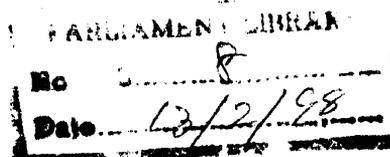


# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

Fourth Session  
(Part I)  
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



*(Vol. IX contains nos. 1 to 10)*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
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(English Version)

...

Tuesday, March 4, 1997/Phalguna 13, 1918 (Saka)

...

Col./line	For	Read
316/10	JAYSINH CHAUHAN	JAYSINH CHAUHAN
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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 4, 1997/Phalgun 13, 1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

#### Subsidy for Transportation of Foodgrains

\*142. <sup>+</sup>SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme to provide subsidy for the transportation of the foodgrains for the Public Distribution System is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the subsidy proposed to be provided to various States for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) A statement is being placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) to (c) Under the Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme of the Central Government in operation since 1.8.1975, the road transportation cost of foodgrains from FCI's base supply depots to the Principal Distribution Centres (PDC) is reimbursed to the States. This scheme is applicable to predominantly hilly states namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura.

Transport charges for movement of foodgrains from the main land to the UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are also reimbursed by the Government.

The main purpose of these scheme is to compensate for comparatively higher transportation costs of foodgrains in these States.

Apart from these, there is no other scheme—existing or under consideration—to provide subsidy on transportation of foodgrains for the Public Distribution System.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the reply given by the hon. Minister no scheme is prevalent or under consideration with the Government to provide subsidy for transportation of foodgrains. The United

Front Government proclaims to be supporter of poor but the information laid on the table of the House and the ambiguous reply given reveals that it is not doing this actually.

As per the information given, such a scheme has been launched for Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura and Sikkim, I would like to know as to whether the Government will launch a scheme for providing subsidy on transportation of foodgrain in Nainital, Almorah, Pauri Garhwal and Tehri etc., the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps the hon. Member has not read the reply carefully. I have not stated that no such scheme is prevalent at present. In your question you wanted to know as to whether any scheme is under consideration with the Government. My negative reply was for this question. I would like to tell that since 1.8.1975 Hilly State Transport Subsidy Scheme has been enforced. Under this scheme only those states are given subsidy which are predominantly hilly state and not for hilly areas. It may be clear to you now. This scheme is for pre-dominantly hilly states which consists of at least 51 percent hilly areas. There are nine such states in the country.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not fully satisfied with the reply given by hon. Minister but relieved to some extent. With this reply what I can make out is that this scheme will be implemented in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh when this would be accorded the status of a fulfilled state Uttarakhand.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, since long the Government has been providing subsidy to the hilly states for transportation of the foodgrains but it has not mentioned as to whether Union territories are given that or not ? Whether the hon. Minister will clarify it and give details of the subsidy given to Union territories during the last two years ?

(b) Will the hon. Minister see the last line of para two of the reply given which says that there is no such scheme to provide subsidy. It has been stated that expenditure incurred on transportation of foodgrains in such states are reimbursed by the Central Government. These two contradictory statements have been made in the reply. Please clarify it that which part is actually correct.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this scheme is being implemented in nine states. In view of it hon. Member has rightly asked as to whether this scheme is being implemented in Union territories also ? I would like to tell that it is being implemented in two Union territories namely Andaman and Nicobar Island and Lakshadweep. She has asked for details of subsidy during last two years. I would like to state that as per the revised estimates so far Rs. 23 lakh have been given as subsidy to these two Union territories for transportation of foodgrains.

In total during 1995-96 Rs. 28 crore 89 lakh and in 1996-97 Rs. 31 crore 67 lakh were given as subsidy for this purpose. These two Union territories are included therein.

**SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not find the reply given to the question of Shrimati Sheela Gautam complete. Just now you have told that this scheme is in vogue since 1.8.75. Do you not find it necessary to revise this scheme which has been introduced 22 years back in 1975. What will be its impact on other states. In the last paragraph it has stated that except it, neither any such scheme for providing subsidy for transportation of foodgrain for PDS is being implemented nor is under consideration. Sir, through you I would like to know as to whether any such scheme is proposed to be taken up now after 21 or 22 years.

**SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :** The purpose of this scheme was to provide essential commodities at cheaper rates in all the hilly states. The Government of India is bearing this expenditure for providing foodgrains like rice and wheat to hilly population which is deprived of this facility. The hon. Member has asked whether proposal of any such scheme is under consideration. You can give it in writing, while reading the reply I also felt that hilly states have been covered under it but the hilly areas ...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :** Whether it is Uttar Pradesh.

**SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :** Do you propose to formulate any such scheme for hilly areas.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He is saying that.

*[English]*

He is going to give a good reply.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :** I would like to make a submission that I felt that these hilly areas may be left due to financial constraints. This Government is committed to welfare of poor therefore I would like to say that a survey will be conducted for this purpose for the remaining hilly areas and it will be reviewed.

*[English]*

**MR. SPEAKER :** Very good. After this I do not think that there is any supplementary left. I will go to the next Question No. 143.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**MR. SPEAKER :** What more can be asked after such a good reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**MR. SPEAKER :** No, no. He has said that he was going to consider the other areas also. What else is left ?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :** Mr. Speaker...

**MR. SPEAKER :** You should give notice for it.

*[English]*

**PROF. P.J. KURIEN :** Sir, please give me a chance. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** Prof. Kurien, I have gone to the next question. You have also been a Minister earlier.

...*(Interruptions)*

#### **Seizure of Sal and Teak Wood**

\*143. **SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.P. Forest Department had got crores of rupees worth of Khair, Sal and Teak wood seized from Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and some other major towns in the state sometime in the past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has recently banned the cutting of trees in the forests all over the country; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to implement the Court's order in all the States ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ):** (a) Yes sir, The Uttar Pradesh Forest Department has seized Khair, Sal and other miscellaneous timber from districts bordering Haryana and Delhi in May—June 1996.

(b) In all, about 76 cubic metre Khair, and a small quantity of Sal and miscellaneous wood was recovered. The market value of the seized material is estimated around Rs. 12,47,700. Two cases have been sent to court as the offenders refused to get the case compounded.

(c) Yes Sir, The Supreme Court in their interim order of 12.12.96 has suspended felling of trees in forests, except in accordance with Working Plans, duly approved by Central Government.

(d) Central Government have advised the States/UTs to strictly comply with the orders of the Supreme Court.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, forest mafia of Nepal is also involved in unauthorised felling of trees especially in terai region of Nepal. Uttar

Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal worth Rs. 12.17 crore for setting up watch towers for forest guards and providing them sophisticated weapons. Hon. Minister has given a reply that instructions have been issued for following the orders of the Supreme Court strictly. Nothing has been mentioned regarding the proposal sent by the U.P. Government to Nepal Government after holding a dialogue for making this arrangement especially for checking the unauthorised felling of trees in border and terai region. I would like to know about it from the hon. Minister.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the security of forests has posed a challenge before the country. Hon. Supreme Court has taken notice of it and given its opinion in this regard. So far the unauthorised felling of trees in terai region of Nepal is concerned I would like to state that a meeting was held in Kathmandu on this subject and this point, was discussed with the Nepal Government. Since the very beginning I am taking the issue of environment seriously. It has come to my notice that forest has been removed and some persons have set up there who are doing harm to these forests. This matter will be taken sympathetically because it relates to our neighbouring and friendly country. Appropriate measures will be taken to check the loss mentioned by you and the House will be informed about it.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : I have seen all the hands, including fingers.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action has been taken on the proposal submitted by the Uttar Pradesh Government worth Rs. 12.17 crore.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : At present, I do not know anything about U.P. Government's proposal. This matter relates to security of forests and damage is being caused to them. We have sufficient legal points and legislation in the case of wood seized in U.P. It is case of violation of Law. Out of the total 16 cases, two have been compounded and all these cases have been taken up for hearing in the court. We will pay due attention towards the proposal submitted by the U.P. Government. We have written a letter to the Governor regarding the action taken on it and instructions have been issued to stop damage being caused to forests. ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Yesterday he got all the chances. I must see that those who did not get a chance yesterday should get it today.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : I would like to say that whether the attention of the Government have been drawn towards unauthorised felling of trees in forest of Sibhu district of Bihar which was spread over miles. The Khair wood is being cut at every place. Whether the Government propose to take some measures to check it ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, it is a general question and not about any particular area. I will reply your question if it is for a specific area.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : This unauthorised felling of trees have destroyed the miles of forest cover in Chhota Nagpur and Sibhu districts which are considered very precious. Khair wood is being cut at every place in the country but the Government has not taken any measures for providing protection to them. It is a serious matter and being raised here every year, some measures should be taken for protection of forest cover if the Government intends to protect the environment.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The hon. Member has raised the issue regarding forest cover of Sibhu district ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Please wait. He is asking the question.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not admit simple questions. I admit only complicated ones.

*[Translation]*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : As the reference has been made of a particular district, I will focus my attention on Sibhu district only. The hon. Member would be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

*[English]*

I will take note of it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is in the notice of the Bihar Government that six thousand acre of land has been denuded of its forest cover and the land so reclaimed distributed among the feudalists by people of another district. I am talking of Kaimur district. I will mention the areas which may please be noted and an enquiry be conducted in this matter as it pertains to environment. Batas gaon, Kuwakhoh, Galiari ... in Chainpur block of Bhaduha sub-division in Kaimur district ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You give this information in writing. There is no need of questioning.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Whatever is going on in Bihar with regard to the environment is something

unprecedented. Saranda forest which falls in Chaibasa district, was set on fire and the forest is burning for the last three years but so far no fire control measures have been taken there. Sakhua forest provides very costly timber and it is very dense at Saranda. The smugglers set it on fire because they want that Department of Environment should either auction it or lease it out. They wanted so because copper depositories are there and gold is extracted from copper. So for gold the smugglers burnt down this forest. An enquiry should be conducted in this matter as the environmental matters have acquired international dimensions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is only a suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : The staff and officers of forest department including the rangers are ill-equipped. They do not have arms and jeeps. That is why they feel scared of goons and smugglers and have to run to save their lives. This condition prevails throughout the country. Therefore, what measures Government proposes to take to well equip them so as to enable them to counter smugglers. Because in Maharashtra ...

MR. SPEAKER : Now you have asked the question, so there is no need of this 'because'

[English]

You cannot give the reason also.

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Cases of certain districts have been mentioned. Whatever cases have figured in records, I will look into them.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : What you will look into ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Please hear me with patience. If you do not get the reply, then again raise your question. So far as these districts are concerned, these are in different constituencies of different Members. I will look into the cases of those districts which have been mentioned in the records and the hon. Members will get the reply. As for the forest policy, Sir, through you I would like to submit that I am satisfied with the work being done in the Ministry to protect forests. Hon. Supreme Court had given a judgement in this regard on 12 December, 1996 which is very relevant in this matter. In that judgement right from North-East to J & K ... (Interruptions). Please first listen to me.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No arguments please.

Mr. Minister please give a short answer.

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The entire country is anxious to conserve forests. I am aware of this particular anxiety of the people. I shall again make myself available in your service. Lot of work is being done to implement the policies of the Ministry. On this issue the Supreme Court has ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Saheb it is not the practice.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : They will be provided arms, I will tell about that later. First of all I will reply to your various questions pertaining to forests. It is a genuine anxiety and we all feel concerned. My Ministry had cautioned all the Chief Ministers of States in this regard. The entire nation is concerned about conservation of forests. Any violation of rules in this regard will not be tolerated.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister please do not prolong your answer. You will attract more supplementaries.

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I have told about the Supreme Court's order. A high power committee comprising some experts, have been constituted to go through all these issues. As for the staff of the forest department, I will see to it that all facilities are provided to the forest personnel who have to work in jungles. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have given the floor to her.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAGWATI DEVI : Large scale felling of Khair trees is going on in the forests of my area. The trucks belonging to rich people reach there, their men hack the trees and carry it to factories and big people trade in it. The Central Government may tell us as to what action it is taking against the owners of those factories which illegally purchase this Khair wood.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, this is a general question. I will do everything possible to protect the forests.

#### Naga-Kuki Violence

+  
\*144. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent spurt in Naga-Kuki violence in Nagaland;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for its provocation; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to curb the violence and restoring peace there ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) It would not be correct to state that there has been any spurt recently in Naga-Kuki violence in Nagaland. As a matter of fact, the number of incidents of such nature, has sharply come down during 1996, compared to the previous 3 years. However, there was only one major incident of Kuki-Naga ethnic conflict in Nagaland in Kohima District on 9 December, 1996 in which twenty nine Kukis were killed. The provocation for the incident could be attributed to the factional rivalry between the two factions of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN).

(c) Government of Nagaland were advised to review and strengthen the existing security arrangements in the vulnerable areas. Government of the neighbouring Manipur State was also alerted to the possibility of retaliatory attacks.

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Mr. Speaker, Sir it is felt that there is mistrust and hate between the two communities in the hill area of Nagaland and Manipur. It is also admitted by the Minister that a major Naga-Kuki ethnic conflict took place in the month of December, 1996 in the Kohima District of Nagaland and 29 Kukis were massacred in that incident. Yesterday also, there was a conflict. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any attempt has been made by the Government to promote goodwill and send a peace message to the Nagas, Kukis and Christian community in the hill area.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, in Nagaland, the total number of Kukis is quite small and in the adjoining State of Manipur they are more numerous. The conflict between these two tribal formations has got a long history behind it which I do not want to go into now. The Nagas feel or many of them feel that the areas adjoining these two States which are inhabited by the Nagas are being encroached upon by the Kukis, whereas the Kukis feel that these areas rightly belong, historically, to the Kukis and they have every right to come there.

In addition to this, there is a border town, as you know, called More between Manipur and Burma. It is on the border. That town has become very important in recent times as a very busy trading centre for goods coming and going between India—that is, Manipur—and Burma. All types of commodities including, I am afraid, some narcotics also are reported to be smuggled through this border. As a result of this, quite a lot of money is being earned and this may be one of the reasons also why both the Kukis and the Nagas are anxious to establish some kind of control over that area.

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Sir, there are two militant groups. One is the National Socialist Council of Nagaland,

Isak Muivah faction and the other militant group is the Kuki National Army. They are silencing the moderate voice. But the people of both the communities are very much keen on peaceful co-existence.

But the role of the paramilitary forces is questionable. It is also learnt from the newspapers that the paramilitary forces are held immobile until attacked. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any clear mandate has been given to the paramilitary forces.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I do not know exactly what kind of mandate the Member has got in mind. He is accusing from the Press reports. He feels that the paramilitary forces are not active until they are attacked. So, I can only assume from this that he would like the paramilitary forces to be instructed by the Central Government that they should be more aggressive and more active in dealing with these groups. Well, I think, the paramilitary forces, on the contrary, are sometimes being criticised and attacked for being too active and too aggressive.

But as far as these two groups are concerned, I agree with the Member that the ordinary people and general mass of people in that whole area are very much fed up with this kind of constant violence and killings which are going on. They are very anxious to have a return to peaceful conditions and normalcy. Some initiatives in this direction are being sought to be taken by the Government with the help of some moderate elements who are there and are working in that area as well as some people belonging to the Church who are also influential particularly among the Nagas and are preaching the need for an end to this violent conflict and for reconciliation.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister how many Nagas, so called Tankuls, from Manipur are killed in Kohima, Nagaland within one year that means during 1996. Yesterday also four Nagas so called Tankuls were kidnapped by some unknown persons and killed two of them. But two persons escaped. I want to know from the hon. Minister the details of this incident. Yesterday at 5 p.m. one family of a Naga Joint Secretary, the so called Tankul was kidnapped. They killed two persons and two persons escaped. The hon. Minister may please give the details about it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I am fully conscious of this incident which the Member referred to which took place yesterday. We are waiting more detailed reports from our people there.

As far as incidents of killings and so on are concerned, in 1996 in respect of Nagaland, the number of incidents was only one; the number of persons killed was 29; and the number of houses burnt was nil. This is progressively showing some improvement just now. But it does not mean that it may not flare up again. It may.

Apart from this, the detailed statistics of Naga-Kuki violence in Manipur during the last four years and up to 25 February this year are indicated. I can give some figures. During 1996, there were 58 incidents in Manipur. The killings between Nagas and Kukis were also 58—25 Nagas were killed and 33 Kukis. The houses burnt down were 136—106 Naga houses and 30 Kuki houses.

So, these sporadic incidents of conflict between these two tribes are continuing. They have receded a bit and come down a bit in the last year. But we are vigilant to see that the situation is not allowed to go out of control again.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that the Home Minister has replied to the 'c' part of this important question in such a casual manner. You yourself have come from the North-east-area and you also know that incidents of Naga-Kuki ethnic violence are usually taking place there and at times these assume alarming proportions. In these circumstances, merely saying that both the State Governments have been directed to keep alert is neither logical nor justified.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to tell the Home Minister that it is not a law and order problem, rather it is a problem of insurgency.

There is spurt in the incidents of conflicts with the increasing hold of NSCN. I want to know from you whether the previous Government had made any efforts to keep contacts with NSCN and some of its Ministers played an active role in that direction. During your rule what progress has been made in keeping contacts with them. To what extent rapport has been established with them or to what extent efforts have been intensified to keep in touch with them. If there is no progress in this direction, then will you make such efforts?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You know there are two factions of NSCN, one is lead by Mr. Keplong, another by Arjek Muiva. These are the two groups. We have some contacts with both the groups. Perhaps you had asked about the previous Government. They also made efforts and efforts are also being made after formation of our Government. But now it has been reported that leaders of these two groups are now showing some keenness for talks but their followers are agitated. They do not want their leaders to have parleys with the representatives of the Government. Now the difficulty is that Mr. Arjek Muiva is staying abroad. Some days ago he was staying in Bankok. Now it has been reported that from Bankok he is going to Manila. I am not sure whether is going there or not. It is not easy to contact him, it is rather difficult. But we are trying to contact him and if we succeed in contacting him and having talks with him, the House will be certainly informed about that.

*[English]*

**Wild Life Protection Act, 1972**

\*145. + DR. ASIM BALA :  
SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :

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

(a) whether private units are allowed to construct huge buildings for hotels etc. inside the National Parks as in the case of Nagarhole in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to order closure or withdrawal of all such constructions and projects clearances from the areas declared as the National Parks so as to enforce the provisions of the Wild Life Protection Act strictly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Under Section 33 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State/UT is the designated authority to control, manage and maintain National Parks in that State/UT. For this purpose, he may construct/allow construction of buildings as he considers necessary/appropriate. However, in the case of the Nagarhole National Park, the Government of Karnataka had leased out the buildings and their premises inside the National Park to a private company. This matter was the subject of a Public Interest Litigation in the High Court of Karnataka, which recently ordered the private company to stop all activities immediately and handover the properties to the State Government, State Government preferred an appeal against the order. The appeal has been admitted and High Court has ordered to maintain the status quo.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 the Chief Wildlife Warden is the designated authority to control, manage and maintain National Parks in the Union Territories and the States. He may construct or allow construction of buildings as he considers necessary and appropriate. He has this full authority and others do not have any authority to intervene in this matter. Recently, the High Court of Karnataka ordered the private company to stop all activities immediately. The State Government contested that order saying that even the High Court cannot do anything to stop the activities.

In Assam, 1,700 zoo animals are suffering from tuberculosis. The Assam Science Forum said that these animals died due to lack of proper management and proper food.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you have any question to ask ?

DR. ASIM BALA : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot go on giving all this information. I think the hon. Minister has all this information. Please ask the question.

DR. ASIM BALA : Due to indiscriminate use of pesticides, a large number of valuable birds like maina and other seasonal birds are not coming to the sanctuary. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 which is very old is going to be amended by taking into account all the perspectives.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Some building activity can take place within the parameters of the Wild Life Act, 1972 and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : But the question is different.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will come to that. Some structures were there in this Nagarhole Park.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : The hon. Member has asked a different question.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It is a general question. The basic question is about Nagarhole park ...*(Interruptions)* I was coming to that. The question before me is about Nagarhole Park.

DR. ASIM BALA : You have given the answer about Nagarhole Park. You have to answer my Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : The simple question is, in the background of what the hon. Member has stated, is there any proposal to amend the Act or not.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : We are looking into this for further amendment. That will be done if there is need for that. There is a committee for that purpose. That will be looked into.

DR. ASIM BALA : Recently I have visited the zoo in Darjeeling district of West Bengal. It is a very important zoo. But due to lack of proper funds, it is not maintained properly. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether proper funds will be provided for a zoo of a State or of a Union Territory for its proper maintenance or not.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will go into this question and provide whatever facilities the hon. Member wants to be provided. If the hon. Member writes to me, I assure him that I will get back to him.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I welcome the decision of the High Court which has envisaged protection of the National Park at Nagarhole. But, at the same time, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is

in the perception of the Government that by destruction of this kind of forests, the wild life menace is given a fillip and the wild life menace is being enlarged and the wild animals are making more and more attacks on the agricultural producers.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It is a very vague question. What is the particular thing that you want to know ?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : In the National Parks, the wild animals are being protected. Wild animals make attacks many times on the agricultural producers in the vicinity. I would like to know whether it is in the perception of the Government that by allowing such constructions in the protected areas, the wild animal menace will increase.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The Wild Life Act is comprehensive enough to take notice of all developments. When this menace takes place anywhere, the provisions of the Wild Life Act are implemented and protection is given to population around there.

*[Translation]*

#### Krishi Vigyan Kendras

\*146. SHRI D.P. YADAV :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have achieved the target fixed for opening of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target fixed for opening of Krishi Vigyan Kendras for the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise ?

*[English]*

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

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As targetted, the State-wise list of 78 approved Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) is enclosed (Annexure).

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) A comprehensive proposal for all rural districts has been submitted to the Planning Commission, which covers upgradation of existing Farmer's Training Centres and Zonal Agricultural Research Stations to take up the function of KVKs. However, the target for opening of new Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are decided commensurating with allocation of additional funds from the Planning Commission.

**Annexure****List of New Krishi Vigyan Kendras Approved During 1992-96**

S. No.	State	District	Name of the Institution	Year of Sanction
1	2	3	4	5
<b>ZONE-I</b>				
I.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Unna	Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur	1993
		2. Mandi	Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur	1993
		3. Kangra	Foundation for Organisational Research & Education, N. Delhi	1993
		4. Kinnaur	YSPUH&F, Solan	1995
		5. Simla	-do-	1995
II.	Jammu and Kashmir	1. Leh	S.K. University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Srinagar	1993
		2. Kathua	Shiv Gramodyog Mandal	1993
III.	Punjab	1. Sangrur	Punjab Agril. University	1993
		2. Faridkot	Punjab Agril. University	1994
		3. Jalandhar	Punjab Agril. University	1994
IV.	Haryana	1. Panipat	Haryana Agril. University	1993
		2. Ambala	Society for Creation of Heaven on Earth, Gurgaon	1993
V.	Delhi	1. Delhi	NAFED/NHRDF, New Delhi	1995
<b>ZONE-II</b>				
I.	West Bengal	1. Burdwan	Hindustan Fertiliser Corp. Ltd.	1994
		2. Birbhum	Vishwa Bharti Shanti Niketan, Bolepur	1994
II.	Bihar	1. Aara, Bhojpur	SCADA	1994
		2. Dhanbad	Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation, Sindri	1994
		3. Jamui	Khadi Gramodyog Sangh Khadigram, Jamui	1994
		4. Madhubani	S.K. Chowdhry Educational Trust, Madhubani	1994
		5. Darbhanga	Rajendra Agricultural University Pusa, Samastipur	1996
		6. Shekhpura	-do-	1996
		7. Supaul	-do-	1996

1	2	3	4	5
<b>ZONE-III</b>				
I.	Assam	1. Golaghat	Assam Agril. University	1994
		2. Cachar	A.A.U., Jorhat	1994
		3. Tinsukia	-do-	1996
II.	Mizoram	1. Lunglet	Government of Mizoram	1994
<b>ZONE-IV</b>				
I.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Lucknow	National Instt. of Agriculture, Lucknow	1994
		2. Shahjahanpur	G.B. Pant University of Agril. & Technology	1994
		3. Pithoragarh	G.B. Pant University of Agril. & Technology, Pantnagar	1994
		4. Muzaffarnagar	Swami Kalyan Dev Trust	1994
		5. Barabanki	Bharat Gramin Vikas Sansthan	1996
<b>ZONE-V</b>				
I.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Vishakapatnam	Bhagaya Tula Charitable Trust Yellamanachily, Vishakapatnam	1995
		2. West Godavari	APAU, Hyderabad	1995
		3. Warangal	-do-	1996
II.	Maharashtra	1. Nasik	Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Nasik	1994
		2. Parbhani	Jeevan Jyto Charitable Trust, Parbhani	1994
		3. Kolhapur	D.Y. Patil Education Society, Talashande, Kolhapur	1994
		4. Buldana	Satpuda Education Society	1994
		5. Nagpur	Central Instt. of Cotton Research, Nagpur	1994
		6. Amravati	Shoran Sadhna Trust, Amravati	1995
		7. Amravati	Shram Safalya Foundation, Amravati	1995
		8. Nanded	Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Education, Science & Technology Research, Nanded	1994
		9. Solapur	Shabari Krishi Pratishtan, Solapur	1994
		10. Akola	SUVIDE Foundation RISOD, Akola	1994
		11. Sindhudurg	Poip Falaotpadan Sakakar Samithi	1995

1	2	3	4	5
<b>ZONE-VI</b>				
I.	Gujarat	1. Bharauch	Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation, Pune	1994
		2. Vadodara	Mangal Bhatari, Vadodara	1994
II.	Rajasthan	1. Rajsamand	Rajasthan Agril. University, Bikaner	1994
		2. Baran	-do-	1994
		3. Dausa	-do-	1994
<b>ZONE-VII</b>				
I.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Seoni	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur	1994
		2. Tikamgarh	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalala	1994
		3. Khandwa	-do-	1994
		4. Rajgarh	JNKVV, Jabalpur	1994
		5. Sorguja	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya	1994
		6. Guna	JNKVV, Jabalpur	1994
		7. Ratlam	Kalukheda Shikshat Samiti	1994
II.	Orissa	1. Dhenkanal	Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack	1994
		2. Kendrapada	Orissa University of Agril. & Technology, Bhubaneswar	1994
		3. Angul	Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack	1994
<b>ZONE-VIII</b>				
I.	Karnataka	1. Mysore	JSS Rural Development Foundation, Mysore	1994
		2. Kolar	Karnataka Welfare Society, Chikabalapur	1994
		3. Bellary	University of Agril. Sciences, Dharwad	1994
		4. Belgaum	Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Belgaum	1994
		5. Raichur	University of Agril. Sciences, Dharwad	1994
II.	Kerala	1. Pethemnamthitta	Christian Agency for Rural Development, Thiruvalla	1994
		2. Quilon	Kerala Agril. University	1994
		3. Idukki	Bapooji Sewak Samaj Chakkupallam, Idukki	1994

1	2	3	4	5
III.	Lakshadweep	1. Minicoy	CMFRI Regional Centre Lakshadweep	1996
IV.	Tamil Nadu	1. Dharmapuri	Tamil Nadu Board of Rural Development	1994
		2. Salem	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	1994
		3. Nellai Kattabomman	Ratnavel Subramaniam Educational Trust, Dindigul	1994
		4. Madurai	Centre for Development and Communication Trust, Theni	1994
		5. Kamrajar	Meyer's Trust, Madurai	
		6. Tanjavur	Bhaktava Trust, Madras	1995
		7. Chidambarnar	SCAD, Cheranedevi, Tirunelveli	1995
		8. PMT	Tamilnadu University of Veterinary & Animal Science	1996
V.	Pondicherry	1. Karaikal	Government of Pondicherry	1994

## [Translation]

SHRI D.P. YADAV : Hon. Speaker, Sir, as per the statement of the Minister target set for the Eighth Five Year Plan has been achieved but by 1995 there were in total 237 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country and during the last year approval has been given for setting up of only 78 Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Sir, though the present Government claims to be a patron of the farmers and in the past also there had been the Governments which used to take care of the interests of the farmers, but despite all this why these Krishi Vigyan Kendras are in such a small number in such a vast agricultural country where 80 per cent population is engaged in agriculture sector. What steps are being taken by the Government to open more Krishi Vigyan Kendras and how many Krishi Vigyan Kendras will be opened in near future.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have told in the reply one proposal has been submitted to the Planning Commission for opening more Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Farmers training centres in the States are being upgraded and given the status of Krishi Vigyan Kendras because these centres will be managed by University Head Quarters. So this arrangement has been made for them. Still there are 253 districts where Farmers' Training Centres have yet to be upgraded pending the release of the World Bank assistance. After upgradation of these Zonal Farmers' Training Centres, 140 districts will be left for such upgradation. It is proposed that in these districts 88 centres will be upgraded in the first stage and 49 centres will be

upgraded in the second stage. Presently, we do not have provision in the budget. That is why we want to upgrade them in two stages.

SHRI D.P. YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to 'd' part of my question it has been stated that a comprehensive proposal for all rural districts has been submitted to the Planning Commission but it has not been told as to how many farmers, landless women and unemployed youth would be imparted training, how this training would benefit them, when these centres would be approved and when the training would be started and what are names of places, specially in Uttar Pradesh where training centres have to be upgraded and how much expenditure will be incurred on them annually.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : An outlay of Rs. 2.5 crore has been earmarked for Krishi Vigyan Kendras for five years. A uniform criteria will be followed in this respect for all the States mentioned in the list. The names of those States have also been mentioned in the lists where this practice has not been followed. I have already told you that the Farmers' Training Centres are also being used for this purpose. I would like to explain as to what activities will be undertaken in these Krishi Vigyan Kendras. All activities cannot be managed by one Kendra. May be that one Kendra gives more production of fish whereas another Kendra gives less fish production. We will make provision for pisci-culture in Krishi Vigyan Kendras located in the areas abounding in fishes. There will be provision of Animal Husbandry in almost all the centres and forestry be undertaken at some places.

Fruit culture will also taken up there. Horticulture has two branches—fruit culture and vegetable culture. We will engage scientists and technical hands of various fields. We will do soil testing. In case of diseases, scientists from vicinity will come to their help. We want these centres to undertake all these functions.

**KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is predominantly an agricultural country. Whether there is any provision or guidelines in your policy for giving priority to predominantly agricultural districts.

My second question is what do you think about the proposals approved already included in Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans and also about those few which have not been approved and what action you are going to take on these proposals.

**SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :** These are the provisions for rural districts and all the rural districts are more or less agricultural districts. Apart from this separate provisions will be made for drought affected areas. All these districts are agricultural districts. But as I have told we have earmarked different subjects for different areas, at some place Horticulture has been introduced, at some other places training in fisheries is being given. We will decide about it after keeping various factor in consideration.

**KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :** Nothing is being done in predominantly agricultural countries. More work is being done in the areas where industries are located.

[English]

**SHRI B.R. PATIL :** I would like to draw the attention of the Minister for Agriculture to the fact that there was a proposal to start Krishi Vigyan Kendras at Bijapur. Bijapur has got a well-equipped Agricultural Research Station which was founded in the year 1901. The Minister has replied that Krishi Vigyan Kendras will be started the moment funds are available. I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister whether he is going to consider starting a KVK at Bijapur.

**SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :** Sir, I have already mentioned that all the districts are under my consideration. Of course, that also would be considered. I have already said that I am committed that every district should have it.

**SHRI B.R. PATIL :** I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister about Bijapur.

**SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :** When I say 'all the districts', it does not mean one district less. When I say 'all', it means Bijapur is a part of it. I have already said that ARS has to be upgraded and I am definitely inclined for that.

[Translation]

**SHRI ANANT GUDHE :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the previous Government had announced that one Krishi Vigyan Kendra would be set up in each district and that was indeed done.

But two Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been approved for my constituency Amravati. Even for these areas Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been approved which do not have agriculture land. I would like to ask the Government as to what norms have been followed in opening Krishi Vigyan Kendra and why two Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been approved for one district.

**SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :** That was done by my predecessor, Agriculture Minister. How I can order their closure. We want to set up one Krishi Vigyan Kendra for each district but how can we close one already set up.

**SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the first time you have given me a chance to speak.

**MR. SPEAKER :** First time ! Well !

**SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL :** It is my first chance in the session for which I am thankful to you. I would like to ask the Minister as to how many Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been approved so far for Maharashtra and whether that yielded anything I am saying so because at times we have seen that several schemes appear ideal and good on papers but when implemented they attract very adverse reaction of people. Have you taken any measure in view of this fact?

**SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :** We have reviewed the working of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and we found that performance of several Kendras is very good whereas some of them are not functioning satisfactorily.

**SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL :** That is why I am asking you whether you have set up any committee or taken any steps in this regard.

**SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :** We have constituted a Social Audit Committee to ensure better performance of these Centres which comprises one MP, one MLA, one agriculture scientist, one agriculture economist and APC of the concerned State. This Committee will review the working of all Vigyan Kendras and submit a report. Hon. Members have introduced this system. I shall feel obliged if they do this work expeditiously.

[English]

#### Export of Sugar

\*147. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :**  
**SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :**

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had lately decided to export sugar in order to clear arrears of the cane growers;

(b) if so, the total production of sugar this season so far and the amount of sugar to be exported;

(c) the national stock position of sugar as it existed on the eve of the said decision; and

(d) the quantum of sugar since exported with the cost and rate thereof, Country-wise ?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) A statement is being placed on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) The Government has been permitting export of sugar to enable the factories to liquidate surplus free-sale stocks and clear cane arrears.

(b) and (c) In the current sugar season upto 31.1.1997, total production of sugar was of the order of 55.17 lakh tonnes. Of this, 4.50 lakh tonnes of free-sale sugar has been allowed for general exports in instalments beginning early December, 1996. At that time, as on 7.12.1996 the national stock after meeting the dispatches of both levy and free-sale sugar till then was about 65 lakh tonnes.

(d) Position of export against the allotment of 4.50 lakh tonnes is as follows :

S.No	1996-97 date	Allotment (Lakh tonnes)	Party	*Export (Lakh tonnes)	Countries
1.	12.12.96	1.00	ISGIEIC	0.77	Pakistan, Indonesia & Russia
2.	3.1.97	1.00	STC	0.04	Pakistan
3.	4.2.97	2.50	DGFT/APEDA	**---	---
Total		4.50		0.81	

\* Exports figures are provisional.

\*\* APEDA has issued a trade notice on 17.2.1997. Based on the response export under the decanalised system will follow.

[English]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, both the sugar industry and the farmers are in a major crisis. A very large accumulated stock of sugar is there and the dues to the farmers in UP alone are about Rs. 900 crore.

In view of this, the Government, as stated in the statement, has allowed the export of 4.5 lakh tonnes of sugar. But the delay in announcing the export limits has led to a very poor response. Only 0.81 lakh tonnes has been exported and international prices have since softened because of the entry of Brazilian sugar.

In view of this, does the Government have any contingency plan to ease this crisis and ensure that quick relief is provided to the farmers who have not been paid very large arrears ?

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Member has asked the question in the context of

Uttar Pradesh. So far as the position of Uttar Pradesh is concerned with regard to payment, I think...

