiling determined after taking into account the production, stocks available, crop situation, domestic requirement, etc. Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram onions are allowed for export without any quantitative ceiling. In 2000-2001 a quantity of 3.5 lakh M.T. has been released for exports.

#### **Help to Non-performing States**

3025. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to help backbencher States to lure foreign funds;

(b) if so, whether the states of Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat would be considered for multilateral assistance; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to provide this foreign funds aid to the States where it has not been so far provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) Government has already put in place a transparent, dynamic and investment friendly FDI policy placing almost all activities under the automatic route for FDI upto 100% except a small list. Choice of location of projects depends on the commercial judgement of the

investors. It depends on the availability of adequate and dependable infrastructure facilities such as power, developed land, etc., and incentives and subsidies provided by State Governments for attracting investment into the States and Union Territories.

### **Agmark Certification**

3026. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the agricultural food products available in the market do not conform with agmark certification;

(b) whether the Government propose to make it compulsory to get agmark certification for all the food products;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to amend Agricultural Produce Grading and Marketing Act, 1937?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Yes. Sir. Agmark Certification for notified agricultural commodities is voluntary. It is for the manufacturer to get Agmark Certification for the commodity.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no proposal to amend the Agricultural Produce Grading and Marketing Act, 1937.

### **Economic Reforms Monitoring Commission**

3027. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council on Social Science Research and the Social Science Research Council, New York have viewed that there should be an economic reforms monitoring commission appointed by and accountable to Parliament to help sustained implementation of the reforms package as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated January 15, 2001 under the caption "Meel to moot House Panel to monitor reforms";

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken into consideration this suggestion of the two Councils;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to set up such commission to monitor reforms in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the other steps taken or mechanism at present available to monitor the economic reforms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Agro Investment to GDP**

3028. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ratio of agro investment to GDP has gone down over the years;

(b) if so, the comparative figures for the last three years;

(c) whether the Economic Advisory Council of the Prime Minister has recommended that second generation reforms should focus on the agriculture sector;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the investment ratio in this sector;

(e) if so, upto what extent;

(f) whether any incentive have been proposed to attract the investment towards the agro sector; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) During the seven year period 1993-94 to 1999-2000, the agricultural investment as percent of GDP was constant at 1.6 in the first three years, 1993-94 to 1995-96; declined in 1996-97 to 1.5 percent and to 1.4 percent thereafter during the next two years. However in 1999-2000 it rose again to 1.5 percent.

(c) The Economic Advisory Council of the Prime Minister has highlighted some specific areas that could form the agenda for second generation reforms such as removal of controls on movement and stocking of agricultural products across the country besides moving away from regulations and controls in sugar, fertilizers, milk processing, rice milling, cotton etc.

(d) and (e) Acceleration in agricultural investment is being pursued with vigour through the Rural Infrastructural Development Fund for taking up irrigation schemes and infrastructural projects, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for additional assistance to States for earlier completion of their large irrigation projects; and National Watershed Development Programme for developing watersheds in various parts

of the country etc. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana just introduced would provide rural road connectivity to all habitations for which 50 percent cess on High Speed Diesel (HSD) would be utilised.

(f) and (g) One of the major incentives for increasing diversification in agriculture and food processing is removal of excise on processed food products.

#### **Rehabilitation of DCM-Hyundai (Container Division)**

3029. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the BIFR have sought fresh rehabilitation proposal from DCM Hyundai (Container Division);

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

(c) the time by which BIFR is likely to take a final decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No. Sir. M/s. DCM Hyundai Ltd. was declared sick on 28.7.1998 and IFCI was appointed as Operating Agency (OA) under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. On 17.9.1999, ICICI was appointed as OA in lieu of IFCI to examine the viability of the company and to submit its report.

The OA informed the Board that a joint meeting of company and Banks was held on 6.1.2000. The Banks clearly stated that they would neither be able to take up any additional exposure nor extend any reliefs/concessions beyond RBI parameters. The viability of the company depended on higher contributions from the promoters. The Bench vide its order dated 29.2.2000 had directed the OA to issue advertisement for change in management and Indian Bank was permitted to file a legal suit for recovery from company. The company had gone on appeal to AAIFR against BIFR order dated 29.2.2000, which was turned down by AAIFR vide order dated 13.7.2000.

(c) In the last hearing on 14.2.2001, the present management indicated their keenness to revive the company. The Bench decided to give a last opportunity to the promoters and directed the company/promoters to submit a fully tied up rehabilitation proposal to the OA by 31.3.2001 after discussions with the banks and financial institutions sorting out issues regarding release of fresh working capital, outstanding foreign bill purchased by Indian Bank, waiver of foreign exchange fluctuations and promoters contribution for the revival of the company.

The OA would examine the proposal and to submit its report by 15.4.2001 along with the minutes of the joint meeting to Bench for consideration and decision.

#### **Export of Sugar**

3030. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistan Government has decided to increase its import duty on sugar to stem the inflow of Indian sugar to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of sugar exported to Pakistan so far;

(d) whether it is also a fact that after this decision of Pakistan to raise the import duty, the exports have declined; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (e) Government has no official information about any increase in the import duty on sugar by the Pakistan Government.

As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) Kolkata during financial year 2000-2001 (upto November, 2000), a total quantity of 1,40,863 MTs. has been physically exported, out of which a quantity of 95,746 MTs. has been exported to Pakistan.

However, as per the latest information furnished by the exporters, out of the total physical export of around 3.72 lakh tonnes (provisional) of sugar made upto 17.2.2001, a quantity of about 1.71 lakh tonnes (provisional) has been exported to Pakistan.

*[Translation]*

#### **Performance of STC**

3031. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of business done by the State Trading Corporation of India during the current financial year (2000-2001) alongwith the name of items of trade;

(b) the schemes of the State Trading Corporation regarding expansion of its market;

(c) whether STC has been continuously incurring losses;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the amount of money involved in litigations pertaining to recovery of dues: and

(e) the schemes of Government drawn up to promote the domestic trade and steps taken to safeguard the interest of the farmers producing cash crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) STC expects to achieve a turnover of Rs. 1281 crore (Prov.) during the current financial year comprising exports - Rs. 743 crore, imports - Rs. 377 crore and domestic trade - Rs. 161 crore with major items traded during the year as under:

Export: Wheat, castor seed/oil, coffee, cashew and chemicals & drugs

Imports : Edible oils, gold

Domestic trade: Hydro-carbons, pulses/coarse grains and jute goods.

(b) As a result of decanalisation of all items earlier canalised through STC, the Corporation has been laying greater emphasis on developing non-canalised business of both exports and imports;

(c) and (d) No, Sir. STC has been earning a net profit after tax (PAT) ever since its inception. However, during the course of business, the Corporation, at times, has to contest a number of court/arbitration cases. The amount involved in respect of all major legal/arbitration cases filed by STC for recovery of dues is about Rs. 50 crore.

(e) STC is asked to undertake market intervention operations in the domestic market also with a view to safeguard the interests of farmers producing cash crops, as and when necessary. Recently, such operations have been undertaken by the Corporation for tobacco and natural rubber.

[English]

#### Foreign Capital In-Flow

3032. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank report has revealed that Foreign Capital Flow to India is declining and it has come down to US Dollar 2.1 billion during 1999, 2.6 billion during 1998 and 3.5 billion during 1997 respectively;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether according to World Bank report, India's total debt (foreign) stock stood at US Dollar 94.3 billion

in 1999 as against 97.6 billion, indicating a decline in capital inflow; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Government have been consistently making efforts to invite investments into the country. In fact, the total foreign capital inflow has increased from US\$ 2.7 billion in 1998 to US\$ 4.04 billion in 1999.

(c) and (d) As per the Advance Release of Global Development Finance Report, India's external debt for 1999 is US\$ 94.3 billion compared to US\$ 98.2 billion for 1998. It is Government's endeavour to attract more of equity based capital inflows

#### Equity Holdings in MUL

3033. SHRI VIJAY GOEL Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to dilute their equity holdings in Maruti Udyog Ltd. by issue of fresh rights shares;

(b) whether rights shares will now be issued to Indian Financial Institutions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount for which right shares will be issued and terms and conditions for scribbling to such shares;

(e) whether the Financial Institutions would be given free hand in disposal of these shares after allotment; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided in principle to disinvest its shares in MUL. The Government, at this stage, has decided to offer shares on a rights basis to the existing shareholders with a renunciation option for the Government.

(b) to (f) The negotiations with Suzuki Motor Corporation Limited have not yet been completed. As such, it is premature to indicate the size, details and conditions of the rights issue.

### **Raids of Customs**

3034. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether country-wide raids were conducted on retailers selling cheap Chinese goods by Customs squads;

(b) if so, whether the investigations by Customs establishes the nexus of traders based in Delhi, Calcutta and Bihar with the hawala operators abroad;

(c) if so, whether it was also found that most of the contraband goods come to India via Nepal and even legal imports from Nepal under-invoiced;

(d) if so, whether funds channeled through hawala route is utilised to source goods from Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand consigned to Nepal from where it is re-exported; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check this rampant contraband traffic involving hawala operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A special anti-smuggling operation involving country-wide raids was launched during November, 2000, in which contraband goods valued at Rs. 5.87 crores originating from various countries such as China, Taiwan, Japan, Malaysia, Korea etc. were seized by the various field formations of the Customs Department.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. There is no evidence to suggest this.

(e) Field formations under the Customs Department, including DRI, are alert and vigilant to check smuggling of contraband goods.

### **Sale of Centaur Hotel**

3035. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have moved a step closer towards shortlisting and inviting financial bids for Hotel Corporation of India's Centaur chain of five star hotels;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the top bidders on this issue; and

(c) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) The process of disinvestment in Hotel Corporation of India Limited is under progress.

(c) No time frame for taking a final decision in the matter has yet been finalised.

### **Central Assistance to States**

3036. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of State Governments have been requesting the Union Government for Central Assistance to Computerise their treasuries;

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

(c) the details of States who have computerised their treasuries with the Central Assistance; and

(d) the reasons for not providing Central Assistance to the remaining States for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Several State Governments had sent their proposals to the Tenth Finance Commission (TFC) for computerization of treasuries. TFC recommended grants for computerization of district level treasuries in the States assessed to be in revenue deficit. The grant allocated by TFC to States for the period 1996-2000 and the grant released upto 31.3.2000 is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The TFC recommended grants for computerization of treasuries to various States on the basis of information obtained from Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Accountants General, NIC and States regarding the number of district level treasuries, and the State of computerization thereof.

The TFC did not recommend upgradation grants for those States which were assessed to have an overall non-plan revenue surplus before devolution.

**Statement**

*Grants recommended by TFC for Computerisation of Treasuries*

States	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Allocation 1996-2000	Released upto 31.3.2000
1. Arunachal Pradesh	60.00	27.00
2. Assam	230.00	224.25
3. Bihar	400.00	360.00
4. Goa	20.00	18.00
5. Himachal Pradesh	20.00	20.00
6. Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	135.00
7. Meghalaya	50.00	45.00
8. Mizoram	30.00	27.00
9. Nagaland	90.00	54.50
10. Orissa	180.00	94.50
11. Punjab	140.00	19.11
12. Rajasthan	340.00	306.00
13. Sikkim	10.00	9.00
14. Tripura	20.00	16.00
15. Uttar Pradesh	460.00	452.65
16. West Bengal	110.00	82.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>2310.00</b>	<b>1890.51</b>

**Amendment to FEEMA, 1999**

3037 SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has recently made amendments in the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the investors in shares and debentures and NRIs were badly affected due to amendments in the FEMA Act, 1999; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question do not arise.

**Export of Tea to Pakistan**

3038. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether representative of Indian tea industry have visited Pakistan between December, 2000-January, 2001 for discussion with the representatives of Pakistan Tea Association for exporting tea to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan is keen to import India's tea;

(c) if so, the total quantity of tea exported to Pakistan by India during the current year and proposed for 2001-2002; and

(d) the extent to which Pakistan is becoming a major importer of Indian tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) Representatives of Indian Tea Industry led by Chairman, Indian Tea Association visited Pakistan in February, 2001 for discussion with the representatives of Pakistan Tea Association with a view to promote export of tea to Pakistan.

(b) According to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Pakistan Tea Association and the Indian Tea Association, Pakistan will import 7 to 10 mn. kgs of tea from India during the year 2001 and gradually increase the purchase by 10%-15% annually.

(c) The total quantity of tea exported to Pakistan by India during the year 2000-2001 for the period April to December has been estimated at 2.94 mn. kgs as against 0.10 mn. kgs exported in the corresponding period of the last financial year. Based on the recent development in tea trade with Pakistan, it is expected that export of Indian tea to Pakistan may be around 7 to 10 mn. kgs in the year 2001-02.

(d) Pakistan is importing tea on an average of 110-115 mn. kgs per annum from various tea producing countries. Exports of tea from India to Pakistan during the years 1997, 1998 & 1999 were 1.31 mn. kgs, 2.77 mn. kgs and 0.48 mn kgs respectively. Keeping in view the large size of the market, if the agreement reached between Pakistan Tea Association and Indian Tea Association is fulfilled then Pakistan may become one of the major importers of Indian tea.

**Take over of Multinational Companies**

3039. SHRI M.V.:V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether financial institutions are funding take over plans of multinational companies;
- (b) if so, the reasons and details in this regard;
- (c) whether any guidelines issued by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Since 1991, there have been 1479 cases of foreign companies approaching the Government for increase in the equity in existing Indian companies. Proposals are approved as per Government guidelines. No takeover plans of the MNCs are funded by financial institutions incorporated in India.

(c) and (d) Government guidelines indicate that foreign owned holding companies would have to bring in funds from abroad and not leverage funds from domestic market. The guidelines do not preclude downstream operating companies to raise debt in the domestic market.

[Translation]

**Modernisation of Mints**

3040. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :  
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake modernisation of the mints to bridge the gap between the rising demand of coins in the denomination Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 and the capacity for minting the coins;

(b) if so, the time by which the modernisation work is likely to start and the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the number of coins being minted in each mint alongwith their denominations and the number of coins likely to be minted after the modernisation of the mints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The mints at Mumbai, Kolkata and Hyderabad are being modernised to meet the requirement of coins. The modernisation work is nearing completion.

(c) The production of coins mint-wise during 2000-01 (upto February, 2001) is as under:

(figures in million pieces)				
Deno.	Mumbai	Kolkata	Hyderabad	Noida
Rs. 5	97.61	100.30	55.01	27.41
Rs. 2	102.56	130.94	108.14	248.53
Re. 1	118.08	177.26	255.31	334.37
50p.	156.86	106.81	121.38	185.39
25p.	120.26	99.00	85.19	115.78

The capacity of the Mints after the modernisation will be as follows :

Mint	Capacity in Million PCs
Mumbai	1000
Kolkata	1000
Hyderabad	700
Noida	1000*

\* The capacity of NOIDA mint will become 2000 MPCs after introduction of the second shift.

**Purchasing Power of Indian Rupee**

3041. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the last few years the purchasing power of Indian rupee has declined alarmingly;

(b) if so, the average value of the rupee in the years 1991-92, 1996-97 and 2000-01 on the basis of the value of the rupee in year 1980-81;

(c) whether the purchasing power of the rupee varies widely in the various cities of the country; and

(d) if so, the citywise details of the minimum and maximum purchasing power of rupee during the financial year 1996-97 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The purchasing power of the rupee as measured by the reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index for industrial workers (CPI-IW) declines as the index increases.

The average value of the rupee in the years 1991-92, 1996-97 and 2000-01 with base 1980-81 is listed below:

	Value of Rupee (in paise)
1991-92	36.99
1996-97	23.68
2000-01 (Apr-Jan)	22.52

(c) and (d) The Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers used for calculating the purchasing power of the rupee is computed for 70 different centres in the country. As prices vary at different cities, the purchasing power of the rupee also varies in these cities.

The purchasing power of the rupee in the major cities of the country in 1996-97 and 2000-01 on base 1982 is listed below.

Purchasing Power of Rupee in major cities

Base 1982 = 100 (in paise)

	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai	Calcutta
<b>1996-97</b>				
Apr.	29.76	28.01	29.33	30.40
Jun	29.33	27.32	27.47	29.50
Oct	27.40	26.95	27.25	28.09
Jan	27.47	26.25	26.46	28.99
Mar	27.10	26.11	26.67	28.90
<b>2000-01</b>				
Apr	19.34	19.96	21.14	23.04
June	19.23	19.49	21.01	22.73
Oct	19.16	19.49	20.58	20.66
Jan	19.49	19.34	20.88	21.93

[English]

**RBI Guidelines to Credit Rating Agency**

3042. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the RBI has asked credit rating agencies to share with it key information on corporates;

(b) if so, whether the Credit Rating Agencies are not following any rules or guidelines in this matter;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the extent to which the Credit Rating Agencies manipulating the market and capital flows;

(e) whether there is any law which can be applied to control aberrant behaviour of Credit Rating Agencies by RBI; and

(f) if so, the details of other enforcement enablement with RBI in this regard:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) According to information received from Reserve Bank of India, in an informal meeting with Credit Rating Agencies held on 12th January, 2001, RBI had requested the rating agencies, namely, Credit Rating Information Services of India Ltd., Credit Analysis and Research Ltd., ICRA Ltd., and Fitch Ratings India Pvt. Ltd., to share details of the following:

(i) "long term rating spectrum" of the ratings done by each of them, with reference to companies in general. In respect of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), they were requested to furnish names of the companies also;

(ii) upgradation/downgradation of ratings with specific reference to the extent of volatility and the period over which it was spread, with rationale.

(d) to (f) All the credit rating agencies in India are regulated under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Credit Rating Agencies) Regulations, 1999. Under the provisions of the said Regulations, *inter-alia*, the following regulatory requirements are to be followed by the credit rating agencies:

(i) every credit rating agency (CRA) shall treat, as confidential, information supplied to it by the client;

(ii) all CRAs shall abide by the code of conduct given in the said Regulations which enjoin upon it not to be a party to (a) creation of false market, (b) passing of price sensitive information to any capital market intermediaries or take any action which is unethical or unfair to investors.

(iii) the activities of CRAs are regulated by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), among other things, by undertaking inspection or investigation of books of accounts, records and documents;

In the event of failure to comply with the provisions of the SEBI Act, 1992 or the Regulations made thereunder, CRA is liable to the penalties of suspension of registration or cancellation of registration. }

**Benefits to Employees of  
Regional Rural Banks**

3043. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has pronounced a judgement for releasing pay and allowances of the officers and employees of Regional Rural Banks at par with nationalised commercial banks, in C.A. No. 2218/99, 2219/99 and T.P 403/99;

(b) if so, the steps the Government have been contemplating for implementation of the judgement;

(c) whether the parity in superannuation benefits of the officers and employees of Regional Rural Banks will be maintained with their counterparts in nationalised commercial banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has given judgement regarding pay scales of Officers and Employees of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in C.A. No. 2218/99 and 2219/99. Further action in this regard is being taken in consultation with Ministry of Law.

(c) to (e) So far as the superannuation benefits are concerned the gratuity scheme for RRBs employees is already at par with their respective sponsor banks. The RRB employees are also covered under the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Employees Pension Scheme 1995 for Provident Fund and Pension respectively. However, due to their precarious financial condition, RRBs are not in a position to provide parity in payment of pension to its employees at par with sponsor banks.

**Investors Redressal Cell**

3044. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Economic Affairs has created an Investors Redressal Cell in order to help the investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and main functions of this Cell;

(c) whether the Government propose to open its branches in other parts of the country for easy redressal of grievances of investors;

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

(e) the other forums available at present to investors for redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) An Investors' Grievance Redressal Cell (IGRC) has been set up in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance with effect from 15th February, 2001. The IGRC is located at Indian Investment Centre, Jeevan Vihar Building, Sansad Marg, New Delhi. The IGRC's responsibilities include receiving, forwarding, co-ordinating and monitoring the status of investors' complaints to the regulatory agencies concerned. Investors can send their complaints by post to the IGRC. Besides, complaints can also be sent electronically at the e-mail address: [lgcell@finance.nic.in](mailto:lgcell@finance.nic.in).

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to open branches of the IGRC in other parts of the country, since investors' complaints can be sent to the Cell by post and electronically.

(e) Investors can approach the Reserve Bank of India, Securities and Exchange Board of India or the Department of Company Affairs for redressal of their grievances depending on the subject matter of the grievance.

**New Sugar Policy**

3045. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a new sugar policy has been announced by the Government recently; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Government has taken decisions on all the recommendations of the High Powered Committee on Sugar Industry which has submitted its report in April, 1998. The major recommendations of the Committee pertained to decontrol of sugar industry and supply of levy sugar in Public Distribution System. Government decisions on these recommendations are as under:

*Reduction in the levy obligation*

Government has decided to decontrol the sugar industry in a phased manner. The levy obligation, which was reduced from 40% to 30% with effect from 1.1.2000, has been further reduced to 15% with effect from 1.2.2001.

**Restructuring of Public Distribution System for levy sugar**

Government has decided to restructure the Public Distribution System (PDS) in so far as supply of levy sugar is concerned. Income tax assesses and members of their families were excluded from the purview of the PDS levy sugar with effect from July, 2000. The supply of levy sugar under the PDS has been restricted, with effect from 1.2.2001, to the people below poverty line except in North-Eastern States/Hill States/Island territories, where the existing arrangements would continue. However, minimum per capita per month quantum of levy sugar under the PDS has increased from 425 gms. to 500 gms which would benefit the people below poverty line.

**New Method of Tapping Rubber**

3046. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rubber Board has introduced a new method of tapping rubber;

(b) whether this un-conventional way of tapping rubber enhances production substantially;

(c) whether this method of tapping rubber is called the "Inclined Upward Tapping" (IUT);

(d) whether there is any plan to extend this method to all plantations; and

(e) if so, the estimate of enhanced production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Rubber Board has introduced a new method of tapping called Controlled Upward Tapping (CUT) in 1991. CUT was originally introduced in Malaysia in 1976. Adoption of CUT has been found to increase yield by 40%. Almost all the large estates and a number of progressive small growers have adopted CUT. Rubber Board is now vigorously promoting CUT amongst small growers.

**Foreign Currency Loans by IDBI**

3047. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the IDBI is tapping the international money market to raise foreign currency loans;

(b) if so, the total borrowings so far achieved; and

(c) the countries from where IDBI has been able to obtain the funds.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. IDBI has been raising foreign currency funds from various sources and has borrowed US\$ 5453 million since its foreign currency operations begin in the year 1982.

(c) IDBI has made three domestic issues in the German Market, two issues in the Samurai Market, one issue in the Swiss market and 4 Euro issues. In addition, IDBI has tied up lines of credit with agencies in United States, Japan, France, Germany and Italy. It has also raised syndicated/bilateral loans from banks based in America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

**Loss to Industries due to Power Failure**

3048. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the industrial production was affected due to the recent power grid failure on 2nd January, 2001;

(b) if so, the states in which industries were affected;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the industry;

(d) whether the Government are considering any effective steps to prevent such losses in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) There is a decline in industrial production during January 2001—the month in which grid collapse in the Northern Region occurred. However, since availability of power is only one of the vital factors that affect industrial production, it is not possible to accurately quantify the production losses suffered by the industries on account of the power shortages alone.

(d) and (e) The important preventive measures being taken to avoid such incidents in future are as follows:

- Periodic preventive and regular maintenance of all HVDC, 400 KV and 220 KV lines and sub-stations.
- Introduction of free governor mode of operation at all generating stations
- Ensuring proper operation of under frequency load shedding relays in State Electricity Boards (SEBs) distribution systems.
- Implementation of a rational commercial mechanism, which would induce SEBs to regulate their drawal and the generators to

generate power according to schedules, to enable stabilization of voltage and frequency.

- \* Installation of capacitors at load centers of SEBs.

#### **Prosecution of Twelve Employees of Public Sector Undertakings**

3049. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has advised prosecution of twelve employees of the public sector undertakings during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999;

(b) if so, the whether the Commission has also advised imposition of major penalty on 29 employees of the public sector undertakings during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any action has been initiated by the Government against those employees on the recommendation of Central Vigilance Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has advised prosecution of 22 employees of the public sector undertakings during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999.

(b) The CVC has advised imposition of major penalty on 12 employees of the public sector undertakings during the above period.

(c) The details in this regard are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) Action for prosecution and imposition of major penalty has been taken against 15 employees and 9 employees respectively. Initiation of prosecution and imposition of major penalty is a process carried out in accordance with the relevant Acts and Rules and is continuous.

#### **Statement**

*List of PSUs against whose employees the Central Vigilance Commission has advised and action has been taken for prosecution or imposition of major penalty*

S.No.	Name of PSU	Year	No. of employee against whom advice tendered		No. of employees against whom action taken	
			Prosecution	Major Penalty	Prosecution	Major Penalty
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Coal India Ltd.	1997	1			
2.	National Textile Corporation	1997	1		1	
3.	Hindustan Photo Films Ltd.	1997	1		1	
4.	National Fertilizers Ltd.	1997	4		1	
5.	British India Corporation	1998	2			
6.	Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	1998	7		6	
7.	Power Grid Corporation of India	1998	3		3	
8.	Neyveli Lignite Corporation	1999	1		1	
9.	Electronics Corporation of India Ltd.	1999	2		2	
10.	National Hydroelectric Power Corporation	1997 1998			1 1	1 1
11.	Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd.	1998	1		2	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	1998		1		1
13.	Central Mine Planning Development Institute	1998		1		1
14.	Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation	1998		1		
15.	Shipping Corporation of India	1999		1		1
16.	Hotel Corporation of India Ltd.	1999		1		1
17.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd.	1999		2		2
18.	Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.	1999		1		
				22	12	15
						9

### Circulation of Bhutan Currency

3050. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the currency notes of Bhutan are in circulation in some bordering States in India;

(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 FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Instances of circulation of Bhutanese currency 'Ngultrum' have been noticed in some districts of North Bengal bordering Bhutan. The Reserve Bank of India has taken up the matter with the civil and police officials of West Bengal and has requested them to take steps to curb the circulation of Bhutanese currency.

### Import of Acrylic Yarn

3051. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that increase in import of acrylic yarn through Nepal has been posing a major threat to the domestic industry;

(b) if so, whether imported prices of acrylic yarn has gone down from Rs. 156/- per kg to Rs. 80/- per kg;

(c) if so, whether the installed capacity and utilisation capacity of the domestic acrylic yarn producers has declined;

(d) if so, whether the Acrylic Fibre Manufacturers of India have demanded to put the import of acrylic yarn on the negative list or imposed the quantitative restriction;

(e) if so, whether the Government have called for introduction of safeguards by renewal of Indo-Nepal treaty;

(f) if so, whether this matter has also been discussed with other concerned industries to find a viable solution to protect the interest of domestic industry;

(g) if so, the steps being taken in this direction; and

(h) the time by which final decision in this regard likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) to (h) Representations have been received from Forum of Acrylic Fibre Manufacturer's, Ludhiana Spinners Association and others against import of acrylic yarn from Nepal under Preferential Trade Regime provided by Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade giving access to the Indian market free of basic customs duty and quantitative restrictions for all articles manufactured in Nepal. Through these representations it has been brought to the notice of the Government that as a result of increased import of acrylic yarn from Nepal, the installed capacity and utilisation capacity of domestic acrylic yarn producers has been adversely affected. It has also been suggested, *inter-alia*, that import of acrylic yarn from Nepal may be put in the Negative List to withdraw facility of duty free entry. No mention has however been made in these representations that import price of acrylic yarn has declined.

Similar representations have also been received in respect of import from Nepal of items like vegetable oils, plastics and articles thereof, copper and articles thereof, zinc oxide etc.

In the event of the above facility leading to a surge in the imports from Nepal, the Treaty provides for appropriate measures to be taken by Govt. of India and Govt. of Nepal to protect the interest of the Indian

industry. Action has accordingly been initiated and improvements in the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade would be considered at the time of its renewal in December 2001.

#### Anti-dumping Duty on Optical Fibre

3052. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Customs, Excise & Gold Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT) has set aside the Government order on imposing anti-dumping duty on optical fibre imports from Korea;

(b) if so, the salient features of the judgement; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on this judgement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that the Government order was primarily set aside for not properly assessing the injury caused to the domestic industry.

(c) The Government proposes to appeal in the Supreme Court against the judgement of the Hon'ble CEGAT.

#### Mini-Tool Rooms

3053. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of proposals from State Governments for setting up of Mini-Tool Rooms with the Central assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof, locations identified for setting up of Mini-Tool Rooms;

(c) whether the Government have taken any final decision in regard to financial assistance for setting up Mini-Tool Rooms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) The Central Scheme to render one-time financial assistance to States/State Agencies for setting up Mini Tool Room & Training Centres has recently been approved. A notification along with guidelines of the scheme has been issued to all the States on 1.3.2001

stting that the State Governments desirous of setting up Mini Tool Room & Training Centres should submit their proposal in the prescribed proforma to Central Government for grant of one-time Central assistance.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) & (d) above.

#### 'UNDP Report on Illicit Drugs'

3054. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per recent report of the International Narcotics Control Board released by United Nations Development Programme the Indo-Myanmar border could become a major illicit drug producing area;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the details of narcotic drugs seized by the Indian authorities during each of the last three years along Indo-Myanmar border; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop smuggling along Indo-Myanmar border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The International Narcotics Control Board Report for the year 2000, *inter-alia*, speculates that the Indo-Myanmar border could become a major illicit drug producing area. However, as per reports available, no manufacturing facility for drugs has been reported in India along the Indo-Myanmar border. The smuggling into India from Myanmar, although on a very small scale, has registered a slight increase during the last 3 years.

(c) The details of narcotic drugs and stimulants seized during the last 3 years in the States of Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies are as follows:

State	Heroin (in kg.)	Amphet-amine	Ephedrine (in kg.)
1	2	3	4
<b>1998</b>			
Nagaland	0	0	0
Mizoram	6.390	0	0
Manipur	5.460	0	10.000
<b>1999</b>			
Nagaland	1.050	0	200.000
Mizoram	1.800	0	707.000
Manipur	6.100	0.078 gms & 1855 Tabs.	303.170

1	2	3	4
<b>2000</b>			
Nagaland	0.020	0	100.000
Mizoram	6.030	0	0
Manipur	1.720	1.075 kg. & 2160 Tabs.	167.000

(d) Significant steps taken by the Government of India to stop smuggling of drugs along Indo-Myanmar border include notifying the precursor chemicals ephedrine and pseudoephedrine use in the manufacture of Amphetamine/Methamphetamine tablets as "controlled substances" under the NDPS Act, constant vigil, stepping up of enforcement efforts, gearing up of intelligence machinery, vesting of powers in BSF under the Customs Act to interdict drugs on the border, entering into of a comprehensive bilateral agreement by the Government of India with the Government of Union of Myanmar for reducing demand and preventing illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, holding of quarterly coordination meeting of all enforcement agencies, providing drug sniffer dogs and training of dog handlers of Myanmar and stringent action under NDPS Act against persons arrested for drug trafficking.

#### Sale of Sugar

3055. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to take stern action against sugar mills selling sugar without official release orders;

(b) if so, the number of mills who have violated this order;

(c) whether the Government propose to ensure that sugarcane growers get adequate price for their produce; and

(d) if so, to what extent will the Government ensure fair prices to the sugarcane growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Based on the reports received from various quarters regarding sale of sugar in the open market without valid release orders, the Government deputed various officers to verify the position regarding sale and dispatch of sugar by the factories. So far, 12 factories have been found prima-facie violating the release orders and they have been issued show cause notices.

(c) and (d) The Central Government fixes the statutory Minimum Price (MSP) of sugarcane for each sugar season under Clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 taking into account the cost of production of sugarcane, return to the grower from the alternative crops and the general trend of prices of agricultural commodities availability to the consumer at a fair price, the price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by the producers of sugar, the recovery of sugar from sugarcane etc. The SMP has been increased every season. However, most of the mills pay either the State Advised Price of sugarcane or agreed price which is much higher than the SMP.

#### Export of Leather to Germany

3056. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Germany among the EU countries is the largest importer of leather and leather products exported from India;

(b) if so, the percentage of total export of leather and leather goods by India to Germany and cost thereof;

(c) whether Germany has accorded "partner Country" status to India at the Offenbach International Leather Goods Spring Fair held recently in Frankfurt.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether German Leather industry has been attracted to focus its attention towards the important sectors of Indian industry;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the total leather export targetted by India upto 2000-2001 and 2005-2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India's leather exports to Germany of 296.40 million US\$ during 1999-2000 account for 18.81% of the total exports of leather and leather products from India. During April - November, 2000, 203.91 million US\$ worth of leather products were exported to Germany representing 15.21% of total exports of leather and leather products from India during this period.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. 18 companies took part from India in the fair. Special events commensurate with the Partner Country Status were organized by the Council for Leather Exports which include a Press Conference, Fashion Shows and an India Evening.

(e) and (f) India's participation as a partner country gave boost to India's image as a major source of high

quality leather goods and leather products. Already a number of German companies are doing business in India. Participation in fairs/exhibitions only helps in furthering these contacts.

(g) Indicative export targets are generally fixed based on the previous year's export performance, and consulting with exporters after the completion of financial year. Hence indicative export target for the year 2005-2006 is yet to be fixed. The target for the year 2000-2001 is 1760 million US\$.

### **Fall in the Interest Rate of Small Savings**

3057. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the continuous fall in the interest rate, the investors particularly small investors are facing dilemma;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of financial institutions opted for premature redemption of bonds of investors;

(d) if so, the number of deep discount bonds redeemed by IDBI, IFCI and ICICI; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to adopt middle path to bring the interests of small investors and give boost to economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The small savings schemes of the Government of India enjoy investor confidence even after revision of interest rates as the risk-return equation of these schemes is still favourable. There has been increase in the collections under small savings schemes including Public Provident Fund after revision of interest rates with effect from 1.1.1999 and 15.1.2000.

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

(e) Small savings schemes offer Government guarantee, attractive returns, tax incentives, easy liquidity and accessibility. The interest rates on small savings are periodically adjusted to align with the comparable rates prevalent in the market.

### **Credit to Tea Industry**

3058. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether tea plantations have sought credit from the Tea Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Tea Board;

(c) whether any tie-up has been made with any financial institutions for easy credit in sufficient volume for the Indian tea industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this scheme came into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) The Tea Board has been extending financial support to the tea industry by way of long term loan, subsidy and grant in aid for the various developmental activities including R&D for which the tea industry applies to the Tea Board. However, due to decline in prices of tea at the auctions in South India there was a demand from the small growers of tea to provide subsidy to compensate for the low prices. Government/Tea Board implemented a Price Subsidy Scheme under which subsidy is provided to the small growers of tea (holding upto 10.12 hectares of tea plantation) for an amount equal to the shortfall between the auction price and Rs. 55 per kg subject to a maximum of Rs. 8 per kg. So far the scheme has entailed a liability of Rs. 17 crores to the Government.

(c) to (e) No tie up arrangement is necessary as the credit facilities are available from the commercial banks as also from financial institutions like NABARD, IDBI etc. Moreover, in order to facilitate generation of more resources for taking up long term developmental measures such as replantation, rejuvenation and modernization of tea factories, the tax exemption limit on the pretax profit of the plantations has been enhanced from 20% to 40% under Section AB of the Income Tax Act in the Budget 2001-2002.

### **Tea Market (Control) Order, 1984**

3059. SHRI Y S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE :

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to withdraw the Tea Market (Control) Order, 1984;

(b) if so, whether this decision has been welcomed by the Indian Tea Association;

(c) if so, the relief that the Indian tea industry gets from the withdrawal of order; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to give boost to the Indian tea industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Government has not decided to withdraw the Tea Marketing (Control) Order, 1984. However, Clause 17 of the Tea Marketing (Control) Order

which stipulated compulsory sale of 75% of tea produced by registered manufacturers in the State of Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala through public tea auctions has since been amended. The producers are now free to sell any percentage of tea manufactured in a year through public tea auctions. The amendment has come into effect from 12.1.2001. This has enabled the Indian tea producers to sell their produce through any available channel and get relief from the depressed prices at the auctions particularly in South India. India Tea Association and United Planter's Association of South India have welcomed the decision of the Government.

#### **CBI Cases against DD employees**

3060. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given on 12.5.2000 to Unstarred Question No. 7216 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has been obtained;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in obtaining the information; and

(d) by what time information would be obtained?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) The assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 7216 on 12.5.2000 has already been fulfilled on 26.2.2001. The details of the CBI cases registered against DD officials from April 1997 to March 2000 have been furnished in the implementation report.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Financial Assistance to Industrial Houses by FIs**

3061. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public financial institutions like ICICI and IDBI propose to finance the big private industrial houses to modernise their industries;

(b) if so, the industry-wise, back-up thereof;

(c) whether these industries are running into losses; and

(d) if so, the industry-wise, breakup thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

#### **Export of Agricultural Products**

3062. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has entered into an agreement with Sri Lanka for export of agricultural commodities from the State;

(b) if so, whether the final agreement has been signed;

(c) if so, the products identified for export from Karnataka;

(d) whether the Sri Lankan Government have identified certain other States also in India for import of agricultural commodities from them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Government have no information whether or not Sri Lankan Government have identified States in India for import of agricultural commodities.

#### **Import of Raw Stones from Mining Countries**

3063. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV :

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

(a) whether India is the world's largest exporter of polished gems;

(b) if so, whether Government are planning to source raw stones directly from mining countries in a drive to boost margins;

(c) if so, whether the Government have issued instructions of allowing Jewellery Export Promotion Council to get raw material directly from the mining countries;

(d) if so, whether miners in Africa, Russia and Canada have been approached to send supplies to India; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the agreements in this regard have been reached with these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) :

(a) to (e) India is the world's largest exporter of cut and polished diamonds. The Government are encouraging the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council in their

efforts to procure rough diamond supplies directly from the diamond mining countries like Russia, Canada, etc. A Protocol of Intentions has been signed between the Government of India and Government of Russia for co-operation between the two countries in the area of diamonds including the direct supply of rough diamonds from Russia to India. No agreement has yet been reached with any other diamond mining country or any gemstone mining country for the direct supply of rough diamonds or other gemstones to India.

#### Private Sector Investment

3064. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need for enhancing the confidence of the public in private sector investment, which is extremely low at present;

(b) if so, the details of investment made by the public in private sector during the current year;

(c) whether the Government have asked the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) to undertake a study and find out the reasons for low public confidence in the private sector investment; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the study and other steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per the estimates of National Accounts Statistics given in table 1 below, private investment measured by Gross Domestic Capital formation has not decreased.

**Table 1**

*Gross Domestic Capital Formation in the Private Sector\**

	At current Prices	At 1993-94 Prices
1998-99	259949	200208
1999-2000(Q)	306237	230665

\* Includes private, corporate and household sector.  
Q-Quick Estimates.

(c) No Sir, the Ministry of Finance have not asked the NCAER to undertake a study to find out the reasons for low public confidence in the private sector investment.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Economic Liberalisation

3065. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the development and competitive skills of Public Sector Undertakings has been adversely affected as a result of the Government's policy of economic liberalization;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen the Public Sector Undertakings and to make them more competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) It would be difficult to establish a direct co-relationship between development and competitive skills of Central Public Sector Undertakings and the policy of Economic Liberalization. However, to make the CPSUs more competitive Government have been taking various steps which include granting of enhanced autonomy of Navratna and Miniratna PSUs for commercial decision making, financial and business restructuring, formation of joint ventures, improvement of marketing strategies and rationalization of manpower.

[English]

#### Procurement of Rice

3066. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had permitted procurement of Swarna Masoor variety of paddy at Rs. 540 quintal and also relaxation of a mixture of lower class in Grade A rice by March 31, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested to continue this concession for the Rabi crop to facilitate the millers to purchase paddy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether requests of Andhra Pradesh Government has been accepted by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and

(b) Yes, Sir. On consideration of the persistent demand of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Government has increased the limit of admixture of lower class in Grade A rice from 10% to 13% and, also, permitted procurement of Swarana Masuri (MTU 7029) variety of paddy at the rate of Rs. 540/- per quintal, up to 31st March, 2001.

(c) to (f) The Andhra Pradesh Government has requested to continue these concessions for the Rabi crop also. No decision has been taken in the matter.

[Translation]

#### Funds to Mutual Fund Companies

3067. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount made available to the mutual fund companies launched by the public sector banks and insurance companies for various schemes during the year 1998-1999 and 2000, banks company-wise;

(b) the name of the bank or the company to which maximum amount was made available under these schemes; and

(c) the details of the amount recovered out of it so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The amounts made available to the mutual fund subsidiaries launched by public sector banks and insurance companies to meet the shortfall in their assured return schemes during the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 are as under:

	(Rs. crores)
1. Bank of India Mutual Fund	31.58
2. SBI Mutual Fund	125.96
3. Indian Bank Mutual Fund	43.71
4. GIC Mutual Fund	133.00
5. LIC Mutual Fund*	260.90

\* Subscribed to Special Unit (LIC) Scheme to meet the obligation in respect of the redemption liability of Dhanvarsha (5) Scheme.

(b) The maximum amount of Rs. 260.90 crores was made available to LIC Mutual Fund during the period 1998-2000.

(c) As of now, SBI has received an amount of Rs. 126.61 crores, as dividend, from Magnum Growth Fund Scheme. The other banks have not received any amounts from their mutual fund subsidiaries.

[English]

#### Expenditure on Relay Centres

3068. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Doordarshan relay centres set up in Karnataka and Maharashtra during the last three years, location-wise;

(b) the amount spent thereon, separately, in each State; and

(c) the estimated amount spent normally on setting up of a single Doordarshan relay centre at any place?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Location-wise details of the transmitters set up in Karnataka and Maharashtra, in the last three years, with the amount spent thereon separately, is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Approximate capital cost for establishment of a High Power TV Transmitter is about Rs. 8.00 crores and that for a Low Power Transmitter is about Rs. 1.00 crore.

#### Statement

*Doordarshan Transmitters commissioned between March 1998 and February 2001 in Maharashtra and Karnataka, and expenditure incurred thereon*

S. No.	Transmitter Type	Location	Amount spent so far (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	HPT	Nagpur (DD-II)	393.14
2.	LPT	Akalkot	68.72
3.		Bhandara*	61.99
4.		Daryapur	67.27
5.		Khanapur	67.28
6.		Mangalweda	65.00
7.		Phaltan	68.16
8.		Pulgaon	83.17

1	2	3	4
9.		Ambajogai (DD-II)	27.97
10.		Dharmabad	42.92
11.		Khopoli	79.70
12.		Mahad	67.34
13.		Mangaon	73.94
14.		Pandharkawada	61.43
15.		Patan	62.79
16.		Satana	68.05
17.		Tumsar	64.83
18.		Umerkhed	73.65
19.	VLPT	Arjuni	42.06
20.		Ashti	38.23
21.		Chimur	40.30
22.		Karanja	43.64
23.		Koregaon	42.66
24.		Kurkhera	40.27
25.		Malwan	46.17
26.		Pimpalner-Sakri	46.36
27.		Sindewahi	41.59
28.		Tivsa	43.83
29.		Wai	32.26
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1	HPT	Gulbarga	449.22
2.		Hassan	330.33
3.	LPT	Hattihal	72.77
4.		Hole Narsipur	60.58
5.		Tumkur	70.79
6.		Dandeli	65.14
7.		Hariyur	63.48
8.		Hosdurg	57.75
9.	VLPT	Sulya	49.03
10.		Badami	48.25

\* First commissioned for DD1 service on 28.7.1999. Later the service was changed from DD1 to DD2 on 07.07.2000

[Translation]

#### Expenditure on Security and Vehicles

3069. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the security and vehicles of Union Ministers during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 Minister-wise;

(b) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred during 2001-2002; and

(c) the measures the Government propose to take in order to reduce the said expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Export of Kinnoo

3070. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the percentage export of 'Ganganagri Kinnoo' in total export of fruits, has declined during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of 'Ganganagri Kinnoo' exported during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of 'Kinnoos' so that the adversely affected farmers of Rajasthan could be helped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) to (c) The export statistics for 'Ganganagri Kinnoo' is not separately available. The export of citrus fruits including 'Ganganagri Kinnoo' during the last three years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 has been as follows:

Year	Quantity (in M.Tons)	Value (in Rs. lakhs)
1997-98	21103	1705.24
1998-99	12787	1519.36
1999-2000	26914	2824.59

Source: DGCIS, Calcutta and APEDA, New Delhi.

(d) The Government has taken the following measures to improve the quality of production and export of Kinnoos:

- (i) integrated training programme for qualitative production of kinnoos in Ganganagar area of Rajasthan and Abhor region of Punjab has been undertaken by APEDA or the last two years. Technical inputs to farmers have been provided and five training programmes have been organised in each crop calendar. The integrated training programmes have helped the farmers in the qualitative production of Kinnoos.
- (ii) Protocols have been developed and documented for pre and post harvest management practices for Kinnoo by APEDA which has been published in Hindi and Gurmukhi for the use of farmers.
- (iii) Pack houses have been set up by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) and Punjab Agro Industries Corporation for sorting, grading and waxing in order to get value addition to the product.
- (iv) APEDA has been organising promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meet, participation in important international fairs and exhibitions for the promotion of Indian fruits and vegetables in general including Kinnoos.

[English]

#### Meeting of India-Iran Joint Business Council

3071. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of India-Iran Joint Business Council has been held on 20th February, 2001 in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed therein;

(c) whether any MoU has been signed between the two countries to expand business tie; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. The 4th Meeting of Indo-Iran Joint Business Council (JBC), held on 20th February, 2001 at New Delhi, was hosted by the Federation of India Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), One-to-one meetings in the area of gems, paper, oil industry, chemicals & LPG, minerals, construction & ceramic tiles, etc. were held by Indian companies with their counterparts from Iran.

Issues like provision of credit line to Iran to facilitate trade, delay in opening of LCs, custom delays, etc. were discussed.

Issues arising out of absence of short to long term financing arrangements for trade, high-tech equipment for setting up of projects, participation in international tenders which needs to be looked into and smoothened out to help increase mutual cooperation between both the countries, were also discussed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Forward Market Commission

3072. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh is a major producer of commodities like tobacco, rice, cotton, chillies, turmeric etc;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government under the aegis of the Forward Market Commission have proposed to set up a National Commodity Exchange on the lines of Chicago Board of Exchange;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to set up National Commodities Exchange at Hyderabad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action being taken by the Government on the request of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of India as a facilitator for promoting commodity futures trading in the country has felt the need for having a modern national commodity exchange. However, such an Exchange is to be set up by private promoters and Government of India will have no stake in it. Accordingly, on the recommendations of the Core Group set up by the Government on the issue, an in-principle approval has been given to a consortium convened by Mahindra Group with National Stock Exchange, ICICI and Punjab State Warehousing Corporation as co-promoters to set up the Exchange.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As replied in part (c), the decision regarding location etc. has to be taken by the Promoter Group.

### Dumping of Telecom Switching Equipments

3073. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale dumping of telecom switching equipments in India by multi-national companies from France, Germany, Sweden, USA etc., through their subsidiaries in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to impose anti-dumping duty on such imports and conduct an immediate enquiry into the same;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to protect the indigenous manufacturing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties conducts investigation under Sections 9 A, 9 B and 9 C of the Customs Tariff Act of 1975 as amended in 1995, on the basis of fully documented petitions or *suo-moto*, if it is satisfied with the information received from the Collector of Customs appointed under the Customs Act, 1962 or from any other source that sufficient evidence exists regarding dumping of the foreign goods, material injury to the domestic industry and causal link between the two. In the case of import of telecom switching equipments in India by multi-national companies from France, Germany, Sweden, USA etc., no specific information or fully documented petition has been received from the domestic industry indicating any dumping or injury to the domestic producers and therefore, no investigations have been initiated as on date.

(d) The following incentives are given by the Government to protect the manufacturers of telecom equipment:

1. No industrial license is required for the manufacture of telecom equipment.
2. 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in the telecom equipment manufacturing sector on automatic basis through Reserve Bank of India.
3. The dividend income and the capital invested is fully repatriable.
4. Technical know-how fee of up to US \$ 2 million, net of taxes can be paid on an automatic basis. In addition, royalties up to 5% on domestic

sales and 8% on export sales are also permitted.

Further, in the Budget 2001-02, Custom duty on finished telecom equipment has been rationalised at 15% and also Custom duty on some of the inputs required for the manufacture of such equipment has been reduced.

### Tax Exemption for VRS Packages

3074. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that employees opting for voluntary retirement schemes have approached the Government pleading for making the VRS packages of banks and Public Sector Undertakings more attractive by giving them tax-relief;

(b) whether they have sought the tax exemption limit on VRS benefits to be enhanced;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereon?

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

(c) and (d) During the pre-Budget exercise, a number of representations have been received from employees requesting to enhance the tax exemption limit on VRS benefits. These representations have been considered and it has been decided not to increase the present exemption limit of Rs. 5 lakhs.

[Translation]

### Uniform Pricing Policy

3075. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement an uniform pricing policy in the country to boost the lifting of wheat in bulk from the godowns of Food Corporation of India;

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

(c) if not, the other options available with the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) The Issue prices of wheat under the Open Market Sale

Scheme (Domestic) are reviewed and fixed by the High Level Committee (HLC) of FCI for each month. For the month of March, 2001, the open sale rates of wheat have been fixed at Rs. 650/- per quintal for the North Zone (including Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh), and Rs. 700/- per quintal for the rest of the country.

[English]

### Export of Maize

3076. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka had approached the Union Government to increase the quota of maize exports and help these farmers; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

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

(b) The ceiling for export of maize has been raised.

### Offloading of Government Shares in PSUs

3077. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the role of the share markets and share prices in deciding the amount of sale proceeds on offloading of Government shares in public sector units;

(b) whether the Government are aware that FIs have come to determine the share prices of different companies;

(c) if so, whether the Government have any mechanism to monitor and analyse the movement of share prices in the market as a whole and companies stated for disinvestment in particular;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) Share prices of companies on share markets play an important role in deciding the

pricing of shares in case of disinvestment through the route of 'offer of shares'. The share price of the company of stock exchange has a limited role in the pricing for disinvestment through 'strategic sale' route particularly in cases where strategic sale is contemplated in the companies not listed on stock exchanges.

(b) FIs are an important constituent of the stock market. However, the share prices of different companies are determined through the interplay of market forces of demand and supply.

(c) to (e) Many companies in which disinvestment is under progress are not listed on the stock exchange. Wherever required, the movement of share prices in the market is analysed prior to disinvestment.

### Insurance Surveyors

3078. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news report in the 'Business Standard' dated January 15, 2001 under the caption "IRDA Surveyors licence process on";

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard by the Regional Committees set up by IRDA;

(c) the State-wise, number of approved surveyors according to grades operating as on date and the cases referred to them during each of the last three years;

(d) whether rampant favouritism and corruption continues to operate under the system in awarding cases to surveyors; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to rationalise the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) IRDA has initiated the process of categorisation of Surveyors as per the provisions of the Insurance Surveyors and Loss Assessors (Licencing, Professional Requirements and Code of Conduct) Regulations, 2000. The categorization has been entrusted to an Advisory Committee. The Committee proposes to start the work by the end of March, 2001 and it is expected that the same would be over in about 3 months' time.

(c) No State-wise list of approved Surveyors is maintained by IRDA.

(d) and (e) IRDA has received complaints of alleged favouritism and irregularities in the allotment of work by the Insurance Companies. The Authority is seized of

the matter and has initiated the process of categorization of Surveyors for allotting work only on the basis of the entitled category.

### **Restructuring Plan of Bank of India**

3079. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bank of India has initiated major restructuring exercise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bank propose to close its subsidiaries also; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Bank of India has reported that it has initiated steps for restructuring its organisational set up, as part of the process of re-adjusting itself in the post-VRS Scenario to achieve optimisation of available resources, including human resource. In this regard the Bank intends to remove one tier from its existing four tier system and restructure its zonal and regional offices. The bank has also taken up the exercise to rationalise its branch network.

(c) and (d) As a part of the restructuring exercise, with an object to withdraw from unrelated activities and to concentrate on core areas, Bank of India is considering closure of two of its subsidiaries viz. (i) BOI Mutual Fund & BOI Asset Management Company Ltd. and (ii) BOI Finance Ltd.

### **Production/Export of Coffee**

3080. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coffee exports from India are mainly of the "robusta" variety;

(b) whether there is a world-wide glut of coffee in the "robusta" variety;

(c) whether the Coffee Board planned its production properly;

(d) the expectations for Indian exports in 2000-2001;

(e) whether expectations have not been met; and

(f) if so, the plans of the Government to tackle the forthcoming year for coffee exports, particularly robusta coffee exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) Over 80% of coffee produced in India is exported, out of which around 70% is of robusta variety. In recent months due to over supply of coffee, the prices of coffee particularly of robusta have been witnessing a downward trend in the global markets.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) The target set for export of coffee during the year 2000-01 is 1.90 lakh tonnes. As on date a quantity of 1,90,367 MT of coffee has already been exported. Thus, export of coffee is expected to exceed 2 lakh MTs in the current year.

### **'Drug Mafia'**

3081. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Mumbai based drug mafia is using unemployed youngsters as carriers of narcotics to Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the action the Government have taken to bring the culprits into book; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Some reports to this effect have appeared in the media.

(b) and (c) A preliminary report on these incidents has been obtained from the Indian Embassy in Riyadh in Saudi Arabia. Zonal Units of Narcotics Control Bureau located at Mumbai and Delhi have been asked to contact the affected families for getting details and to investigate the matter. Indian Embassy has also been asked to collect full details including court proceedings and interrogation reports of all the cases to facilitate further investigation.

### **Amount due from Importers**

3082. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amounts are due from the importers although the Government has already made payment for the imports as has been pointed out by the CAG in their Report No. 1 of 1998 for the year ended March, 1997 on page 73 thereof;

(b) if so, the total amount due from the importers giving details thereof and how much of that money has since been recovered from the importers;

(c) the reasons for not recovering full money so far;

(d) whether further money has also become due from them;

(e) whether the Government propose to review the present system; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) In the case of externally aided projects where the donors pay directly to the foreign suppliers by debiting the loan account, Indian importers are required to deposit the rupee funds to the credit of Government of India. The dues from different importers under this head was Rs. 2151.68 crores at the end of March 1997. The position at the end of 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 was Rs. 1336.52 crores, Rs. 1850.71 crores and Rs. 1895.20 crores, respectively.

(c) and (d) Rupee deposits by Indian importers on account of direct payment to foreign suppliers against external assistance is a continuous process. Indian importers other than Government Departments/State Governments are presently required to pay interest at the rate of 12% on the amount due for the first 90 days from the date of payment to the foreign supplier, and 15% thereafter. In respect of dues from importers for the past periods, the matter is being pursued with the concerned Administrative ministries for expeditious settlement.

(e) and (f) The system of recovery of the amounts due from importers on account of direct payment by donors to foreign suppliers is being closely monitored.

#### **Exemption in Sales Tax**

3083. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the notifications issued by the Union Territory Administration of Daman and Diu on 1st October, 1991 and subsequently in 1997 at the behest of the Union Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure regarding exemption in Sales Tax under the Central Sales Tax Act to small scale industries, medium industries and large industries has led to a disparity in the exemption in sales tax to the industries operating in Daman and Diu;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the justification for operating such a discriminatory sales tax regime; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring about parity in the exemption of sales tax in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The Union Territory Administration has reported that no notification was issued on 1st October, 1991. Notifications were, however, issued in 1997 for granting exemption from Sales Tax to certain existing industries. The benefit of the notifications was uniformly available to all the industries satisfying the conditions laid down.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Income Tax through T.V. Channels**

3084. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several TV game shows have been organised by TV channels, i.e. Star TV, Sun TV, Surya TV and Sony TV etc. during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details of such game shows;

(c) whether huge amount of prize have been announced by these TV channels;

(d) if so, the month-wise amount of prize money given to individuals till February, 28, 2001 (TV channel-wise); and

(e) the actual amount of income tax earned by the Government from each of such individual (TV channel-wise) during the last one year.

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

(b) to (d) The details of game shows and month wise amount of prize money given to winners during April, 2000 to February, 2001 are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Tax deducted at source u/s 194B of the Act, 1961 in respect of Sun & Surya TV during above period is Rs. 21,73,040/-. Further, no tax has been deducted at source on the prize money by Sony and Star T.V. channels. Moreover, the actual amount of Income tax payable by the winners will be known only after the returns of income for relevant A.Y. 2001-2002 are filed by them during the next financial year.

**Statement**

(Amount in Rs.)

S.No.	TV Channel	Game Show	Prize Money					
			April 2000	May 2000	June 2000	July 2000	August 2000	September 2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Star TV	Kaun Banega Crorepati	-	-	-	36,75,000	61,10,000	14,880,000
2.	Sony TV	Jeeto Chappar Phad Ke	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Sun & Surya TV	Kodeeswaran	-	-	-	-	-	-

S.No.	TV Channel	Game Show	Prize Money				
			October 2000	November 2000	December 2000	January 2001	February 2001
1	2	3	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Star TV	Kaun Banega Crorepati	19,000,000	196,20,000	2,47,50,000	20,70,000	50,10,000
2.	Sony TV	Jeeto Chappar Phad Ke	-	-	-	12,35,000	71,75,005
3.	Sun & Surya TV	Kodeeswaran	-	-	-	49,39,000	-

*[Translation]***Marine Export**

3085. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the export of marine products during the year 2000-2001;

(b) the targets of the export of marine products during the above period;

(c) the details of the foreign countries importing marine products from India;

(d) whether the fishermen are the worst sufferers inspite of increase in export of marine products;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to improve the living standard of fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):  
(a) During the period April-January 2001, export of marine products amounted to Rs. 5411.56 Crores equivalent to US\$ 1195 million.

(b) A target of US\$ 1250 million has been fixed for export of marine products from India for the year 2000-2001.

(c) A large number of countries import marine products from India. The major importing countries are Japan, USA, European Union, China, UAE, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Canada, Taiwan, Republic of Korea etc.

(d) The increased exports of marine products are beneficial to fishermen as they get better price realisation for their catch and it also significantly improves their employment opportunities.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government have taken steps for promoting welfare measures for the socio-economic upliftment of fishermen, which include assistance to State Governments for construction of model fishermen villages, saving-cum-relief scheme for helping them during lean period and insurance coverage to fishermen.

*[English]***World Bank Loans for VRS for Central Government Employees**

3086. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has offered Rs. 5000 crore to finance Voluntary Retirement Scheme for serving Central Government Employees;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of this loan offer;

(c) whether this loan offer is specifically meant to reduce the number of officers above the level of section officer; and

(d) if so, the details of the focus of this VRS offer by the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

### Leather Complex

3087. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :

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

(a) whether a number of leather complexes are being set up in the country on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint against any leather manufacturer/industry for delay in execution of projects and charging of high rates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Leather Complexes are being set up in the country on Built, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Such a complex is already operational at Jalandhar, Punjab built by Punjab Leather Development Corporation and Punjab State Industrial Exports Corporation. UP State Industrial Development Corporation has also prepared a proposal for setting up a Leather Goods Complex with township at Rooma in Kanpur. There are also proposals to set up Leather Complexes in Unnao (UP), Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh). A leather complex is also being established in West Bengal in the District of South 24 Parganas to relocate the tanneries situated in and around Kolkata. The complex is known as the Kolkata Leather Complex.

(c) and (d) Some complaints have been received regarding the high cost of land to the tanners and delay on the part of BOT party in completing the work as per the schedule in West Bengal. The Government of West Bengal is seized of the matter in resolving the issue with the BOT party.

### Non-Recovery of Sales Tax by Government Mint, Mumbai

3088. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government Mint, Mumbai did not recover sales tax on supply of commercial items to the Government departments and private indentors from 1994 onwards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount involved therein; and

(d) the penal action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Mumbai Mint since its inception apart from minting coins (both circulation & Commemorative) under the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, also produces Standard Weights, Length Measures and Stamping Equipments under the Weights & Measures Act, 1976 for all State Governments. These functions are sovereign & statutory in nature. Besides this, it also makes Medals & Tokens for other Ministries, Banks, Educational and Religious Institutions. Mumbai Mint was never registered as a dealer under the Sales Tax Act nor was it liable for payment of any Sales Tax. In fact till the first assessment was done by the Sales Tax Department in 1995-96, the liability of Mumbai Mint to pay Sales Tax was a non issue. The Sales Tax liability of Mumbai Mint was under dispute with the State Government and the liability was finally decided and fixed with retrospective effect in December, 1997. Since the matter was under dispute and pending decision of the State Government, Mumbai Mint could not have recovered Sales Tax from its indentors. However, Sales Tax is being collected from the indentors and monthly returns are being filed since April, 1998.

(c) The total Sales Tax paid to State Government for the years 1994-95 & 1995-96 is Rs. 67,20,681/-, out of this, Rs. 13,34,264/- arising out of sale of Commemorative coins to thousands of coin collectors seems irrecoverable and Ministry of Finance has initiated action for writing off this amount. However, action for recovery of Rs. 38,54,683/- pertaining to supplies effected to Government Departments is under process and Rs. 1.74 lakh has already been recovered.

(d) The decision regarding the liability of Mumbai Mint to pay Sales Tax is a result of change in policy of the State Government. As such no penal action can be taken. As soon as the liability was fixed, the following action has been taken:

1. Sales Tax is being collected and monthly returns are being filed.

2. Action has been initiated to recover Sales Tax from State Governments and other Government Department.

#### Procurement of Palm Oil

3089. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to sanction of Rs. 125 lakhs for procurement of Palm Oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to sanction the above amount, while sharing the losses on account of Market Intervention Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) has implemented the Market Intervention Scheme for procurement of Oil Palm in the State of Andhra Pradesh for procurement of 65,000 MT of Oil Palm for an amount of Rs. 125 lakhs. The Government have agreed to share 50% of the loss for the procurement of 65,000 MTs of Oil Palm.

[Translation]

#### Cultivation of Opium

3090. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of opium in the country during the year 1999-2000;

(b) the total area under opium cultivation in Mandsaur, Neemuch and Ratlam Districts of Madhya Pradesh during the year 1999-2000;

(c) whether the Government have entered into any contract with some countries in regard to export of opium;

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

(e) the quantity of opium exported as per the contract during the above year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The total production of opium during the crop year 1999-2000 is 1709.340 Metric Tonnes at 70 degree consistency.

(b) The area under opium poppy cultivation during the crop year 1999-2000 is as follows :

District	Area under poppy cultivation (in Hectares)
Neemuch	3741
Mandsaur	6476
Ratlam	967
<b>Total</b>	<b>11184</b>

(c) to (e) The Chief Controller of Factories, Government Opium and Alkaloid Works has entered into contract with some foreign companies for export of opium. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

*Firm-wise contracts and exports of opium (including IMO powder and liquid opium) for the financial year 1999-2000*

S.No.	Firm/Country	(Qty. in Mts.)	
		Contracted	Exported
1.	Mallinckrodt Inc. USA	380.380	345.800
2.	Noramco of Delaware Inc. USA	150.000	150.000
3.	Tomen Corporation, Japan	142.000	142.000
4.	Francopia France	11.000	11.000
5.	E Merk KgaA, Germany	01.000	01.000
<b>Total</b>		<b>684.380</b>	<b>649.800</b>

The exported quantity shown against Mallinckrodt is less than the contracted quantity, as the balance quantity was exported during the first quarter of the next financial year i.e. 2000-2001.

#### Construction of Godowns

3091. DR. BALIRAM :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :  
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

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

(a) whether the Government have received any

proposal from State Governments for construction of godowns during the last one year;

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

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the proposals; and

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

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

(b) Details of the proposals received from the State

Governments for construction of godowns during the last one year are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Construction of godowns' financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs on receipt of complete proposals as per the guidelines of the scheme. The proposals have to be accompanied by technical estimates and land availability certificate from the State Governments/UT Administration. Cost estimates are scrutinised and availability of existing storage capacity is taken into consideration before submitting the proposal to Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for approval. Utilisation Certificates/refund of unutilised amount, if any, from the past assistance is a necessary precondition for consideration of fresh proposals.

#### Statement

*Details of proposal from State Governments for construction of godowns during the last one year*

S.No.	State	No. of Godowns	Total Capacity (in MT)	Estimated Cost/- (Rs. in Lakh)	Status
1.	Chattisgarh	7	12,600	214.20	Proposal sent to CPWD scrutinising estimate.
2.	Gujarat	9	4,500	129.78	State Government has requested to revise the proposal since while scrutinising the estimate it was found that the estimated cost is quite high.
3.	Kerala	2		6.78	State Govt. has been requested to submit the proposal as per the guidelines indicating capacity and other details.
4.	Manipur	1	2000	145.00	State Govt. has been asked to revised the proposal since while scrutinising the estimate, it was found that the estimated cost is quite high.
5.	Madhya Pradesh	16	21,900	335.75	State Govt. has been asked to submit individual drawings for particular capacity and place to scrutinise the estimates.
6.	Mizoram	4	2504	83.476	Financial assistance has been granted vide letter No. 15(7)/99-PD.I dated 29.11.2000
7.	Sikkim	1	300	28.50	State Govt. has been asked to revise the construction cost of godowns as suggested by CPWD.

[English]

#### Packaging of Sugar

3092. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the provisions of Sugar (Packing and

Marking) Order, 1970 in respect to packing of sugar is still in force;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not amending the same to suit the changed requirements after 30 years;

(c) whether jute bags for packing sugar as per this order are non-food grade and also do not comply with International Labour Organisation Norms of 50 Kgs (or less); and

(d) if so, the details of action taken to protect the health of consumers and workers?

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

(b) The main provisions of the Sugar (Packing and Marking) Order 1970 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) It is not true that the sugar is packed in non-food grade jute bags. Food grade is a commercial term used for "hydro-carbon free" jute bags developed specifically for packaging coffee, cocoa and shelled nuts to meet their specific requirements.

#### **Statement**

- (i) *Packing of Sugar* : Unless otherwise permitted by the Central Government a producer shall pack all sugar manufactured by vacuum pan process in view 'A' will jute bags, conforming to Indian Standard Specification IS: 1943-64 read with Amendment No.1 thereof. Each bag shall be 112 cm. long and 67.5 cm. wide and shall weight 1190 gms.
- (ii) *Quantity of Sugar to be packed in each bag* : Unless otherwise permitted by the Central Government each bag of sugar shall contain 100 kilograms of sugar net.
- (iii) *Marking on bags* (1) : Every producer shall at the time of packing mark on the bag in which the sugar is packed, its quality in terms of Indian Sugar Standards in force at that time and shall also ensure that the quality of sugar contained in the bag corresponds to the quality of sugar marked thereon until it is sold and delivered by him.
- (2) Every bag of sugar shall bear on it, a label, the design of which is set out in the Schedule annexed to this Order specifying the following matters namely: (i) the quantitative contents of the bag, (ii) the quality of sugar contained therein; (iii) the year in which the sugar is manufactured and packed.

Further, through order dated 17.1.2001 the Government have also allowed sugar factories to pack sugar in small consumer packs below 5 kg. in any food grade material. The sugar factories are also allowed to pack sugar in 50 kg. bags for export of sugar using packing material as per foreign buyers choice. Moreover, the Government is considering the proposal to pack sugar in 50 kg. bags for indigenous consumption, the trials for which are under progress.

#### **Free Ports**

3093. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

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

(a) whether free ports have been set up in some States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof with special features of these ports;

(c) whether these free ports are on the lines of Singapore free port;

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

(e) whether the Government are further considering to set up a free Trade Zone and free port with world class infrastructure; and

(f) if so, the ports which have been chosen for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) Free Trade Zones and Special Economic Zones are synonymous terms. In the Export & Import Policy (1997-2002) incorporating amendments made upto 31.3.2000, the Government has announced a policy for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country. There is no proposal to set up any new EPZ/SEZ by the Central Government. However, EPZs/SEZs may be set up in the private, joint sector or by the State Governments. Accordingly the Government has granted in principle approval for setting up of Special Economic Zones at Positra (Gujarat) in the private sector and by the State Governments at Dronagiri (Maharashtra), Nanguneri (Tamil Nadu), Kulpi (West Bengal), Paradeep (Orissa), Bhadohi and Kanpur (U.P.), Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh) on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments. These Zones are expected to come up in due course. No free ports are proposed to be set up.

#### **Plan to Reforms in Bhuj**

3094. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the earthquake devastations in Bhuj and other parts of the country this year, joining the list of calamities caused by recent drought in five States, has derailed Governments plans for kicking off second generation reforms and rationalising the subsidies;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether the Government have approached the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank in this regard; and

(d) If so, the request made by the Government to them and their response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Any repercussion on the Indian economy due to the earthquake in Gujarat and drought in some States can be absorbed by the economy.

(c) and (d) The Government has requested the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank to consider providing assistance for undertaking rehabilitation and reconstruction work in the wake of the earthquake in Gujarat. Government of India has already negotiated US\$ 400 million for Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Reconstruction Programme from the World Bank. Assistance from the World Bank could increase, after a detailed appraisal of the State's requirement is carried out by the Bank. Government of India is also negotiating with Asian Development Bank for a loan of US\$ 500 million for the above programme.

[Translation]

#### Self Assessment of Income Tax

3095. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures to promote self-assessment of income by tax-payers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have implemented any schemes to improve the image of income-tax department; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Income-tax Act, 1961 has always provided for self-assessment of income by tax payers. Every person is required to file his return of income if his total income in a year exceeds the maximum amount not chargeable to tax and has to pay tax on the same prior to filing the return. Such self-assessment is facilitated by an ongoing process of simplification of tax laws and procedures. Some of the measures taken recently include :

(i) introduction of simplified forms of returns such as the one page form (known as SARAL) for non-corporate tax payers;

(ii) providing that acknowledgement of a return filed may be taken as acceptance of the income declared, except in a very small percentage of cases taken up for verification on the basis of specific information.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Several Schemes have been introduced to provide better tax payer service and improve the image of Income-tax Department. These are as under:

- (1) "Samman" Scheme was introduced from Assessment Year 1998-99 to inculcate a sense of pride among the tax payers in discharging their legitimate dues and to establish social recognition of such contribution by the tax payers to the national cause. Under the Scheme, eligible individual income tax payers in each of the three categories of business, profession and salary are awarded Samman on the basis of the income declared in the income-tax returns. It is a broad based scheme designed to ensure that an individual top tax payer gets Samman at every place where there is an income-tax office. It is awarded both at National as well as at regional levels.
- (2) Citizen's Charter was introduced on 27th November, 1998 and its implementation is being monitored.
- (3) Direct Taxes India-Vision 2005, dedicated to the nation on 07-04-2000, envisages revamping and expanding of Public Relation Offices by introduction of Facilitation Counters at various income-tax offices.
- (4) Under the "Sahayata (Helpline Income-tax)" scheme introduced from 1st August, 2000, a special cell designated as "Helpline Income-tax" was formed in Delhi to function as the focal point for bringing to the Department's notice urgent and serious problems of individual and corporate tax payers. This cell is working under the supervision of an officer of the level of Commissioner of Income-tax and will be extended to other stations in due course
- (5) Under the 'Suvidha' scheme introduced from 1st August, 2000, 2102 computerised branches of all the nationalised banks in 133 towns and cities covered by One-by-Six Scheme, have been authorised to receive direct tax payments with effect from 1st August, 2000 in addition to the existing authorised branches of different banks.

*[English]***Procurement of Paddy****Opportunities for SCs/STs in Fairs/Exhibitions**

3096. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) appoints/engages/sponsors a number of agencies/parties/persons for organizing a number of trade fairs both in India and abroad every year;

(b) if so, indicate the number of persons/firms/organizations belonging to the SCs/STs/engaged/employed or agencies/organizations being run by the members of the SC/ST community engaged for organising such fairs and exhibitions as compared to the total such persons/firms and organisations engaged/employed during the last five years; and

(c) the reasons if no SC/ST persons/organisations have been given opportunities/representations in these fairs/exhibitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) ITPO organizes participation of Companies/Business Entities in exhibitions/events held in India and abroad. Various works related to the fairs like construction of stands, handling & clearing of exhibits, publicity etc. are awarded to firms/organisations/individuals after following the laid down norms in this regard. ITPO does not maintain the caste particulars of such firms/organizations/individuals because the work is not awarded on caste consideration.

*[Translation]***Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958**

3097. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether to boost the export of sugar the Government have decided to re-enforce the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958, which was withdrawn by an ordinance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958 has been repealed through an Ordinance dated 15.1.1997. India Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd., has filed a writ petition No. 182/99 challenging its repeal in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The matter is sub-judice.

3098. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the State where relaxation was given to the farmers in procurement of paddy and wheat alongwith the nature of the relaxation given; and

(b) the reasons for not giving relaxation in other States and the quantum of procurement made in the States in which relaxation was given as compared to other States, where relaxation was not given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) In order to reduce the hardship of farmers and to ensure procurement of paddy by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and its agencies, the Government has relaxed the specification of paddy during the current Kharif Marketing Season 2000-2001 in respect of the States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal permitting procurement of paddy with damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains up to a maximum limit of 8%, as against 3% provided under Uniform (FAQ) specification. In case of Bihar, procurement of paddy has been permitted with damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains up to a maximum limit of 6%, as against 3% provided under Uniform Specification, and of immature, shrunken and shriveled grains upto a maximum limit of 6% as against 3% provided under uniform (FAQ) specifications. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, the procurement of Swarna Masuri variety of paddy at Rs. 540/- per quintal has been permitted.

No relaxation in specification of wheat has been extended.

(b) The States of Rajasthan and Maharashtra have not been granted relaxation in paddy specification as there was no report regarding damage to paddy due to unseasonal rains. The State-wise position of procurement of paddy during Kharif Marketing Season 2001, as on 12th March, 2001, is given as under :

(Figures in tones)	
Andhra Pradesh	99,115
Bihar	7,306
Haryana	13,60,385
Himachal Pradesh	713
Punjab	86,29,298
Uttar Pradesh	5,40,179
Uttaranchal	62,593

Maharashtra	31,889
Rajasthan	31,335

[English]

#### Exclusive Channel for Sanskrit

3099. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start an exclusive channel for telecasting programmes in Sanskrit;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Prasar Bharati have intimated that there is no such proposal under their consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Programmes in Sanskrit language have a very small viewership with limited potential for expansion of the viewership base. As such, it is not considered feasible by Prasar Bharati to start an exclusive channel for telecasting programmes in Sanskrit.

#### Achievements of WTO Agreements

3100. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :

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

(a) the exact achievements gained by the country since India signed the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) in the WTO;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the share of developed countries in agro-trade had gone up by 15 percent since the Uruguay round of WTO negotiations;

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

(d) whether the developed countries have fulfilled their obligations of withdrawing their subsidies on agricultural production and exports; and

(e) if not, whether the Government are considering proposals to defer the Final round discussions for some more time for implementation of implications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) India is founder member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and a signatory to the Agreement on Agriculture, (AoA) which came into force on 1.1.1995. WTO provides a predictable rule based multilateral trading system which protects the developing countries from the bilateral pressures of the developed trading partners. By virtue of signing of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, India is automatically entitled to get the most favoured nation (MFN) and national treatment for its exports from all other members. As per WTO Statistics India's share in world exports of agriculture commodities which was at 1.3% for the period 1991-1994 stood at 1.9% for the year 1998.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The developed countries appear to have fulfilled their obligations under the AoA by reducing their export subsidies and their Total Aggregate Measurement of Support which is the measure of the trade distorting domestic support, though in some cases this has been achieved by taking advantage of the disciplines of the AoA. Keeping this in view, India in its proposals for the ongoing mandated negotiations under the AoA has called for the inclusion of all trade distorting domestic support measures in the calculations of the Total Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) which would have to be subjected to reduction commitments if above the de minimis level.

#### Bill on WTO Agreements

3101. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to bring a Bill before the Parliament on WTO agreements keeping in view the adverse impact of said agreements on Indian farmers, manufacturers and also on traders/exporters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to make the Indian farmers and traders competitive in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) to (c) The Government is considering to amend the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 to enable the Government to impose such quantitative restrictions on imports as are in accordance with the Agreement on Safeguards of WTO. The Agreement on

Safeguard enables member countries to impose quantitative restrictions by way of emergency action, if imports of such articles are in such increased quantities as to cause or threaten to cause serious injury to domestic producers of like or directly competitive articles, with a more liberal dispensation for such imports from the developing countries.

(d) The Government is aware of the emerging scenario for the domestic producers including farmers. The policy of economic liberalisation being followed aims at increasing the competitiveness of the domestic producers. Besides, the Government is also taking necessary action to provide adequate protection to domestic producers against unfair imports.

#### **Telecasting of Pre-Election Poll Survey**

3102. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed any standard norms for the media to publish the pre-poll survey results before elections or post-poll survey after the elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Election Commission of India had laid down guidelines for publication and dissemination of results of opinion polls/exit polls in January, 1998 during General Elections to Lok Sabha and certain Legislative Assemblies in 1998-99. However, the guidelines were withdrawn by Election Commission of India in September, 1999.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Reforms under WTO Regime**

3103. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken move to secure any reforms under WTO regime;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made/proposed to be made to achieve the objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) to (c) India has been proposing suitable reforms in

the multilateral trading system during the mandated negotiations and mandated reviews as have been provided in the various WTO agreements, so as to subserve India's interests. The mandated negotiations on Agriculture and Services have commenced in the year 2000. Under the ongoing negotiation on Agriculture, India has submitted its proposals which aim to protect its food and livelihood security by having flexibility for domestic policy measures taken for poverty alleviation, rural development, rural employment and diversification of agriculture while also aiming to create necessary safeguards for protecting domestic producers from surge in imports or from steep fall in import prices. The proposals also aim to facilitate agricultural exports by seeking substantial reductions in tariffs and substantial reductions in trade distorting domestic support as well as elimination of the export subsidies in the developed countries.

Under the mandated negotiations on Services, India's main objective is to seek substantial further liberalisation in the movement of natural persons especially professionals and skilled personnel under Mode 4 of the Services and a proposal in this regard has already been submitted in WTO by India. Under the mandated negotiation and mandated reviews under the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement, India's main objective is to seek a higher level of protection as already provided to wines and spirits to the geographical indications in other products.

Besides, India has been in the forefront in demanding that implementation related concerns of the developing countries regarding the WTO agreements should be resolved satisfactorily. The implementation concerns broadly relate to the inequities and imbalances in the existing WTO agreements, non-realisation of anticipated benefits from the WTO Agreement and the non-operational and non-binding nature of most of the Special and Differential (S&D) provisions in favour of developing countries. The implementation related concerns were highlighted by India through its proposals which were co-sponsored by 11 other like-minded group of countries in the preparatory process leading to the Seattle Ministerial Conference in November 1999. The General Council of WTO in its May 2000 resolution has set up a work programme in WTO to address these implementation related concerns of the developing countries.

*[Translation]*

#### **Consultation with Farmers before signing WTO Agreements**

3104. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have underlined the

basic problems of Indian farmers prior to signing the agreement with WTO in the field of the agricultural products;

(b) if so, whether the farmers organisations, agricultural scientists and agro-economists were also taken into confidence before signing the agreement;

(c) if so, whether the Government have drawn up any programme regarding it to train the agriculturists and exporters of agro-products;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether there is any proposal under consideration to draw up such programme; and

(g) if so, the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):

(a) to (g) Need for liberalisation and suitable disciplines in the world trade in agriculture was felt due to the prevalence of high trade distorting subsidies coupled with high tariffs and plethora of non tariff barriers being practised by the developed countries which led to serious distortions in the prices of agricultural commodities and denial of market access to developing countries like India. After assessing the overall advantages of a rule based and predictable multilateral trading system and after holding necessary consultations, India had signed the Uruguay Round of Agreements at Marrakesh in 1994 and became a founder member of World Trade Organisation (WTO) which came into being on 1.1.1995. By virtue of signing of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, India is automatically entitled to get the most favoured nation (MFN) and national treatment for its exports from all other members of WTO.

As mandated under Article 20 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, negotiations for further progressive liberalisation to establish a fair and market oriented agricultural trading system have begun in the year 2000. Government has held wide ranging consultations with the State Governments, farmers organisations, political parties, various autonomous organisation, agriculture universities and eminent agro-economists before drawing up India's negotiating proposals in the areas of market access, domestic support, export competition and food security. During these consultations, there was a unanimous view that India in its negotiating proposals must highlight its food security and livelihood concerns while also seeking increased market access for its agricultural exports especially in the markets of the developed countries. Four regional level conferences were also held to sensitise State Governments and farmers in this regard as well as to seek their inputs for finalising the India's negotiating proposals for the mandated negotiations in agriculture.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, Cashew Export Promotion Council, Spices Board, and Export Inspection Council etc. have been engaged in sensitising exporters about the requirements of international trade in agriculture including the Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary standards to be met. The National Agriculture Policy also provides for promotion of use of science and technology through a regular interface between Science and Technology institutions and the domestic producers to make Indian agriculture sector globally competitive.

[English]

#### Purchases by NCCF

3105. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to SQ. 41 on February 23, 2001 and state :

(a) whether the NCCF still continue to make purchases from suppliers on the basis of authority letters from the distributors and not the manufacturers;

(b) if so, the steps taken to immediately discard this system and to direct the NCCF accordingly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the NCCF is purchasing the same brand of items from more than one suppliers who are sub-dealers; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by his ministry to check this uncalled for practice to bring in economy in Government expenditure as the items supplied by sub-dealers are costlier than the ones supplied by manufacturers/authorised distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) NCCF is an autonomous cooperative society having its own Board of Directors to manage its business and other administrative matters. Government of India do not interfere in its functioning. NCCF has informed that they arrange supplies to Government Departments after purchasing the goods from the manufacturers, distributors and dealers of different branded products who are registered with it. The selection of suppliers in respect of individual order is made on commercial consideration only from amongst the registered suppliers irrespective of category to which the supplier may belong. NCCF has already discontinued registration of fresh suppliers, who are not manufacturers. The NCCF has also indicated that they intend to gradually shift over to manufacturers for purchase of major branded items.

(d) and (e) The NCCF has informed that they make the purchases of the indented items from the suppliers at uniform rates and ensure the supply of the same to the Government Departments at competitive prices. The purchase of goods from more than one registered supplier does not affect the price structure of the goods supplied by the NCCF.

**Sale of Items at Exorbitant Rates by  
NCCF and Super Bazar**

3106. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that DGS&D has entered into rate contract with manufacturers in respect of many of the stationery and other office automation equipments and those very items are being sold in the NCCF and Super Bazar at much higher rates;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to direct the Government offices to buy items, which are on rate contract with DGS&D from the manufacturers only;

(c) the details of the items that come under the category of 'other items'; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The DGS&D does not involve itself in purchase and sale of goods as per the rate contracts entered with the manufacturers. As per the orders issued by the Department of Personnel & Training, the Government Departments and the Public Sector Undertakings can make purchase of stationery and other items from the Kendriya Bhandar, the Super Bazar, Delhi and the NCCF. Notwithstanding the above circular issued by the DOPT, the Central Government Departments have a choice to call for tenders/quotations from manufacturers also in case of purchase of some special items. The main items supplied by NCCF to the Government Departments include stationery, office equipments and other office use articles. There is no comprehensive list of "other items". The ultimate aim of the Government Departments is to buy good quality items at reasonable and competitive prices. The review of this policy is, however, an on going process.

**Industrial Subcontracting and  
Partnership Programme**

3107. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two day Conference was organized

by Confederation of Indian Industry and United Nations Industrial Development Organization in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a new project to support the development of industrial subcontracting and Partnership (SPX) programme in electronics, computer software and telecommunication is ready;

(d) if so, whether any review of progress of SPX programme was made since its establishment in 1998 in India;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the benefits so far derived to Indian industry from the SPX; and

(g) the number of States where this SPX programme is in operation and number of States where this programme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) The 4th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Indian Subcontracting Partnership and Exchange (SPX) Network was held on 17th February, 2001 in the premises of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), New Delhi. This was followed by a one day seminar on 18th February, 2001. The progress of the project was reviewed including discussions on the requirements of SPX Network, of an Indian Web Portal and Trust.

(c) to (g) The Government has not yet received the project proposal for an SPX programme in electronics, computer software and telecommunication from UNIDO. The progress of the SPX project is reviewed periodically by the Steering Committee constituted for this purpose. The SPX programme helps Indian small and medium scale manufacturers market their industrial products and services in National and Global markets by identifying and meeting the needs of domestic and overseas partners by providing links to some 50 SPXs established world wide. The SPX programme is in operation in New Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore and Pune. UNIDO is likely to launch two more SPX in Hyderabad and Ludhiana.

**Investment in Backward Districts**

3108. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

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

(a) the investment made by Union Government as

its share in the backward districts of the country for the development of industry during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether there is wide gap in the investment made by the Union Government in different States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Details

of the Central assistance released to various State under the Growth Centre Scheme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Varying amounts of Central assistance have been released to State because the Central assistance is released in instalments on the basis of financial and physical progress made by the State Government in the implementation of the scheme.

### Statement

#### *Central Assistance Released to States under the Growth Centre Scheme during the last three years*

					(Rs. in lakh)
S.No.	Name of the State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	150	300	11	461
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NII	48	50	98
3.	Assam	50	NII	250	300
4.	Bihar	50	NII	Nil	50
5.	Chhattisgarh	NII	Nil	125	125
6.	Goa	150	NII	Nil	150
7.	Gujarat	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Haryana	50	Nil	Nil	50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	50	50	200	300
11.	Jharkhand	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Karnataka	60	120	Nil	180
13.	Kerala	200	532	Nil	732
14.	Madhya Pradesh	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Maharashtra	1300	250	660	2210
16.	Manipur	50	Nil	Nil	50
17.	Meghalaya	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Mizoram	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Nagaland	NII	500	500	1000
20.	Orissa	NII	100	50	150
21.	Pondicherry	50	Nil	250	300
22.	Punjab	NII	Nil	Nil	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	120	100	250	470
24.	Tamil Nadu	NII	Nil	50	50

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	220	Nil	100	320
27.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		2500	2000	2496	6996

### Revenue Sharing Regime

3109. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the percentage of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) share in revenue sharing regime is very less as compared to private operators;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether undue favour has been shown to any private operator in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. Government has accepted the recommendation of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for subjecting Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) to the same licence fee by way of revenue share i.e., @ 12%, 10% and 8% respectively of the Annual Gross Revenue for the three categories of Telecom Circles 'A', 'B' & 'C' so as to ensure a level playing field *vis-a-vis* the private operators.

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

(c) No, Sir. Equal treatment is being meted out to all operators and there is no question of undue favour to anyone in this regard.

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

### Scheme for Flood Control

3110. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement Pagladiya Project in Assam Brahmaputra Board in North East and Flood Control Waters Projects in Brahmaputra valley during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, whether the projects have been cleared by the Government; and

(c) if so, the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Pagladiya Dam Project has been approved by the Government of India for execution in January, 2001. The flood control scheme titled "Flood Control Scheme in Brahmaputra-Barak Basin" has been approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee in June, 2000.

(c) The Pagladiya Dam Project is to be implemented by the Brahmaputra Board and scheduled to be completed within a period of seven years i.e. by 2007.

[Translation]

### Pollution from CNG

3111. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sought an expert opinion on the pollution created by hydrocarbon emanating from CNG;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the hydrocarbon standards have not been determined so far in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which such standards are likely to be determined?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Government has notified emission norms for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) driven vehicles effective from 9th February, 2000.

[English]

### Flights from Bagdogra Airport

3112. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some

flights from Bagdogra Airport were inoperative during last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the loss suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to resume the flight services from the airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Prior to 1st November 2000, Bagdogra airport, which belongs to the Indian Air Force and where Airports Authority of India only maintains passenger terminal for passenger facilities, was available for civil operations daily. However, w.e.f. 1st November 2000, this airport was available for civil operations only on 3 days of the week due to resurfacing of runway. The projected date of completion of runway re-surfacing work is 31st March, 2001 and it is expected that the civil flights will be permitted on daily basis. Thereafter since flights shall be re-scheduled, loss suffered on this account cannot be quantified.

[Translation]

#### **Diseases by CNG Vehicles**

3113. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pollution emitted by CNG vehicles causes diseases like T.B. and Cancer; and

(b) if so, the details of action being taken by the Government to check this pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) There is no conclusive data to indicate that pollution emitted by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles may cause diseases like T.B. and cancer.

#### **Identify Card to Labourers**

3114. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to issue Identity Card for the labourers engaged in construction work;

(b) if so, the names of the States where it is likely to be made mandatory for the employers of these labourers to issue such cards to them; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in other States including Maharashtra for the welfare of such labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The Government have enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 for the welfare of the workers engaged in construction work. The Act provides for setting up of the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards by the State Governments. These Boards are required to issue identity cards to the construction workers registered with them. As per the reports received, from the State Governments, the State Governments of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Assam have already constituted such Boards. Many other States and Union Territories have informed that they are in the process of setting up the Welfare Boards.

[English]

#### **FDI in Civil Aviation Sector**

3115. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Group of Ministers (GOM) has recommended entry of foreign airlines in domestic aviation and allowed 49 per cent foreign direct investment in Civil Aviation Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) In the meeting held on 11.1.2001, the Group of Ministers (GOM) of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) had, *inter-alia*, recommended FDI upto 49% in the civil aviation sector on the automatic route and permission to foreign airlines to participate in the joint ventures subject to sectoral guidelines of the Civil Aviation Ministry. However, in its meeting held on 9.2.2001 to review some of the recommendations made in the earlier meeting held on 11.1.2001, GOM on FDI, *inter-alia*, decided not to recommend change in the existing policy of domestic air transport sector which permits upto 40% foreign equity and upto 100% Non Resident Indian (NRI)/Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCB) equity participation but prohibits direct or indirect foreign airline equity.

#### **National Highways in Tripura**

3116. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway in Tripura and in other States of north-east are proposed to be expanded by two lanes;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the priority areas of the roads; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Provision of widening to two-lane of 260.44 km of National Highways in the North Eastern States including 21.10 km in Tripura is made in the Annual Plan 2000-01.

(c) and (d) The improvement works on National Highways are being planned based on traffic volume, condition of roads, *inter se* priority and availability of funds.

#### **River under National River Action Plan**

3117. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to include Musi river under the National River Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) A proposal for pollution abatement of River Musi at Hyderabad and Secunderabad broadly comprising extension and improvement of the sewerage system, sewage treatment plants and project preparation fee for an amount of Rs. 295 crore has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) As the river Musi has not been included in the approved list of rivers under the National River Conservation Plan, the proposal is under examination.

[Translation]

#### **Airbus Scam**

3118. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken by the Government so far on the airbus scam which took place in 1990 along with the details thereof; and

(b) the main reasons for delay in the investigation and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into purchase of Airbus A-320 Aircraft by Indian Airlines is in progress. CBI has completed investigation in India and is following up the same in respect of concerned foreign countries.

(b) The case involved extensive investigation in several foreign countries, which is a lengthy and time consuming process, beyond the control of the investigating agency.

[English]

#### **STD Facility**

3119. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide STD facilities in each telephone exchange of Ratnagiri and Raighad districts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In district Ratnagiri, out of 142 exchanges, 79 exchanges are having STD facility and 63 exchanges are without STD facility and in district Raighad, out of 143 exchanges, 128 exchanges are having STD facility and 15 exchanges are without STD facility. The remaining 63 exchanges in Ratnagiri district and 15 exchanges in Raighad district are planned to be provided with STD facility in a phased manner by March, 2002 subject to availability of resources.

(c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

#### **Out of Order Telephone Exchange**

3120. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bankati telephone exchange at Burdwan in West Bengal is out of order;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make it functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

**Relaxation in PF Rules**

3121. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to relax the Provident Fund rules for the employees of the earthquake hit areas in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to remove difficulties of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) subscribers affected by the earthquake in Gujarat, Government has enhanced the ceiling on PF advance upto 75% of the members' contributions payable under paragraph 68-B and 68-L of the EPF Scheme and also waived the conditions of employers' attestation of the claims and production of certificates about destruction of property from the appropriate authority.

**Telecast of Matches**

3122. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has undersold its TV telecast rights of matches played under World Cup, 1999 beyond satisfactory reasons; and

(b) if so, the details of precautionary measures taken to ensure that the telecast rights are not undersold in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Central Bureau of Investigation in its Report on Cricket Match Fixing and Related Malpractices has made an observation that a study of guarantee money received by BCCI in some of the tournaments shows an interesting trend which indicates that it does not commensurate with India's standing in the cricketing world. For World Cup, 1999 India received guarantee money of Rs. 1.5 Crores against Rs. 26 Crores received by the hosts for television rights over India for the series. CBI has concluded stating that these figures indicate that India has undersold itself due to reasons not satisfactorily explained by BCCI office bearers during their examination by CBI. CBI has also clarified in its report that this enquiry has not looked into the matter of grant of television rights since this issue is being dealt with separately. Subsequently, CBI informed that it has registered 5 cases against DD officials and others in connection with grant of TV rights.

Three of them pertained to cricket including the World Cup, 1999.

BCCI has clarified that the sharing of earnings from the commercial rights to any World Cup event is arrived at in ICC meetings amongst Host Country, full members, associate members and the ICC. For World Cup, 1999, an Agreement was signed between the ICC and the host ECB detailing the sharing formula. The sharing of earnings had been done accordingly.

**National Highways in Rajasthan**

3123. SHRI PUSP JAIN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of National Highways passing through Rajasthan and the latest condition thereof;

(b) the number of National Highways which require urgent repairs;

(c) whether the Government are formulating a special contingency plan for reconstruction of the G.T. Road; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) There are 12 National Highways passing through Rajasthan. Maintenance and repair is a continuous process and the National Highways are being kept in traffic worthy condition within the funds available for the purpose.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, sections of National Highway falling on the G.T. Road are being improved/widened under the National Highway Development Project.

[Translation]

**Amendments to Wildlife Protection Act**

3124. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Wildlife Protection Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Rajasthan Government has requested for some amendments in the Act in view of damage caused to crops by Neelgais in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed amendments include :

- (i) Involvement of local communities in management of wildlife protected areas and using the forest usufructs that are available in the process of management of the habitat of wild animals being available explicitly to the local communities.
- (ii) Effective enforcement of the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and regulating possession and trade of such species covered by the Convention.
- (iii) Making punitive sections of the Act more stringent and effective.
- (iv) Making Indian Board for Wild Life a statutory body.

(c) Government of Rajasthan has not requested the Central Government for any amendment in the Act. They have only requested for transfer of Blue Bull from Schedule III to Schedule V of the Act so that it may be treated as a vermin.

(d) Section 11(i)(b) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides adequate powers to the State Governments to get any wild animal specified in Schedules II, III & IV that becomes dangerous to human life or to property (including standing crops on any land) hunted.

[English]

#### **International Airport at Navi Mumbai**

3125. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Maharashtra Government has dropped its plan to construct the international airport at Revas Mandva in Konkan region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Maharashtra Government has selected the 950 hectare land at Navi Mumbai owned by State Industrial Development Corporation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the State Government has consulted the Union Government in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the said land has since been acquired for international airport at Navi Mumbai; and
- (h) if so, the time by which this land is likely to be acquired and project is to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (h) The State Government has dropped its plan to construct the International Airport at Revas Mandva as the site requires a huge investment in infrastructure like roads, bridges and mass rapid transport system and there is objection from environmentalists. In view of this State Government has proposed to provide additional land at Navi Mumbai for a two runway airport. The State Government has been asked to complete the proposed technical/traffic studies and then send a formal proposal for the consideration of the Government.

#### **Post Offices in Karnataka**

3126. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have fixed any target to open post offices in Karnataka during 2000-2001;
- (b) the extent to which the target has been achieved during the said period;
- (c) whether the Government intend to open more post offices during 2001-2002 in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) A target of opening 2 Departmental Sub Offices and 21 Branch Post Offices has been fixed for Karnataka during the year 2000-2001.

- (b) As on 28.2.2001, 2 Departmental Sub Offices and 5 Branch Post Offices have been opened.
- (c) and (d) New Post Offices are opened as per Plan Targets subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of resources.

#### **C-DoT Software Development Centre**

3127. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a C-Dot Software development centre at Kolkata;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the Centre is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, C-DoT has prepared a proposal which is under examination.

**Telephone Connections**

3128. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of applicants waiting for telephone connections in the various telephone exchanges under the Pathanamthitta region of Kerala is very large;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list immediately and expand the telephone exchanges in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There are only 25545 applicants in the waiting list in Pathanamthitta Secondary Switching Area. Exchange-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) About 5000 applicants are likely to get telephone connections by 31st March 2001. And it has been planned to clear the remaining waiting list by 31st March 2002 by expanding the existing exchanges in Pathanamthitta.

**Statement**

*Exchange-wise waiting list in Pathanamthitta Secondary Switching Area*

S.No.	Name of Exchange	Waiting List
1	2	3
1.	Adoor	1439
2.	Aranmula	91
3.	Athikayam	428
4.	Ayiroor	156
5.	Chathankary	77
6.	Chittar	423
7.	Chungappara	448
8.	Edamon Ranni	159
9.	Elamannur	533
10.	Elanthur	96
11.	Elavanthitta	570
12.	Ettichuvadu	128
13.	Ezhamkulam	710

1	2	3
14.	Ezhumattoor	122
15.	Kadambanadu	625
16.	Kalpattoor	662
17.	Kalanjoor	699
18.	Kallooppara	138
19.	Kaviyoor	8
20.	Kidangnaoor	731
21.	Killvayal	1415
22.	Kodumon	508
23.	Konni	2120
24.	Kozhencherry	1172
25.	Kulanada	316
26.	Kumbanad	768
27.	Kumbazha	117
28.	Kunnamthanam	503
29.	Kurlyannur	65
30.	Kutoor	127
31.	Malyalapuzha	527
32.	Mallapally	882
33.	Murinjakal	269
34.	Niranam	305
35.	Omallur	62
36.	Pallikkal	507
37.	Pandalam	717
38.	Pathanamthitta	556
39.	Pullad Unit I	0
40.	Pullad Unit II	557
41.	Punnaveli	58
42.	Ranni	610
43.	Ranni-Perinad	469
44.	Seethanthode	593
45.	Thannithode	234
46.	Thekkuthode	159
47.	Theodical	741
48.	Thumpamon	63
49.	Tiruvalla	612

1	2	3
50.	V. Kottayam	191
51.	Vadasserikkara	975
52.	Vaipur	293
53.	Vallanmkulam	8
54.	Vayalathala	185
55.	Vechoochira	469
56.	Vennikulam	149
Total		25545

### Cellular Telephone

3129. SHRI V. VETRISLVAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have fixed any target for providing cellular connections during the year 2001-2002;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is initially providing cellular service in the form of pilot project. The details of the cities being covered under pilot project are enclosed at Statement-I. The cellular service at Patna & Hazipur has already commenced. The cellular service in other cities as part of pilot project is likely to commence during March/April, 2001. Also about 15 lakh cellular telephone lines have been planed to be provided throughout the country during 2001-2002. The State-wise details are given in enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Not applicable in view of (b) above.

### Statement-I

List of Cities covered under IMPCS Pilot Project

Circle	City	No. of Lines	
		Phase-I	Phase-II
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	4000	-
	Vijayawada	1000	-

1	2	3	4	
	Tirupati	1000	-	
	Guntur	1000	-	
	Visakhapatnam	1000	-	
	Amlapuram	1000	-	
	Kakinada	1000	-	
	Rajmundry	-	1000	
	Warrangal	-	1000	
Bihar	Patna	4000	-	
	Biharsharif	1000	-	
	Hazipur	1000	-	
	Badh	1000	-	
	Arah	1000	-	
	Rajgir	1000	-	
	Sasaram	-	1000	
	Bhabua	-	1000	
	Tamil Nadu/ Chennai Telephones	Chennai	4000	-
		Madurai	1000	-
Coimbatore		1000	-	
Mahabalipuram		-	1000	
	M.M. Nagar	-	1000	
	Minjur	-	1000	
West Bengal/ Calcutta Telephones	Calcutta	5000	-	
	Haldia	1000	-	
Jharkand	Ranchi	-	4000	
	Jamshedpur	-	1000	
Total		31000	12000	

### Statement-II

S.No.	State	No. of Cities	No. of Lines proposed during 2001-2002
1	2	3	4
1.	A&N	1	1500
2.	AP	85	60000

1	2	3	4
3.	AS	23	11000
4.	BH	30	33000
5.	CHG	15	9000
6.	GJ	74	175000
7.	HR	40	43000
8.	HP	20	12000
9.	J&K	14	12000
10.	JKD	17	23000
11.	KTK	26	115000
12.	KRL	100	125000
13.	MP	54	34500
14.	MH	124	190000
15.	NE	49	3000
16.	OR	38	37000
17.	PB	62	110000
18.	RJ	40	50000
19.	TN	68	130000
20.	UCHL	13	23000
21.	UP	91	151000
22.	WB	35	40500
Total		1021	1488500

[Translation]

#### Review of Irrigation Projects

3130. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the major and medium irrigation projects which are being set up with the assistance of World Bank and other international institutions during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have constituted a Committee in this regard;

(c) whether the Committee has since submitted its report to the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Union Government

regularly reviews and monitors the progress of all ongoing major and medium externally aided irrigation projects in the country. No expert committee has been constituted to review the progress of such irrigation projects.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Medical Delivery System under ESI Scheme

3131. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee of experts for studying the existing medical delivery system under ESI scheme has been set up;

(b) if so, whether the committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Satyam Committee appointed to look into various quality of medical services under the ESI Scheme submitted its report on 14.1.1999.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Global Warming

3132. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted in regard to "Global Warming" with particular reference to changing climatic trends in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof including the steps taken to meet the adverse consequences from these changes;

(c) the kind of casual relationship between the Global Warming trends and the increasing natural disasters enveloping several States like Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Kerala, West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra etc.; and

(d) the results of studies undertaken by world organisations, if any, and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The changing trends in the surface air temperature over India based

on past 100 years data collected by India Meteorological Department have been analyzed by scientists in Indian institutions. No definite trend in the variation of temperature has been observed.

(c) The casual relationship between human induced global warming and natural disasters are not well established.