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I have not asked in the context of Uttar Pradesh, I have rather asked about the entire nation. I have referred to Uttar Pradesh just to give an example.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Uttar Pradesh only one per cent cane arrear is outstanding, 99 per cent cane arrear has been cleared there. I do not want to devote much time on this issue. Hon. Member has expressed concern over export. He wants to know as to how exports can be expedited so that cane growers are paid the outstanding cane arrears. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are perhaps aware that the Government had introduced a bill in this House to repeal Sugar Export Promotion Act 1958 in the last week of December during the last session which was passed by the Lok Sabha and referred to Rajya Sabha where a discussion was sought on that Bill. At that time we had a sugar stock of 80 Lakh tons. We had 86.48 lakh ton sugar in our stock as on 31 January 1997. We have issued an ordinance to ensure quick and timely export of sugar so as to make timely payment to the farmers. The Government took a prompt decision in this regard that presently they cannot withhold the stock, therefore an ordinance should be issued immediately in this regard and accordingly we issued an ordinance on 15 January. It took some time to enforce the procedures laid down in the ordinance. Recently we have issued a notification to D.G., Foreign Trade for export of 2.50 Lakh Ton sugar and directed the exporter to get themselves registered with APEDA. After registration only they will be allowed to export this sugar. Now there is no hurdle in it. Ways have been cleared for export by means of this ordinance.

[English]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The entire sugar cycle is subjected to very sharp peaks and drop. It follows a set pattern. The MSP is fixed, then the SAP is fixed, then the mills say every year that they cannot pay. The crop pattern gets changed. It gets diverted to crops like menthol in UP. A lot of diversion is going to menthol production for export to Japan. There is a shortage of sugar in the following year. Prices go up, mills make profit. The farmer is attracted back again, and again there is a surplus. So, there is a set pattern.

Does the Government propose to take up this matter with the States to try and even out this graph by linking it—just like it links the Minimum Statutory Price—to the cost of production and to the recovery rate ? Similarly, if there could be some way by linking the SAP also to a formula, the arbitrariness is cut out.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you going to take it up with the States or not ? Just reply in one sentence.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as for the points raised by Hon. Member in the context of support price, I would like to tell him that recently Hon. Allahabad High Court has given a verdict that no state can fix advisory price and the Central Government will only fix price. The Central Government has constituted a Committee for this purpose. Advisory prices vary from State to State. We fix a single statutory minimum price. This time we have increased the statutory minimum price. During the last year it was Rs. 42.50 whereas this year it has been raised to Rs. 45.90.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

#### Environmental Projects

\*141. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objectives	Extent of funding	Status	Achievements during the last three years	
					Financial	Physical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ganga Action Plan phase-I	Abatement of river water pollution	100%	ongoing	130.00	Out of 45 schemes 41 schemes completed.
2.	Ganga Action Plan phase-II	Abatement of river water pollution	50%	ongoing	158.03	DPRs for 17 projects have been approved.
3.	National River Action Plan	Abatement of river water pollution	50%	ongoing	132.23	DPRs of 9 schemes have been approved.
4.	Preparation of detailed project feasibility reports	Abatement of pollution of lakes/rivers	50%	Pilot study	10.00	Study taken up for 3 lakes viz. Motijheel, Muzaffarpur Man, Barela Chaur & 3 rivers viz. Gandak, Bagmati, Burhi Gandak.
5.	Paryavaran Vahini Scheme	Create environmental awareness through active participation of public	100%	ongoing	0.34	3 Paryavaran vahinis constituted in Hazaribagh, Rohtas, & Ranchi districts.
6.	Conservation of the Kabar Lake	To implement the management action plan of Kabar Lake	100%	ongoing	31.36	NA
7.	Assistance for abatement of pollution	To strengthen the State Pollution Control Board	100%	ongoing	15.20	Targets fixed in terms of financial releases.

DPRs : Detailed Project Reports, PFRs : Project Feasibility Reports, NA : Not Available.

(a) the details of centrally assisted environmental projects started during the last three years in Bihar;

(b) the details of the achievements made and the amount of assistance provided under each of these projects; and

(c) the details of the projects likely to be started in the near future in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Details of centrally assisted environmental projects started during the last three years in Bihar alongwith achievements made, both financial and physical, are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) All the ongoing projects are likely to be continued in the near future in the State.

[English]

**Nandadevi National Park**

\*148. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nandadevi National Park in Uttar Pradesh has lying practically shut to visitors and trekkers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to open it for social, cultural and economic benefits of the local people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For ensuring regeneration of the degraded and polluted ecosystem of the Nanda Devi National Park it is considered necessary to control strictly the entry of visitors and domestic animals into it. Accordingly, all trekking and mountaineering expeditions into the park have been prohibited.

(c) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh, has reported that normal development activities and ecodevelopment projects are being undertaken outside the Nanda Devi National Park for the social, cultural and economic benefits of the local people.

**Welfare Schemes in U.P.**

\*149. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :  
SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the welfare schemes being implemented by the Ministry in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the funds allocated for the purpose, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA ) : (a) Details of Welfare Schemes and expenditure incurred thereon:

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount Released	
		1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
I.	SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT		
1.	SCA to SCP	6297.51	5839.03
2.	Scheduled Caste Dev. Corpn.	282.77	—
3.	Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents	4505.00	3816.00
4.	Post Matric Scholarship to Children	735.68	1685.24
5.	Pre Matric Scholarship to Children of those engaged in unclean occupation	166.31	162.16
6.	Book Bank	54.00	15.00
7.	Girls Hostels for SCs	—	31.82
8.	Boys Hostels for SCs	—	66.90
9.	Coaching & Allied Scheme	—	—
10.	Upgradation of merit of SC/ST students	4.93	—
11.	Implementation of PCR Act, 1955 and SCs & STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989	178.51	399.43
12.	Aid to Voluntary Organisations for SCs (Assistance given direct to Vol. Organisations)	198.86	170.75

1	2	3	4
II.	SCHEDULED TRIBES DEVELOPMENT		
1.	Special Central Assistance to TSP	70.41	104.08
2.	Article 275 (1) of the Constitution	31.50	31.50
3.	Research & Training	—	1.12
4.	Non Governmental Organisations	3.25	6.19
III.	WELFARE OF MINORITIES AND BACKWARD CLASSES		
1.	Pre Examination Coaching Scheme	34.84	36.72
2.	National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation	1376.41	93.19
3.	Scheme of Multi Sectoral Development	Nil	28.60
4.	National Backward Classes Finance Development Corporation	949.00	121.00
IV.	WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED		
1.	Assistance to Vol. Orgns. for the Disabled	162.74	562.03
2.	Assistance to Vol. Orgns. for Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons	59.41	75.33
3.	Assistance to Vol. Orgns. for Establishment and Development of Special Schools	14.10	1.81
4.	Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances	693.67	582.00
V.	SOCIAL DEFENCE		
1.	Welfare of Street Children	22.65	14.80
2.	Welfare of the Aged	79.82	90.72
3.	Assistance to Vol. Orgns. in the field of Social Defence	—	23.11
4.	Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment	45.15	—
5.	Scheme of Shishu Greh	1.27	3.93
6.	Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention	140.09	135.39

(b) No district-wise allocation of funds is made under the above schemes. The funds are released to the State Govts./UTs and NGOs on receipt of the proposals.

[Translation]

**Per Capita Availability of Foodgrains**

\*150. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a shortfall in the per capita availability of foodgrains in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the shortfall in the per capita availability of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The average per capita availability of foodgrains in the country has generally been rising, by and large, over the years.

The per capita availability of foodgrains for the last four years i.e. 1993 to 1996 is given below :

Year	Per Capita availability of foodgrains (kgs per annum)
1993	169.4
1994	172.0
1995	185.3
1996	181.3

(b) The shortfall in per capita availability of foodgrains in the country in 1996 is attributed to a decline in production of foodgrains by 6.46 million tonnes and rise in population.

(c) The Government is taking several steps to increase production of foodgrains so as to improve their per capita availability at reasonable prices. In this context, the Government is implementing the following crop specific schemes :—

- (i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas.
- (ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas.
- (iii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas.
- (iv) National Pulses Development Project.

[English]

#### Districts of Religious Minorities Concentration

\*151. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :  
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the list of the districts having the concentration of religious minorities;

(b) if so, the percentage of the population of various religious minorities in each of those districts, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of the total population of each religious minority of the total population of the country; and

(d) the facilities and concessions being made available in those districts ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Government has identified 41 minority concentration Districts. Recently the Ministry has received a revised list from the National Commission for Minorities.

(b) Statement-I is attached.

(c) The percentage of total population of each religious minority to total population in the country as per 1991 Census is as under :—

Muslims	12.12%
Christians	2.34%
Sikhs	1.94%
Buddhists	0.76%
Zoroastrians	0.01%

(d) Statement-II is attached.

#### Statement-I

District	Muslims	%Age	Christian	%Age	Sikhs	%Age	Buddhists	%Age	Zoroas	%Age	Total Minority Population	Total Population of Distt	%age of Minority Population to the Distt.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
UTTAR PRADESH														
1.	Rampur	556532	47.22	7366	0.62	41589	3.53	120	0.01	1	0.00	607807	1173621	51.57
2.	Bijnor	765063	39.45	1818	0.09	22494	1.16	751	0.04	Nil	790525	1939261	40.76	
3.	Moradabad	1198807	38.06	6737	0.21	7939	0.25	1324	0.04	Nil	1215106	3149406	38.58	
4.	Saharanpur	843399	31.55	3698	0.14	21188	0.79	623	0.02	Nil	880731	2673561	32.94	
5.	Muzaffarnagar	653584	28.74	1770	0.08	8989	0.40	565	0.02	Nil	665175	2274487	29.25	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6.	Meerut	700144	25.30	9938	0.36	6597	0.24	4241	0.15	Nil		721052	2767246	26.06
7.	Baharai	554404	25.02	1767	0.08	3441	0.16	84	0.00	Nil		560013	2216245	25.27
8.	Gonda	637222	22.48	360	0.01	959	0.03	Nil	0.00	Nil		638620	2834562	22.53
9.	Ghaziabad	390124	21.17	1606	0.09	8202	0.45	1253	0.07	Nil		402676	1843130	21.85
10.	Pilibhit	212938	21.12	1255	0.12	39323	3.90	1	0.00	Nil		254358	1008312	25.23
11.	Deona	724329	20.72	1354	0.04	132	0.00	102	0.00	Nil		725926	3496564	20.76
12.	Barabanki	407404	20.45	572	0.03	234	0.01	74	0.00	Nil		408300	1992074	20.50
13.	Basti	729866	20.40	1052	0.03	325	0.01	457	0.01	Nil		731700	3578069	20.45
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>														
14.	Murshidabad	2169121	58.66	3760	0.10	399	0.01	81	0.00	Nil		2173408	3697552	58.78
15.	Malda	919918	45.27	4020	0.20	127	0.01	108	0.01	Nil		924283	2031871	45.49
16.	West Dinajpur	860797	35.79	19481	0.81	153	0.01	279	0.01	Nil		881927	2404947	36.67
17.	Birbhum	469212	22.39	5010	0.24	258	0.01	123	0.01	Nil		656420	2095829	31.32
18.	Nadia	713776	24.08	20504	0.69	204	0.01	230	0.01	Nil		734721	2964253	24.79
19.	24-Parganas (N)	2563751	23.87	55381	0.52	6913	0.06	4526	0.04	5	0.00	2630708	10739439	24.50
20.	24-Parganas (S)													
21.	Cooch Bihar	368176	20.78	1333	0.08	14	0.00	273	0.02	Nil		379799	1771643	21.44
22.	Howrah	598448	20.52	4640	0.16	2478	0.08	645	0.02	9	0.00	606248	2916861	20.78
<b>KERALA</b>														
23.	Malappuram	1573988	65.51	57217	2.38	2	0.00	Nil	0.00	Nil		1631207	2402701	67.89
24.	Kozhikode	762207	33.95	107711	4.80	30	0.00	6	0.00	7	0.00	869954	2245265	38.75
25.	Cannanore	720192	25.69	267710	9.55	110	0.00	1	0.00	4	0.00	988013	2803467	35.24
26.	Palghat	472787	23.13	76690	3.75	7	0.00	7	0.00	Nil		549491	2044399	26.88
27.	Wayanad	136091	24.56	135504	24.46	64	0.01	3	0.00	Nil		271802	554026	49.02
<b>BIHAR</b>														
28.	Purnea	1495557	41.59	3408	0.09	645	0.02	57	0.00	Nil		1499434	3595707	41.70
29.	Katihar	527379	36.92	2166	0.15	1116	0.08	186	0.01	Nil		531024	1428622	37.17
30.	Darbhanga	432751	21.55	764	0.04	403	0.02	8	0.00	Nil		433930	2008193	21.61
<b>KARNATAKA</b>														
31.	Bidar	179295	17.99	29250	2.94	428	0.04	20804	2.09	Nil		219622	996591	23.06
32.	Gulbarga	345638	16.61	14302	0.69	203	0.01	531	0.03	Nil		360987	2080643	17.35
33.	Bijapur	305159	12.71	2704	0.11	127	0.01	20	0.00	9	0.00	309105	2401782	12.87
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>														
34.	Greater Bombay	1219930	14.80	394687	4.79	51808	0.63	467716	5.67	50053	0.61	2188158	8243405	26.54
35.	Aurangabad	388646	15.97	23972	0.99	2640	0.11	192094	7.89	86	0.00	607850	2433423	24.98
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>														
36.	Hyderabad	811787	35.91	62689	2.77	7848	0.35	1421	0.06	391	0.02	884156	2260702	39.11
37.	Kurmoor	407981	16.95	69567	2.89	55	0.00	Nil	0.00	Nil		477616	2407299	19.84
<b>HARYANA</b>														
38.	Gurgaon	261645	30.80	658	0.08	4032	0.47	94	0.01	Nil		266449	848598	31.36

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>														
39.	Bhopal	209389	23.40	10929	1.22	6765	0.76	8133	0.91	10721		236485	894739	26.43
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>														
40.	Jaisalmer	56378	23.19	124	0.05	383	0.16	Nil	0.00	Nil		169094	243082	69.56
<b>GUJARAT</b>														
41.	Kachch	197164	18.77	1277	0.12	929	0.09		0.00	11	0.00	199453	1050161	18.99

**Statement-II**

The Government has launched a Multi-Sectoral Development Plan during 1995-96 in the 41 Minority Concentration Districts which is being monitored by the Ministry of Welfare. During the VIIIth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 1.00 Crore was allocated for the Scheme, out of which an amount of Rs. 56.40 Lakhs has so far been released.

Besides the above, the Government, through the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) have introduced some programs for the educational development of the Minorities :

(i) *Area intensive programme for educationally backward minorities* : The scheme was introduced in 1993-94 with the objective to provide basic educational and infrastructural facilities in areas of concentration of educationally backward minorities who do not have adequate provision for elementary education. Out of the VIIIth Plan Allocation of Rs. 16.27 Crore, an amount of Rs. 8.97 Crore has been spent under the Scheme.

(ii) *Modernization of Madrassa and Maktab* : The Scheme is meant to provide opportunities to the students of the *Madrassa and Maktab*s to acquire education comparable to that of the National Education System by providing financial assistance with the objective of introducing additional subjects like Science, Mathematics, English etc. An amount of Rs. 1.72 Crores was incurred on the schemes against the VIIIth Plan allocation of Rs. 1.00 Crore.

(iii) *Scheme of Community Polytechnics* : The scheme was started in the year 1978-79 and it envisaged the Community Polytechnics to act as focal points for Science and Technology applications in Rural Areas and generate self and wage employment opportunities through non-formal training in over 100 identified technical and vocational trades.

**Procurement of Wheat**

\*152. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) did not pick up wheat when the same was in plenty in Punjab

markets, not because it was short of funds but it was in league with the private dealers;

(b) whether Government have ordered an inquiry into this lapse of FCI;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. Wheat is procured for Central Pool by the FCI and State agencies under minimum support price scheme on a voluntary basis. The procurement prices are fixed by the Government to ensure that farmers do not resort to distress sale. The farmers are free to sell their produce to others at the prices advantageous to them.

No such complaint from Government of Punjab has been received in this regard.

(b) to (d) In view of the above the questions do not arise.

[Translation]

**Wheat Allocation to Flour Mills**

\*153. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :  
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the officers of the Food Corporation of India had allotted/supplied wheat to the flour mills by misusing their authority;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during the last one year, State-wise;

(c) whether the prices of wheat in the open market in the country have increased as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in each case; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Some instances of irregularities in allocation of wheat to the Roller Flour Mills have come to notice.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The quantity of wheat supplied to the Roller Flour Mills is fairly small. Therefore, it has no direct relationship with the increase in prices of wheat. The requirement of consumer of foodgrains is met through PDS/RPDS and other welfare schemes at prices fixed by the Government.

(e) To check the recurrence of such incidents, a special squad has been formed recently in Vigilance Division of FCI Headquarters. The main objective of the Squad is to increase frequency of surprise checks/investigation in corruption prone areas which include procurement centres, rail-heads and high loss depots. In case any instance of misuse of authority by any one comes to light, the delinquent official is liable for disciplinary action. The instructions do not allow any relaxation in allotment of wheat beyond the prescribed limit to any category of users.

#### Statement

#### Statement Showing the State-wise Details of Cases of Irregularities in Allotment of Wheat to Roller Flour Mills Detected During the Last One Year

S. No.	State	Gist of the case	Action taken
1.	Kerala	A case of issue of wheat to a non-functional RFM has been detected.	Disciplinary proceedings against the delinquent officials have been initiated.
2.	West Bengal	Wheat had been issued to five Roller Flour Mills beyond the prescribed ceiling during July, 1996.	The Joint Manager (PO) who had issued wheat to the RFMs in excess had been shifted from the post of JM (PO).
3.	Orissa	Wheat had been issued to some parties/RFMs in excess of the prescribed ceiling.	Disciplinary proceedings under major penalty have been initiated against the delinquent officials on account of violation of instructions at the time of sale of wheat under open sale scheme in Orissa.
4.	Haryana	A case has been registered against the then SRM, FCI, Haryana on 6.1.97 by the Distt. Police Authorities at Rohtak. The main allegation in the FIR is that illegal gratification was demanded for allotment of wheat under open sale schemes by the agents of SRM, FCI, Haryana. The FIR names the SRM, FCI, Haryana and two other FCI officials apart from the private traders.	Two FCI officials and three others have been arrested. The FCI officials have also been placed under suspension. The service of the then SRM, FCI, Haryana have been repatriated to his parent cadre. The matter has been taken up with CBI for investigation.

[English]

#### Insurgency in N.E. Region

\*154. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bangladesh has helped India in curbing the insurgency in the North Eastern States after signing the Indo-Bangladesh treaty for sharing the Ganga water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the insurgency in the North Eastern States has been checked thereafter;

(d) whether Bangladesh has also agreed to settle the Chakma refugees problem; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The positive attitude of new Bangladesh Government is likely to lead to denial of base and transit facilities to the insurgents in Bangladesh and this is expected to improve the security scenario in the North Eastern States.

(d) and (e) The Government of Bangladesh have reiterated their commitment for speedy repatriation of the Chakma refugees. A Parliamentary delegation led by Chief Whip of the ruling party in Bangladesh has visited the Chakma camps in Tripura between 27 Feb.—1 March 97 to expedite the repatriation of Chakma refugees.

[*Translation*]

**Import of Fertilizers**

\*155. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

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

(a) whether as a result of the liberalised import policy the fertilizers have been imported in large quantity during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has adversely affected the production in the public and private sector fertilizer units in the country; and

(d) if so, the decrease in the production of fertilizers in the Public Undertaking Units during the last six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Urea, DAP and MOP are three major fertilizers currently being imported. Urea, which is the only fertilizer under price, distribution and movement control is being imported on Government account through designated canalising agencies. The import of urea during September '96—February '97 have been 17.28 lakh metric tonnes (LMTs) which is lower if compared to the corresponding period of last year.

The imports of DAP and MOP were decanalised w.e.f. 17.9.1992 and 17.6.1993, respectively. Since then, they are imported freely. According to information available with the Department of Fertilizers, DAP imports during 1996-97 (upto Jan '97) were 5.05 LMTs as compared to the imports of 14.06 LMTs made during the whole of the previous year.

Since there is no commercially viable source of potash in the country, the entire requirement is being met through imports. During 1996-97 (upto Jan '97), MOP imports have reportedly been 7.34 LMTs as compared to the import of 21.92 LMTs made during 1995-96.

(c) and (d) The imports of Urea and DAP are made every year for bridging the gap between demand and indigenous availability. These have not affected the indigenous production which has been lower by 5.28 LMTs in respect of Urea during 1996-97 (upto Jan. '97) against the target on account of the reduced level of gas supplies, equipment related technical difficulties, financial constraints, industrial relation problems, etc. in different units both in public as well as the private sectors. The production of DAP has, however, been higher than the target during the same period.

[*English*]

**Supply Under P.D.S.**

\*156. SHRI YELLAI AH NANDI :  
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the monthly allocation of the foodgrains and other items for the Public Distribution System from January, 1997 onwards;

(b) if so, the total additional allocation made to each State, grain and item-wise;

(c) the total demand made by the State Governments to provide food grains and other items to them, grain and item-wise;

(d) whether additional supply made by the Government to the State Governments is not sufficient to meet their demand; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the need of each State ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Allocation of commodities under PDS is made to the States/UTs based on past demands, offtake trends, relative need and other relevant factors. Additional demands received from time to time from the States/UTs are considered and allocations are made on the above basis, keeping simultaneously in view the need to maintain a buffer stock at the prescribed norms.

Allocation of sugar is made to the States/UTs every month on the basis of 425 grams per capita as per 1991 population. Besides, an additional quota of one lakh tonnes per annum is also released to States/UTs as festival quota which is allocated in the month of their choice in proportion to their monthly levy quota. In view of the better availability of sugar, the festival quota was doubled for the calendar year 1996 as also adhoc increase to the tune of 10% in the monthly levy quote of all States/UTs from the month of December, 1996 onward has been granted and release orders issued accordingly.

As regards kerosene, an attempt is now being made to bring those States/UTs where the per capita availability is less than national average, to the national average level. At present only 60% of the required quantity of kerosene is indigenously produced and the balance is imported.

As regards edible oil, whenever the prices of this item rise sharply in the market, Central Government imports oil like palmolein through STC and allots it to the States/UTs for distribution under PDS.

In so far as soft coke is concerned, allocation to the State Government is made from out of the stocks held by the Public Sector Coal companies.

Information relating to month-wise and State-wise allocation from December, 1996 to March, 1997 of wheat, rice, sugar, edible oil, kerosene and soft coke is given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement**  
**Statewise Detailed Allocation Under PDS (Dec. 1996 to March 1997)**

State	Wheat					Rice					Sugar					Kanser					E.C.N					S. Cofe				
	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97	Dec. 96	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	Mar. 97		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
1. Andhra Pradesh	15000	15000	15000	15000	210000	210000	210000	210000	30790	28284	28331	28338	52345	52345	52345	52345	28238	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	52345	
2. Andhra Pradesh	600	900	600	600	8600	8600	8600	10600	375	375	375	375	806	806	806	806	375	806	806	806	806	806	806	806	806	806	806	806	806	
3. Assam	27000	30000	30000	30000	52000	55000	55000	55000	9599	11046	9601	9601	21398	21398	21398	21398	9601	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	21398	
4. Bihar	57100	57100	57100	57100	33500	33500	33500	33500	40748	36748	42748	36748	53959	53959	53959	53959	36748	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	53959	
5. Goa	3100	3100	3100	3100	7500	7500	7500	7500	658	508	508	508	2306	2306	2306	2306	508	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	2306	
6. Gujarat	60000	70000	70000	70000	35000	35000	35000	35000	17589	17588	17588	17588	67862	67862	67862	67862	17588	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	67862	
7. Haryana	18560	18560	18560	20000	3000	3000	3000	3000	7004	7057	7004	7057	13258	13258	13258	13258	7057	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	13258	
8. H.P.	10000	12000	12000	12000	11400	11400	11400	11400	1999	2080	1999	2080	4779	4779	4779	4779	2080	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	4779	
9. J & K	30000	30000	30000	30000	44000	44000	44000	44000	3692	3740	4555	3735	9417	9639	9639	9639	3735	9417	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	9639	
10. Karnataka	28000	30000	30000	30000	122260	122260	122260	122260	19140	19136	19140	19136	41566	41566	41566	41566	19140	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	41566	
11. Kerala	42000	45000	45000	45000	198000	198000	198000	198000	12375	12375	12375	12375	23308	23308	23308	23308	12375	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	23308	
12. M.P.	50000	50000	50000	50000	65000	65000	65000	65000	28186	281231	28186	28186	42378	42378	42378	42378	28186	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	42378	
13. Madhya Pradesh	80000	90000	100000	100000	71500	71500	71500	71500	33572	33572	33572	33572	128577	128577	128577	128577	33572	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	128577	
14. Madhya Pradesh	2700	2700	2700	2700	10000	10000	10000	10000	822	822	822	822	1792	1792	1792	1792	822	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	1792	
15. Madhya Pradesh	2500	2500	2500	2500	16500	17000	17000	17000	974	774	774	774	1640	1640	1640	1640	774	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	1640	
16. Mizoram	1900	1900	1900	1900	8010	8010	8010	8010	367	315	315	315	637	637	637	637	315	637	637	637	637	637	637	637	637	637	637	637	637	
17. Nagaland	600	600	600	600	7000	7000	7000	7000	697	567	567	567	1118	1118	1118	1118	567	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	1118	
18. Orissa	33000	40000	50000	50000	100000	100000	100000	100000	13474	13474	13474	13474	18975	18975	18975	18975	13474	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	18975	
19. Punjab	10000	12000	15000	20000	150	150	150	150	8746	8801	8743	8608	27685	27685	27685	27685	8743	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	27685	

(in MTs)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
20. Rajasthan	117000	117000	122000	127000	130000	7000	4000	4000	4000	18799	18801	18802	18801	28813	28813	28813	28813									
21. Sakam	800	800	600	600	5300	5300	5300	5300	5300	208	175	175	175	643	643	643	643				1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	
22. Tamil Nadu	22300	22300	22800	22300	22800	147700	165000	165000	165000	23750	23752	23749	23750	59171	58236	56836	56836									
23. Tripura	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	16200	16200	16200	16200	1205	1204	1206	1206	2548	2548	2548	2548				500	500	500	500	500	
24. Uttar Pradesh	90000	90000	98800	103800	103800	45800	40000	40000	40000	59232	55429	59233	59427	95017	94071	94071	94071				20000	20000	20000	20000	20000	
25. West Bengal	90000	90000	105000	110000	110000	65000	65000	65000	65000	29092	29092	29092	29092	63634	63634	63634	63634				65000	65000	65000	65000	65000	
26. And Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1694	2	-	390	390	390	390									
27. Chandigarh	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800	300	300	300	300	383	404	388	405	1779	1779	1779	1779									
28. DAN Haveli	250	250	250	250	250	500	500	500	500	51	51	61	61	264	264	264	264									
29. Daman & Diu	200	200	200	200	200	600	600	600	600	43	43	43	43	250	250	250	250									
30. Delhi	60000	60000	60000	65000	65000	20000	20000	20000	20000	12091	12095	12090	12101	20278	20278	20278	20278				9000	9000	9000	9000	9000	
31. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	406	-	-	-	75	75	75	75									
32. Pondicherry	750	750	750	750	750	2000	2000	2000	2000	505	473	473	473	1264	1264	1264	1264									
Total	657780	920380	975030	989580	1257910	1282170	1282170	1282170	1283170	375508	373199	376984	369781	790999	788873	789935	788873			800	173850	173850	173850	173850	173850	

[Translation]

**Import of Wheat and Present Stock**

\*157. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of wheat has exceeded two million tonnes;

(b) if so, whether the experts have revealed that import of wheat will be higher, if the stock with agencies is taken into consideration;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the total stock of wheat at present with the Food Corporation of India; and

(e) the public agencies appointed by the Government for the supply of imported wheat and the stock lying with each one of them ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. The Government have decided to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat during 1996-97.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Apart from the stocks held by the State Government agencies for Central Pool the stock of wheat with the Food Corporation of India as on 1.2.97 is estimated at 23.60 lakh tonnes.

(e) The Government has not appointed any other Public Agencies for supply of imported wheat. The entire quantity of wheat after arrival in India would be stored and distributed by FCI. The total arrival of imported wheat as on 28.2.97 is expected to be approximately 5 lakh tonnes.

**Law and Order in Delhi**

\*158. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' :  
COL. RAO RAM SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the law and order situation in Delhi is continuously deteriorating;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action being taken by the Union Government to improve the law and order in Delhi; and

(d) the percentage of increase in the crime rate from the year 1995-96 to 1996-97 and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) The percentage increase/decrease of crime under major heads during 1996 as compared to 1995 is given in the enclosed Statement. There was a decrease in the incidents of crime under some heads though it registered an increase under some other heads. The crime

rate in the National Capital Territory of Delhi is also influenced by (a) sharp increase in the floating population visiting the Capital daily; (b) involvement of outside criminals in various crimes committed in the City; (c) lax family vigil; (d) loosening of social controls and increased violence in social interactions; and (e) political and trade union activities. Instructions given to all Police Stations to register all crime reported, without exception, is also partly responsible for higher figures.

The steps taken by the Delhi Police to prevent crime, *inter alia*, include :—

- (i) The existing beat system of patrolling has been reviewed and made more effective. The known bad characters have been put under constant surveillance. A drive has been undertaken to maintain a close watch on criminals who often escape the net of police having no previous history;
- (ii) Intelligence is being constantly developed about the movement of desperate criminals and raids are conducted to nab these criminals. Patrolling has been intensified especially on the dark nights as there is a tendency for the criminal gangs to operate during such nights;
- (iii) Activities of criminals released from jail and means they have adopted to earn their livelihood are verified and surveillance kept over them;
- (iv) A servant verification drive was pursued with renewed vigour. Such drives were organised in different colonies to activate citizens to get their servants verified;
- (v) 'Neighbourhood Watch Scheme' has been initiated in different colonies of the capital. Senior citizens are visited from time to time by beat officers;
- (vi) Modern scientific methods of investigation are used for detection of heinous crimes; and
- (vii) A Special Task Force has been constituted under Delhi Police to effectively handle the investigation of serious crimes including heinous crimes.

**Statement**

*Percentage Increase/Decrease of Incidents of Crime under Various Heads in Delhi during 1995 and 1996*

Crime head	1995	1996	%age rise/fall in 1996 over 1995
1	2	3	4
Murder	525	518	- 1.33
Robbery	553	609	+ 10.13
Dacoity	42	32	- 23.81
Kidnapping/ Abduction	1242	1250	+ 0.64

1	2	3	4
Rape	377	484	+ 28.38
Molestation of women	521	694	+ 33.20
Dowry death	167	133	- 20.36
406 IPC (Relating to dowry)	60	20	- 66.67
498-A IPC (Cruelity by husband or in-laws)	1042	862	- 17.27
Dowry Prohibition Act	15	4	- 73.33
Kidnapping/abduction of women	877	925	+ 5.47
Eve Teasing	2796	2059	- 26.36

**Voluntary Organisations**

\*159. SHRI SOHAN BEER :  
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations in the country engaged in the welfare of the poor, orphan children, aggrieved women and handicapped persons with details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether the Central Government also provide grant to these voluntary organisations, besides the State Government; and

(c) if so, the details of the grants provided by the Central Government during the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) A statement is given below :

**Statement***Grant in aid to Voluntary Organisations for SCs*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
		No. of NGOs.	Amt. released	No. of NGOs.	Amt. released	No. of NGOs.	Amt. released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33	85.32	59	179.44	56	181.78
2.	Assam	1	1.47	1	1.53	2	6.53
3.	Bihar	8	13.69	19	48.99	17	48.60
4.	Delhi	18	216.89	21	246.05	18	228.88
5.	Haryana	3	5.63	7	15.42	5	16.54
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	2.40	—	—	—	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	2.42	1	1.22	—	—
8.	Karnataka	17	71.62	22	124.82	22	117.95
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7	15.88	13	33.39	13	35.90
10.	Maharashtra	3	48.54	7	52.42	7	52.51
11.	Manipur	5	9.78	6	13.91	6	15.55
12.	Orissa	16	30.06	28	95.96	28	62.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Rajasthan	6	7.15	13	13.34	12	20.08
14.	Tamil Nadu	5	13.88	11	23.72	10	18.77
15.	Tripura	1	1.06	2	5.07	2	5.54
16.	Punjab	—	—	2	3.78	2	1.45
17.	Uttar Pradesh	52	101.27	74	198.86	71	170.75
18.	West Bengal	22	116.53	26	117.39	27	95.72
19.	Chandigarh	—	—	1	0.75	1	1.10
Total		199	743.59	313	1169.76	299	240.64

*Grant in aid to Voluntary Organisations for Scheduled Tribes Development*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	10.74	7	9.18	10	27.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	71.89	5	83.39	5	84.50
3.	Assam	4	20.65	4	25.94	3	15.09
4.	Bihar	6	31.62	6	34.95	8	35.26
5.	Gujarat	2	4.32	2	2.36	1	1.07
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	1	10.81
7.	Karnataka	2	19.44	3	22.15	3	15.80
8.	Kerala	5	19.70	5	28.11	5	29.42
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2	15.85	2	3.91	2	12.54
10.	Maharashtra	6	42.62	5	56.96	6	40.73
11.	Manipur	1	1.05	2	3.97	2	3.05
12.	Meghalaya	2	52.34	2	48.63	2	68.91
13.	Nagaland	1	1.08	—	—	2	1.96
14.	New Delhi	5	29.79	5	63.67	5	36.75
15.	Orissa	10	43.37	15	52.86	16	70.63
16.	Rajasthan	1	10.49	1	11.36	1	10.79
17.	Tamil Nadu	2	12.19	4	12.89	4	17.80
18.	Tripura	—	—	2	4.22	2	1.45
19.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1.28	1	3.25	1	6.18
20.	West Bengal	7	14.73	8	25.81	7	40.11

*Grant in aid to Voluntary Organisations for the Welfare of Handicapped*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27	99.40	49	279.08	50	432.27
2.	Assam	1	0.51	4	5.81	2	3.76
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	1	0.96	—	—
4.	Bihar	13	27.50	24	46.66	21	60.72
5.	Chandigarh	2	1.16	2	0.90	2	2.33
6.	Delhi	22	107.29	33	159.45	30	149.74
7.	Goa	1	4.84	2	6.65	2	7.47
8.	Gujarat	17	22.42	16	32.74	13	28.49
9.	Haryana	—	—	5	15.87	6	14.96
10.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1	26.28	1	15.36
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	3.48	2	4.45	2	3.08
12.	Karnataka	25	114.25	48	207.43	43	216.68
13.	Kerala	28	59.71	44	138.95	46	158.33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9	15.54	13	8.71	4	1.87
15.	Maharashtra	25	79.66	46	106.40	22	80.61
16.	Manipur	2	8.30	3	17.61	3	17.98
17.	Meghalaya	2	2.98	2	4.98	2	4.25
18.	Mizoram	—	—	1	2.16	1	3.04
19.	Orissa	4	10.64	10	32.71	7	37.97
20.	Pondicherry	—	—	1	2.50	—	—
21.	Punjab	—	—	8	13.89	6	13.91
22.	Rajasthan	5	22.74	7	36.47	7	38.05
23.	Tamil Nadu	33	70.73	64	146.20	49	99.59
24.	Tripura	2	3.11	2	7.75	1	1.79
25.	Uttar Pradesh	35	152.87	75	364.17	53	639.17
26.	West Bengal	22	273.24	31	166.34	28	164.04

*Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations under Social Defence Division  
(Orphan Children)*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	3.87	7	26.31	8	26.27
2.	Assam	—	—	3	3.60	2	6.05
3.	Gujarat	7	8.05	9	25.02	7	28.91
4.	Karnataka	3	6.44	6	22.09	6	17.06
5.	Kerala	2	1.62	2	3.39	2	5.82
6.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	3	9.23	4	16.38
7.	Maharashtra	24	32.87	26	65.29	20	38.18
8.	Manipur	—	—	1	5.54	1	3.70
9.	Mizoram	—	—	1	1.23	—	—
10.	Orissa	6	8.14	6	9.78	6	16.27
11.	Rajasthan	—	—	4	3.63	3	11.97
12.	Tamil Nadu	9	23.90	9	45.42	10	23.30
13.	Tripura	—	—	—	0.52	1	2.40
14.	Uttar Pradesh	6	12.33	6	23.91	18	18.73
15.	West Bengal	9	25.57	26	80.87	23	96.64
16.	Delhi	10	18.22	9	23.53	9	34.96
17.	Haryana	1	1.62	—	—	—	—

[English]

**Shortage of Wheat due to Transportation  
Bottlenecks**

\*160. SHRI SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the current shortage of wheat is due to the transportation bottlenecks as per the views of the experts and the FCI;

(b) whether it has been reported that if the transportation bottlenecks are not sorted out soon there may be a shortage of rice as well;

(c) whether the railways and other transport agencies have been urged to provide sufficient means of transport for the transportation of wheat and rice to various places;

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

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remove this problem ?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The offtake as percentage of allocation under the PDS/RPDS during the current year 1996-97 registered a substantial increase to 75% from 55% in the previous year. The increased demand of foodgrains in the PDS/RPDS has been met by a substantial improvement in the availability of railway rakes for movement of foodgrains in the last few months. Some recommendations to meet the increasing demand of movement of foodgrains like strengthening of infrastructure on trunk railway routes, have been made. As the requirement of wheat in the coastal states is likely to be met mostly with the imported wheat, more railway rakes would be available for movement of rice ex-North to the South.

(c) to (e) Regular coordination is maintained and meetings are held at various levels between the Ministry of

Railways, Ministry of Food and FCI for the transportation of foodgrains to various States.

#### Argentinian Wheat

1520. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised and instructed the State Trading Corporation of India to look into the possibility of importing the Argentinian wheat as it is cheaper than the Australian and Canadian wheat which have already been contracted in excess of one million tonnes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Argentinian wheat has not been booked so far since there was an opinion that it would be suited only for the bread making and not suitable for making the chappatis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The State Trading Corporation of India has finalised contracts for import of 1 lakh tonnes of wheat from Argentina @ US \$ 173 per metric tonne (C&F) JNPT/Bombay Port.

[Translation]

#### Drip Irrigation

1521. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are encouraging the expansion of drip/sprinkler irrigation system and providing ninety percent rebate for the purpose;

(b) if so, the names of areas where this system is being implemented alongwith the total area under the system, State-wise;

(c) the total amount of subsidy provided by the Government during the current year for the purpose, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the fact that only big farmers of limited area are getting benefit of this scheme and most of the farmers are utilizing the provision of rebate only for purchasing the pipes and the remaining components remain unpurchased; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the objectives of the scheme ?

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

percent subsidy is being provided to SC/ST, Small/marginal and women farmers and seventy percent subsidy is provided to the other farmers.

(b) The State-wise area covered under drip irrigation system and number of sprinkler systems installed are given in Statements I and II.

(c) The State-wise allocation of funds for drip and sprinkler irrigation systems for the year 1996-97 are given in Statements III and IV.

(d) As per available information from the states, majority of the farmers covered under the scheme belong to SC/ST, Small/marginal and women farmers. Subsidy is released only if the entire drip system is installed, and duly verified by state officials.

(e) The objectives of scheme are achieved through regular monitoring, providing for drip demonstration, organising training programmes for state officials and farmers and conducting adoptive research.

#### Statement-I

Area Covered (in ha.) under Drip Irrigation during 1992-96

Sl. No.	State	Total (1992-96) Achievement
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7245.00
2.	Assam	0.00
3.	Bihar	0.00
4.	Goa	204.72
5.	Gujarat	3670.00
6.	Haryana	1123.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	17.39
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	31.00
9.	Karnataka	14719.00
10.	Kerala	3469.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1447.00
12.	Maharashtra	30203.00
13.	Manipur	90.00
14.	Meghalaya	0.00
15.	Mizoram	0.00
16.	Nagaland*	175.00

**Statement-III***Subsidy provided during 1996-97 under Drip Irrigation*

1	2	3
17.	Orissa	1276.00
18.	Punjab	709.00
19.	Rajasthan	842.50
20.	Tamil Nadu	12209.00
21.	Tripura	0.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	467.00
23.	West Bengal	9.00
24.	Sikkim	79.00
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.00
26.	Daman & Diu	28.65
27.	Delhi	4.00
28.	Lakshadweep	0.00
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	75.00
30.	Chandigarh	0.00
31.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	60.00
Total :		78151.26

**Statement-II***Number of sets installed for Sprinkler Irrigation System during 1992-96*

Sl. No.	State	Total Number of Sets Installed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13411
2.	Gujarat	10789
3.	Haryana	3328
4.	Karnataka	5194
5.	Madhya Pradesh	10097
6.	Maharashtra	13785
7.	Rajasthan	22723
8.	Tamil Nadu	10811
9.	Uttar Pradesh	8013
10.	Other States	1591
Total :		99742

Sl. No.	Name of State	Rupees (in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	944.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.90
3.	Assam	55.09
4.	Bihar	184.16
5.	Goa	25.10
6.	Gujarat	321.84
7.	Haryana	142.37
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16.20
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	17.42
10.	Karnataka	832.66
11.	Kerala	168.89
12.	Madhya Pradesh	321.10
13.	Maharashtra	1485.22
14.	Manipur	5.99
15.	Meghalaya	5.99
16.	Mizoram	6.08
17.	Nagaland	12.15
18.	Orissa	129.62
19.	Punjab	54.86
20.	Rajasthan	60.71
21.	Sikkim	5.99
22.	Tamil Nadu	370.10
23.	Tripura	8.37
24.	Uttar Pradesh	59.36
25.	West Bengal	11.97
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4.45
27.	Delhi	3.25
28.	Daman & Diu	4.45
29.	Lakshadweep	4.45
30.	Pondicherry	0.00
Total		5272.18

**Statement-IV**

*Subsidy provided during 1996-97 under  
Sprinkler Irrigation*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Allocation during 1996-97
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1540.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.75
3.	Assam	18.75
4.	Bihar	276.25
5.	Goa	—
6.	Gujarat	693.50
7.	Haryana	606.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18.75
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	19.00
10.	Karnataka	788.50
11.	Kerala	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2147.75
13.	Maharashtra	1789.37
14.	Manipur	89.00
15.	Meghalaya	1.87
16.	Mizoram	1.87
17.	Nagaland	1.87
18.	Orissa	665.75
19.	Punjab	37.50
20.	Rajasthan	2095.87
21.	Sikkim	7.50
22.	Tamil Nadu	1087.25
23.	Tripura	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1152.81
25.	West Bengal	37.50
<b>Total :</b>		<b>14233.97</b>

*[English]***Land Boundary Agreement**

1522. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the outstanding issues relating to implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement with Pakistan/Bangladesh;

(b) the names of 23 Indian Enclaves found not exchangeable within Bangladesh;

(c) whether the problem of Exchange of Enclaves has been under the consideration of the Government since long;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which this problem is likely to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) The three outstanding issues pertaining to the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 are : (i) exchange of enclaves; (ii) transfer of adverse possessions; and (iii) completion of boundary demarcation.

The division between India and the then East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, took place on the basis of Radcliffe Award which left some small enclaves belonging to India and East Pakistan/Bangladesh in each other's territory. As per information available with us, there were 11 non-exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh. The non-exchangeable enclaves stand for enclaves within enclaves, or areas which were earlier thought to be enclaves, but which after demarcation of boundary have become contiguous and thus are no longer enclaves.

The exchange of enclaves is directly linked to and will necessarily follow the demarcation of boundary with Bangladesh. The demarcation of about 41 kilometers of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary is yet to be completed. Government propose to complete the task of demarcation of the boundary with Bangladesh with the cooperation of the concerned State Governments.

**Bomb Blast in Bansgoan**

1523. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3243 on August 27, 1996 regarding Bomb blast in Bansgoan and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to

(c) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the incident had taken place on 25.3.1996. As a result of the bomb blast, 11 persons were killed while 41 persons were injured. The investigations revealed the involvement of eight persons in the incident. Five persons were arrested. One person surrendered in the Court. The movable and immovable property of two persons was attached. Chargesheet has been issued against the accused persons.

#### Normative Cost of Sugar

1524. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the normative cost of the Sugar Factory Project was fixed during 1992;

(b) whether due to escalation of prices there is a wide gap in the normative cost and actual cost of sugar;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the revision of the normative cost is under consideration of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the revised normative cost is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Government have not prescribed any normative cost for sugar factories though the financial institutions while assessing the projects have been going by a certain standard taking into account the financing pattern and the prospect of return on capital. The financial institutions are generally concerned with the debt-equity ratio and the financial viability of the project. Since the State Governments contribute a large part of equity of the Cooperatives and also have to guarantee the loans, the question of availability of total finance for a particular unit has to be resolved between them, the cooperative and the financial institutions.

(d) to (f) The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices have estimated the cost of a new 2500 TCD sugar factory at Rs. 40 crores.

#### Palm Oil Processing Venture

1525. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether CSIR has signed a MOU with Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Oilseeds Federation for Rs. 17 crore indigenously developed palm oil processing technology;

(b) if so, the main features of the MOU;

(c) whether it is expected to earn sizeable foreign exchange through the export of this technology;

(d) whether the main objective of the new technology is to lead the country to self-sufficiency in the sphere of the edible oils; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which this is likely to benefit the people of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. MoU has been signed between CSIR and A.P. Co-operative Oilseeds Federation for Rs. 11.20 crores.

(b) The main features of the MoU are as follows :

(i) To establish a 10 Tonne Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB)/hour processing capacity Palm Oil mill at Ashwaraopet, Distt. Khammam, Andhra Pradesh developed indigenously by National Laboratories of CSIR.

(ii) The Project will be implemented by Licensee project Engineering Companies under the supervision of CSIR.

(iii) The performance will be guaranteed to match the international standards.

(c) Yes, Sir. The indigenous technology package developed by CSIR has the potential of export to African & Far Eastern countries.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The palm oil recovery per ha. is highest amongst all other oilseed crops. The new technology package will yield higher efficiency on oil production from oil palm and thus it may attract growers to boost up its cultivation, thereby helping in achieving the goal of self-sufficiency in sphere of edible oil. The oil palm cultivation is being promoted among farmers of Andhra Pradesh and other States under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses. Along with A.P. Cooperative Oilseeds Federation, private entrepreneurs have come up to establish the oil palm processing units. Since the economic return from oil palm cultivation is higher than that obtained from conventional oilseed crops, the latest processing facilities would increase higher recovery of palm oil and attract the farmers of the Andhra Pradesh towards the cultivation of this crop with higher returns.

#### Pashu Vigyan Kendras

1526. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Pashu Vigyan Kendras all over the country for the scientific development of Animal Husbandry to give boost to "White Revolution"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its present status and implications, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) A new plan scheme for setting up composite Livestock Production and Extension Centres has been proposed for inclusion in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The scheme envisages the establishment of livestock demonstration units where training will be provided to rural youth in the scientific rearing of livestock so as to enable them to practice livestock rearing as a productive and income generating enterprise.

**Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995**

1527. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the by laws, rules and regulations under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 have not been framed so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these will be framed ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 73 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the Central Government have framed rules and notified them vide gazette of India, Extra-ordinary, under Part-II, Section-3, sub-section (ii) as S.O.No. 908 (E), dated 31-12-96. Copies of the Notification were laid on the Table of the House on 25.2.97.

**Pay Structure for Central State Farm, Aralam**

1528. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to revise the pay structure of the workers and taking over the Central State Farm, Aralam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND

DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA ) : (a) Central State Farm, Aralam is one of the units of State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the control of Ministry of Agriculture. SFCI has adopted two types of pay structure for its regular employees i.e. Industrial DA pattern and Central DA pattern. IDA pay scales were revised w.e.f. 1.1.1992. As regards revision of wages of workers/labourers of Central State Farm, Aralam, it may be mentioned that their wages are governed under the Minimum Wages Act. The competent authority for revision of wages of workers/labourers of Central State Farm, Aralam is the State Government of Kerala. The revision of their wages will be effected as per revision of wages of such workers by the State Government of Kerala. At present, there is no proposal for taking over the management of Central State Farm, Aralam.

(b) In view of the position indicated above, question does not arise.

**Dairies Supplying Milk for DMS**

1529. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the location of the Dairies which are supplying milk to the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) and Mother Dairy;

(b) the norms/rules laid down by the statutory authority, to be followed by these Dairies;

(c) whether any shortcomings/dangerous methods have been detected in the methods adopted for the production of milk at these Dairies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) and Mother Dairy are receiving their milk supply from Unions/Dairies of State Cooperative Dairy Federations. Location of these dairies/unions is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) These Dairies/Unions are governed by various provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1955 and the rules framed thereunder as well the Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected.

**Statement**

*Locations of Unions/Dairies of various Federations supplying milk to Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS)/Mother Dairy*

Name of the State Coop. Federation	Location of Dairy/Union Supplying Milk	
	DMS	Mother Dairy
Pradeshik Coop. Dairy Federation Ltd., Lucknow	Bullandshahar	Muradabad
	Meerut	Aligarh
	Aligarh	Agra
	Hapur	Muzaffarnagar
	Muradabad	Hapur
	Badayun	Meerut
	Etawah	Bullandshahar Mathura
Rajasthan Coop. Dairy Federation, Jaipur	Hanumangarh	Jaunpur
	Palli	Bikaner
	Bikaner	Hanumangarh
	Bhilwara	Palli
	Jodhpur	Ajmer
	Alwar	Alwar
		Bhilwara
Haryana Dairy Dev. Coop. Federation Ltd., Chandigarh	Rohtak	Rohtak
	Jind	Ballabhgarh
		Ambala
Punjab State Coop. Milk Producers Federation Ltd., Chandigarh	Amritsar	Ludhiana
	Sangrur	Bhatinda
	Bhatinda	Patiala
	Jullundhar	Sangrur
	Patiala	Jullundhar Gurdaspur
Gujarat Coop. Milk Marketing Federation Ltd., Anand, Gujarat	None	Anand
		Godhra

**Clearance of Projects**

1530. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for water transport projects at Nerul in Navi Mumbai and near Radio Club in South Mumbai is awaiting Central clearance;

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Certain details about the project are awaited from the project proponents. The proposal will be examined on receipt of requisite data for taking a decision.

**World Food Programme**

1531. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level mission had visited various parts of Madhya Pradesh during March, 1996 regarding the approval of Scheme No. 5697 under the World Food Programme;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the mission; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be given approval ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Appraisal Mission of World Food Programme (WFP) visited Madhya Pradesh during March, 1996.

(b) The World Food Programme (WFP) Appraisal Mission recommended that food aid to Madhya Pradesh under Project-5697-Improvement of food security through forestry activities be continued.

(c) The project is included as a part of India Country Programme which has been approved by the WFP's Executive Board in January, 1997.

#### Open Market Sale by FCI

1532. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious irregularities have been committed by the marketing officials of the FCI who were responsible for open market sale of the foodgrains in connivance with the traders;

(b) if so, total number of cases noticed/reported/registered against the FCI officials during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of the cases referred to CBI and the cases where the investigation has been completed alongwith the action taken against the defaulting officials; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to streamline the operations of FCI and check corruption phenomena effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The State-wise cases noticed/reported/registered against FCI officials during the last three years are indicated as under :

	1994	1995	1996
Headquarters	14	18	46
North Zone	344	372	608
West Zone	119	105	73
East Zone	70	73	45
NE Zone	23	23	15
South Zone	45	50	90
	615	641	877

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) To streamline the operations of FCI and to check corruption, the FCI has formed a Special Squad in Vigilance Division of FCI Headquarters. The main objective of the squad is to increase the frequency of surprise checks/investigation in corruption prone areas which include procurement centres, rail heads and high loss depots.

#### Statement

1. Four cases, as under, were referred to the CBI during 1996-97 (upto 28.2.1997) :-

- (i) A case relating to financial impropriety and pilferage of rice alleged to have been committed in Patiala District of Punjab was initially registered with the local Police. After considering relevant factors, the aforesaid case has been referred to the CBI for investigation.
- (ii) A case relating to avoidable expenditure of about Rs. 49 lakhs on transportation of foodgrains and sanctioning of higher rate of transportation in Haryana has been referred to the CBI for investigation on 30.1.1997.
- (iii) An FIR was lodged in Rohtak District (Haryana) on 6.1.1997 alleging bribery and corruption in allotment of open sale wheat to certain parties. The Ministry of Food has conveyed its recommendation for handing over the case to the CBI.
- (iv) An allegation was received that foodgrains despatched from Jabalpur to a nearby FCI depot had taken an unusually long period of 3-4 months. It was also alleged that stocks carried by trucks were sold in black-market. On 26.2.1997, the case has been referred to the CBI.

2. In none of the cases investigation has been completed so far.

#### Firing in Dabri Village

1533. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government ordered inquiries/fact finding committees into the firing incident by Delhi Police on 15.10.1996 at Dabri village;

(b) if so, whether the inquiry reports have since been received;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The Lt. Governor of Delhi ordered an inquiry into the incident and the Inquiry Officer has since submitted his report which is under the consideration of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

#### Subsidy on Fertilizers

1534. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy of the Government regarding the grant of subsidy on fertilizers;

(b) whether the Government have announced the revised rates after giving the subsidy on different fertilizers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Government of India is giving subsidy on fertilizers under Statutory Price Control. The difference between the retention price and the notified sale price minus the distribution margin is paid as subsidy to the individual manufacturing unit. In addition to this subsidy Government of India is also giving concession on sale of decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India has revised the rates of concession on different de-controlled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers on sales effective from 1st April, 1997. The revised rate of concession on indigenous DAP is Rs. 3750/- per tonne, on imported DAP is Rs. 2250/- per tonne, on MOP is Rs. 2000/- per tonne, on SSP is Rs. 600/- per tonne and proportionately on indigenous Complex fertilizers.

#### Specifications for Purchasing Foodgrains by FCI

1535. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the FCI purchases foodgrains from the farmers after conforming to certain prescribed specifications;

(b) if so, the details of those specifications;

(c) whether the specifications get diluted while the foodgrains reach the consumer through PDS;

(d) whether any system has been evolved to prevent this dilution; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The desired information is given in the attached Statements I and II.

(c) to (e) The foodgrains are procured strictly in accordance with the prescribed specifications by the Government of India through the procuring agencies for Central Pool. The procured foodgrains are stored in scientific godowns and necessary preventive treatments are imparted to protect the grain from various factors. Sound wheat and rice stocks free from insect infestation conforming to PFA standards are only issued under Public Distribution System.

#### Statement-I

No. 8-8/96-S&I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Food  
(Department of Food, Procurement & Distribution)

.....  
New Delhi, the 12th Sept., 1996

To

All State Governments &  
Union Territories

Subject : Single Grade Specifications of Paddy, Rice and Kharif Coarse Grains for the marketing season 1996-97.

.....  
Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith Single Grade Specifications of Rice, Paddy and Kharif Coarse Grains for the marketing season 1996-97. However, in order to ensure smooth procurement operation, rice can be purchased in addition to the maximum limit prescribed in the single grade specification in respect of following items of refractions :

- (i) *Damaged/Slightly damaged grains* : Damaged/Slightly Damaged grains will be accepted upto 3% only in respect of raw rice. There will be no cut upto 2%. Between 2% to 3% cut will be applicable at the rate of 1/2 value (half value cut).
- (ii) *Small brokens* : The small brokens percentage, without any change in the percentage of overall brokens, will be procured upto a maximum of 2%. Upto 1%, there will be no cut. Between 1% to 2%, the value cut will be applicable at the rate of 1/2 value (half value cut).
- (iii) *Dehusked Grains* : The dehusked grains will be accepted upto 13% for all groups of rice with value cut. There will be no cut upto 10%. Above 10% to 13%, cut will be applicable at the rate of 1/4th value (one-fourth value cut).
- (iv) *Admixture of lower classes* : Rice can be procured with admixture of lower classes upto 14% as in the case of Kharif Marketing season 1995-96.
- (v) *Moisture content* : The rice will be procured upto maximum of 15% moisture content with value cuts (raw and parboiled). There will be no cut upto 14%. Between 14% to 15%, cut will be applicable at the rate of full value.

It is requested that the procurement of the grains in question may kindly be ensured by all States/Union Territories strictly in accordance with these specifications so as to avoid any problem/complaint during storage and subsequent issues to the public.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this communication.

Your faithfully,

Sd/-

(Dr. Sone Lal)

Joint Commissioner (S&R)

Tele. No. 3383108

Encl : as above

Copy to :

1. The Chairman, FCI, New Delhi.
2. The Managing Director, FCI, New Delhi.
3. The Executive Director (Commercial), FCI, New Delhi.
4. The Manager (QC), FCI, New Delhi.
5. The Manager (Procurement), FCI, New Delhi.
6. The Managing Director, National Coop. Development Corporation, New Delhi.
7. The Managing Director, Central Warehousing Corporation, New Delhi.
8. The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution, N. Delhi.
9. Private Secretary to Secretary (Food)/Secretary (FP&D)/JS (SK)/JS (SN)/Director (DR).
10. DS (DR)/US (PY.)/US (DR).
11. All Zonal Managers, FCI.
12. All Save Grain Campaign Offices.
13. All Indian Grain Storage Management & Research Institute Offices.
14. All Quality Control Cells.
15. DR-I/DR-III/BP-I/BP-II/PY-I.
16. JC (S&R)/DC (S&R)/DD(S)/DD (I)/DD (SGC)/AD (Lab.)/AD (S)/AD (I) I, II & III/TO (Lab.)

.....

Sd/-

(K.M. VAGHELA)

Deputy Director (S&R)

Tel. No. 3387622

*Specifications of All Varieties of Paddy  
(Marketing Season 1996-97)*

The paddy shall be in sound merchantable condition, sweet, dry, clean, wholesome of good food value uniform in colour and size of grains and free from moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, argemone mexicana, kesari, admixture of deleterious substances or colouring agents and also conforming to PFA Standards.

Paddy will be classified into superfine, fine and common groups.

*Schedule of Specifications*

S. No.	Constituents	Maximum Limits (%)	
		Superfine	Fine/Common
1.	Foreign matter:		
	(a) Inorganic	1.0	
	(b) Organic	1.0	
2.	Damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains	3.0	
3.	Immature, shrunken and shrivelled grains	3.0	
4.	Admixture of lower classes	10.0	
5.	Moisture	18.0	

NOTE :

1. The definitions of the above constituents and method of analysis are to be followed as per BIS method of analysis in Food Grains IS : 4333 (Part-I), IS : 4333 (Part-II)-1967 and Terminology for Foodgrains IS : 2813-1970, as amended from time to time.
2. The method of sampling is to be followed as per Bureau of Indian Standards method for sampling of Cereals and Pulses IS : 2814-1964 as amended from time to time.
3. Within the overall limit of 1.0% for organic foreign matter, poisonous seeds shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra seeds (vicia species) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.

*Uniform Specifications for Superfine, Fine/Common Rice  
(Marketing Season 1996-97)*

The rice shall be in sound merchantable condition, sweet, dry, clean wholesome of good food value, uniform in colour and size of grains and free from moulds weevils, obnoxious smell, admixture of unwholesome poisonous substances, argemone mexicana and kesari in any form, or colouring agents and all impurities except to the extent in the schedule below. It shall also conform to PFA Standards.

*Schedule of Specifications*

Sl. No.	Constituents	Maximum Limits (%)	
		Superfine	Fine/Common
1	2	3	4
1.	Brokens		
	Raw	22.0	24.0
	Parboiled	16.0	17.0
2.	Foreign matter		
	Raw/Parboiled	0.5	0.5

1	2	3	4
3.	Damaged/Slightly Damaged		
	Raw	2.0	2.0
	Parboiled	4.0	4.0
4.	Discoloured grains		
	Raw	3.0	3.0
	Parboiled	5.0	5.0
5.	Chalky grains		
	Raw	6.0	6.0
6.	Red Grains		
	Raw	3.0	3.0
	Parboiled	4.0	4.0
7.	Admixture of lower classes		
	Raw/Parboiled	12.0	12.0
8.	Dehusked Grains		
	Raw/Parboiled	10.0	10.0
9.	Moisture Content		
	Raw/Parboiled	14.0	14.0

*Notes Applicable to the Specifications of Superfine,  
Fine and Common Varieties of Rice*

**Note-1**

The definition of the above constituents and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Bureau of Indian Standard "Method of Analysis of Foodgrains" No's IS : 4333 (Part-I) 1967 and IS : 4333 (Part-II) 1967 "Terminology for Foodgrains" IS : 2813-1970 as amended from time to time. Dehusked grains are rice kernels whole or broken which have more than 1/4 of the surface area of the kernel covered with the bran and determined as follows :—

**ANALYSIS PROCEDURE :** Take 5 grams of rice (sound head rice and brokens) in a Petri Dish (80 × 70 mm). Dip the grains in about 20 ml. of Methylene Blue solution (0.05% by weight in distilled water) and allow to stand for about one minute. Decant the Methylene blue solution. Give a swirl wash with about 20 ml. of dilute hydrochloric acid (5% solution by volume in distilled water). Give a swirl wash with water and pour about 20ml. of Metanil Yellow solution (0.05% by weight in distilled water) on the blue stained grains and allow to stand for about one minute. Decant the effluent and wash with fresh water twice. Keep the stained grains under fresh water and count the dehusked grains. Count the total number of grains in 5 grams of sample under analysis. Three brokens are counted as one whole grain.

**CALCULATIONS :**

$$\text{Percentage of Dehusked Grains} = \frac{N \times 100}{W}$$

Where N = Number of dehusked grains in 5 grams of sample.

W = Total grains in 5 grams of sample.

2. The Method of sampling is to be followed as given in Bureau of Indian Standard "Method of Sampling of Cereals and Pulses" No. IS : 2814-1964 as amended from time to time.

3. Brokens less than 1/8th of the size of full kernels will be treated as organic foreign matter. Within the overall limit for brokens, the small brokens of the size of 1/8th to 1/4th shall not exceed 1.0% = For determination of the size of the brokens average length of the principal class of rice should be taken into account.

4. Inorganic foreign matter shall not exceed 0.5% in any lot, if it is more, the stocks should be cleaned and brought within the limit. Kernels or pieces of kernels having mud sticking on the surface of rice, shall be treated as Inorganic foreign matter.

5. In case of rice prepared by pressure parboiling technique, it will be ensured that correct process of parboiling is adopted i.e. pressure applied, the time for which pressure is applied, proper gelatinisation, aeration and drying before milling are adequate so that the colour and cooking time of parboiled rice are good and free from encrustation of the grains.

*Uniform Specifications for Maize  
(Marketing Season 1996-97)*

The maize shall be the dried and matured grains of Zea mays. It shall have uniform size, shape and colour. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and also conforming to PFA standards.

Maize shall be sweet, hard, clean, wholesome and free from argemone mexicana and kesari in any form colouring matter, moulds weevils, obnoxious smell, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below :

*Schedule of Specifications*

S. No.	Constituents	Maximum limit (%)
1.	Foreign matter	1.5
2.	Other foodgrains	2.0
3.	Shrivilled & Immature grains	3.0
4.	Damaged	1.5
5.	Slightly damaged, discoloured and touched grains	4.5
6.	Weevilled grains	1.0
7.	Moisture	14.0

N.B.

1. The definition of the above constituents and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of Analysis for Foodgrains' Nos. IS : 4333 (Part-I) 1967 and IS : 4333 (Part-II) 1967 and Terminology for foodgrains IS : 2813-1970 as amended from time to time.
2. The method of sampling is to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of Sampling of bigger size foodgrains' No. IS : 3714-1978 as amended from time to time.
3. Within the overall limit of 1.5% for foreign matter, the inorganic matter shall not exceed 0.5% and poisonous seeds too shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra Seeds (vicia species) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.

*Uniform Specifications for Bajra  
(Marketing Season 1996-97)*

The Bajra shall be the dried and matured grains of *Pennisetum typhoides*. It shall have uniform size, shape and colour. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and also conforming to PFA standards.

Bajra shall be sweet, hard, clean, wholesome and free from argemone mexicana and kesari in any form, colouring matter, moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below :

*Schedule of Specifications*

S.No.	Constituents	Maximum Limits (%)
1.	Foreign matter	1.5
2.	Other foodgrains	3.0
3.	Damaged	1.5
4.	Shrivelled and immature grains	4.0
5.	Slightly damaged & discoloured	2.5
6.	Weevilled grains	1.0
7.	Moisture	14.0

N.B.

1. The definition of the above constituents and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of Analysis for Foodgrains' IS : 4333 (Part-I) 1967 and IS 4333 (Part-II) 1967 and Terminology for foodgrains IS : 2813—1970 as amended from time to time.
2. The method of sampling is to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of Sampling of Cereals and Pulses' No. IS : 2814—1964 as amended from time to time.

3. Within the overall limit of 1.6% for Foreign matter' the inorganic matter shall not exceed 0.5% and poisonous seeds too shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra seeds (vicia species) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.
4. Kernels with glumes will not be treated as unsound grain. During physical analysis the glumes will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.
5. Within the overall limit of 1.5% for damaged grains, the Ergoty kernels shall not exceed 0.05%.

*Uniform Specifications for Jowar  
(Marketing Season 1996-97)*

The jowar shall be dried and matured grains of *Sorghum Vulgare*. It shall have uniform size, shape and colour. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and also conforming to PFA standards.

Jowar shall be sweet, hard, clean, wholesome and free from argemone mexicana and kesari in any form colouring matter, moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below :

*Schedule of Specifications*

S.No.	Constituents	Maximum Limits (%)
1.	Foreign matter	1.5
2.	Other foodgrains	3.0
3.	Shrivelled & Immature grains	4.0
4.	Damaged	1.5
5.	Slightly damaged & discoloured	1.0
6.	Weevilled grains	1.0
7.	Moisture	14.0

N.B.

1. The definition of the above constituents and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Indian Standards 'Method of Analysis for Foodgrains' Nos. IS : 4333 (Part-I) 1967 and IS : 4333 (Part-II) 1967 and Terminology for foodgrains IS : 2813-1970 as amended from time to time.
2. The method of sampling is to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of Sampling of Cereals and Pulses' No. IS : 2814—1964 as amended from time to time.
3. Within the overall limit of 1.5% for 'Foreign Matter' the inorganic matter shall not exceed 0.5% and poisonous seeds too shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra seeds (vicia species) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.

4. Kernels with glumes will not be treated as unsound grains. During physical analysis the glumes will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.

*Uniform Specifications for Ragi  
(Marketing Season 1996-97)*

The Ragi shall be dried and matured grains of *Eleusine Ceracana*. It shall have uniform size, shape and colour. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and also conforming to PFA standards.

Ragi shall be sweet, hard, clean, wholesome and free from moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, argemone mexicana and kesari in any form, colouring matter, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below :

*Schedule of Specifications*

S.No.	Constituents	Maximum limit (%)
1.	Foreign matter	2.0
2.	Other foodgrains	1.0
3.	Damaged grains	1.0
4.	Slightly damaged grains	2.0
5.	Moisture	12.0

**N.B.**

- The definition of the above constituents and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of analysis for foodgrains' Nos. IS : 4333 (Part-I) 1967 and IS : 4333 (Part-II) 1967 and terminology for foodgrains IS : 2813-1970 as amended from time to time.
- The method of sampling is to be followed as given in Indian Standard 'Method of sampling of cereals and Pulses' No. IS : 2814-1964 as amended from time to time.
- Within the overall limit of 2.0% for foreign matter, the inorganic matter shall not exceed 0.5% and poisonous seeds too shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra seeds (vicia species) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.
- Kernels with husk will not be treated as unsound grains. During physical analysis the husk will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.

**Statement-II**

*Uniform Specifications for Indian Wheat of all Varieties  
(Marketing Season, 1996-97)*

Wheat shall

- (a) be the dried mature grains of indigenous red, dara, other mexican and Superior indigenous farm

varieties viz, *Triticum Volgare*, *T. compactum*, *T. sphaerococcum*, *T. durum*, *T. aestivum* and *T. dicoccum*.

- (b) have natural size, shape and colour.
- (c) be sweet, clean wholesome and free from moulds, living insects, obnoxious smell, discoloration, admixture of deleterious substances including toxic weed seeds and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below.
- (d) be in sound merchantable condition.
- (e) not have any admixture of argemone mexicana and kesari in any form, colourine matter, pesticides, fungicides and any obnoxious, deleterious and toxic material.
- (f) conform to PFA Rules.

*Schedule showing the maximum permissible  
limits of different constituents in Fair  
Average Quality of Wheat*

Foreign matters %	Other food-grains %	Damaged grains including kamal bunt & ergot affected grains %	Slightly damaged grains %	Shrivelled & broken grains %
0.75	5.00	3.00	8.00	10.0

**NOTE :**

- Moisture in excess of 12% upto 14% will be discounted at full value. Stocks containing moisture content in excess of 14% are to be rejected.
- With-in the overall limit specified for foreign matter the poisonous weed seeds shall not exceed 0.4% of which Dhatura and Akra (Vicia species) shall not be more than 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.
- Kernels with glumes will not be treated as unsound grains during physical analysis the glumes will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.
- Within the overall limit specified for damaged grains, ergot affected grains shall not exceed 0.05%.
- In case of stocks having living infestation a cut at the rate of Rupee One per quintal may be charged as fumigation charges.

6. For weevilled grains determined by count, following price-cuts will be imposed :

- (i) From the beginning of the season till end of August, the rate of cut will be Re. 1/- per qtl., for every 1% or part thereof.
- (ii) From 1st September till end of October, no cut will be imposed upto 1% while for any excess, the cut will be @ Re. 1/- per qtl., for every 1% or part thereof.
- (iii) From 1st November till end of the season no cut will be imposed upto 2% while for any excess the cut will be @ Rs. 1/- per qtl., for every 1% or part thereof.
- (iv) Stocks containing weevilled grains in excess of 3% will be rejected.

#### *Method of Analysis*

As given in Bureau of Indian Standard No. IS. 4333 (Part I and II) 1967 and as amended from time to time except for weevilled grains which are to be determined by count method.

#### DEFINITIONS

##### *Foreign matter :*

Includes organic and inorganic matters. The inorganic matter shall include sand, gravel, dirt, pebbles, stones, animal filth, lumps of earth, clay & mud, glass and metallic pieces etc. The organic matter shall include chaff, weed seeds, straw and other inedible grains.

##### *Shrivelled Grains :*

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are not fully developed.

##### *Broken :*

Pieces of kernels that are less than three fourth of the size of full kernel.

##### *Weevilled grains :*

Kernels that are partially or wholly bored.

##### *Slightly damaged grains :*

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are damaged or discoloured superficially so as not to affect the quality of the material.

##### *Damaged grains :*

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are sprouted or internally damaged as a result of heat, microbes, moisture or weather.

##### *Other foodgrains :*

Any foodgrains other than wheat.

#### *Uniform Specifications for Barley (Marketing Season 1996-97)*

Barley shall

- (a) be the dried mature grain of *Hordeum vulgare*.
- (b) have uniform size, shape and colour.
- (c) be sweet, clean, wholesome and free from moulds, living insects, obnoxious smell, discoloration, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below.
- (d) be in sound merchantable condition.
- (e) not have any admixture of argemone mexicana and kesari in any form, colouring matter, pesticide, fungicide and any obnoxious and toxic material.
- (f) conform to PFA Rules.