(d) The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate change—a body established jointly by the United Nations Environment Programme and World Meteorological Organization is in the process of preparing a Third Assessment Report. The Report is a technical and scientific assessment of published literature on science and impacts of climate change, socio-economic assessment and mitigation of climate change. The report is yet to be published.

#### **Civil Aviation Development Fund**

3133. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have created a Civil Aviation Development Fund to enhance infrastructure development and subsidise essential air services in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Line Switches by C-Dot**

3134. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether C-DoT propose to supply and develop 80,000 line switch;

(b) If so, the details alongwith objectives and purpose thereof;

(c) whether such switches have become outdated and obsolete in the face of spread of cellular technology;

(d) whether the Government have made any assessment of investing funds in technical ideas which have become inefficient from the point of capital deployment; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

C-DoT is developing a 80,000 lines switch. The switch will be supplied by C-DoT equipment manufacturers.

(b) The development aims at increasing the subscriber capacity of the exchange. It will result in reduction in price, power consumption and space requirement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Assessment of technical ideas is a continuous process. As technology is changing at a fast pace, it is utilized for upgrading the existing C-DoT telecom products to make them more efficient and economical. The C-DoT budget provides for such upgradations.

#### **Amendment in National Highways Act**

3135. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend National Highways Act for providing fresh incentives for road sector;

(b) if so, the details of proposals under consideration/finalisation; and

(c) the details of plans to provide warehousing and other facilities as integral part of Highways projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The National Highway (NH) Act, 1956, was amended in 1995 to enable the private sector to invest in NH Projects, levy, collect and retain fees from users and to regulate traffic on such highways in terms of the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. There is no other proposal at present.

(c) The development of warehousing and other facilities as an integral part of BOT highway projects can be considered on case to case basis.

#### **Disbursal of Amount**

3136. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that delay is taking place in the post offices to disburse the maturity amount of National savings to the investors; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the speedy disbursal of amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Instance of occasional delay in disbursement of maturity amount of National Savings Schemes come to notice.

(b) Review of procedures for qualitative improvements in the service is an ongoing process. Appropriate remedial measures are also taken as and when required.

[Translation]

### Express Highways/Highways in Country

3137. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of Express Highways and Highways in the country during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount allocated for this purpose; State-wise;

(c) the number of express highway and highways out of the above that would pass through Rajasthan;

(d) whether the roads of all declared highways of the State have been constructed as per the norms;

(e) if not, the details of roads in kilometres are to be constructed;

(f) the time by which this work is proposed to be completed; and

(g) the details of proposed amount to be spent on this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The construction of Expressway from Ahmedabad to Vadodara in Gujarat is in progress. Development of National Highways is a continuous process and various improvement work like widening to four lanes and two lanes, strengthening of payment, construction of bridges on the National Highways have been taken up during Ninth Plan Period. The State-wise allocation of Fund for the first four years of the Ninth Five Year Plan are given in enclosed statement.

(c) There is no Expressway in Rajasthan. There are twelve National Highways passing through Rajasthan.

(d) to (g) The roads prior to their declaration as National Highway (NHs) are developed and maintained by the respective State Govt. from their own resources as per specifications of the State roads. After declaration as new NHs the development of the roads is taken up in a phased manner depending upon the condition of the road, traffic requirement, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. Allocations of funds for the development of NHs are made State-wise and not National Highway-wise.

### Statement

#### Express Highways/Highways in Country during 1997-98

S.No.	Name of States/UT	(Rs. in lakh)		
		NH(O)	EAP	PBFF
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2949.83	2420.00	587.36
2.	Assam	1821.00	0.00	39.80
3.	Bihar	1900.00	52.00	0.00
4.	Chandigarh	30.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	800.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	900.00	0.00	71.56
7.	Gujarat	3675.00	0.00	647.42
8.	Haryana	1100.00	8940.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1700.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	2900.00	1200.00	136.78
12.	Kerala	3600.00	4160.00	282.48
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1700.00	2300.00	657.06
14.	Maharashtra	2900.00	4350.00	612.43
15.	Manipur	700.00	0.00	2.19
16.	Meghalaya	920.00	0.00	59.50
17.	Nagaland	100.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	2600.00	3650.00	225.20
19.	Pondicherry	70.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	1300.00	3900.00	178.88
21.	Rajasthan	2550.00	1270.00	495.63
22.	Tamil Nadu	2500.00	0.00	67.92
23.	Uttar Pradesh	4608.00	7330.00	597.27
24.	West Bengal	5375.00	1960.00	0.00
25.	Joggigappa Bridge	1244.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Ministry	0.17	7298.00	0.00
27.	BRDB	7031.00	0.00	0.00
28.	NHAI	0.00	20000.00	0.00
29.	Other Institutions	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>55124.00</b>	<b>68830.00</b>	<b>4861.68</b>

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

EAP - Externally Aided Project

PBFF - Permanent Bridge Fee Fund

Note : In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 29000 lakhs was provided to National Highways Authority of India for National Highways entrusted to them.

*Express Highways/Highways in Country  
during 1998-99*

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	NH(O)	EAP	PBFF
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4500.00	24.00	355.82
2.	Assam	2600.00	0.00	61.10
3.	Bihar	3405.31	0.00	12.04
4.	Chandigarh	82.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	1400.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	1100.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	5346.96	0.00	1281.58
8.	Haryana	2613.50	4975.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2500.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	100.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	3500.00	0.00	209.01
12.	Kerala	6744.46	0.00	335.70
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2200.00	5423.00	624.73
14.	Maharashtra	4811.63	6000.00	571.00

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Manipur	700.00	0.00	0.30
16.	Meghalaya	1000.00	0.00	60.50
17.	Nagaland	200.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	4000.00	5500.00	226.82
19.	Pondicherry	100.81	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	2500.65	4569.00	79.23
21.	Rajasthan	3450.00	550.00	605.81
22.	Tamil Nadu	3624.75		296.62
23.	Uttar Pradesh	7078.14	4850.00	721.21
24.	West Bengal	7150.94	3000.00	0.00
25.	Ministry	3.86	880.00	0.00
26.	BRDB	8500.00		0.00
27.	NHAI	0.00	16317.00	0.00
Total		79213.01	52088.00	5441.47

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

EAP - Externally Aided Project

PBFF - Permanent Bridge Fee Fund

Note : In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 10100 lakhs was provided to National Highways Authority of India for National Highways entrusted to them.

*Express Highways/Highways in Country during 1999-2000*

S. No.	Name of States/UT	NH(O)	SRP	EAP	PBFF
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5045.00	3457.00	50.00	612.87
2.	Assam	4186.83	2000.00	0.00	52.49
3.	Bihar	6000.00	6100.00	0.00	117.52
4.	Chandigarh	100.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	1700.02	600.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	7307.17	1502.00	0.00	1544.73
8.	Haryana	4200.00	400.00	5800.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4000.00	400.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	4600.08	4524.00	1224.00	289.76
12.	Kerala	10468.12	1250.00	2100.00	268.95

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3226.75	1000.00	8810.00	298.05
14.	Maharashtra	10354.31	3994.00	7000.00	453.77
15.	Manipur	1010.75	0.00	0.00	3.40
16.	Meghalaya	1730.28	400.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Mizoram	300.00	400.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Nagaland	800.00	423.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Orissa	3850.00	2016.00	5200.00	178.02
20.	Pondicherry	319.46	164.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	1819.56	400.00	3300.00	180.54
22.	Rajasthan	4550.30	4500.00	200.00	463.72
23.	Tamil Nadu	6500.00	8000.00	0.00	254.08
24.	Tripura	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	9155.35	4074.00	2865.00	627.10
26.	West Bengal	5138.02	2560.00	3680.00	0.00
27.	Ministry	20.00		561.00	0.00
28.	BRDB	11230.00	93.72	0.00	0.00
29.	NHAI	0.00	0.00	49160.00	0.00
30.	Other Institutions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>108462.00</b>	<b>48307.72</b>	<b>89950.00</b>	<b>5400.00</b>

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

EAP - Externally Aided Project

SRP - Special Repair Programme

PBFF - Permanent Bridge Fee Fund

Note : In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 119200 lakhs was provided to National Highways Authority of India for National Highways entrusted to them.

*Express Highways/Highways in Country during 2000-2001*

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of States/UT	NH(O)	SRP	EAP	PBFF
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9100.00	1718.75	50.00	1088.26
2.	Assam	5800.00	1894.73	0.00	53.84
3.	Bihar	6727.00	2150.00	0.00	727.56
4.	Chandigarh	150.00	24.04	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	1727.80	150.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	1200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	2300.00	232.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Gujarat	8810.00	312.79	0.00	1329.97
9.	Haryana	5800.00	409.90	8135.00	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4700.00	839.68	0.00	0.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	2073.00	115.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	7800.00	1586.16	105.00	304.90
14.	Kerala	10500.00	524.00	100.00	224.03
15.	Madhya Pradesh	8272.20	3598.27	9000.00	217.11
16.	Maharashtra	11800.00	230.00	7250.00	436.20
17.	Manipur	1250.00	0.00	0.00	1.31
18.	Meghalaya	2000.00	318.12	0.00	58.34
19.	Mizoram	1200.00	286.21	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	1500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	7000.00	500.00	3400.00	95.89
22.	Pondicherry	200.00	102.10	0.00	0.00
23.	Punjab	4800.00	395.62	1500.00	165.76
24.	Rajasthan	11000.00	691.85	50.00	368.71
25.	Tamil Nadu	10200.00	1329.84	0.00	142.21
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13484.65	736.08	1259.00	486.11
27.	Uttanchal	199.35	0.00		0.00
28.	West Bengal	8800.00	1665.00	4800.00	0.00
29.	Ministry	3000.00	0.00	1751.00	0.00
30.	NHAI	0.00	0.00	28114.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>151544.00</b>	<b>19810.14</b>	<b>65514.00</b>	<b>5700.00</b>

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

EAP - Externally Aided Project

SRP - Special Repair Programme

PBFF - Permanent Bridge Fee Fund

Note : In addition to above, an amount of Rs. 180000 lakhs was provided to National Highways Authority of India for National Highways entrusted to them.

[English]

#### Narmada Dam

3138. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total land areas submerged in the course of the construction of Narmada Dam;

(b) the number of people evacuated from these areas; and

(c) the percentage of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes population displaced and the compensation given to the affected persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The total land coming under

submergence in the course of the construction of Narmada Dam (Sardar Sarovar Dam) is around 37,533 ha. spread over the three States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) At full reservoir level of 138.68 m about 40,835 families spread over the three States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh would be affected due to submergence and backwater effect.

(c) The percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons affected due to submergence and backwater effect of Sardar Sarovar Dam is 8.45% and 49.61% respectively.

The Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal (NWDI) in its final orders had given detailed directions with regard to acquisition of land and properties and the compensation to be provided to the Project Affected Families (PAFs) for their Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R). With a view to improve the economic conditions of the project affected families after resettlement, the party States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat, have further liberalized the package for resettlement and rehabilitation prescribed by the NWDI. The revised package of Gujarat, which is one of the best R&R package in the country so far, provides land equivalent to the land acquired, subject to a minimum of 2 ha. for each family. All landless agricultural labourers, encroachers of government land etc. are also allotted 2 ha. of agricultural land. Every major son is treated as a separate family for the R&R package. Each family is provided a residential plot of 500 Sq. metres free of cost along with a core house costing 45,000/-. In addition, resettlement grants comprising subsistence allowance, grant for ploughing, grant for purchase of productive assets, transportation of building materials and household goods & other insurance are provided to each family.

Civil and other amenities such as approach road, internal roads, primary school building, health center, panchayat ghar, seeds store, children's park, village pond, drinking water wells, platform for community meetings, street light electrification, religious place, crematorium ground etc. are provided at resettlement sites.

[Translation]

#### Telephone Exchanges

3139. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Gujarat particularly in Dahod at present, district-wise;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges set up during the last three years, district-wise;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up some more exchanges and modernise the existing telephone exchanges in the State during 2001-2002;

(e) if so, the location thereof, district-wise;

(f) the funds allocated for the purpose;

(g) whether the Government have received complaints regarding misbehaviors of officials, delay in work and corruption prevailing in telephone exchanges; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) At present 2552 number of telephone exchanges are working in Gujarat. Out of this 38 number of telephone exchanges are working in Dahod District. The district-wise details are given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The information is maintained Secondary Switching Area-wise 250 number of telephone exchanges have been set up during the last 3 years. Details are given in enclosed Statement-II.

(c) The expenditure incurred for setting up telephone exchanges in Circle is as under:

Year	Expenditure incurred Rs. in Crores
1997-1998	517.41
1998-1999	512.31
1999-2000	704.23

(d) to (f) The plan for setting up more exchanges in the year 2001-2002 is under finalisation.

(g) No Sir.

(h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.

#### Statement-I

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Exchanges
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	56
2.	Gandhinagar	86
3.	Amreli	137
4.	Bharuch	103

1	2	3
5.	Narmada	16
6.	Bhavnagar	123
7.	Kutchchh	150
8.	Panchmahal (Godhra)	83
9.	Dahod	38
10.	Sabarkantha	152
11.	Jamnagar	142
12.	Junagadh	176
13.	Porbandar	36
14.	Diu (UT)	3
15.	Kheda (Nadlad)	116
16.	Anand	85
17.	Mehsana	188
18.	Patan	84
19.	Banaskantha	157
20.	Rajkot	140
21.	Surat	106
22.	Surendranagar	123
23.	Vadodara	130
24.	Valsad	49
25.	Navsari	58
26.	Dang	5
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (UT)	8
28.	Daman (UT)	2
		2552

**Statement-II**

Name of SSAs	No. of exges. setup		
	97-98	98-99	99-2000
1	2	3	4
AM	07	02	04
AMR	03	06	04
BCH	02	04	04
BV	05	01	02
BJ	04	04	08

1	2	3	4
GDR	02	03	05
HMR	01	03	07
JMN	00	00	02
JND	02	03	18
NAD	01	01	06
MEH	04	13	17
PNP	07	11	16
RJ	06	10	06
SR	02	00	01
SEN	04	06	10
VAD	06	04	06
VAL	01	01	05
TOTAL	57	72	121

*[English]***Exploitation of Workers in Unorganised Sector**

3140. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that employees in unorganised sector are being exploited for working on daily wages for years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have fixed any limit for regularisation of service entailing benefit of time scale and other benefits for unskilled and semi-skilled workers;

(c) if so, the mechanism made available to ensure its compliance; and

(d) the number of complaints pending disposal in this regard and the action taken to dispose them of expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The Government have enacted a number of Laws to safeguard the interests of the workers including those in the unorganised sector. Some of these legislations are: Payment of Wage Act, 1936; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961. However, there is no unified Act to regulate the service conditions of the workers in the unorganised sectors. The Second National Commission on Labour, under its terms of reference is expected to suggest an umbrella legislation for

ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganised sector. The cases of violation of the existing Acts with respect to unorganised workers, whenever received by the Government, is dealt as per the provisions of the relevant Act. The regularization of services of unskilled or semi-skilled workers in the Central Govt. offices and Central PSUs is governed by the orders issued from time to time by the Deptt. of Personnel and Training and Model Standing orders issued by the Ministry of Labour respectively. The question of regularization of services of such workers in the State Govt., State Govt. undertakings and private sector undertakings is decided by the respective state governments and information on complaints pending disposal in this regard, is not maintained centrally.

#### Declaration of Wetland Sites as Ramsar Sites

3141. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wetland sites designated as 'Ramsar' sites as on date;

(b) the total areas covered by these sites alongwith locations thereof;

(c) the total expenditure incurred on each of the 'Ramsar' sites during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the Government have selected 10 new wetland sites as 'Ramsar' sites on the occasion of World Wetlands Day;

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

(f) the criteria fixed for the selection of the said sites; and

(g) the benefits that accrue to any Wetland site after being declared as 'Ramsar' site?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Six wetland sites have been designated as 'Ramsar Sites' as on date covering an area of 1,75,373 ha. and an amount of Rs. 520.885 lakhs has been released for conservation of these Ramsar sites during the last three years as per the following details:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name	State	Area (in ha.)	Expenditure		
			1998-98	1999-2000	2000-01
1. Harike Lake	Punjab	4,200	-	13.00	50.00
2. Chilka Lake	Orissa	116,500	-	36.00	55.00
3. Wular Lake	J&K	2,400	45.865	-	30.00
4. Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan	2,873	20.00	-	-
5. Sambhar Lake	Rajasthan	23,400	-	36.26	-
6. Loktak Lake	Manipur	26,000	67.48	97.28	70.00

(d) and (e) Ten Wetlands have been identified by the Government for designation as Ramsar sites as per the details given below :

Name of the Wetland	State
1	2
(i) Tso Murari	J&K
(ii) Deepar Beel	Assam
(iii) Kabar Tal	Bihar
(iv) Bhitarkanika Sanctuary	Orissa
(v) Andaman & Nicobar Islands	
(vi) Lali Sanctuary	Arunachal Pradesh

1	2
(vii) Pong Dam	Himachal Pradesh
(viii) East Calcutta Wetlands	West Bengal
(ix) Point Calimere Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
(x) Pulicat Lake	Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh

(f) and (g) Wetlands are considered to be of international importance if they contain rare or unique examples of a natural or near natural wetland found within the appropriate bio-geographic region. Criteria adopted for selection of wetlands, *inter-alia*, include uniqueness, presence of vulnerable and endangered species which require conservation and supporting flora and fauna for biodiversity conservation.

Benefits that accrue include formulating guidelines on wise use of wetlands; facilitating formulation of national level policies for protection, conservation and sustainable use of wetlands; access to expert advice on wetlands through Ramsar Bureau; and the possibility of obtaining financial assistance from Ramsar Convention small grants funds, bilateral and multilateral externally aided projects and Global Environment Facility.

#### **Water Reservoir Development Schemes**

3142. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank and other International Financial Institutions have provided any financial assistance for implementing Water Reservoir Development Schemes in the country during the last two years;

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

(c) the names of States which could not utilize the fund earmarked for the purpose completely; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the schemes expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Water Resources development projects which have received World Bank assistance during the last two years are given in enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Water Resources Projects are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments from their plan funds. In respect of externally aided projects, initially the expenditure is incurred by the State Government from their plan funds which is subsequently reimbursed by the World Bank. Funds are not earmarked project-wise by the Union Government. The targets for progress of various components of the projects are finalized by World Bank Review Missions from time to time in consultation with the State Governments. The State Governments are impressed upon to fully utilize the external assistance within the stipulated project period. The achievement under Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project has been slow due to the super cyclone of October, 1999. The Tamil Nadu component of the project was curtailed at the restructuring stage in September, 1998 as the same could not make substantial progress.

#### **Statement**

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Reimbursement received during	
			1999-2000 (Million US\$)	2000-2001 (Upto Dec. 2000)
1.	Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	Haryana	32.842	13.551
2.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	Orissa	28.670	14.732
3.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	Tamil Nadu	57.500	19.548
4.	Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project*	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and Tamil Nadu	16.881	-

\*The Dam Safety Assurance & Rehabilitation Project was completed in September, 1999.

#### **Same Day Return Scheme**

3143. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines has introduced a "Same Day Return" facility scheme for passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the cities that are linked under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) With cut over to the Departure Control System in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad, Indian Airlines has introduced Return Check-in-facilities. By this facility passengers would now be able to check-in for the return flight if the return flight is on the same date as well as the next calendar date as outward flight.

- This facility is available only between the six major metros i.e. Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad.
- Only passengers holding confirmed reservations on the return leg are eligible for this facility.
- Only passengers without registered baggage are eligible for this facility.

**Pollution in Yamuna**

3144. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether illegal slaughter houses in the Capital are draining thousands of litres of blood of animals every day in the river Yamuna and a large quantity of toxic fly ash is also seeping into ground water acquifers from Yamuna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government and State Government of Delhi have failed on this front miserably; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps the Union Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Slaughter Houses/ Abattoirs have been categorised under group 'H' as per Master Plan Delhi 2001, which are not allowed to be operated in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. To prevent illegal slaughtering of animals, High Court of Delhi in its order dated 12.7.2000, in the CW No. 2455/2000 titled Young Qureshis Front Vs. Union of India & Others, has directed Delhi Police and Municipal Corporation of Delhi to ensure that those offending the law are brought to book and that there is no illegal slaughtering. Action has been taken by Delhi Police and Municipal Corporation of Delhi against the persons found indulging in slaughtering animals in open place or in residential houses without valid license/permission from the Civic Authorities. In the year 2000, Municipal Corporation of Delhi conducted 152 raids with the help of Delhi Police in which 9 premises were sealed and 572 animal skeletons destroyed. In the year 2001, a total of 23 raids have been conducted by them till date in which 1 animal skeleton has been destroyed. No incidence of toxic fly ash into the ground has been noticed so far.

(c) and (d) To prevent illegal slaughtering of animals, Health Department of Municipal Corporation of Delhi has been directed to take necessary action against the persons indulging in illegal slaughtering of animals. The Deputy Commissioner of Delhi Police has also been asked to take necessary action under the law to stop illegal slaughtering. Electric power generating agencies in Delhi constantly check the discharge of solid contents and maintain the statutory parameters in the effluent before discharging into the natural drainage system. The quality of effluent released by these agencies is also monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee.

[Translation]

**Free Telephone Connections to Employees**

3145. SHRI MONSOOR ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether free telephone connections to be provided in NOIDA to the employees of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, are pending;

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

(c) the time by which these connections are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A total of 5 telephone connections to be provided to the employees of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited are pending in NOIDA due to technical non-feasibility. The connections are likely to be provided as and when the area, where the telephones are to be installed, becomes technically feasible.

[English]

**Postal Division in Gujarat**

3146. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the postal divisions set up in Gujarat during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more such divisions in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No Postal Division has been set up in Gujarat during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

**Post Offices/Sub-Post Offices in Tamil Nadu**

3147. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices/sub-post offices operating in all the districts in Tamil Nadu at present, category-wise;

(b) the number of post offices/sub-post offices running into loss/profit in the State;

(c) whether the Government propose to close down such offices, in the State which are running in losses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The category-wise number of post offices/sub-post offices operating at present in the districts of Tamil Nadu is as under:

Sub Post Offices-2764, Extra Departmental Sub Post Offices-219 and Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices-9094.

(b) to (d) Post Offices are provided/maintained according to specific norms which also allows for prescribed limit of loss.

The number of post offices running in loss/profit in the State is as under :

	Sub Offices	ED Sub Offices	ED Branch Offices
In Loss	762	102	7999
In Profit	2002	117	1095

[Translation]

#### Financial Bungling in Jodhpur Airport

3148. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints of financial bungling received against airport officials of Jodhpur, Rajasthan during the last two years;

(b) whether some officials have still not been relieved even after one year of their transfer whereas complaints of financial bungs have also been received against these officials;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Four complaints were received against Airport officials of Jodhpur airport, three of which were of pseudonymous nature requiring no action. No substance was found on enquiry in the fourth complaint. Therefore no officer was transferred on grounds of complaints. However, during routine transfer, the transfer of one officer at Jodhpur airport was deferred upto 31.03.2001 on grounds of children's education.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Accident in Clay Mines

3149. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the deaths of five women recently in a clay mine at Radhakrishan Nagar village of Ambikapur, Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any safety measures have since been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) An enquiry conducted by inspecting officer of the Directorate General of Mines Safety revealed that the accident took place in an excavation made by the villagers for extraction of clay for domestic use. As it is not in the category of a mining accident, the possibility of providing safety measures does not arise.

#### Safety in Coal Mines

3150. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enact a new legislation regarding safety in coal mines in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have undertaken any assessment of coal mines regulations in developed countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to adopt latest coal mining technique and safety measures as are being adopted by various other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Ground Water

3151. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether ground water is not worth for drinking due to seepage of chromium, iron, copper and zinc from the industrial units in many States in the country;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the said metals and ensure the availability of safe water in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The names of the States and locations where ground water has been found contaminated and reasons thereof are indicated in the attached Statement.

(c) Provision of drinking water supply is the responsibility of the State Governments. Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission under the Ministry of Rural Development has been assisting and guiding the States in the provision of safe drinking water to rural population under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, and exclusive Sub-Missions in areas having serious ground water quality problems like Fluoride, Iron, Arsenic, Nitrate and Brackishness. In such quality affected areas, where ground water is unfit for drinking, the safe drinking water is supplied either

through alternative sources, tapping surface water or by other means by undertaking remedial measures like defluoridation, iron removal and arsenic removal.

In addition, measures taken to mitigate the problem of ground water pollution are as follows:

- (i) The Central Government has set-up Central Ground Water Authority to regulate and control ground water management and development.
- (ii) Mass awareness and education programme have been launched on the significance of water economy, efficient utilization, health, hygiene and sanitation.
- (iii) Central Pollution Control Board has adopted several measures like directing the industries through State Pollution Control Boards to limit the discharge of effluent within the stipulated standards, initiation of scheme to give assistance to clusters of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants and taking up of quality scheme of monitoring in critically polluted areas.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise details of contamination of ground water in some areas of the district due to various contaminants*

S.No.	State	Salinity	Iron	Fluoride	Nitrate	Arsenic	Heavy Metals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam		Prakasan, Nellore, Anantapur, Nalgonda, Rangareddy, Adilabad	Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Prakasam, Nellore, Chittoor, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Rangareddy, Medak, Adilabad, Nalgonda, Khammam		Anantapur, Mehboobnagar, Prakasam, Visakhapatnam, Cuddapah, Nalgonda
2.	Assam		Northern Bank of Brahmaputra				Digboi
3.	Bihar	Begusarai	Champan, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Munger, Deoghar, Madhubani, Patna, Palamau, Nalanda, Nawada, Banka	Girdih, Jamui, Dhanbad	Palamau, Gaya, Patna, Nalanda, Nawada, Bhagalpur, Sahebgunj, Banka		Dhanbad, Muzaffarpur, Begusarai
4.	Gujarat	Banaskantha, Junagarh, Bharuch, Surat, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Surendranagar, Kheda, Jamnagar		Kachch, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Panchmahal, Kheda			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
5.	Haryana	Sonepat, Rohtak, Hissar, Jind, Sirsa, Faridabad Gurgaon, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh		Rohtak, Jind, Hissar, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh, Faridabad		Ambala, Sonapat Jind, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Hissar, Sirsa, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh		Faridabad
6.	Himachal Pradesh					Kulu, Solan, Una		Purwanoo, Kala amb
7.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Raichur, Bellary, Dharwar		Tumkur, Kolar, Bangalore, Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur				Bhadravati
8.	Kerala	Emakulam, Trichur, Alleppey		Palghat				
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwallor, Bhind, Morena, Jhabua, Khargaon, Dhar, Shivpuri, Shajapur, Guna, Mandson, Ujjain		Bhind, Morena, Guna, Jhabua, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla, Raipur, Vidisha		Sehore		Bastar, Korba, Ratlam, Nagda
10.	Maharashtra	Amravati, Akola		Bhandara, Chandrapur, Nanded, Aurangabad		Thane, Jalna, Beed, Nanded, Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Dhule, Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Ahmednagar, Pune, Buldhana, Amravati, Akola, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli		
11.	Orissa	Cuttack, Baleswar, Puri	Parts of coastal Orissa	Bolangir				Angul, Talcher
12.	Punjab	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Faridkot, Firozpur		Ludhiana, Faridkot, Bhatinda, Sangrur, Jalandhar, Amritsar		Patiala, Faridkot, Firozpur, Sangrur, Bhatinda		Ludhiana, Mandi Gobindgarh
13.	Rajasthan	Bharatpur, Jaipur, Nagaur, Jalore, Sirohi, Jodhpur	Bikaner, Alwar, Dungarpur	Barmer, Bikaner, Ganganagar, Jalore, Nagaur, Pali, Sirohi		Jaipur, Churu, Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jalore, Barmer, Bundi, Swai Madhopur		Pali, Udaipur, Khetri
14.	Tamil Nadu	Karaikal, Pondicherry, Nagapattanam, Quide-Millet, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram,		Dharmapuri, Salem, North Arcot-Ambedkar, Villipuram-Padayatchim, Muthuramalingam,		Coimbatore, Periyar, Salem		Manali, North Arcot

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		North Arcot- Ambedkar, Dharmapuri, Salem, Trichy, Coimbatore		Tiruchirapalli, Pudukottai			
15.	Tripura		Dharmnagar, Kauleshaheer, Khowai, Ambasa, Amapur and Parts of Agratala Valley				
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Mathura, Mainpuri, Banda		Bulandsahar, Aligarh, Agra, Unnao, Rae-Bareilly	Orai, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Faizabad, Sultanpur, Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoria		Singrauli, Basti, Kanpur, Jaunpur, Allahabad, Saharanpur, Aligarh
17.	West Bengal		Midnapore, Howrah, Hoogly, Bankura	Birbhum	Uttar Dinajpur, Haldia, Birbhum, Nadia, Midnapore, Howrah, Murshidabad, Purulia	Malda, South 24 paraganas, Nadia, Hoogly, Murshidabad, Bradhaman, Howrah	Durgapur, Howrah, Murshidabad, Nadia
18.	NCT of Delhi			City, Shahdara & Mehrauli blocks		Allipur, Kanjhawala, Najafgarh, Mehrauli, City and Shahdara blocks	

[English]

### Fake Job Firms

3152. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of cheating by fake job firms were detected during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number out of these cases prosecuted in the courts during the said period, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the number of cases in which conviction was made in the courts during the said period, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether a number of such firms are operating in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh and wrecking the lives of youth; and

(e) if so, the preventive steps being contemplated by Government to avoid recurrence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) information about complaints received against various recruiting agents/ individuals not authorized to make recruitment under the Emigration Act, 1983 and number of prosecutions launched during the years 1998, 1999 and 2000, State-wise is given in the Statement. After sanctioning of prosecution by the competent authority under the Emigration Act, 1983 required action is to be taken by the concerned police authorities and the results are not reported to the Ministry.

(e) With a view to curbing the activities of unregistered recruiting agents who indulge in cheating of emigrants, detailed guidelines have been issued to the various State Governments for issuing necessary instructions right upto the level of Police Stations for keeping a strict vigil on the activities of such agencies and for registration of cases against those found guilty. As and when such a case is brought to the notice of Central Govt., the same is referred to the police authorities for necessary action.

**Statement***Number of companies against unregistered agents/individuals during 1998-2000, Year-wise State-wise*

Name of the States	1998		1999		2000	
	No. of Complaints	Prosecution	No. of Complaints	Prosecution	No. of Complaints	Prosecution
1. Andhra Pradesh	03	-	02	-	02	-
2. Assam	-	-	01	-	-	-
3. Bihar	-	-	-	-	01	-
4. Delhi	15	02	21	-	17	01
5. Goa	01	01	-	-	01	01
6. Haryana	-	-	01	-	02	-
7. Gujarat	-	-	-	-	02	-
8. Karnataka	01	-	01	-	-	-
9. Kerala	09	03	18	01	11	02
10. Maharashtra	18	01	32	07	29	04
11. Punjab	04	-	04	-	07	-
12. Rajasthan	03	03	07	01	03	01
13. Tamil Nadu	03	03	11	04	07	01
14. U.P.	01	-	-	-	02	-
15. West Bengal	-	-	03	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>10</b>

**Recruitments for Gulf Countries**

is as under:

Year	No. of Persons
1999	208001
2000	202645
2001	33296

3153. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian recruited for employment in Gulf countries during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 till date;

(b) whether the Government received any complaint regarding the working conditions i.e. salary, allowance and working hours agreed to in the contract are denied to the workers by the employers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The number of Indian workers recruited for employment in Gulf countries during 1999, 2000 and 2001 (upto 28th February, 2001)

(b) to (d) Sporadic complaints are received relating to working conditions, i.e., payment of salaries, allowances and working hours etc. Whenever such complaints are received, Indian Missions/local recruiting agents are requested/directed to resolve the disputes of the aggrieved workers with the help of concerned Government/Sponsors. In the event of non-compliance of directions by the recruiting agents, action is taken to cancel/suspend their registration. Foreign sponsors who violate the terms of employment contracts are placed in the 'Prior Approval Category'. As and when the workers approach the Indian Mission, they are provided all possible help.

[Translation]

### Share of Rajasthan In Indus Water Treaty

3154. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has claimed its share as per Indus Water Treaty and agreements reached on the sharing of Satluj and Ravi rivers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Out of the waters of the rivers Ravi, Beas and Sutlej, awarded to India under the Indus Waters Treaty, 1960 between India and Pakistan, the share of Rajasthan in Ravi Beas waters was envisaged in the agreement of 31.12.1981 and that in Sutlej waters in the Bhakra Nangal Agreement, 1959. Rajasthan has claimed for the restoration of 0.6 MAF of its share of Ravi Beas waters which was made available to Punjab according to the said 1981 agreement temporarily till such time Rajasthan is in a position to utilize its full share. The releases corresponding to Rajasthan's share from the available waters of the rivers Ravi, Beas and Sutlej are decided by the Bhakara Beas Management Board, in which Rajasthan is also represented.

[English]

### Mal-functioning of ESI Hospitals

3155. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the mal-functioning of ESI Hospitals in providing the medical facilities to the patients;

(b) if so, whether ESI hospitals are not working to the satisfaction of the patients;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints from Employees stating that the facilities provided at these Hospitals are very poor and not satisfactory;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken/to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) There have been sporadic complaints about shortage of medical and paramedical staff, lack of drugs, dressings, equipments etc. in some ESI hospitals in the country. The responsibility for administration of medical care under

the ESI Scheme vests in the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations except in Delhi and Noida where it is being administered directly by the ESIC. The ESIC has prescribed norms/guidelines for staffing and equipments in the ESI hospitals/dispensaries. However, recently in order to improve health care facilities in ESI hospitals/dispensaries, the ESIC has formulated an Action Plan and forwarded the same to State Governments for implementation. The Action Plan includes *inter-alia* provision of modern equipment system in hospitals, availability of basic equipments in dispensaries, establishments of regional trauma centres, establishment of super speciality services, blood banks, cancer treatment centres, development of indigenous system of medicines, development of tie-up arrangements with reputed medical institutions etc.

[Translation]

### Action against Institutions not Depositing Provident Fund

3156. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that employees in the public sector have not been paid their provident fund, ESI, gratuity, bonus etc. in time;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of their employees to get the amounts released to them without delay; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) There are cases in which some public sector undertakings have failed to discharge their statutory liabilities of Provident Fund, Employees State Insurance etc.

(b) and (c) Necessary legal and penal action as provided under the ESI Act and the EPF & MP Act is already being taken by the concerned authorities to recover the dues from the defaulting Public Sector Undertakings. As regards gratuity and bonus, the employees including those in PSUs can file claims before the appropriate authority prescribed under the respective Acts.

### Ban on Advertisement of Tobacco

3157. SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees engaged in the field of tobacco products likely to be jobless due to ban on its use;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any plan for providing subsistence to their family members;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal to impose any ban on the production and consumption of tobacco products. The proposal is only for prohibiting advertisement of tobacco products and their sale to minors and near specified premises only and smoking in public places.

#### **CBI Enquiry on Wet Lease Deal**

3158. SHRI BABBAN RAJBHAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the enquiry against the officials of Air India associated with the wet lease deal has been completed;

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

(c) the details of the officials of Air India found guilty in the enquiry; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No Sir. The matter was referred to Central Bureau of Investigation by Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Coin Dial Facility PCOs**

3159. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public call instruments with coin dialing facility functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether the Government have abolished the said facility;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to reintroduce the said facility;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Reduction in Workers and Employees**

3160. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of workers and employees working in factories and establishments of mines operating under public and private sectors in the years between 1991-1992 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether there is a reduction in number of workers and employees;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to restrict such fall in number of workers and employees;

(e) if so, whether the Government approves such downsizing the number of workers and employees; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As per the information collected through the Employment Market Information Programme of Directorate General of Employment & Training, the employment in the organised manufacturing and repairing enterprises and organised establishments in mining and quarrying as on 31st March 1991 and 31st March 1999 was of the order of 74.33 lakh and 77.60 lakh respectively.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

#### **Irregularities in allotment of P.F. Code**

3161. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale irregularities/problems coming out due to allotment of P.F. code number to the contractors in lieu of the principal Employers in Beedi industry;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating any scheme to solve the problem; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Monitoring of Afforestation Programmes

3162. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount given to Rajasthan for afforestation under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total areas covered under the said scheme in the State during the above period;

(c) whether the progress of afforestation is monitored by any central agency;

(d) if so, the details alongwith the report of the said agency thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on the report/comments of the said agency?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The total financial assistance given to Rajasthan for afforestation under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years and area covered thereunder are as under:

Year	Released (Rs. in lakh)	Physical Achievement (Area in ha.)
1997-98	643.36	5000
1998-99	663.05	8100
1999-2000	684.84	8070

(c) to (e) The NAEB in the Ministry of Environment and Forests mounts the independent evaluation of tree planting activities through various agencies and experts in the select districts of the country. These studies reveal that in Rajasthan while there are location-wise and species-wise variation, the overall survival rate ranges from 42.36% to 95.30%. The State Government has been requested to take necessary action to ensure that survival of sapling plants is higher.

[Translation]

### PCOs Out of Order

3163. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether PCOs of all branch post offices of Muzzafarpur District of Bihar are out of order;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the period of since when they are out of order; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make them functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Sir, out of 112 PCOs installed in Branch Post Offices of Muzzafarpur district of Bihar, 78 PCOs are lying out of order.

(b) The PCOs are lying out of order due to break downs on physical lines and non availability of spares. Details of faults are as under:

	Less than 6 months	6 to 12 months	More than 12 months	Total faulty PCOs
No. of PCOs faulty	2	5	71	78

(c) Following steps are being taken to make the PCOs functional:

(i) By laying underground cable for PCOs within 5 Kms of exchange area.

(ii) Replacing overhead lines by WLL connection.

[English]

### Allocations for Environment and Forest Sector

3164. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether about one percent of the total plan outlay of the State and Union Government is allocated to the Environment and Forestry sector;

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

(c) the steps taken to increase allocation as well as better utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The allocation for the States, Union Territories and Union Government for the Environment and Forestry Sector during the last three years constitutes about four per cent of the total Plan outlay.

(b) The details of approved outlay for Environment and Forests during the last three years and State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) State Government have been advised to ensure proper and full utilisation of Plan outlays.

**Statement****[Translation]**

(Rs. in lakhs)

**Afforestation in the Country**

States	Approved Outlay Environment & Forestry		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Andhra Pradesh	6481.00	9600.00	11058.00
Arunachal Pradesh	1728.00	11084.00	1663.00
Assam	2068.00	3353.00	3353.00
Bihar	2015.00	2000.00	1200.00
Goa	221.00	220.00	240.00
Gujarat	15040.00	17400.00	20000.00
Haryana	3526.00	5004.00	4030.00
Himachal Pradesh	5550.00	8033.00	8711.00
Jammu & Kashmir	4027.00	5616.00	4860.00
Karnataka	1412.00	9475.00	13435.00
Kerala	2700.00	4400.00	6900.00
Madhya Pradesh	12974.00	12107.00	14289.00
Maharashtra	10008.00	8591.00	13168.00
Manipur	535.00	450.00	460.00
Meghalaya	750.00	800.00	800.00
Mizoram	620.00	882.00	520.00
Nagaland	522.00	364.00	364.00
Orissa	2030.00	2356.00	2977.00
Punjab	806.00	5383.00	6866.00
Rajasthan	9421.00	11868.00	16435.00
Sikkim	425.00	485.00	550.00
Tamil Nadu	9487.00	12528.00	12118.00
Tripura	446.00	398.00	341.00
Uttar Pradesh	10840.00	13040.00	13201.00
West Bengal	3595.00	4511.00	4409.00
<b>Union Territories</b>			
A & N Islands	800.00	972.00	1100.00
Chandigarh	80.00	210.75	331.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	259.75	229.10	211.00
Daman & Diu	37.00	38.00	24.00
Delhi	302.00	500.00	1000.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	36.00	23.00
Pondicherry	108.00	108.00	108.00

3165. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :  
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV :  
SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :  
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :

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

(a) whether the Government have any comprehensive programmes to check the fast vanishing and to increase the total forest cover in each State of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of forest cover in each State with respect to their total area at present;

(d) whether the forest cover has been receding since last five years;

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

(f) the number of trees planted in each State alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period;

(g) the details of the afforestation programmes including aerial seeding implemented both by the Centre and States with/without foreign assistance and the total expenditure incurred thereon alongwith achievements made in this regard during the said period, State-wise;

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment & Forests have formulated National Forestry Action Programme (NFAP), a comprehensive strategic long term plan for the next twenty years to address the issues underlying the major problems of the forestry sector in line with the National Forest Policy, 1988. The objective of the NFAP is to bring 33% of the geographical area of the country under forest/tree cover and to arrest de-forestation for achieving sustainable development of forests. The NFAP is a compilation of the State Forestry Action Programmes formulated by the State/Union Territory Governments.

(b) The National Forestry Action Programme has five main components. They are: Protect Existing Forest Resources, Improve Forest Productivity, Reduce Total Demand, Strengthen Policy and Institutional Framework and Expand Forest Area.

The implementation of National Forest Action Programme requires huge financial resources and it is estimated that Rs. 133903 crores would be required in the next twenty years to bring one third of the area of the country under forest/tree cover.

(c) The details regarding the extent of forest cover in each State with respect to their total area at present are given in enclosed Statement-I.

(d) No Sir. Though the forest cover has receded from 638,879 sq. kms in 1995 to 633,397 sq. kms in 1997, it has increased to 637,293 sq. kms in 1999 as per the assessment report of Forest Survey of India.

(e) the details regarding forest cover in each State since 1995 are given in enclosed statement-II.

(f) and (g) The tree planting/afforestation activities are monitored under Point No. 16 of 20 Point Programme. The Statewise/Yearwise targets and achievements for afforestation/tree planting activities for the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in Statement-III. The Statewise/Yearwise targets and achievements for afforestation/tree planting activities for the years 1997-98 to 2000-01 are given in Statement-IV. The details of funds earmarked and actual amount spent for afforestation during 8th Plan period are given in Statement-V. The figures for 9th Plan period have not yet been compiled. No aerial seeding programme has been taken up during the last five years.

**Statement-I**

State/UT	(sq. km)	
	Geographic area	Forest cover
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	275,068	44,229
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	68,847
Assam	78,438	23,688
Bihar	173,877	26,474
Goa	3,702	1,251
Gujarat	196,024	12,965
Haryana	44,212	964
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	13,082
Jammu & Kashmir	222,235	20,441
Karnataka	191,791	32,467
Kerala	38,863	10,323

	1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	443,446	131,830	
Maharashtra	307,690	46,672	
Manipur	22,327	17,384	
Meghalaya	22,429	15,633	
Mizoram	21,081	18,338	
Nagaland	16,579	14,164	
Orissa	155,707	47,033	
Punjab	50,362	1,412	
Rajasthan	342,239	13,871	
Sikkim	7,096	3,118	
Tamil Nadu	130,058	17,078	
Tripura	10,486	5,745	
Uttar Pradesh	294,411	34,016	
West Bengal	88,752	8,362	
A & N Islands	8,249	7,606	
Chandigarh	114	7	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	202	
Daman & Diu	112	3	
Delhi	1,483	88	
Lakshadweep	32	0	
Pondicherry	493	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,287,263</b>	<b>637,293.</b>	

**Statement-II**

State/UT	(in sq. kms.)		
	1995	1997	1999
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	47,112	43,290	44,229
Arunachal Pradesh	68,621	68,602	68,847
Assam	24,061	23,824	23,688
Bihar	26,561	26,524	26,474

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Delhi	26	26	88	Orissa	47,107	46,941	47,033
Goa	1,250	1,252	1,251	Punjab	1,342	1,387	1,412
Gujarat	12,320	12,578	12,965	Rajasthan	13,280	13,353	13,871
Haryana	603	604	964	Sikkim	3,127	3,129	3,118
Himachal Pradesh	12,501	12,521	13,082	Tamil Nadu	17,045	17,064	17,078
Jammu & Kashmir	20,433	20,440	20,441	Tripura	5,538	5,546	5,745
Karnataka	32,382	32,403	32,467	Uttar Pradesh	33,986	33,994	34,016
Kerala	10,336	10,334	10,323	West Bengal	8,276	8,349	8,362
Madhya Pradesh	135,164	131,195	131,830	A & N Islands	7,615	7,613	7,606
Maharashtra	43,843	46,143	46,672	Chandigarh	7	7	7
Manipur	17,558	17,418	17,384	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	204	204	202
Meghalaya	15,714	15,657	15,633	Daman & Diu	-	3	3
Mizoram	18,576	18,775	18,338	Lakshadweep	-	-	0
Nagaland	14,291	14,221	14,164	Pondicherry	-	-	0
				<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>638,879</b>	<b>633,397</b>	<b>637,293</b>

**Statement-III**

S.No.	State	1995-96				1996-97			
		Targets		Achievement		Target		Achievements	
		Seedlings Distrib- ution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)						
1.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1100.00	45000.00	1436.40	75782.00	1100.00	50000.00	1425.30	114667.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	9078.00	7.00	9078.00	6.00	9500.00	6.00	6613.00
3.	Assam	27.50	27500.00	27.09	16497.00	25.00	27500.00	48.68	18517.70
4.	Bihar	825.00	55000.00	161.20	5423.00	500.00	40000.00	78.50	9296.00
5.	Goa	38.50	2090.00	25.72	1327.00	30.00	1800.00	23.00	1351.00
6.	Gujarat	1650.00	59400.00	1707.65	67101.73	1908.00	65567.00	2110.20	89393.00
7.	Haryana	250.00	29700.00	51.94	33438.00	200.00	32000.00	73.73	23235.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	22.00	26200.00	35.74	29976.00	20.00	28000.00	26.98	27503.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.00	22000.00	60.51	23000.00	60.00	24000.00	59.85	24927.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	Karnataka*	495.00	52800.00	310.88	65712.00	400.00	65000.00	235.75	60637.00
11.	Kerala	330.00	17600.00	45.40	15302.49	180.00	19000.00	45.46	15168.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	495.00	148500.00	599.22	156553.45	450.00	150000.00	169.88	117623.00
13.	Maharashtra	1100.00	133100.00	1017.96	120139.00	1150.00	126000.00	943.83	100327.91
14.	Manipur	33.00	11000.00	11.85	9105.00	25.00	12000.00	15.50	12230.00
15.	Meghalaya	82.50	22000.00	87.98	3274.00	40.00	18000.00	47.80	1622.00
16.	Mizoram	22.00	19800.00	22.49	12205.00	22.00	19800.00	67.59	9327.00
17.	Nagaland	82.50	8250.00	74.70	44.00	60.00	8000.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	330.00	79200.00	576.02	112110.00	300.00	79000.00	811.88	93371.00
19.	Punjab	49.50	18700.00	80.16	10526.00	52.00	20000.00	88.56	8825.00
20.	Rajasthan	330.00	86900.00	388.32	95280.00	380.00	76550.00	399.41	83440.00
21.	Sikkim	22.00	10120.00	25.00	10120.00	22.00	11000.00	22.00	9586.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1100.00	82500.00	1112.10	92208.00	1100.00	85000.00	1104.64	73501.00
23.	Tripura	23.65	8500.00	21.72	12078.59	23.00	10000.00	41.19	9034.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2000.00	101200.00	2285.43	84326.97	2200.00	110000.00	2121.24	2790.00
25.	West Bengal	833.80	41800.00	681.19	38509.00	825.00	44000.00	556.00	21500.00
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	5.00	3300.00	5.40	3831.00	5.00	3300.00	5.05	4019.86
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	495.00	0.00	140.00	0.10	500.00	0.19	666.00
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15.95	1100.00	13.85	980.00	16.00	1000.00	10.00	300.00
29.	Daman & Diu	1.10	165.00	1.93	41.00	2.00	100.00	3.18	3.00
30.	Delhi	15.00	500.00	26.81	1072.00	25.00	1000.00	23.42	936.00
31.	Lakshadweep	4.51	66.00	4.62	69.00	5.00	72.00	4.22	62.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.40	220.00	5.71	182.00	5.00	78.00	5.15	78.33
<b>Total</b>		<b>11354.91</b>	<b>1123784.00</b>	<b>10911.99</b>	<b>1105431.23</b>	<b>11136.10</b>	<b>1137797.00</b>	<b>10574.18</b>	<b>1030549.80</b>

## Statement-IV

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	1997-98						1998-99				Area in Hectares Seedlings in lakhs	
		Target		Achievements		Target		Achievements		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1100.00	50000	2027.29	135185.00	1100.00	55000	2040.64	160881.00				
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	10000	16.00	6317.00	7.00	10000	3.85	729.00				
3.	Assam	25.00	27000	25.00	3642.00	25.00	27000	25.00	5963.00				
4.	Bihar	500.00	40000	110.33	14222.00	500.00	40000	148.30	10177.00				
5.	Goa	30.00	1800	13.74	1123.36	30.00	1800	11.13	777.00				
6.	Gujarat	1900.00	65000	1919.04	62866.00	1900.00	70000	1920.00	70414.00				
7.	Haryana	200.00	32000	33.57	17931.00	200.00	32000	35.82	17905.00				
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	30000	30.38	28000.00	20.00	30000	39.05	31300.00				
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.00	24000	60.00	22125.00	60.00	24000	91.16	16323.00				
10.	Karnataka	400.00	65000	256.35	52423.05	400.00	68000	613.93	93028.00				
11.	Kerala	180.00	19000	10.98	3350.00	180.00	19000	1.22	21187.00				
12.	Madhya Pradesh	450.00	150000	457.73	139211.00	450.00	150000	475.62	188216.00				
13.	Maharashtra	1150.00	126000	938.02	91910.23	1150.00	126000	837.99	92288.46				
14.	Manipur	25.00	12000	7.06	4403.00	25.00	12000	16.45	6197.00				
15.	Meghalaya	40.00	18000	71.33	3978.00	40.00	18000	39.00	2324.00				
16.	Mizoram	22.00	19800	10.97	8589.00	22.00	19800	7.41	6450.00				
17.	Nagaland	60.00	8000			60.00	8000	0.00	0.00				
18.	Orissa	300.00	29000	436.70	83825.00	300.00	87000	234.12	62243.00				
19.	Punjab	52.00	20000	65.86	5046.00	52.00	20000	49.92	10439.00				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20.	Rajasthan	400.00	83000	370.64	58166.00	400.00	85000	385.17	65651.00
21.	Sikkim	22.00	11000	22.58	9966.86	22.00	11000	15.20	6254.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1100.00	85000	1146.10	94325.00	1100.00	90000	498.51	122650.00
23.	Tripura	40.00	10000	78.58	8650.00	40.00	10000	28.50	8903.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2200.00	110000	1977.70	88052.00	2200.00	110000	1620.73	93167.91
25.	West Bengal	825.00	44000	228.00	18285.00	825.00	44000	203.00	7901.00
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	5.00	4500	1.38	3462.00	5.00	4700	1.70	3304.18
27.	Chandigarh	0.10	500	0.56	66.00	0.10	500	0.47	103.00
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	16.00	1000	7.00	300.00	16.00	1000	3.20	310.00
29.	Daman & Diu	2.00	50	0.40	138.00	2.00	50	0.03	4.00
30.	Delhi	25.00	1000	3.64		25.00	1000	20.92	0.00
31.	Lakshadweep	5.00	75	1.97	22.00	5.00	75	5.00	90.00
32.	Pondicherry	5.00	75	6.73	58.71	5.00	75	4.82	96.12
Total		11166.10	1146800	10335.63	965638.15	11166.16	1175000	9377.86	1105275.67
National Area in M.ha.			1.21		1.48		1.73		1.57
12000 Seedlings = 1ha.									