#### *Schedule showing maximum permissible limits of different constituents*

Foreign matter	Other food-grains %	Damaged grains %	Slightly damaged & touched grains %	Immature & Shrivelled grains %
1.0	5.0	3.0	8.0	3.0

N.B.

1. Within the overall limits of foreign matter the poisonous weed seeds shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra (*Vicia species*) shall not be more than 0.025 and 0.2% respectively.
2. Moisture in excess of 12% upto 14% is to be discounted at full value. Stocks containing moisture content in excess of 14% are to be rejected.
3. For weevilled grains the following price cuts in addition to the other cuts will be imposed :
  - (i) from the beginning of the season till the end of August, the rate of cut will be Re. 1/- per qtl. for every 1% or part thereof.
  - (ii) from 1st September till the end of October, no cut will be imposed upto 1% while for any excess, the cut will be @ Re. 1/- per qtl. for every 1% or part thereof.
  - (iii) from 1st November till end of the season, no cut will be imposed upto 2% while for any excess, the cut will be @ Re. 1/- per qtl. for every 1% or part thereof.
  - (iv) Stocks containing weevilled grains in excess of 3% will be rejected.
4. In case of stocks having living infestation a cut at the rate of Re. 1/- per quintal may be charged as fumigation charges.

*Method of Analysis*

As given in Bureau of Indian Standard No. IS. 4333 (Part I and II), 1967 and as amended from time to time except for weevilled grains which are to be determined by count method.

**DEFINITIONS***Foreign matter :*

Includes organic and inorganic matter. The inorganic matter shall include sand, gravel, dirt, pebbles, stones, lumps of earth, clay and mud, glass and metallic pieces etc. The organic matter shall include chaff, straw, weed seeds and other inedible grains and animal filth.

*Other Foodgrains :*

Any foodgrains other than Barley.

*Damaged Grains :*

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are sprouted or internally damaged as a result of heat, microbes, moisture or weather.

*Slightly damaged and touched grains :*

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are damaged or discoloured superficially so as not to affect the quality of material.

*Immature and shrivelled grains :*

Kernels or pieces of kernels that are not fully developed.

*Weevilled grains :*

Kernels that are partially or wholly bored.

**Himalayan Glaciers**

1536. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any master plan has been drawn up to save the Himalayan glaciers and flora and fauna for the overall interest of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that proposed acquisition of glacier range area by the Defence Ministry may cause a major ecological fallout in the North District of Sikkim;

(d) if so, whether any specific request has been received in this regard;

(e) if so, whether any discussion has been held with the concerned ministry; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Elephant Depredations**

1537. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : 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 "elephant depredations causing serious problems" appearing in the 'Assam Tribune', dated February 4, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Assam submitted a proposal to the Central Government to capture 200 wild elephants; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard to curb the depredations caused by the wild elephants in Assam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the news item has alleged large scale depredations caused by increase in the elephant population and shrinkage of habitat. There are also suggestions that elephant population should be reduced by large scale capture in order to reduce depredations.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, a proposal was received from the Government of Assam to capture about 200 elephants in the first year with 100 numbers in the subsequent years in 1991, for the purpose of reduction of elephant depredations. In 1996, the request for capture of 200 elephants was made again by the Government of Assam to the Central Government. Permission was granted to the Government of Assam for capture of 12 elephants in 1992-93 and 20 more in 1995-96 in order to evaluate the efficacy of this method for reducing the depredations. Till date the Government of Assam has reported capture of 20 elephants only and the rest are yet to be captured.

**Chadha Committee**

1538. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a Chadha Committee to look into the various anomalies in the Technical Services of ICAR;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement these recommendations ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main recommendations of the committee are :

Running scale structure from T-1 to T-9 grade of personnel instead of existing three categories i.e. Categories I to III. Direct entry in the service has been recommended at T-1, T-3 & T-6 grades. A person may go from T-1, T-3 & T-6 to T-9 level on the basis of entry level qualifications acquired by a person. A new assessment system for five yearly promotion based on threshold marks for merit promotion adopting a quantitative assessment have also been recommended. For Cat. III, 7 yearly assessment system as against 5 yearly has been proposed. The system of grant of advance increment(s) is proposed to be abolished.

(d) Recommendations of the Chadha Committee were discussed in the 60th meeting of the Senior Officers Committee (SOC) held on 17.2.97. In view of the scheme of Assured Career Progression Scheme proposed in the 5th Pay Commission the Govt. has imposed a temporary ban on amendment of recruitment rules. The Chadha Committee has proposed major restructuring which will require approval of Cabinet and Ministry of Finance for creation of large number of additional posts. Therefore, the SOC has decided to request Chadha Committee to review the recommendations in the light of recommendations of the 5th Pay Commission. On receipt of the revised recommendations further action will be taken for implementation of the report.

[Translation]

#### Handicapped Persons

1539. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of handicapped persons is constantly increasing in the country;

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

(c) whether a little amount has been allocated in the budget in comparison to the large number of handicapped persons;

(d) if so, whether the Government would consider to make budget provision in accordance with the number of handicapped persons;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government for the rehabilitation of these persons ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (f) Sample Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1981 covering only three disabilities estimated at about 1.8% of the total population of the country comprising disabled persons. 1991 Sample Survey conducted by the same Organisation covering four kinds of disabilities estimated 1.9% population as disabled. Neither of the surveys included mentally handicapped persons.

The Sample Survey was conducted only in 15 States.

The budget provision for the handicapped welfare sector in the Ministry of Welfare is Rs. 45.90 crores for the year 1996-97. The same is proposed to be increased to Rs. 107.04 crores in 1997-98. There is no special component Plan for the disabled.

Apart from bringing in a piece of comprehensive Legislation, namely, The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the Government through the National Institutes and Apex level institutes trains necessary manpower required for rehabilitation of the disabled in addition to providing services to the disabled persons. The Rehabilitation Council of India is working for standardisation of the training curriculum and of professionals in the field.

The non-Governmental Organisations are being aided by the Government for undertaking activities aimed at rehabilitation of the disabled including Establishment and Development of Special Schools, vocational training centres, placement services, etc.

The Ministry of Labour (Directorate General of Employment and Training) assists 17 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for the physically handicapped in different parts of the country. Other Ministries such as Health, Rural Development and Department of Education also have programmes which have a bearing on rehabilitation of the disabled.

Under the Plan Scheme—Employment of the Handicapped—Ministry of Welfare has been providing financial assistance upto 80% of the actual expenditure incurred by a State Government in setting up Special Employment Exchanges for the Handicapped. This assistance becomes 100% in the case of setting up of Special Cells in the normal Employment Exchanges. At present 47 Special Employment Exchanges and 41 Special Cells are functioning in different parts of the country.

Apart from providing preferential treatment to the handicapped for allotment of Petrol Pumps, Gas Agencies, PCOs and Allotment of kiosks and Vending Stalls, a National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation has been set up recently to promote self-employment of persons with disability.

[English]

#### Refugees from Burma

1540. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to the States in regard to providing facilities and priority in the matter of issue of licences and permits to the repatriate Indians from Burma;

(b) if so, whether all the States are implementing these instructions;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to make them to accede to the instructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Instructions were issued to the State Governments in 1965 that apart from the grant of business loans to repatriates from Burma, priority may also be given to them in the matter of grant of licences, permits, etc. where these are required for any occupation or trade.

(b) No instance of non-implementation of these instructions has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### High Breed Cows and Buffaloes

1541. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to absence of high breed bulls and buffaloes in Uttar Pradesh especially in the hilly areas, the breeds of high yield milk cows and buffaloes are not available;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to launch a special programme for the high breed cows and buffaloes in the Uttranchal areas of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. The State Government has 12 bull mother farms for production of cattle and buffalo bulls and crossbred bulls, including one bull mother farm at Dehradun which produces Sindhi and Jersey Red Sindhi crossbred bulls for breeding and producing high yielding animals.

(b) and (c) The State Government has taken up distribution of milch cows and buffaloes under the Integrated Rural Development Programme, the Mini Dairy and the Development of Women and Child in Rural Areas programmes. In addition to the efforts of the State Government for cattle and buffalo development, Government of India has provided Central grant for improvement of cattle and buffaloes during the current Plan period under the National Bull Production Programme and Extension of Frozen Semen Technology Scheme.

[English]

#### Tissue Culture

1542. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the propagation of tissue culture in the country;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the arrangements made to teach the techniques of tissue culture to the common farmer in the country; and

(d) the names of the food, fruits and vegetable crops most likely to be benefited by the adoption of tissue culture?

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

(b) About 70 commercial micro-propagation units have been registered for the production of tissue culture plants for both export and domestic markets. Out of these 30 units are already in production, producing about 40 million plants in fruits, plantation crops, ornamental crops, forestry plants, etc. annually, against an installed annual capacity of 110 million plants.

(c) Tissue culture being a specialised hi-tech area, entrepreneurship development in this area is being done by Department of Biotechnology particularly through their proposed programme of establishment of Micropropagation Technology Parks.

(d) Tissue culture technology had already been commercialised in crops like Potato, Sugarcane, Banana, Strawberry, Citrus, Papaya, Sweet Potato, Cardamom, Ginger, Turmeric, etc.

[Translation]

#### Freedom Fighter Pension

1543. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial assistance and facilities are being provided to the family members of freedom fighters pension holders after their death;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria/procedure laid down for determining the eligibility of their dependents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Under the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, widows, unmarried/unemployed daughters, mothers and fathers of the deceased freedom fighter pensioners are treated as eligible family members/dependents for the purpose of family pension and other facilities provided by the Central Government. In genuine and deserving cases, dependents of freedom fighters who are not eligible for grant of pension are also considered for grant of financial assistance from Home Minister's Discretionary Grant.

Details of other facilities that are provided by the Central Government to the family members of deceased freedom fighters' pension holders are as under :

- (a) Facility of free railway passes (1st Class) to the widows/attendant, for life time.
- (b) Free medical facilities in all Central Government hospitals and also in the hospitals run by the Public Sector Undertakings under the control of the Bureau of Public Enterprises. C.G.H.S. facilities have also been extended to them.
- (c) The spouse of the freedom fighter residing in the Government accommodation allotted to the freedom fighter shall be entitled to retain the accommodation even after the demise of the freedom fighter for the stipulated period of allotment.
- (d) Facility of telephone connection, subject to feasibility without installation charges and payment of only half of the rentals.

#### **Infiltration**

1544. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Antankiao va Taskaro ko khaki vardi dhari officero ka samarthan" appearing in "Dainik Jagaran", dated December 31, 1996;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto;

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

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the steps taken to curb such activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) According to information provided by the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir, the matter is under enquiry.

[English]

#### **Income Limit for Social Welfare Schemes**

1545. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the hike in price index the Government propose to enhance the annual income limit for availing the benefits under various social welfare schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government. However, in the case of Post-Matric Scholarship for SC's and ST's, the income ceiling has been linked to the consumer price index for industrial workers and will be revised once in two years.

#### **Diversion of Forest Land**

1546. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for diversion of forest land for marble mining in Banaskantha district; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to clear the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approval for diversion of 190 ha. of forest land for marble mining in respect of 44 parties operating at Ambaji in Banaskantha district in Gujarat has been accorded on 27.1.97 under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

#### **Agrarian Violence in Bihar**

1547. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :  
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made some recommendations to deal with the agrarian violence in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Bihar has implemented those recommendations;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government of Bihar had demanded more Central forces to deal with the problem; and

(e) if so, the details of the force demanded and provided to the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government has not responded so far.

(d) and (e) The State Government has requested for deployment of 15 Coys. of CRPF for a period of 45 days to deal with terrorist activities in the State. However, it has not

been found possible to provide the Force due to commitments elsewhere. However, the Bihar Government have been advised to optimise their own resources and manpower to deal with the problem.

#### **New Agriculture Policy**

1548. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :  
DR. ASIM BALA :  
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have finalised the Draft Resolution of the New Agriculture Policy;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the Draft Resolution of the new Agriculture Policy; and
- (c) the date by which the new Agriculture Policy is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA ) : (a) to (c) A Draft Agriculture Policy Resolution prepared by the Government was recently discussed in a meeting of State Agriculture Ministers held at New Delhi on 19 Feb., 1997. The major thrust of the draft Resolution is on :

- (i) removal of regional and crop imbalances,
- (ii) increase in investment in the agriculture sector,
- (iii) grant of facilities to agriculture as are available for industry without the regulatory and tax collection mechanism of the industrial sector,
- (iv) making available inputs at reasonable rates to the farmers in the proximity of their fields,
- (v) easy availability of credit at reasonable rates of interest to the farmers,
- (vi) human resource development,
- (vii) focus on agricultural research, and
- (viii) relaxation of controls in agriculture sector.

The draft Resolution is under finalisation keeping in view the suggestions made in the Conference.

#### **Gas based Fertiliser Factories**

1549. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the production of chemical fertilizers plants is linked to Hazira (Gujarat) gas pipe lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of losses caused as a result of shortage of gas to these plants; and

(d) the details of action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) The following fertilizer plants are alimented from the land fall point at Hazira and by the HBJ pipeline:

- (i) Hazira unit of Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited;
- (ii) Vadodara unit of Gujarat State Fertilizer Company;
- (iii) Vijapur unit of National Fertilizers Limited;
- (iv) Aonla unit of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited;
- (v) Jagdishpur unit of Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corporation Limited;
- (vi) Gadepan unit of Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited;
- (vii) Babrala unit of Tata Chemicals Limited; and
- (viii) Shahjahanpur unit of Oswal Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited.

(c) and (d) In January 1997, ONGC had undertaken a partial shutdown for 23 days, affecting the gas supply to the consumers mentioned above. The production shortfall on this account during January 1997 was 2.02 lakh tonnes. ONGC has completed the work of platform modification in the South Bassein field to increase the gas handling capacity of the platforms. With this, the receipt of gas at Hazira has increased. ONGC plans to drill additional wells in the Bassein field, which is expected to further increase the supplies ex-Hazira and along the HBJ pipeline.

[Translation]

#### **Terrorist Incidents in Punjab**

1550. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of terrorism occurred in Punjab during 1996;

(b) the number of civilians, terrorists, security force personnel killed/injured in these incidents;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the situation; and

(d) whether some persons have to leave their native places due to these incidents and took shelter somewhere else ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) There were three (3) terrorist related incidents in Punjab during 1996.

(b) Number of	Killed	Injured
Civilian	1	2
Terrorist	3	Nil
Security Force Personnel	Nil	Nil

(c) Following the setting up of a popular Government in Punjab in Feb., 1992, the Security Forces in the State backed by the Intelligence inputs of the Central Security Agencies had brought terrorism under control and established peace and normalcy in Punjab. This is evident from the fact that only three suspected incidents of terrorist violence were reported in the State in 1996. However, Government is keeping a close watch on the situation and all necessary steps including gearing up of intelligence and sharing of information regarding terrorist activities are being taken.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

#### Farming in Dry Land

1551. SHRI B.K. GADHVI :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Research Station of Central Arid Zone Research Institute situated at Bhuj in Gujarat is experimenting crops to be produced in the dry land;

(b) if so, the date from which this research station is situated there;

(c) the details of expenditure made over administration and other expenses for this Station till date;

(d) the production, in terms of money received from the said Station; and

(e) the results of the experiments conducted at the Station ?

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

(b) The regional research station was established in 1987 in village Kukma near Bhuj in Gujarat.

(c) Till date an expenditure of Rs. 22 lakhs in establishment and Rs. 29.22 lakhs in works (office building, farm house, residential quarters, underground water storage tank) totalling to Rs. 57 lakhs has been incurred.

(d) The farm produce worth of Rs. 98,000 has been sold till date.

(e) The results of the experiment conducted at the station are as under :

1. Identification of suitable grasses : *Lasiurus sindicus* strain no. 1952, *Cenchrus ciliaris* strain No. 75 (Marwar anjan), *C. setigerus* strain no. CAZRI-76 (Marwardhaman).
2. Screening of tree species : Among the tree species, Neem is more suitable than subabool or Isreali babool.
3. Identification of fruit crops : Ber cultivar Gola and seb are most suitable.
4. Alternate Land use : In silvi pastoral system *Cenchrus ciliaris* and *C. setigerus* were grown with *Azadirachta indica* and *Acacia tortilis*.

[Translation]

#### Crimes in Trains

1552. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :  
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :  
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of robbery and looting in trains have increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of incidents of robbery and looting in trains reported during the said period and the value of items looted along with the persons killed/injured in these incidents; and

(c) the measures taken/contemplated to check such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Available information is given in the Statement. Information relating to value of items looted and persons killed/injured in the incidents is not maintained at the Central level.

(c) Registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime, including the crime on Railways, is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments. In the States, a separate organisation known as the Government Railway Police (GRP) usually exists to deal exclusively with crimes committed on trains and at Railway Stations. The Central Government, however, sends advisories and provides financial assistance to the State Governments to strengthen their policing infrastructure.

**Statement****Incidence of Dacoity (D), Robbery (R) and Burglary (B) in Trains During 1994 to 1996**

S. No.	State/UT	1994			1995			1996			Remarks (Figs. of 1996 are upto the Month of
		D	R	B	D	R	B	D	R	B	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	7	0	1	9	0	1	4	0	November
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	Sept.
3.	Assam	0	14	9	7	4	6	6	8	6	June
4.	Bihar	73	68	0	35	32	1	NA	NA	NA	—
5.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6.	Gujarat	6	15	0	4	13	0	6	7	0	Nov.
7.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	Sept.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	August
10.	Karnataka	1	32	0	14	25	0	0	20	0	Dec.
11.	Kerala	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	Nov.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2	15	0	5	6	0	1	6	11	Nov.
13.	Maharashtra	18	70	0	17	56	0	12	49	0	
14.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Feb.
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18.	Orissa	1	3	0	4	10	1	4	6	0	July
19.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	July
20.	Rajasthan	1	3	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	Oct.
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Nov.
22.	Tamilnadu	1	4	0	2	8	3	2	4	0	Nov.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
23.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8	64	0	10	41	4	19	65	0	Nov.
25.	West Bengal	37	58	0	55	82	0	45	38	0	Sept.
Total (States)		158	355	9	154	292	15	97	212	27	
26.	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Nov.
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	
30.	Delhi	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Oct.
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total (UTs)		0	2	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	
Total (All-India)		158	357	9	154	292	15	101	213	27	

[English]

### Development of Dry Land

1553. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programme of dry land development for the growing crops in various States has been taken up by the Central Zone Arid Research Institute :

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives achieved so far under the programme;

(d) whether the Institute proposes to hand over its regional research station situated at Bhuj in Gujarat to the State Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. However, the Central Arid Zone Research Institute has a specific mandate to address the research issues on Dryland Development for the Arid Eco-systems of the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(b) and (c) The Institute has developed technologies for

- (i) Sand dune stabilisation;
- (ii) Identification and management of tree and grass species *Acacia tortilis*, *Prosopis* sp, *Acacia senegal*, *Acacia nilotica* sub-species *cupressiformis* and suitable grasses such as *Lasiurus sindicus*, *Cenchrus ciliaris*, *Citrullus colosynthes*;
- (iii) Water harvesting, conservation and utilisation;
- (iv) Identification of suitable crops and their varieties (cluster bean—maru guar, moth bean and horse gram—maru kulthi-1, pearl millet, CZ-IC-923);
- (v) Identification and Improvement of Horticulture crops e.g. (improved varieties of ber-gola, seb and mundia, pomegranate-jalor-seedless, aonla-kanchan and krishna);
- (vi) Improvement of suitable grasses *Cenchrus ciliaris*-CAZRI 75-Marwar dhaman, *Cenchrus setigerus*-CAZRI 76-Marwar anjan, *Lasiurus sindicus* CAZRI 30-5 for silvi-pasture;
- (vii) Development of alternative land use systems (agro-horticulture, horti-pastoral, silvi-pastoral);

- (viii) Conservation fodder for lean period; production and management of live-stock;
- (ix) Development of appliances for harnessing solar energy (solar cooker, solar water heater, solar cabinet dryer).
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Import of Urea

1554. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :  
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

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

- (a) the policy of the Government regarding the import of urea;
- (b) the names of companies importing urea at present;
- (c) the names of countries from which urea is being imported at present; and
- (d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
(a) and (b) At present, urea is under price, distribution and movement control of the Government. The imports of urea on Government account are made for bridging the gap between demand and indigenous availability. According to the existing policy, urea imports are canalised only through designated canalising agencies, viz. MMTC Ltd., State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) and Indian Potash Ltd. (IPL).

(c) and (d) The quantities of urea imported from different countries during 1996-97 upto Feb. '97 are as under :

Name of Country	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)
1	2
Bangladesh	1.44
CIS	6.84
Kuwait	3.86
Libya	2.14
Qatar	2.95
Romania	1.60

1	2
Saudi Arabia	2.98
UAE	1.47
Total	23.28

#### Sugar Production and Requirement

1555 SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have recently announced several incentives for setting up of new sugar mills in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the present installed production capacity of sugar in the country is more than the requirement of sugar in the country;
- (d) if so, the estimate of the Government in regard to its requirement and production capacity; and
- (e) the schemes of the Government to utilise the whole production properly ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) and (b) The Government have approved an Incentive Scheme for new sugar factories and expansion projects to whom letters of intent/industrial licences have been issued after 31.3.1994. The percentage of incentive including the normal free sale quota for new and expansion projects is given in the Statement.

(c) to (e) The annual installed sugar production capacity in the country as on 31.1.1997 was 131.079 lakh tonnes as against our requirement of sugar for the season 1996-97 of about 138 lakh tonnes. However, with the carry over stock of the previous season and the production of this season, there would not be any difficulty in meeting the requirement of sugar of the current sugar season. The Government is following the policy of partial control. Under this policy, 40% of the total production is procured for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS) and the balance 60% is allowed to be sold in the open market through the mechanism of monthly releases. The export of sugar is also allowed out of the surplus stocks of freesale sugar.

**Statement****Statement Showing Percentage of Additional Free Sale Quota Including Normal Free Sale Quota under New Incentive Scheme**

Year	New 2500 TCD		Expansion 1250 TCD to 2500 TCD		Expansion 2500 TCD to 5000 TCD	
	HRA	ORA	HRA	ORA	HRA	ORA
	1st	100	100	85	100	80
2nd	100	100	85	100	80	90
3rd	100	100	85	100	80	90
4th	100	100	85	100	80	90
5th	100	100	85	100	80	90
6th		100				
7th		100				
8th		100				

Note : (i) Ceiling :—

50,000 M.T.  
for HRA and  
44,000 M.T.  
for O.R.A.

25,000 M.T.  
for HRA &  
22,000 M.T.  
for ORA with  
respect to  
excess  
production.

50,000 M.T. for HRA  
and 44,000 M.T. for  
ORA with respect to  
excess production.

(ii) HRA indicates High Recovery Area and ORA indicates Other Recovery Area.

**Development of Mini Sugar Mills**

1556. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under consideration of the Government for the development of Mini sugar industry in the interest of the cane growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) At present there is no scheme under consideration of the Government for the development of Mini Sugar Industry.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Minimum Economic Capacity has been considered to be 2500 TCD.

**Ban on Import of Arms and Guns**

1557. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed any ban on the import of revolvers, rifles and guns;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the arm-licence holders have to purchase arms from the domestic market at the high prices; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check increasing prices of the arms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Keeping in view the law and order situation prevailing in some parts of the country, a ban on import of firearms for personal use was imposed with effect from 13.11.1986. At present import is permissible under Transfer of Residence Rules under certain conditions, and to the sports persons for sports purposes on the recommendations of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Deptt. of Youth Affairs & Sports.

(c) and (d) The genuine needs of the public for firearms are broadly met by the arrangements indicated below :

(i) Non Prohibited bore ML and BL guns manufactured in private sector also and available to the licence

holders in the open market through licenced arms dealers.

- (ii) Firearms including revolvers/pistols manufactured in ordnance factories under Ministry of Defence and released for civilian use.
- (iii) Sale/purchase of firearms by licenced dealers.
- (iv) Sale/transfer of firearms among licensees.
- (v) The prices of weapons are governed by the market forces.

The Police and Magistracy have been given adequate powers to inspect the premises of dealers/manufacturers and to examine the stocks and accounts of receipts and disposal of arms and ammunition or any other register or documents to ensure prevention of any irregularity, in the trade of arms and ammunition.

*[English]*

#### **Repatriated Workers from UAE**

1558. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of Indian workers repatriated from UAE for the want of valid documents;
- (b) the number out of them returned after securing the proper documents; and
- (c) the action plan to rehabilitate the remaining workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) According to the information made available by Ministries of External Affairs and Labour, 45,844 Indians who were not possessing valid visas returned to India in 1996 under the Amnesty Programme granted by UAE Government. Besides, about 15,000 Indians who were without valid visas but possessing passports also returned to India under the said Programme.

About the actual number out of these Indians who returned to UAE after securing proper documents, it can not be estimated as the concerned Indian Workers were not required to identify themselves as returnees either at the time of exit from India or when they reported to Indian Missions in UAE on arrival. Special instructions have, however, been issued to the Passport Offices to deal expeditiously with the requests of these returnees for issue of fresh/duplicate passports to go back to UAE or any other country for immediate employment.

No Scheme/Central Fund has been formulated/set-up by the Government for rehabilitation of these repatriates.

#### **Demarcation of Boundary**

1559. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the land frontier of India with the neighbouring countries has been demarcated;
- (b) if so, the years during which the demarcation has taken place;
- (c) whether all the land within these frontiers is under the Indian jurisdiction and administration;
- (d) if not, the area of land under occupation by the neighbouring countries; and
- (e) the steps being taken to recover this land from the neighbouring countries ?

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

#### **Tours by PM and Ministers to Karnataka**

1560. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of tours made by the Prime Minister and his cabinet colleagues to Karnataka since the formation of the United Front Government;
- (b) the places in Karnataka visited during the said tours, the purpose of each of the tours and the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon; and
- (c) the expenditure incurred by the Government of Karnataka for making security arrangements during the course of said tours ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The tours undertaken by the Prime Minister and Ministers within the country in their official capacity are for multifarious purposes such as meeting representatives of State Governments, addressing public meetings, attending various functions and conferences, etc. Information pertaining to such tours is not maintained centrally. The information maintained centrally relates to foreign tours only.

*[Translation]*

#### **Gorakhpur Fertilizer Factories**

1561. KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH :  
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :

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

- (a) whether a proposal for reopening the closed fertilizer factory at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh is under consideration of the Union Government;

- (b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and  
 (c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
 (a) to (c) The restart of the closed fertilizer factory of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh is techno-economically not feasible. KRIBHCO has evinced an interest in setting up a new standard sized naphtha based Ammonia/Urea plant at Gorakhpur, using the existing infrastructure of FCI.

[*English*]

**Release of Forest Land**

1562. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :  
 SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN :

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

(a) the details of applications received by the Government for release of the forest land for industrial use in Gujarat;

(b) the number of applications lying pending;

(c) whether any monitoring is being done by the Government to decide such applications;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the forest land allotted for industrial use during the last three years in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (d) Altogether 530 proposals have been received from Government of Gujarat for diversion of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 till 31.12.96. Presently, only one proposal is pending with Central Government and this does not pertain to diversion of forest land for industrial use. Decision on 102 proposals could not be taken for want of essential details which have been sought from the State Government.

(e) Detail of forest land diverted for industrial use during the last three years in Gujarat is enclosed in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Details of forest land diverted for industrial use during the last three years in Gujarat (excluding Regional Offices)*

Sl. No.	Name of proposal	Forest area involved	Status
1.	Gas pipeline by GAIL, Gujarat	0.095 ha.	Approved on 3.1.95
2.	Laying of pipeline for Gujarat Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Gujarat.	00.0275 ha.	Approved on 4.5.95
3.	Laying of pipeline for IPCL, Gujarat.	8.47 ha.	Approved on 30.11.95
4.	Diversion of forest land in favour of Dharamshi Morarji Chemicals Co. Ltd. for laying of pipeline and construction of storage, Jamnagar district, Gujarat.	41.65 ha.	Approved on 8.4.96
5.	Copper smelter project for Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals Co. Ltd., Gujarat	17.5 ha.	Approved on 29.8.96

**Violence in Assam**

1563. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of blasts taken place in Kokrajhar and other areas of Assam during the current year; and

(b) the measures taken to curtail the violence in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) According to available information, one incident of bomb blast has been reported in Kokrajhar district during the current year. Three incidents of bomb blasts have been reported from other areas of Assam during the current year.

(b) Army and Central Para-Military forces have been deployed on the request of the State Government to keep the situation under control. The RPF and the State Government have been asked to take special measures for protecting Railway property, Railway Stations etc. A unified Headquarters has been formed to synergise and coordinate the counter insurgency operations being conducted by Army, CPOs and State Armed Police. Regular review meetings are being conducted on the law and order situation in the State both at State and Central Government levels.

[Translation]

**Wheat for Open Sale**

1564. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has announced the prices of wheat for sale in the open market for the next four months;

(b) if so, the maximum and minimum prices of the wheat fixed;

(c) the quantum of wheat to be sold in 1997-98, State-wise;

(d) whether this unprecedented 40% hike would increase the prices of essential commodities like Maida, Atta, Suji and Wheat;

(e) if so, whether almost all the parties have opposed this move; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. The prices of wheat revised with effect from 4.2.97 are applicable till further orders.

(b) As per the revised rates the minimum price of wheat under open market sale scheme is Rs. 4900/- pmt and maximum is Rs. 7900/- pmt.

(c) The decision to continue or otherwise on the Open Market Sale Scheme (domestic) of wheat during 1997-98 will be taken after the ensuing procurement trend of wheat becomes available.

(d) Open sale of wheat is undertaken, *inter-alia*, to exert a sobering influence on the market prices without jeopardising the Public Distribution System. In the absence of open sale market prices of wheat/wheat products could have registered a higher rise.

(e) and (f) Representations have been received from a few State Governments, RFMS Associations, etc. opposing the upward price revision which are under consideration.

[English]

**Oil Slick on the Andhra Coast**

1565. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

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

(a) whether an oil slick on Andhra Coast has been reported in January, 1997;

(b) if so, the causes thereof and the impact of oil slick on environment;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to compensate the fishermen of the Andhra Pradesh whose nets were damaged on account of the slick; and

(d) the measures taken to save the affected marine life?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information of the Coast Guard Headquarters no impact on the environment due to oil slick on the east coast of Andhra Pradesh was reported during the period.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

**Milk Powder**

1566. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bulk of India's milk powder is in a capacity to meet the international pesticide standards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the per capita per day quantity of milk powder required for the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS

PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Milk powder manufactured in India is subjected to standards for pesticide residues as laid down under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and the rules framed thereunder. All exports of milk are required to meet the standards laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) or to any international or additional specifications if so required by the buyer, provided the same is not inferior to the BIS standards.

(b) Per capita nutritional requirement of milk has been estimated to be 220 ml/day which works out to about 28 gms of milk powder per day.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Investment in Agricultural Sector

1567. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign investment in the agriculture sector has not increased despite adoption of liberalisation policy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to promote the foreign investment in this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and technical collaboration in the agriculture sector has increased during the past few years.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

#### Foreign Assistance to Organisations

1568. SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the organisations working for the development of environment receiving funds from the foreign countries;

(b) whether the Government have also received complaints regarding the activities of these organisations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Relevant information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Violence in N.E. Region

1569. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :  
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the extremist organisations of North Eastern Region are being imparted training in arms at the camps based in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Myanmar for continuing the insurgent activities in the region and some other States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with these countries; and

(d) if so, the reaction of these countries thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Reports indicate that there are camps in some of our neighbouring countries which are being used by North East insurgent groups for safe havens, sanctuary and training purposes. The matter has been taken up with these countries and they have assured that they will not allow negative elements to use their territory for activities prejudicial to the interests of India.

#### Policy for NGOs

1570. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :  
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :  
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have laid down any policy to give the financial assistance to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) with the approval of the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial assistance given to the Non-Governmental Organisations during the period from 1st May, 1996 to 31st January, 1997;

(d) whether complaints regarding mis-utilisation of the funds have been received against some of these organisations;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken by the Government against them;

(g) whether Government have constituted a Study Group to study the working of these NGOs; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have laid down norms and procedures in various welfare schemes under which financial assistance is given to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) with the recommendations of the State Governments/UTs.

(c) The financial assistance given to the NGOs (target group-wise) during the period 1-5-96 to 31-1-97 is given in the Statement.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Action has been initiated against 22 NGO's as per the list enclosed. Grants-in-aid have been stopped to them and in 5 cases, the concerned State Governments have been asked to conduct enquiries.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

S.No.	Scheme	(Rs. in lakhs) Assistance given to NGOs (Upto 28.2.1997)
1.	Scheduled Caste Welfare	Rs. 4.59 crores
2.	Scheduled Tribe Welfare	Rs. 2.59 crores
3.	Minorities Welfare	Rs. 15.96 lakhs
4.	Drug Abuse Prevention	Rs. 5.85 crores
5.	Scheme for Welfare of Street Children	Rs. 91.81 lakhs
6.	Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Programmes relating to the Aged	Rs. 480.40 lakhs
7.	Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations providing Social Defence Services	Rs. 19.81 lakhs
8.	Handicapped Welfare	Rs. 6.90 crores

#### **Procurement of Rice**

1571. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :  
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the procurement of rice by the State Governments has been as per the targets fixed for 1995-96 and 1996-97;

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

(c) if not, the names of the States where the rice procurement target could not be achieved during the said period;

(d) the extent of shortfall in procurement, State-wise; and

(e) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The procurement of paddy under price support scheme is voluntary in nature for the farmers. Similarly, the collection of rice under levy scheme also depends on the purchase of paddy made by the millers. Hence, no targets as such are fixed for procurement of rice in any States.

A statement giving State-wise procurement of rice during 1995-96 and 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Seasons is attached. The procurement of 1996-97 season is still continuing.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

#### **State-wise Procurement of Rice During 1995-96 and 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Seasons**

(in lakh tonnes)

State/UTs	Procurement of Rice	
	1995-96	1996-97 (As on 27.2.97)
<b>A. Contributing to Central Pool</b>		
Andhra Pradesh	36.82	22.59
Assam	0.02	—
Bihar	Neg.	Neg.
Haryana	6.89	11.24
Karnataka	0.78	0.78
Madhya Pradesh	6.87	4.66
Maharashtra	0.38	0.26
Orissa	4.56	2.85
Punjab	34.62	41.74
Rajasthan	0.02	0.03
Uttar Pradesh	7.20	7.30
West Bengal	1.33	1.16
Chandigarh	—	0.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.49</b>	<b>92.68</b>
<b>B. Not Contributing to Central Pool</b>		
Tamil Nadu	0.97	5.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.46</b>	<b>98.43</b>

Neg.—Below 500 tonnes.

[*Translation*]

### **Subsidy on Fertilizers**

1572. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to review the Retention Price Scheme for the purpose of increasing production of fertilizers and reducing the subsidy on the imported fertilizers and propose to constitute a high level committee in this regard;

(b) if so, whether the committee has been constituted;

(c) if so, the date of its constitution alongwith the terms of reference and composition; and

(d) the time by which the report is likely to be presented by the committee?

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

(b) and (c) A Committee has been constituted on 28.1.1997 and the composition of the committee is as follows:

1.	Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao, Former Member, Planning Commission	Chairman
2.	Prof. G.S. Bhalla, Agri-Economist	Member
3.	Shri P.B. Krishnaswamy, Former Secretary, Deptt. of Fertilizers	Member
4.	Chairman, BICP (Ex-Officio)	Member
5.	Shri O.N. Kapur, C&MD, Projects & Dev. India Ltd.	Member
6.	Smt. Kanta Ahuja, Economist, Jaipur	Member
7.	Executive Director, FICC (Ex-Officio)	Member-Secretary

The terms of reference are attached in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The Committee is required to submit its recommendations within a period of six months.