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	1999-2000			2000-2001				
		Target	Achievements*	Target	Achievements*				
		Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)	Seedlings Distribution (For planting on pvt. lands)	Area (Public lands including forest lands)		
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2000.00	150000	2962.15	226165.00	2200.00	170000	3199.62	178825.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	10000	6.00	1542.00	7.00	10000	0.44	0.00

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
3.	Assam	25.00	27000	24.46	8483.00	35.00	27000	8.24	3801.00
4.	Bihar	500.00	40000	160.65	16258.00	500.00	40000	28.37	796.00
5.	Goa	10.00	600	8.32	710.00	10.00	600	6.75	304.50
6.	Gujarat	1900.00	70000	1922.88	68152.00	1900.00	75000	1078.98	57750.00
7.	Haryana	200.00	32000	36.74	12236.00	100.00	20000	2392.00	8550.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	30000	20.66	30510.00	10.00	25000	6.33	14484.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.00	24000	26.50	14310.00	80.00	24000		
10.	Karnataka	500.00	90000	757.60	94512.25	700.00	100000	658.11	55949.79
11.	Kerala	180.00	19000	2.87	10214.00	180.00	20000		3223.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	450.00	150000	853.00	316108.00	450.00	165000		
13.	Maharashtra	1150.00	126000	856.32	99068.25	900.00	126000	636.15	69125.94
14.	Manipur	25.00	12000	12.06	6425.00	25.00	12000		
15.	Meghalaya	40.00	18000	28.85	244.00	60.00	12000	6.19	200.00
16.	Mizoram	22.00	19800	42.68	4270.00	22.00	12000	8.94	5946.00
17.	Nagaland	60.00	8000	0.00	0.00	60.00	1000		
18.	Orissa	300.00	87000	66.36	71428.00	300.00	100000	314.84	38472.00
19.	Punjab	52.00	20000	41.09	15796.00	65.00	20000	30.40	18620.00
20.	Rajasthan	400.00	85000	310.72	36298.00	400.00	60000	236.31	25011.00
21.	Sikkim	22.00	11000	22.11	11106.00	25.00	11000		
22.	Tamil Nadu	1100.00	120000	1461.45	267074.00	1100.00	120000	25.91	22822.00
23.	Tripura	40.00	10000	22.48	7241.58	40.00	10000	15.35	3354.65
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2200.00	110000	2017.03	93967.00	2200.00	110000	436.00	60491.00
25.	West Bengal	825.00	44000	110.00	8000.00	825.00	44000		
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	2.00	3500	0.73	3374.95	2.00	3500	0.93	3094.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.10	100	0.50	100.00	0.10	100	0.04	130.40
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.00	300	5.00	370.00	5.00	300	5.00	466.00

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
29.	Daman & Diu	0.25	30	0.40	17.00	0.25	30	0.01	0.00
30.	Delhi	25.00	1000	25.57	80.00	25.00	1000	13.00	
31.	Lakshadweep	5.00	75	5.03	85.00	5.00	75		
32.	Pondicherry	5.00	75	4.96	69.26	5.00	75	1.53	40.13
<b>Total</b>		<b>12130.35</b>	<b>1318480</b>	<b>11814.13</b>	<b>414214.29</b>	<b>12236.35</b>	<b>1319680</b>	<b>9109.44</b>	<b>571450.41</b>
National Area in M.ha.			1.92		2.01		1.93		1.03
12000 Seedlings = 1ha.									

\*Tentative

**Statement-V**

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		Total	
		Allocation	Expen- diture										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2510.5	3671.2	1051.5	913.7	579.6	468.6	810.8	735.2	1093.9	986.3	6046.2	6774.9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	434.6	429.2	506.0	489.1	620.1	583.6	699.0	664.8	672.0	672.0	2931.7	2838.7
3.	Assam	1520.0	703.1	1890.2	1591.3	1861.6	1632.8	1832.0	1587.6	1671.7	1541.8	8775.5	7056.6
4.	Bihar	2112.5	1864.7	1480.3	1310.1	1157.7	842.9	1286.8	881.7	1603.3	1142.3	7640.5	6041.6
5.	Goa	157.0	128.2	217.0	208.0	254.0	251.0	259.0	256.6	325.3	325.9	1212.2	1169.8
6.	Gujarat	6713.9	6663.9	4865.4	4359.0	4976.5	4941.1	6888.5	6741.3	11390.1	10240.1	34634.4	32945.6
7.	Haryana	4576.6	3940.4	3717.0	3691.3	3650.3	3587.7	4229.6	4011.5	3885.0	3734.0	20058.4	18964.9
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4746.0	4536.7	2735.4	2735.4	3055.0	3035.0	3401.4	3401.4	2429.0	2436.9	16366.8	16145.4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1796.0	931.6	1734.0	1598.2	1647.6	1618.5	2056.4	2072.7	1576.1	1506.6	8810.0	7727.6
10.	Karnataka	6157.9	5844.5	1734.7	1598.2	1647.6	1618.5	2056.4	2072.7	1576.1	1506.6	13172.7	12640.6
11.	Kerala	1215.0	1261.2	170.0	168.2	297.0	316.3	360.0	480.5	673.0	688.7	2715.0	2914.9

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12. Madhya Pradesh	5513.0	5884.0	5177.2	4529.0	5031.9	4474.3	4302.1	4012.3	4400.2	4304.0	24424.4	23203.6		
13. Maharashtra	7624.1	6321.1	10660.6	10348.4	11482.8	10971.4	9647.5	9390.2	12393.1	12077.6	51808.2	49108.7		
14. Manipur	573.7	308.6	232.2	231.6	315.7	331.4	391.0	318.3	359.3	321.0	1871.8	1510.8		
15. Meghalaya	1164.1	1196.9	1136.0	801.3	1062.0	574.7	851.2	607.1	721.4	387.7	4934.7	3567.8		
16. Mizoram	870.0	980.6	1036.1	1030.3	944.2	944.1	797.0	718.5	740.4	740.4	4387.7	4413.8		
17. Nagaland	155.4	69.5	235.0	188.1	237.0	44.0	231.0	113.8	248.7	239.1	1107.0	654.4		
18. Orissa	4208.0	3842.9	2641.8	2064.1	1677.2	1464.9	1484.6	1296.9	682.0	850.5	10693.6	9529.2		
19. Punjab	1159.5	1903.2	1101.9	1055.9	903.1	889.4	985.3	975.5	977.1	774.6	5126.8	5598.6		
20. Rajasthan	9583.0	9390.4	11727.4	10804.0	16289.3	15211.2	18842.7	17850.4	15653.9	14678.1	72096.3	67934.1		
21. Sikkim	383.9	436.6	646.0	645.4	975.0	974.5	463.0	462.5	656.0	656.1	3123.9	3175.1		
22. Tamil Nadu	4640.7	5111.1	4768.0	5229.0	5081.0	5341.0	4920.0	4966.0	5384.0	4110.0	24793.7	24757.1		
23. Tripura	1158.0	978.2	90.6	75.4	65.6	68.2	25.6	30.9	50.0	62.9	1389.8	1215.6		
24. Uttar Pradesh	6790.2	9174.8	6060.6	6028.8	6259.6	6199.5	7438.7	7416.1	8762.7	8760.7	35311.7	37580.1		
25. West Bengal	2880.0	3618.2	2128.3	2670.2	4437.2	3160.7	4306.0	3575.6	4953.4	4933.0	18704.9	17957.8		
26. Andaman & Nicobar	116.3	113.0	115.7	127.6	127.5	134.7	135.8	143.7	143.0	138.5	638.2	657.5		
27. Chandigarh	30.0	39.0	50.0	50.0	45.5	45.5	22.0	22.0	17.0	17.0	164.5	173.5		
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	97.2	138.0	184.2	184.2	191.2	191.2	128.3	128.3	131.1	130.6	732.0	772.2		
29. Daman & Diu	13.0	15.0	13.3	13.3	17.0	17.0	17.0	15.6	18.3	18.3	78.5	79.2		
30. Delhi	281.0	193.3	164.1	161.3	187.0	186.7	215.6	216.1	264.3	263.5	1131.9	1020.9		
31. Lakshadweep	16.0	16.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.0	16.0		
32. Pondicherry	91.3	106.8	72.0	72.0	99.0	99.0	104.5	95.5	111.3	120.0	478.1	493.3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>79288.0</b>	<b>79811.6</b>	<b>68362.4</b>	<b>64972.5</b>	<b>75175.7</b>	<b>70219.4</b>	<b>79188.6</b>	<b>75261.4</b>	<b>83562.3</b>	<b>78374.9</b>	<b>385577.0</b>	<b>368639.8</b>		

[English]

**Decline in Ground Water Level****Statement**

3166. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ground water table in many States including Punjab and Haryana has been falling rapidly;

(b) if so, the areas of land affected, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to arrest the falling water table and recharge the ground water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country, including, Punjab and Haryana. The names of the States/districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1980-99) has been observed are indicated in the attached Statement. Information about the area of land affected by the fall in level of ground water is not maintained by the Central Ground Water Board.

(c) Water being a State subject, steps to augment ground water resources are primarily taken by the concerned State Governments. The action taken by the Union Government to check the decline in ground water level include:

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". Ground water recharge structures were constructed in Kurukshetra area of Haryana, Union Territory of Chandigarh and Sangrur, Jalandhar, Moga and Patiala districts of Punjab.
- (ii) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (iii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/ Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iv) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

*Name of the State/District having pockets with fall in Ground Water level of more than 4 metre (1980-99)*

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

[Translation]

**Public Call Office**

3167. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of PCOs functioning in the Ranchi region of Jharkhand and Bheruch region of Gujarat;

(b) the number of applications lying pending for installation of PCO in those regions;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Sir, 1987 and 1989 PCOs are functioning in the Ranchi region of Jharkhand and Bharuch region of Gujarat respectively.

(b) No application is lying pending for installation of PCO in these regions.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to Part (b).

#### **New Telephone Tariff Scheme**

3168. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint that the recently introduced local call tariff scheme upto 200 kms is ineffective even for upto 90-100 kms;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by the Government to improve the said scheme;

(d) whether various STD/PCO booth operators have submitted a representation of their demands to the Government against making STD call into local call upto a distance of 200 kms;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. No such complaint has been received.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Representations from STD/PCO both operators have been received against making STD call on local dialing without "0" up to a distance of 200 Kms.

(f) Presently, STD/PCO operators are allowed to collect service charge up to Rs. 2/- on each successful STD/ISD Call. Such charge is not leviable on local calls and inter SDCA Calls charged on 180sec. pulse rate. These orders are still valid. The representations from STD/PCO both operators are under examination.

#### **Sports Schemes of Gujarat**

3169. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any Centrally sponsored scheme related to sports activities being implemented in States;

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

(c) the amount allocated under the said scheme to each State during last two years and the amount proposed to be allotted to States during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Government of India is implementing the following centrally sponsored schemes for promotion of sports and games:

1. Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools;
2. Rural Sports Programme;
3. Sports Scholarship Schemes;
4. National Championship for Women;
5. Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure;
6. Grants for Promotion of Sports in Colleges and Universities;
7. Grant for Installation of Synthetic Playing Surfaces;
8. National Welfare Fund for Sports persons;
9. Sports Funds for Pension to Meritorious Sports Persons;
10. Special Award to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches;
11. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award;
12. Arjuna Award;
13. Dronacharya Award;
14. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy.

(c) Grants are not allocated State-wise. Financial assistance is sanctioned to different States/UTs on the basis of viable proposals received from them under various schemes. However, grants released to various States/UTs during the last two years are given in enclosed statement.

**Statement***[English]***Satellite Imagery of Forest Cover**

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13,50,000	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15,00,000	Nil
3.	Assam	15,50,000	16,00,875
4.	Bihar	40,57,334	Nil
5.	Goa	Nil	3,00,000
6.	Gujarat	10,80,000	84,54,800
7.	Haryana	20,80,600	Nil
8.	Himachal Pradesh	29,74,820	18,00,000
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	9,00,000	97,775
10.	Karnataka	37,39,350	83,15,850
11.	Kerala	2,04,300	15,39,518
12.	Madhya Pradesh	37,50,000	41,47,000
13.	Maharashtra	44,50,000	44,04,800
14.	Manipur	Nil	23,50,000
15.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil
16.	Mizoram	21,54,900	Nil
17.	Nagaland	76,00,000	1,10,00,000
18.	Orissa	Nil	Nil
19.	Punjab	Nil	2,24,72,000
20.	Rajasthan	5,21,800	5,59,150
21.	Sikkim	Nil	31,606
22.	Tamil Nadu	60,650	37,43,915
23.	Tripura	4,00,000	80,95,500
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15,00,000	43,50,000
25.	West Bengal	12,96,000	Nil
26.	Delhi	8,11,000	16,00,000
<b>UTs</b>			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3,00,000	Nil
2.	Chandigarh	2,00,000	Nil
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil
4.	Daman & Diu	Nil	3,00,000
5.	Pondicherry	4,00,000	Nil
6.	Lakshadweep	Nil	2,00,000

3170. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :  
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :  
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :  
SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN :

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

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey/satellite imagery of forest cover in the country;

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

(c) whether forest cover is fast declining in some of the States;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to enhance forest cover in the said areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Forest Survey of India is assessing forest cover of the country since 1987 using satellite data. AS per the latest State of Forest Report 1999, forest cover of the country has increased from 6,33,397 Sq. km to 6,37,293 Sq. km. in the period from 1996 to 1998. During this period the forest cover has increased in 17 States and decreased in 12 States/UTs. State-wise details are given in enclosed statement.

(e) Various important actions taken by the Government for conservation and development of forests are as under:

(i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State/UT Governments from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India

(ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forests.

(iii) Guidelines issued to all State/UT Governments to involve village communities in protection and regeneration of degraded forests.

(iv) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest lands.

(v) A new work of protected areas has been established.

(vi) Recently, Ministry has prepared a National Forestry Action Programme to enhance the contribution of forestry and tree resources for ecological stability and people centered

development through improvement in investment for conservation and development of forest resources.

**Statement**

*Comparative account of forest cover of States/UTs as per 1997 and 1999 assessments*

State/UT	Forest cover as per State of Forest Report 1997 (sq. km.)	Forest cover as per State of Forest Report 1999 (sq. km.)	Change (sq. km.)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	43,290	44,229	939
Arunachal Pradesh	68,602	68,847	245
Assam	23,824	23,688	-136
Bihar	26,524	26,474	-50
Goa	1,252	1,251	-1
Gujarat	12,578	12,965	387
Haryana	604	964	360
Himachal Pradesh	12,521	13,082	561
Jammu & Kashmir	20,440	20,441	1
Karnataka	32,403	32,467	64
Kerala	10,334	10,323	-11
Madhya Pradesh	131,195	131,830	635
Maharashtra	46,143	46,672	529
Manipur	17,418	17,384	-34
Meghalaya	15,657	15,633	-24
Mizoram	18,775	18,338	-437
Nagaland	14,221	14,164	-57
Orissa	46,941	47,033	92
Punjab	1,387	1,412	25
Rajasthan	13,353	13,871	518
Sikkim	3,129	3,118	-11
Tamil Nadu	17,064	17,078	14
Tripura	5,546	5,745	199
Uttar Pradesh	33,994	34,016	22
West Bengal	8,349	8,362	13

	1	2	3	4
A & N Islands		7,613	7,606	-7
Chandigarh		7	7	0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli		204	202	-2
Daman & Diu		3	3	0
Delhi		26	88	62
Lakshadweep*		-	-	-
Pondicherry*		-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>633,397</b>	<b>637,293</b>	<b>3,896</b>

\*No discernible forest cover.

**Ecological Imbalance in Western Ghat**

3171. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing ecological imbalance in Western Ghat;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for the same; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the ecology of Western Ghat?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Western Ghats are characterised by unique and distinct geology, topography, climate, ecology, species richness and endemism, and are considered ecologically sensitive. Recognising the ecological importance of Western Ghats, the Planning Commission, Government of India is implementing the Western Ghat Development Programme. This programme has an integrated development approach based on compact watershed basin, eco-development and meeting the basic needs of people for food, fodder, fuel and safe drinking water. Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing a number of programmes for conservation of rich biological diversity of the region. These programmes, *inter-alia*, include survey and identification of floral and faunal species; *in-situ* conservation through protected area network consisting of Wildlife Sanctuaries, National Parks and Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

**Cellphone Towers**

3172. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private cellular companies have

installed towers on high rise buildings violating the norms as reported in *Statesman* dated February 23, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) The Newspaper Report is about Cellphone Towers in the capital city of Delhi. As per information received from Cellular Operators Association of India, all private cellular operators have installed towers only after taking requisite approvals. The Technical Committee of Delhi Development Authority (DDA) considering the technological needs, have decided to allow the installation of temporary structures on roof tops for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service, however, this being a commercial activity, it may not be permitted in residential areas.

[Translation]

#### **Scheme for attracting Air Passenger**

3173. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
DR. ASHOK PATEL :  
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the share of National Airlines in air traffic has come down during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to launch gift plan like "Fly Smile" scheme for attracting air passengers towards National Airlines as launched by Air Sahara and other private service operators;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) As per the available air market data for three years period upto 1999, the share of the national airlines (i.e. Air India, Indian Airlines and AI/IC Joint venture operations) in the passenger air market to/from India has increased marginally.

(c) to (e) Air India has a frequent flyer programme jointly with Indian Airlines. Additionally, in response to market trends, needs and competitors activities, suitable promotional plans are periodically designed and launched. At present Indian Airlines has no plan to launch gift scheme like Fly Smile for attracting air passengers.

#### **Decline in Ground Water Level**

3174. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN :  
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ground water level is rapidly declining in many States in the country;

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

(c) the fall registered on an average in ground water level in each State in the country during the last five years, year-wise;

(d) the present storage capacity of rain and river water in each State, separately;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any National Ground Water Conservation Policy; and

(f) if so, the extent to which it has been successful in recharging water level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 meters (1981-2000) has been observed in these States are indicated in the attached Statement. Fall at the rate of 20 cm/year has been observed in certain parts of the country in different States on an average

(d) India receives an average annual precipitation of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which includes rainfall and snow. Out of this, 3,000 BCM occurs during the monsoon. The average annual flow in various rivers of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. Out of this, utilisable flow by conventional methods is estimated at 690 BCM. In addition, about 200 to 250 BCM can be utilised through interbasin water transfer from the surplus river basins to the deficit river basins

A live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created by construction of large dams and medium projects upto 1995. Projects to add an additional capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and 132 BCM are under planning. It has also been estimated that about 24 BCM of rain water is stored in 3.5 lakh minor irrigation tanks. Further, 432 BCM of ground water is replenishable out of which, 154 BCM is being used.

Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. An assessment of the total quantity of rain water harvested through these means is not made.

(e) and (f) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. However, various programmes of the Central Government for water conservation and augmenting ground water resources are indicated below:

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme on Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. Recharging wells and rain water harvesting are integral part of this scheme. The results of the scheme have been found to be very encouraging.
- (v) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR)
- (vi) Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Project.
- (vii) Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR)
- (viii) Watershed Development Project for control of shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA) in North-Eastern India.
- (ix) Drought Phone Area Programme (DPAP)
- (x) Desert Development Programme (DDP)
- (xi) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP)

These programmes are implemented nation-wide.

### Statement

*Name of the State/District having pockets with fall in Ground Water level of more than 4 metre (1981-2000)*

State	Fall in Water Level
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddy, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.
Bihar (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum
Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi.
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskanta, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar.
Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar.
Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bedar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kopal, Tumkur, Uttar Kanada.
Madhya Pradesh	Bhiwani, Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chindwara, Damoh, Datia, Devas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nasik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhaddara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jaina, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani.

1	2
	Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangali, Sindhudurg, Thanesatara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Algaon, Satara.
Orissa	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nawapada, Nowrangpur, Sundargarh, Suvamapur.
Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Fatehgarh, Ferozpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Durgapur, Gangnagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalwar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajamand, Sikar, Udaipur.
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pondicherry, Pudukkottai, Sivaganga, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamali, Tiruvarur, Tuticorin.
Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Badaun, Bijnor, Bulandshar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Raibareli, Sharanpur, Unnao.
West Bengal	Bankura, Barddhaman, Medinipur, N-24 Parganas, Purulia.

[English]

### Shamshabad Airport

3175. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds sanctioned for the construction of International Airport at Shamshabad in Hyderabad; and

(b) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) As per Memorandum of Understanding signed between them, the Airports

Authority of India and Government of Andhra Pradesh will select a private Joint Venture Partner (JVP), together with whom the project for construction of an International Airport at Shamshabad will be taken up. The State Government is in the process of selection and induction of the private Joint Venture Partner (JVP) to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the project. Since the project is at a preliminary stage, no definite fund requirements can be sanctioned at this stage, nor a specific time frame given for the completion of the project.

### Committee on NRC

3176. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a national committee to run National Reconstruction Corps (NRC);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria adopted for selection of the members; and

(c) the objects of the NRC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The National Reconstruction Corps Scheme provides for constitution of a National Steering Committee (NSC). A copy of the constitution as provided under the scheme is given in enclosed statement. The composition of the committee is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) The primary objective of National Reconstruction Corps Scheme, *inter-alia*, is to provide an opportunity to youth to participate in the process of nation building, to work for and with the community, to understand the problems of real life, and utilize their skills and knowledge to bring about a socio-economic transformation of our society and nation.

### Statement

#### Composition of the National Steering Committee

1. Minister of State (Youth Affairs and Sports) Government of India-Chairperson-Ex-office	1
2. Eminent Social Worker, Vice-Chairperson	1
3. Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India-Ex-officio	1
4. Minister of State, Govt. of India-Rural Development Minister of State, Govt. of India-Urban Development Minister	3

- of State, Govt. of India-Social Justice and Empowerment-Ex-officio
5. Minister of State in-charge of Youth Affairs in State Govts. (One from each region by rotation)-Ex-officio 6
6. Secretary to the Government of India for the Department of Women & Child Development, Education, Non-Conventional Energy, Environment & Forests, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Agriculture & Cooperation, Water Resources, Health & Family Welfare, Science & Technology, Labour-Ex-officio 10
7. Vice Chairman, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan-Ex-officio 1
8. Director General-NYKS, Member Secretary-Ex-officio 1
9. Member of Parliament Lok Sabha 2  
Rajya Sabha 1 3
10. Youth Representatives (One would be a Woman) 2
11. NGO Representative 1
12. Permanent invitee Honorary Adviser, NRC (Member of National Executive Committee) 1

#### **Cheligada Dam Project**

3177. SHRI ANADI SAHU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have cleared the Cheligada Dam Project of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Cheligada Dam Project has been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources in its 74th meeting held on 20 September 2000, subject to observations pertaining to clearance for diversion of forest land and resettlement & rehabilitation plans, concurrence of State finance and monitoring of Ground Water.

(c) The completion period of project depends on various factors such as its size, availability of land, obtaining clearances from various Central Approving

Agencies by the State Government, geological conditions etc. Equally important are funds allotted by the State Government to individual projects.

#### **Diversion of Bhima River to Sina River**

3178. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal in regard to diversion of 8 tmc water from Bhima river to Sina river has since been cleared by the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Maharashtra Government has also submitted the project report in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) The project proposal regarding diversion of water from Bhima river to Sina river has not yet been received in the Central Water Commission from the Government of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

#### **Rural Telephone Exchanges**

3179. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges out of order in Bihar particularly in Bettiah at present, district-wise alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to make them functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) All exchanges numbering 869 in Bihar are working alright except 5 exchanges which are locally OK, but media is out of order. Details are given as under:

S.No.	Name of District	Number of exchanges where media is out of order
1.	Nawada	2
2.	West Champaran (Bettiah)	1
3.	Jamui	1
4.	Kaimur	1
Total		5

(b) Work is in progress to provide reliable transmission media to these places.

[English]

#### **Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Assam**

3180. SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up electronic telephone exchanges in Mangaldoi, Sipajhar, Tangla, Khampetia and Udalguri regions of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Electronic telephone exchanges are already functioning at Mangaldoi, Sipajhar, Tangla, Kharupetia (there is no place named Khampetia in Assam) and Udalguri. Further, electronic exchanges are planned to be set up at Hatigarh during 2000-2001 and Sonua, Baharahampur & Mahlipara during 2001-2002.

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

[Translation]

#### **Indian Labour in USA**

3181. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether labour laws of India are not acceptable to USA;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether USA has imposed non-duty restrictions on the exports of labours from Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the reasons for such restrictions;

(e) whether the Union Government and State Governments propose to amend the labour laws to tackle such restrictions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) No communication has been received from USA against labour laws of India.

(c) to (f) For persons going to USA, emigration check is not required. To that extent, Entigration Act is not applicable to persons visiting USA.

#### **Storage Capacity of Rivers**

3182. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan to deepen the river beds to increase the capacity of rivers beds to increase the capacity of rivers to check soil erosion and arrest the decline in the water table;

(b) if so, the names of the rivers selected for the purpose; and

(c) the salient features of the scheme and the total amount incurred on it as on December, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No scheme to deepen river beds to increase the capacity of river to check soil erosion and arrest the decline in the water table, has been formulated by the Ministry of Water Resources in 9th Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Norms for Industries Sealed in Delhi**

3183. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are following the prescribed environmental norms for the industries being sealed in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the first phase of sealing, the industrial units operating in the residential areas and falling in 27 categories of activities of group 'F' as per Master Plan Delhi-2001 were taken up for action. For the second phase of sealing, 33 categories of activities as recommended by a group of experts constituted by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi were taken up for action in compliance of the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 4677/1985 - M.C. Mehta Vs. Union of India and Others.

(c) Not applicable.

*[English]***Cellular Licences**

3184. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) propose to fix minimum reserve price for fourth round bidding of cellular licences;

(b) if so, whether the reserve prices are different for different regions;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to make uniformity in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful to cellular telephone operators;

(g) whether the existing basic telecom service agencies also insist on linking the reserve price with licence fee; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.

*[Translation]***Proposal for National Highway - 200A**

3185. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway No. 200A is proposed to be constructed during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocation made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir. There is no National Highway named NH-200 A.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]***Air Field Safety in Jammu and Kashmir Sector**

3186. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Commercial Pilots Association has refused to fly on the Jammu-Srinagar sector w.e.f. January, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the extent to which Indian Airlines flights on Jammu-Srinagar sector affected as a result thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to ensure the safety of the air fields at Jammu and Srinagar?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) has issued a directive to its members not to operate to Jammu and Srinagar w.e.f. 26.1.2001, unless they are provided with safe operating environment and the airfields meet the basic criteria for Jet operations. Meetings were held with ICPA and it has now withdrawn its directive on 19.2.2001. During the period, Indian Airlines scheduled flights to Jammu and Srinagar airports were being operated by the Executive Pilots of the Airlines.

(d) The navigation/landings aids available at Jammu and Srinagar, including sterilisation of approach funnel, are sufficient for safe operation of flights.

**Safety of Dams**

3187. DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV :  
SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major dams in the country located in the seismic zones;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted as to whether these dams can withstand the fury of earthquake of the magnitude to the one that struck Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the survey and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The country has been divided into

5 seismic zones depending on the intensity of earthquake likely to occur and a total of 3596 dams are located in these zones.

(b) The aseismic design of dams is governed by Bureau of Indian Standards Code 1893-1984. Some of the old dams not designed as per the current code are likely to be damaged in the event of an earthquake of the magnitude which occurred in Gujarat recently.

(c) Dams are owned and maintained by the State Governments and, it is for the State to regularly review the safety of the existing dams as per guidelines issued by the Central Water Commission. Under the World Bank aided Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project, a few dams in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan were strengthened.

#### SCs/STs in Foreign Assignments

3188. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the representations in regard to posting of persons from SCs and STs category in foreign assignments;

(b) if so, action taken thereon;

(c) the number of persons from his Ministry and its affiliated Organisations sponsored/recommended/deputed to UNO, its affiliated Organisations/other International Organisations to the above assignments as on date in different grades and persons belong to SCs and STs among them and their percentage as compared to the total such posts; and

(d) the number of persons sponsored/recommended/deputed to the above posts during the last three years and persons belonging to SCs and STs among them and their percentage as compared to the total posts filled, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) No, Sir no such representation has been received by the Ministry of Mines.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) No official from the Ministry of Mines or its two subordinate offices has been deputed or sponsored or recommended by the Ministry of Mines to United Nations Organisation, its affiliated organisations/other International Organisations during the last three years.

(d) In view of (c) above, question does not arise.

#### Punishment under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

3189. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States and Union Territories have hiked the amount of fine and punishment for offences under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to direct the remaining States and Union Territories to take similar action in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has already finalised the proposal to amend the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, in this regard.

#### Instrument Purchase at Higher Rates

3190. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1224 dated November 11, 2000 regarding instrument purchase at higher rate and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The information called for vide Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1224 dated 27.11.2000 has already been collected.

(b) and (c) In the Department of Telecommunications, the instruments normally means, telephone instruments. As such, as per the information received from the CBI, only one case, namely, RC.1(A)/94-Bhubaneswar dated 04.01.1994 was registered by CBI against Shri B.K. Jena, Assistant Director (MM), O/o the Chief General Manager Telecom, Bhubaneswar and others for alleged involvement in criminal conspiracy with some unapproved suppliers of telephones and purchase of EPBTs (Electronic Push Button Telephones) at higher rates than the prevailing rates fixed by the department. The CBI investigation

report revealed that, due to this purchase, the department suffered a loss of Rs. 26,91,000/-. After the conclusion of the CBI investigation, prosecution sanction was issued against the officials involved in this transaction and the case is under trial in the CBI Court. Major Penalty proceedings have also been initiated against them.

#### **Theft of Cables in Orissa**

3191. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of theft of cables and other equipments reported in Orissa during the last three years and as on January 31, 2000;

(b) the quantum of loss suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check such thefts in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) There are 279 cases of theft of cables and other equipments reported in Orissa during the last three years and as on January 31, 2000.

(b) The quantum of loss suffered as a result thereof is Rs. 43,22,355/-.

(c) The following measures are taken to check thefts of cables in States:

- (i) FIR lodged in theft cases.
- (ii) Co-ordination meetings are held with the Police Authorities.
- (iii) Patrolling of theft prone cable routes.

#### **Four Laning in Haryana**

3192. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a four lane road from Shahbad to Panchkula via Saha in Ambala, Ambala to Yamuna Nagar, Ambala to Hissar and Mohindergarh in Haryana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The road from Shahbad to Panchkula consists of State Road from Shahbad to Saha and NH-73 from Saha to Panchkula. The road from Ambala to Yamunanagar consists of State

Road from Ambala to Saha and NH-73 from Saha to Yamunanagar. Similarly the road from Ambala to Mohindergarh consists of NH-65 from Ambala to Hissar and State Road from Hissar to Mohindergarh. The responsibility for the development of the state roads lies with the State Government. As regards the above mentioned National Highways, there is no proposal for four laning at present.

[Translation]

#### **Setting up of Environment Commission**

3193. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Environment Commission for speedy disposal of environmental issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Forestry Disputes and Death of Animals/Birds**

3194. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the forestry disputes between Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal alongwith the action taken by the Union Government to resolve the matter;

(b) the number of animals or birds that have been killed illegally in different National Parks in each of the State since the formation of Uttaranchal State; and

(c) the action taken against the accused officials held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Neither the Uttaranchal Government nor the Uttar Pradesh Government have referred any forestry/wildlife inter state problem to Government of India.

(b) The details of poaching and seizure cases in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal as received from the State Governments and NGO's are given in enclosed statement.

(c) One case of alleged involvement of an officer for hunting of tiger in Pilibhit has been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation.

**Statement***Details of poaching and seizure cases in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal*

S.No.	Place	State	Date	No. of Animals Poached/Seized
1.	Corbett National Park, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	27.12.2000	1 Elephant
2.	Corbett National Park, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	29.12.2000	1 Elephant
3.	Corbett National Park, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	5.2.2001	1 Elephant
4.	Corbett National Park, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	8.2.2001	1 Elephant
5.	Corbett National Park, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	10.2.2001	1 Elephant
6.	Haridwar	Uttaranchal	16.11.2000	2 Tiger Skins and bones (Seized)
7.	Dudwa Tiger Reserve	Uttar Pradesh	25.12.2000	2 Tigers (official report shows only 1 Tiger)
8.	Gonda	Uttar Pradesh	2.1.2001	1 Tigress
9.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	15.1.2001	1 Tiger Skin (Seized)
10.	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	3.2.2001	1 Tiger
11.	Katernia-ghat WLS	Uttar Pradesh	21.2.2001	1 Tiger (bones Seized)
12.	Dudhwa Tiger Reserve	Uttar Pradesh	25.2.2001	1 Tiger Skin, 41 kgs of bones, 6 Skulls (Seized)
13.	Katernia-ghat WLS	Uttar Pradesh	25.2.2001	1 Tiger

\* (Source: State Government and Wildlife Protection Society of India)

**Unemployment Problem in Kerala**

3195. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding unemployment problem in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has any plan to transact the huge amount come from Gulf countries to Kerala to create new employment opportunities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Assessment of employment, unemployment and labour force are made on the basis of Labour Force Surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Last such survey was conducted during 1999-2000. As per the results of the survey, the unemployment rate in rural and urban areas in Kerala was of the order of 4.1% and 4.8% of the labour force respectively as per Usual Principal Status approach.

(b) and (c) Generation of employment on the whole are attempted through the Five Year Plans by the Planning Commission. The Labour Ministry do not have any plan to utilise the amounts coming from Gulf Countries to Kerala to create new employment opportunities.

**Tobacco Legislation**

3196. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to ban on use of tobacco and tobacco products through legislation;

(b) if so, whether his ministry has chalked out any plan for the fate of 11.2 million work force engaged in the production and trade of tobacco products;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the estimated number of workers likely to be deprived of this employment after passing of Anti-Tobacco Bill; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the workers engaged in the beedi industry and tobacco products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) The Government propose to prohibit advertisement of tobacco products and their sale to minors, near specified premises and smoking in public places through the 'Cigarettes and

Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill. There is no proposal to impose any ban on the production and consumption of tobacco products.

#### **Projects Relating to Labour Class**

3197. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects relating to labour class being assisted by the World Bank during the last three years;

(b) whether all those projects have since been started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) There is no ongoing project relating specifically, directly and substantially to labour class with World Bank assistance. However, one project namely "Vocational Training Project" was signed in 1989 and had closed on 31.12.1998. The World Bank had provided an assistance of SDR 189.2 million (about # 250 million) which was subsequently reduced to SDR 101.3 million. The project had supported the Ministry of Labour's long-term programme to modernize and restructure the National Vocational Training System and ultimately improve the productivity of skilled and semi skilled workers in the industrial and service sectors.

#### **Disposal of Solid Waste**

3198. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether Capital is facing problems for disposal of over 5,500 tonnes of solid waste generated daily from hospitals, industries, wholesale fish and scrap market, slaughter houses and thermal power plants and thus causing environmental pollution;

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

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government in this regard to the Delhi State;

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

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to deal with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The total municipal solid waste generated in the Capital is approximately 6000 tons per day out of which about 35 tons of waste is from the hospitals and 98 tons from slaughter houses, wholesale fish and scrap market. In addition to this, the thermal power plants generate about 5600 tons of waste per day.

(c) to (e) The Central and State Government have taken the following steps to deal with the problem of solid wastes:

(i) The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000 have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These rules provide for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, treatment, disposal and recycling of municipal solid wastes. In addition to this, steps have been taken to set up waste processing and disposal facilities including the improvement of existing landfill sites. An implementation schedule has been drawn for the same. Local authorities namely the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Council are required to comply with these rules.

(ii) The Biomedical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 provide for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of biomedical wastes. The major hospitals in Delhi have taken steps to ensure compliance with these rules.

(iii) A notification on utilization of flyash has been issued on 4th September, 1999. The fly ash generated by the power plants in Delhi is inter-alia utilized for manufacture of fly ash bricks.

(iv) The Industry Department in Delhi alongwith other agencies have identified industrial areas for ensuring proper management of industrial waste generated in Delhi.

#### **Irrigation Projects in Orissa**

3199. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of ongoing irrigation projects in Orissa in terms of the targets set and achievements made during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of fresh proposals received cleared and pending, proposal-wise;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to clear the pending proposals; and

(e) the details of irrigation projects under implementation and proposed to benefit tribal areas in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) 10 on-going irrigation projects in Orissa namely Upper Indravati, Rengali, Subernarekha, Anandpur Barrage, Upper Kolab, Titlagarh St.II, Lower Indira, Lower Suktel, Potteru and WRCP (Orissa) are being monitored by Central Water Commission. The project components are critically reviewed, bottlenecks and shortfalls identified and remedial measures suggested. During the last three years 35 monitoring visits have been conducted on these projects.

(c) and (d) Out of the proposals received from the State Government regarding 11 major and 10 medium projects, 4 major and 2 medium projects are under appraisal/correspondence with the State Government. The rest have been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations. The clearance to the pending projects is linked to the expeditious compliance of the observations of the central appraising agencies by the State Government.

(e) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of Irrigation Projects under implementation and benefiting tribal areas*

S.No.	Name of Projects	District benefited
1	2	3
<b>Major Projects</b>		
1.	Potteru	Malkangiri
2.(a)	Rengali Dam	Dhankanal, Cuttack
	(b) Rengali Irrigation	Keonjhar & Balasore
3.(a)	Upper Kolab Dam	Koraput
	(b) Upper Kolab Irrigation	Koraput
4.(a)	Upper Indravati Dam	Kalahandi
	(b) Upper Indravati Irrigation	Kalahandi, Nowrangpur
5.	Subernarekha	Balasore, Mayurbhanj
6.	Kanupur	Keonjhar & Sundergarh
<b>Medium Projects</b>		
1.	Harabhangi	Ganjam, Gajapati

1	2	3
2.	Upper Jonk	Kalhandi, Noapara
3.	Baghua Stage-II	Ganjam
4.	Badnala	Koraput, Rayagada
5.	Deo	Mayurbhanj
6.	Baghalati	Ganjam
7.	Titlagarh	Bolangir
<b>New Projects Undertaken in IX Plan Major Projects</b>		
1.	Lower Suktel	Bolangir
2.	Lower Indra	Kalahandi
<b>Medium Projects</b>		
1.	Bagh Barrage	Phulbani
2.	Telegiri	Koraput
3.	Rakura	Sundergarh

#### **Regeneration of degraded Forest Lands**

3200. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently formulated any new policy to involve village communities and voluntary agencies for regeneration of degraded forest lands;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken steps to seek their help for the development of waste-land, tree plantation, afforestation, reduction of soil erosion etc. during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the future plans of the Government with a view to give an impetus to such aspects of environment protection?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, under the major afforestation schemes of Ministry of Environment & Forests namely Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS), Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme (AOFFP), Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including medicinal plants scheme (NTFP) and Association of Schedule Tribes & Rural Poor in regeneration of degraded forests on usufruct sharing basis (ASTRP), Joint Forest Management (JFM) has been made an integral part of the scheme. Funds

are earmarked for JFM in the projects. Recently, with a view to further strengthen the participatory process, Forest Development Agencies have been initiated on a pilot basis in the country.

[Translation]

### Jobless Labourers

3201. DR. BALIRAM :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether many labourers have been rendered jobless in various States including Maharashtra following the closure of various industries and retrenchment during the last three years;

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

(c) the number of workers likely to be rendered jobless during the next two years; and

(d) the efforts made or proposed to be made by the Government till date to reemploy and rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Statement-I and II are enclosed.

(c) The information pertaining to the number of workers likely to be rendered jobless during the next two years is not maintained by Ministry of Labour.

(d) The Appropriate Governments have been taking steps to rehabilitate units wherever it has been possible for them to do so.

### Statement-I

*The State-wise number of Permanent Closures & Workers affected thereby during the years 1998, 1999 and 2000*

State/UTs	Year 1998 No. of Units	Year 1998 No. of workers Affected	Year 1999 No. of Units	Year 1999 No. of workers Affected	Year 2000 No. of Units	Year 2000 No. of workers Affected
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	2	114	1	60
Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bihar	4	219	2	90	-	-
Delhi	2	607	-	-	-	-
Goa	2	36	4	163	4	156
Gujarat	34	1067	14	272	19	659
Haryana	2	83	2	187	4	262
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	4	91
Karnataka	3	182	3	2237	8	569
Kerala	-	-	9	293	8	337
Madhya Pradesh	4	274	9	1552	-	-
Maharashtra	1	70	-	-	-	-
Orissa	13	2537	5	350	8	498
Punjab	1	1425	51	8202	-	-
Rajasthan	1	350	5	269	3	83
Tamil Nadu	7	94	2	630	2	631
Tripura	42	742	18	139	6	100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Uttar Pradesh	38	5190	13	559	-	-
West Bengal	-	-	10	463	5	426
Chandigarh	-	-	3	75	-	-
Pondicherry	21	510	5	91	17	256
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>13386</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>15686</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>4128</b>

Note 1. The information in respect of remaining States/UTs is either Nil or 'Not Available'.

- Means Nil

Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla

### Statement-II

*The State-wise number of Units affecting Retrenchment & Workers retrenched thereby during the years 1998, 1999 and 2000*

State/UTs	Year 1998 No. of Units	Year 1998 No. of workers Affected	Year 1999 No. of Units	Year 1999 No. of workers Affected	Year 2000 No. of Units	Year 2000 No. of workers Affected
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1	24	-	-
Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bihar	-	-	-	-	1	154
Delhi	2	21	-	-	-	-
Goa	-	-	1	22	1	10
Gujarat	106	1273	109	801	56	407
Haryana	3	134	2	57	1	6
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	2	20	3	62
Karnataka	-	-	-	-	1	11
Kerala	-	-	2	38	5	41
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	2	28	-	-
Maharashtra	1	104	-	-	-	-
Orissa	6	146	23	451	7	239
Punjab	-	-	2	25	2	959
Rajasthan	1	30	7	33	-	-
Tamil Nadu	1	156	4	21	-	-
Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Uttar Pradesh	5	107	4	123	-	-
West Bengal	6	36	-	-	-	-
A & N Islands	-	-	-	-	1	167
Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>1643</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>2056</b>

Note 1. The information in respect of remaining States/UTs is either Nil or 'Not Available'.

- Means Nil

Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla

[English]

### Capacity of British Airways

3202. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British Airways has decided to enhance the capacity of its freighter operations in India;

(b) if so, whether the British Airways has also decided to take off as Indian exports;

(c) whether any final agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it is likely to help India in cargo take off?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. British Airways has proposed to operate one additional freighter service w.e.f. Summer, 2001.

(b) to (d) As far as cargo flights are concerned, Government of India follows an Open Sky Policy, which allows foreign airlines to operate any number of freighter services. This policy is meant for speedy clearance of export cargo.

[Translation]

### Lease Out of Forest Land

3203. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have sent any proposal for leasing out the forest land for clearance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Madhya Pradesh Government has sent 156 proposals for diversion of forest land for various non-forestry purposes from 1998 to January, 2001. Their present status is as follow:

1. Approved	83
2. Rejected on merit	26
3. Closed for non-furnishing of wanting details by the State	17
4. Proposals withdrawn	5
5. Proposals under active consideration of the Ministry	10
6. Proposals incomplete and the State is yet to furnish wanting information	15

About 6% proposals are under process with the Ministry for final decision. The Ministry is committed to clear all such proposals, which are complete in all respects, within 90 days. About 10% proposals are incomplete and no decision could be taken on these proposals as wanting details have been sought from the State Government. As such no time limit can be fixed for clearance of projects.

[English]

### Telephones in Rural Areas

3204. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of public telephones in rural areas of Gujarat are out of order;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to made them functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Public telephones in rural areas of Gujarat are working satisfactorily.

(b) As on 3.3.2001, 438 nos. of VPTs are reported faulty due to following:

- (i) Battery problem
- (ii) Faults in RSUs & BSUs
- (iii) Massive Earthquake in Bhuj

(c) The following steps are being taken to keep the VPTs in working order:

- (i) Daily health check of Base Station
- (ii) Sample dialing
- (iii) Formation of maintenance teas for day to day maintenance
- (iv) Opening of repair centre for repair of faulty cards.
- (v) Replacement of faulty batteries

[Translation]

#### Cellular Telephones

3205. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :  
 PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
 SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH :  
 DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the per call rates charged by cellular telephone operators in the country is higher as compared to international level;

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

(c) whether the cellular telephone services have different rates for the different regions in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have fixed a maximum limit of charges of the call before granting licence to them; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the monthly rental charges of the said telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (d) Sir, tariff for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) is fixed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). The tariff for CMTS comprises of two elements i.e. air-

time and rental. In the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999 Standard Tariff Package has been specified for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service. This Standard Tariff Package must always be offered to the subscribers. At present, the Standard Tariff Package specifies Rs. 475/- (monthly rental) and Rs. 4/- (air-time) per minute for Metros, and Rs. 500/- for monthly rental and Rs. 4.50/- per minute for air-time charge in Telecom Circles. However, Cellular Service Providers generally offer alternative tariff packages in addition to the mandatory standard tariff package, subject to reporting requirement to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. The offered tariff packages change frequently depending upon the market situation. The subscriber is free to choose from among all tariff packages including the Standard Tariff Package. It is, therefore, difficult to compare packages offered by the operators in different countries. Another factor which makes a simple comparison difficult is the exchange rate of their national currencies with reference to Dollar.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. In the Licence Agreement originally granted to private cellular operators, the ceiling tariff provided for a monthly rental of Rs. 156/-, air-time charges of six calls per minute and in addition applicable charges for use of fixed network. Both the calling and the called Parties have to pay the Air-time charges. Peak and off-peak air-time charges worked out to Rs. 16.80 and Rs. 8.40 per minute respectively at the then prevailing unit call rate of Rs. 1.40/- Subsequently, TRAI fixed the tariff for cellular service as stated in Parts (a) to (d) above.

[English]

#### Teledensity in India

3206. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has the lowest teledensity in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to improve the teledensity in the country with special emphasis on the rural areas;

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The New Telecom Policy, 1999 envisages teledensity of 7 by the year 2005 and 15 by

the year 2010. It also envisages to increase the Rural teledensity to 4 by the year 2010. Government proposes to increase the Annual Plan targets for providing New Telephone Connections every year, depending on demand. The contribution from Private Sector in Mobile as well as fixed telephone connections is also envisaged in the New Telecom Policy, 1999.

(e) Question does not arise.

#### **Child Labour**

3207. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the basic facilities and infrastructure required to eliminate child labour in the country is still lagging behind;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received foreign assistance to eliminate child labour in the country during the past few years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which that foreign assistance have been spent; and

(d) the extent to which child labour have been eliminated in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Government has taken a series of steps to address the problem of child labour in the country. A National Policy on Child Labour was announced by the Government in 1987. This envisages strict enforcement of child labour related laws enforced through machinery of the Central and State level, convergence of services for the benefit of parents of child labour in order to improve their economic conditions and launching of projects in areas of high concentration of child labour which are implemented through societies set up at the District level.

India has been participating in the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) since 1992. Under the programme, funds are provided by the ILO Area Office to the implementing agencies after approval of action programmes by National Steering Committee. As per information given by the ILO, it has implemented 161 child labour projects through government/semi-government institutions, NGOs, trade unions and employers organizations. The amount distributed on projects from 1992 till date is approximately US\$ 5.0 million.

Child labour is a complex socio-economic problem, which needs sustained efforts over a long period of time. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, a gradual and sequential approach has been adopted for withdrawal from work and their rehabilitation.

[Translation]

#### **Telephone Facility**

3208. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to provide telephone facility in rural areas of Harda District;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work is likely to be completed; and

(c) the steps taken by BSNL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of the 463 villages of Harda district, VPTs (Village Public Telephones) have been provided in 340 villages by BSNL. In the remaining 123 villages, VPTs will be provided by a private operator M/s. Bharti Tele Net Limited (BTNL).

There is a rural telephone demand for about 680 telephone connections in the 68 villages of Harda district. All these VPTs and rural telephone connections will be provided by March, 2002.

(c) Following steps have been taken to provide telephone facility in the rural areas of the district:

One point to Multi Point (TDMA PMP) system for Harda has been planned and purchase order for the equipment has since been issued. The equipment is likely to be received by March, 2001.

Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system is also being planned for covering rural areas during 2001-02.

[English]

#### **Outstanding Dues**

3209. SHRI M. CHINNASAMY :  
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are a number of telephone subscribers who are to pay crores of rupees to the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) at present;

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

(c) the steps taken to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) The information has been called for and the same will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

#### **Decline in Ground Water Level**

3210. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have initiated any steps to check the quality of ground water in many parts in the country;

(b) if so, whether any funds have been allocated to the State Governments to conduct research in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Water being a State subject, provision of safe drinking water supply is the responsibility of the State Governments. The steps taken by the Union Government to check ground water pollution in the country includes:

- (i) The Central Ground Water Authority notifies areas from time to time for control and regulation of ground water development. So far, it has notified Najafgarh and Mehrauli blocks of NCT Delhi, Municipal Corporation are of Faridabad, Ballabgarh and Ghaziabad, Ludhiana city, Diu and Jhotwara block of Jaipur district, Rajasthan.
- (ii) Identification of hand pumps and other structures in polluted areas where the shallow ground water is not fit for human consumption and painting them red with warning.
- (iii) The Central Ground Water Authority have organised mass awareness programmes among public, industrialists and industrial workers regarding pollution and over-extraction of ground water.
- (iv) The Central Ground Water Board and the Central Pollution Control Board are carrying out the periodic monitoring of ground water quality in the country.
- (v) The Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission is providing safe drinking water to the rural area and also providing contamination removal plants to the States in the water quality affected areas.
- (vi) Central Pollution Control Board has adopted several measures like directing the industries

through State Pollution Control Boards to limit the discharge of effluent within the stipulated standards, initiation of scheme to give assistance to clusters of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants and taking up of quality scheme of monitoring in critically polluted areas.

(b) and (c) The Government of India assists the State Governments by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for coverage of rural habitations with safe drinking water. The State/Union Territories can utilise upto 20% of the ARWSP funds for Sub-Mission programmes meant for tackling quality problems and sustainability issues in respect of rural drinking water. The powers to plan, sanction and implement Sub-Mission programmes have been delegated to the State Governments with effect from 01.04.1998. The expenditure for implementation of Sub-Mission projects is shared between the Central and States/Union Territories in the ratio of 75:25.

Under the newly launched Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana, rural drinking water is one of the compenents under which projects/schemes can also be taken up for tackling quality problems in affected States/Union Territories.

#### **Passenger Facilities**

3211. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether passenger facilities including electric gadgets at various airports are not being maintained properly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of accidents occurred due to poor maintenance at various airports during the last two years; and

(d) the action taken against those who are responsible for lapses?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) There is a well laid out system for maintenance and inspection of passenger facilities at various airports, which has generally worked efficiently and satisfactorily. However, an unfortunate tragedy occurred when a child got crushed in an escalator at IGI Airport, Delhi on 13th December, 1999. A departmental enquiry has been instituted against the officers responsible for maintenance of the escalator.

[Translation]

**STD Booth on Railway Platform**

3212. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up STD booth on Dhule Railway platform;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Sir, Presently no application is pending for allotment of STD booth on Dhule Railway Platform.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As no requests have been received for STD PCO at Dhule Railway Platform, we are approaching Railway

Authorities for permission to install STD/ISD/CCB PCO booth at Railway Platform.

[English]

**Environment Protection Projects**

3213. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the funds allocated and released by the Government for different Environment Protection Projects/Schemes during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : The funds allocated/released by the Government for different Environment Protection Projects/Schemes during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise and scheme-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	States	Funds Allocation/Released			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
Modern Forests Fire Control Methods	Andhra Pradesh	14.16	16.00	20.00	
	Arunachal Pradesh				22.35
	Assam				15.50
	Bihar		28.35	10.41	
	Chhatisgarh				44.00
	Goa				15.00
	Gujarat	23.73	39.06	18.00	26.28
	Haryana				11.67
	Himachal Pradesh	19.75	17.37	31.38	31.97
	Jammu & Kashmir				32.70
	Jharkhand				42.15
	Karnataka	23.41	39.00	34.04	33.55
	Kerala	21.22	22.49	25.52	15.30
	Madhya Pradesh	11.58	22.81	20.97	41.75
	Maharashtra		8.79	10.00	191.29
Manipur				34.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Meghalaya				23.69
	Mizoram				24.60
	Orissa		23.42	20.40	9.10
	Rajasthan				22.68
	Sikkim				25.00
	Tamil Nadu		15.60	25.80	8.85
	Tripura				32.40
	Uttar Pradesh	37.11	36.82	20.00	6.40
	Uttaranchal				56.40
	West Bengal			34.85	
Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on Usufructs Sharing Basis	Andhra Pradesh		6.55	19.66	21.76
	Arunachal Pradesh			8.18	22.81
	Bihar	34.09	32.86		19.52
	Gujarat		14.04	15.00	32.76
	Jammu & Kashmir		12.17	16.00	47.08
	Karnataka	5.70	18.72	38.72	25.00
	Madhya Pradesh	47.40	48.01	50.00	70.00
	Maharashtra		5.00	37.94	20.10
	Manipur		9.36	26.33	25.00
	Mizoram		6.55	18.02	19.98
	Nagaland		6.00		9.80
	Rajasthan		15.91	32.06	25.00
	Tripura		4.55	8.00	9.25
	West Bengal			7.06	7.61
Conservation and Management of Wetlands	Andhra Pradesh		8.89	23.80	
	Assam				14.80
	Gujarat				7.00
	Himachal Pradesh	34.80	12.76	46.50	
	Jammu & Kashmir		45.87		45.50
	Kerala				33.33
	Manipur	97.65	67.48	97.28	70.00
	Orissa			36.00	55.00
	Punjab			20.30	70.55
	Rajasthan			36.76	
Tripura		5.00	15.00	15.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6
Project Elephant	Andhra Pradesh		30.21	11.86	46.30
	Arunachal Pradesh		10.08	19.30	89.81
	Assam		29.60	25.15	45.00
	Bihar		40.00	26.00	
	Jharkhand				20.00
	Karnataka		40.00	85.00	51.00
	Kerala		143.40	63.55	66.05
	Meghalaya			20.68	35.73
	Nagaland		11.00	40.00	35.17
	Orissa			25.00	29.75
	Tamil Nadu		69.28	48.21	50.00
	Uttar Pradesh		95.00	155.81	80.00
	Uttranchal				5.00
	West Bengal		78.44	76.01	79.04
Project Tiger	Andhra Pradesh	10.70	18.01	29.04	45.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	47.68	30.59	32.61
	Assam	45.08	35.00	87.29	156.10
	Bihar	36.75	153.99	165.95	87.08
	Karnataka	25.00	69.34	167.08	193.36
	Kerala	34.95	39.19	43.66	50.00
	Madhya Pradesh	133.78	225.12	332.16	428.35
	Maharashtra	60.53	110.74	134.76	141.44
	Meghalaya				1.50
	Mizoram	12.45	9.65	21.43	27.54
	Orissa	49.30	67.65	84.45	82.46
	Rajasthan	149.88	472.26	222.59	291.70
	Tamil Nadu	45.60	32.50	58.78	40.00
	Uttar Pradesh	125.01	199.75	234.23	181.65
West Bengal	58.95	179.98	137.14	98.18	
Eco Development Project	Andhra Pradesh	25.40	40.02	44.53	33.55
	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	15.23	13.82	31.83
	Assam	10.25	42.34	32.00	45.51
	Bihar	50.00	104.98	238.39	153.99
	Gujarat	360.00	161.00	698.84	684.95

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Himachal Pradesh	58.40		86.84	66.00
	Jammu & Kashmir	22.49		13.70	
	Karnataka	84.65	452.35	1068.95	634.87
	Kerala	449.50	449.50	439.02	715.25
	Madhya Pradesh	101.33	431.76	481.00	326.53
	Maharashtra	7.43	41.88	96.15	27.00
	Manipur	4.75	10.40	10.11	21.44
	Meghalaya				21.52
	Mizoram	10.50	2.00	64.55	118.05
	Nagaland		10.00	8.00	23.25
	Orissa	45.77	22.60	12.00	56.16
	Punjab	9.14	10.20		
	Rajasthan	50.00	158.00	150.00	531.28
	Sikkim		5.85	32.63	29.60
	Tamil Nadu	4.12	18.10	31.96	6.30
	Tripura		44.40		20.00
	Uttar Pradesh	41.45	101.86	66.51	113.74
	West Bengal	443.52	502.09	561.69	530.39
Beneficiary Oriented Scheme for Tribal Development	Karnataka	25.00		68.50	64.65
	Madhya Pradesh	45.00	350.00	201.08	200.00
	Maharashtra				46.00
	Orissa	40.00			
Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project	Andhra Pradesh		143.51	149.65	246.55
	Arunachal Pradesh	65.21	14.94	57.87	51.99
	Assam	55.35	50.00	67.15	52.25
	Bihar	69.35	13.20	60.69	47.56
	Gujarat	36.63	13.00	58.94	221.45
	Haryana	62.00	109.93	81.29	77.60
	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	52.28	37.92	78.91
	Jammu & Kashmir	169.66	288.37	364.09	326.85
	Karnataka	143.72	37.42	160.36	167.43
	Kerala	135.15	199.35	346.14	486.09
	Madhya Pradesh	279.02	231.27	352.83	327.66
	Maharashtra	71.46	84.28	17.18	225.68

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Manipur	98.30	283.72	468.73	328.11
	Meghalaya	0.00		10.21	14.70
	Mizoram	77.11	96.26	147.56	149.42
	Nagaland	0.00		38.60	73.64
	Orissa	0.00	176.60	239.66	729.00
	Punjab	57.54	37.83	28.62	0.00
	Rajasthan	242.25	253.39	376.57	432.67
	Sikkim	91.00	214.59	109.82	183.01
	Tamil Nadu	0.00	18.02		84.55
	Tripura	65.00	58.57	37.77	91.51
	Uttar Pradesh	229.95	385.00	367.71	396.40
	West Bengal	15.64	125.60	170.64	121.60
	Pondicherry	0.00			20.12
Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project	Andhra Pradesh	144.88	89.79	69.92	146.38
	Arunachal Pradesh	6.00		7.00	9.28
	Assam	70.00	83.95	89.69	42.83
	Bihar	17.40	37.18	190.94	30.00
	Goa	5.00	3.00	5.69	2.89
	Gujarat	135.98	157.10	212.45	206.27
	Haryana	194.38	261.00	265.69	323.20
	Himachal Pradesh	142.08	58.20	181.78	132.96
	Jammu & Kashmir	120.33	42.31		
	Karnataka	195.31	74.45	153.70	70.00
	Kerala	87.17	106.96	75.61	65.03
	Madhya Pradesh	210.18	500.50	388.13	300.00
	Maharashtra	75.00	27.91	120.91	18.53
	Manipur	100.00	128.75	127.54	47.90
	Mizoram	244.12	211.91	173.22	147.81
	Nagaland	0.00	4.23	10.87	9.00
	Orissa	91.14	69.21	116.53	96.12
	Punjab	169.14	20.98		0.00
	Rajasthan	304.61	263.35	160.00	7.18
	Sikkim	69.99	67.18	69.52	55.54
	Tamil Nadu	133.45	84.24	93.03	100.59
	Tripura	94.30	33.19		60.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Uttar Pradesh	212.44	205.62	329.02	153.43
	West Bengal	134.68	168.99	197.10	178.61
Non Timber Forest Produce	Andhra Pradesh	46.39	36.86	119.13	168.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	5.00	30.00	0.00
	Assam	13.50	14.00	25.00	74.00
	Bihar	14.00	14.00	0.00	60.00
	Goa	8.22	10.87	12.13	32.06
	Gujarat	57.68	58.66	116.65	191.62
	Haryana	36.30	38.25	29.44	44.35
	Himachal Pradesh	28.63	4.00	32.19	34.99
	Jammu & Kashmir	97.05	151.35	187.85	110.00
	Karnataka	43.00	53.87	51.34	81.63
	Kerala	10.35	4.00	13.10	45.50
	Madhya Pradesh	71.00	69.80	77.50	187.50
	Maharashtra	38.51	48.66	0.00	127.00
	Manipur	18.00	47.24	53.94	118.37
	Meghalaya	0.00	12.00	0.00	38.00
	Mizoram	17.90	25.00	53.45	88.82
	Nagaland	0.00	5.00	0.00	64.00
	Orissa	48.00	102.88	86.08	162.20
	Punjab	29.50	4.00	0.00	25.00
	Rajasthan	58.61	130.40	116.21	125.40
	Sikkim	32.50	61.31	102.00	198.44
	Tamil Nadu	0.00	33.00	0.00	47.38
	Tripura	6.35	10.15	17.25	17.15
	Uttar Pradesh	53.00	0.00	5.00	78.00
	West Bengal	21.47	59.70	71.74	79.00
Taj Protection Mission Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	3200.00	1250.00	2103.25
	Andhra Pradesh	43.39	50.72	87.54	186.07
	Arunachal Pradesh	27.95	57.91	50.98	121.12
	Assam	54.62	58.05	53.44	317.20
	Bihar	6.00		27.85	21.02
	Goa		11.07	21.30	10.50
	Gujarat	17.00	13.80	22.10	65.27
	Haryana	14.57	37.20	21.55	28.35

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Himachal Pradesh	61.50	49.80	47.46	165.30
	Jammu & Kashmir	124.70	7.00	5.55	0.00
	Karnataka	78.17	84.12	100.32	307.18
	Kerala	49.29	49.35	59.97	102.62
	Madhya Pradesh	195.66	35.93	152.20	182.19
	Maharashtra	48.84	27.78	123.43	90.96
	Manipur	13.50	19.64	13.28	41.78
	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.36
	Mizoram	13.48	8.45	12.30	102.31
	Nágaland	15.29	9.00	9.70	31.85
	Orissa	34.22	68.73	94.74	3.50
	Punjab	14.03	8.65	11.57	26.39
	Rajasthan	82.34	89.52	66.54	116.00
	Sikkim	12.51	11.00	12.00	97.45
	Tamil Nadu	61.28	74.63	61.18	89.83
	Tripura	29.81	0.00	19.97	21.90
	Uttar Pradesh	112.11	89.57	117.81	144.60
	West Bengal	69.69	72.96	55.20	90.22
	A & N Islands	20.56	0.00	22.00	50.00
	Chandigarh	12.00	0.00	28.00	0.00
Ganga Action Plan Phase-I	Uttar Pradesh	274.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
	West Bengal	55.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ganga Action Plan Phase-II	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.50
	Delhi	82.59	200.00	125.00	67.50
	Haryana	2585.00	2650.00	1482.00	600.00
	Uttar Pradesh	5413.50	5350.00	6846.51	3085.60
	West Bengal	0.00	400.00	400.00	150.00
National River Conservation Plan	Andhra Pradesh	200.00	0.00	677.89	0.00
	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	Gujarat	650.00	220.00	1713.62	0.00
	Karnataka	0.00	90.00	435.65	309.00
	Madhya Pradesh	124.00	500.00	1150.27	698.43
	Maharashtra	100.00	0.00	233.00	700.00
	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Punjab	0.00	500.00	1295.00	651.80
	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
	Tamil Nadu	0.00	90.00	649.57	1355.00
Central Zoo Authority	Andhra Pradesh	43.75	27.25	25.40	69.75
	Arunachal Pradesh	8.12	12.27	9.68	19.36
	Assam	19.56	0.42	0.00	89.82
	Bihar	0.00	31.70	15.45	0.00
	Gujarat	21.00	45.43	62.07	95.67
	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
	Karnataka	6.00	10.90	208.50	43.00
	Kerala	30.00	0.00	0.00	46.40
	Madhya Pradesh	29.69	50.50	21.00	35.85
	Maharashtra	20.51	0.00	12.61	12.61
	Manipur	0.00	4.57	0.00	49.15
	Mizoram	0.14	0.00	0.00	62.50
	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
	Orissa	7.35	3.00	65.50	44.00
	Punjab	41.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rajasthan	0.50	0.85	102.40	7.02
	Sikkim	8.88	0.00	19.38	48.64
	Tamil Nadu	16.43	48.75	154.00	46.50
	Tripura	0.00	0.00	17.34	18.84
	Uttar Pradesh	38.50	23.65	56.86	10.00
	West Bengal	29.31	78.85	34.37	72.34
	A&N Islands	0.00	53.00	28.74	15.65

### Diversions of Rivers

3214. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain States have sent proposals to the Union Government for diversion of rivers;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to clear such proposals;

(d) whether Vansadhara and Subarnarekha rivers in Orissa are changing their courses every year after flood; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No proposal for diversion of rivers has been received from the States for technical examination in the Central Water Commission.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The river Vamsadhara has pockets where it swings severely viz., near town Gunupur in Orissa.

Otherwise its track is mostly hilly in Orissa and no severe change in its course has been reported. The river Subarnarekha has also meandering course in Orissa.

(e) No scheme on the above two rivers is pending for examination in the Central Water Commission.

[Translation]

**Punishment to Travel Agents for Sending Labourers Abroad**

3215. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the travel agents engaged in sending labourers to foreign countries are punished only by cancelling their registration certificates and no criminal case is filed against them;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) Complaints received against Recruiting Agents registered under the Emigration Act, 1983 are examined in consultation with the concerned Missions abroad and action for suspension and cancellation of their Registration Certificates is taken according to the merits of the cases as provided under Section 14 of the Emigration Act, 1983. In addition, cases are also referred to the Police/C.B.I. for investigation and institution of criminal proceedings wherever required.

**Missing Drafts/Cheques**

3216. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bank drafts/cheques being sent through registered post are missing;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last two years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) There are complaints about some registered letters which also involve non-receipt of bank drafts/cheques.

(b) In 1998-99 & 1999-2000, 557 cases were reported.

(c) The Department pay an ex-gratia compensation of Rs. 100/- to the sender of the registered letter when the loss of the article is established. As a measure of preventive vigilance and to safeguard proper handling of such articles in transit through the postal system, the following measures are adopted.

(i) Surprise checks by specially formed squads in identified offices to detect abstraction/losses.

(ii) Deterrent disciplinary action against officials found responsible for irregularities.

(iii) Posting test letters to monitor transmission route of the mails and rectify bottlenecks, if any.

[English]

**Mail Delivery System**

3217. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether delivery of mail is very poor as per the findings of the National Test Letter Run conducted by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the mail delivery system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) Improving the mail delivery system in the country is an on-going process. Some of the major steps taken in this regard include installation of Automatic Mail Processing Centres at Chennai and Mumbai, computerisation of registration sorting work, segmentation of mail into different channels for quicker segregation and speedy delivery, sustained monitoring of mail routing and delivery by managerial cadres and providing mopeds to postmen wherever feasible to facilitate quicker delivery of mails.

**Inter-State Road from C.R.F.**

3218. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh Governments have submitted any memorandum seeking financial assistance from the Central Road Fund

Account for the development of inter-State roads passing through Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount collected during 2000-2001 so far from cess on petrol and diesel towards road development in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the amount proposed to be allocated for inter-State road development out of the above amount; and

(d) the decision taken on the above proposal of the Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) For the development and maintenance of State roads, Ministry of Finance provided Rs. 990 crore during the year 2000-2001, out of which Rs. 81.61 crore and Rs. 57.50 crore have been earmarked for Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka respectively. No amount was provided for Inter-State road development during the year 2000-2001.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Powers to Postal Board**

3219. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to accord powers to Postal Board on the lines of Railway Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

#### **Nickel Plant in Orissa**

3220. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for prospecting of new Nickel mines in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up the more Nickel Plant in the above State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (d) At present, there is no proposal for prospecting of new Nickel mines and to set up Nickel Plant in the State of Orissa. However, the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has developed a process to extract Nickel metal from Chromite overburden accumulated as waste after extraction of Chrome ore. A pilot plant with the capacity to treat upto 10 tonnes chromite overburden per day has been set up at the Regional Research Laboratory of CSIR at Bhubaneshwar. The plant is being operated to generate sufficient data in arriving at techno-economic viability of nickel extraction from chromite overburden.

#### **Priority for Confirmation of Tickets**

3221. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has made any rules to give priority to the fully paid tickets at the time of confirmation of tickets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether concessional tickets for school children are also given priority for confirmation of seats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines Reservation System provides Multi class concept, high yield class (HY) and low yield class (LY). Passengers paying full fare are booked in HY class and concessional passengers are booked in LY class. If close to the departure, seats remain unsold in HY class, seats are offered to LY class passengers. The scheme is applicable on all the flights in the system.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Students availing concessional tickets are booked in the LY class and as a general rule no priority in advance confirmation is given to them.

#### **Land Allotment for Hangar**

3222. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of companies to whom the land is allotted on lease for construction of hangar and names of companies to whom hangars are given on lease basis by Airports Authority of India;

(b) the criteria laid down with regard to the lease rate charged by various companies; and

(c) the amount due against these companies and the steps taken for the recovery of dues?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information in this regard is being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Extension of Submarine Cable Circuits**

3223. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY :  
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request for changing of reasonable fees for remitting extension of submarine cable circuits to inland cities under Internet Service Provider (ISP) policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) After considering various aspects and view points on the subject of allowing Internet Service Provider (ISP) to set up international gateway for Internet, the Government has permitted ISPs to set up submarine Cable Landing Stations for International gateways for internet after getting security clearance. The application processing fees for setting up Submarine Cable Landing Stations for international gateways for Internet is Rs. 50,000. The ISPs are permitted to set up Submarine Cable Landing Stations within a distance of 100 Kms. from sea shore. ISPs setting up Submarine Cable Landing Stations for international gateways for internet have been permitted to sell bandwidth to other ISPs. The ISPs can get connected to Submarine Cable Landing Station by taking bandwidth from any telecom service provider who is authorized to sell bandwidth.

#### **International Internet Gateway**

3224. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed international internet gateway facility only to cities of 'A' status;

(b) if so, the names of cities having said status in the country at present;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh Government have requested the Union Government to upgrade Hyderabad city to 'A' status and provide its own gateway and made available 50 MBPs Internet backbone nodes for the city;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) Government has received a request from Andhra Pradesh Government to upgrade the existing BSNL Internet node at Hyderabad to 'A' status, provide it with International Internet Gateway, make available 50 Mbps for the upgraded A I Internet Backbone node for Hyderabad and to allot STM-I (155 Mbps) International connectivity immediately for Hyderabad.

(e) International Gateway Connectivity with STM-I (155 Mbps) for Hyderabad Internet Node has been approved in principle and necessary equipment/ bandwidth is under procurement process.

[Translation]

#### **ESI Hospitals in Rajasthan**

3225. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ESI hospitals functioning in Rajasthan at present;

(b) whether these hospitals have not able to achieve their objectives;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to improve the condition of these hospitals so that maximum number of card holder patients are benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Five.

(b) to (d) The responsibility for administration of ESI medical care in Rajasthan vests in the State Government. However, the ESIC has prescribed norms/ guidelines with regard to staffing and equipping of ESI hospitals. The Corporation also meets 7/8th of the Expenditure incurred on ESI medical care. There have been sporadic complaints about shortage of medical and para-medical staff, lack of drugs, dressings, equipments etc. in some ESI hospitals. Such complaints as and when received, are forwarded to the State Government for appropriate remedial measures. However, in order to improve health care facilities in ESI hospitals/dispensaires, the ESIC has formulated an Action Plan and forwarded the same to State Governments including the Government of Rajasthan for implementation. The Action Plan includes *inter-alia* provision of modern equipment system in hospitals,

availability of basic equipments in dispensaries, establishment of regional trauma centres, establishment of super speciality services, blood banks, cancer treatment centres, development of indigenous system of medicines, provision of tie-up arrangements with reputed medical institutions etc. Under the Action Plan medical equipments worth Rs. 110.65 Lakh have been sanctioned to the Government of Rajasthan.

#### Daily Wages Workers

3226. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of daily wages workers in the Department of Telecommunications in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at present;

(b) the reasons for not regularising these workers; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to regularise the services of daily wages workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a)

Uttar Pradesh	1016
Bihar	489

(b) and (c) The process of regularization is on and the same is being done as per norms and guidelines issued. It is planned to complete the process by the next financial year subject to availability of vacancies.

#### Video Conferencing and Wireless Telephony

3227. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide Video Conferencing and Wireless Telephony in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) *Video Conferencing*: Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) facility, which can be used for Video Conferencing, is available at Dehradun, Kotdwara, Shrinagar, New Tehri, Udham Singh Nagar, Nainital, Haridwar & Roorkee and it is proposed to be extended further to other places of Uttaranchal, subject to demand and technical feasibility.

(ii) *Wireless Telephony*: It is planned to provide Wireless Telephony using Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) Technology in all the Secondary Switching Areas of Uttaranchal during the year 2001-2002.

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

[English]

#### Damage to Botanical Garden in Orissa

3228. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps in regard to development and maintenance of botanical garden at Nandan Kanan in Orissa which has been damaged extensively due to Super cyclone in 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Nandan Kanan Zoo and the Botanical Garden are located near Baranga on the opposite sides of the lake. The State Horticulture department, who manages the botanical garden has informed that they have not submitted any proposal for the development and maintenance of State Botanical Garden, Baranga.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Zoological Parks

3229. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of zoological parks functioning in the country at present and the number of species kept therein, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been lack of fund provision for the zoological parks;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There are 182 recognized zoological parks in the country at present. Total number of species kept in the major zoos (Large, Medium and Small) is given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Due to financial crunch the State Governments are not in a position to provide adequate funds for maintenance of zoos. However, Central Zoo

Authority has been providing financial assistance for different zoos in the country for development of

infrastructure, better upkeep and health care of the animals.

**Statement**

*No. of Species held in Major Zoos*

S. No.	Name of the State	Name of the Zoo	Location	Total No. of Species	Total No. of Animals
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Indira Gandhi Zoological Park,	Vishakapatnam	95	927
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Nehru Zoological Park	Hyderabad	170	1586
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Sri Venkateswara Zoo,	Tirupati	57	676
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	Zoological Park,	Itanagar	35	95
5.	Assam	Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden	Guwahati	100	654
6.	Biher	Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park	Patna	76	924
7.	Chattisgarh	Maitribagh Zoo	Bhilai Steel Plant, Bhilai	36	354
8.	Delhi	National Zoological Park	New Delhi	139	1254
9.	Goa	Bondla Zoo	Usgao	25	129
10.	Gujarat	Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden	Ahmedabad	145	1789
11.	Gujarat	Sakkarbaug Zoo	Junagarh	64	759
12.	Gujarat	Sayajibaug Zoo	Vadodara	109	798
13.	Gujarat	Indroda Nature Park,	Gandhinagar	62	304
14.	Gujarat	Rajkot Municipal Zoo	Rajkot	15	66
15.	Haryana	Rohtak Zoo	Rohtak	21	86
16.	Gujarat	Nature Park	Surat	32	121
17.	Himachal Pradesh	Himalayan Nature Park	Kufri	17	115
18.	Jharkhand	Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park	Bokaro Steel City, Bokaro	37	571
19.	Jharkhand	Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park	Ranchi	25	93
20.	Jharkhand	Tata Steel Zoological Park	Jamshedpur	42	220
21.	Karnataka	Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens	Mysore	119	951
22.	Karnataka	National Park, Bannerghatta	Bangalore	64	2028
23.	Karnataka	Children's Park Zoo	Bellary	21	117
24.	Karnataka	Lion and Tiger Safari, Thyarekoppa	Shimoga	16	136
25.	Kerala	Trivandrum Zoo,	Trivandrum	77	451

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Kerala	State Museum & Zoo	Thrissur	36	230
27.	Madhya Pradesh	Gandhi Zoological Park	Gwalior	55	386
28.	Madhya Pradesh	Van Vihar National Park	Bhopal	18	1945
29.	Madhya Pradesh	Kamla Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya	Indore	33	226
30.	Maharashtra	Veerhatta Jijabai Bhosle Udyan & Zoo	Mumbai	76	580
31.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad Municipal Zoo	Aurangabad	25	259
32.	Maharashtra	Maharajbaug Zoo	Nagpur	14	79
33.	Maharashtra	Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park	Pune	59	433
34.	Maharashtra	Sanjay Gandhi National Park	Borivilli, Mumbai	33	61
35.	Manipur	Manipur Zoological Gardens	Imphal	70	452
36.	Meghalaya	Lady Hydari Park	Shillong	39	130
37.	Mizoram	Aizwal Zoo	Bethlehem, Aizwal	18	98
38.	Orissa	Nandankanan Biological Park	Bhubneswar	110	789
39.	Punjab	M.C. Zoological Park	Chhatbir, Dist. Patiala (approx 20 Km. from Chandigarh)	74	563
40.	Rajasthan	Jaipur Zoo, Rambagh	Jaipur	87	527
41.	Rajasthan	Umed Bagh Zoo	Jodhpur	64	944
42.	Rajasthan	Udaipur Zoo	Udaipur	34	144
43.	Rajasthan	Bikaner Zoo	Bikaner	22	193
44.	Sikkim	Himalayan Zoological Park,	Bulbuley, Gangtok	9	32
45.	Tamil Nadu	Arignar Anna Zoological Park	Vandalur, Chennai	130	1482
46.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai Snake Park	Guindy, Chennai	46	408
47.	Tamil Nadu	Children's Corner Zoo	Guindy, Chennai	53	321
48.	Tamil Nadu	Madras Crocodile Bank	Mamallapuram	19	3047
49.	Tamil Nadu	V.O.C. Park Zoo	Coimbatore	46	236
50.	Tripura	Sepahijala Zoo	Agartala	45	397
51.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Zoological Park	Kanpur	74	380
52.	Uttar Pradesh	Prince of Wales Zoological Gardens	Lucknow	81	506
53.	Uttranchal	Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant High Altitude Zoo	Nainital	24	79
54.	West Bengal	Zoological Garden, Alipore	Kolkata	137	1474
55.	West Bengal	Calcutta Snake Park	Badu, 24 Pargana(N)	35	212
56.	West Bengal	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoo	Darjeeling	23	101

[English]

### Loss due to Earthquake In Gujarat

3230. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of loss suffered by his Ministry due to recent earthquake in Gujarat; and

(b) the relief/aid sent by his Ministry for the affected departments of his Ministry as well as for earthquake victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of the National Highways. Quantum of loss suffered due to damages to National Highways is estimated at about Rs. 50 crores by the State Government. An amount of Rs. 2.64 Crores has been earmarked for immediate repair works.

### Cancellation of Air Ticket

3231. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the criteria adopted and penalty enforced by the airlines for cancellation or change of tickets;

(b) whether multiple bookings is made by travel agents resulting in empty flight;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this issue was discussed in the meeting of airlines representatives; and

(e) if so, the final decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The phenomenon of passengers booking tickets on a particular flight on a particular day and not travelling on that flight, and not cancelling this booking is a problem faced by the all airlines worldwide. This results in seats going vacant on flights resulting in revenue loss to the airlines as well as denial of seats to genuine passengers. To overcome this problem, penalty for cancellation or rebooking is levied by Air India. As regards Indian Airlines, they do not levy cancellation charges for cancellation of ticket till one hour before departure of its flights. For cancellation on a confirmed ticket effected within one hour of the departure, 100% cancellation charges are levied.

(b) and (c) Since most travel agents effect bookings through CRS system, it is possible for them to effect multiple bookings. However, all Air India Offices make repeated efforts to remind agents to desist from

effecting multiple bookings. Strict pre-flight checks are carried out by the Air India Offices to ensure nil/minimal 'no shows'. AI's reservations system has an automatic duplicate checking facility which brings to the attention of the originating stations, any duplicate booking. Such Bookings are strictly monitored and duplicates are cancelled to ensure that flights do not operate underload.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. It was unanimously agreed that effective July, 2000, a token cancellation charge of Rs. 200/- would be levied on the travel agents to curb last minute cancellation of seats and to ensure that the available capacity is recycled and genuine demand met. The decision was taken after a detailed discussion both at the Airline representatives levels as well as with the representatives of their travel agents association of India and the travel agents Federation of India. Similarly, Indian Airlines has also levied a cancellation charge of Rs. 200/- on all Economy class international passengers travelling on Excursion Fares - Ex-India.

### Investment in Telecom Equipment Sector

3232. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed multinational companies to invest in Telecom Equipment Sector;

(b) if so, the percentage of foreign equity investment allowed in Telecom Equipment Sector;

(c) whether such investment is allowed in manufacturing of Telecom Equipment only or in other activities also; and

(d) the name of such multinational companies which have been allowed to invest in Telecom Equipment Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Telecom equipment manufacturing sector, multinational companies are allowed to invest up to 100% foreign equity and such investment is permitted under automatic route through Reserve Bank of India.

(c) In the telecom services, 49% Foreign direct Investment (FDI) is permitted except a few services where 100% FDI has been allowed. FDI up to 100% subject to certain conditions, has been allowed for the following activities in the telecom sector:

1. ISPs not providing gateway (both for satellite and submarine cables);
2. Infrastructure Providers providing dark fibre (IP Category I);
3. Electronic Mail; and
4. Voice Mail

(d) Major multi-national companies who have been given permission for telecom manufacturing activities in India are:

Nokia Telecom-munications OY	Fujikura Ltd.	Simoco International Ltd.
Cellstar Singapore PTE Ltd.	Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.	NERA AS
Krone AG	Casio Telecom Ltd.	Lucent Technologies Intl.
Andrew Corporation	Alcatel	Philips Telecom Ltd.
Motorola Singapore PTE Ltd.	Siemens	
NEC Corporation	ITOCHU Corporation	

#### **New National Highways in Kerala**

3233. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has sent any proposal for declaring some new National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the additional grant to the declaration of certain roads as National Highways and maintenance of the National Highways has been provided; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The funds for development and maintenance of National Highways are allocated State-wise and not National Highway-wise depending upon the overall availability of resources.

#### **Mobile Telephone Service of MTNL**

3234. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) propose to extend its Mobile Cellular Telephone service in other metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this service is likely to be extended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) MTNL has requested for licence in other service areas. The time for the introduction of service can be fixed only after MTNL is able to obtain the Licence.

#### **Charter Flights**

3235. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of travel companies sought the permission of the Government to start outbound charter flights;

(b) whether these flights are different from the regular flights being operated by Indian Airlines/Air India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have considered and finalised the proposals;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether these flights propose to be operating both at the national and international level;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the names of any other country allowing such flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Many companies have been seeking permission for operating outbound charter flights from time to time.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Scheduled services of Air India and Indian Airlines are operated under the provisions of Air Services Agreement entered into by India with different countries. Charter flights are non-scheduled flights and require clearance for each flight.

(d) to (g) Non-scheduled charter flights in and out of the country are allowed in accordance with the laid down guidelines.

(h) Many other countries allow operation of such flights.

#### **Conventional Methods for Water Collection**

3236. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to revive the conventional methods for water collection;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The measures for water collection through conventional methods include construction of small, medium and large storage reservoir and water harvesting through micro watershed development programmes. India receives an average annual rainfall of about 4000 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) including snow. Out of this, 3,000 BCM occurs during monsoon resulting in an average annual surface runoff about 1869 BCM in the various rivers of the country. The utilizable runoff by conventional methods has been assessed as 690 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM). A live storage capacity of 176.73 BCM has been created by construction of large dams upto 1995 including about 3 BCM capacity created by medium & small dams. It has also been estimated that about 24 BCM of rain water is stored in 3.5 lakh minor irrigation tanks. Projects to add an additional capacity of about 75.42 BCM are under construction and 132.32 BCM are under planning.

Ministry of Rural Development, as part of the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana - Rural Drinking Water, is promoting ground water recharge rainwater harvesting and other traditional methods of conserving rainwater like village ponds, contour trenches etc. Ministry of Agriculture through watershed management programme is implementing measures for increasing watershed retention capacity for rainwater. The Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resource has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge.

**Funds for Voluntary Organisations**

3237. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are providing funds to the voluntary organisations, autonomous bodies, educational institutions engaged in research activities for field programme relating to road safety;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of organisations to whom funds have been provided during each of the last three years till-date, State-wise;

(d) whether the funds provided for the purpose has been utilised fully;

(e) if not, whether the Government are aware of the misutilisation of the funds by some organisations; and

(f) if so, the action taken against the faulty organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government provides some funds to the voluntary organizations for administering Road Safety Programmes like:

- (i) Raising road safety consciousness among the road users;
- (ii) Publicity Campaigns on road safety;
- (iii) Providing training facilities to drivers and medical aid to the victims of road accidents;
- (iv) Organising training programmes for special target groups like drivers of heavy vehicles/ goods vehicles, etc;
- (v) Research and Development of traffic control methods, design of vehicles and roads, etc;
- (vi) Sponsoring/financing of publication of popular literature on road safety;

(c) The State-wise name of organizations to whom funds have been provided during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given in statement and no grants-in-aid were released during 1998-99.

(d) The voluntary organizations are required to utilize the funds within eighteen months and all such grantee organizations have utilized the funds provided within the stipulated period so far.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

**Statement**

*List of NGOs to whom grants were given during 1999-2000*

S.No.	Name of the NGO
1	2
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	
1.	Garthapuri Consumer Council, Guntur
<b>Assam</b>	
2.	Kalyani Child Welfare Centre, Jorhat
<b>Bihar</b>	
3.	Automobile Association of Eastern India, Patna

1	2
<b>Gujarat</b>	
4.	Volunteers of Charity, Gandhinagar
<b>Delhi</b>	
5.	Jan Jagriti Educational Society, Delhi
<b>Goa</b>	
6.	Western India Automobile Association, Goa Branch
<b>Haryana</b>	
7.	Rashtriya Yuva Sansthan, Karnal
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	
8.	Himachal Manav Seva, Shimla
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	
9.	Society for Consumer Protection & Environment (SCOPE), Jammu
<b>Karnataka</b>	
10.	Gram Parivartan Kendra, Belgaum
11.	Social Educational & Vocational Association (SEVA), Raichur
12.	Ramalingeshwar Gramabhivruddi Sangha, Belgaum
13.	Shabana Welfare Association, Vemagal
<b>Maharashtra</b>	
14.	Lokmanya Medical Foundation, Pune
15.	Kum. Rajshree Parmar Memorial Foundation, Pune
<b>Manipur</b>	
16.	Youth Voluntary Organisation, Imphal
<b>Nagaland</b>	
17.	Viko Krotho Women Welfare Society, Kohima
18.	Mezhu Multipurpose Women Welfare Society, Kohima
19.	Naga Transporters Welfare Organisation, Kohima
20.	AVI Society, Kohima
21.	Nisalem Economic Women Society, Kohima
22.	Puliebadze Club, Kohima

1	2
<b>Orissa</b>	
23.	Manav Sava Parishad, Kendrapar
24.	Indira Kalyan Samiti, Cuttack
25.	Utakelmani Swayam Seva Sangha, Chandol
26.	Women & Child Welfare Society, Cuttack
27.	Suprativa, Cuttack
<b>Rajasthan</b>	
28.	M/s M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, Jaipur
29.	Consumer Unity and Trust Society, Jaipur
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	
30.	Trust in the Area of Social Activities (TASA), Arakkonam, Vellore Distt.
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	
31.	Avadh Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Sultanpur
32.	Master Gram Vikas Seva Sanstha, Hamirpur
<b>West Bengal</b>	
33.	Bharat Scouts & Guides, Calcutta
34.	Prabuddha Bharati Shishutirtha, Midnapur
35.	Indian Puppet Theatre, Calcutta
36.	Malda Sahayogita Samiti, Malda
37.	Village Welfare Society, Calcutta

*List of NGOs to whom Grants were given during 2000-2001*

S.No.	Name of the NGO
1	2
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	
1.	Garthapuri Consumer Council, Guntur
2.	Jagruthi, Khamman
3.	Good India, Ongole
4.	Institute of Transport Management, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam
5.	St. Ann's Educational Society, Kurnool
6.	Creative Organisation & Rural Development, Narsipatnam
7.	Chaitanya Education Society, Kurnool

1	2
8.	Society for Humanity, Kurnool
9.	Social Action in Development (SAID), Kurnool
10.	Sai Krupa Educational Society, Kurnool
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	
11.	All Arunachal Pradesh Abo-Taxi, Itanagar
<b>Assam</b>	
12.	V. Venkata Rao Institute of Micro Studies & Research, Guwahati
<b>Bihar</b>	
13.	Sawitri Katai Banai Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Saran
14.	Saraswati Pustakalaya Evam Jan Kalyan Vikas Sansthan, Khaira
15.	Nari Kalyan Seva Sangha, Fatuha
16.	Rural Development Environment Forestation & Research Organisation, Patna
17.	Akhil Bharatiya Sevangan Vikas Sansthan
18.	Shree Ram Kripal Shiksha & Sanskrit Mandir, Madhubani
<b>Delhi</b>	
19.	Jan Jagriti Educational Society, Delhi
20.	Nari Utthan Samiti, Delhi
21.	Society for Environment & Development, Shakarpur, Delhi
22.	Automobile Association of Upper India, (AAUI), New Delhi
23.	Loss Prevention Association of India Ltd., Karol Bagh, New Delhi
24.	Narmata Education Trust, Near J.N.U., New Delhi
25.	Swatantara Bharat Shiksha Samiti, New Delhi
26.	Grassroot Action for Social Progress, Delhi
27.	Institute of Road Traffic Education (IRTE), New Delhi
<b>Goa</b>	
28.	Western India Automobile Association, Goa Branch
<b>Gujarat</b>	
29.	Volunteers of Charity, Gandhinagar
<b>Haryana</b>	
30.	Rashtriya Yuva Sansthan, Karnal

1	2
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	
31.	Society for Consumer Protection & Environment (SCOPE), Jammu
<b>Karnataka</b>	
32.	Gram Parivartan Kendra, Belgaum
33.	Bangalore City Police Traffic Warden, Bangalore
34.	Social Educational & Vocational Association (SEVA), Raichur
35.	Divya jyothi Vidhya Kendra, Bangalore
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	
36.	Gwallor Yatayat Manch, Gwallor
<b>Maharashtra</b>	
37.	Lokmanya Medical Foundation, Chinchwad, Pune
38.	Swami Vivekanand Mission, Nanded
39.	Kum. Rajshree Parmar Memorial Foundation, Pune
40.	Sarvodya Educational Voluntary Association, Nanded
41.	KIBBTUS, Pune
42.	Ravindra Joshi Medical Foundation, Mumbai
43.	Late Shankar Kamle Memo. Educational Society, Nagpur
<b>Manipur</b>	
44.	The Rural Industries Development Association (RIDA), Thoubal
45.	Ananda Purna Development Institute, Thoubal
46.	Council of Youths for Development & Cooperative, Imphal
47.	Institute of Social Organisor, Imphal
48.	Scientific Research & Rehabilitation, Imphal
49.	Manipur Rural Institute Society, Imphal
50.	Naodakhong Youths Sporting & Cultural Organisation, Bishnupur
<b>Meghalaya</b>	
51.	Young Women's Christian Association, Shillong
<b>Mizoram</b>	
52.	Mizoram Educated Unemployed Association, Aizawl

1	2
<b>Nagaland</b>	
53.	Cock Crow Society, Kohima
54.	Nisau Friendship Society, Kohima
55.	Planets Club, Wokha
56.	Rengma Youth Welfare Organisation, Kohima
<b>Orissa</b>	
57.	SAHARA, Kendrapara
58.	Suprativa, Cuttack
59.	Indira Kalyan Samiti, Cuttack
60.	Utakalmani Swayam Seva Sangha, Chandol, Cuttack
61.	M/s Women & Child Welfare Society, Cuttack
62.	M/s People's Association for Rural Reconstruction, Kendrapara
<b>Rajasthan</b>	
63.	Jan Kala Sahitya Manch Sanstha, Jaipur
64.	Institute of Sustainable Development Environmental & Scientific Research (ISDERS), Churu
65.	Gramo Utthan Sansthan, Bharatpur
66.	Gramin Jan Vikas Evam Paryavaran Bansthan, Champa
67.	M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, Jaipur
68.	Society for Education Research & Voluntary Efforts, Jaipur
69.	Gram Seva Mandal, Dudu
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	
70.	Trust in the Area of Social Activities (TASA) Chennai
71.	Bhagvati Welfare Trust, Erode
72.	Victory Youth Association, Arakkonam
73.	Gandhi Rural Education & Development Society, Villupuram
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	
74.	Avadh Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Sultanpur
75.	Sarvajan Kalyan Samiti, Allahabad
76.	Master Gram Vikas Seva Sanstha, Hamirpur

1	2
77.	Rural Development Society, Maharajganj
78.	Dehati Gramothan Vikas Samity, Hamirpur
79.	Shiva Gramodyog Seva Sansthan, Kanpur
80.	Jan Seva Samiti, Sardei Pratapgarh
81.	Mahila Bal Evam Yuva Kalyan Samiti, Mahoba
82.	Avadh Seva Sansthan, Pratapgarh
83.	Ambedkar Shiksha Prasar Samiti, Jallaun
84.	Ajit Gramodyog Sansthan, Janpath, Hatras
85.	Bundelkhand Gramodyog Seva Samiti, Hamirpur
86.	Atal Gramodyog Samiti, Amethi
87.	Bhartiya Jan Kalyan Kendra, Amethi
<b>West Bengal</b>	
88.	Bharat Scouts & Guides, Calcutta
89.	Prabuddha Bharati Shishutirtha, Midnapore

#### Privatisation of ESI Hospital in UP

3238. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ESI has decided to privatise three hospitals in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of such ESI hospitals and the reasons for taking such decision;

(c) the average occupancy rate in these hospitals; and

(d) the reasons for low occupancy and poor use of ESI hospitals in some areas in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The responsibility for administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme in Uttar Pradesh except in NOIDA vests in the Government of U.P. The average bed occupancy rate in ESI hospitals in U.P. is around 42%. The low occupancy and poor use of ESI hospitals in U.P. is attributable mainly to closure/shifting of some industries, lack of adequate staff and satisfactory services in hospitals and general increase in wages of the employees enabling them to cross the wage limit prescribed for coverage under the ESI Scheme. Recently, working of three ESI hospitals at Azadnagar, Sarvodayanagar and Kidwainagar, Kanpur has been reviewed by the ESI Corporation and it has been decided to explore various possibilities for optimum utilization of these hospitals.

### **Dilapidated Condition of Barrages**

3239. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of barrages are in a very dilapidated condition in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve their conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Several old barrages/weirs including those on rivers Yamuna, Krishna, Godavari and Mahanadi, which in a dilapidated conditions have been replaced/strengthened. Still there are many old barrages in the country which need renovation/replacement. Being a State subject, construction maintenance and replacement of such structures is normally done by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities.

### **Open House Meeting organised by TRAI**

3240. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there were differences at an open house meeting organised by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) over opening up the fixed telephone sector to unlimited competition;

(b) if so, the details of the difference between cellular telephone operators and the basic telephone operators;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the extent to which private telecom companies formed cartels to reduce competition; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the formation of cartels in the telecom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Though the participants in open house discussions are free to give their opinions but there were no major differences on the issue of opening up the fixed telephone sector to unlimited competition.

(c) TRAI, after examining the various view points, recommended to open up the fixed telephone sector to unlimited competition and the Government accepted it.

(d) No cartel formation has come to the notice in respect of licences issued so far.

(e) The net-worth and experience of a promoter/partner can be considered in one applicant company only for issue of licences in a Service Area without restricting competition.

[Translation]

### **Telephone Advisory Committee**

3241. SHRI MANSOOR ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Telephone Advisory Committees (TAC) have been constituted in Delhi;

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

(c) the names of Members of TAC;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaint in the nomination of members of TAC;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the same is likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

### **Cricket Matches**

3242. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the cricket test matches scheduled to be played in India and abroad in 2001 and 2002 alongwith the names of such countries where these matches are likely to be played;

(b) the estimated expenses incurred on the tours of the players and other persons accompanying them;

(c) the criteria laid down for the selection of players;

(d) whether more attention would be focussed on the merit of players for better results of the matches; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***ESI Benefits**

3243. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have not yet provided ESI benefits to Coir and Cashew Workers in the Southern States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this benefit is likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The workers engaged in Coir and Cashew industries coverable under the ESI Scheme and located in notified areas including those in Southern States are already covered for Social Security benefits as admissible under the ESI Scheme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Pending Road Projects in Tamil Nadu**

3244. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal of Tamil Nadu Government related to sanction of road projects is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the above proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Thirteen proposals of Government of Tamil Nadu costing Rs. 9.99 crores are with the Union Government. Decision on the same will be taken soon.

**Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra**

3245. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether various irrigation projects for construction in Maharashtra are pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the names of such projects alongwith estimated cost of construction, district-wise; and

(c) the time by which the clearance is likely to be accorded to the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Out of the 44 major/medium irrigation projects submitted by the Government of Maharashtra to the Central Water Commission for techno-economic approval, 16 projects have been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources with certain observations. The rest are under appraisal/correspondence with the State Government.

The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Clearance of major/medium irrigation projects depends on resolution of inter-state issues whenever involved and compliance of observations of the various central appraising agencies by the State Government.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of Project	District Benefited	Major/ Medium	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Dudhganga Irrigation	Kolhapur, Belgaon	Major	204.58	B
2.	Warna Irrigation	Sangli, Kolhapur	Major	337.81	B
3.	Koyna-Krishna Lift Irrigation	Sangli	Major	259.10	B
4.	Arunavati Project	Yavatmal	Major	66.48	B
5.	Punad irrigation	Nasik	Major	29.22	B

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Lower Wunna Project	Nagpur, Wardha	Major	87.55	B
7.	Human River Project	Chandrapur	Major	494.60	A
8.	Lower Wardha	Wardha	Major	61.99	A
9.	Gunjawani	Pune	Major	86.77	A
10.	Sangola Branch Canal	Solapur	Major	44.00	B
11.	Talamba Irrigation Project	Sindhudurg	Major	289.09	B
12.	Lendi Irrigation Project	Nanded, Nizamabad (AP)	Major	177.615	A
13.	Sakol	Latur	Medium	10.88	B
14.	Raigavan	Osmanabad	Medium	9.51	B
15.	Jam Irrigation	Nagpur	Medium	42.63	B
16.	Masalga	Latur	Medium	10.51	B
17.	Kar	Wardha, Nagpur	Medium	44.71	B
18.	Tajnapur Lift Irrigation	Ahmed Nagar	Medium	23.47	A
19.	Chandrabhaga	Amravati	Medium	35.30	B
20.	Pentakali	Buldhana	Medium	31.41	B
21.	Purna	Amravati	Medium	51.97	A
22.	Utwali	Buldhana	Medium	35.77	B
23.	Sulwade Barrage	Dhule	Medium	88.25	A
24.	Lal Nalla	Wardha	Medium	19.05	A
25.	Nawargaon	Yavatmal	Medium	5.26	B
26.	Renapur	Latur	Medium	7.36	B
27.	Uppar Manjra	Beed, Osmanabad	Medium	40.49	A
28.	Jangam Hati Lift Irrigation	Kolhapur	Medium	4.29	B
29.	Pothra Nalla	Wardha	Medium	42.50	A
30.	Chikotra	Kolhapur	Medium	114.38	A
31.	Prakash Barrage	Dhule	Medium	93.60	A
32.	Jambre	Kolhapur	Medium	55.72	A
33.	Chitri	Kolhapur	Medium	79.94	A
34.	Andhra Kohre	Pune	Medium	44.37	A
35.	Kirimiri Darur	Chandrapur	Medium	27.89	A
36.	Wakod	Aurangabad	Medium	28.32	A
37.	Gautami Godavari	Nasik	Medium	65.57	A
38.	Kashyapi	Nasik	Medium	49.33	A
39.	Sapan	Amravati	Medium	36.30	A

1	2	3	4	5	6
40.	Sonapur (Tomta)	Chandrapur	Medium	14.43	A
41.	Srangkheda	Nandurbar	Medium	132.51	A
42.	Haranghat L.I.S.	Chandrapur	Medium	44.11	A
43.	Gul River	Jalgaon	Medium	55.94	A
44.	Ghataprabha	Kolhapur	Medium	34.92	A

(A) Under Correspondence

(B) Put up to Advisory Committee and accepted subject to observations.

### Effects of Pokhran Nuclear Test on Surroundings

3246. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any studies have been carried out on the long term effects of Pokhran nuclear test on the soil, flora, fauna, animals, human health and wild-life;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Opening of Telephone Exchange

3247. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a telephone exchange at Silapur in Burdwan district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Sufficient registered demand for telephone connections is not yet available at Silapur. As soon as the required minimum demand is received, telephone exchange will be planned at this place.

[Translation]

### MARR Telephones

3248. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to ensure

smooth functioning of Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) telephones installed in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) 1. Testing of VPTs are carried out daily from the exchange. Any VPTs not responding on two consecutive days are being treated as faulty.
2. Testing of MARR LINKS are carried out daily from the base station.
3. Meter reading are checked fortnightly and low reading is taken as an indication of the system not performing properly and are being especially checked.
4. VPTs holders have been asked to book their fault at telephone exchange/JTO incharge.
5. Repair centres are in process of being set-up in each circle.
6. AMC has been entered into with many suppliers of the system.
7. SSA Heads are holding meetings with villagers to sort out the grievances.
8. Flying squads have been constituted at circle/TCHQ level.
9. Following new technologies are being tried in the network for induction:
  - WLL (Wireless in local loop)
  - C.DOT-TDMA PMP system (C-DOT developed time division Multi Access point to Multipoint system).
  - Satellite Base Terminals for remote and inaccessible areas.