### **Statement**

The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows :

- (i) To review the working of the Retention Price Scheme (RPS) for fertilizers and to make suggestions for correcting the deficiencies of the system, keeping in view the broad objectives of economic reforms. The Committee may also suggest an alternative methodology which should be broad based, scientific and transparent.
- (ii) To review the adequacy or other-wise of incentives to the industry. Issues relating to reasonableness

of return on networth, norms of capacity utilisation, depreciation etc.

- (iii) To suggest appropriate capital norms and debt equity ratio in respect of new fertilizer projects.
- (iv) To review the input pricing policy and its impact on the RPS.
- (v) To review the system of equated freight and recommend measures to rationalise it, including minimisation of cross country movement to reduce leads.
- (vi) To suggest measures to improve the cohesiveness of the policies in respect of the controlled and decontrolled segments of the fertilizer industry, especially the policies impinging on the availability of fertilizers and the relative pricing of controlled and de-controlled fertilizers with a view to achieving an agronomically desirable NPK consumption ratio, while keeping the fertilizer subsidy at a reasonable level.
- (vii) Any other item that may be considered appropriate.

[*English*]

### **Impact of Increased Price on Free Sale Sugar**

1573. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the increase in price of sugar for PDS is going to affect price of sugar in open free sale sugar as well;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn any scheme to make the price of sugar for PDS as well as for free sale at par to curb blackmarketing by PDS owners;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) In view of the sufficient availability of sugar in the country, it is unlikely that the increase in the retail issue price of levy sugar to Rs. 10.50 per kg. w.e.f. 10.2.1997, may have any adverse effect on the free-sale sugar price.

(b) Under the sugar policy of partial control with a dual pricing mechanism, it is not contemplated to draw a scheme whereby the retail issue price of levy sugar and that of free sale sugar are at the same level. By judicious releases of sugar every month for free sale the prices of free sale sugar are kept at a level which is affordable to the consumers and at the same time ensures adequate realisation to sugar factories to enable them to pay the dues of sugarcane farmers.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Restriction on Import of Palmolein

1574. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken a policy decision to restrict the import of Palmolein to a nominal scale and its allocation to the States and Union Territories for distribution through PDS;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision;

(d) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to face the adverse impact of the decision on the market prices of the edible oils; and

(e) the total allocation of Palmolein oil for 1997 and the total quantity already supplied to the States, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Distribution of Palmolein is not a regular phenomenon under P.D.S. as in the case of Rice, Wheat, Sugar and Kerosene. Government imports Palmolein through S.T.C. and distributes through PDS as a market intervention measure wherever necessary.

(e) A total quantity of 11,325 MT of imported palmolein has been allocated to the following States/UTs for January and February, 1997 to be supplied from the existing stocks with the State Trading Corporation :

State/UT	Allocation (Qty. in MTs)
Gujarat	5000
Karnataka	2500
Maharashtra	2800
West Bengal	500
A&N Islands	25
NCT of Delhi	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,325</b>

[Translation]

### Implementation of Hindi Language

1575. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to fully implement the national language Hindi as an official language during the Golden Jubilee year of our Independence;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether England and Russia have adopted English and Russian language as their respective National languages by disowning the French language being a foreign language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Implementation of the Official Language policy of the Union is being increased continuously through policy of inspiration, encouragement and goodwill and by this the progressive use of Official Language is increasing.

(c) The Government do not have information relating to other countries in this regard.

[English]

### Licensing Policy for Sugar Mills

1576. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to freeze the issue of licences for four years in view of the fact that the industry is faced with the excess production; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Government have decided to continue the licensing of Sugar Industry for the present and have issued revised guidelines on 10.1.1997. The licensing procedure has been considerably simplified and, *inter-alia*, includes automatic licences for expansion projects. In order to cater to the requirement of sugar for domestic consumption and exports it is not contemplated to freeze the issue of licences.

### Agitation for Higher Cane Prices in Uttar Pradesh

1577. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA :  
SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item captioned "Offensive against cane prices planned" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated January 17, 1997;

(b) whether the farmers in Uttar Pradesh are agitating for higher prices of sugarcane than that at which they supply to the sugar mills;

(c) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Bhartiya Kisan Union have urged the Union Government to abolish the dual pricing policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

#### **Plantation by Public Sector Companies**

1578. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private companies running iron ore mines have made efforts to undertake plantation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the specific steps taken by the public sector companies doing ore mining for observing the environmental norms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Private Companies undertake plantations of roads, lease areas, overburden dump sites, decommissioned tailing ponds and colonies.

(c) Various specific steps taken to observe environmental norms. These include: water spraying in dusty area; use of dust arresters with drills; controlled blasting, development of guided channels; treatment of mine water before discharge; reclamation and rehabilitation of mined-out areas, and afforestation.

[*Translation*]

#### **Pending Cases of Consumers Grievances**

1579. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of consumer cases pending for disposal with the different courts/fora, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of during 1996-97 till date, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining cases are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Number of cases disposed of and pending with the District Fora, State-wise is given in the statement attached.

(c) Disposal of cases by Consumer Courts is a continuous process, hence, no time frame can be fixed.

#### **Statement**

State/UT	Disposed of since Inception	Pending Cases	At the End of
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	66738	12937	9/96
Arunachal Pradesh	106	34	10/96
Assam	3005	826	4/96
Bihar	15724	10503	10/96
Goa	1546	593	10/96
Gujarat	25588	16148	9/96
Haryana	30037	10149	9/96
Himachal Pradesh	6155	1077	9/96
Jammu & Kashmir	5837	1045	8/96
Karnataka	30534	11419	8/96
Kerala	66431	5033	10/96
Madhya Pradesh	23425	11510	12/95
Maharashtra	43563	17040	9/96
Manipur	601	10	9/95
Meghalaya	99	38	6/96
Mizoram	147	12	11/96
Nagaland	6	7	9/94
Orissa	12470	2065	9/96
Punjab	12046	3039	9/96
Rajasthan	73453	10618	9/96
Sikkim	60	7	10/96
Tamil Nadu	28608	5008	9/96
Tripura	487	81	9/96
Uttar Pradesh	86060	49821	8/96
West Bengal	4767	15006	9/96
Andaman & Nicobar	107	12	9/96

1	2	3	4
Chandigarh	4469	3527	6/96
D & N Haveli	10	10	8/96
Daman & Diu	16	16	9/96
Delhi	26000	9710	10/96
Lakshadweep	24	2	11/96
Pondicherry	1077	72	11/96
Total	569196	197375	

[English]

#### Reservation for Dalits

1580. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister assured in November 1996 to consider the demand of the Dalits for the extension of job reservation to them in the private sector and removal of 50 per cent ceiling on the reservations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) It is reported that such demands were made at a rally before the Prime Minister. It was responded that the same would be examined.

#### Amarnath Yatra

1581. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the Inquiry Committee constituted to probe the Amarnath Yatra tragedy in Kashmir in 1996;

(b) if so, the salient features of the main observations and recommendations contained therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the measures taken to avoid recurrence of such tragedies in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The entire report was laid on the Table of the Houses of Parliament on 18.12.1996.

(c) and (d) The Government have accepted the report and the State Government have been asked to take proper remedial/preparatory measures, as suggested in the report, so that there is no recurrence of the tragedy. Government of India will provide necessary assistance to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in this regard.

#### Inflated Maximum Printed Prices on Consumer Items

1582. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the maximum prices printed on the consumer items are mostly inflated ones;

(b) whether complaints have been received by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the steps contemplated by the Government to protect the interests of the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The standards of weights and measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 require that retail sale price of a commodity sold in packaged form be printed thereon in the following format: "Maximum or Max. retail price .....inclusive of all taxes or in the form MRP Rs .....incl., of all taxes."

MRP is the maximum price at which the product can be sold. The actual sale price could be less than MRP due to various factors.

No information regarding very large margins accruing to retailers has come to the notice of the Government. The Government is, however, considering the issue in consultation with concerned groups and organisations with a view to serve better the interests of consumers.

[Translation]

#### Production of Sunflower

1583. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :  
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States producing sunflower indicating its total area under cultivation in those States, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of sunflower produced annually by these States during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the production of sunflower has marginally decreased this year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide subsidy to the farmers to increase the production of sunflower; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The major sunflower producing States are Andhra

Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. State-wise area and production of sunflower during the last three years is given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The total production of sunflower in the country during this year i.e. 1996-97 is estimated to be 13.8 lakh tonnes which is all time high production so far.

(e) and (f) In order to increase the production of sunflower including other oilseeds, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in 22 States. The programme provides financial assistance by way of subsidies for various critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of minikits, rhizobium culture, gypsum/pyrites, improved farm implements, plant protection equipments, farmer's training, sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are organised on farmer's field to transfer the production technology.

**Statement**

*Estimates of Area and Production of Sunflower*

A = Area ('000 ha.)  
P = Production ('000 tonnes)

S.No.	State		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	A	389.6	402.6	372.1
		P	217.4	284.4	267.1
2.	Bihar	A	5.0	10.7	8.0
		P	2.0	4.7	4.8
3.	Haryana	A	40.0	34.4	50.0
		P	65.0	56.5	75.0
4.	Karnataka	A	1469.3	839.5	1013.7
		P	474.8	355.1	405.1
5.	Madhya Pradesh	A	18.4	13.0	12.4
		P	6.5	3.8	4.2
6.	Maharashtra	A	571.5	510.1	496.3
		P	354.1	280.9	307.2
7.	Nagaland	A	2.5	1.5	2.5
		P	2.0	0.8	2.5
8.	Orissa	A	5.6	1.9	2.3
		P	2.9	1.0	1.2
9.	Punjab	A	85.0	95.0	103.0
		P	146.0	147.0	159.0
10.	Rajasthan	A	4.8	3.7	3.1
		P	1.6	0.9	0.7
11.	Tamil Nadu	A	39.9	45.0	56.4
		P	33.1	41.7	52.1
12.	Uttar Pradesh	A	35.9	39.5	37.3
		P	42.6	40.7	45.1
13.	West Bengal	A	0.3	0.4	0.4
		P	0.2	0.3	0.3
	All-India	A	2667.8	1997.3	2157.5
		P	1348.2	1217.8	1324.3

*[English]***Citizenship to Migrated Persons from West Pakistan**

1584. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to grant citizenship to the persons who migrated from West Pakistan in J&K State;

(b) if so, the number of persons identified for the purpose so far; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal for grant of Rs. One lakh to each family for settlement as recommended by the State Government of J&K ?

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

**Fishermen of Tamil Nadu**

1585. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the plight of Fishermen particularly on the Sea Coast of Tamil Nadu has been examined by the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to protect their interests ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) To improve the socio-economic plight of fishermen in the coastal areas including Tamil Nadu Coast, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes besides the schemes of the concerned State Governments :—

- (i) Development of Coastal marine fisheries comprising the components, viz. (i) Motorisation of Traditional Craft, (ii) Introduction of Intermediate Craft, and (iii) Introduction of Plywood Craft.
- (ii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD Oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length.
- (iii) Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act and Introduction of Artificial Reefs and Sea Farming Project.
- (iv) Scheme for development of Fishery Harbours (major and minor ports) and Fish Landing Centres.
- (v) Development of model fishermen villages, group insurance and savings-cum-relief under the scheme on 'National Welfare of Fishermen'.

**Research Institutes**

1586. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR:  
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has any plan to expand the research institutions during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ICAR has also proposed to open new research institutes in the said plan period; and

(d) if so, the places identified for locating the new institutes ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Sir, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is proposing need based strengthening of ongoing research institutions and few new institutions during IX Plan. Institutions proposed for integration/upgradation and new ones are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) The location of the proposed new institutes would be identified when their IX Plan proposals are formulated.

**Statement***Indian Council of Agricultural Research***I. Proposed Strengthening of Ongoing Institutions during IX Plan****IA. Institutions Proposed to be Integrated**

- Barley Network—with Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal
- AICRP Under Utilised & Under Exploited Plants with National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources
- Sugarbeet Network Project—with Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research
- AICRP Tobacco—with Central Tobacco Research Institute
- AICRP on Arid Legumes—with Indian Institute of Pulses Research
- AICRP Horticulture Crops and AICRP PHT of Fruit & Vegetables—with AICRP Post Harvest Technology
- AICRP Mushroom—with NRC Mushroom
- AICRP Cashew—with NRC Cashew
- AICRP Medicinal & Aromatic Plant—with NRC Medicinal & Aromatic Plants
- AICRP Weed Control—with NRC Weed Science

- \* AICRP Long Term Fertilizers Experiments and AICRP Soil Test Crop Response—with AICRP on Integrated Plant Nutrient System
- \* AICRP-Biological Nitrogen Fixation—with Indian Institute of Soil Science
- \* AICRP-Tillage Requirement—with the proposed Institute of Sustainable Production System
- \* AICRP-Well & Pumps—with AICRP Water Management
- \* AICRP Agroforestry—with NRC Agroforestry
- \* AICRP Power Tiller—with AICRP-Farm Implements & Machinery
- \* AICRP-Jaggery—with AICRP-Post Harvest Technology
- \* AICRP-Agril. Drainage—with PD-Water management
- \* National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources and National Institute of Animal Genetics—with National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources

#### IB. Institutions Proposed for Upgradation

- NRC—Arid Horticulture to Central Institute for Arid Horticulture
- PD—Vegetable Research to Central Vegetable Research Institute
- NRC—Orchids to NRC Orchids & Floriculture
- PD—Cropping System Research to Indian Institute of Sustainable Production System
- PD—Water Management Research to ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region
- AICRP Agrometeorology to PD—Agrometeorology
- ICAR Res. Complex Goa and Regional Research Station Canning of Central Soil Salinity Research Institute to Network on Coastal Production System
- Network for mountaineous Production System by integration of components of Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Shala, Central Soil and Water Conservation Research & Training Institute and NEH Complex
- AICRP Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) to NRC-FMD
- Network Embryo Transfer Technology to AICRP on Embryo Transfer Technology
- AICRP Pigs to NRC-Pigs
- AICRP Animal Disease Monitoring & Surveillance to NRC-Animal Disease Monitoring & Surveillance

#### II. New Institutions Proposed for IX Plan

- # Project on Tribal Crops
- # AICRP on Solanaceous Vegetables
- # AICRP on Cucurbit, Okra & Root Vegetables
- # AICRP on Cole, Pea and Bean Vegetables
- # Regional Station of Indian Institute of Spices Research
- # AICRP-Engineering Measures for Efficient Land and Water Use
- # AICRP on Gastro-Intestinal Parasitism
- # AICRP on Newer Feeds and Preparation of Complete Feed
- # AICRP on Rumen Microbial Dynamics
- # Network Programme on Haemorrhagic Septicaemia
- # Network on Lignin Biodegradation
- # Network on Fertility Improvement Using Reproductive Biotechnology
- # Network on Crossbred Animals for Hills
- # AICRP Freshwater Prawn Culture at Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture
- # AICRP Shellfish Mariculture at Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
- # Rural Awareness Work Experience Programme
- # National Talent Search Scholarship
- # Agricultural Education Media Development Programme
- # Sabbatical Leave
- # Predoctoral Fellowship for Overseas Students from SAARC & Other Developing Countries
- # Establishment of Institute Village Linkage Programme Frontline Demonstration in various aspects of Crop Production.

#### Chlorinated Pesticides

1587. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the dangerous chlorinated pesticides still continue to be manufactured in the country which are considered to be hazardous and posing a long term threat to health and are targeted for global phase-out;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the chlorine-based industries are substantially increasing their production capacity; and

(d) the measures contemplated by the Government to control and regulate the production of such chemicals ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Some of the Organochlorine pesticides like DDT, Endosulfan, BHC and Lindane are manufactured in the country. These pesticides have been reviewed by the Government for their continued use in the country and except for Endosulfan, the use of others have been restricted. Further, manufacture and use of BHC stands banned with effect from 1.4.1997.

(b) Some of the reasons for allowing the use of these pesticides are :—

- (i) Non-availability of safer and cheaper substitutes;
- (ii) Comparatively more rapid bio-degradability under Indian conditions;
- (iii) Specific pest problems and agro-climatic situation.

(c) and (d) Chlorine is a co-product of caustic soda industry. It is a general purpose chemical having large number of uses. Approximately 7,00,000 tonnes of liquid chlorine is produced by about 30 different manufacturers in the country. Keeping in view the usefulness of various chlorine based chemicals, Government has no intention to discourage the production of such chemicals.

**IPS Officers**

1588. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IPS Officers from various States and the Centre against whom actions such as FIRs, charge-sheets, registration of cases by CBI, Police and other enforcement authorities, Departmental enquiries, etc. have been initiated or are in process for commission of misconduct/offences during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of cases out of the said cases on account of corruption and/or allied offences yearwise;

(c) whether there is a rising trend over the years of cases arising out of commission of misconduct and other criminal offences; and

(d) if so, whether the Government are contemplating adoption of appropriate preventive measures in this regard?

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

**Indo-Oman Joint Venture Fertilizer Plants**

1589. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Fertilizer Plants are proposed to be set up in the country in collaboration with Oman;

(b) if so, the number of Indo-Oman joint venture fertilizer plants proposed to be set up in the country in Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) the cost and capacity of each of these projects and sites selected for their establishment; and

(d) if so, the details of the terms and conditions entered into with Oman for setting up the plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) There is no proposal for setting up any fertilizer plant in India in collaboration with Oman.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Prices of Milk**

1590. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is wide disparity between the prices of toned milk being sold by Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether such subsidisation by DMS is putting a lot of pressure on its production capacity to meet the increasing demand of the milk and it is incurring a heavy loss which is cumulating year by year; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to maintain parity in the prices of the milk supplied by the DMS and Mother Dairy and to make up the loss of DMS so as to make DMS a viable unit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The present sale prices of a litre of toned milk sold by Mother Dairy and Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) are as follows :

	In Polypack	Through bulk vending
Mother Dairy	Rs. 12/-	Rs. 11/-
Delhi Milk Scheme	Rs. 7/-	No bulk vending

The selling price of DMS milk was kept generally at levels lower than the full cost of procurement, processing and distribution. As a result of this it becomes necessary to provide budgetary support to the DMS for its operations.

[Translation]

**Sugar Mills**

1591. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of fishes are dying due to polluted water of Kaptanganj sugar mill in Uttar Pradesh and the entire area gets polluted as a result thereof; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government against this sugar mill and other sugar mills spreading pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Aquatic life including fishes may be adversely

affected if untreated effluents are discharged in the water bodies. The Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board has reported that M/s Kanoria Sugar and General Manufacturing Co. Ltd. at Kaptanganj in Uttar Pradesh has provided effluent treatment plant to treat its effluent. The State Pollution Control Board had issued directions to this unit for proper operation and maintenance of the effluent treatment plant.

(a) All other sugar units in Uttar Pradesh have been directed by the Board for proper operation and maintenance of their effluent treatment plants so as to conform to the prescribed standards.

#### **Animal Diseases**

1592. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote treatment of the animal diseases in the private sector particularly in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken the advise of certain experts before formulating these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Pollution in National Capital Region**

1593. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

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 "Pollution turning into environment crisis" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated January 29, 1997;

(b) if so, whether any recent study have been conducted to ascertain the level of pollution in the towns of the NCR;

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

(d) the scale and type of fiscal incentives being given to the small and medium scale industries to control the environmental pollution; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to save NCR towns from pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Pollution Control Board conducted an ambient air quality monitoring survey in the National Capital Region—Delhi during the year 1994-95. A total of 33 cities/towns were selected in the National Capital Region covering 14 towns of Uttar Pradesh, 16 towns of Haryana and 3 towns of Rajasthan. The monitoring continued for thirty days in three different seasons viz., winter, summer and post monsoon covering the parameters like suspended particulates, oxides of nitrogen and sulphur dioxide. The average ambient levels of pollutants were found below their prescribed limits except suspended particulates.

(d) Fiscal incentives available to the small and medium scale industries include exemption/rebate in custom duty for import of pollution control equipments, rebate in excise duty, Central and State subsidy to the extent of 50 per cent of the total cost of the Combined Effluent Treatment Plants for clusters of small scale units, etc.

(e) Steps taken by the Government to control pollution in the National Capital Region include the following :

(i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed.

(ii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(iv) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(v) Notification of ambient air quality standards has been issued.

(vi) Central Pollution Control Board regularly monitors the water quality of Yamuna and of the ground water in Delhi. State Pollution Control Boards of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana have been requested to take up monitoring work in the various rivers.

(vii) Government of India has notified noise standards for industrial, commercial and residential areas and silence zones.

(viii) Codes of practice has been evolved for operation of various equipments to ensure that noise levels are maintained within the prescribed limits.

(ix) Public awareness campaigns are being carried out.

#### **Manufacture of Pyrazinamide**

1594. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of anomaly in the duty structure of DAMN *vis-a-vis* Cynopyrazine, both

intermediates used for the manufacture of Pyrazinamide— an anti TB drug;

(b) if so, the rationale behind this decision; and

(c) the details of action taken on various representations received in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
(a) and (b) There is no anomaly as such in the Duty structure of DAMN *vis-a-vis* 2-Cynopyrazine. The differential duty structure is in accordance with the principle of graded Duty structure and the policy of the Government followed since considerable time.

(c) The report and the representations received in this regard have been examined and decision has been taken on merits to maintain the graded duty structure.

[Translation]

#### **Sugar Production and Sugar Prices**

1595. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether increase in the production of the sugarcane as well as sugar had been estimated for the last ten years;

(b) if so, the quantum of sugar production during 1994-95 and 1995-96, separately;

(c) the estimated sugar production during 1996-97;

(d) whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for unprecedented increase in the consumer prices of sugar along with the increase in its production; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and the maximum and minimum consumer prices of sugar in the open market during the said period ?

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

(b) The production of sugar during the season 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 146.43 and 164.29 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) The production of sugar during the current 1996-97 is likely to be about 140 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e) The open market prices of sugar during the season 1994-95 and 1995-96 had fluctuated within a narrow range. The range of wholesale sugar prices of S-30 grade of sugar in the four principal markets of the country during

the season 1994-95 and 1995-96 were as under :

Season	Range of Wholesale Prices (Rs./Quintals)
1994-95	1010-1460
1995-96	1138-1510

#### **National Sugarcane Policy**

1596. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :  
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a National Sugarcane Policy;

(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 FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) In Civil Misc. Writ Petition No. 36889 of 1996, the Allahabad High Court has directed that the Central Government will set up a High Powered Committee to make recommendations to thoroughly revise the laws prevailing in India relating to sugar and sugarcane.

The matter regarding constitution of such High Powered Committee on Sugar and Sugarcane is under consideration.

#### **Economic and Overhead costs of Wheat and Rice**

1597. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the economic and overhead costs of wheat and rice fixed by the Food Corporation of India have been constantly increasing for the last few years;

(b) if so, the economic cost and overhead cost of wheat and rice during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, separately;

(c) whether the Government have estimated the economic cost and overhead cost in the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reasons for increasing these costs; and

(f) the measures taken by the Food Corporation of India to reduce these costs ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Study on Environmental Changes**

1598. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

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

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a centre to study changes in the environment due to increasing contents of carbon-di-oxide in atmosphere and its effect on the production of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The studies in connection with the changes in carbon dioxide contents in the atmosphere are undertaken at the existing research institutions in the country. At present there is no proposal to set up a separate centre for this purpose.

[*English*]

**Departmental Exams for Sub-Inspectors in U.P.**

1599. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered the recall of the police cops appearing in the departmental examination 1992-93 for the Sub-Inspector posts in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for issuing such an order by the court; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

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

[*Translation*]

**Scholarships to SC/ST Students**

1600. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have allocated the amount as grants to the State Governments/UTs for giving Scholarships to the boys/girls of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The details of Central Assistance released to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (so far) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-matric Scholarships to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given in the statement enclosed. The Scheme covers eligible boys and girls.

**Statement**

*Central Assistance Released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes*

(Rs. in lakh)

S No.	State/UT	Central Assistance Released		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (so far)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1440.612	2980.339	2394.90
2.	Assam	314.885	625.985	Nil
3.	Bihar	451.00	Nil	Nil
4.	Goa	0.90	0.40	Nil
5.	Gujarat	767.239	762.75	494.89
6.	Haryana	75.49	70.70	2.26
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3.8352	14.38	24.73
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	63.39	79.83	62.34

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Karnataka	830.997	1078.82	1374.526
10.	Kerala	510.646	41.294	97.40
11.	Madhya Pradesh	725.23	520.89	1982.79
12.	Maharashtra	2084.482	2557.20	2371.80
13.	Manipur	115.56	227.78	374.50
14.	Meghalaya	143.275	96.60	371.843
15.	Mizoram	142.40	122.40	144.50
16.	Nagaland	Nil	243.427	404.90
17.	Orissa	313.559	741.291	531.43
18.	Punjab	73.80	237.05	Nil
19.	Rajasthan	311.68	665.40	934.75
20.	Tamil Nadu	778.17	693.00	1817.74
21.	Tripura	82.181	82.358	29.346
22.	Uttar Pradesh	386.9588	1669.82	1040.00
23.	West Bengal	Nil	635.286	142.30
24.	A&N Islands	0.75	1.28	1.85
25.	Daman & Diu	1.60	2.64	2.089
26.	D&N Haveli	4.06	5.68	Nil
27.	Pondicherry	11.30	26.03	20.00
28.	Guwahati Project	2.00	3.00	3.00
Total		9635.00	14485.63	14523.884

[English]

#### Schemes for Rajasthan

1601. SHRI PARASRAM MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent the proposals of some schemes like Janta Jal Yojana, Construction of B.T. Roads connecting 349 Panchayat Head Quarter, Community Lift Irrigation Schemes, Overall Development of Dungarpur District of Rajasthan State, etc. to the Ministry for sanction;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the schemes that have been sanctioned so far;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to clear them ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### Creation of New Districts in Karnataka

1602. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is demand for the creation of at least 14 new districts in the State of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka is considering reorganisation of districts in the State. However, according to available information, there is no demand as such for the creation of at least 14 new districts in the State of Karnataka.

**Forest Land for Ropeway**

1603. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sought for acquisition of some acres of forest land and environmental clearance for the construction of ropeway to Chamundi Hills near Mysore;

(b) if so, the extent of forest land asked for clearance;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the construction of ropeway will spoil the natural environment of that area; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal for diversion of 2.22 ha. of forest area for construction of rope way to Chamundi Hills on 15.12.95 under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) and (d) It has been reported that construction of rope way is not likely to spoil the natural environment as the area has scrub forests only. Approval for diversion of 2.22 ha. of forest land for construction of rope way to Chamundi Hills has been accorded under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 with a condition that compensatory afforestation will be raised over 4.44 ha. on either side of the rope way to improve the natural environment.

[*Translation*]

**Sugarcane Production**

1604. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of incentives being provided to the farmers for the cultivation of sugarcane;

(b) the funds provided to State Governments during each of the last three years for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated or proposed to formulate any fresh programme for providing more technical know how to the farmers particularly those of Uttar Pradesh for increasing the production of sugarcane; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) was launched in 1995-96 in twenty States including Uttar Pradesh & one Union Territory for increasing productivity of sugarcane. Under the scheme, incentives are being provided to farmers for the transfer of

technology on cultivation of sugarcane through frontline and field demonstrations & training of farmers as well as supply of farm implements, increased availability of quality seed and installation of drip irrigation.

(b) Since the scheme was introduced in 1995-96 only, the details of the State-wise amount (Central Share) released during the last two years i.e. 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Scheme on development of sugarcane based cropping system consisting of existing constituents is under formulation for implementation during the IX Plan subject to its approval by competent agencies.

**Statement**

*State-wise Amount (Central) Share Released During  
1995-96 and 1996-97 under Sustainable  
Development of Sugarcane Based  
Cropping System*

State/UT	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	
	1995-96	1996-97 (Till Feb., 97)
Andhra Pradesh	210.92	205.01
Assam	43.66	41.00
Bihar	159.13	151.09
Goa	15.04	14.99
Gujarat	166.64	166.32
Haryana	112.82	101.88
Karnataka	247.92	249.22
Kerala	25.56	24.21
Madhya Pradesh	87.08	80.80
Maharashtra	507.12	536.84
Manipur	13.27	13.11
Mizoram	13.16	13.11
Nagaland	15.62	14.93
Orissa	54.73	42.62
Punjab	124.40	63.42
Rajasthan	56.60	59.06
Tamil Nadu	222.66	233.78
Tripura	13.16	13.12
Uttar Pradesh	810.29	720.90
West Bengal	36.19	30.80
Pondicherry	19.67	18.17

**Computerised Lottery**

1605. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the multinational companies plan to install computerised lottery in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the same by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The lottery trade in the country is conducted by the State Governments in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Central Government and the Supreme Court. The multinational companies do not qualify under the guidelines.

[English]

**Percolation Ponds**

1606. SHRI K. KANDASAMY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposals from Tamil Nadu and other States for the formation of percolation ponds (check dams) in forest lands for the agricultural purposes are lying pending for the Central approval;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to clear such proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Inclusion of Languages in Eighth Schedule**

1607. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bihar Government has proposed to include Maithili and Bhojpuri languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Representations for inclusion of several languages, including Maithili and Bhojpuri, in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India have been received from various quarters. A Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary (Official Language) in order to

evolve a set of objective criteria with reference to which all such proposals can be examined and finally disposed of.

[English]

**Dry Land Agriculture**

1608. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to promote the dry land agriculture in the drought prone areas in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) Promoting *in situ* soil and water conservation, crop demonstrations for popularising new crop varieties, innovative management practices, pasture development and afforestation etc. has been under implementation in the State since 1972-73. The scope of the Programme has been enlarged since 1995-96 which now covers 47 blocks in five districts of Orissa namely Bolangir, Kalahandi, Dhankanal, Phulbani and Sambalpur. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA), an area of 3.89 lac ha. located in 258 watersheds, has been covered, including areas located in drought-prone districts. This Scheme promotes moisture conservation and suitable farming systems. The State Government is also promoting watershed management, *in situ* conservation of rain water, suitable agronomic measures and demonstrations in association with ICAR Institute and State Agriculture University.

**Rice Producing Areas of Orissa**

1609. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the names of the rice producing areas in Orissa particularly in the tribal and backward areas of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : The rice producing areas in Orissa include all the districts having area coverage of varying degree. The names of tribal and backward rice producing areas include the districts of Bolangir, Balasore, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Kandhamal (Phulbani), Keonjhar, Korapur, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur and Sundergarh of the State.

**Vegetable Oil Products Order of 1975**

1610. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vegetable Oil Products Order of 1975 has been amended;

(b) whether the maximum concentration of Nickel has been incorporated in the new amendments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the relevant Indian Standard has also been amended accordingly;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Vegetable Oil Products (Standards of Quality) Order, 1975 has been amended vide Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution Notification GSR No. 139 (E) dated 15th March, 1995. Vide this Notification, the maximum concentration of nickel in vanaspati has been specified to be 1.5 ppm.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Indian Standard (IS)-10633: 1986 for vanaspati and IS 10634: 1986 for bakery shortening have been amended in July, 1994 wherein the maximum concentration of nickel has been specified to be 1.5 ppm.

#### Minimum Support Price of Sugarcane

1611. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :  
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase minimum support price of sugarcane;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and implications thereof;

(c) the present status of the same; and

(d) the number of times the minimum support price for sugarcane was revised during the past five years and price increase each time ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Govt. have announced on 11.3.96 the Statutory Minimum Price of sugar payable by sugar factories for the sugar season 1996-97 at Rs. 45.90 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of Rs. 0.57 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in the recovery above that level. There is no proposal to increase the same.

(d) The Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane has been revised at regular intervals during the last 5 years as indicated below :

Year	Statutory Minimum Price
1990-91	Rs. 23 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of 27.0586 paise per qtl. for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 8.5%.
1991-92	Rs. 26 per qtl. linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of 30.5882 paise per qtl., for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 8.5%.
1992-93	Rs. 31 per qtl. linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of 36.4706 paise per qtl., for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 8.5%.
1993-94	Rs. 34.50 per qtl. linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of 40.5832 paise per qtl., for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 8.5%.
1994-95	Rs. 39.10 per qtl., linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% with a premium of 46 paise per qtl., for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 8.5% upto 10% and premium of 60 paise per qtl., for every 0.1% increase above 10%.
1995-96	Rs. 42.50 per qtl., linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% sugar subject to a premium of Rs. 0.54 per qtl., for every 0.1% increase in recovery above 8.5%.

#### Martyrs Tombs

1612. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Martyrs Tombs/Special graves (Mizar-E-Shaheedan) of killed terrorists have been created in Jammu & Kashmir and in other States;

(b) if so, the number of killed persons buried along with their names and nationality in this enclosure; and

(c) the organisation looking after the enclosure at Jammu and other places ?

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

**Export of Sugar Under O.G.L.**

1613. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal from the State Governments particularly from the Government of Maharashtra seeking export of sugar under the Open General Licence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of the record production of sugar and the high cost of inventory carrying the export quota of sugar is proposed to be given to the sugar producing States on the pattern of export quota being given under the O.G.L.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra vide letter dated 6th July, 1996 has requested that minimum 30 to 40 lakh tonnes of sugar may be released from Maharashtra for export and this export may please be allowed through Open General Licence to provide great relief to the sugar factories in liquidating their surplus stocks.

(c) and (d) Consequent upon the promulgation of the Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 on 15.1.1997, the export of sugar has been decanalised whereby export can be carried out by individuals, firms, sugar factories, etc. after getting registration Allocation Certificates from the Agricultural Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) within the ceiling prescribed by the Ministry of Food.

**Cleaning of Rivers**

1614. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any plan from the Government of Orissa for cleaning of rivers and environmental improvement of the towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the plan has been posed for the foreign assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pollution abatement schemes for river Mahanadi at Cuttack and for river Brahmini at Talcher, Chandbali and Dharamshala towns have been received from Govt. of Orissa. These schemes have been approved as part of the National River Conservation Plan. Work on the scheme has begun.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Seeds Policy**

1615. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to have a fresh look at the Seeds Policy instead of leaving the field for the private sector;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures contemplated to raise the seed replacement rate for the self-pollinated crops such as wheat and rice to ensure additional production by invoking higher productivity per unit of land and natural resources ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Government have constituted a Seed Policy Review Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.V. Rao, Vice-Chancellor, Andhra Pradesh Agriculture University to review the existing seed policy.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The projections for certified seed distribution for the IX plan envisage a higher seed replacement rate than has hitherto been achieved. This is sought to be done through the following measures :

(a) Subsidy on distribution of certified seeds is provided under crop development schemes to encourage farmers to use certified seed.

(b) Transport subsidy is given for distribution of certified seeds in north-eastern States and for not easily accessible and remote areas of all states.

(c) Use of certified seed is promoted through certified seed demonstrations and farmers' training programme.

(d) New varieties suited to different agro-climatic conditions are periodically released and popularised through minikit programmes and frontline demonstrations.

**Vacant Posts of Scientists**

1616. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of scientists at the senior level and research management categories filled since the recommendations of the Mandal Commission were adopted by the Government;

(b) the number out of these posts reserved for the OBCs and SC/ST categories; and

(c) the number of posts actually filled and the number of posts lying vacant ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Sir, a total of 190 posts of senior level scientists and 92 posts of Research Management Position (RMP) have been filled by the ICAR since the adoption of Mandal Commission.