10. Unserviceable MARR System are proposed to be replaced.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

#### Allocation of Funds for National Highways

3249. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to States for construction and maintenance of National Highways during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, State-wise;

(b) the amount released and actually utilized by each State till date for the purpose and the time by which the remaining funds are likely to be utilised, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for non-utilization of funds by each State Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Details of allocation of funds to States for construction and maintenance of National highways during 2000-2001 as also the expenditure upto January 2001 are given in enclosed statement. The amount released to the States is for the financial year 2000-2001. Since the demands for grants for 2001-2002 are yet to be approved by Parliament, it is not possible to indicate the State-wise allocation of funds.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### Statement

##### Allocation of Funds for National Highways

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of States/ UT	Amount released upto Feb. 2001 and Expenditure by States upto Jan. 2001					
		NH(O)		M&R		SRP	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9100.00	6650.00	3230.00	2683.46	1718.75	1501.68
2.	Assam	5800.00	2784.00	2784.19	1754.00	1894.73	874.00
3.	Bihar	6727.00	6558.00	3848.55	2979.00	2150.00	1924.00
4.	Chandigarh	150.00	129.94	41.00	20.34	24.04	6.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	1727.80	0.00	980.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	1200.00	572.00	82.00	137.00	0.00	31.26
7.	Goa	2300.00	1249.00	328.53	249.68	232.00	179.84
8.	Gujarat	8810.00	6653.00	1950.00	1255.00	312.79	144.00
9.	Haryana	5800.00	4350.00	1496.23	1229.00	409.90	450.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4700.00	2641.00	1891.35	2702.00	839.68	761.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	114.00	274.42	32.40	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	2073.00	0.00	352.15	0.00	115.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	7800.00	5159.00	2897.67	1096.18	1586.16	1242.03
14.	Kerala	10500.00	2395.00	1419.03	2688.00	524.00	565.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	8272.20	3858.00	4885.92	4487.00	3598.27	2373.00
16.	Maharashtra	11800.00	6900.00	3915.00	2539.10	230.00	842.34

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Manipur	1250.00	633.00	824.49	716.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	2000.00	850.00	798.59	230.00	318.12	11.00
19.	Mizoram	1200.00	429.00	670.22	452.00	286.21	106.00
20.	Nagaland	1500.00	1182.00	361.25	295.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	7000.00	4561.00	3626.99	2560.00	500.00	430.00
22.	Pondicherry	200.00	50.17	70.00	19.11	102.10	87.67
23.	Punjab	4800.00	2086.00	1690.00	1000.00	395.62	258.00
24.	Rajasthan	11000.00	6955.00	4307.25	1824.00	691.85	495.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	10200.00	5709.00	3404.66	2720.00	1329.84	1368.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13484.65	8645.00	5226.24	3458.00	736.08	1686.00
27.	Uttanchal	199.35	0.00	123.58	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	8800.00	5860.00	3209.80	2798.00	1665.00	1270.00

NH(O) - National Highway Original Work

M&R - Maintenance & Repair

SRP - Special Repair Programme

[English]

### Economic Regulatory Authority

3250. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI RAMSHETHH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering for constituting an Economic Regulatory Authority;

(b) if so, the details and objective thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to allow private participation for setting up cargo complexes in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the airlines do not face the problem of one way traffic in respect of cargo movement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Creation of a statutory airport regulatory authority called Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) for limited economic regulation of airports within the overall framework of the draft Civil Aviation Policy is under consideration.

(c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has set up integrated Air Cargo Terminals at Calcutta, Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai International Airports and modest cargo facilities at Nagpur, Guwahati and Lucknow Airports for processing export and import cargo. At inland airports at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Jaipur, Trivandrum and Varanasi, the Cargo Complexes are owned and operated by the respective State Government undertakings. At Amritsar and Srinagar Airports, the Cargo Complexes are operated by Central Warehousing Corporation and Indian Airlines Limited respectively. Air Cargo Complexes are also operating at off the airport locations at Calicut, Hyderabad, Indore, Kanpur, Patna, Visakhapatnam, Coimbatore, Goa and Jammu which are not owned and operated by the AAI.

In accordance with the ICAO recommended practices, the Air Cargo Complexes should have air side and city side access. AAI owned Cargo Terminals fulfill this norm.

Cargo Complexes situated away from the airport locations are open to private sector, subject to Customs' approval. In accordance with the Government policy to encourage competition/private participation in Air cargo handling at airports, the Airports Authority of India, of late, has planned to outsource special Terminal facilities such as Centre for Perishable Export Cargo, at Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad Airports. Setting up of a Joint Venture parallel Cargo Terminal with private

participation at Delhi is also currently under consideration of AAI/Government.

(d) To overcome the situation, the Government/AAI are exploring the possibility of developing cargo hub at strategic Indian Airports.

### Telephone Facility

3251. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :  
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages where telephone facility has been provided and the number of villages where this facility has not been provided in Gujarat and Maharashtra States as on January 31, 2001, separately, district-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide the said facility in the remaining villages of these States;

(c) the number of telephones lying out of order at present in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these telephones are likely to be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Requisite information as on January 31, 2001 is available in Statement-I for Gujarat and in Statement-II for Maharashtra.

(b) M/s. Relinace Telecom Ltd. in Gujarat and M/s. Hughes Telecom (India) Ltd. in Maharashtra have been entrusted with the responsibility to provide the said facility in remaining villages of these States.

(c) 1246 Village Public Telephones are faulty in Maharashtra as on 10.3.2001.

(d) Reasons include disorientation of RSU (Remote Switching Unit) antenna, batteries getting discharged, solar panels getting damaged, feeder cables being damaged by rats and BSU (Base Station Unit)/RSU cards going faulty. Other reasons for faulty lines are disconnections due to fall of trees, earthing due to break of insulators, instrument faults and damage of cables.

(e) About 500 village public telephones are irreparable and are required to be replaced by Wireless in Local Loop systems progressively by 2002 subject to availability of funds. Normal telephone faults are cleared within two days.

### Statement-I

#### District-wise information about telephone facility in villages of Gujarat

S.No.	Name of District	Total number of villages	Number of villages with telephone facility	Number of villages without telephone facility
1.	Ahmedabad	719	666	53
2.	Amreli	613	575	38
3.	Bhavnagar	784	678	106
4.	Bharuch	1116	812	304
5.	Bhuj	884	588	296
6.	Godhra	1888	1086	802
7.	Himatnagar	1363	985	378
8.	Jamnagar	694	594	100
9.	Junagadh	1103	943	160
10.	Mehsana	1091	987	104
11.	Nadiad	965	944	21
12.	Palanpur	1368	993	375
13.	Rajkot	841	816	25
14.	Surat	1185	864	321
15.	Surendranagar	648	645	03
16.	Vadodara	1639	951	688
17.	Valsad	1224	796	428
Total		18125	13923	4202

### Statement-II

#### District-wise information about telephone facility in villages of Maharashtra

S.No.	Name of District	Total number of villages	Number of villages with telephone facility	Number of villages without telephone facility
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmednagar	1570	1458	112
2.	Akola	897	712	185

1	2	3	4	5
3. Amravati		2045	1287	758
4. Aurangabad		1338	942	396
5. Beed		1280	945	335
6. Bhandara		734	578	156
7. Buldhana		1331	1061	270
8. Chandrapur		1860	1075	785
9. Dhule		571	571	0
10. Gadchiroli		1694	484	1210
11. Gondia		932	629	303
12. Hingoli		709	373	336
13. Jalgaon		1510	1413	97
14. Jalna		966	865	101
15. Kalyan		1861	1078	783
16. Kolhapur		1217	1152	65
17. Latur		955	908	47
18. Nagpur		1584	1323	261
19. Nanded		1580	1073	507
20. Nasik		1843	1458	385
21. Nandurbar		1078	656	422
22. Osmanabad		745	671	74
23. Parbhani		833	833	0
24. Pune		1937	1102	835
25. Raigad		1956	1601	355
26. Ratnagiri		1388	676	712
27. Sangli		708	708	0

1	2	3	4	5
28. Satara		1573	1415	158
29. Sindhudurg		772	536	236
30. Solapur		1163	1138	25
31. Wardha		1015	860	155
32. Washim		642	537	105
33. Yeotmal		1751	1052	699
Total		42038	31170	10868

#### Stone Quarrying Proposals of Madhya Pradesh

3252. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals submitted by Madhya Pradesh to the Union Government seeking approval for quarrying of various kinds of stones by the forest department from 1995 to October 2000;

(b) the details of the proposals out of them cleared/rejected alongwith the reasons for rejection; and

(c) the names of the proposals pending at present and the time by which these are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The details of proposals submitted by Madhya Pradesh to the Union Government seeking approval for quarrying of various kinds of stones including mining of minor minerals by the forest department from 1995 to October 2000 and their present status given in enclosed statement.

About 10 proposals are under active process with the Ministry for a decision and the Ministry is committed to clear all such proposals, which are complete in all respects, within 90 days.

#### Statement

S.No.	Name of Proposal	District	Area (HA)	Date of receipt	Status	Reasons for rejection/return
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Renewal of lease by G.S. Bhatia	Khargone	0.425	1/11/95	Withdrawn	Proposal withdrawn by the State
2.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar lease R. Sharma	Panna	1.00	16/3/95	Approved	
3.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar lease D. Katare	Sagar	1.00	5/10/95	Approved	
4.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar lease by S. Shukla	Sagar	1.00	5/10/95	Approved	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar by S. Katara	Sagar	1.00	5/10/95	Approved	
6.	Renewal of Dolomite lease by S.S. Raza	Mandia	1.174	7/10/95	Rejected	Mineral available outside forest also
7.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar lease Devik Mineral	Chhatarpur	19.00	14/8/95	Approved	
8.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar lease by L. Pandey	Panna	0.999	9/04/95	Under Process	
9.	Renewal of Farsi Pathar lease M.M. Sharma	Panna	0.999	9/04/95	Under Process	
10.	Renewal of lease by S.N. Chaurasia	Panna	1.00	9/04/95	Under Process	
11.	Renewal of Dolomite lease by S.K. Gupta	Jabalpur	1.00	9/11/95	Approved	
12.	Farsi Pathar lease by R.N. Tiwari	Sagar	1.00	9/11/95	Approved	
13.	Farsi Pathar lease by Om Stone Company	Shivpuri	1.00	18/10/95	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
14.	Farsi Pathar lease by Nitesh Kumar	Raisen	0.885	11/02/95	Approved	
15.	Farsi Pathar lease by B.S. Yadav	Sagar	1.00	11/02/95	Approved	
16.	Renewal of Phirophyllite and Daispore by S.P. Tiwari	Tikamgarh	4.00	11/02/95	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
17.	Farsi Pathar lease by A. Chouksey	Raisen	0.915	11/02/95	Approved	
18.	Farsi Pathar lease by A.S. Yadav	Raisen	0.855	11/02/95	Approved	
19.	Renewal of Phairo Phulite lease by M.P. Mining Department	Tikamgarh	5.00	11/10/95	Approved	
20.	Farsi Pathar lease by J.L. Patel	Sagar	4.50	14/11/95	Approved	
21.	Quality Cement Work	Narsinghpur	4.50	25/11/95	Approved	
22.	Minor Mineral of Bagra Tiles & Bricks	Hoshangabad	1.00	1/01/96	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
23.	Farsi Pathar lease by Ms. S. Sultan	Sehore	1.00	6/07/96	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
24.	Dolomite lease by R.C. Bansal	Satna	9.611	9/03/96	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
25.	Minor Minerals by Dr. P.R. Meshra	Balaghat	5.00	17/6/96	Rejected	Site is close to a water body
26.	Farsi Pathar lease by Rajesh Yadav	Vidisha	1.00	21/2/97	Approved	
27.	Dolomite lease by A.K. Dongsarey	Mandia	1.40	4/10/97	Approved	
28.	Dolomite lease by Ku. S. Siptten	Mandia	3.40	23/5/97	Approved	
29.	Dolomite lease by A.K. Sarsavar	Balaghat	8.94	23/5/97	Rejected	Closed for non-furnishing of information
30.	Lease by Vijay Kumar Sarswar	Balaghat	16.187	23/5/97	Rejected	Closed for non-furnishing of information
31.	Stone lease by Irrigation Deptt.	Balaghat	4.73	23/5/97	Rejected	The site can be selected in a non-forest land or degraded forest land beyond 10 KM distance
32.	Ochre Lease by Sharad Kumar Bansal	Satna	16.86	23/5/97	Approved in principle	
33.	Dyspore lease by R.K. Saxena	Chhatarpur	3.80	14/7/97	Rejected	Closed for non-furnishing of information
34.	Farsi Pathar lease by Shri Dhan Singh	Guna	4.00	9/03/97	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Farsi Pathar lease by R.C. Singh	Guna	4.00	9/03/97	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
36.	Farsi Pathar lease by Mahipal Singh	Guna	4.00	9/03/97	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
37.	Soap Stone Lease by Smt. K. Tiwari	Narsinghpur	4.447	11/06/97	Rejected	Case of deliberate violation of Act
38.	Renewal of Marble Tiles Lease by A. Tiwari	Betul	1.00	17/12/97	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
39.	Renewal of lease by S.S. Chauhan	Khargone	0.402	28/1/98	Approved	
40.	Renewal of lease by S.S. Chauhan	Khargone	9.10	23/2/98	Approved in principle	
41.	Farsi Pathar lease by D.S. Parihar	Sagar	1.00	23/2/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
42.	Farsi Pathar lease by Harsh Saxena	Sagar	0.999	23/2/98	Rejected	Alternate non-forest land for quarry is available.
43.	Farsi Pathar lease by R. Kamaran	Sagar	0.999	23/2/98	Rejected	Alternate non-forest land for quarry is available
44.	Farsi Pathar lease by Kallash Kothari	Sagar	0.999	23/2/98	Rejected	Scientific mining on small area is not possible and may lead to unauthorised mining in adjoining forest land
45.	Renewal of Lease by M/s Tapti Marble	Betul	0.352	3/09/98	Rejected	Closed for non-furnishing of information
46.	Renewal of lease by Raghuraj Singh	Chhatarpur	1.00	3/09/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
47.	Renewal of lease by Raghuraj Singh	Chhatarpur	5.00	3/09/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
48.	Farsi Pathar lease by Pradeep Reja	Sagar	0.999	3/09/98	Rejected	Scientific mining on small area is not possible and may lead to unauthorised mining in adjoining forest land
49.	Renewal of Lease by Pacific Minerals	Balaghat	10.00	4/02/98	Approved in principle	
50.	Farsi Pathar lease by M.S. Rajput	Sagar	3.00	20/4/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
51.	Renewal of Lease by Smt. K. Verma	Rewa	2.00	29/5/98	Approved	
52.	Farsi Pathar lease by Smt. S. Tiwari	Sagar	2.00	14/7/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
53.	Farsi Pathar lease by Shusheel Tiwari	Sagar	2.00	14/7/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
54.	Farsi Pathar lease by Alok Gautam	Sagar	1.00	14/7/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
55.	Farsi Pathar lease by A.K. Jain	Balaghat	1.00	22/7/98	Rejected	Alternate non-forest land for quarry is available
56.	Renewal of Lease by Jindutt Minerals	Chhatarpur	12.80	22/7/98	Approved in principle	
57.	Renewal of Lease by H.R. Prasad	Satna	17.73	8/04/98	Pending with State	
58.	Renewal of Lease by N.A. Sidhiqui	Chhatarpur	14.97	8/04/98	Rejected	Closed for non-furnishing of information
59.	Farsi Pathar lease by Sandeep Jain	Sagar	0.999	9/07/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
60.	Farsi Pathar lease by A.K.Jain	Sagar	0.999	9/11/98	Rejected	Closed for non-furnishing of information
61.	Farsi Pathar lease by Smt. M. Jain	Sagar	4.70	9/11/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
62.	Farsi Pathar lease by M.R. Purohit	Sagar	2.00	9/11/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
63.	Farsi Pathar lease by Smt. S. Purohit	Sagar	2.00	9/11/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
64.	Renewal of Lease by Pacific Minerals	Balaghat	20.00	21/9/98	Approved	
65.	Pathar Gitti Lease by P.K. Dhimoley	Narsinghpur	2.00	22/10/98	Rejected	Alternate non-forest land for quarry is available
66.	Farsi Pathar lease by Creative Minerals	Chhatarpur	4.00	22/10/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
67.	Farsi Pathar lease by Ramesh Tiwari	Sagar	2.00	11/02/98	Under Process	
68.	Farsi Pathar lease by KVS Gopal	Sagar	2.00	11/02/98	Under Process	
69.	Farsi Pathar lease by Vijay Rana	Sagar	2.00	11/03/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
70.	Farsi Pathar lease by Alok Ajmani	Sagar	2.00	11/03/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
71.	Farsi Pathar lease by K. Jedhedka	Sagar	2.00	11/03/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
72.	Farsi Pathar lease by Smt. R. Ajmani	Sagar	2.00	11/03/98	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
73.	Farsi Lease by Sahligram Yadav	Raisen	0.998	27/7/99	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
74.	Farsi Pathar lease by Dinesh Kurup	Raisen	0.99	27/7/99	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
75.	Farsi Pathar lease by Ku. S. Bhargav	Raisen	0.997	27/7/99	Rejected	Area deep inside forest area
76.	Sand lease by Manish Dixit	Khandwa	0.95	19/11/99	Withdrawn	Proposal withdrawn by the State
77.	Sand lease by Arvind Mandloi	Khandwa	0.95	19/11/99	Withdrawn	Proposal withdrawn by the State
78.	Farsi Pathar lease by S.N. Sharma	Panna	0.999	24/12/99	Under Process	
79.	Farsi Pathar lease by A.V. Sharma	Panna	0.999	24/12/99	Under Process	
80.	Sand lease in favour of Manish Dixit	Khargone	0.945	9/2/00	Under Process	
81.	Renewal of Pyrophyllite & Diaspore minerals by Intiyas Khan	Chhindwara	0.99	3/06/00	Under Process	
82.	Dolomite lease by M/s. M.K. Minerals	Balaghat	8.094	13/6/00	Pending with State	
83.	Renewal of Black Sand Lease by Babu Kha	Khargone	0.85	7/05/00	Under Process	
84.	Farsi Pathar lease by Sudhakar Dixit	Panna	0.999	8/02/00	Returned to State	Proposal not as per prescribed format
85.	Farsi Pathar lease by Srikant Dixit	Panna	0.999	8/02/00	Returned to State	Proposal not as per prescribed format
86.	Farsi Pathar lease by Shashikant Dixit	Panna	0.999	8/02/00	Returned to State	Proposal not as per prescribed format
87.	Granite mining Katagarh Project	Chattarpur	29.036	6.2.97	Approved	
88.	Granite mining	Chattarpur	44.645	6.2.97	Approved	
89.	Granite mining	Chattarpur	50.00	6.2.97	Approved	

*[English]*

**Linking of Intelligence Agencies with Main Switching Centre**

3253. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to link the intelligence agencies with the main switching centre in each city or circle of the country as per the terms and conditions of the cellular telephone bids;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the cellular companies have agreed to comply with these terms and conditions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the names of those companies which have not agreed; and

(f) the action taken by the Government against those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (d) Licence Agreements have been drawn with different Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Providers. As per the Licence Agreements, all the licensees have agreed to provide necessary facilities to the designated authorities of the Central and State Government as conveyed by the Authority from time to time for interception of messages passing through their network in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of the State in accordance with Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of above.

**Internet and Cellular Services by Bangalore Telecom**

3254. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD :  
SHRI R.L. JALAPPA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bangalore Telecom propose to start Internet and cellular telephone services in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said services are likely to be started; and

(d) the places covered/proposed to be covered, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Karnataka Telecom Circle (including Bangalore Telecom

District) of BSNL is already an Internet Service Provider. Total number of Internet subscribers of BSNL in Karnataka as on 28.2.2001 is 9151.

As regards cellular services tender has been floated in January 2001 for introduction of Cellular Mobile Services in the country including Karnataka (inclusive of Bangalore).

(c) Internet services are already operational. BSNL Cellular Mobile Services are expected to roll out from December 2001 onwards, in phases.

(d) Internet services of BSNL is available to the Internet subscribers all over the State subject to technical feasibility. The Cellular Mobile Telephone Services are planned for introduction covering all District Headquarters.

*[Translation]*

**Death of Peacocks**

3255. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA :  
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

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

(a) whether a number of peacocks have been found dead in a village near Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to ascertain the exact cause of their deaths;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the said birds?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) As reported by the State Government 7 peafowls died in the village Poachanpur near New Delhi during February, 2001.

(c) and (d) The exact cause of their death have not been ascertained so far.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to protect Peafowls are:

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including peafowls against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) Peafowl is included in the schedule-I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby according it highest degree of protection.

- (iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (iv) Funds are provided to the State Governments for improving the habitats and providing protection of wildlife in various parts of the country.
- (v) Export of peafowl and their derivatives is prohibited under the current EXIM Policy.
- (vi) To avoid poisoning by pesticides, awareness is generated amongst the farmers for using Bio-pesticides and non-poisonous chemicals in their fields.
- (vii) The forest field staff have been instructed to maintain vigil in sensitive areas.

[English]

#### **Satellite Telephones**

3256. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a London based mobile satellite telephone company is setting up 400 satellite telephone network in rural areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas identified for the installation of the said telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.) has ordered 400 Satellite Terminals which will work on INMARSAT (International Maritime Satellite) operated by London based organization M/s INMARSAT. 280 terminals have been received and the remaining 120 are in the pipeline. These terminals are being supplied in remote and isolated areas of the country where no other terrestrial media is feasible. A few of these terminals have been reserved for Gujarat & Orissa to meet emergency conditions like earthquake, cyclone etc. These terminals have been deployed during cyclone in Orissa & Gujarat, flood in Himachal Pradesh, Mansarover and Amarnath yatra and recent earthquake in Gujarat.

#### **Farakka Barrage Project**

3257. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN :  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any funds have been sanctioned for

Farakka Barrage project to take up anti-erosion works in the Ganga river during 2000-2001; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Rs. 2.28 crore has been provided during 2000-2001 for taking up anti-erosion works for Farakka Barrage Project on river Ganga.

[Translation]

#### **Exploitation of Workers in CPWD**

3258. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the CPWD contractors are exploiting the labour working under them;

(b) if so, whether the labour working under the contractors are not given prescribed scales of pay and are put on 24 hours duty; and

(c) if so, the steps being contemplated by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The Central Government as the "Appropriate Government" in respect of CPWD, on the basis of the complaints received from the CPWD contract labour and directions of the Delhi High Court, have referred the matter to the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board seeking their recommendations as to whether the contract labour system in certain jobs in CPWD should be abolished or not. The Board, in turn, have constituted a Committee on 30.3.2000. On receipt of the recommendations of the Board, action under Section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 would be taken.

#### **Declaration of Roads as National Highways**

3259. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI R.S. PATIL :  
COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL :  
SHRI JAI PRAKASH :  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals received from the State Government with regard to the declaration to State Highways as National Highways during

2001-2002 are under consideration of the Union Government;

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

(c) the number and names of the State Highways converted into National highways during each of the last three years till 2001-2002;

(d) the funds earmarked for upgrading these roads, State-wise and National Highway-wise;

(e) the actual allocation made for the purpose during the aforesaid period, year-wise and NH-wise; and

(f) the time by which these Highways are likely to be declared as National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Statement-I giving details is enclosed.

(d) and (e) Allocation of funds for the development of National Highways are allocated State-wise and not National Highway-wise. A statement-II giving details of funds allocated for the development of National Highways during the last three years is enclosed.

(f) The expansion of National Highways is a continuous process and proposals for declaration of new National Highways are considered at certain intervals keeping in view the traffic needs, *inter-se* priority and availability of resources. Therefore, no definite time frame can be given.

#### **Statement-I**

*List of National Highways declared during the last three years*

S.No.	Name of State	National Highway No.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63, 202, 205, 214, 219 & Extn. of 9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Extn. of 52A & 153
3.	Assam	61, 62, 151, 152, 153, 154, 52A, 52B & Extn. of 54
4.	Bihar	30A, 57, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106 & 107

1	2	3
5.	Chandigarh	Nil
6.	Chhattisgarh	12A, 78, 200, 202, 216 & 217
7.	Delhi	Nil
8.	Goa	17B
9.	Gujarat	6-Extn., 8A, 8D, 8E & 59
10.	Haryana	21A, 65, 71, 71A, 72, 73 & Extn. of 64
11.	Himachal Pradesh	21A, 70, 72 & 88
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	1C & Extn. of 1B
13.	Jharkhand	75, 78, 80, 98, 99 & 100
14.	Karnataka	Extn. of NH-13, 63, 206, 207, 209, 212 & 218
15.	Kerala	208, 212, 213, 220
16.	Madhya Pradesh	59, 59A, 69, 75 Extn. of 75, 76, 79, 86, Extn. of 86 & 92
17.	Maharashtra	Extn. of NH-6, 69, 204 & 211
18.	Manipur	150
19.	Meghalaya	62, Extn. of 62, Extn. of 40
20.	Mizoram	44A, 150 & 154
21.	Nagaland	61 & 150
22.	Orissa	60, 200, 201, 203, 215 & 217
23.	Pondicherry	66 & Extn. of 45A
24.	Punjab	64, Extn. of 64, 70, 71, 95 & 72
25.	Rajasthan	Extn. of 65, 76, 79, 89, 90 & 65
26.	Sikkim	Nil
27.	Tamil Nadu	Extn. of 45A, 45B, 66, 67, Extn. of 67, 68, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219 & 220
28.	Tripura	44, 44A & Extn. of 44
29.	Uttar Pradesh	24A, 25, 25A, 56A, 56B, 58, 72, 73, 74, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 86, 87, 91, 92, 93, 96, 97 & 2A
30.	Uttaranchal	58, 72, 73, 74, 87 & 94
31.	West Bengal	60, Extn. of 60, 80, 81

**Statement-II**

*Allocation of funds for development of National Highways (Rs. in Lakhs) in various States during the last three years*

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4500.00	5045.00	9100.00
2.	Assam	2600.00	4186.83	5800.00
3.	Bihar	3405.31	6000.00	6727.00
4.	Chandigarh	82.00	100.00	150.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	1727.80
6.	Delhi	1400.00	700.00	1200.00
7.	Goa	1100.00	1700.02	2300.00
8.	Gujarat	5346.96	7307.17	8810.00
9.	Haryana	2613.50	4200.00	5800.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2500.00	4000.00	4700.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	100.00	100.00	150.00
12.	Jharkhand	-	-	2073.00
13.	Karnataka	3500.00	4600.08	7800.00
14.	Kerala	6744.46	10468.12	10500.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2200.00	3226.75	8272.20
16.	Maharashtra	4811.63	10354.31	11800.00
17.	Manipur	700.00	1010.75	1250.00
18.	Meghalaya	1000.00	1730.28	2000.00
19.	Mizoram	0.00	300.00	1200.00
20.	Nagaland	200.00	800.00	1500.00
21.	Orissa	4000.00	3850.00	7000.00
22.	Pondicherry	100.81	319.46	200.00
23.	Punjab	2500.65	1819.58	4800.00
24.	Rajasthan	3450.00	4550.30	11000.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	3624.75	6500.00	10200.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	50.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7078.14	9155.35	13484.65

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Uttaranchal			199.35
29.	West Bengal	7150.94	5138.02	8800.00
30.	Joggigappa Bridge	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Ministry	3.86	20.00	3000.00
32.	BRDB	8500.00	11230.00	13592.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>79213.01</b>	<b>108462.00</b>	<b>165136.00</b>

**Rubberisation of Roads**

3260. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether trials have been made regarding laying of rubberised roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount sanctioned to the various State Governments including Maharashtra for this purpose and the amount utilised till-date;

(d) whether the Government propose to lay rubberised roads especially in the tribal and dalit dominated areas of States including Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the total expenditure expected to be incurred on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government had carried out trials by using rubber/polymer based bitumen in selected 10 kms of National Highway No.2 in the State of U.P. and results were observed for 5 years.

(c) The total amount of works sanctioned which involve use of modified bitumen on National Highways in various States is Rs. 31.12 crores out which Rs. 6.00 crores is in the State of Maharashtra. The total amount utilized so far is Rs. 25 crores.

(d) and (e) The improvement of National Highways is a continuous process and a balanced approach is adopted to cover all areas including tribal and dalit dominated areas, based on traffic intensity and road conditions. In the State of Maharashtra a work amounting to Rs. 1.76 crore making use of modified bitumen on a stretch of 10 Kms on NH No.3 passing through Tribal area has been approved. This expenditure is expected to be incurred by 31/3/2001.

*[English]***Closing of Kolar Gold Mine****Mercury Poisoning of Water**

3261. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Mercury poisoning of water posing a serious threat" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated January 5, 2001;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, no conclusive data is available on mercury poisoning of water bodies in the country.

(c) The steps taken to check the mismanagement of mercury bearing wastes include the following:

- A notification dated December 26, 1996 had been issued banning import of mercury bearing wastes.
- A set of rules entitled Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rule, 1989 amended in 2000 had been notified for collection, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous wastes in the country.
- The Caustic Soda units have been asked to treat the effluent including mercury bearing waste to comply with the prescribed environmental standards.

**Ceiling of Reimbursement in ESI**

3262. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ceiling on cost of medical care reimbursable to the State under ESI Scheme is proposed to be increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The ceiling on cost of medical care reimbursable to the States under the ESI Scheme was last enhanced from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 600/- per insured person per annum with effect from 1.4.1999. Keeping in view the financial position of the ESIC, the existing ceiling is considered adequate.

3263. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kolar Gold Mine in Karnataka has been closed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to revive the gold mine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (c) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), after considering the matter for eight years passed final orders on 12.6.2000, concluding that it is just and equitable if BGML is wound up under Section 20(1) of SICA, 1985 and has forwarded its opinion to High Court of Karnataka in June 2000. Besides this, Ministry of Labour, Government of India, has accorded permission for closure of BGML w.e.f. 1.3.2001 under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 vide their order dated 29.1.2001. The matter is pending before the High Court of Karnataka.

**National Highways Development Projects**

3264. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for development of National Highways Projects in the country, particularly in Orissa during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details of the National Highways Projects which are being considered for development, State-wise;

(c) the extent of amount proposed to be spent thereon during 2001-2002;

(d) whether these projects are likely to be implemented with any external agencies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Annual Plan 2001-2002 for development of National Highways in the country provides for Rs. 3028.76 crore out of which provision for the State of Orissa is Rs. 160.40 crore. In addition, four laning of NH-60 from Orissa-West Bengal Border to Balasore and NH-5 from Balasore to Ichhapuram (Orissa-Andhra Pradesh Border) is being taken up as a part of Golden Quadrilateral component of National Highway Development Project (NHDP). The State-wise details of Annual Plan 2001-02 is given in enclosed statement.

(c) Since the Demand for Grant for 2001-2002 is yet to be approved by Parliament, it is not possible to indicate the amount proposed to be spent.

(d) and (e) Two Projects in Orissa, viz Four laning of NH-5 from km 0.0 to km 27.8 (Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur Section) and Four laning of NH-5 from km 27.8 and km 61.0 (Jagatpur-Chandikhol Section) are being implemented with World Bank and JBIC loan assistance respectively.

### Statement

#### Annual Plan 2001-2002

S.No.	State	Amount
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	139.94
2.	Assam	543.15
3.	Bihar	83.50
4.	Chandigarh	8.38
5.	Chattisgarh	86.00
6.	Delhi	21.91
7.	Goa	31.00
8.	Gujarat	145.04
9.	Haryana	75.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	80.75
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	9.00
12.	Jharkhand	71.05
13.	Karnataka	123.65
14.	Kerala	177.45
15.	Madhya Pradesh	115.80
16.	Maharashtra	77.28
17.	Manipur	47.50
18.	Meghalaya	127.10
19.	Mizoram	30.40
20.	Nagaland	38.00
21.	Orissa	160.40
22.	Pondicherry	16.50
23.	Punjab	90.39
24.	Rajasthan	142.95

1	2	3
25.	Tamil Nadu	171.40
26.	Uttar Pradesh	200.70
27.	Uttranchal	96.98
28.	West Bengal	117.55
Total		3028.76

[Translation]

### Modernisation of Telegraph Service

3265. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise telegraph service in Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Modernisation of telegraph services in Uttar Pradesh has been done by inducting micro-processor based Electronic Message switches. One 128 line and five 32 line Store and Forward Message Switching Systems (SFMS), 21 Electronic Key Board Concentrators (EKBCs) and 6 formatted Terminal Concentrators (FTCs) have already been provided.

The modernisation is an ongoing process and is done on the need basis. However, there is no specific proposal for 2001-2002.

(c) No specific funds have been allocated for this purpose.

### Modernisation and Expansion of Telephone Services

3266. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any policy for modernisation and expansion of telephone services in the country particularly in U.P. during 2001-2002;

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

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is planned to provide 72.30 lakhs new

telephone connections in the country during 2001-2002 by installing digital electronic exchanges and expansion of the existing exchanges. The details, State-wise, are given in enclosed statement.

(c) The allocation of funds for 2001-2002 is yet to be finalised.

### Statement

#### *Details of State-wise New Telephone connections planned during 2001-2002*

S.No.	Name of State	DELs Planned 2001-2002
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	10000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	600000
3.	Assam	100000
4.	Bihar	230000
5.	Gujarat	650000
6.	Haryana	225000
7.	Himachal Pradesh	90000
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	80000
9.	Karnataka	500000
10.	Kerala	800000
11.	Madhya Pradesh	190000
12.	Maharashtra	800000
13.	North East	80000
14.	Orissa	90000
15.	Punjab	375000
16.	Rajasthan	250000
17.	Tamil Nadu	730000
18.	Uttar Pradesh	750000
19.	West Bengal	480000
20.	Delhi	200000
<b>Total</b>		<b>7230000</b>

**Note:** Gujarat state includes Dadar Diu, Daman & Nagar Haveli (U.T.).  
Kerala state includes Lakshadweep (U.T.).  
Maharashtra state includes Goa and Mumbai.  
North-East telecom circle includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya.  
Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura state.

Punjab state includes Chandigarh (U.T.).

Tamil Nadu state includes Chennai and Pondicherry (U.T.).

West Bengal state includes Calcutta and Sikkim, Andaman Nicobar state.

Bihar state includes Jharkhand state.

Madhya Pradesh state includes Chattisgarh state.

Uttar Pradesh state includes Uttranchal state.

### Losses suffered due to Flood

3267. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rivers causing devastation owing to additional rain water have been identified in the States;

(b) if so, the names of such rivers and the area of land affected due to floods, State-wise;

(c) the estimated average annual loss suffered as a result thereof;

(d) the quantum of additional rain water that flows in each of these rivers;

(e) whether the Government propose to undertake some projects to ensure utilization of water of these rivers in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The flood prone rivers have been identified by Rashtriya Barh Ayog. These rivers are the Brahmaputra and its tributaries, the Barak, the Teesta, the Torsa and the Jaldhaka in the North-East; the Ganga and its tributaries, the Sharda, the Ghaghra, the Gandak, the Burhi Gandak, the Bagmati, the Kamla, the Adhwara Group of rivers, the Kosi, the Bhagirathi, the Ajoy and the Damodar in the North and East; the Ravi and the Sutlej in North; and the Brahmani, the Baitarani, the Subarnarekha, the Tapi and Narmada Coastal areas and Deltaic areas of Mahanadi and Godavari. In addition, other medium and small rivers also flood their plains due to unprecedented and concentrated rainfall in their catchments. The State wise average annual area affected due to floods, based on last 10 years data, are given in enclosed Statement.

(c) The average annual flood damage during the period 1991-2000 in the country is Rs. 2881.89 crore.

(d) to (f) India receives an average annual precipitation of 4,000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which includes rainfall and snow. Out of this, 3,000 BCM occurs

during monsoon. The average annual flow in various rivers of the country is assessed at 1,869 BCM. Out of this, utilizable flow by conventional methods is estimated at 690 BCM. In addition about 200 to 250 BCM can be utilized through inter basin water transfer from the surplus river basins to the deficit river basins. A live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created by construction of large dams and medium projects up to 1995. Projects to add an additional capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and 132 BCM are under planning. These storage along with other protective measures like embankments have *inter alia* provided reasonable degree of protection to an area of 14 million ha. in the country.

**Statement**

		(Million hectare)
S.No.	State	Average Area affected due to Floods
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.354
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.021
3.	Assam	0.728
4.	Bihar	0.972
5.	Goa	0.000
6.	Gujarat	0.310
7.	Haryana	0.073
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.234
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.040
10.	Karnataka	0.080
11.	Kerala	0.266
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.042
13.	Maharashtra	0.018
14.	Manipur	0.000
15.	Meghalaya	0.002
16.	Mizoram	0.541
17.	Nagaland	0.001
18.	Orissa	0.304
19.	Punjab	0.126
20.	Rajasthan	0.213
21.	Sikkim	0.000
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.025

1	2	3
23.	Tripura	0.005
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1.018
25.	West Bengal	0.737
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.000
27.	Chandigarh	0.000
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.000
29.	Daman & Diu	0.000
30.	Delhi	0.006
31.	Lakshadweep	0.000
32.	Pondicherry	0.002

[English]

**More Funds for Highways/National Highways in Tamil Nadu**

3268. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allocated more funds for the development of Highways and National Highways in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any standard norms and criteria for choosing the Highways and National Highways for the expansion and extension works;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years, Highway-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have allocated more funds during the current year 2000-01 for the development of National Highways in Tamil Nadu under the Annual Plan compared to the previous three years as indicated below:

Year	Allocation (Rs. Lakh)
1997-98	2567.92
1998-99	3921.37
1999-2000	6754.08
2000-01	10342.21

Other Highways are the responsibility of the State Governments. An amount of Rs. 6703 crore has been earmarked during the current year under Central Road Fund for State roads. One third of this has already been released.

(c) and (d) Expansion and extension works on the existing National Highways are taken up based on the condition of the road, traffic volume, *inter se* priority and availability of funds.

(e) The expenditure incurred for Annual Plan Works on National Highways in Tamil Nadu during the last three years is as follows :

Year	Expenditure (Rs. Lakh)
1997-98	1926.77
1998-99	3652.38
1999-2000	5348.20

### Super Speciality Hospitals

3269. SHRI A. NARENDRA :  
SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether ESIC has decided to set up two new Super Speciality hospitals for Cardio-thoracic Surgery and treatment of Cancer in the country;

(b) if so, the location of these hospitals;

(c) the cost to be involved on each such hospitals;

(d) whether any cost/benefit study has been done by the Government on these two ESI hospitals; and

(e) the rate of return expected from such investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

### Security Lapses

3270. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have found shocking

lapses in 'safety and security aspects' as various airports in the country as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 18, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the security personnel posted at various airports are not equipped with latest equipment to handle any emergencies;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to overhaul the security systems at the various airports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The news item refers to some of the areas of concern noticed in the existing security arrangements.

(c) and (d) Hand Held Metal Detector (HHMD), Door Frame Metal Detector (DFMD) and X-ray machines are required to help security personnel to carry out thorough inspection for detecting objectionable materials, which could be used for unlawful interference with civil aviation security. The Airports Authority of India has initiated a process to provide the latest equipment in a phased manner.

(e) and (f) To strengthen the security systems at various airports, Government has initiated various steps, which include induction of Central Industrial Security Force in a phased manner, introduction of ladder point frisking at airports, deployment of Sky Marshals on selected routes on random basis and arrangement for imparting comprehensive training to security staff and cockpit/cabin crew.

### Decline in Ground Water Level

3271. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of well dug by the Central Ground Water Board in the country especially in Maharashtra and Karnataka during each of the last three years, till-date, location-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether most of the wells have become dry due to low level of ground water; and

(d) if so, the schemes formulated by the Union Government to recharge the ground water level in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board undertakes drilling of only exploratory tubewells in the country for the purpose of collecting scientific data. However, the successful exploratory wells instead of being discarded, are handed over to the States at a nominal cost for their utilization for drinking irrigation and other purposes. Under this programme, the Central Ground Water Board has drilled a total of 8484 exploratory wells in the country upto November, 2000. The State-wise details are given in Statement-I. The Board has drilled 88 and 53 exploratory wells respectively in the State of Maharashtra and Karnataka during 1998-99 to 2000-01 (upto December, 2000). The location of these wells is given in Statement-II. The expenditure is booked under a composite scheme and State-wise provision is not kept by the Central Ground Water Board.

(c) Out of 88 exploratory wells drilled in the State of Maharashtra, 5 wells were abandoned on technical consideration while 3 wells did not yield water. In the State of Karnataka, one well was abandoned and two wells had recorded poor yield.

(d) The Central Ground Water Board in implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". The Government have earmarked funds amounting to Rs. 25.00 crore for the scheme during the IX Five Year Plan. Rain water harvesting is an integral part of this scheme. The scheme has shown encouraging and positive results. Proposals have to be sent by the State Governments and the scheme currently covers the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi.

#### Statement

S.No.	Name of State	Total wells drilled as on Nov. 2000
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	837
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22
3.	Assam	214
4.	Bihar & Jharkhand	354
5.	Goa	58
6.	Gujarat	579

1	2	3
7.	Haryana	352
8.	Himachal Pradesh	84
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	201
10.	Karnataka	857
11.	Kerala	210
12.	Madhya Pradesh	549
13.	Chhatisgarh	303
14.	Maharashtra	693
15.	Manipur	25
16.	Meghalaya	52
17.	Mizoram	3
18.	Nagaland	11
19.	Orissa	626
20.	Punjab	117
21.	Rajasthan	761
22.	Sikkim	31
23.	Tamil Nadu	579
24.	Tripura	48
25.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	526
26.	West Bengal	212
<b>Total (A)</b>		<b>8304</b>
<i>Union Territories</i>		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	46
2.	Chandigarh	7
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	12
4.	NCT Delhi	85
5.	Pondicherry	30
<b>Total (B)</b>		<b>180</b>
<b>Grand Total (A+B)</b>		<b>8484</b>

**Statement-II**

*Location-wise details of wells drilled by CGWB in Maharashtra and Karnataka during 1998-99 to 2000-01 (upto December 2000)*

S.No.	District	Year-wise Location of Wells		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (Dec. 2000)
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>				
1.	Pune	Bhawadi, Dehane, Kharpudi, Khadus, Yelwadi, Nayagaon, Singapur, Saswad, Sherewadi, Sonwadi, Rui	Wadgaon Shinde, Pune University Campus, CWPRS, VSNL Dighi, Lohagaon Airport, Majrifarm, Lawale, Kalwai Belwade	Bharati Vidyapith, Chikhali, Maskeyvasti, Valewadi, Dingrajwadi, Nahvisandus
2.	Akola	Shendona, Bitholi, Shelubazar, Naslapen, Belkheda, Mahagaon, Medasi, Muttha, Deothana	Pimpalgaon, Kalamba, Mahali, Musalwadi, Patur, Washimba, Nimkarda, Shelad, Ural, Belura, Ambasi, Saiwani, Mirjapur, Unkheda, Langapur	Kherda, Sukinandapur
3.	Nanded	Mukramabad, Kaotha, Mansapuri, Telegaon, Mudkhed, Degloor	Nil	Nil
4.	Latur	Chandegaon, Wadhona, Jalkot, Deoani	Lohara, Latur Road, Chapoli, Shirur, Tajband, Sangavi, Dhaswadi, Bhatkheda, Kendrewadi, Kajli, Hipparga, Kingaon, Gadsuli, Renapur	Chicholi, Gadwadi (PHC), J. Navodaya, Vidyalaya, ITI Latur, Jawali, Belkund, Bhada, Ausa, Nalanga, Gour
5.	Buldhana	Nil	Nil	Jawla, Sirasgaon, Lokhanda, Amsari, Divthana
<b>KARNATAKA</b>				
1.	Dharwad	Adur, Agadi, Hosrati, Belvigi, Kengoda, Mallur, Byagdi, Hirehally, Asundi	Mankaur, Itgi, Madleri, Kuppelu, Aldgeri, Koda, Hirenkaur, Sannagubbi, Banhati II	Nil
2.	Hassan	Vadur, Karagade	Nil	Nil
3.	Chikmanglur	Narsipur, Yagalli, Anthargatta, Thangli	Vokalagere, Dewannur, Herenaglur, Kalasipura, Arenur, Maladur, Chikmanglur, Nandi, Ajjampura, Taukere II, Lingadahally, Thanijebyle	Tyagadekatti
4.	Shimoga	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Bellary	Nil	Nil	Kudligi, Banavikallu, Mahadevapura, Chormur, Sandur
6.	Coorg	Nil	Nil	Nalkere, Nadikere, Gonikoppal, Kadanga

### International Poaching of Tigers

3272. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Balmiki Nagar National Park in Bihar has a common international boundary with Nepal;

(b) if so, whether large scale poaching of Tigers crossing the boundary of National Park into Nepal has been noticed by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such international poaching?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) India has signed an M.O.U. with Nepal for the protection of wildlife including tigers. A copy of the M.O.U. is given in enclosed statement.

### Statement

#### RESOLUTION OF THE FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY

*Consultative Meeting on Biodiversity Conservation  
between Nepal and India  
3-5 Jan. 1997 at Kathmandu*

In pursuance of the joint statement made by the representatives of Nepal and India at the 9th Conference of the parties to CITES at Fort Lauderdale, USA in November, 1994, the representatives from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India (in the Department of Forests and Wildlife) and His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation) met at Kathmandu from 3rd to 5th January, 1997 for the 1st transboundary consultative meeting on biodiversity conservation and resolved the following:

*Aware of the existence of illegal trade of timber, wild flora and fauna including their parts and products.*

*Realizing the importance of transborder protected area network for comprehensive ecosystem protection.*

*Considering various steps taken by both India and Nepal with respect to extension of protected area network and control of illegal trade in flora and fauna in their respective countries.*

*Noting that there are still some gaps in the methods and systems to address the transborder illegal trade of wild flora and fauna and their products.*

*Appreciating the necessity of a comprehensive transborder protected area network and installation of suitable mechanism for effective control of illegal trade in timber, wild flora and fauna and their products.*

The parties from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India (in the Department of Forests and Wildlife) and HMG of Nepal, in the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation) agreed by consensus to:

- a. Request all countries to promote a worldwide campaign for conservation of species and ecosystem for long term human welfare.
- b. Urge the International communities to abandon the use of illegally obtained timber, wild flora and fauna and their products.
- c. Request the support of governments of other countries, inter governmental bodies, international organisations/communities and agencies to boost up the programmes of ecosystem conservation and control of illegal trade in timber, wild flora and fauna and their products.

The meeting further resolved the following for promoting bilateral cooperation between India and Nepal on the issue of transboundary protected area system and control of illegal trade in timber, wild flora and fauna and their products.

1. Improve their respective national legislations to address the requirement of CITES.
2. Encourage establishment of transboundary protected areas complementary to each other, wherever possible.
3. Maintain appropriate database system and share information relevant for biodiversity conservation.
4. Establish complementary anti-poaching mechanism and units for prevention of crimes related to forest and wild flora and fauna and prevent illegal trade and encroachment on forest land.
5. Study and monitor the trade routes and species in trade including seasons of trade.
6. Monitor the transboundary movement of wild animals and establish locally a system of early exchange of information.
7. Promote mutual cooperation in the sphere of research, training and visit programmes.
8. Undertake public awareness programmes at national, regional and local levels to involve

people in conservation through mass media and local interactions.

9. Establish in-country mechanism to involve all relevant depts. and agencies linked with and interested in control of illegal trade in wild flora and fauna.

*And in pursuance of these*

10. Hold regular meetings of this consultative committee to review the progress made and improve the future actions based on experience gained.

Sd/- Head of Delegates, India      Sd/- Head of Delegates, Nepal

#### **Licence to Private Airlines**

3273. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the terms and conditions for granting licences to the companies starting new airlines in the country have been made stringent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these conditions are likely to help in avoiding the closing of private airlines without the consent of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Terms and conditions for granting of permit to start new airlines for operating scheduled domestic air transport services are provided for in the CAR, Section 3, Air Transport Series 'C' Part II issued by the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Minimum requirements for grant of permit to operate scheduled passenger air transport services.

(c) Under the existing policy, barriers to entry and exit from the domestic air transport services sector have been removed and there is only a pre-entry scrutiny of applications to verify the financial soundness, maintenance, security and safety aspects of operations and human resources development proposed to be undertaken by the applicant airline. Further, to eliminate non-serious entrepreneurs and to achieve economies of scale, the minimum fleet size for a scheduled operator has been fixed at 5 aircraft and the minimum amount of the shareholders fund at Rs. 10.00 crores and Rs. 30.00 crores for operators of aircraft of all-up-weight below 40,000 kgs. and above 40,000 kgs., respectively.

*[Translation]*

#### **Water Contamination due to Industrial Pollution**

3274. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :  
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :  
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ :

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

(a) whether water of some of the rivers in the country has become unsafe for human consumption due to pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ground water/water resources in some of the areas in the country particularly areas adjoining Delhi have been contaminated due to industrial pollution;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise;

(e) whether the Government have assessed the quantum of water rendered unfit to use due to industrial pollution during the last three years;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The water quality of rivers in the country is monitored by the Central and State Pollution Control Boards, the results of which indicate that the rivers in selected stretches receiving domestic waste water, show high bacterial pollution and water of these rivers is unsafe for human consumption. A number of stretches of the following rivers have been identified as polluted: Yamuna (Delhi & Agra), Chambal (Madhya Pradesh), Kali (Uttar Pradesh), Hindon (Uttar Pradesh), Khan & Kshipra (Madhya Pradesh), Damodar (Bihar & West Bengal), Gomati (Uttar Pradesh), Cauvery (Karnataka), Kolong (Assam), Bhogdoi (Assam), Barak (Assam), Imphal (Manipur), Howrah (Tripura), Sabarmati (Gujarat), Satluj (Punjab), Godavari & Krishna (Maharashtra & Andhra Pradesh), Bhadra (Karnataka), Brahmani (Orissa), Narmada, Tapi & Betwa (Madhya Pradesh), Beas (Himachal Pradesh) and Adyar & Cooum, Cauvery, Vaigai, Tamarabarani (Tamil Nadu).

(c) and (d) The ground water resources are getting contaminated due to fast industrialization and

agricultural activities. Ground water contamination due to heavy metals in industrial areas is reported from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Delhi. Higher concentration of heavy metals is also reported in ground water from Delhi and adjoining areas, namely, Alipur, Kanjhawala, Najafgarh, Mehrauli and Shahdara blocks in Delhi, Faridabad in Haryana and Saharanpur and Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh.

(e) to (g) The waste water generated from different categories of industries is estimated as 83,140 million litres per day which includes 73,975 million litres per day from thermal power plants. The industrial effluents, when treated to the prescribed standards can be fully or partially utilized or recycled.

(h) The steps taken by the Government for prevention of pollution of rivers/lakes and ground water include:

- (i) Government is implementing National River Conservation Plan for abatement of pollution from domestic sewage in major rivers.
- (ii) Directions are issued to the defaulting industrial units discharging waste water to provide requisite pollution control facilities.
- (iii) A Central Ground Water Authority has been constituted for control, regulation and management of ground water in the country. The Authority has notified critically polluted areas in the country.
- (iv) Industries discharging waste water on land leading to ground water pollution are monitored for compliance of prescribed standards.

#### **Norms for Vehicular Pollution**

3275. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are fixed norms regarding the control of pollution spread by vehicles;

(b) if so, whether these norms are different in case of India and Nepal;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Nepal Government have drafted a policy to ban the import from India in view of the non confirmity of norms of vehicular pollution control by the Indian vehicles;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate and execute an effective plan of action after undertaking the review of the fixed norms for controlling the vehicular pollution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

*[English]*

#### **Pending Projects in Andhra Pradesh**

3276. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh are pending for clearance by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of such projects; and

(c) the time by which the same are likely to be given clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) 17 major/medium irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh have been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations, including environment and forest aspect while two major projects, in the process of examination and comments on various technical issues, have been sent to the State for compliance.

(c) Clearance of major/medium projects depends on resolution of inter-state issues wherever involved and compliance of observations of various central appraising agencies by the State Government.

*[Translation]*

#### **Ban on Plantation of African Babool**

3277. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Prosopis Juli Flora' plant (African Babool) is being planted in the country in the name of environment protection;

(b) if so, whether the above plant shoots up such pollen grains during the months of March to June which cause allergy and the human-beings fall victims of Asthma;

(c) if so, the number of such plants planted so far;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to impose ban on the plantation of such plants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in some parts of the country, *Prosopis juliflora* is planted for fodder and fuel-wood depending upon local edaphic factors. There is no report about the plant being a health hazard for human beings.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### Education to Child Labours

3278. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to encourage for opening the schools to impart education to child labours;

(b) if so, the detailed features of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to open schools throughout the country for child labours; and

(d) if so, the features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The Government of India has been implementing two schemes for rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work, namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) and the Scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations.

Under the Scheme of NCLP, proposals are received from the concerned Districts through the State Governments. The Scheme is implemented through District Child Labour Project Societies set up under the Chairmanship of the District Collectors/Magistrates. The major activity under the NCLP is the running of special schools/centres for rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work through non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, health care, stipend etc. So far, 96 NCLPs have been sanctioned to 13 child labour endemic States for the benefit of about 2.00 lakh children.

Under the Scheme of Grants-in-aid, funds are released to Voluntary Organisations, on the recommendation of the concerned State Government, for taking up action oriented projects for the benefit of children withdrawn from work.

[English]

#### Capacity of Indian Airlines

3279. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :  
DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :  
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines has failed to induct five lease boeing 737-200s aircrafts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the loss suffered by the Indian Airlines as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government are considering to replace the jumbo jets and airbuses by new large aircrafts with seating capacity for 800 passengers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to meet the current year demand?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines Ltd. executed Letters of Intent (L.O.I.) for lease of five B-737-200 aircraft in September, 2000. As per L.O.I., the delivery of B-737-200 aircraft were to begin from 3rd week of November, 2000. The final contract for lease of these B-737-200 aircraft was executed on 15th December, 2000. As per the contract, the aircraft were to be delivered from last week of December, 2000 till last week of January, 2001.

The deliveries of B-737-200 aircraft, however, got delayed due to the problems at the end of lessor. The lessors have now informed Indian Airlines that the problems at their end have been sorted out and the first aircraft is expected to be delivered in the near future.

(c) The lessor has revised the delivery schedule. Accordingly, the lessor is liable to pay penalty under the provisions of the lease agreement. It is expected that the aircraft will be inducted as per the revised delivery schedule and as such the Company is not likely to suffer any loss.

(d) and (e) There is, at present, no proposal under consideration for induction of new large aircraft with seat capacity of 800 passengers.

(f) Besides five B-737-200 aircraft, Indian Airlines is also in the process of inducting two A-320 aircraft on dry lease basis. This would meet the immediate capacity requirements of the company.

**Telephone Out of Order**

3280. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephones functioning in each telephone exchange in Nandurbar and Dhule districts of Maharashtra at present;

(b) the number of telephones lying out of order in both the districts at present, exchange-wise during the last one year;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make them functional;

(d) whether the Government propose to exempt telephone rent for those days for which the telephone remained out of order; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The details of telephones, functioning in each telephone exchange in Nandurbar and Dhule district of Maharashtra are given in statement-I and II respectively.

(b) Sir, no telephone is lying out of order in both districts continuously during the last one year.

(c) Sir, efforts are made to clear faults on day-to-day basis.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The proportionate rent is exempted if the telephone remains out of order for more than 7 days.

**Statement-I**

*Exchange-wise details of no. of telephones working in Nandurbar District*

S. No.	Name of Exchange	No. of Connections Working
1	2	3
1.	Dhadgaon	206
2.	Ashte	53
3.	Bhaler	87
4.	Choupale	66
5.	Dhanora	81
6.	Khondamali	140
7.	Kolda	137

1	2	3
8.	Koparli	54
9.	Kothali	81
10.	Lonkheda	106
11.	Nandurbar	4821
12.	Pachorabari	98
13.	Panaia	146
14.	Shanimandal	98
15.	Chinchpada	197
16.	Kapanji Bk.	14
17.	Khandbara	324
18.	Khekda	24
19.	Navagaon	71
20.	Navapur	1584
21.	Vadkalambi	8
22.	Visarwadi	362
23.	Brahmanpuri	189
24.	Damarkheda	141
25.	Gogapur	119
26.	Kahatul	152
27.	Kathardadig	144
28.	Khed Digar	71
29.	Kudawad	130
30.	Mandane	180
31.	Mhasawad	208
32.	Padalde	111
33.	Prakasha	311
34.	Sarangkheda	301
35.	Shahada	2467
36.	Shelti	131
37.	Tarhadi	142
38.	Torkheda	103
39.	Vadali	268
40.	Akkalkuwa	461
41.	Borad	89

1	2	3
42.	Khapar	286
43.	Mod	85
44.	Moolgi	36
45.	Taloda	1105

**Statement-II**

*Exchange-wise details of no. of Telephones working in Dhule District*

S. No.	Name of Exchange	No. of Connections Working
1	2	3
1.	Dhule MRLU-I	7531
2.	Dhule MRLU-II	4923
3.	Dhule TRLU	1539
4.	Dhule MIDC	842
5.	Dhule CMM	2292
6.	Ajang	103
7.	Arvi	153
8.	Borkund	125
9.	Borvihir	158
10.	Gartad	105
11.	Kapadne	194
12.	Moghan	109
13.	Mohadi	92
14.	Mukti	275
15.	Naval Nagar	170
16.	Nimgul	45
17.	Nyhalod	143
18.	Shirud	150
19.	Songir	312
20.	Tarwade	63
21.	Boris	145
22.	Khandlai	64
23.	Kusumba	325

1	2	3
24.	Lamkani	165
25.	Lonkhedi	52
26.	Mehergaon	55
27.	Nandane	58
28.	Ner	188
29.	War	151
30.	Behed	64
31.	Bramhanwel	91
32.	Chhadwel Kor	76
33.	Datarti	99
34.	Dighawe	87
35.	Dusane	92
36.	Indavf	40
37.	Kasarf	357
38.	Mhasadi	179
39.	Nizampur	297
40.	Sakri	1413
41.	Shewage	55
42.	Dahiwel	176
43.	Dhaner	85
44.	Ghodade	75
45.	Kudasi	55
46.	Pimpalner	1288
47.	Shenpur	66
48.	Arthi	334
49.	Bhatpura	105
50.	Bhorkheda	26
51.	Boradi	139
52.	Dahiwad	150
53.	Gidhade	97
54.	Hisale	97
55.	Holnanthe	190
56.	Jaitpur	86
57.	Jatoda	75

1	2	3
58.	Manjrod	181
59.	Palasner	101
60.	Sanghavi	54
61.	Shirpur	3650
62.	Sulf	40
63.	Tekwade	70
64.	Thalner	218
65.	Varul	153
66.	Wadi	90
67.	Arave	30
68.	Bamhane	83
69.	Betawad	235
70.	Bhadane	61
71.	Chemthana	141
72.	Dangurne	50
73.	Dondalcha	1978
74.	Junekolde	73
75.	Malpur	119
76.	Mhalsar	115
77.	Nardana	312
78.	Nimgul (SNK)	139
79.	Shindkheda	963
80.	Varpade	75
81.	Varsi	58
82.	Vaypur	99
83.	Vikharan	91
84.	Virdel	57
85.	Walkheda	75

**Misutilisation of Funds**

3281. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether many State Governments have

misutilised the funds released to them by the Government for various irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details of funds released during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of the States which have submitted utilization certificates in this regard; and

(d) the action the Government propose to take against those States which have not submitted the said certificate and diverted the funds for other purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his report (1992 to 1998) has pointed out certain irregularities like diversion of funds for activities not connected with the Command Area Development Programme, advances treated as final expenditure, expenditure in excess of prescribed norms on establishment, deposition of funds in banks as fixed deposits in utilisation of funds released by the Central Government under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme. The concerned States have already been addressed to sort out these irregularities with the Auditor General of the States and furnish compliance. In some cases action has also been initiated to recover the unutilized amounts. The releases are not made to such State Governments which do not submit utilisation certificates.

(b) and (c) A Statement is enclosed.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of funds released during IX Plan under the centrally sponsored Command Area Development (CAD) Programme\* and Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme#*

(Rs. in Crore)

S.No.	State	Amount released under CAD Programme	Amount released under AIBP Programme
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38.40	313.705
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.10	15.0000
3.	Assam	1.24	60.917

1	2	3	4
4. Bihar		0.00	266.73
5. Chhatisgarh		0.00**	34.450
6. Goa		0.20	55.4000
7. Gujarat		10.71	1212.52
8. Haryana		32.53	12.00
9. Himachal Pradesh		1.42	40.5620
10. Jammu & Kashmir		6.73	14.83
11. Jharkhand		0.00**	43.925
12. Karnataka		19.91	513.14
13. Kerala		17.94	37.40
14. Madhya Pradesh		4.19	437.903
15. Maharashtra		26.78	225.10
16. Manipur		3.47	58.59
17. Meghalaya		0.18	8.2088
18. Mizoram		0.00***	2.8660
19. Nagaland		0.21	5.2300
20. Orissa		13.71	296.42
21. Punjab		38.52	168.81
22. Rajasthan		0.00	360.782
23. Sikkim		0.00***	1.36
24. Tamil Nadu		53.96	-
25. Tripura		0.00	57.613
26. Uttar Pradesh		98.22	750.40

1	2	3	4
27. Uttaranchal		0.00**	-
28. West Bengal		6.72	71.825
Total		462.76	5065.687

\* Funds under this scheme are released on reimbursement basis, therefore, the figures of amount released and utilization are the same. The State of Bihar has not furnished utilization certificates for the total amount released till 1995-96, therefore, no funds have been released since 1996-97. The States of Andhra Pradesh and Goa have not furnished utilization certificates for the amount released during 1997-98, as such no central assistance has been released to these States since then.

\*\* Newly created States, no proposal for release of central assistance received so far.

\*\*\* Projects included during current financial year. No proposal for release of funds received so far.

# The second/subsequent instalments of CLA are released only after receipt of utilization certificate.

[Translation]

#### Conservation of Forests

3282. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated by the Government for conservation of forests in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any review has been made regarding works carried out by the State Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the work done by each State?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALI) : (a) to (c) The financial assistance released for conservation of forests under the major afforestation schemes of Ministry of Environment & Forests during last three years & physical progress thereunder are given in the enclosed statement. The performance of the scheme/projects is reviewed periodically and subsequent release of funds is subject to satisfactory utilisation of the central assistance provided earlier.

#### Statement

*Funds provided to States and the area covered for afforestation under the centrally sponsored schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years*

(Area in ha./Financial Rs. in lakhs)

State	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Financial Release	Physical Achievement	Financial Release	Physical Achievement	Financial Release	Physical Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	232.02	2421	320.73	1320	378.36	7310
Arunachal Pradesh	74.86	446	19.94	501	103.05	693

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	166.54	1900	150.95	3159	181.84	3179
Bihar	202.35	1151	125.59	0	262.04	3057
Goa	21.78	320	22.82	225	26.77	181
Gujarat	272.05	3405	281.86	3160	421.04	3485
Haryana	299.44	4325	409.18	3280	376.42	2610
Himachal Pradesh	207.46	3303	131.85	2700	283.27	3759
Jammu & Kashmir	393.49	2444	494.19	5653	567.94	6265
Karnataka	438.22	5593	227.46	1557	444.41	7140
Kerala	257.77	1159	334.8	5776	463.37	5336
Madhya Pradesh	690.71	13125	876.06	10701	896.93	21354
Maharashtra	225.38	1914	174.64	366	195.91	1712
Manipur	218.48	2208	469.07	4245	676.54	6585
Meghalaya	5.48	0	12	0	10.21	0
Mizoram	339.83	6500	339.72	3250	392.25	4100
Nagaland	1.22	0	15.23	0	49.47	293
Orissa	192.13	2565	378.11	5750	521.73	15150
Punjab	268.61	3977	62.81	700	28.62	0
Rajasthan	643.36	5000	663.05	8100	684.84	7800
Sikkim	194.04	1415	343.08	4095	281.34	3380
Tamil Nadu	160.39	3655	170.86	2445	135.03	3350
Tripura	166.51	2013	106.46	2716	55.02	2199
Uttar Pradesh	648.6	5505	633.44	5233	736.23	7596
West Bengal	288.52	3442	433.39	4650	506.99	3980
<b>Total</b>	<b>6609.24</b>	<b>77786</b>	<b>7197.29</b>	<b>79582</b>	<b>8679.62</b>	<b>120514</b>

[English]

**NHAI Bonds for NHDP**

3283. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :  
SHRI BHIM DAHAL :  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India are considering to issue tax free bonds for the

construction of 'Golden Quadrilateral' a portion of the National Highways Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount for which bonds are likely to be issued and annual rate of interest offered thereon;

(d) the quantum of work which has already been completed so far under the project;

(e) the details of construction work likely to be taken up, State-wise; and

(f) the time by which the entire work under the project is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has already raised Rs. 500 crores through its first bond issue under Section 54EC of Income Tax Act in September-October, 2000, which offers tax exemption to long term capital gains. The second bond issue for Rs. 500 crores opened on 16.02.2001 will be available till 24.03.2001. Coupon rate is 9.25 per cent.

(c) The Government has approved a borrowing programme of Rs. 3,600 crores by March, 2002, for

NHA. The rate of interest in subsequent bond issues will be decided at the time of issue depending upon the market conditions.

(d) A length of 643 km on Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) and 648 km on North-South and East-West corridors (NS-EW) has been completed so far.

(e) A length of 1,394 km on GQ and 272 km on NS-EW is under implementation. State-wise length of National Highways forming part of NHDP is given in enclosed statement.

(f) The GQ component is expected to be completed by December, 2003 and NS-EW by December, 2007.

### Statement

#### State-wise length of National Highways forming part of NHDP

(Length in Km.)

S.No.	Name of State	Golden Quadrilateral	Corridors		Corridor Total	Grand Total
			North-South	East-West		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,011	753	-	753	1764
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	-	758	758	758
4.	Bihar	396	-	517	517	913
5.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Delhi	25	34	-	34	59
7.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Gujarat	510	-	654	654	1164
9.	Haryana	175	180	-	180	355
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	14	-	14	14
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	405	-	405	405
12.	Karnataka	690	125	-	125	815
13.	Kerala	-	160	-	160	160
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	524	142	666	666
15.	Maharashtra	506	232	-	232	738
16.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-
17.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-
19.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-
20.	Orissa	442	-	-	-	442

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Punjab	-	296	-	296	296
22.	Rajasthan	688	32	480	512	1200
23.	Tamil Nadu	263	851	-	851	1,114
24.	Uttar Pradesh	777	268	548	816	1,593
25.	West Bengal	469	-	366	366	835
Total		5,952	3,874	3,465	7,339	*13,291

\*After minor adjustments due to realignments, etc. 13,252.

### Completion of National Highway-8

3284. DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway-8 between Delhi to Bawal has been completed;

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

(c) the time by which the above National Highway is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The section of National Highway-8 from Delhi to Gurgaon is already 4-laned and the section from Gurgaon to Bawal has been recently widened to 4-lanes under IIIrd Asian Development Bank loan assistance.

(c) Does not arise.

### Post Offices/Sub-Post Offices in Orissa

3285. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for setting up of new post offices and sub-post offices in Orissa;

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

(c) the number of post offices to be set up and the number of existing post offices proposed to be upgraded in the State during 2000-2001, district-wise; and

(d) the amount allocated for the construction of new buildings and maintenance of the post offices in the State during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 129 representations for opening of Branch Post Offices and 8 representations for opening of new Sub Post Offices/upgradation of Branch Post Offices to Sub Post Offices have been received during the current year. After examination, 8 Branch Post Offices and 2 Sub Post Offices have been sanctioned.

(c) A target of opening of 10 Branch Post Offices and 2 Sub-Post Offices during 2000-2001 has been fixed for the State. The district-wise number of Branch Post Offices and Sub Post Offices sanctioned so far is as under:

Name of District	No. of Branch Post Offices sanctioned	Number of Sub Post Offices sanctioned
Bolangir	1	-
Cuttack	2	-
Kalahandi	1	-
Kendrapara	1	-
Khurda	-	2
Nayagarh	1	-
Naupada	1	-
Sundargarh	1	-

(d) The amount allocated for the construction of new buildings and maintenance of the post offices in the State during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is as under:

Year	Funds allocated for new construction of Post Offices buildings	Funds allocated for maintenance of buildings
1999-2000	Rs. 79.16 Lakh	Rs. 290 Lakh
2000-2001	Rs. 56.71 Lakh	Rs. 87.5 Lakh

[Translation]

**Safety of Labourers in Mines**

3286. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any amendments in the Labour Laws to provide safety to the lives of labourers working in mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of labourers fallen victims in mine accidents during 1998-99 and 2000 in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder provides for the safety of the workers working in the Mines. Review of these legislations is a continuous process and amendment in the laws are made from time to time depending upon the result of such review keeping in view the changes in technology and the safety of workers working in mines.

(d) The number of labourers who have died in mine accidents during 1998, 1999 and 2000 Statewise is as under:

State	No. killed in mine accidents		
	1998	1999	2000*
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	41	31	42
Assam	7	2	1
Bihar	46	46	47
Goa	4	-	2
Gujarat	4	-	1
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
Haryana	2	8	-
Jammu and Kashmir	-	1	-
Karnataka	6	9	4
Kerala	-	-	-
Meghalaya	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	24	39	35
Maharashtra	14	9	19
Orissa	21	14	9
Rajasthan	15	20	17

	1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu		4	5	5
Tripura		-	1	1
Uttar Pradesh		1	1	5
West Bengal		22	24	18
All India		211	210	206

\*Provisional

**Setting up of Aircraft Maintenance Factory in Haryana**

3287. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up an aircraft maintenance factory in Bhiwani district of Haryana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Fire in Forests**

3288. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether forests and forest wealth have suffered damages due to fire in different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made/being made by the Government to check such incidents of fire?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Approximately 3 million hectares of the country's forest area is annually affected by forest fires in the country. Most of the forest fires are man-made and are the results of biotic pressures on the forests. The problem gets compounded due to the fact that the State Governments are not spending adequate amount of money for cleaning of fire lines and hiring of fire watchers and other preventive and control measures. The losses from forest fires have been moderately estimated to be Rs. 440 crore annually. The Central Government is implementing a plan scheme 'Forest Fire Control and Management' since the VIII Five Year Plan with 100% Central assistance to the States. The situation was reviewed in 1999 and a

Master Plan was prepared envisaging assistance to the State Governments based on identification of fire prone areas. The plan involves assistance to the Joint Forest Management Committees for fire prevention and control, taking help of latest satellite remote sensing technology in monitoring of forest fires and assessing the losses, preparation of fire danger rating systems and use of other traditional methods.

[English]

### Harvesting of Rain Water

3289. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals under consideration to tap rain water in Delhi and to use it for irrigation and other purposes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". The Government have earmarked funds amounting to Rs. 25.00 crore for the scheme during the IX Five Year Plan. In Delhi, the Board has so far completed artificial recharge studies in the India Institute of Technology and Jawaharlal Nehru University Campuses, as well as the premises of Shram Shakti Bhavan. The details of proposals under consideration for artificial recharge and rain water harvesting in the NCT of Delhi are given in the Statement.

### Statement

*Schemes under consideration in NCT of Delhi under the Central Scheme on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water*

1. Artificial recharge to ground water in Kushak Nala, New Delhi.
2. Artificial recharge to ground water in Lodhi Garden, New Delhi.
3. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.
4. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at Vayusenabad, Air Force Station, Tughlakabad, New Delhi.
5. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at DTC Central Workshop-II, Okhala, New Delhi.

6. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College, Defence Colony, New Delhi.
7. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at Tuglak Lane and surrounding areas, New Delhi.
8. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at Meera Bai Polytechnic Campus, Mahrani Bagh, New Delhi.
9. Scheme for artificial recharge to ground water at Sector-C, Pocket-1 to 3, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.

### Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.

3290. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited has started sea cable landing projects in the country;

(b) if so, the States where these projects have been launched by VSNL; and

(c) the expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited is already having Sea Cables Systems in operation with landing points at Mumbai, Chennai and Kochi. In addition, VSNL has started a new project with SAFE (South Africa Far East) with laning station at Kochi, Kerala.

(c) VSNL's investment in SAFE project is likely to be Rs. 231 crores (Rupees two hundred thirty one crores).

### Population Under Pension Scheme

3291. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population covered under pension scheme; and

(b) whether the Union Government is considering to cover other sections of the population which are not under pension coverage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As on 31-3-2000, there were 219.22 lakh employees and their families covered for pensionary benefits payable under the Employee's Pension Scheme, 1995.

(b) Expansion of coverage of the Employees Pension/Provident Fund Scheme is an ongoing process and the same is carried out as and when its need arises

keeping in view the recommendations made by the CBT, EPF in this regard.

### Corporatisation of Department of Telecom Services

3292. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Defence ministry has opposed plan to corporatise department of telecom services for security reasons;

(b) if so, the points raised by the ministry in support of their objections; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (a) & (b) above, the question does not arise.

### Investment from Private and Foreign Investors

3293. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the projects relating to National Highways based on built, operate and transfer (BO-27) has not started due to lack of investment from the private financial institutions and foreign investors and the details of these projects;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated cost of each project and the target fixed by the Government to complete these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir There has been encouraging response.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A statement giving details of projects under the BOT Scheme is enclosed. Moreover, a project of four laning of Tada-Nellore section of NH-5 and Ibrahimpatnam-Nandigama section of NH-9 to be executed on BOT basis under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Malaysia is targeted to be completed by December, 2003. The total project cost is Rs. 760 crore with a capital grant of Rs. 167.50 crore.

### Statement

#### List of BOT Projects Awarded

S. No.	Project Name	NH No	State	Length in km.	Cost in crores	Date of signing	Likely/ actual date of completion	Current Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	*Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass	3&4	Maharashtra	24	103	12/09/95	31/12/2001	In progress
2.	Chalthan ROB	8	Gujarat	4 lane ROB	10	19/09/96	15/07/1998	Completed
3.	Udaipur Bypass	8	Rajasthan	11	24	JUL-96	22/04/1998	Completed
4.	Construction of Six Bridges	5	Andhra Pradesh	6 nos. bridges	50	09/04/97	30/04/2002	In progress 3 bridges completed
5.	Coimbatore Bypass	47	Tamil Nadu	33	90	03/10/97	03/12/1999	Completed
6.	Durg Bypass	6	Madhya Pradesh	18.4	68	05/11/97	Recently Completed	Completed
7.	Narmada Bridge	8	Gujarat	6	113	21/11/97	10/11/2000	Completed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Nardhana ROB	3	Maharashtra	13	34.21	25/11/97	22/07/1999	Completed
9.	Patalganga Bridge & ROB	17	Maharashtra	1 no.	33.3	29/11/97	20/07/1999	Completed
10.	Hubli-Dharwar Bypass	4	Karnataka	30.35	68	05/02/98	05/11/2000	Completed
11.	Nellor Bypass	5	Andhra Pradesh	18	80	17/02/98	17/02/2001	In progress
12.	Koratalaiyar Bridge	5	Tamil Nadu		30	28/10/98	APRIL, 2001	In progress
13.	Kambatki Ghat Tunnel & Road	4	Maharashtra	8	37.8	16/11/98	01/09/2000	Completed
14.	Nasirabad ROB	6	Maharashtra	30m	10.45	16/11/98	15/07/2000	Completed
15.	Wainganga Bridge	6	Maharashtra	530m	32.6	16/11/98	MAY, 2001	In progress
16.	Mahi Bridge	8	Gujarat		42	16/11/98	APRIL, 2000	Completed
17.	ROB At Kishangarh Bypass	8	Rajasthan	ROB	16.66	27/11/98	25/04/2000	Completed
18.	Bridge Across River Watrak	8	Gujarat		48.2	01/03/99	31/03/2001	In progress
19.	Moradabad Bypass	24	Uttar Pradesh	18	100	23/04/99	23/10/2001	In progress
20.	ROB at Derabassi	22	Punjab	ROB	35.76	08/09/99	07/09/2001	In progress
<b>Total</b>					<b>1026.98</b>			

\* Original work since completed and opened to traffic. Widening to four lanes is in progress.

[Translation]

### Reserves of Gypsum

3294. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reserves of the gypsum are mainly found in western part of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Rajasthan State Mines and Mineral Corporation had asked for concession in freight charges for transportation of Gypsum from one station to another at 18 different places;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Extensive deposits of gypsum are exploited in Ganganagar, Nagaur, Barmer, Bikaner, Jaisalmer and

Pali districts of Rajasthan. As per information furnished by Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines, the proved reserves of gypsum in Rajasthan are 20.167 million tonnes as on 01.04.1995.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Rajasthan State Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. had asked Northern Railway for station to station freight concessions for 18 destinations for supply of gypsum ROM and for 4 destinations for supply of gypsum powder. The Northern Railway have granted concessions under S.T.S. rates scheme @ 6.1% for 22 destinations.

[English]

### Inter-State Water Disputes

3295. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government for the expeditious solution of inter-State water disputes;

(b) whether the Government propose to implement Sarkaria panel report in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the further steps proposed by the Government to implement the Sarkaria Panel recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) The Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 was enacted to provide for the adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-State rivers and river valleys under Article 262 of the Constitution. The Commission on Centre-State Relations (Sarkaria Commission), in its report, recommended amendments to the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956. These recommendations, *inter-alia*, pertain to the adjudication of the disputes by the tribunals in a time bound manner, to provide for effective implementation of their decisions and setting up of a data bank and information system at the national level for each river basin. A bill to that effect called "The Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2001" has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 7.3.2001.

#### Irrigation Proposals of Karnataka

3296. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of irrigation proposals submitted by Karnataka Government for approval during the Ninth Five Year Plan, till-date;

(b) the details of proposals pending with the Union Government for approval, till-date;

(c) the irrigation projects approved by the Cabinet Committee on economic affairs during the said period;

(d) the assistance provided to Karnataka Government for irrigation projects; and

(e) the names of projects being implemented in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Two major projects namely Markandeya Reservoir Project & Singatalur Lift Irrigation Project have been received from Government of Karnataka during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) In addition to the above, two projects one major project namely Upper Tunga and one medium project namely Lift Scheme at Basapur are in various stages of examination. Further one major project namely Hippargi Irrigation Project has been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) subject to certain observations.

(c) The irrigation projects after acceptance by the Advisory Committee of the MOWR are given investment clearance by the Planning Commission after environment and forest clearances are obtained by the State Government where required and other

observations, if any, of the Advisory Committee are compiled with.

(d) An amount of Rs. 574.39 crore has been released so far to Karnataka Government as Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

(e) The names of the on-going major and medium irrigation projects are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

S.No.	Project Name
1	2
<b>Major Projects</b>	
1.	Bhadra (TSP) (DP)
2.	Tungbhadra Dam & LBC (DP)
3.	Tungbhadra HLC (IS) (DP)
4.	Kabini (NP) (DP) (TSP)
5.	Malaprabha (DP)
6.	Herangi (NP) (DP) (TSP)
7.	Hemavathi (NP) (DP)
8.	Upper Krishna St. (DP)
9.	Karanja
10.	Bennithore (DP)
11.	Hippargi Barrange (DP)
12.	Dudhganga (IS) (DP)
13.	Varahi (TSP)
14.	Upper Tunga (DP)
15.	Yagachi (NP) (DP)
16.	Bhima Lift (DP)
17.	Bhima Flow (DP)
18.	Markandeya (DP)
19.	Singattur (DP)
20.	Ramthal Lift
<b>Medium Projects</b>	
1.	Manchanabete (DP)
2.	Iggalur (NP) (DP)
3.	Votehole (DP)

1	2
4.	Amarja (DP)
5.	Lower Mullamari (DP)
6.	Maskinala (NP)
7.	Feeder Channel to Ranikere (DP)
8.	Chulkinala
9.	Arkavathi (NP) (DP)
10.	Chicklihole (NP) (TSP)
11.	Uduthorehalla (NP) (DP) (TSP)
12.	Herehalla (DP)
13.	Gandorinala (DP)
14.	Hutchankoplu (NP) (DP)
15.	Kamasamudra (NP) (DP)
16.	Basapur Lift (DP)
17.	Hodirayanahalla (DP)
18.	Itagi Sasalwad Lift (DP)
19.	Harinala
20.	Nanjapura LIS
21.	Kagna
22.	Manjira Lift
23.	Kanchanalli

Note: NP Non Plan Projects in Cauvery Basin  
 DP Project benefiting drought Prone District  
 TSP Project benefiting Tribal areas.  
 IS Inter-State Project.

#### Telecom Export Promotion Council

3297: SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
 SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the domestic manufacturers of Telecom Equipment Manufacturing Association have demanded a slew of incentives aimed at encouraging local manufacturers and research in this sector;

(b) if so, whether the domestic manufacturers have asked for the creation of a Telecom Export Promotion Council and further incentives and rebates in tariffs for research and development investments in telecom;

(c) if so, whether the Government has considered these demands; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Telecom Equipment Manufacturer Association (TEMA) which represents the manufacturer of telecommunications equipment in India have demanded the following major incentives for encouraging local manufacturing and research in the telecom sector:

- (i) The components required for manufacture of telecom equipment should attract zero duty.
- (ii) No special surcharge should be laid on the basic duty of the component for manufacture of telecom equipment.
- (iii) Setting up of Telecom Finance Corporation to make available funds to the domestic telecom industries at international interest rates.
- (iv) The country should enter into a bilateral agreement where export of telecom products, already type approved by TEC in India, are accepted by the host countries for trial in their networks.
- (v) As permitted to Power and Mining, Telecom sector be also allowed to get the benefit of 'C' form facility which allows concessional rate of Sales Tax of 4%.

(c) and (d) Department of Telecommunications has already taken up, the issue of providing same status to the telecom sector as provided to Infotech sector in regards to sales tax with the respective State Governments and permitting telecom sector to issue 'C' form, as permitted to Power and Mining sector, with the Ministry of Revenue. So far as Customs and Excise duties of telecom equipment are concerned, the same have been rationalized in the Budget 2001-2002 and the surcharge on the basic customs duty for both components and finished products have been abolished. Further Department of Telecommunications has taken up with Department of Revenue to rationalize Custom duty structure on finished telecom equipment vis-a-vis inputs. The case for mutual recognition arrangements in Quality Analysis and Certification with the SAARC countries is being taken up by Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC) in coordination with Ministry of External Affairs.

The following incentives are already allowed to the manufacturers of the telecom equipment:

- (i) No industrial license is required for the manufacture of telecom equipment.

- (ii) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in the Telecom equipment manufacturing sector.
- (iii) The dividend income and the capital invested in telecom manufacturing is fully repatriable.
- (iv) Technical know-how fee of upto US\$ 2 million, net of taxes can be paid on an automatic basis. In addition, royalties upto 5% on domestic sales and 8% on export sales, are also permitted.

[Translation]

#### **Bargi Dam**

3298. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether report on the Bargi Dam has been published after completing the inspection work;
- (b) if so, whether the said report is likely to be presented in the House;
- (c) if so, whether the lifespan of the dam would be reduced due to agriculture in the catchment area; and
- (d) if so, the preventive steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Bargi dam was completed in 1987. At the request of the State Government, the dam was inspected on 24.5.97 by officers of the Central Water Commission after the earthquake of 22.5.97.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Siltation of the reservoir is a natural phenomenon and increases due to all type of human intervention in the catchment area including agriculture.
- (d) The Ministry of Environment & Forests have suggested catchment area treatment works as a part of the environmental safeguard measures for the project.

#### **Indian Telephone Industries**

3299. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries in Srinagar is lying closed;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the losses suffered by the Government as a result thereof during the last three years; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) As per the balance sheet, the losses suffered by ITI, Srinagar Unit during the last three years are as under :

Year	Loss (Rs. in crores)
1997-1998	4.03
1998-1999	5.02
1999-2000	4.20

(d) ITI Limited are taking following actions to reduce losses:

- (i) Introduce new products
- (ii) Better utilization of existing manpower
- (iii) Reducing cost of raw material and over head expenditure
- (iv) Opening card repair centre at Jammu.

[English]

#### **Telephone Instruments in Rural Areas**

3300. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAOTALA :  
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a large number of telephones remain out of order due to poor service and supply of inferior quality of telephone instruments;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide good quality of telephone instruments in the rural areas;
- (c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be provided, and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve telephone facilities in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Sir, good quality of telephone instruments are provided in the rural areas.

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

(d) Following steps are taken to improve telephone facilities in rural areas :

- (i) Provision of reliable transmission media to all exchanges in a phased manner to improve working of STD/Group dialing.
- (ii) Fault Repair Service (FRS) of more and more exchanges are computerized.
- (iii) Maintenance free batteries and engine alternators are provided in a phased manner to cope up the long duration of power break downs.

### Unemployment Problem

3301. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any time bound action plan for complete eradication of Unemployment in the country;

(b) if so, the target fixed and the achievement made so far in this regard; and

(c) the total number of additional opportunities likely to be generated to achieve the said target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) As per the projections in the Ninth Plan document by the Planning Commission the labour force growth is expected to beat its peak in the Ninth Plan period. As per the Planning Commission, attainment of near full employment by the year 2007 may not be an unreasonable target provided that the conditions are created for further acceleration in the growth rate and the intensity of labour absorption is not substantially reduced both sectorally and in terms of sectoral structure of growth. It is estimated that full employment by 2007 is contingent upon requisite acceleration in growth of employment and GDP in the Ninth Plan and post Ninth Plan periods.

[Translation]

### Telephone Connections

3302. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Harda and Baitul districts; and

(b) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As on

4.3.2001 the waiting list is as under:

Harda	810
Baitul	991

(b) The waiting list is likely to be cleared by 31.3.2002.

### Irrigation Capacity

3303. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target of irrigation capacity for Gujarat was fixed for 800 thousand hectares during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the irrigation capacity was generated as per the target set during the said period;

(c) if not, the extent of remaining capacity to be generated and the reasons for not generating the irrigation capacity as per the target; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) The targets fixed and achievements made for creation of irrigation capacity during the VIII Five Year Plan in Gujarat through Major and Medium irrigation projects and Minor irrigation schemes along with the gap in achieving the targets are as under :

#### Creation of Irrigation Potential during VIII-Plan

Type of Projects	Target	(in 000 hectare)	
		Achievement	Gap
Major & Medium Irrigation	448.00	104.00	344.0
Minor Irrigation	180.00	35.00	145.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>628.00</b>	<b>139.00</b>	<b>489.00</b>

The shortfall was mainly because of Sardar Sarovar Project which could not generate any potential during VIII Plan as the project work was held up due to pending court cases and non completion of other projects.

Irrigation is a State subject and all types of irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments according to their own priorities and financial resources. However, with a view to complete irrigation projects in a time bound manner so that benefits from locked up investments can be accrued at the earliest, Government of India is providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the State

Governments for selected ongoing major & medium irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), which was launched in the year 1996-97. Under AIBP, CLA amounting to Rs. 1287.293 crore has been released up to the end of February 2001 for 14 major & medium irrigation projects of Gujarat and about 102.4 thousand hectare of additional irrigation potential has been created from these projects through AIBP funding by the end of 1999-2000.

[English]

#### Demand and Production of Gold

3304. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) the estimated annual domestic demand of gold;
- (b) the total production of gold indigenously in the country;
- (c) the present annual contribution from Karnataka out of the total production; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the exploration of gold in the greenstone belts of the Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) There are no firm estimates of demand of gold in the country. Very rough estimates suggest that demand of gold in India is about 600 tonnes per annum.

(b) The total gold production in the country as reported by Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML), Hutti Gold Mines Limited (HGML), and Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) (which produces gold as a by product), during the last three years was as follows:

	(In Kilogram)
1997-98	2865
1998-99	2901
1999-2000	3108 (provisional)

(c) The present annual contribution of gold production from Karnataka works out to be about 78%.

(d) Geological Survey of India, a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines responsible for regional mapping and exploration of minerals in the country, has been carrying out exploration of gold in Karnataka. In addition to the on-going items, GSI will be taking up investigation for gold in, Shimoga district, Hutti North block, Hutti-Maski schist belt, Raichur district; prospecting for gold in volcanics-sediments contact zone between Rangayanadurga and Harpanballi, Chitradurga district, etc. during the Field Season 2000-2001. Besides this,

16 Reconnaissance Permits have been granted recently by Govt. of India in Karnataka for diamond, gold and associated minerals.

#### Telephone Tariff

3305. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) propose to reduce telephone monthly rent and call tariff;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

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

#### Swarnarekha Chandil Project

3306. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Swarnarekha Chandil Project is lying pending for the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether huge amount of money has been spent to complete the project; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the proposal and make the project operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The physical progress of construction works of Subernrekha Chandil Dam is 98% (except for the installation of gates). An expenditure of Rs. 609.50 crore has been incurred on Subernrekha Chandil Project (Dam and left bank canal) up to 3/2000.

(d) Irrigation projects are planned, investigated, implemented and funded by the State Governments as per their own priorities.

[Translation]

#### Posts Lying Vacant

3307. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of vacant posts of Telecom

Transmission Assistant (TTA) in MTNL, Mumbai and Delhi alongwith the time since when these are pending as on February 28, 2001;

(b) the present rules for filling up vacant post of TTA; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The total number of vacant posts in MTNL, Delhi are 846 which are vacant for the last 2 years. The number of vacant

posts in MTNL, Mumbai are 219 (190 posts w.e.f. 17.11.99 and 29 earlier vacant posts).

(b) MTNL is following the Recruitment Rules framed by DOT. A copy of the present recruitment rules is enclosed in Annexure.

(c) For the 50% vacancies to be filled up from departmental candidates recruitment process has been taken up and thereafter the selected candidates will be sent for training. The process is expected to be completed in the next one year. The recruitment against 50% vacancies to be filled up from outside candidates will be taken up after review of Recruitment Rules.

#### ANNEXURE

## The Gazette of India

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

---

NO.6

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1999/MAGHA 17, 1920

---

Separate Paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation

---

#### PART II-Section 3—Sub-section (i)

---

General Statutory Rules (including Orders, Bye-laws etc. of a general character) issued by the Ministries of the Government of India (other than the Ministry of Defence) and by the Central Authorities (other than the Administration of Union Territories)

---

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
(Department of Telecommunications)  
New Delhi, the 25th January, 1999

G.S.R. 42.—In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution and in supersession of the Telecom Technical Assistant Recruitment Rules, 1991, the President hereby makes the following rules regulating the method of recruitment to the post of Telecom Technical Assistant in the Department of Telecommunications, namely:

1. Short title and commencement—(1) These rules may be called the Telecom Technical Assistant Recruitment Rules, 1998.  
(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
2. Number of posts, classification and scale of pay.—The number of said post, its classification and the scale of pay attached thereto shall be as specified in columns 2 to 4 of Schedule annexed to these rules.

3. Method of recruitment, age limit, qualifications, etc.—The method of recruitment, age limit, qualifications and other matter relating to the said post shall be as specified in columns 5 to 14 of the said Schedule.
4. Disqualification—No person,—
  - (a) who has entered into or contracted a marriage with a person having a spouse living, or
  - (b) who, having a spouse living, has entered into or contracted marriage with any person

shall be eligible for appointment to the said post:

Provided that the Central Government may, if satisfied that such marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person and other party to the marriage and that there are other grounds for so doing, exempt any person from the operation of this rule.

## 5. Bond and training—

- (i) All candidates provisionally recruited against the vacancies for direct recruitment shall execute a Bond for a period of five years from the date of their appointment as Telecom Technical Assistant in the proforma as may be specified by the Department.
- (ii) The candidates selected both against the direct recruitment quota of vacancies and departmental promotion quota of vacancies shall, before their appointment as Telecom Technical Assistant, shall undergo the prescribed training successfully as per the training plan laid down by the Department.
- (iii) During the period of training, the direct recruit Telecom Technical Assistant will be entitled to stipend (training allowance) as decided by the department from time to time.

6. Service under Territorial Army/Signal Unit—All candidates (both direct recruit and departmental) shall, if so required, be liable to serve in the Territorial Army/Signal units as provided in the Territorial Army Act, 1948 (56 of 1948) and the rules made thereunder.
7. Power to relax.—Where the Central Government is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do, it may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, relax any of the provisions of these rules in respect of any class or category of persons.
8. Saving.—Nothing in these rules shall affect reservations, relaxation of age limit and other concessions required to be provided for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Ex-servicemen and other special categories of persons in accordance with the orders issued by the Central Government from time to time in this regard.

## SCHEDULE

Name of the post	Number of posts	Classification	Scale of pay
1	2	3	4
Telecom. Technical Assistant	13.249* approx. As on 31-3-98 *Subject to variation dependent on workload.	General Central Service, Group 'C' Non-Gazetted, Non-Ministerial.	Rs. 4,500-125-7,000.
Whether selection by merit or selection-cum-seniority or non-selection post	Age limit for direct recruits		Whether benefit of added years of service is admissible under Rule 30 of the Central Civil Pension Rules, 1972
5	6		7
Not applicable	Between 18 and 27 years. (Relaxable for departmental candidates upto 40 years in respect of general candidates and upto 45 in respect of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates in accordance with instructions or orders issued by the Central Government. The upper age limit is also relaxable by three years in respect of Other Backward Class candidates)  Note :—  The crucial date for determining the age limit shall be the closing date of receipt of applications from candidates in India (and not the closing date prescribed for those in Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya,		Not applicable

5	6	7
Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim, Ladakh Division of Jammu and Kashmir State, Lahaul and Spiti District and Pangi sub division of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands or Lakshadweep)		
Educational and other qualification required for direct recruits	Whether age and educational qualifications prescribed for direct recruits will apply in the case of promotees	Period of probation, if any
8	9	10
Three years Engineering Diploma in Telecommunications Engineering/ Electronics Engineering/Electrical Engineering/Radio Engineering/ Computer Engineering/Instrument Technology or its equivalent from a recognised institution.	No	Two years...
Method of recruitment. Whether by direct recruitment or by promotion or by deputation/ absorption and percentage of vacancies to be filled by various methods		In case of recruitment by promotion/deputation/absorption, grades from which promotion/deputation/absorption to be made
11	12	
By absorption/promotion failing which by Direct recruitment	By absorption/promotion from amongst the following categories of officials. <b>Category-I through Walk-in</b> (1) Phone Inspectors/Transmission Assistants/Wireless Operators/Auto Exchange Assistants (2) Group 'C' employees borne on regular establishment of Telecom. Engineering wing of the department and possessing a minimum qualification of 3 years Engineering Diploma in Telecommunications Engineering/Electronics Engineering/Radio Engineering/Computer Engineering/ Instrument Technology or its equivalent from any Technical Institute recognised by the Central Government after 10 Standard. (3) Technicians who have 10+2 qualifications or equivalent qualification. (4) Technicians holding 2 years ITI Diploma certificate after matriculation. <b>Category-II through Qualifying screening test</b> (1) Technicians other than the Technicians covered by subcategories (2), (3) and (4) of category-I. (2) Telecom. Mechanics with 5 years of regular service in the grade. <b>Category-III through competitive examination</b> (1) Senior Telecom Operating Assistants.	

11

12

(2) Telecom Operating Asistants.

(3) Telecom Mechanic.

Note 1.

The vacancies shall first be filled by candidates of category-I through walk-in. The unfilled vacancies after providing for Category I candidates shall be filled by candidates of category II through qualifying screening test. After providing for qualifying screening test category candidates, the remaining unfilled vacancies shall be filled through competitive examination and if the vacancies still remain unfilled, the same would be filled by direct recruitment. Select list for purpose of training will be prepared as per note 2.

Note 2.

The select list shall be prepared for the purpose of training before absorption/promotion in the following order:

- (i) Officials belonging to senior cadre would be placed enbloc above those placed in the junior cadre, without upsetting the existing seniority in their respective cadres.
- (ii) The seniority among the cadres having equivalent pay scale would be determined on the basis of length of service in the respective grade without upsetting the existing *inter-se* seniority in the respective cadre.

Note 3.

Telecom Technical Assistant (TTA) will be Secondary Switching Area Cadre the unit of recruitment shall be the respective Secondary Switching Area (SSA), and the regular service rendered in such SSA shall be taken into consideration.

Note 4.

The seniority on appointment of candidates in the cadre of Telecom Technical Assistant shall be determined on the basis of post training marks.

---

If a Departmental Promotion Committee exists what is its composition

Circumstances in which UPSC is to be consulted in making recruitment.

13

14

---

Group 'C' Departmental Promotion Committee consisting of the following officers:

Not applicable

1. One Officer not below the rank of Divisional Engineer—Chairman
  2. Two officers not below the rank of Sub-Divisional Engineer—Members.
- 

[No. 7-51/97-NCG]  
J.B. JAIN, Asstt. Director Genl. (ST-C)

# The Gazette of India

EXTRAORDINARY

PART II-Section 3—Sub-section (i)

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

NO. 520]

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1999/KARTIKA 4, 1921

**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**(Department of Telecommunications)**

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 25th October, 1999

**G.S.R. 718(E).**—In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution, the President hereby makes the following rules to amend the Telecom Technical Assistant Recruitment Rules, 1998 namely:

(1) These rules may be called the Telecom Technical Assistant (Amendment) Rules, 1999

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette

2. In the Schedule to the Telecom Technical Assistant Recruitment Rules 1998:—

(a) in column 11, for the entries, the following entries shall be substituted, namely:—

"50% by Direct Recruitment,  
10% by absorption  
40% by promotion through Limited Departmental competitive examination.";

(b) in column 12, for the entries, the following entries shall be substituted, namely:—

**(A) Absorption:**

From amongst the following Group 'C' employees, namely:

- (i) Phone Inspectors/Transmission Assistants/Wireless Operators/Auto Exchange Assistant.
- (ii) Employees borne on regular establishment of Telecom. Engineering Wing of the Department and possessing a minimum qualification of 3 years' Engineering Diploma in Telecommunications Engineering/Electronics Engineering/Radio Engineering/Computer Engineering/Instrument Technology or its equivalent from any Technical institute recognised by the Central Government after 10th Standard.
- (iii) Technicians having 10+2 qualification of equivalent qualification.
- (iv) Technicians holding 2 years ITI diploma certificate after matriculation.

**(B) Promotion:**

Through limited departmental competitive examination from amongst the following Group 'C' employees of Telecom engineering Wing, of Department of Telecom, namely:

- (a) (i) Telecom Operating Assistant (TOA) with five years' regular service or
- (ii) Senior Telecom Operating Assistant (Sr. TOA) with five years' regular service (including the service rendered as Telecom Operating Assistant),  
holding 10+2 standard certificate or equivalent.
- (b) (i) Telecom Mechanic holding 10+2 standard certificate or equivalent, and
- (ii) Technicians, other than Technicians referred to in item 'A' relating to Absorption above,

With 5 years' regular service in the respective cadres.

**Note 1**

For promotion officials will be selected for training on the basis of the marks obtained in the limited departmental competitive examination.

**Note 2**

Select list shall be prepared for the purpose of training before absorption in the following order, namely:

- (i) The officials working in the higher grade would be placed enbloc above those working in the lower grade.
- (ii) The official working in same pay scale, having longer length of service would be placed above those having lesser length of service.

**Note 3**

Telecom Technical Assistant (TTA) will be Secondary Switching Area (SSA) cadre and the unit of recruitment shall be the respective Secondary Switching Area (SSA).

**Note 4**

The Seniority on appointment of candidates in the cadre of Telecom Technical Assistant shall be determined on the basis of post-training marks in their respective quota.

**Note 5**

Unfilled post in the quota of Absorption will be filled by promotion.

[No. 7-35/99-NCG]

J.B. JAIN, Asstt. Director Gen. (ST-C)

Note :— The Principal recruitment rules were published vide GSR No. 42 dated 6-2-99.

[English]

### Utilisation of River Water

3308. SHRI G. PUTTASWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh Governments have entered into an agreement on utilisation of rivers water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Karnataka Government has requested to the Union Government to give clearance to Pollavaram project to facilitate utilisation of water agreed upon between two States; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not according clearance to the project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) As per summary record of discussions of the meeting held between the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh at Bangalore on 4th August, 1978, it was *inter-alia* decided that 80 TMC at 75 percent dependability of Godavari Waters from Polavaram Project can be diverted into

Krishna river above Vijayawada Anicut displacing the discharges from Nagarjunsagar Project for Krishna Delta, thus enabling the use of the said 80 TMC for projects upstream of Nagarjunsagar. It was further agreed that 80 TMC shall be shared in the proportion of Andhra Pradesh 45 TMC, Karnataka and Maharashtra together 35 TMC. Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka have subsequently agreed to share the 35 TMC between themselves as 21 TMC for Karnataka and 14 TMC for Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) The clearance of the Polavaram Project is linked to the resolution by the Government of Andhra Pradesh of the inter-State issues relating to submergence due to Polavaram Project with the Governments of Orissa and Chhattisgarh, preparation of resettlement and rehabilitation plans for the families to be displaced by the Project and preparation of updated detailed project report complying with outstanding observations of the appraising agencies.

### Mobile Franchise Post Offices

3309. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Departmental and Mobile

Franchise Post Offices functioning at present in Delhi and Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more such offices in the said States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number of Departmental and Mobile Post Offices functioning at present in Delhi and Maharashtra is as under:

State	No. of Departmental Post Offices	No. of Mobile Post Offices
Delhi	429	1
Maharashtra	2146	Nil

(b) and (c) Government opens Departmental Sub Post Offices as per annual Plan targets subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of resources. No Mobile Post offices are proposed to be opened.

#### **Irrigation Projects as National Projects**

3310. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take up some irrigation projects in Orissa as National Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of Manibhadra Irrigation Project in Orissa;

(d) whether the Government propose to declare Manibhadra Project as National Project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (e) The Government do not propose to take up any irrigation projects in Orissa as National Projects. The detailed project report of Manibhadra Irrigation Project has not yet been finalized by the State Government of Orissa.

#### **Post/Sub-Post Offices in Maharashtra**

3311. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open more post offices/sub-post offices in Maharashtra during 2001-2002;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) New Post Offices are opened as per Plan targets subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of resources.