(b) As per Government of India instructions contained in DOP&AR O.M. No. 9/2/73-Estt. (SCT) dated 23.6.75 amended from time to time, the reservations for SC/ST/OBCs apply to appointments made to scientific & technical posts upto and including the lowest grade of group A (Class I).

Accordingly reservation for SC/ST/OBC have been provided to scientific posts in the pay scale of Rs. 2200-4000. Reservation to scientific posts in Sr. grade of Rs. 3700-5700 & above is not applicable.

(c) A total of 1507 posts of Senior level Scientists and 92 posts of Research Management Position (RMP) are actually filled and 892 posts of Senior level Scientists and 55 posts of RMP are lying vacant.

#### Seizure of RDX

1617. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hyderabad police has unearthed an ISI inspired plot to abduct all politicians for securing the release of the leader of Kashmiri militants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there was a great conspiracy to destabilise the law and order in the country;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has assessed the situation after seizing RDX in a number of States; and

(e) if so, the assistance provided to these States to check this menace ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Government are aware of reports of this nature from time to time. All concerned agencies are maintaining close watch to prevent any such designs to succeed.

(c) to (e) Recently, there have been instances wherein RDX explosives, arms, ammunitions etc. were smuggled into the country for disturbing Law & Order. Government is alive to the situation created by anti-national elements and is taking all necessary steps to thwart the evil designs of these forces which includes gearing up of intelligence machinery, stricter enforcement of existing regulations and close coordination between the concerned Central and State agencies.

#### Supply of Seeds & Fertilizers

1618. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers of Uttar Pradesh particularly of Allahabad have not been provided adequate quantity of seeds and fertilisers which has put them to great loss;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures the Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

#### Agreement with French Company

1619. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has entered into an agreement with a French Company under the Indo-French protocol for the development of dairy industry;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement reached at;

(c) the time by which the agreement is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the extent to which the Government got latest technology equipments which will intum help to improve the function of the dairy industry in the State ?

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

#### Indiscriminate Defiance of SC Orders

1620. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has taken serious note of indiscriminate defiance of its orders by the senior officials of the Ministry who are not enforcing the laws regarding curbing industrial units from using and dumping the banned noxious substances all over the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to enforce the laws ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The Supreme Court has indicated that the implementation of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 by the concerned authorities has not been satisfactory. The action taken by the Government includes :

(i) Empowerment of the State Pollution Control Boards to deal with violations of the provisions of the Hazardous Wastes Rules.

- (ii) Enforcement of the various provisions of the Hazardous Wastes Rules by the State Governments.
- (iii) Prohibition on the import of hazardous wastes containing arsenic, cyanide and mercury.
- (iv) Training and awareness programmes.

(a) the number of handicapped persons registered in the Employment Exchanges from 1990 to 1996; and

(b) the number of handicapped persons appointed in the Government offices in different States during the said period ;

[Translation]

**Vacancies for Handicapped Persons**

1621. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Information received from the Ministry of Labour (DGE&T) is given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Number of Registrations and Placements made by the Employment Exchanges in the country in respect of Physically Handicapped Persons each year during the period 1990-95 together with their number on Live Register*

Year	Registrations made during the year	No. of Placements made during the year in						Total	No. on Live Register at the end of the year
		Central Govt.	Union Territory	State Govt.	Quasi Govt./ Govt. Estts./ Public Sector Undertakings	Local Bodies	Pvt. Estts.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1990	43089	554	84	2276	555	249	221	3939	295846
1991	42074	770	77	2474	688	288	302	4599	313393
1992	44705	544	66	2156	626	304	610	4306	323220
1993	49330	279	52	2599	627	252	642	4451	337602
1994	43732	364	13	2784	463	224	637	4485	340304
1995	48317	324	47	2033	366	218	718	3706	352743

- Note: 1. Data includes information in respect of Spl. employment exchanges for Physically Handicapped.
2. Includes information in respect of Blind, Deaf & Dumb, Orthopaedics, Respiratory disorders and Negative Leprosy persons.

[English]

**Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987**

1622. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether promulgation of Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987 in Tripura keeping in view the tension and violence prevailing in the State is under active consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons who lost their lives in these incidents in Tripura during the last six months; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to curb such incidents?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Against 176 persons killed during 1996, 89 persons have been killed during the current year upto 24 February, 1997.

(d) A series of steps have been taken to curb such incidents which include review of the situation from time to time, improved coordination of counter-insurgency operations and sharing of intelligence, induction of additional units of the Central Para-Military Forces and the Army, strengthening of the State Police Force, sanction of India Reserve

Battalions, release of arms and ammunition and other security related equipment on priority basis. In addition, 17 Police Station areas in Tripura have been declared as disturbed under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 in order to take more effective action against insurgent elements.

[*Translation*]

#### **Policing in Hilly Districts in U.P.**

1623. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work relating to the police in rural areas of the hilly districts in UP is done by the 'Patwaris' working under the Revenue Department;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the Patwari cadre has boycotted the policing work for the last one year on the demand of pay, allowances, uniform and arms equal to the regular police personnel;

(c) whether due to boycott of policing work by the Patwaris, many cases of criminal nature are pending and the law and order situation is deteriorating; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to end the boycott by the Patwaris ?

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

[*English*]

#### **Ban on Grazing**

1624. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government are aware that Sikkim Government has banned grazing in the forest areas;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to ban grazing in all the forest areas of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to ban grazing in all the forest areas of the country. However, the National Forests Policy, 1988 *inter-alia* envisages that grazing in forest areas should be regulated with the involvement of the community. Special conservation areas, young plantations and regeneration areas should be fully protected from grazing. National Policy also provides for levying of adequate grazing fees to discourage people in forest areas from maintaining large herds of non-essential livestock.

[*Translation*]

#### **Pending Cases of Bhopal Gas Leakage Disaster**

1625. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending in the court of Commissioner, Gas Relief, Bhopal, quarter-wise;

(b) the number of new cases filed in the office of the Commissioner during 1996-97 along with the number of cases disposed of, month-wise;

(c) whether appointment of the Hon'ble Justice as Commissioner has been made on full time or part time basis; and

(d) the location of the headquarter of the Commissioner, Gas Relief ?

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

(a) The number of cases pending in the Court of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal gas tragedy is as follows :

Category	Pending more than 3 months	Pending more than 6 months	Pending more than 9 months	Pending more than 12 months	Total
01 (Personal injury)	77	34	259	187	557
04 (Death)	64	450	250	21	785

(b) (i) The number of cases filed in the Court of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas tragedy in the year 1996-97 is as follows :

Year	Category	
	01 (personal injury)	04 (death)
1996	917	434
1997 (upto Feb. '97)	52	40

(ii) Month-wise disposal of the cases is as follows :

Year	Month	Category	
		01	04
1996	January	12	09
	February	36	13
	March	19	14
	April	34	23
	May	30	12
	June	58	01
	July	22	24
	August	15	14
	September	—	—
	October	11	15
	November	09	33
	December	07	12
1997	January	09	23
	February	12	10

(c) and (d) A sitting Judge of the Indore Bench of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh is holding concurrent charge as Welfare Commissioner at Bhopal.

[English]

#### **Sugar Recovery**

1626. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether any exercise has been undertaken by the Government to determine the actual percentage of sugar recovery from sugarcane in different identified regions of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The sugar factories situated in the various regions of the

country furnish to the Directorate of Sugar their actual working results including recovery of sugar % cane. Based on this the recovery of sugar % cane for each region/zone is being determined.

(b) A Statement showing zone-wise recovery of sugar % cane during the season 1995-96 is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

#### *Zonewise Recovery of Sugar % Cane for the Season 1995-96 (Provisional)*

Sl. No.	States	Recovery of Sugar % Cane
1.	Punjab	8.70
2.	Haryana	8.35
3.	Rajasthan	8.90
4.	West U.P.	8.92
5.	Central U.P.	8.72
6.	East U.P.	8.42
7.	Madhya Pradesh	9.10
8.	South Gujarat	10.63
9.	Saurashtra	9.17
10.	South Maharashtra	11.33
11.	North Maharashtra	9.49
12.	Central Maharashtra	10.32
13.	North Bihar	8.82
14.	South Bihar	Factories did not work
15.	Assam	8.33
16.	Orissa	8.81
17.	West Bengal	6.04
18.	Nagaland	6.87
19.	Andhra Pradesh	9.54
20.	Karnataka	9.81
21.	Tamil Nadu	8.34
22.	Pondicherry	8.74
23.	Kerala	8.75
24.	Goa	10.05
All India		9.43

*[Translation]***Total Number of Freedom Fighters**

1627. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of freedom fighters in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh on the basis of available records, State-wise;

(b) the number of freedom fighters being given pensions and the number of freedom fighters being provided other facilities/assistance in place of pension alongwith the details of these facilities;

(c) the number of families not been provided these facilities so far and the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have contacted such families and have received any complaints about the negligence being shown by the concerned officers in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken against the erring officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No State-wise statistics are maintained about the total number of freedom fighters in the country who took part in the Freedom Struggle.

(b) A Statement showing the number of cases in which Samman Pension has been granted upto January 31, 1997 is at Statement-I. No separate statistics are maintained about the number of freedom fighters who are actually availing the benefits of Samman Pension and other facilities/assistance in place of pension. Details of various facilities that are provided by the Central Government to the freedom fighters' pension holders and to their eligible family members/dependents after their death are indicated in the list at Statement-II.

(c) There is no Scheme to identify the freedom fighters and their families who have not been provided the various facilities that have been extended to freedom fighters by the Central Govt.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Statement-I**

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Cases in which freedom fighters pension sanctioned upto 31-1-1997
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11116
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
3.	Assam	4345

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	24600
5.	Goa	911
6.	Gujarat	3575
7.	Haryana	1665
8.	Himachal Pradesh	594
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1783
10.	Karnataka	9986
11.	Kerala	2819
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3343
13.	Maharashtra	16513
14.	Manipur	62
15.	Meghalaya	86
16.	Mizoram	4
17.	Nagaland	3
18.	Orissa	4172
19.	Punjab	6891
20.	Rajasthan	791
21.	Sikkim	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	4074
23.	Tripura	886
24.	Uttar Pradesh	17932
25.	West Bengal	22400
26.	A&N Islands	2
27.	Chandigarh	89
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
29.	Daman & Diu	33
30.	Delhi	2032
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	INA	22079
33.	Pondicherry	313
Total		163099

**Statement-II**

*Details of facilities that are provided by the Central Government to the freedom fighters' pension holders and to their family members/dependents after their death*

(a) Facility of free railway passes (1st Class) for freedom fighters and to their widows/attendant, for life time.

(b) Free medical facilities in all Central Government hospitals and also in the hospitals run by the Public Sector Undertakings. C.G.H.S. facilities have also been extended to the freedom fighters and to their dependents.

(c) Facility of General Pool residential accommodation to freedom fighters of All India Standing for the purpose of medical treatment in Delhi if they do not own any house/flat in their names or in the name of any of their family members/dependents in Delhi/New Delhi. The spouse of the freedom fighter residing in the Government accommodation allotted to the freedom fighter shall be entitled to retain the accommodation even after the demise of the freedom fighter for the stipulated period of allotment.

(d) Accommodation in the Freedom Fighters Home set up at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi for such of the freedom fighters who have none to look after them.

(e) Facility of telephone connection, subject to feasibility, without installation charges and payment of only half of the rentals.

[English]

**Atrocities on SCs/STs**

1628. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :  
SHRI KISHAN LAL DILER :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) number of incident of atrocities committed on SCs and STs during April-December, 1996, State-wise;

(b) the number of lives lost, persons injured, women raped and houses burnt;

(c) the number of persons arrested and prosecuted on the charges of committing atrocities on SCs/STs during the said period; and

(d) the measures taken to stop the atrocities on SCs/STs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (b) Available information is given in Statements I and II enclosed.

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

(d) As 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes, including the crimes relating to atrocities on

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Central Govt., on its part, has been writing, from time to time, to the State Govts. to be extra vigilant in the matter of prevention of crimes against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and to effectively utilise the specific laws and legal provisions already in force to check crimes against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

**Statement-I**

*Incidents of Crimes Committed against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during April to December, 1996*

States	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	926	125
Arunachal Pradesh	0	5
Assam	0	0
Bihar	NA	NA
Goa	0	0
Gujarat	1339	291
Haryana	31	1
Himachal Pradesh	52	3
Jammu & Kashmir	4	5
Karnataka	692	108
Kerala	405	71
Madhya Pradesh	3062	1072
Maharashtra	969	229
Manipur	0	0
Meghalaya	NA	NA
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	0	0
Orissa	150	38
Punjab	5	0
Rajasthan	3811	846
Sikkim	9	25
Tamil Nadu	1127	79
Tripura	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	7419	250
West Bengal	0	0



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Union Territories</b>									
26. A&N Islands		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27. Chandigarh		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. D&N Haveli		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29. Daman & Diu		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
30. Delhi		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32. Pondicherry		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		366	2817	618	258	52	427	214	28

### Condition of Disabled Persons

1629. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Disabled a neglected lot in India" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated January 9, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto along with the steps taken to improve the condition of the disabled persons ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The news item mainly focused on the attempts of the "Disabled Peoples" International alongwith 108 NGOs to work out a disability index.

(c) No response has been formulated by the Government so far as the scientific basis of the methodology used in working out the disability index is not known in detail. The steps taken to improve the conditions of the disabled in India are given in the statement enclosed.

### Statement

Apart from bringing in a comprehensive piece of legislation, namely the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 which aims *inter alia* at equalisation of opportunities to the disabled and their integration in the mainstream, the Ministry of Welfare has been administering a number of schemes under which grant-in-aid is given to NGOs for undertaking activities for the welfare of the handicapped such as purchase and fitment of aids and appliances, establishment and development of special schools, vocational training, rehabilitation etc.

Four National Institutes catering to different types of disability and two apex level institutes have been running courses so that trained manpower becomes available for the benefit of the disabled. These institutes have also been providing other services for the disabled. The Rehabilitation Council of India, a statutory body has been set up for standardisation of training material, courses and professionals in the field of disability.

The Act of 1995 provides for at least 3% reservation for specified categories of disabled persons in identified jobs under the Government. Employment opportunities for the disabled are also being promoted through provision of vending stalls, kiosks and shops by some State Govts/UT Adms., preference in allotment of Public Telephone Booths and in distribution of petrol pumps, kerosene depots etc. 47 Special Employment Exchanges and 41 Special Cells in the normal employment exchanges have set up by State Govts to help in placement of the disabled persons. 80% of the expenditure on setting up special employment exchanges and 100% of expenditure on special cells is borne by the Central Government.

A National handicapped Finance & Development Corporation has been incorporated recently to provide loans on easy terms to the handicapped persons to set up self-employment ventures.

### Hague Convention on Child Adoption

1630. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :  
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hague Convention on the Child adopts 1993 was ratified by India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the rules for adopting a child in India are different from that of foreigners;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to bring in a uniform adoption Act;

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be brought; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Various clauses of the final Act of Hague Convention held at Hague on 10-29th May, 1993 are being examined in this Ministry in consultation with other concerned Departments, before a final decision is taken on the Act.

(c) and (d) At present in India children can be taken in adoption under two different Acts. Hindus, whether residing in India or abroad, can adopt a child under the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (HAMA), 1956 whereas persons belonging to other religions such as Christian, Muslims, Parsees, Jews etc., whether Indian citizens or foreign citizens, can take a child under guardianship under Guardian and Wards Act, 1890.

However, in the case of Inter-country adoption of orphaned and destitute children, Ministry of Welfare, Government of India has issued Revised Guidelines dated the 29th May, 1995 laying down the procedures and guidelines to be followed for such adoptions.

The reason for a different set of rules for inter-country adoption as prescribed in the Revised Guidelines is that it provides a number of safeguards and procedures which have to be followed by all concerned agencies which include the State Government, Placement Agencies, foreign agencies, foreign adoptive parents, Ministry of Welfare, (CARA) etc. in order to protect the interests of the children who are sent abroad for adoption purposes.

(e) and (f) No Sir.

(g) The Adoption of Children Bill to provide for a Uniform Law on Adoption applicable to all communities was introduced in Parliament in the year 1972 and also in the year 1980 but in view of vehement opposition from the Muslim and Parsi communities respectively the proposals were dropped. At present there is no proposal to make a Uniform Law on Adoption under consideration of the Government of India.

#### **Reimbursement of Transport Cost on Sugar**

1631. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the matter of distribution of levy sugar only railway-freight from the nearest railway station to the place of business of sugar nominee is allowed to be reimbursed;

(b) if so, whether representations have been received from the sugar nominee associations and from the Government of Gujarat to allow reimbursement of the actual minimum cost of transport especially in respect of outlets of the far away and unconnected places with the Railway;

(c) whether similar representations have been received from the other States as well; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Till 1.4.1996 the transportation charges were reimburseable either on the basis of (a) actual railway freight or (b) actual transportation charges by road at the rate approved by the State Govt. limited to the rate of transportation charges approved by the FCI for transporting foodgrains in that State. Where the FCI's rates are not available, the State Govts. rates be allowed limited to the actual railway freight. Where FCI's rates and rail head is not there, State Govt. rates may be allowed.

Government received a series of representations from different State Govts. including from Govt. of Gujarat to allow reimbursement of the actual minimum cost of transport. Considering their problems, it was decided to revise the guidelines for transportation charges w.e.f. 1.4.1996.

Now the transportation charges are payable on a flat rate for each State to be fixed on the basis of audited figures of expenditure incurred for previous years duly approved by the State Government concerned.

#### **Industrialisation Activities in Thane**

1632. SHRI RAM NAIK :  
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the bandh of industries, commercial establishments and public transport on January, 25th in the six talukas of Thane district in Maharashtra to protest against the Centre's notification of 1991 which banned all industrialisation activities in the 25 kms. periphery zone of Dahanu Taluka in Thane district;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the various public places to revoke the ban;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to reconsider the protested notification;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether peripheral area of 25 kms. around Dahanu Tehsil also covers adjoining State of Gujarat and Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli; and

(f) if so, their reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (f) The matter related to the Dahanu Notification of June, 1991 issued under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is presently under consideration of the Ministry in consultation with Maharashtra State Government.

**Economic Package for North Eastern States**

1633. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his visit to North Eastern States had promised an action plan for the development of these States;

(b) whether the same has been implemented;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the action plan is likely to be fully implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The Prime Minister at the end of his visit to the North Eastern States had made a Statement on 27.10.96 at Guwahati regarding New Initiatives for the North Eastern Region.

The implementaton of this has commenced and is expected to be implemented by the end of the 9th Five Year Plan.

**Group Insurance Scheme for Fishermen**

1634. SHRI B.K. GADHVI :  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Group Insurance Scheme has been introduced for the fishermen living in coastal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether about 40,000 Fishermen in coastal areas of Gujarat are entitled to be enrolled as members under the Scheme;

(d) if so, whether about 10,000 fishermen have not been enrolled by the authorities and the Government of Gujarat had taken up this issue with the Union Government;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which all the eligible fishermen are likely to be covered under the scheme; and

(f) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to cover the remaining fishermen under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A centrally sponsored scheme for providing insurance cover to fishermen has been in operation since 1982-83. The scheme is, at present, applicable both to marine & inland fishermen who are licensed or registered as active fishermen with the State/UT Government. From March, 97 the insurance cover under the scheme will be enhanced from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 35,000/- against death or permanent disability and from Rs. 12,500/- to Rs. 17,500/- against partial disability.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) During 1995-96, the insurance coverage was extended to 37,838 eligible fishermen belonging to the State of Gujarat. During 1996-97, however, Central assistance to provide insurance cover to all the 40,000 eligible fishermen has already been released.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Production of Fertilizers in Bihar**

1635. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fertilizer production units in Bihar, the total production and demand of the fertilizers in the State for the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up any fertilizer production unit in the south of Bihar;

(c) if so, the time by which it would be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) Information regarding the production of major fertilizer units in Bihar and demand/consumption of fertilizers in the State is given below :

('000 MT)

Name of the Company/ Plant	Product	Production		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
HFC—Barauni	Urea	22.0	67.0	56.1
FCL—Sindri	Urea	243.9	298.4	224.7
PPCL—Amjnore	SSP	128.6	171.2	181.2
SAIL—Bokaro	Ammonium Sulphate	23.6	22.7	22.7

*Demand/Consumption in Bihar*

Product	('000 MT)		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Urea	911.56	1015.81	1097.15
2. Amm. Sulphate	16.33	24.95	21.64
3. Calcium Amm. Nitrate	58.39	48.69	35.80
4. DAP	163.73	153.31	197.37
5. SSP	101.84	143.64	122.36
6. Rock Phosphate	—	0.08	—
7. Complexes	29.34	26.17	30.43
8. MOP	19.50	56.00	67.62

(b) to (d) Government does not propose to set up fertilizer plants in South Bihar or anywhere else. Investment in the fertilizer sector is open to entrepreneurs of all the sectors.

**Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

1636. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have submitted proposals to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the districts of their respective States;

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

(c) the dates from which these proposals are pending for approval;

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(e) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras likely to be set up in each State during 1997-98, location-wise; and

(f) the names of places where Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened up during 1996-97 till date ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. However, some letters of request have been received without detailed proposals.

(b) and (c) Information is given in Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) The clearance of these requests and the number of KVKs likely to be set up in each state will depend upon the availability of additional financial resources. For this purpose a comprehensive proposal has been submitted to the Planning Commission for seeking additional financial resources.

(f) During 1996-97, following KVKs were approved :

1. Minicoy Island (Lakshadweep Island)
2. Barabanki (U.P.)
3. Darbhanga (Bihar)
4. Shekhpura (Bihar)

**Statement***Letters of Request Received from State Government*

S.No.	Proposal received from	Name of the district	Date of Receipt
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri J.H. Patel, Dy. Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka	Chitradurga (Karnataka)	18.04.95
2.	Shri Janki Balabh Patnayak, Chief Minister, Govt. of Orissa, Orissa	Bolangir (Orissa)	03.01.94
3.	Shri Digvijay Singh, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh Government	Bhind (MP) Shajapur(MP) Rajnandgaon (MP) Rewa (MP)	17.03.94 06.03.95 10.05.95 16.10.95
4.	Shri Subhash Yadav, Dy. Chief Minister, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	Morena (MP) Dhar(MP)	08.02.95 29.09.95
5.	Shri Beant Singh, Ex-Chief Minister of Punjab	Amritsar and Ludhiana (Punjab)	19.10.92

1	2	3	4
6.	Chief Minister, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit (Arunachal Pradesh)	02.08.94
7.	Shri Virbhadra Singh, Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh	Lahaul Spiti and Solan (Himachal Pradesh)	02.04.96
8.	Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, Governor, J & K	Udhampur, Kargil, Kupwara, Badgam, Doda and Rajouri (J & K)	04.11.93
9.	Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister, West Bengal	Dinajpur (West Bengal)	09.12.93
10.	Shri Zachilhu, Minister, Agril. & Wasteland Development, Govt. of Nagaland	Tizitin Mon (Nagaland)	03.12.96

[English]

#### **Bodo Militancy**

1637. SHRI CHITTA BASU :  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the growing Bodo Militancy;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the situation;

(c) the assessment of the Government and the prospects of the Bodo Accord;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to salvage the accord;

(e) whether the Government are aware of the opposition from a section of people to the 'unified command' as introduced recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Army and Central Para Military forces have been deployed on the request of the State Government to keep the situation under control. The State Government have been asked to take special measures for protecting Railway property, Railway Stations etc.

(c) and (d) The Government has been making all possible efforts towards the implementation of Bodo Accord. BAC Act, 1993 has been enacted by the State Legislature

towards implementation of the Accord. This Act covers most of the points listed in the Accord.

The State Government is holding discussions with various Bodo Groups for resolving the outstanding issues.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Unified Headquarters has been formed to synergise and coordinate the counter insurgency operations conducted by Army, CPOs and State Armed Police in the State. The opposition is therefore, unjustified.

#### **Displaying of Photographs/Portraits of Leaders**

1638. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :  
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "HC circular on portraits sparks row" appearing in the 'Times of India', dated January 10, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have issued any guidelines on the displaying of portraits/photographs of the leaders;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to do the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

[Translation]

#### Ambedkar Villages

1639. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages selected as Ambedkar Villages in Sambhal area of Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the condition of drinking water and roads in the aforesaid villages;

(c) whether Government have not allocated sufficient amount for the development and welfare of these Ambedkar villages; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) Information is being obtained and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Krishi Vigyan Kendras

1640. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts still without any Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the measures being taken by the Government to establish the Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the remaining districts of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The names of 35 districts without Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) out of total 65 rural districts are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) For establishment of new KVKs in the remaining rural districts during the 9th Five Year Plan, the matter has been taken up with the Planning Commission. Proposal covers upgradation of some existing Farmers Training Centres and Zonal Research Centres to take up the functions of KVKs, besides establishment of new KVKs in the remaining districts.

#### Statement

List showing the Names of the Districts without Krishi Vigyan Kendra

1. Etawah
2. Agra
3. Hardoi

4. Faizabad
5. Azamgarh
6. Nainital
7. Pratapgarh
8. Pauri Garhwal
9. Almora
10. Gorakhpur
11. Mainpuri
12. Kanpur (Dehat)
13. Farukhabad
14. Bullandshahar
15. Sitapur
16. Lakhimpur (Kheri)
17. Unnao
18. Muradabad
19. Pilibhit
20. Hamirpur
21. Jalaun
22. Lalitpur
23. Jaunpur
24. Deoria
25. Ghazipur
26. Uttar Kashi
27. Muboba
28. Chamoli
29. Dehradun
30. Ferozabad
31. Haridwar
32. Maharajganj
33. Sonbhadra
34. Bhadoi
35. Padrauna

[Translation]

**Sugar Mills**

1641. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
 SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :  
 SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
 CHIKHALIA :  
 DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :  
 SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :  
 SHRI K. PRADHANI :  
 SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR :  
 SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of licences issued to set up sugar mills till date and the locations thereof, State-wise;

(b) the number of mills that actually started commercial production;

(c) the monitoring arrangements made for ensuring timely constructions of remaining mills for which assistance has been provided by the Government;

(d) whether the Government also have any proposals under consideration to set up new sugar mills and expand the existing ones;

(e) if so, the number and location of mills proposed to be set up, State-wise; and

(f) the implication of the decision on the other crops and the total food production ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Statement showing State-wise number of letters of intent/industrial licences issued by the Ministry of Industry for setting up of new sugar factories after December, 1995 (upto 15.2.1997) is enclosed.

It generally takes about 3 years to set up a new sugar factory.

(c) The implementation of letter of intent/industrial licence is the responsibility of entrepreneur. However, the Ministry of Food (Directorate of Sugar) is monitoring the implementation of the pending letters of intent. The Central Government does not provide any loan for setting up of new sugar factory in the country.

(d) and (e) Central Government does not set up sugar mills or undertakes expansion in the existing sugar mills. It, however, grants letters of intent/industrial licenses for setting up of new sugar mills & expansion of the existing sugar mills.

(f) The decision to grant letters of intent for setting up of new sugar factories and expansion of existing sugar factories has been taken keeping in view the increased requirement of sugar in future in the country both for domestic consumption and for export.

**Statement**

*State-wise Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences Issued for Establishment of New Sugar Factories by the Ministry of Industry, After December, 1995 (As on 15.02.1997)*

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Location
1	2	3
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>		
1.	M/s. Bahadradad Sugar Mills Ltd.	Bahadradad, Distt. Haridwar.
2.	M/s. Bamawa Sugar Mills Ltd.	Muzaffarpur, Kambla, Teh. Sardhana, Distt. Meerut.
3.	M/s. Magna Agro Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Kamlapur, Teh. Sidholi, Distt. Sitapur.
4.	M/s. M.A. Majeed & Brothers	Kadradad, Teh. Atzalgarh, Distt. Bijnor.
5.	Shri G.P. Goenka	Lakhnauti, Teh. Nakur, Distt. Saharanpur.
6.	Shri Deepak Parti	At & Teh. Gunnaur, Distt. Badaun.
7.	M/s. Rossell Industries Ltd.	Gangapur-Poorvi, Teh. Rajepur Block, Distt. Farrukhabad.
8.	M/s. Venus Sugars Ltd.	Hussainpur, Teh. Bisauli, Distt. Badaun.
9.	Shri Kunj Bihari Lal Paliwal	Hatampura, Teh. Hata, Distt. Padrauna.
10.	M/s. Ganges Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Manauna, Distt. Bareilly.
11.	M/s. Yamuna Valley Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Pahasu, Distt. Bulandshahr.
12.	M/s. The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd.	Piparia, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri.
13.	M/s. Shriram Industrial Enterprises Ltd.	Maukhas, Distt. Meerut.
14.	Vipin Goel	Atrauli, Distt. Aligarh.
15.	Purkazi Sugar Mills Ltd.	Khaikhera, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.

1	2	3	1	2	3
16.	Hindon Sugar Mills Ltd.	Bhairsani, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.	15.	M/s. Shiv Shakti Sugars Ltd.	Savadatti Tal. Raibag, Distt. Belgaum.
KARNATAKA			16.	M/s. Indian Cane Power Ltd.	Kolhar, Tal. Basavan Bagewadi, Distt. Bijapur.
1.	M/s. Shri Someshwar SSK Niyamit	Tal. Bailahongal, Distt. Belgaum.	17.	M/s. Vishwanath Sugars Ltd.	Belladabagewadi Teh. Hukeri, Distt. Belgaum.
2.	Shri Shashi Kant Sidnal	Manoli, Tal. Saundhathi, Distt. Belgaum.	18.	M/s. Chamundeshwari Sugars Ltd.	Gangur Doddabyagathawalli, Tal. Holenarasipura, Distt. Hassan.
3.	M/s. India Cement Ltd.	Mallanahalli, Tal. Krishnarajpet Distt. Mandya.	19.	M/s. Nargund SSK Niyamit	Konnur, Tal. Nargund, Distt. Dharwad.
4.	M/s. Prem Sugars & Chemicals Corpn. Ltd.	Thimmalapura, Village, Tal. Nagamangla, Distt. Mandya.	20.	M/s. Malnad Sugar Co. Ltd.	Arasanaghatta, Tal. Bhadravati, Distt. Shimoga.
5.	M/s. Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.	Belaguda, Tal. Srirangapatna, Distt. Mandya.	21.	M/s. SPR Sugars (P) Ltd.	Kanchugeranahalli, Bidali Hubli, Tal. Ramanagar, Distt. Bangalore.
6.	M/s. Chincholi Sugar Mills Ltd.	Chincholi, Tal. Chincholi, Distt. Gulberga.	22.	M/s. Dhanalaxmi SSK Niyamit	Khanapet, Tal. Ramdurg, Distt. Belgaum.
7.	The West Coast Paper Mills Ltd.	Dandeli, Tal. Haliyal, Distt. Uttar Kannada.	23.	M/s. Mrudagiri SSK Ltd.	Gangapur, Tal. Mundargi, Distt. Dharwad.
8.	M/s. Gem Sugars Ltd.	Kundergi, Distt. Bijapur.	24.	M/s. Shri Basaveshwara SSK Niyamit	Kirigeri, (Bairampad) Tal. Hirekerur, Distt. Dharwad.
9.	M/s. Prabhulingeshwar Sugar Works Ltd.	Siddapur, Teh. Jamkhandi, Distt. Bijapur.	25.	M/s. Bhagyashri Lagmavva Sugars Ltd.	Alagawadi, Tal. Raibag, Distt. Belgaum.
10.	Shri K. Chandra Prakash	Harur, Tal. Gubbi, Distt. Tumkur.	TAMIL NADU		
11.	M/s. Shamnur Sugars Ltd.	Duggavathi, Tal. Harapanahalli, Distt. Bellary.	1.	M/s. Thiru Arooran Sugars Ltd.	Aduthurai Firka, Tal. Tiruvidaimardur, Distt. Thanjavur.
12.	M/s. Siraguppi Sugar Works Ltd.	Aigali, Tal. Athani, Distt. Belgaum	2.	M/s. GEA Energy Syhstem (India) Ltd.	Attur, Distt. Salem.
13.	M/s. Manali Sugars Ltd.	Yalgur, Tal. Muddebihal, Distt. Bijapur.	3.	M/s. South India Sugars Ltd.	Kuladeepamangaiam, Tirukkivilur, Distt. Villupuram, R. Padayachiar.
14.	M/s. Athani Farmers Sugar Factory Ltd.	Jambgi, Tal. Athani Distt. Belgaum.			

1	2	3
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>		
1.	M/s. M.P. State Agro Industries Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	Narainpur, Teh. Raghogarh, Distt. Guna.
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>		
1.	M/s. Rayat SSK Maryadit	Shewalewadi, Tal. Karad, Distt. Satara.
2.	M/s. Sharad SSK Ltd.	Narande, Tal. Hatkanangale, Distt. Kolhapur.
3.	M/s. Pratappgad SSK Ltd.	Kalghar, Tal. Jawali, Distt. Satara.
4.	M/s. Barashiv Hanuman SSK Ltd.	Jawalabazar, Tal. Basmathnagar, Distt. Parbhani.
5.	M/s. Kagal Taluka SSK Ltd.	Kagal (Arjuni) Tal. Kagal, Distt. Kolhapur.
6.	M/s. Vaidyanath SSK Ltd.	Pangari, Tal. Ambajogai, Distt. Beed.
7.	M/s. Ahilyadevi Mahila SSK Ltd.	Halgaon, Tal. Jamkhed, Distt. Ahmednagar.
8.	M/s. Tokai SSK Ltd.	Kurunda, Tal. Basmat Nagar, Distt. Parbhani.
9.	M/s. Daund SSK Ltd.	Khadki, Tal. Daund, Distt. Pune.
10.	M/s. Sarvodaya SSK Ltd.	Karandwadi Tal. Walwa Distt. Sangli.
11.	M/s. Nagar Taluka SSK Ltd.	Walki, Distt. Ahmednagar.
12.	M/s. Adivasi SSK Ltd.	Gangapur, Tal. Navapura, Distt. Dhule.
13.	M/s. Kukadi SSK Ltd.	Pimpalgaon—Pisa, Tal. Shrigonda, Distt. Ahmednagar.
14.	M/s. Late Babasaheb Ambedkar SSK Ltd.	Kehegaon, Distt. Osmanabad.

1	2	3
15.	Mahatma Jyotiba Phule SSK Ltd.	Mahasanghvi, Tal. Patoda, Distt. Beed.
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>		
1.	M/s. Prudential Mauli Sugars Ltd.	Garepalli, Sultanabad Mandal, Distt. Karim Nagar.
2.	M/s. Empee Sugars and Chemicals Ltd.	Sivaramapuram, Tallur Mandal, Distt. Prakasam.
3.	M/s. D. Singaraiah	Podali, Podali Mandal, Distt. Prakasam.
4.	M/s. Circar Paper Mills Ltd.	Gundlapadu, Gudluru Mandal, Distt. Prakasam.
<b>BIHAR</b>		
1.	Bihar Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd.	At & Distt. Supaul,
2.	-do-	Shitalpur, Distt. Saran.
3.	Amarpur Kissan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd.	Amarpur Distt.
4.	Shri Girdhar Kumar Saraf	Khautauna, Distt. Madhubani.
5.	M/s. Kalyani Wood Products Ltd.	Sahadai Bujurg, Distt. Vaishali.
6.	Sahara India Savings & Investment Corporation Ltd.	At & Distt. Jamui.
<b>ORISSA</b>		
1.	M/s. Uniworth Agro Ltd.	Rangalbeda, Distt. Deogarh.
2.	M/s. Money Craft Sugars and Chemicals Ltd.	Podbahal, Distt. Sundergarh.
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>		
1.	Sh. Pawan Kumar Todi	Rani Nagar, Tal. Chakdah, Distt. Nadia.