#### **Commissioning of ESI Hospitals**

3312. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have directed the ESI Corporation to hand over Tirupathi and Nizamabad buildings for commissioning of ESI hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The ESI Hospital Buildings at Tirupathi and Nizamabad have already been handed over to the Government of Andhra Pradesh and both the hospitals have since been commissioned.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Telephone Directory in Faridabad**

3313. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first and the last issue of the Faridabad Telephone Directory, 1997 was printed and distributed in 1998 under orders of the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, Faridabad;

(b) whether a large number of the telephone connections were not listed or printed wrongly by the telephone authorities as per complaints made by the Faridabad telephone subscribers;

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

(d) whether most of the telephone number listed in the present telephone directory have been changed due to administrative reasons and the present directory have become redundant; and

(e) if so, the action the Faridabad telephone authorities has so far taken to bring out a new updated telephone directory for the benefit of subscribers and

the reasons for delay in taking timely action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir. The directory was printed and distributed as per the policy guidelines of the department. However, a case was filed in the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, Faridabad and Gurgaon regarding delay in supply of telephone directory. The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, Faridabad was informed that directory was under print. The said telephone directory was subsequently issued in May/June 1998.

(b) and (c) The aforesaid directory was corrected upto 31.3.1997. A few complaints were received regarding non-inclusion of telephone numbers., wrong entries etc. On examination, it was noticed that complaints on non-inclusion related to telephone numbers installed after 31.3.1997. Supplementary directory, which could have taken care of all the complaints, could not be printed due to contractual problems resulting in forfeiture of security deposit of the contractor.

(d) Yes, Sir. It is due to vast expansion of the network and change of numbering scheme from six to seven digits.

(e) The next issue of telephone directory corrected upto 31-12-2000 is expected to be released in the first quarter of 2001-2002. The process for bringing out the new directory could not be initiated earlier as the matter was *sub judice*.

#### **Illegal Mining in Surajkund**

3314. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Illegal mining going on near Surajkund" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated March 5, 2001;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the facts thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken against the defaulters;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to implement the Supreme Court's orders in this regard strictly?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Mines and Geology Department of the Government of Haryana who is the competent authority for granting mining lease in the area around Surajkund has found that three parties,

namely, M/s B.P. Jain & Sons, M/s Ajay Enterprises and M/s Surajkund Properties Ltd. were engaged in mining of stone without prior permission.

(c) and (d) A FIR has been lodged by Asstt. Mining Engineer against the offenders in the Faridabad Police Station on 28.02.2001. The State Govt. has also initiated action against these parties for recovery of the value and royalty on the stone mined illegally.

(e) It has been reported by the Haryana Government that all the mining leases falling within 2 km of Surajkund and Badkhal Lakes (tourist complexes) either partially or fully have been prematurely terminated in compliance with the Supreme Court orders in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 4677 of 1985. A permanent check post manned by the officials of Mines, Sales Tax and Police Departments has been set up near the outer periphery of the prohibited area to ensure that no illegal mining takes place.

#### **Development of Water Resources**

3315. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to launch some schemes for the revival and development of sources of water such as Aahar, Ponds and Lakes;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith guidelines issued to States and Union Territories in this regard;

(c) whether steps have been taken to launch such schemes in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of places identified for the purpose, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) Water Resources Development Scheme are formulated by the State Governments themselves and implemented and funded according to their own priorities

Ministry of Rural Development, as part of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) - Rural Drinking Water has included ground water recharge, rainwater harvesting and other traditional methods of conserving rainwater for maintaining the sustainability of drinking water sources starting from the year 2000-2001. Under this scheme 25% of the 20% funds for Sub-mission projects under ARWSP and 25% of the PMGY are earmarked for taking up schemes/projects on sustainability. Guidelines for implementation of schemes and projects on sustainability under ARWSP and PMGY — Rural Drinking Water have been issued by Ministry of Rural Development. The guidelines

*inter-alia* provide for taking up nalla bunding, percolation tanks, storage tanks, village tanks etc. under the scheme. Ministry of Agriculture through watershed management programme is also implementing measures for increasing watershed retention capacity for rainwater. The Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge.

#### **National Internet Backbone Service**

3316. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has launched National Internet Backbone Service in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the above service is likely to help the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Internet nodes at Jaipur & Jodhpur have been commissioned. From these nodes, access to internet has been made available all over Rajasthan. Commissioning of Internet nodes at rest of the District Headquarters is under progress. Internet subscribers are likely to benefit from faster access and speedier downloads.

[Translation]

#### **Telephone Exchanges**

3317. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges proposed

to be set up in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002, location-wise; and

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number of telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002 are 140 and 484 respectively. The location-wise details are yet to be finalised.

(b) The circle-wise funds allocation for 2001-2002 is yet to be finalised. However, funds will be allocated for the purpose.

#### **By-Pass/Over Bridges on National Highways in U.P.**

3318. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the by-pass and over bridges under construction on the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) whether any emergency scheme is being implemented for the reconstruction of the stretch of Grand Trunk Road lying in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Details of the bypasses and the road over bridges under construction on various National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year 2000-2001 are indicated as under:

S.No.	NH No.	Name of By-pass	Length (In Km.)	No. of ROB's in Progress	Cost (Rs. in Crore)	Target date of completion
1.	24	Hapur	11.60	One	35.60	April, 2002
2.	24	Moradabad	18.40	Two	100.00	October, 2001
3.	26	Lalitpur	05.76	-	7.60	March, 2002
4.	28	Basti	05.10	One	10.47	March, 2002

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As far as this Ministry is concerned there is no emergency scheme for the reconstruction of G.T. Road in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

However, sections of National Highway-2 falling on G.T. Road are being improved and widened under National Highway Development Project (NHDP).

[English]

### **Pawan Hans Helicopter**

3319. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total profit earned by Pawan Hans during the financial year 2000-2001;

(b) whether Pawan Hans has finalised the proposal for purchase of four Helicopters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total cost involved in the purchase and the name of the country from which these Helicopters are to be purchased?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The estimated profit of Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) (after deduction of tax) for the financial year 2000-2001 is expected to be around Rs. 53.00 crores.

(b) and (c) PHHL has submitted to the Government a proposal for purchasing two medium capacity Dauphin SA365N3 helicopters at an estimated cost of Rs. 49.18 crores from M/s Eurocopter, France. PHHL has also a plan to acquire two light helicopters. The Techno Economic Evaluation of the bids received through global tender for these helicopter are being evaluated.

### **National Mining Policy**

3320. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the operations and policy relating to mining sector in the wake of globalisation and liberalisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the major policy decisions taken to facilitate opening of mining sector for private investment;

(c) the details of new National Mining Policy formulated and redeeming features thereof alongwith thrust areas, projection of fresh investment and targets for next five years for minerals; and

(d) the policy of the Government regarding public sector undertakings (PSUs) in mining sector and fresh initiatives of the Government/Private investment proposed in mining sector for Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (d) The National Mineral Policy, 1993 announced in tune with the economic liberalisation policy, opened up the mineral sector fully for private initiatives, both domestic and foreign and envisages induction of foreign

technology and foreign participation in exploration and mining for high value and scarce minerals. Foreign equity investment in joint ventures in mining promoted by Indian Companies has also been encouraged.

Reviewing the operations of National Mineral Policy (NMP) announced in 1993 is a continuous process which involves interaction with the State Governments, private including foreign investors, public sector undertakings etc.

The Government has been reviewing the operations of the National Mineral Policy and streamlining the same through amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed thereunder and the policy towards private sector investment in the mining and mineral sector including the foreign direct investment. The MMDR Act was accordingly amended in 1994 and 1999. The Rules framed under the MMDR Act have also been amended. Recently, the Government has approved a policy of foreign equity holding upto 100% on the automatic route for all minerals (except diamond and precious stones). This covers exploration, mining, mineral processing and metallurgy. In the case of diamond and precious stones, foreign equity upto 74% will be allowed on the automatic route for both explorations and mining operations. For proposals seeking higher than 74% foreign equity for diamond and precious stones, the cases are decided by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) on a case to case basis.

Projection of investments are not made for mineral sector as such. Targets for minerals are also not fixed as such.

Under the MMDR Act, any Indian National or a company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956 is free to explore and exploit the mineral reserves after getting a reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence or mining lease. The Act and Rules provide for reservation of mineral bearing areas for exploitation by the public sector undertakings (PSUs). Information on proposed investment in the mining sector is not maintained centrally.

### **Occupancy Rate of ESI Hospitals**

3321. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ESI hospitals in the country at present;

(b) the average occupancy rate of all ESI hospitals, hospital-wise;

(c) whether the rate of occupancy is coming down in these hospitals;

(d) if so, whether any efforts have been made to improve the services of such hospitals to attract patients; and

(e) the steps proposed to enhance the occupancy rate in ESI hospitals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) 138.

(b) The average occupancy rate of ESI hospitals is about 52%. As number of ESI hospitals is large it is some-what difficult to give their individual rate of occupancy.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The responsibility for administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme vests in the State Governments/Union Territory administrations except in Delhi and Noida where it is being administered directly by the ESIC. The ESIC has prescribed norms/guidelines for staffing and equipments in the ESI hospitals/dispensaries. However, recently in order to improve health care facilities in ESI hospitals/dispensaries, the ESIC has formulated an Action Plan and forwarded the same to State Governments for implementation. The Action Plan includes, inter-alia, provision of modern equipment system in hospitals, availability of basic equipments in dispensaries, establishment of regional trauma centres, establishment of super speciality services, blood banks, cancer treatment centres, development of indigenous system of medicines, development of tie-up arrangements with reputed medical institutions etc. Under the Action Plan the ESIC has sanctioned medical equipments worth Rs. 42.00 crore to various State Governments.

#### Funds for Irrigation Projects

3322. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to Delhi for irrigation projects during the last three years, till-date;

(b) the details of funds utilized during the said period by the State Government and the funds lying unutilised, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not utilising the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The details are given below:

	(Rs. in crore)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
State Plan Outlay	1.00	1.17	1.25
Expenditure	0.84	0.66	1.10 (Anticipated)

(c) Irrigation being a state subject, the funds are utilised by the State Governments as per their own priority.

#### STD/ISD/PCO Facility

3323. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of district headquarters in the country where STD/ISD/PCO facility is proposed to be provided during 2001-2002, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : STD/ISD/PCOs are allotted to all eligible applicants on demand on franchise basis. Franchisees can decide the place including district headquarters, where they wish to run the PCOs.

#### Coastal Regulation Zone Notification

3324. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

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

(a) whether any requests from different States have been received during the last three years and current year regarding amendments to Coastal Regulation Zone Notification;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government on such requests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of the requests made by various State/Union Territories are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The action taken by the Government, *inter-alia*, includes issuing of a notification on 29th September, 2000 permitting mining of sand in Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) of Andaman and Nicobar Islands up to September, 2001 and another notification on 4th August, 2000 permitting exploration and extraction of oil and natural gas, storage and regasification of Liquefied Natural Gas in CRZ.

**Statement**

*Details of requests made by various States/Union Territories (UTs) for amending the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 include the following*

State/Union Territory (UT)	Requests made
1	2
Kerala	(i) To reduce CRZ from 100 metres along tidal influenced inland water bodies such as canals, rivers and backwaters for taking up developmental activities. (ii) To reduce CRZ from 500 metres along the identified coastal stretches for the purpose of tourism development.
Maharashtra	(i) To permit Floor Space Index (FSI)/ Floor Area Ratio (FAR) as existing in the local town and country planning regulations on the date of project approval instead of what was existing on the date of issue of the CRZ Notification, i.e. 19th February, 1991. (ii) To allow construction in housing plots undertaken by the Maharashtra Housing Area Development Authority (MHADA) in CRZ-II areas on the seaward side of the existing roads/ authorised structures which is presently not permissible. (iii) To permit construction of missing link roads in CRZ areas.
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	(i) Reduce CRZ along tidal influenced inland water bodies such as rivers, creeks and backwaters. (ii) To reduce No development Zone in CRZ-III areas along the sea coast. (iii) To permit construction of dispensaries, schools, public rain shelters, toilets, bridges, roads, jetties, water supply, drainage, sewerage in CRZ-I area. (iv) To permit mining of sand in CRZ areas.
Gujarat	To permit salt pan activities in CRZ-I areas.
Lakshdweep Islands	To reduce CRZ along the sea coast.

1	2
Goa	To reduce CRZ along the rocky sea coast.
Andhra Pradesh	To delegate powers to the State Government for issuing environmental clearance for handling and storage of petroleum products in CRZ areas.

**UNDP Aided Environmental Management Project**

3325. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are collaborating with UNDP to implement a national programme on environmental management;

(b) if so, the main objectives thereof;

(c) whether UNDP has agreed to fund this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the manner in which the said funds are likely to be spent; and

(f) the details of its targets and time schedule?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (f) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has signed the Programme Support Document under the Country Cooperation Framework-I with UNDP on 5th September 1997 to enhance cooperation in the Environment Sector. The programme focuses on growth with equity, poverty alleviation and human development as the central concerns. The total estimated outlay of the programme is US\$ 8.1 million and the duration is from 1997-2001. 21 sub-programmes, being implemented through the Central and State Government, UN bodies and Non Government Organisations, have been approved for funding. These are designed towards the management of natural resources and development, capacity building for decision making and information, advocacy and participation.

**Pollution in Damodar River**

3326. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any separate scheme for abatement of pollution of the river Damodar (Ganga Basin) for four towns in the Burdwan district in West Bengal has been prepared and financial approval accorded;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) A scheme of pollution abatement of river Damodar in four towns, namely, Andal, Asansol, Durgapur and Raniganj was approved by Government in October 1996 at a cost of Rs. 12.19 crore. The scheme includes such works as interception & diversion of sewage, sewage treatment plants, low cost toilets and crematoria. The work on the scheme has not begun yet due to low priority given by the State Government to this plan.

### Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

3327. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Maharashtra Government for setting up of new telephone exchanges and also to increase the capacity of existing telephone exchanges in the State, particularly in Pune district; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes Sir. Following request has been received from Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra:

- (i) Provisions of telephones exchanges in the village of Latur District.
- (ii) To increase the Telephone Connection by One Lakh.
- (b) (i) During 2000-2001, 28 New Telephone Exchanges have been opened in Latur against the target of 30 where the demand exist. Balance Two Telephone Exchanges will also be opened by 31.3.2001.
- (ii) Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) target has been increased from 5 lakh to 6 lakh for the year 2000-2001.

[Translation]

### Linkage of Air Services

3328. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether several big cities in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are not linked by air services so far;

(b) if so, the details of such cities, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received any request from the local people of these places to link them by air services; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A list of the cities which are connected by scheduled air services at present is given in enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Requests from the local people, representative of people and local bodies/fora for airlinking particular places are received from time to time and are passed on to the airline operators. However, airline operators are free to airlink specific places in their commercial judgement subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which stipulate certain minimum operation in specific category of routes.

### Statement

#### List of Stations connected by schedule air services

States	Stations connected by scheduled operators
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar	Portblair
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad, Tirupati, Vizag, Puttaparthi
Assam	Guwahati, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Tezpur
Bihar	Patna
Chandigarh	Chandigarh
Chhatisgarh	Raipur
Delhi	Delhi
Diu	Diu
Goa	Goa
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Bhuj, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Porbandar, Jamnagar
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla, Kulu, Dharamshala
Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Srinagar, Leh
Jharkhand	Ranchi

1	2
Karnataka	Bangalore, Mangalore
Kerala	Calicut, Cochin, Trivandrum
Lakshadweep	Agatti
Madhya Pradesh	Indore, Khajuraho, Gwalior, Bhopal, Jabalpur
Maharashtra	Mumbai, Pune, Aurangabad, Nagpur
Manipur	Imphal
Mizoram	Aizwal
Nagaland	Dimapur
Orissa	Bhubaneshwar
Rajasthan	Jaipur, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer
Punjab	Amritsar
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Chennai, Madurai, Trichi
Tripura	Agartala
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow, Varanasi, Agra
Uttranchal	Dehradun
West Bengal	Calcutta, Bagdogra

[English]

#### Aircraft Handling Capacity

3329. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to increase aircraft handling capacity from 10-12 per hour to 35-40 per hour at New Delhi and Mumbai has been pending with the Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also any proposal for installation more up-to-date radar and navigational aids for safer landing and take off aircrafts; and

(d) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India has provided State-of-the-Art equipment for Radar and Navigational

Aids and Landing Aids and other facilities at these two airports under the modernisation of Air Traffic Services at Mumbai-Delhi Project at a cost of Rs. 423 crores. This system has been commissioned at Delhi in the year 1998 and at Mumbai in the year 1999.

[Translation]

#### Indira Gandhi Canal Project

3330. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government for the completion of Indira Gandhi Canal Project within the prescribed time;

(b) the area of land proposed to be irrigated under the project; and

(c) the measures contemplated by the Government to ensure availability of adequate water in the said canal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The responsibility for funding, execution and implementation of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project rests with the Government of Rajasthan, as irrigation is a State subject under the Constitution. However, the Central Government has been extending financial assistance to the State from time to time in the form of Advance Plan Assistance, Drought Relief Assistance and assistance under Border Area Development Programme, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme and Command Area Development Programme, for completing the project.

(b) An ultimate area of 19.63 lakh hectare is proposed to be irrigated under the project.

(c) Bakara Beas Management Board, in which Rajasthan is also represented, decides the releases of water considering the availability of waters and the shares of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan in the waters of the rivers Ravi and Beas, in the monthly technical meeting of the Board.

#### Closure of Airports

3331. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state .

(a) whether some airports have been closed due to lack of air traffic;

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

(c) whether aviation companies of the private sector intend to provide air services at these airports, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) 26 airports in the country belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) viz. Cudappah, Rajahmundry and Vijaywada in Andhra Pradesh, Civil Enclaves at Zero, Daparizo, Along and Tezu and airport at Passighat in Arunachal Pradesh, Muzaffarpur in Bihar, Keshod and Kandla in Gujarat, Mysore, Hubli and Bellary in Karnataka, Shillong in Meghalaya, Ludhiana in Punjab, Kota and Civil Enclave at Bikaner in Rajasthan, Salem in Tamil Nadu, Kailashahar in Tripura, Civil Enclaves at Gorakhpur, Kanpur and Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh, Pant Nagar in Uttaranchal, Pondicherry Union Territory, and Cooch Behar in West Bengal have been closed due to lack of aircraft operations.

(c) and (d) No request from any airline operator has been received for operating to these airports. However, airline operators are free to operate to/from any place in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which stipulate certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

#### **Narmada Valley Project**

3332. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to review the Narmada Valley Project of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat States which is under construction;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the review is attributed to the fact that Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are earthquake prone States and geological situation of the Narmada river is also one of the reasons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the preventive steps being considered by the Government for the safety of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (e) No Sir, Construction of the Narmada Valley Project of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are not proposed to be reviewed in the wake of recent earthquake in Gujarat as they are designed for the Maximum Credible Earthquake (MCE) likely to occur in that region.

#### **Grant to Non-Governmental Organisations**

3333. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Non-Governmental Organisations

which are getting grants under his ministry at present; and

(b) the criteria adopted for their selection?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Details of Non-Governmental Organisations which received grants under various schemes of the Ministry during the year 1999-2000 are given in enclosed statement.

(b) Non-Government Organisations are selected as per the recommendations of the respective Committees constituted under several schemes and the recommended grants are released after verification of antecedents as per financial rules and their previous track record.

#### **Statement**

S.No.	Name
1	2
1.	Madras Science Foundation, Gill Research Institute, Guru Nanak College, Chennai.
2.	The School of Desert Sciences, Nehru Park, Jodhpur.
3.	CARTMAN, No. 870, 17-E Main Koramangala, VI-Block, Bangalore.
4.	S.D. Marine Biological Research Institute, Sagar Islands, Sunderbans, West Bengal.
5.	Deccan Development Society, Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
6.	C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer Foundation, 1A Eldams Road, Chennai.
7.	Vikram Sarabhai Centre for Development Interaction, Nehru Foundation for Development, Thaltej Tekra, Ahmedabad.
8.	Environment Society of India, Karuna Sadan, Sector 11-B, Chandigarh.
9.	Sewa Mandir, Old Fatehpura, Udaipur.
10.	Indian Environmental Society, U112 Shakarpur, Vikas Marg, Delhi
11.	Shohratgarh Environmental Society, 9 Adarsh Colony, Siddharth Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.
12.	Uttarakhand Sewa Nidhi, Paryavaran Shiksha Sansthan, Mall Road, Almorah, Uttranchal.
13.	School of Fundamental Research, 29 Pratapaditya Road, Calcutta.

1	2
14.	Gram Vikas Kendra, K-3/57, Hans Stoehr Road, TELCO Town, Jamshedpur.
15.	Rural Youth Coordination Centre, Ujala Campus, Near Bahuria Kothi, Chapra (Saran), Bihar.
16.	Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation, BAIF Bhawan, National Highway No. 4, Warge, Pune.
17.	Assam Science Society, Lamb Road, Guwahati.
18.	World Wide Fund for Nature-India, J&K State Office, University of Jammu, Jammu (Tawai).
19.	Karnataka Rajya Vijnan Parishat, IISc Campus, Bangalore.
20.	Development Alternatives, B32 Institutional Area, Tara Crescent, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi.
21.	Tata Energy Research Institute, Darbari Seth Block, Habitat Place, Lodi Road, New Delhi.
22.	World Wide Fund for Nature - India, 172-B, Lodi Estate, New Delhi.
23.	Bombay Natural History Society, Hornbill House, Dr. Salim Ali Chowk, Saheed Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai.
24.	Centre for Media Studies, 9/1, Institutional Area, New Delhi.
25.	Centre for Environment Education, Thaltej Tekra, Ahmedabad.
26.	Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Habitat Place, Lodi Road, New Delhi.
27.	Daurala Sugar Works, Daurala, Meerut.
28.	Basava Tarakam Educational Society, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh.
29.	Centre for Rural Integrated Development Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
30.	Chitharavathi Rural Development Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
31.	Gaja Lakshmi Rural Development Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
32.	Gorantala Social Welfare Association, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
33.	Gramabhyadaya Sevak Sangh, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.

1	2
34.	Integrated Rural Development Society, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh.
35.	Integrated Rural Development Trust, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
36.	New Mitra Society for Rural Development, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
37.	Patel Youth Club, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
38.	Rupa Educational Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
39.	Rural Welfare & Development Society, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
40.	Sangameshwara Educational Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
41.	Saraswathi Mahila Mandali, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
42.	Sthree Chaitanya Women Welfare Association, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
43.	White Field Rural Development Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
44.	Women Rural Development Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh.
45.	the Bhatt M.P.C.S. Limited, Papampare, Arunachal Pradesh.
46.	The Farmers M.P.C.S. Limited, Papampare, Arunachal Pradesh.
47.	Adarsh Sewa Sansthan, Patna, Bihar.
48.	Agro-Tech Consultants Vishwa Shikha, Patna, Bihar.
49.	Amlagora Seva Foundation, East Singhbhum, Bihar.
50.	Central Rural & Urban Development Council, Palamau, Bihar.
51.	Centre for Entrepreneurship Development, Ranchi, Bihar.
52.	Gramin Vikas Parishad, Deoghar, Bihar.
53.	Gramin Vikas Samiti, Palamau, Bihar.
54.	Jan Jagran Kendra, Hazaribagh, Bihar.
55.	Maa Durga Vikas Samiti, Palamau, Bihar.
56.	Rajendra Institute of Education & Social Welfare, Sitamarhi, Bihar.
57.	Vikas Bharti, Gumla, Bihar.

1	2
58.	Vinoba Bhavey Social Development Trust of India, Madhubani, Bihar.
59.	Him Education Society, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.
60.	Maina Memorial Society, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
61.	The Kashmir Arts Emb. Workers Industrial Co-op. Society Ltd., Srinagar, J&K.
62.	Arunodaya Rural Development Society, Tumkur, Karnataka.
63.	Pragthi Rural Development Society, Kolar, Karnataka.
64.	Society for Tribal Action in Rural Development, Tumkur, Karnataka.
65.	South India Rural Development Society, Kolar, Karnataka.
66.	Triveni Educational & Rural Development Society, Tumkur, Karnataka
67.	Prasad Sanskritik Shakshnik Avam Gram Vikas Samiti, Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh.
68.	Community Development Society, Imphal, Manipur.
69.	Eco-Development Society, Ukhrul, Manipur.
70.	Organisation for Rural Development & Economic Conciousness, Imphal East, Manipur.
71.	Social Environemnt & Rural Villages Education Service, Imphal, Manipur.
72.	The Environmental Social Reformation & Sanghai Protection Forum, Bishnupur, Manipur.
73.	The N.Heikon Yough Club, Senapati, Manipur.
74.	The Rural Area Development Centres, Imphal, Manipur.
75.	Anar's Society, Dimapur, Nagaland.
76.	Backward Classes Development Society Ltd., Nagaland.
77.	Grace Mount Women Society, Mon, Nagaland.
78.	Imlimok MPCS, Dimapur, Nagaland.
79.	Jemtosu MPCS Ltd., Dimapur, Nagaland.
80.	Kotailo Foretry & Plantation Co-operative Society Ltd., Dimapur, Nagaland.

1	2
81.	Meshendi M.P.C.S. Ltd., Kohima, Nagaland.
82.	Rural Women Development Trust, Kohima, Nagaland.
83.	Sumanglenden M.P.C.S. Ltd., Mokokchung, Nagaland.
84.	Vimeyie MPCS Lts., Kohima, Nagaland.
85.	Young Naga Women Society, Dimapur, Nagaland.
86.	Gandhian Institute of Technical Advancement, Bhubaneshwar, Orissa.
87.	Gram Unnaiyan Samiti, Puri, Orissa.
88.	Commity Action for Food and Rural Development (CAFARD), Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
89.	Community Development Centre, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.
90.	St. Joseph's Educational Trust, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
91.	Youth Centre for Rehabilitation & Development, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.
92.	Gramin Vikas Samiti, Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh.
93.	Jan Chetna Mahila Sansthan, Pauri Garhwal, Uttaranchal.
94.	Kissan Vriksharopan Samiti, Agra, Uttar Pradesh.
95.	Kumaon Adventure and Environment Fellowship Society, Almora, Uttaranchal.
96.	Mahila Gramoduyog Jan Chetan Sansthan, Almora, Uttaranchal.
97.	Samaj Kalyan Seva Samiti, Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
98.	Sunder Singh Baghel Lok Kalyan Samiti, Agra, Uttar Pradesh.
99.	Gana Unnayan Parishad, Pratap Bagan, Bankura, West Bengal.
100.	Integrated Rural Welfare Institute, Midnapur, West Bengal.
101.	Liberal Association of Movement of People, Kolkata, West Bengal.
102.	Sonamukhi Adivsi Unnayan Samiti, Bankura, West Bengal.

[English]

**Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited**

3334. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any review of the functioning of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been done since its inception;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the schemes proposed to be formulated by BSNL upto March 2001;

(d) whether the Government have finalised the capital structure of BSNL;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether BSNL has been empowered to take decisions on investment plans without the prior approval of the Government;

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

(h) the policy of absorption of employees in BSNL;

(i) whether there is any reluctance in absorbing officers and staff;

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

(k) the steps taken by the Government for simultaneous absorption of the staff and officers belonging to all services in BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) BSNL has got approved Annual Plan for 2000-2001. Performance Review of BSNL is done on monthly basis. The review upto the month of January, 2001 has been completed. A copy of the review report on Development Activities upto January, 2001 is enclosed as statement.

(d) and (e) The authorised share capital of BSNL is Rs. 10,000 crores and paid up capital is Rs. 5,000 crores.

(f) and (g) BSNL Board has been empowered to take investment decision on (a) new projects with monetary limit of Rs. 50 crores in each case, and (b) projects of repetitive nature without any upper monetary limit.

(h) to (k) The terms and conditions of service in BSNL will be finalised after discussion with the recognised Unions formed by the Optees of Bharat

Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) as per the standing orders of Industrial Employment Act, 1946. Option for absorption in BSNL have already been called from Group 'C' and 'D' employees. The last date has been fixed as 31.3.2001.

In respect of Group 'B' Officers for the present, it has been decided to fix June, 2001 as the cut off date. However, this date may need to be extended. Regarding absorption of Group 'A' officers in BSNL, as per proposal approved by the Cabinet, Group A officers are to be given an extended period of deemed deputation for a period upto 5 years. A committee has been constituted to go into the cadre management issues of Group A officers. Once the issues are sorted out, options would be offered to Group A officers.

The process of absorption of optees to the BSNL is a major task involving about 3.6 lakh employees. To ensure that the process is carried out smoothly, it has been decided to have separate verification in respect of different groups of staff. This is all the more necessary because Group A and B staff can form union/associations in executive category whereas staff in Group C and D category can form union in non-executive category.

**Statement**

*Achievements of BSNL upto January, 2001*

S.No.	Item	Commis- sioning Target for 2000-01	Achieve- ment upto January 2001
1.	Local Exchanges		
	(a) Equipped Cap. (NET)	6700000	3643989
	(b) Direct Exch. Lines	5350000	3320830
2.	Trunk Automatic Exchange Cap.	400000	278000
3.	Public Telephones Local, STD and Highway	120000	168519
4.	Village Public Telephones	100000	19117
5.	MW-RKMs	10000	12255
6.	Optical Fibre	100000	32857
7.	Satellite MCPC-VSATS	164	47
8.	IDR Routes	23	15
9.	Kun-Band Stations	2	0

[Translation]

### Datapost-2001 Project

3335. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started Datapost-2001 project under Department of Posts in the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of States where facility of Datapost-2001 is available and the time by which this facility would be made available in all the States;

(d) whether the Government have fixed any target to generate revenue from this facility; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Data Post 2001, as a premium product, was announced on 14.11.2000 to start as a pilot project in the cities of Bangalore in the State of Karnataka and Hyderabad in the State of Andhra Pradesh. This is a new initiative from the Department of Posts to compile a national level household and business database, which will enable corporates to establish markets in these cities. The facility will be available in all States in a phased manner.

(d) and (e) No target has been fixed for this product, for revenue generation as it is still in the pilot stage.

### Conversion of Forest Villages into Revenue Villages

3336. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of forest villages in the country at present and number out of them converted into revenue villages, State-wise;

(b) whether any requests for conversion of some more villages into revenue villages are pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The Ministry does not maintain the list of forest villages and the number out of them converted into revenue villages by the State Government.

(b) to (d) The list of proposals for conversion of forest villages to revenue villages since 1992 is given in enclosed statement. Out of the six proposals of Orissa, five proposals have been rejected due to non-submission of the information from the State Government and against one proposals, Government of Orissa has been requested on 23.5.2000 to explore possibility for re-locating the village outside the forest area as that is situated amidst the deep forest. State Government has not yet furnished the reply. The above mentioned proposals of Government of Madhya Pradesh have been clubbed together for taking decision. As an interim measure, 30,617 pattas in 1346 forest villages have been renewed on 20.01.1997 for a period of 15 years pending final decision.

### Statement

S. No.	Name of proposal	Area (in ha.)	State	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Conversion of Jagatpati forest village to a revenue village in Sambalpur District.	54.385	Orissa	Proposal rejected on 9.5.2000 due to non-submission of information from State Government.
2.	Conversion of Lambipali forest village to a revenue village in Sambalpur District.	49.82	Orissa	Proposal reject on 13.3.2001 for non-submission of information from State Government
3.	Conversion of Dibrigarh Forest village to a Revenue village in Sambalpur District.	34.93	Orissa	Proposal reject on 9.5.2000 due to non-submission of information from State Government
4.	Conversion of Jhagadabehera forest village to revenue village in Sambalpur District.	94.09	Orissa	Proposal reject on 9.5.2000 due to non-submission of information from State Government
5.	Conversion of Khaparkhol forest village to revenue village in Sambalpur District.	47.12	Orissa	Government of Orissa has been requested on 23.5.2000 to explore possibility for re-locating the village outside the forest area as that is situated amidst the deep forest.

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Conversion of Dechuan Forest village to revenue village in Sambalpur District.	120.587	Orissa	Proposal reject on 9.5.2000 due to non-submission of information from State Government
7.	Renewal of pattas in forest villages in different districts of Madhya Pradesh	1,20,976.17	Madhya Pradesh 9 (in 1346 villages)	30617 pattas renewed in respect of 1346 villages over 1,20,976.179 ha. of forest land for a period of 15 years pending final decision.

[English]

### Compensation Act to Workers in Unorganised Sector

3337. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the benefit of extending the Workmen Compensation Act to workers in unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The benefits of Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 are already applicable to the unorganised workers employed in construction of Road, Bridges, Buildings, Canals, tapping of Palm trees, growing of Cardamom, Cinchona, Rubber, Catching of Fish in Sea, horticultural operations, forestry, bee-keeping, harvesting and threshing operations, Divers, Drivers etc.

### Task Force in Saline Area

3338. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up Task Force on provision of water for irrigation in saline area;

(b) if so, whether the Task Force has submitted its report to the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

*At this stage, Sardar Buta Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, Shri Anil Basu and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up the item, Papers to be laid on the Table.

12.01 hrs.

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Vol. I) (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2001-2002

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3381/2001]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Vol. II) (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Union Territories without Legislatures) for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3382/2001]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:

- (1) S.O. 1119(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2000 making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 60(E) dated the 27th January, 1994.
- (2) S.O. 6(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd January, 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 60(E) dated the 27th January, 1994 providing that the public hearing is not required in respect of Small Scale Industrial Units widening and strengthening of highways, mining projects with lease area up to twenty-five hectares and modernisation of existing irrigation projects.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3383/2001]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Board for Workers Education, Nagpur, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Board for Workers Education, Nagpur, for the year 1999-2000.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3384/2001]

- (3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Labour for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3385/2001]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3386/2001]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3387/2001]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Posts for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3388/2001]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3389/2001]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sunder Lal Patwa, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Mines for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3390/2001]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3391/2001]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sharad Yadav, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3392/2001]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English

versions) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3393/2001]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1997-98, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3394/2001]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1996-97, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3395/2001]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3396/2001]

(3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3397/2001]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) The Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R.24(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 2001.

(ii) The Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Second Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R.35(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 2001.

(iii) The Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Third Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 51(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2001.

(iv) The Companies (Compliance Certificate) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 52(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2001.

(v) The Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 96(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3398/2001]

(2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3399/2001]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3400/2001]

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3401/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3402/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Vasundhara Raje, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3403/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Coal for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3404/2001]

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Food Corporation of India for the year 1999-2000 within the stipulated period of 9 months after the close of the Accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3405/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3406/2001]

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3407/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the HMT Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the HMT Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3408/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3409/2001]

- (3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3410/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Power for the year 2001-2002

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3411/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3412/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Drugs and Cosmetics (Second Amendment) Rules 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 40(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th January, 2001 under section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3413/2001]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 1999-2000.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3414/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the Railway Passengers (Cancellation of ticket and refund of fare) Third Amendment Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 937(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27 December, 2000, under section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3415/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3416/2001]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Railway Information systems, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Railway Information Systems, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3417/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Gingee N. Ramchandran, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:—
  - (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Depositories and Participants) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 1180(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 2000
  - (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 1178(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000.
  - (iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Venture Capital Funds) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 1179(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000.

(iv) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 69(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd January, 2001.

(v) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Foreign Institutional Investors) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 128(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th February, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3418/2001]

(2) A copy each of the Notifications No. G.S.R. 116(E), G.S.R. 117(E), G.S.R. 119(E), G.S.R. 120(E) and G.S.R. 122(E) to G.S.R. 127(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding customs duty changes and exemption in context of Budget proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2001, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3419/2001]

(3) A copy each of the Notifications No. G.S.R. 128(E) to G.S.R. 143(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding Central Excise duty changes and exemption in context of Budget proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2001, under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3420/2001]

(4) A copy each of the Notifications No. G.S.R. 118(E), G.S.R. 121(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding changes in Customs Tariff and exemption in the context of Budget proposals to Indirect Taxes announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2001, under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Act, 1975.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3421/2001]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:—

(i) The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment

Scheme, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 197(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2001.

(ii) The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Scheme, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 198(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3422/2001]

(6) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Housing Bank, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (5) of section 40 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3423/2001]

(7) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Trend and Progress of Housing in India for the year ended the June, 1998, under section 42 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3424/2001]

(8) A copy of the Consolidated Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of Public Sector Banks for the year ended 31st March, 2000.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3425/2001]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Acharyakul, Paunar, Wardha, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Acharyakul, Paunar, Wardha, for the year 1999-2000.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3426/2001]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute for Social and

Economic Change, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3427/2001]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3428/2001]

- (16) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the General Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) Annual Report of the General Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General Thereon.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3429/2001]

- (18) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) for the Parliament, Secretariats of the President and Vice-President for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3430/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3431/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3432/2001]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Heavy Engineering Co-operative Limited, Pune, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Heavy Engineering Co-operative Limited, Pune, for the year 1999-2000.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3433/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3434/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R.92(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2001 containing Order notifying the minimum sugarcane prices payable by certain sugar factories for the year 2000-2001, sugar season, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3435/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Finance for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3436/2001]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HAKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Shipping for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3437/2001]

12.02 hrs.

**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA  
AND  
BILLS AS PASSED BY  
RAJYA SABHA — LAID**

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of

Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Salaries, Allowances, Leave and Pensions of the Officers and Servants of the Delhi High Court Bill, 2001 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th March, 2001 "

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Salaries, Allowances, Leave and Pensions of the Officers and Servants of the Supreme Court Bill, 2001 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th March, 2001."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Vaccination (Repeal) Bill, 2001 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th March, 2001."

- (iv) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh (Amendment) Bill 2001 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th March, 2001."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Salaries, Allowances, Leave and Pensions of the Officers and Servants of the Delhi High Court Bill, 2001; the Salaries, Allowances, Leave and Pensions of the Officers and Servants of the Supreme Court Bill, 2001; the Vaccination (Repeal) Bill, 2001; and the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh (Amendment) Bill, 2001, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 12th March, 2001.

12.03 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS**

**Fourth Report**

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Air India Limited.

12.03½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE****Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Reports***[English]*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture:—

- (1) Twelfth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on Cultivation of Cotton.
- (2) Thirteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation).
- (3) Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture Research & Education).
- (4) Fifteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying).
- (5) Sixteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Food Processing Industries).
- (6) Seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Tenth Report of

the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2000-2001) relating to the Ministry of Water Resources.

12.03¾ hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—RAILWAYS***[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2000-01.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3438/2001]

12.04 hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS — GENERAL***[English]*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 2000-01.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3439/2001]

MR. SPEAKER : Item No. 42 — Matters Under Rule 377, listed for the day, may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

12.04½ hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\***

- (i) **Need to open a Central School at Shajapur in Madhya Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : There is an urgent need of opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya at

\* Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

Shajapur district headquarter, which is a major town of my Parliamentary constituency. I, as well as the people of Shajapur have been demanding opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya for long. District Collector of Shajapur has identified land and 7-8 rooms in the fort are reserved for said school. Thousands of Central Government employees, and officers working in Railways, Posts and Telegraph, Central Road Transport Department, Telecommunication, Information and Broadcasting in Shajapur and 25 kms. in its vicinity are facing lot of problems in the absence of a Kendriya Vidyalaya. I am ready to provide Rs. 20-25 lakh out of MPLAD scheme for construction of ten rooms for Kendriya Vidyalaya. For opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Shajapur, action is also being taken at the level of Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sagathan and Union Ministry of Human Resource Development.

I urge upon the Government to sanction opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Shajapur from the session of 2001-2002. I and the District Administration is ready to extend cooperation.

**(ii) Need to expedite construction work of Raipur-Bilaspur-Raigarh National Highway**

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur) : Roads in my Parliamentary constituency Bilaspur, an area predominantly inhabited by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, are totally dilapidated. Density of national highways in this segment is 0.6 km per 900 sq kms. Though, Raipur-Bilaspur-Raigarh-Orissa border road was declared as a national highway, yet in view of enough scope for development of this area and availability of vast mineral resources, there is an urgent need to construct more national highways in this area.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take necessary action for construction of said national highway.

**(iii) Need to provide adequate funds for early completion of Kanhar Irrigation Project in Sonebhadra District, U.P.**

SHRI RAMSHAKAL (Robertsganj) : The Government of India started Kanhar Irrigation Project in my Parliamentary Constituency Robertsganj, Uttar Pradesh, district Sonebhadra in 1980 and about Rs. 50 crore have been spent on that project by the Union Government. But, owing to resource crunch the work has been stopped for the last ten years. The machinery is getting rusted. On completion of this project, Sonebhadra district of Uttar Pradesh and most parts of Bihar comprising lakhs of acres of land would be able to be irrigated.

At present, estimated cost of Kanhar Irrigation Project is Rs. 300 crore. Resource crunch has put the work at standstill.

I urge upon the Union Government, that keeping in view the interest of farmers, at least release Rs. 100 crore, so that work on Kanhar Irrigation Project can be resumed.

**(iv) Need for early Construction of Railway Overbridge at Maihar under Jabalpur Division, Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna) : A railway over bridge is required to be constructed at Maihar railway station on National Highway No. 7 under Jabalpur railway division. This bridge has been included in Annual Plans of the Ministry of Railways for the last 6-7 years but it could not be constructed because the Government of Madhya Pradesh did not release its share of funds.

Minister of Public Works, Madhya Pradesh has suggested that this bridge be constructed on BOT basis. Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India to seek cooperation of the Ministry of Surface Transport and initiate action for construction of this rail over bridge at the earliest in public interest. In the absence of the bridge at the above site on National Highways No. 7, the level crossing remains closed for long durations, thereby obstructing smooth flow of traffic.

**(v) Need to provide adequate Cold Storage facility in Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency in Jharkhand**

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT (Lohardaga) : Tribal people in Lohardaga cultivate vegetables which are sold even in cities like Calcutta. In the absence of proper storage facilities the vegetables produced by these people often get damaged whereby the labour of poor tribals goes waste. It happens because neither there are proper facilities for storage nor arrangements for marketing. Nearly, two and half years back, potato worth several crores of rupees got damaged because Government cold storage was non-functional. The tribal farmers are yet to receive compensation.

I, through this House, urge upon the Government of India for providing adequate number of cold storages and make arrangements for marketing of vegetables so that the farmers may get remunerative prices and also ensure payment of compensation to the farmers at the earliest whose potato crop was damaged.

**(vi) Need to provide basic facilities to the people living around Atomic Power Plant in Mandvi Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat**

SHRI MANSINH PATEL (Mandvi) : There is an atomic power plant in my Parliamentary Constituency, Mandvi. At the time of setting up of this plant, it was decided that people living in ten kilometre radius of this plant would

[Shri Mansinh Patel]

be provided basic facilities such as primary education, roads and other essential facilities. But, as far as making provision of these facilities at the time of its commissioning is concerned, plant authorities have not adhered to the rules thereby causing resentment amongst the people.

I, through this House, urge upon the Government to provide basic facilities to the people living within 10 kms radius of the plant.

**(vii) Need to protect the interests of Palm cultivators particularly in Karnataka**

[English]

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur) : To make the country self-sufficient in edible oil, the Government of India decided to promote oil palm cultivation. Many farmers in Karnataka had switched over to Oil Palm cultivation in the hope that their produce will find a better market in the State, in comparison to indigenous oilseeds. But the oil palm growers are finding it difficult to market their produce (fresh fruit bunches of Oil Palm) because of lack of demand. This is due to rampant imports of edible oil (including palm oil from Malaysia) at very low duty rates. In order to save the oil palm cultivators in Karnataka, the Government had initiated market intervention for Fresh Fruit Bunches of Oil Palm in the market to the extent of only 1160 MTs under minimum support price. The State Government has already requested the Centre, almost a year back in this regard.

I urge the Central Government to extend and enhance the quantitative ceiling for procurement of Fresh Fruit Bunches of Oil Palm to 5000 MTs till 31.03.2001.

**(viii) Need to depute experts to study the reasons of frequent earthquake in Kollam District, Kerala**

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : I bring to the notice of the Hon'ble House, earthquakes have been taking place in Kerala since 26th January, especially in most parts of my constituency in Kollam District, Kerala.

More than 2000 houses have developed major cracks and the people are very much afraid of the frequent earthquakes taking place regularly after the 26th January.

Hence, it is requested that the Central Government may take urgent and effective measures to clear the fear of the common man by deputing experts from the concerned departments and identify the areas to be

affected and necessary preventive measures taken without waiting for a national calamity that may occur any time.

In the meantime, the victims of the earthquakes in my constituency may be compensated with adequate relief by way of financial assistance to renovate/repair their dwelling and help them lead a peaceful life in future.

The State Government may also be instructed to take urgent steps for extending necessary financial assistance to these victims

**(ix) Need to draw a comprehensive plan for the development of Udupi region in Karnataka as an ideal Beach Resort**

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (Udupi) : Udupi in Dakshin Kannada is known for its rich religious and cultural heritage. It is an important pilgrim centre attracting both domestic and international tourists to its many shrines. Udupi boasts of natural beaches at Malpe and Maravanthe on the Arabian sea shores. It has all the infrastructure like Kerala backwaters and beach-heads. It has tremendous scope for developing water sports facilities.

With the commissioning of Konkan rail network, Udupi has been linked with all metros or cities in the country. There is tremendous earning potential, if necessary tourism infrastructure is developed in Udupi District. Malpe and Maravanthe beaches should be developed. Another important factor is the upgrading of Bajpe airport at Mangalore. The Airport Authority of India needs to complete this project for which land acquisition is complete and rehabilitation of displaced persons right on the schedule. Other works are also in progress like arrival/departure lounges, long radar and VOR replacement etc. Upgradation of Bajpe airport will act as a catalyst for further development of tourism potential in the region

I would, therefore, urge the Ministry of Tourism to draw a comprehensive plan for the development of Udupi region as an ideal beach resort and pilgrim centre.

**(x) Need to set up an Airport at Gulbarga District, Karnataka**

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga) : The State Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to the Union Government long back for setting up of an airport at Gulbarga District in Karnataka. Gulbarga is centrally placed between Bangalore, Madurai and Mumbai. Gulbarga is also one of the Divisional Headquarters where number of cement factories, universities, educational institutions are located and several students from all parts of the country are studying. There

are many medical and technical colleges operating in this district of Gulbarga.

The Karnataka Government had also offered land for the purpose. But so far no decision has been taken by the Union Government for setting up of the airport.

In view of the importance of this district, I urge upon the Government to kindly take an urgent decision and set up an airport at Gulbarga District which will be very useful to the businessmen, students and other people of the district.

**(xi) Need to clear projects of Kerala Government for new fishing harbours of Ponnani and Thalai early**

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : The project proposal for new fishing harbours of Ponnani (Malappuram) and Thalai (Kannur) have been submitted to Government of India on 13.10.99 and 15.11.99, respectively. The project cost of Ponnani and Thalai fishing harbours amounts to Rs. 2670 and 1370 lakhs respectively.

As per the directions of Government of India model studies of Ponnani Fishing Harbour were carried out at Central Water and Power Research Station, Puna and Ocean Engineering Centre, Chennai. The model study report of Thalai Fishing Harbour is entrusted with the Centre for Environment and Development, Thiruvananthapuram. The Project reports are modified on the basis of the findings of the model study. But the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore has not yet scrutinized the Project Reports which is a prerequisite for the clearance of the Projects by the Central Government considering the importance of these Projects in the Fishing Industry which earns a good share of Foreign Exchange. I request the Government of India to take urgent necessary steps to clear these two projects.

**(xii) Need to restore Vacancy Based Roster in Place of Post Based Roster for filling up Vacancies of SC/STs**

SHRI RAJAIHA MALYALA (Siddipet) : I am thankful to the Government for starting the process of reviewing the Government orders detrimental to the interest of the SC/ST employees and against the constitutional safeguards to the community.

Considering the controversial and detrimental provisions of the Government Order OM No. 36012/12/96 Estt. (Res.) dated 02.07.1997 (Post Based Roster), I strongly feel that the earlier Vacancy Based Roster System should be restored in lieu of the Post Based Rosters. The Post Based Roster System is putting SC/ST people in the more disadvantageous stage and

curtailing the proportionate share of SC/ST as and when the vacancies in recruitment and promotions are announced. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has prepared a draft Bill on the subject called "Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Appointment of posts and or seats in Educational institutions) Bill, 1996. However, the Bill is yet to see the light of day. There is a serious need and urgency to get this law made and to strictly enforce reservation in Government Services, Public Sector Undertakings, Banks, Universities, Private Sector and other Educational Institutions of Central Government.

I, therefore, earnestly request the Government to modify the Post Based Roster instructions and restore the Vacancy Based Roster System.

**(xlii) Need to withdraw orders for enhancing the entrance fee of historical monuments in the country for foreigners**

SHRI V. VETRISILVAN (Krishnagiri) : Recently, the Government of India has enhanced the entrance fee of historical monuments including Taj Mahal (Agra) and Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu) etc. for all foreigners. Many foreigners have already protested against this decision of the Government of India, as a result, the inflow of foreign exchange is reducing day by day.

It is important that we need to preserve our cultural and historical artifacts but at the same time, we have to promote our cultural values also. But this is not the way to earn money to preserve our historical and cultural monuments. Earning of money is not the sole purpose of preserving monuments, it teaches the future generations about our past history and culture of our country.

India is ready to preserve the historical statues of Buddhas which are demolished by Afghan Government from our own money but to preserve our own historical monuments we have to enhance entrance fee for all foreigners who are visiting such historical places, monuments etc. This method of enhancing fee for Taj Mahal and Mahabalipuram etc. only for foreigners is not fair. It is bringing bad name to our country. Further, this may create reduce the number of tourists's arrival in our country.

I, therefore, request the Union Government through you, Sir, to immediately withdraw this order.

**(xiv) Need to open a Sainik School at Arrah in Bhojpur district of Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Arrah) : After carving out of Jharkhand from Bihar State, Jhumritaliya Sainik

[Shri Ram Prasad Singh]

School and Netrahat School (Palamu) run by the Union Government, have gone with the new State. At present, Bihar has no such advanced teaching institute being run by the Union Government. Bihar has been totally deprived of such advanced learning institutes. Headquarters of Bhojpur district, Arrah in Bihar is a suitable place from every respect for this purpose. In addition to Vir Kunwar Singh University, several Government Colleges are also located in Arrah.

Therefore, Sir, through you, I urge upon the Government of India to open a Sainik School at Arrah, district headquarters of Bhojpur at the earliest.

**(xv) Need to clear the proposal of Maharashtra Government regarding issuing of Caste Certificates to SC/ST and Backward Classes in the State**

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Maiegaon) : Humbly, I would like to submit that the Government of Maharashtra had sent Legislative Assembly Bill No. 13 of 2000 relating to regulation of issue of caste

certificates to SC/ST, Vimukta Caste, Bataka Caste, other backward classes and special backward classes and verification of their caste certificates to the Government of India. Further, the Government of Maharashtra have made a request to His Excellency, the President of India, hon'ble Prime Minister and hon'ble Home Minister, Government of India, New Delhi on 15 September, 2000 for granting assent to the Bill. Therefore, I request the Government to give assent.

---

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

12.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, March 20, 2001/  
Phalgun 29, 1922 (Saka).*

---

---

---

© 2001 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha  
(Ninth Edition) and printed by National Printers 20/3, West Patel Nagar, New Delhi-8.

---

---