*[English]***Subsidy on Fertilizers**

1642. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :  
SHRI S.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government give subsidy to the fertilizer manufacturers;

(b) if so, the percentage of the subsidy;

(c) whether the Ministry have examined the proposal to simplify the mechanism for paying the subsidy on fertilizers as well as fixing the selling price of some of the nutrients; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is giving subsidy on Fertilizers under Statutory Price Control. The difference between the retention Price and the notified sale price minus the distribution margin paid as subsidy to individual manufacturing units. In addition Government of India is also giving concession on sale of decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic Fertilizers to the farmers.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A high powered fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee has been constituted on 28.1.97 to review the existing system of subsidisation of urea and suggest a rational, Broad based, Scientific and transparent Methodology. The Committee is required to submit its report within six months.

*[Translation]***Suicides Death Cases of Women**

1643. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of suicides committed by women and deaths due to burning them increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the said period, year-wise;

(c) the number of persons against whom cases for instigating the women to commit suicides and burning them have been registered during this period; and

(d) the action taken against the guilty persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Available information is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime, including the crime against women, is

primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has, from time to time, been writing to the State Governments regarding the preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures that need to be taken in connection with atrocities on women.

**Statement**

Information about the incidence of suicide by women in the country during the years 1993 and 1994 is given below:

Year	Number of cases
1993	34393
1994	36443

However, as the thrust of the question appears to relate to dowry deaths, relevant information in this connection is furnished below :

Year	Incidence of cases under Dowry Prohibition Act	Incidence of Dowry deaths	Number of suicide deaths due to dowry dispute	Number of persons arrested in Dowry Prohibition Act
1993	2679	5817	1486	6107
1994	2435	4935	1613	6611
1995	3172	5035	Not available	Not available

**Subsidy on Foodgrains**

1644. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether subsidy given by the Government for foodgrains is increasing regularly for the last few years;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given on foodgrains during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively and its estimated amount for 1996-97; and

(c) the extent to which the benefit of subsidy has been reaching to the common consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Subsidy given on foodgrains to FCI during these years is as follows :

Year	(Rs./crores)
1993-94	5537
1994-95	4509
1995-96	4960
1996-97 (RE)	5166

(c) Difference between Economic Cost and the Central Issue Price is paid to the FCI as consumer subsidy. Therefore the consumers are benefited to the extent to which they draw/get these foodgrains through P.D.S./R.P.D.S. as such supplies are made at Central Issue Price which is lower than the Economic Cost.

[English]

#### Shifting of Polluting Industrial Units

1645. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of industrial units in major cities have been issued notices for shifting locations by the respective State Pollution Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the details of such units shifted during the last three years; and

(d) the time bound action plan formulated for shifting of the polluting industrial units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Afforestation

1646. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any directives to the State Governments to check cutting of the trees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also reviewed the afforestation programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Union Government has directed to States and Union Territories, where forest cover has declined, to make an indepth analysis of factors contributing to depletion of forest cover and make all out efforts to step up afforestation programmes.

(c) and (d) National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB) within the Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal agency to allocate annual targets for afforestation and tree planting activities under the 20-Point Programme to each State and Union Territory on the basis of funds available. The annual achievements are monitored and reviewed by the NAEB as under:

(i) The annual afforestation data provided by the States/UTs are kept in the library of the Parliament and the Ministry of Environment and Forests to enable elected representatives to have a ready access to the data.

(ii) Every year 10% of the districts in the Country are selected, with appropriate regional distribution, for evaluation of the afforestation activities by autonomous institutions/NGOs/voluntary agencies/ regional centres of NAEB/retired forest officials.

#### Smuggling of Explosive Material

1647 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the explosive material was smuggled into the country from the ports and airports;

(b) if not, the ways and means of its entry into the country; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to prevent the smuggling of the explosive material into the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Recently there have been instances wherein arms, ammunition, explosives etc., were smuggled into the country mainly through international borders. Government is alive to the situation created by antinational elements and is taking all necessary steps to thwart the evil designs of such forces, which includes gearing up of intelligence machinery, stricter enforcement of existing regulations and close coordination between the concerned Central and State agencies.

#### Cutting of Trees in Madhya Pradesh

1648. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :  
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

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

(a) Whether the Government are aware that trees worth lakhs of rupees have been cut down in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh in connivance with the Government officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated value of the trees cut down;

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

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken against the guilty persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected from the State Government.

(c) and (d) The enquiry committee has been constituted by the State Government. The Committee is yet to give its findings.

[English]

**Task Force for Redressal of Public Grievances**

1649. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Ministries and Departments of the Union Government have been directed to constitute a task force comprising of officials and representatives from the consumer groups to evolve a comprehensive charter for the redressal of public grievances and improved public satisfaction;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) the present position in regard to the constitution of the task force; and

(d) the time by which the task force is likely to start functioning ?

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

(b) to (d) As part of the Government's pursuit of Effective and Responsive Administration at all levels, various Ministries/Departments have been asked to set up Task Forces for introduction, in a phased manner, of the concept of Citizens' Charter. The Charter incorporates essentially citizens' entitlement to public services, wide publicity of standards of performance, quality of services, access to information, simplified procedures of complaints, time-bound redressal of grievances and provision for independent scrutiny of performance. A number of Ministries/Departments have constituted Task Forces for evolving their respective Charters since January, 1997. Initially, Ministries/Departments with a large public interface have been identified for introducing the concept. The Task Forces are functioning in many of these Ministries and some of them have completed the task of preparing a Draft Charter. The Charters also incorporate a visible machinery for public grievance redressal and information to the public.

**Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

1650. DR. ASIM BALA :  
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :  
SHRI N.J. RATHWA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed by the Government for opening of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country;

(b) the plan chalked out by the Government to open Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district of the country; and

(c) the expected time limit fixed to achieve the goal ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The norms fixed by the Govt. includes availability of 50 acres of representatives cultivable land in one stretch located as far as possible in central part of the districts, some civic facilities, adequate technical backstopping from the host institution and acceptance of funding pattern.

(b) and (c) A comprehensive plan has been chalked out and taken up with the Planning Commission which covers upgradation of existing Farmers Training Centres and Zonal Research Stations to take up the functions of KVKs, besides establishment of new KVKs in the remaining districts in phases during 9th Five Year Plan.

**Forest Protection Force**

1651. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the states facilitated by the Central Government to raise Forest Protection Force;

(b) whether the smugglers are destroying the forests of the North Eastern Regions immensely;

(c) if so, whether the Government of Tripura has submitted a proposal to raise a battalion of the Forest Protection Force; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to accord sanction to the proposal and to protect the forests of the North-Eastern regions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) A centrally sponsored scheme "Development of Infrastructure for Protection of Forest against Biotic Interference" under Seventh Five Year Plan, had been transferred to state sector, as per decision taken by the National Development Council. At present, no assistance is provided to States by the Central Government to raise forest protection forces.

(b) The Central Government are aware of the decrease in forest cover in north-eastern region of the Country. As per the State of Forest Report 1995, prepared by the Forest Survey of India, forest cover in north-eastern region decreased by 783 sq. km. as compared with that in 1993. The Union Government has directed to States and Union Territories to make an indepth analysis of factors contributing to depletion of forest cover and make all out efforts to step up afforestation programmes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal of Government of Tripura could not be accorded sanction for want of any suitable scheme under the Ministry. However, a new scheme "Integrated Protection of Forests" which *inter-alia* would provide for the creation of infrastructure for the protection of forests has been proposed in Ninth Five Year Plan, to the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

#### **Welfare of Handicapped Persons**

1652. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the orders issued by the Government during the period of one year regarding plans for the welfare of the handicapped persons in Uttar Pradesh State;

(b) the assistance sought from the Central Government for these plans; and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government for providing the same ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The required information has been called for from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

#### **Development of Vananchal**

1653. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Centrally sponsored projects being implemented in Bihar to convert the plateau of Vananchal into a cultivable land;

(b) the details of the projects launched by the Government during the Eighth Five Year Plan for the development of Chhota Nagpur Santhal Pargana Plateau and its present position;

(c) whether the Government propose to take up a Central project for the plantation of fructiferous trees in this plateau;

(d) whether the Government have conducted a survey for developing forests, horticulture and cultivation of vegetables in this area and propose to launch a special scheme in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The world Bank Aided "Bihar Plateau Development Project" is being

implemented in ten Districts of the Plateau region of Bihar from 16th March, 1993. The project has a span of five years and aims at creation of basic infrastructure for development of agriculture, drinking water, minor irrigation, rural roads etc. The revised cost of the project is Rs. 444 crores.

Besides a number of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been taken up by the Government of India to assist the State Government in the development of agriculture. This include the schemes for National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas, Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers, Reclamation of Alkali lands with EEC assistance, which aim at improvement of land capability.

(c) Agro-climatic conditions in Vananchal are not suitable for cashew production. Regarding cultivation of juicy fruits, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of fruits is being implemented in all States including Bihar. Under the scheme assistance is provided for area expansion, improving productivity, establishment of nurseries and Tissue Culture Units, training of farmers and demonstration etc. Further distribution of this assistance for different regions of the State is decided by the State Authorities.

(d) and (e) A techno-economic feasibility report on Integrated Horticulture Development Programme in Bihar was prepared by M/s Agro-Horticulture Services, New Delhi in 1994. The report was sponsored by the National Horticulture Board. The report suggested the potential and programmes for horticulture crops in all regions of Bihar including Chhotanagpur area. Assistance is provided to the Government of Bihar through various schemes in horticulture for planting materials, area expansion, transfer of technology, increasing production and productivity and post harvest management infrastructure.

The Government of India is also contemplating to start cultivation of Soyabean crop in the Chhotanagpur area of Bihar.

#### **Agricultural Projects**

1654. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has recently submitted any proposal for the central assistance for various Agricultural Projects in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Government of Kerala has submitted a number of agricultural projects

viz. Establishment of Cashew Board, Development of Commercial Floriculture, Mushrooms Cultivation, Vegetable Cultivation, Technology Mission on Black Pepper, Processing of Coconut, Scheme for Checking the Root-wilt Disease of Coconut, Relief Assistance for Crop-loss and Natural Calamity, Development of Infrastructural Facilities, etc. The various proposals submitted for Central assistance have been discussed with the State Government who have been advised to take up projects as part of the on going Centrally Sponsored Schemes wherever feasible or in the State Plan.

#### **Traffic Problem During VIP Movement**

1655. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the VIP movements in Delhi cause a traffic congestion;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to avoid congestion of traffic in Delhi;

(c) whether any committee to check the traffic problem in Delhi is likely to be set up; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The prevailing security environ makes it imperative to regulate traffic during VVIP movements which at times lead to temporary congestion. However, in order to facilitate smooth flow of traffic on such occasions, the stoppage time is reduced to the barest minimum and efforts are also made to provide alternate routes and diversions.

(c) and (d) The Lt. Governor of Delhi recently constituted a Committee on Traffic Management Task Force (TMTF) under his chairmanship to evolve solutions for bringing about improvement in traffic management.

[*Translation*]

#### **Poultry Complex**

1656. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 89 on July 10, 1996 and state :

(a) the date on which the proposal to set up poultry complex at Gram Sabha Jamuvava, district Ajamgarh in Uttar Pradesh was received;

(b) the present position of the said proposal;

(c) the reasons for not giving sanction for setting up the poultry complex till now; and

(d) the time by which the poultry complex is likely to be sanctioned at Gram Sabha, Jamuvava ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The proposal was received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh during October, 1995 suggesting the name of 10 Districts including Ajamgarh.

(b) and (c) The whole issue of Establishment of Poultry Complexes including in the State of Uttar Pradesh is still under the consideration of Government.

(d) After the approval.

[*English*]

#### **Cases of Theft/Pilferage/Fire in Food Corporation of India**

1657. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of theft/pilferage/fire which took place in Food Corporation of India and the quantity of material/foodgrains involved in these during 1995-96 and 1996-97 till date, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of stolen/pilfered material or foodgrains recovered, State-wise;

(c) the action taken to strengthen the Watch & Ward Wing of FCI during this period; and

(d) the quantity of foodgrains lost in transit or pilfered during movement of foodgrains during the said period, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Statements I and II containing the details of the cases of theft/misappropriation/fire during 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto 31.12.96) are attached.

(b) Statements III and IV containing the details of the quantity recovered during the period 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto 31.12.96) are attached.

(c) Keeping in view the storage capacity and prevailing local conditions, Watch & Ward of FCI, State Armed Police and Central Industrial Security Force personnel have been deployed to guard godowns at sensitive centres/food supply depots. A regular check of out-going and in-coming vehicles is done to tally the stocks with gate passes. Services of local law enforcing agencies are also utilised as and when required. Police petrolling is arranged for vulnerable depots. Surprise inspections and physical verifications of stocks are done on regular basis.

(d) A Statement V containing the details of foodgrains lost in transit is enclosed.

**Statement-I***The position of Theft/Pilferage/Misappropriation and Fire cases Occurred during the Period 1.4.95 to 31.3.1996*

Sl. No.	Name of the Zone/ State	Nature of loss Theft/Pilferage/Misappropriation and Fire	Amount involved
1	2	3	4
<b>NORTH ZONE</b>			
1.	Punjab	(i) Theft of 265 bags rice (raw) fine. Fire at dead stock articles.	250000.00 29443.00
2.	Uttar Pradesh	(i) Theft of 123 bags rice boiled. (ii) Theft of 157 bags wheat (107 + 50) (iii) Theft of new polythene covers (iv) Theft of copper wire from Elec. pole. (v) Fire at BT 35 gunny bags.	66480.00 45000.00 3500.00 — 600.00
3.	Rajasthan	(i) Theft of 6 bags wheat. (ii) Fire (Rice, polythene covers and gunnies). (iii) Fire at rice bags. (iv) Fire incident.	2412.00 218310.00 2668.20 55843.90
4.	Haryana	-Nil- (i) Fire incident which resulted in burning of record and property.	—
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	-Nil-	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-Nil-	
7.	Delhi	-Nil-	
<b>WEST ZONE</b>			
8.	Maharashtra	(i) Theft of 9 bags of SF rice. (ii) Theft of S.F. rice. (iii) Theft of 6 bags Ind. wheat. (iv) Theft of 72 bags SF rice and 5 bags Ind. Wheat. (v) Theft of 2 bags SF rice. (vi) Theft of one bag Ind. wheat and one bag SF rice. (vii) Theft 12 number of fire fighting stir-up pumps. (viii) Fire wooden rafters (ix) Fire at 147 gunnies and 4 polythene covers (x) Fire at BT serviceable gunnies.	5400.00 1953.00 — 47200.00 600.00 500.00 700.00 2400.00 400.00 17000.00 2730.00
	Madhya Pradesh	(i) Theft of window glass 75 number. (ii) Cash found short from cash box.	2250.00 2505.00

1	2	3	4
	Gujarat	(i) Theft of 112.5 kgs. copper wire.	14663.00
		(ii) Theft of unserviceable/BST gunnies and covers.	20425.00
		(iii) Robbery of cash.	232527.70
	JM(PO) Kandla	-Nil-	
	SOUTH ZONE		
9.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Theft of welding machine, copper plates wire and Iron scraper.	8750.00
		(ii) Suspected theft of 18 bags rice.	11523.70
		(iii) Theft of 3 BP covers.	10686.00
		(iv) Fire incident affected.	832.00
10.	Karnataka	-Nil-	
11.	Kerala	-Nil-	
		(i) Fire incident.	8000.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	(i) Theft of new typewriter from office premises.	8000.00
		(ii) Theft of main distribution control valves with GI pipes.	10000.00
		(iii) Fire accident affected 2 BP cover, 14 rice bags on two top layer of stack.	8020.00
		(iv) Fire of-U/S wooden crates.	500.00
13.	JM(PO) Madras	-Nil-	
14.	JM(PO) Vizag	-Nil-	
	NEF ZONE		
15.	Guwahati	-Nil-	
16.	Shillong	-Nil-	
	EAST ZONE		
17.	Bihar	(i) Theft of Imp. Sugar 2 qtl.	1810.00
		(ii) Theft of new Bt gunny 6496 pcs.	97440.00
18.	Orissa	(i) Theft of 4 bags sugar	3620.00
		(ii) Theft of 10 bags sugar	9050.00
19.	JM(PO) Calcutta	(i) Theft of 34 qtls. sugar with 47 gunnies.	31000.00
		(ii) Theft of 5 qtls. sugar with 3 kgs. copper wire.	93950.00
		(iii) Theft of copper wire 7 qtls. 57 kgs., BT gunnies 25 pcs., locks and keys—2pcs. Bucket new—1, weightment weight—20 kg.—1, 10 kg.—1, 2 kg.—1, 4pcs. shevels new.	143030.46

**Statement-II***The Position of Theft/Pilferage and Fire Cases Occurred During the period from 1.4.96 to 31.12.1996*

Sl. No.	Name of the Zone/ State	Nature of loss Theft/Pilferage and Fire	Amount involved
1	2	3	4
NORTH ZONE			
1.	Uttar Pradesh	(i) Theft of 9 bales/2700 gunnies. (ii) Fire -Nil-	81000.00
2.	Punjab	(i) Theft of 200 bags rice. (ii) Theft of 110 bags rice. Fire : -Nil-	133551.00 73453.05
3.	Rajasthan	Theft : -Nil- (i) Fire of S.F. rice (Qtl. 36-45-600)	27889.00
4.	Haryana	Theft : -Nil- (i) Minor fire of 46 gunnies. (ii) Minor fire of 85 gunnies. (iii) Minor fire of 204 wooden crates.	— — —
5.	Delhi	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
WEST ZONE			
8.	Maharashtra	(i) Theft of Rly. fitting. (ii) Theft of 7 iron angles. Theft of barbed wire 11.25 kgs. (iii) Theft of 6 bags SF rice. (iv) Theft of Elect. material 9 copper strips, 13 ceiling fans. (v) Theft of fire fighting 18 nos. equipment. (vi) Theft of 7 nos. unserviceable aluminium parts. (vii) Theft of Aluminium ladder and welding material. (viii) Theft of 1 lock and 7 bags S.F. rice. (ix) Theft of 1 lock and 7 bags Ind. Wheat. (x) Minor fire to foodgrain, gunnies & polythene covers.	36140.00 525.00 — 7040.00 3600.00 350.00 6000.00 5250.00 6540.00 —

1	2	3	4
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
10.	Gujarat	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
11.	JM(PO) Kandla	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
NEF ZONE			
12.	Shillong	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
13.	Guwahati	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
EAST ZONE			
14.	West Bengal	(i) Theft of 2505 kg. rice. (ii) Theft of SHS gunny 11pc. (iii) Theft of 20 kg. rice. (iv) Theft of ceiling fan (u/s) 1pc. (v) Theft of Hasak (u/s) 1pc. (vi) Theft of iron chairs 1pc. Theft of metric weight 12 pcs. Theft of Armeture 2 pc. Fire : -Nil-	143280.60  —   1650.00
15.	JM(PO) Calcutta	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
16.	Orissa	(i) Theft of cash from iron chest. (ii) Theft of 447 NBT 150 unserviceable MT gunnies. Fire : -Nil-	192293.40 10000.00
17.	Bihar	(i) Theft of 3 qtls. sugar (ii) Theft of 4 qtls. sugar Fire : -Nil-	2715.00 3620.00
SOUTH ZONE			
18.	Karnataka	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
19.	Kerala	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
20.	Tamil Nadu	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	

1	2	3	4
21.	Andhra Pradesh	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
22.	JM (PO) Madras	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	
23.	JM (PO) Vizag	Theft : -Nil- Fire : -Nil-	

**Statement-III**

*The Recovery Position of Theft/Pilferage/Fire and Misappropriation Cases Occurred During the Period 1.4.1995 to 31.3.1996*

Sl. No.	Name of the Zone/Region/ Distt./Depot	Date of occurrence	Nature of loss	Amount involved Rs.	Date of FIR	Recovered Amount in Rs.
<b>Maharashtra</b>						
1.	OM Complex Plinth No. 8 Dhule Manmad	5.7.95	Theft of 6 bags Indg. wheat.	2291.40	5.7.95	2291.40
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>						
2.	Ujjain	10.4.95	Cash found short from Cash Box.	2505.00	11.4.95	2505.00
<b>Orissa</b>						
3.	CWC Cuttack	28.10.95	Theft of 10 bags sugar	9050.00	28.10.95	9050.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>13846.40</b>		<b>13846.40</b>

**Statement-IV**

*The Recovery Position of Theft/Pilferage/Fire and Misappropriation Cases Occurred During the Period 1.4.1996 to 31.12.1996*

Sl. No.	Name of the Zone/Region/ Distt./Depot	Date of occurrence	Nature of loss	Amount involved Rs.	Date of FIR	Recovered Amount in Rs.
<b>NORTH ZONE</b>						
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>						
1.	FSD, Balun	5/6.9.96	Theft of 9 bales/ 2700 gunnies.	81000.00	6.9.96	81000.00
<b>Punjab</b>						
2.	FSD Budlada/ D.O. Bhatinda	7.8.96	Theft of 200 bags rice.	133551.00	7.8.96	133551.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>214551.00</b>		<b>214551.00</b>

**Statement-V***Region-wise Details of Transit Including Voyage Shortages*

(Figures in M.T.)

Year 1995-96 (Provisional)

Name of the Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy in terms of (Rice)
1. J&K	1490	2335	—
2. Punjab	187	1034	2667
3. Haryana	103	627	1452
4. U.P.	3757	1684	—
5. Delhi	6926	673	—
6. H.P.	61	35	—
7. Rajasthan	1968	687	—
8. Andhra Pradesh	3561	11535	(—) 6
9. T. Nadu	10604	23246	—
10. Karnataka	6634	14745	—
11. Kerala	7441	11188	—
12. PO. Madras	20	(—) 1	—
13. PO. Vizag	20	2227	—
14. M.P.	8621	2320	—
15. Maharashtra	14477	15356	—
16. Gujarat	8425	5802	—
17. PO. Kandla	723	3498	—
18. PO. Calcutta	6748	6628	—
19. Assam	10460	31391	—
20. Bihar	15002	1325	—
21. Orissa	8335	2144	—
22. N.E.F.	2716	12699	—
23. W. Bengal	13062	4851	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>131341</b>	<b>156029</b>	<b>4113</b>

**New Guidelines for Sugar Export**

1658. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether sugar export has shown a dismal performance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for fall of export in sugar;

(c) whether the Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) has framed new guidelines for the export of sugar;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether sugar exports is likely to suffer further due to stickness of norms;

(f) if so, the steps being taken in this regard; and

(g) if not, the extent to which the new guidelines will help in boosting the export of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The past three sugar seasons have seen a growth in sugar exports as follows :

Sl. No.	Sugar Season (Oct.—Sept.)	Sugar Exported (in lakh tonnes) (Prov.)
1.	1993-94	0.75
2.	1994-95	0.41
3.	1995-96	8.92
4.	1996-97 (upto Jan., 1997)	2.92

(c) and (d) The Agricultural Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) have issued a trade notice on 17.2.97 for the export of 2.5 lakh tonnes of sugar. The export of sugar can be carried out by individuals, firms, sugar factories, etc. after obtaining Registration-cum-Allocation Certificates from APEDA.

(e) No, Sir. With the promulgation of the Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 on 15.1.97, the export of sugar has been decanalised thereby relaxing the norms.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) It is not possible to quantify the level of sugar exports for a future date as these depend on a host of factors including prevailing international sugar prices.

[Translation]

**Research Institutes**

1659. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many institutes in the country are undertaking the agricultural research work;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the development and extension of these research institutes during the past years after signing the GATT agreement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule prescribe for bringing these institutes at par with international level ?

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

(b) There is regular process for the development and upgradation of Agricultural Research Institutes to strengthen their research capabilities to meet the emerging needs. A National Centre on DNA Fingerprinting has been established. Need based reorientation/strengthening of research capabilities are projected in the Report of the Working Group on Agricultural Research & Education for the IX Plan.

(c) Strengthening and upgradation of research institutes is an on-going process and therefore, no time schedule is prescribed for bringing them at par with international level.

[English]

**New Deep Sea Fishery Port**

1660. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to construct a new deep sea fishery port at Agardanda in Raigadh District of Maharashtra is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to clear the same ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Air Pollution Levels**

1661. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

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

(a) Whether the Government have studied the Supreme Court's judgement placing restrictions ranging from the suspension of vehicle licences to keep automobiles off the road to address the alarming levels of air pollution in the capital as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated November 10, 1996;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the follow-up action taken to check ambient air pollution level exceeding the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines in 36 Indian cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) The matter regarding pollution from automobiles in Delhi was taken up by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. However, no judgement has been passed placing restrictions to keep automobiles off the road.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A number of measures are being taken/proposed for controlling vehicular pollution in the country. These include the following:

- (i) Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and are being enforced by the Departments of Transport of the various States.
- (ii) Stricter emission norms have been introduced with effect from 1.4.1996 and stricter norms are to be introduced effective from 1.4.2000. The automobile manufacturers have to upgrade their technology to meet these emission norms.
- (iii) Low-lead petrol (0.15 grammes/litre) has been introduced throughout the country from 1.1.1997.
- (iv) A major programme for introduction of unleaded petrol and catalytic converter fitted vehicles is under implementation. The first phase covering the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai, came into effect on 1.4.1995. In the next phase, effective from 1.1.1999, catalytic converter fitted vehicles would be introduced in the Capitals of all States and UTs. Unleaded petrol is planned to be supplied throughout the country from 1.4.2000.
- (v) Diesel with a sulphur content of 0.5% has already been introduced in the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai from 1.4.1995. Low-sulphur diesel (0.25%) is planned to be introduced throughout the country from 1.4.1999.
- (vi) Surveys have been conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board on the vehicular emissions

in the major cities and towns in the country. The findings of the survey have been used for the preparation of measures for control as well as abatement of vehicular pollution in the major cities.

- (vii) The ambient air quality of various cities and towns are being monitored through a network of 290 monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme. In Delhi, a total of ten ambient air quality monitoring stations have been set up. The data form the basis for analysis of air quality trends in different regions against the prescribed standards.
- (viii) The Transport Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi, has launched an awareness campaign on vehicular pollution which includes health effects resulting from vehicular pollution, the maintenance measures for its control and the punitive action for violation of pollution control regulations. A Special Task Force, under the chairmanship of Lt. Governor, Delhi, has been set up for control of vehicular pollution in Delhi.

#### **Joint Forest Management Programme**

1662. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has recently announced to provide some facilities under its Rs. 800 crore joint Forest Management Programme in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of forest staff likely to be benefited under the programme;

(c) whether Non-Governmental Organisations involved in environmental conservation will also be benefited; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) A Forestry Project with an outlay of Rs. 245.9 crores is under implementation in Madhya Pradesh with assistance from the World Bank since 1995-96. The project supports Joint Forest Management for implementation of various activities and about 1,140 village communities participating in the management of about 75,000 hectares forest land would be benefited by improved access to forest products and improved agriculture and alternative income generating activities from village resource development programme and eco-development programme. The forest staff will be benefited by training in various disciplines of forestry and extension activities.

(c) and (d) The project envisages active involvement of non-governmental organisations in the implementation of some of the components like village level eco-development programmes. The services and expertise of non-

governmental organisations is being utilised for orientation and training of forest department staff and local community in joint forest management.

[Translation]

#### **Burning of Sugarcane in Uttar Pradesh**

1663. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the area in hectares in which sugarcane crop has been burnt by the farmers due to non-procurement of sugarcane by the sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to give compensation for the crop burnt;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government, during the last sugar season, i.e., 1995-96, there was no incidence in the knowledge of the State Government where farmers have burnt their sugarcane in Uttar Pradesh. As regards the current season, 1996-97, no such report has been received either from the State Government or from the sugar mills.

[English]

#### **Loss to DMS**

1664. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Milk Scheme is incurring huge loss for the past few years on account of the heavy administrative and overhead expenses;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has incurred loss, year-wise;

(c) whether any irregularities/short comings have been noticed in the procurement, processing and distribution of the milk and milk products;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the audit objections; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The selling price of DMS milk was kept generally at levels lower than the full cost of procurement, processing and distribution. As a result of this

it becomes necessary to provide budgetary support for its operations. Budgetary support provided in the last five years is as under :

Year	Budgetary support (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	44.52
1992-93	27.86
1993-94	9.70
1994-95	4.63
1995-96	45.14

(c) to (e) The information is being collected.

[Translation]

#### **Payment of Cane Prices**

1665. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sugar mills are not paying the sugarcane price fixed by the Union Government to the cane growers of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the price at which the procurement of sugarcane is being done by the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the reason for different prices of sugarcane prevailing in the same State;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to compensate the sugarcane growers receiving the less prices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The sugar mills in public and cooperative sectors of Uttar Pradesh are paying cane price at Rs. 72 to Rs. 76 per quintal during the current season 1996-97, while most of the sugar mills pertaining to private sector are paying Rs. 70 per quintal as per the settlement arrived at between the representatives of the sugar mills and the sugarcane growers.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Investment in Agriculture Sector**

1666. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRI S.K. KARVENDHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agriculture experts have asked the Government to enhance the investments in infrastructure for the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the total investments in infrastructure for agricultural sector made by the Government during the last three years and the result achieved thereby; and

(c) the time by which the investment in infrastructure is likely to be enhanced ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. However, the Government assigns a very high priority to investment in the development of infrastructure in the agriculture sector.

(b) As per the estimates made by the Central Statistical Organisation, the figures of gross capital formation (which includes fixed assets such as irrigation, buildings, roads, bridges and other construction works, machinery and equipments) in the Public Sector as also the total during the last three years i.e. from 1993-94 to 1995-96 at current and at 1980-81 prices are given below:

Year	(Rs. in crores)			
	Total		Public Sector	
	At current prices	At 1980-81 prices	At current prices	At 1980-81 prices
1993-94	17009	5038	4467	1153
1994-95	20737	5678	5620	1329
1995-96*	24937	6301	6274	1310

\*Quick estimates

Source : C.S.O.

(c) The thrust of the Public Sector Investment is on optimising investment already made. The strategy to increase capital formation in agriculture includes increase plan outlay and increasing the proportion for development of infrastructure, more efficient use of resources to rise productivity and ensuring remunerative prices to farmers to enable them to use savings for higher investment. A new Rural Infrastructure Development Fund within NABARD has been established to provide credit for medium and minor irrigation and soil conservation projects. A Scheme of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) is also initiated for providing assistance to States by way of loans for timely completion of selected large and multi purpose irrigation projects.

#### Support Prices of Pepper, Cashewnut, etc.

1667. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to bring some other commodities like pepper, cashewnut, rubber, cardamom, etc. under the support price programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government also propose to bring the said commodities under the purview of Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices; and

(e) the preventive measures proposed to be taken by the Government to check the fluctuation of the prices of the said commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The Government is fixing the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of all major agricultural commodities. The other commodities, mainly horticultural and spices crops, including pepper, cashew and cardamom, are covered under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to protect the interest of farmers from making distress sale of their produce. The MIS is undertaken on year to year basis at the specific request of a particular State Government as and when it is apprehended that price of a commodity may fall to uneconomic levels for the farmers during peak arrival period. A pre-determined quantity at a price fixed by the Central Government, in consultation with the concerned State Government, are procured by NAFED as central nodal agency and the agencies nominated by State Government on equal basis. The losses, if any, under the scheme are shared by the Central and State Government on 50:50 basis. As no proposal has been received from any State Government in this regard, no MIS is being implemented in above mentioned crops at present.

(d) At present, there is no proposal to bring the said commodities under the purview of MSP recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices.

(e) Any undue fall in the prices of various fruits, vegetables and spices is sought to be prevented through judicious implementation of MIS in appropriate cases. Prices of these commodities are also sought to be regulated through appropriate trade policies as also through various developmental measures for increasing their domestic production.

#### National Dairy Development Board

1668. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board has been receiving grants in the form of milk products from the European Community Countries and other developed countries for the past several years;

(b) if so, the date on which this scheme was introduced and the assistance received till date, year-wise;

(c) whether this assistance was to be withdrawn in the last year but has been extended further on the request of NDDB; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the period for which this assistance will continue as per the latest arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The National Dairy Development Board has been receiving commodity assistance from the European Economic Community (EEC) by way of funding Operation Flood Phase II and III. Yearwise quantities of skimmed milk powder (SMP) and butter fat received are as follows :

Period	Quantity (MT)		
	SMP	Butter Oil	Butter
1978-79	6956	3451	NIL
1979-80	28216	9713	1282
1980-81	13531	9373	850
1981-82	73644	14035	3967
1982-83	37573	9331	3457
1983-84	7695	599	600
1984-85	48969	15859	6421
1985-86	9516	2813	3492
1986-87	5859	344	800
1987-88	22000	3032	6059
1988-89	17990	NIL	7314
1989-90	14991	NIL	NIL
1990-91	NIL	NIL	NIL
1991-92	NIL	NIL	NIL
1992-93	11994	NIL	NIL
1993-94	3000	NIL	NIL

No commodity assistance has been received after 1993-94.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Not only was the commodity assistance not extended but was prematurely terminated after 1993-94 as the EEC felt that India was no longer entitled for commodity assistance.

[Translation]

#### **Increase in Sugar Price**

1669. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had already taken a decision to increase the prices of sugar but its public announcement was made on February 10, 1997;

(b) if so, the date on which this decision was taken and the reasons for the delay in the announcement made in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have estimated the loss incurred due to delay in announcement even after taking the decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) In consultation with the Ministry of Finance, a decision was taken on 7.2.1997 to notify on 8.2.1997 the increase in issue price of levy sugar to Rs. 10.50 per kg, so as to be effective from 10.2.1997. The time between the notification and effective date was given to enable the states to do the physical verification of stocks. The notification itself was issued on 8.2.1997, as decided.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Smuggling of Herbs**

1670. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :  
PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :

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

(a) whether cases of large scale smuggling and unscientific exploitation of the herbs possessing important medicinal values, once found in abundance in the hilly regions in the country, have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN

SOZ): (a) and (b) Although some cases of attempted smuggling of medicinal herbs have been detected, there is no large scale smuggling of these plants or their products.

(c) Steps taken to prevent smuggling of medicinal herbs are given below :

- (i) Collection of wild plant species covered under Schedule VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified area has been banned by law.
- (ii) Export of 56 species of plant or plant portion and their derivatives covered under P. No. 47(PN)/92-97 dated 30.3.94 obtained from the wild have been prohibited.
- (iii) Export of plants other than above 56 species requires a Legal Procurement Certificate (LPC) from Regional Dy. Director, Wildlife Preservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests or Chief Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests of the State concerned from where these plants have been procured.
- (iv) The cultivated variety of plant/plant portions covered by P.N. 47 can be allowed for export subject to production of certificate of cultivation and a CITES permit, wherever applicable.
- (v) Export of sandalwood in any form, excluding finished and processed handicraft products, machine finished products are prohibited.
- (vi) Export of Red Sanders in any form whether raw, processed or unprocessed as well as any products made thereby is banned.
- (vii) The export of plants and plant portions are allowed only through the seven major ports at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi, Tuticorin, Madras and Amritsar.
- (viii) International trade in India with respect to six species covered under Appendix I of CITES is prohibited and for 15 species, covered under Appendix II of CITES, is regulated under the provisions of the CITES.
- (ix) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild plants reaches them.
- (x) Inter departmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement

and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during 1995 and November, 1996.

#### **Credit for Environment Project from the World Bank**

1671. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has announced \$ 50 million environment management capacity building credit to India from its soft loan window, the International Development Association;

(b) if so, whether this project is to provide technical assistance and training to the Indian Government to strengthen its environmental policy planning and environmental awareness efforts;

(c) if so, the total cost of the project and India's contribution to it;

(d) the other fields in the environmental sector in which this project is likely to help India;

(e) whether this project is also likely to benefit coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The total cost of this project is estimated at US \$ 61.48 million (equivalent to Rs. 221.32 crores), with Government of India's contribution of US \$ 11.48 million (Rs. 41.32 crores).

(d) The project would also strengthen Environmental Monitoring and Compliance. Specific emphasis would be placed on aspects relating to Coastal Zone Management, Environmental Standards, Environmental Management of Mines and preparation of Industrial Siting and Zoning Atlas.

(e) and (f) The project would cover the coastal and marine areas of India and would support the (i) development of a GIS-based information system for critical habitats in the coastal marine areas of India; (ii) preparation of model Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management Plans; (iii) conducting waste assimilation capacity and ecological modeling of selected coastal areas; and (iv) development of Environmental Impact Assessment guidelines for major marine and coastal area developmental activities. The coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh would therefore also benefit from the project.

### **Nodal Agency to Monitor Criminal Cases**

1672. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had set up a nodal agency to monitor the cases relating to the nexus between criminals and politicians in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of cases examined by the said Nodal Agency so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of the Vohra Committee's recommendation a Nodal Group was set up under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary and with Home Secretary, Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (RAW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as Members. The Nodal Group in its meetings generally reviews the information available with the different agencies relating to the activities of major crime syndicates and the course of action to be taken by the field formations. The Question of inter-agency coordination and inter-agency support in the pursuit of cases as per law is considered and appropriate decisions taken with regard to requirements of such support and cooperation.

### **Animals Frolicking in Slime**

1673. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : 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 "Stench, animals frolicking in slime—welcome to Delhi Zoo" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated December 26, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to the points brought out there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The wet moats are connected to Zoo enclosures and acts as a physical barrier between visitors and the animals. The water poured into the moat system is from deep tube-well which is saline in nature and forms a foamy layer on the water surface. The water in the moats is not meant for drinking by animals. Animals are provided potable water for drinking purposes. However, while going for bath etc., licking of water by some animals can not be ruled out. A team of the staff and labour regularly cleans the moat system which is about 7.5 kms.

Lead free petrol is sprinkled to stop breeding of mosquitoes. The ground level of the Zoo being quite low receives rain water alongwith the run off from the adjoining areas, and that gets accumulated into moat system, which is periodically removed to maintain proper depth.

(c) Central Government have made funds available to National Zoological Park for cleaning of moat and pond system and major renovations. Since there is scarcity of quality water, some portions of the moat system which are not obligatory to the biological requirement of the animals are in the process of conversion to dry moat.

### **Import of Oilseed**

1674. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Organisation for Oil Industry and Trade has sent its report to the Government on the import of oilseed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) Some of the points made by the Central Organisation for Oil Industry and Trade in their representation for import of oilseeds are :—

(i) Import of oilseeds be placed under OGL as in the case of edible oil imports.

(ii) Processing of imported oilseeds would generate additional employment opportunities.

(iii) It will increase availability of edible oils as also foreign exchange earnings through export of extractions.

(iv) There would be no adverse impact on oilseeds production as the market prices of oilseeds have been ruling higher than the minimum support prices, etc.

(c) A final decision in the matter is yet to be taken.

[Translation]

### **Atrocities on SC/ST**

1675. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of incidents of atrocities committed on the people belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe in the country especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether some people belonging to Scheduled Caste community were assassinated in Meerut district of the Uttar Pradesh during January, 1997;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action initiated against the guilty persons;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have made or propose to make arrangements for the security of the people belonging to Scheduled Caste community;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action that Government propose to take against the people who committed atrocities on the families of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No Sir, as may be seen from the provisional data on atrocities and other offences against persons belonging to SCs and STs available with the National Crime Records Bureau for 1994 and 1995:

	1994	1995
1. All India	38,927	38,494
2. Uttar Pradesh	16,263	14,310

(b) to (d) Yes Sir. On 5.1.97, six persons belonging to Scheduled Castes of Ikhwara village, Hastinapur PS of Meerut District were murdered due to rivalry between two gang leaders. In this connection, a case has been registered in PS Hastinapur under Crime No. 2/97-147/148/149/302 IPC and Section 3(2)(5) of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The accused person—Khaleel was arrested on 6.1.97. Nazar Singh, Jagat and Vizender on 7.1.97 and Ishaq on 8.1.97. Six members of a gang of another unlawful character Kirori were also arrested.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The Government of Uttar Pradesh have given full protection and security to the affected persons. Provincial Armed Constabulary is guarding the village and vigil was maintained to keep the situation under control. In addition to the police security, financial assistance @ Rs. 1.50 lakhs each has also been provided to the dependents of the deceased and Rs. 50,000/- each was given to the injured persons.

(h) Action has already been initiated in accordance with the provisions of the IPC and the Scheduled Castes & the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

[English]

#### Assam Problem

1676. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Assam accompanied by the leaders of all major Assam parties met the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister recently;

(b) if so, the points discussed at the meeting; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### Missing of Pakistani Nationals

1677. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Pakistani nationals settled in some parts of the country are reported missing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the missing persons are suspected to be ISI agents;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to trace the missing persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) According to information available, 2782 Pak nationals were reported to be missing/untraced as on 30.11.96. The possibility of some of them having ISI links cannot be ruled out. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been instructed, from time to time, to launch special drives to detect and deport such Pak nationals under the entrusted powers and they are making strenuous efforts to detect them for their deportation.

[Translation]

#### Outlets of NSC

1678. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of outlets of the National Seed Corporation of India in Uttar Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) the amount of business transacted by these seed outlets, during the last two years, outlet-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up some more seed outlets in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) There are 13 direct outlets of National Seeds Corporation in Uttar Pradesh. Location of these outlets has been indicated as per statement. In addition there are 171 authorised seed dealers selling NSC seed.

(b) The total turn-over of all these outlets was Rs. 569.13 lakhs and Rs. 730.94 lakhs during 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

1. Regional Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
65, Pan Dariba, Lucknow.
2. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Plot No. 8-17, UPSDC Industrial Area,  
Mathura Road, Sikandra, Agra.
3. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
165, Civil Lines, Bareilly.
4. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Durgapur Road, Amethi (Sultanpur).
5. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Kalpi Circular Road By-Pass Pakka Bagh, Etawah.
6. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
P.C.F. Godown, Ashok Nagar,  
P.O. Basaratpur, Gorakhpur.
7. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
PO ETC, Hempur - 244 716 (via Kashipur) Nainital.
8. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Raja Dal Mill,  
Iglas Road, Hathras.

9. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Plot No. D-25, Site No. 1,  
Panki Industrial Area, Kanpur.

10. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Opp. State Bank of India,  
Rudrapur (Distt. Nainital).

11. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Western Kachery Road, Meerut.

12. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
Mohalla Jaikhal, Shahjahanpur.

13. Area Office,  
National Seeds Corporation Ltd.,  
D-59/12-83, Gandhi Nagar, Sonia Road,  
Singra, Varanasi.

[English]

#### **Eradication of Starvation**

1679. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn any programme to fulfil the assurances given by the Prime Minister at the World Food Conference in Rome during the last year to eradicate hunger and starvation from India by the year 2000;

(b) if so, the details of the programme;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the date by which the programme is likely to be drawn ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Government is taking steps to ensure accessibility and availability of foodgrains to all including those living below the poverty line. The Targeted Public Distribution System is a concrete measure in this direction. The Ninth Plan also lays emphasis on developing strategies in which the food production and distribution system would be so integrated with the income distribution measures such as employment and poverty alleviation programmes that food and nutritional security for all would be ensured.

#### **Pest Management**

1680. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a National Programme for the Integrated Pest Management has been launched by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether crops in some districts are being covered under this programme in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is implementing a National programme on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for sustainable agriculture and safety to the environment. The programme aims at growing healthy crops with minimum use of chemical pesticides by employing cultural, mechanical, biological and alternative pest management methods and techniques. Under this programme extension agencies and farmers are being trained through on farm demonstrations called "IPM Farmers Field Schools".

(c) and (d) The details of the districts being covered under the IPM programme in rice and cotton in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) In view of reply to (c) and (d) above, question does not arise.

#### **Statement**

*List of Districts of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan where IPM Farmers' Field Schools have been Established in Rice and Cotton*

#### **A. MADHYA PRADESH**

1. Raipur
2. Durg
3. Rajnandgaon
4. Kaker
5. Bilaspur
6. Mandla
7. Sivnee
8. Shahdol
9. Satna

10. Jabalpur
11. Sidhi
12. Khandwa
13. Khargaon
14. Dhar
15. Indore
16. Mahasanund
17. Detewara
18. Jagdalpur
19. Janjgir
20. Raigarh
21. Ambikapur
22. Balkondpur
23. Rewa
24. Balaghat

#### **B. RAJASTHAN**

1. Sriganganagar
2. Hanumangarh
3. Bikaner
4. Bundi

#### **Forest Project in Bellary**

1681. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bellary district in Karnataka has been selected for Rs. 566 crore forestry Project being implemented with Japan's Overseas Development Fund;

(b) whether the Japan's Overseas Development Fund has already sanctioned the said project;

(c) if so, the amount released for the purpose and the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released and the project likely to be implemented;

(d) the areas of land to be covered with tree plantation and soil and water conservation activities under the project;

(e) whether the project will help in the rehabilitation and protection of natural forests;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken under the scheme to increase the area under green cover, timber and bamboo?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) A forestry project costing Rs. 566 crores is being implemented in 17 districts, including Bellary district, of Karnataka with assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan under the official development assistance. About 85% of the project cost will be provided by Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund as loan. The Project is to be implemented over a period of 5 years.

(d) to (g) The project envisages area coverage of 4,70,500 hectares through afforestation and soil conservation activities in degraded forests, protection of natural forests, distribution and planting of seedlings under farm forestry and afforestation of Government wastelands, common lands, and institutional lands. Involvement of local people in planning and implementation of project activities is one of the important thrust areas under the project. The project also supports technology upgradation.

#### **Import of Sugar by STC**

1682. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of sugar imported by the State Trading Corporation recently; and

(b) the impact thereof on the sugar industry and on cane growers ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No sugar has been imported by State Trading Corporation of India during the financial year 1996-97.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Budget Provisions for Minorities**

1683. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the budgetary provisions have not been made so far for the sanctioned Fifteen Point Programmes for the welfare of minorities; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to provide budgetary assistance in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) 15-Point Programme for the welfare of minorities basically aims at securing life and property to the minorities and ensuring social and educational development for them. The programme does not specifically envisage any separate budgetary provision for this purpose. However, the Govt. of India has been implementing certain schemes through the Ministry of Welfare as well as the Deptt. of Education for the welfare of minorities. Multi-Sectoral Plans are being prepared for 41 minority concentration districts and an amount of Rs. 1 crore has been allocated under this scheme for VIII Plan. The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation, which has been set up on 30.9.94 to provide loans at concessional rates to people belonging to minority communities, has been allocated an amount of Rs. 125 crores during the VIIIth plan period. For pre-examination coaching scheme for weaker sections among minorities an amount of Rs. 10 crores has been allocated during the VIIIth Plan Period. Besides, the Deptt. of Education has been implementing Schemes of Modernisation of Madrasa Education Community polytechnics and Area Intensive Programme for educationally backward minorities. Rs. 1 crore, Rs. 30 crore and Rs. 16.27 crore have been allocated during VIIIth Plan for these schemes respectively.

[*English*]

#### **Implementation of Special Component Plan in Karnataka**

1684. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the achievement made under the Special Component Plan (SCP) in Karnataka during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) the fund earmarked for implementing the Special Component Plan during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the target fixed for providing benefits to the Scheduled Castes in the Ninth Plan period alongwith other details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMGOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The details are given below :

### I. Financial

Details of State Plan outlay, SCP outlay & SCP expenditure during 1992-93 to 1996-97:

(Rs. in crores)					
Year	State Plan outlay	SCP outlay	% of SCP to State Plan outlay	SCP expn.	% of SCP expn. to SCP outlay
1992-93	1915.00	176.02	9.19	160.49	91.18
1993-94	3025.00	280.69	9.27	258.93	92.24
1994-95	2800.00	303.81	10.85	289.21	95.19
1995-96	3575.00	338.79	9.50	315.38	93.25
1996-97	4360.00	415.16	9.52	N.A.	—

### II. Physical

*No. of SC families economically assisted as monitored under Point 11A of TPP*

Year	Target	Achievement	%age
1992-93	125000	130268	104
1993-94	127000	157105	124
1994-95	168000	202513	121
1995-96	200000	230273	115
1996-97	200000	N.A.	—

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

### Fisheries and Aquaculture Scheme

1685. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are implementing various development schemes for the fisheries and aquaculture;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes;

(c) the progress of those schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(d) whether the same schemes would be implemented in Ninth Plan;

(e) if so, the fund earmarked therefor; and

(f) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The following major central sector/centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented for the development of fisheries and aquaculture in the State/Union Territories :

- (i) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture
- (ii) Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development
- (iii) Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries
  - (a) Motorisation of Traditional Craft
  - (b) Introduction of Plywood Craft
  - (c) Introduction of Intermediate Type of Craft for Offshore Pelagic Fishing
  - (d) Re-imbursement of Central Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel (HSD) Oil used by Fishing Vessels below 20 m length
- (iv) Enforcement of Marine fishing Regulation Act (MFRA) and Resource Enhancement through Introduction of Artificial Reefs & Sea farming Projects
- (v) Fishing Harbour facilities at Major Ports
- (vi) Provision of Fishing Harbour facilities at Minor Ports
- (vii) Assistance for strengthening of Inland Fish Marketing
- (viii) Welfare of Fishermen
  - (a) Group Accident Insurance
  - (b) Model Fishermen Villages
  - (c) Saving-cum-Relief
- (ix) Training & Fishery Extension
- (x) World Bank Assisted Shrimp and Fish Culture Project

(c) A Statement showing the State-wise progress of various important items under the above schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan is enclosed.

(d) to (f) Most of the above schemes and some new schemes will be implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan for the development of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The actual funds to be allotted for various fishery development schemes during the Ninth Five Year Plan have not been finalised.

**Statement**  
**Progress of Important Items Under Various Fisheries and Aquaculture Schemes During 1992-96**

S. No.	State	Area Covered under Fresh water Aquaculture (ha.)	Number of Fish Farmers Trained for fresh water culture	Area covered under Brackish-water Fish culture (ha)	Number of Fish Farmers Trained for Brackish water culture	Number of traditional craft sanctioned for motorisation	Number of plywood craft sanctioned	Number of inter-mediate craft sanctioned	Number of mechanised vessels benefited by reimbursement of excise duty on HSD oil	Number of petrol boats sanctioned	Number of artificial reefs sanctioned	Major Fishery harbours commissioned	Minor fishery harbours commissioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5967	5042	593	1515	700	—	2	About	2	10	—	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	207	795	—	—	—	—	—	15000 to	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	2157	7698	—	—	—	—	—	18000 small	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	2415	2180	—	—	—	—	—	mechanised	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	113	32	300	—	—	boats are	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	15518	6209	410	163	200	—	4	benefitted	—	—	—	1
7.	Haryana	8440	3682	—	—	—	—	—	per annum	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	79	788	—	—	—	—	—	on an	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1368	595	—	—	—	—	—	average.	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	11095	3470	39	570	390	—	8	—	2	—	—	1
11.	Kerala	1571	3484	785	1497	2,100	120	5	—	6	—	—	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	21023	7809	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	8042	4613	240	656	—	—	—	—	4	30	—	1
14.	Manipur	460	1020	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	119	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	141	255	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	271	872	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	7490	9880	3758	1024	1,820	—	2	—	2	—	1	2

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19. Punjab	3094	4876	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Rajasthan	1488	3065	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21. Sikkim	49	576	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Tamil Nadu	7762	1407	1088	245	11,500	100	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
23. Tripura	472	38633	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. Uttar Pradesh	22872	26057	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. West Bengal	16580	18195	1191	2971	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1
26. A. & N. Islands	—	—	—	—	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Dadra Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Pondicherry	36	351	—	—	—	120	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1,38,696	1,51,832	8,217	8,673	17,240	230	36	40	1	9				

S. No.	State	15 Fish landing centres commissioned	16 Number of fish marketing units sanctioned	17 Number of fisherman insured upto 1995-96	18 Number of model fishermen villages sanctioned	19 Number of beneficiaries of saving-cum-Relief component	20 Personnel trained under training & Extension	21 Demonstration-cum-training centres sanctioned	22 Reservoirs developed for fish culture under World Bank assisted project	23 Sites being developed for shrimp culture under World Bank assisted project
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	1	1,30,000	319	2,000	—	2	37	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—	6	—	200	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	1	40,000	1	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	3	1	—	4	—	30	2	—	—
7.	Haryana	—	2	—	—	—	116	1	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	1	3,694	—	—	90	2	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	2	—	10	—	100	2	—	—
10.	Karnataka	—	2	60,000	79	8,008	110	2	—	—
11.	Kerala	10	4	2,00,000	33	82,650	—	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	2	50,000	1	—	208	1	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
14.	Mizoram	—	1	—	5	—	—	2	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	50	1	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	1	—	—	—	60	1	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	1	—	—	—	80	1	—	—
18.	Orissa	5	2	1,00,000	30	4,700	30	2	42	1

	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
19. Punjab	—	2	—	—	—	64	2	—	—
20. Rajasthan	—	2	—	1	—	75	—	—	—
21. Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Tamil Nadu	5	1	2,67,623	36	1,59,000	—	—	—	—
23. Tripura	—	—	8,888	14	—	9	1	—	—
24. Uttar Pradesh	—	5	32,000	33	—	300	2	18	—
25. West Bengal	1	2	1,52,380	3	—	120	1	—	4
26. A. & N. Islands	—	—	3,000	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Dadra Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Lakshadweep	—	—	290	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Pondicherry	—	—	17,000	4	9,280	—	—	—	—
Total	24	33	10,64,875	587	2,65,638	1,642	25	97	6

**Dairy Development Schemes**

1686. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on Central sponsored Dairy Development Schemes launched in Cooperative Sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan in each State; and

(b) the achievements made in each State during the Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the Eighth Plan period a Central sector scheme of Integrated Dairy Development in non-Operation Flood, hilly and backward areas was launched. The funds released and achievements made under the scheme in each participating State are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Financial and Physical Progress of IDDP as on 31-12-1996*

State/Project	Physical Progress					
	Fund Release (Rs. Lakh)	DCS ORG (No.)	DCS MEMB ('000s)	Milk PRCMNT (TLPD)	Milk MKTG (TLPD)	PRCSG CAP (TLPD)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A&N Islands	91	0		0.00	0.00	
Andhra Pradesh	250	155	5.86	8.99	2.90	37.00
Arunachal Pradesh	350	13	0.35	0.45	0.45	
Assam	400	182	12.17	7.20	7.20	10.00
Bihar-I	75	54	2.51	0.00	0.00	
Bihar-II	150	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Gujarat	300	207	14.02	7.48	36.00	
Haryana	65	2	24.00	1.20	1.20	
J & K—Jammu	75	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	
J & K—Kashmir	75	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	
M.P. I, II & III	665	180	5.98	5.96	5.79	
M.P. IV	163	157	6.70	9.22	8.96	
Maharashtra	200	406	3.40	42.20	42.20	
Manipur	125	30	1.00	1.30	1.50	6.00
Meghalaya	75	32	1.47	4.05	3.10	
Mizoram-I	246	26	3.35	4.00	4.00	
Mizoram-II	75	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Nagaland	450	33	1.16	1.20	1.30	2.00
Orissa-I	492	247	12.80	14.40	14.40	
Orissa-II	250	146	13.50	8.20	8.20	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sikkim-I & II	325	154	4.86	7.29	7.70	15.00
Tamil Nadu	225	455	126.00	27.00	31.00	75.00
Tripura-I	225	62	4.68	3.20	6.00	10.00
Tripura-II	113	20	0.64	0.00	0.00	
U.P.—I, II & III	700	795	27.92	18.31	17.12	
West Bengal	350	79	4.47	3.31	3.30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6510</b>	<b>3435</b>	<b>276.84</b>	<b>174.96</b>	<b>202.32</b>	<b>155.00</b>

**Note:**

DCS	:	Dairy Cooperative Societies
ORG	:	Organised
MEMB	:	Members
TLPD	:	Thousand Litres Per Day
PRCSG CAP	:	Processing Capacity.

**Bomb Blasts**

1687. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :  
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was simultaneous bomb blasts in Delhi during January, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of bomb blasts in the country during 1995 and 1996; State-wise;

(d) the number of persons killed/injured along with the loss of public/private property;

(e) the number of bomb blast cases solved by the police along with the outcome of the investigations; and

(f) the preventive measures taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Two bomb blasts occurred in Delhi on January 4, 1997 as a result of which a Haryana Roadways bus was damaged in one blast and a Mahindra jeep in the other. No one was, however, killed though 11 persons were injured.

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

[Translation]

**Incidents of Extremism**

1688. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where extremism has spread on a large scale along with the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to curb the extremism ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The following States are mainly affected by Left Wing Extremism:

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa.

The spread of extremism is primarily attributable to the persisting confrontationist activities of extremist groups.

(b) and (c) A close watch is kept over extremists' activities in the affected areas through the Intelligence agencies. Central Government has taken adequate measures to help the States to fight the menace. These include holding of coordination meetings with the States concerned as well as with various intelligence and

investigating agencies of the Central Government to exchange information, share intelligence, plan strategy and take coordinated action. In special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocation for modernisation of police and supply of weapons. Training of police personnel in Anti-extremist operations has also been arranged. Further, Central Government, in consultation with the concerned States has drawn an Action Plan in this regard which includes:

- (i) ensuring security of police stations, particularly those located in extremist affected areas;
- (ii) to have a common communication system;
- (iii) set up a Control Room in each State;
- (iv) Joint Patrolling;
- (v) Launching of Area Domination Programme among the States; and
- (vi) Strengthening of intelligence network in affected areas in concerned States.

[English]

#### **Insurgency in Tripura**

1689. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the growing violence in Tripura;
- (b) if so, the total death toll during the last one year till today;
- (c) the reasons for the increasing violence in the State;
- (d) the steps taken to bring normalcy in Tripura;
- (e) whether the Government of Tripura has requested the Union Government for the deployment of more para-military forces with sophisticated arms; and
- (f) if so, the decision of the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per available information, as against 178 persons killed in tribal insurgency related violence in Tripura during 1996, during the current year, 72 persons were killed upto 17 February, 1997.

(c) The reasons for the increasing violence in the State include, *inter-alia*, economic backwardness, lack of adequate employment opportunities, marginalisation of the tribal population, linkages with other North-East insurgent groups, availability of shelter in a neighbouring country and increased

procurement of arms and ammunition by the tribal extremist groups.

(d) Several steps have been taken to bring normalcy in Tripura, which include, *inter-alia*, strengthening the presence of Central Para-Military Forces and Army units, improved coordination of counter-insurgency operations and sharing of intelligence, declaration of the most seriously affected areas as "disturbed areas", release of arms and ammunition, vehicles and other security equipment to the Tripura Police on priority basis, Central financial assistance for modernisation and upgradation of State Police Force and review of the situation from time to time for taking appropriate decisions

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have deployed adequate units of the Central Para-Military Forces and the Army in Tripura.

#### **Forest Cover in Andhra Pradesh**

1690. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the long winding exercise to check the deforestation and improve the forest cover in Andhra Pradesh has come to a naught;

(b) whether the recommendations made by the Centre in this regard have not been implemented so far;

(c) if so, whether the Central Government have sought the report from the State Government regarding its inability in implementing the forest Cover Scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Efforts to check the deforestation and improve forest cover in Andhra Pradesh are continuing through afforestation activities under State Schemes, Centrally sponsored schemes and externally aided projects as well as protection of natural forests through active involvement of local community in various forestry activities.

(c) The Central Government has not recommended implementation of any specific forest Cover Scheme.

(d) Question does not arise.

#### **Bio-Diversity Action Plan**

1691. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare a bio-diversity action plan for conserving the forest bio-diversity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make available an adequate amount under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and other rural development programmes for social forestry and regeneration schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) A National Action Plan on Biodiversity is under preparation. This Plan aims at consolidating the on-going efforts of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity including forest biodiversity and initiating further action as required.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has been requesting the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment to allocate 25 per cent of funds under Poverty alleviation schemes for forestry works. At present the two major rural employment programmes under the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment are the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). Under JRY 60% of the allocated funds are earmarked for economically productive assets such as minor irrigation, development of rural markets, watershed development, social forestry, soil and water conservation, agro-horticulture, pasture development etc. Under EAS 40% of the funds are earmarked for water and soil conservation including afforestation agro-horticulture and silvipasture. There is no separate earmarking of funds for social forestry under JRY and EAS.

[*Translation*]

#### **Drip/Sprinkler Irrigation System**

1692. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the concessions and incentives extended on the product of drip/sprinkler irrigation system, there has been a mushroom growth of companies in the market and these companies are selling their products in the name of foreign brands and there is a vast difference between the prices of the machines manufactured by various companies;

(b) the number of indigenous companies engaged in the manufacturing of such machines and the companies exporting their products to foreign countries;

(c) the names of agencies responsible for the price fixation and quality control of these machines; and

(d) the points taken into consideration at the time of price fixation and steps taken by the Government to check the sale of sub-standard spare parts ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)

(SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As the demand for irrigation systems have grown, there has been a proportionate growth in the number of companies. Few companies have entered into joint ventures with foreign companies and selling the product in the name of foreign collaborator. There is no appreciable difference in quality and prices between indigenous and imported components.

(b) There are about seventy manufacturers and about 6 are exporting their products to foreign countries.

(c) and (d) The Government has issued detailed guidelines in respect of drip irrigation to all the states indicating the maximum cost permissible for the purpose of subsidy disbursements taking into account the design of the system and crop spacing. The guidelines also stipulate that all components must carry the BIS mark for quality assurance to be eligible for subsidy.

[*English*]

#### **Petro-Chemical Units**

1693. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the 'Economic Times', dated February 5, 1997 under the caption "Rs. 30,000 cr. petrochem plans in limbo due to Centre's apathy";

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

(c) the present status of these projects, project-wise;

(d) the details of steps being taken or proposed to be taken for their early clearance; and

(e) the time schedule for implementation of these projects ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) No proposals have been received in the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals for setting up petrochemical complex from PRA Petrochemicals, MKR Industries, K.K. Golyan or Jindal Ferro. The proposal has been received from M/s HC Hydro Carbon and Petrochemicals related to setting up of a refinery and Petro Chemical Complex. The refinery proposal was referred to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. For the Petrochemical complex, additional details were sought from the company and they have not been supplied.

#### **Economic Package for Sikkim**

1694. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether factors like isolation, lack of infrastructure and under development of the Sikkim are given due weightage while allocating funds in the Five Year Plans to the State;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any proposal for the economic package for its faster development is under consideration of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Government is giving due weightage to factors like isolation, lack of infrastructure and under-development while allocating funds in the Five Year Plan to the State of Sikkim by placing the State as Special category State with Central funding in the ratio of 90% grant and 10% loan.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Illicit Liquor

1695. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hooch (illicit liquor) continues to take its heavy toll on human life;

(b) if so, the number of deaths caused by the consumption of illicit liquor in the country indicating details of such deaths during the year 1996 and the comparative figures for the years 1995 and 1994, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such deaths ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Available information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) It is essentially for the State Governments to prevent manufacture of hooch through constant and effective vigil by their enforcement agencies including police. It is also essential for the States to take such educational and economic programmes which would elicit co-operation of the citizens at large, for the prevention of deaths due to consumption of spurious liquor.

### Statement

#### *Accidental Deaths by Consuming Spurious Liquor During 1994 to 1996 (State & UT-Wise)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	1994	1995	1996	Remarks (Figs. for 1996 are upto the month of)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	107	495	398	November*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	September
3.	Assam	1	1	4	September
4.	Bihar	89	59	NA	—
5.	Goa	14	0	0	
6.	Gujarat	24	6	2	
7.	Haryana	8	0	42	September
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16	1	4	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	9	0	0	August
10.	Karnataka	142	0	0	December**
11.	Kerala	4	13	5	November

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Madhya Pradesh	148	46	33	
13.	Maharashtra	149	9	88	
14.	Manipur	1	1	1	
15.	Meghalaya	1	0	0	February
16.	Mizoram	0	1	0	
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0	
18.	Orissa	32	7	5	July
19.	Punjab	67	0	0	July
20.	Rajasthan	13	7	0	October
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	
22.	Tamil Nadu	59	311	277	November
23.	Tripura	0	0	0	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	66	3	4	November
25.	West Bengal	3	49	29	September
Total (States)		953	1009	892	
26.	A&N Islands	0	0	0	
27.	Chandigarh	5	0	0	
28.	D&N Haveli	3	0	0	
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	NA	
30.	Delhi	0	5	1	
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	October
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	
Total (UTs)		8	5	1	
Total (All India)		961	1014	893	

- Note : 1. Figs. for 1995 and 1996 are provisional.  
 2. NA stands for not available.  
 3. \*Excluding October Data.; \*\*Excluding November Data.  
 4. 1995 Figs. of Daman & Diu are upto November.

**Assistance to Backward Classes for Higher Education**

1696. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are providing financial assistance to the backward classes for higher education through the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons benefited and the amount provided during the last three years; State-wise;

(d) the criteria being followed to select the people for such assistance; and

(e) the number of applications received during 1996-97 from the Orissa state ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Question does not arise.

**Searches made by Delhi Police**

1697. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to unstarred Question No. 748 dated November 26, 1996 regarding "Searches carried out by Delhi Police" and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is mandatory to furnish a copy of the search memo etc. to the local SHO and Magistrate by the police officer undertaking the search; and

(d) the adverse effect it will have on the case in the Court if the police officer undertaking the search does not submit a copy of the search memo etc. to the local SHO and the Magistrate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details regarding seizure memos and independent witnesses are recorded in the case diaries etc., some of which are in courts.

(c) A police officer, not below the rank of Sub-Inspector of Police is authorised to conduct search in the limits of another police station as per Section 166 of Criminal Procedure Code.

As per Section 166(4) of CPC, such a police officer is required to send notice of the search alongwith copy

of the seizure memo, if any, made during search to the Officer Incharge of the Police Station within whose limit the search has taken place. He is further required to send a copy of the search memo so made alongwith report on reasons/circumstances leading to the search to the nearest Magistrate empowered to take cognizance of the offence.

(d) It is a matter to be decided on a case to case basis by the court concerned. However, the Supreme Court in 1985 had held that the illegality of search would not render the seizure effected pursuant to a search also illegal so as to enable the accused to claim return of his property. While such a search may be illegal in view of the relevant provisions of the Criminal Penal Code, it would not vitiate the efficacy of evidence which is produced before the Court by such a search.

*[Translation]*

**Funds for Sugarcane Research**

1698. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has sought financial assistance for the Research and Development of sugarcane;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Department of Agriculture & Cooperation are providing financial assistance for Research and Development to Uttar Pradesh through All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane & Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system areas respectively. The details of the financial assistance are provided in Statement.

**Statement**

**1. Assistance through AICRP on Sugarcane**

(1996-97)

S.No.	Name of the centre	Name of the Univ.	Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)
(i)	Shahjahanpur	U.P. Council of Sugarcane Research	3.86
(ii)	Pantnagar	G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology	3.11

2. *Assistance through Centrally Sponsored Scheme (1996-97) :*

	(Rs. in lakhs)
Total Allocation	918.03
State Share	197.13
Central Share	720.9

[*English*]

**Conspiracy for Creating Disturbances**

1699. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the RDX explosive, ammunition and arms have been seized recently;

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

(c) whether a conspiracy of creating disturbance on Republic Day was hatched;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of cases when disturbances have been created on the Republic Day; and

(f) the extent to which the measures were taken to thwart the intention of the militants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Statements I, II and III showing the recoveries of RDX, Arms, Ammunition and Explosives during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 are enclosed.

(c) and (d) Intelligence inputs received from various sources indicated that anti-national elements might attempt to create disturbances during Republic Day Celebrations.

(e) There was no major incidents during the Republic Day functions.

(f) State Governments and various Central Government agencies were suitably alerted with a view to exercise reinforced vigilance and take appropriate measures to thwart the evil designs of anti-national elements.

**Statement-I**

*Recoveries of RDX-Arms, Ammunition & Explosives*

S.No.	State	RDX(Kgs)	Explosives (Kgs.)	Arms	Ammunition
<b>1994</b>					
1.	Delhi	—	—	11	21
2.	J & K	5	1508	1615	74255
3.	Gujarat	—	—	—	—
4.	Haryana	—	—	—	—
5.	Punjab	25.5	—	186	811
6.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—
7.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	2	—
8.	Maharashtra	—	—	4	542
9.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	30	143
10.	North East	—	—	402	2490

Note : State wise break up of explosives recovered during 1994 not available. Total country wide 647 packets/bundles/boxes, 1,56,655 Nos. (Pieces) and 2813 Kgs. explosive were recovered.

**Statement-II****Recoveries of RDX, Arms, Ammunition & Explosives Seized**

S.No.	State	RDX(Kgs.)	Explosives (Kgs.)	Arms	Ammunition
<b>1995</b>					
1.	Delhi	1	5 Nos. 1.3 (Kgs.)	118	539
2.	J & K	9	1689	3158	52995
3.	Gujarat	10 (Pkts.)	1978 (Nos.) 23 (Kgs.)	109	2795
4 & 5.	Punjab/Haryana	720	75334 (Nos.) 136 (Kgs.) 6 (Pkts.)	350	7728
6.	Rajasthan	—	6 (Nos.)	1154	2047
7.	Madhya Pradesh	—	190 (Kgs.) 31 (Nos.)	248	7625
8.	Maharashtra	—	60 Boxes 82 (Kgs.) 436 (Nos.)	26	557
9.	Andhra Pradesh	—	169 (Pkts.) 3750 (Nos.) 586 (Kgs.)	953	862
10.	North East	—	271 (Nos.)	1881	7576
11.	Tamil Nadu/Kerala	—	97 (Pkts.) 25415 (Nos.) 10220 (Kgs.)	10	359
12.	Orissa	—	204 (Nos.) 612 (Kgs.) 2 (Pkts.)	21	9
13.	Karnataka	—	4709 (Nos.) 32 (Boxes) 29.5 (Kgs.)	18	64
14.	West Bengal	—	378 (Nos.)	3497	24874
15.	Bihar	—	631 (Nos.)	297	2797
16.	Assam	—	913 (Nos.) 5 (Bundles)	238	1641
17.	Uttar Pradesh	—	435 (Nos.)	5691	10904
18.	Himachal Pradesh	—	2203 (Nos.) 150 (Kgs.)	—	—

NB: Number connotes Detonators, Pencil Bombs, Grenade, Timer Pencil, Release Mechanism etc. whose weights are not known. Packets connotes Packets of Gelatine Sticks, Safety Fuse etc.

**Statement-III**  
**Recoveries of RDX, Arms, Ammunition & Explosives Seized**

S.No.	State	RDX (Kgs.)	Explosives (Kgs.)	Arms	Ammunition
<b>1996</b>					
1.	Delhi	4	—	157	343
2.	J & K	150	3549	9038	192831
3.	Gujarat	2 (Pkts.)	1044 (Nos.) 36(Boxes)	298	6248
4.	Punjab/ Maryana	99 (Kgs.)	99 (Nos.) 100 (Kgs.)	137	4083
5.	Rajasthan	—	1(Nos.) 5 (Kgs.) 68 (Boxes)	109	644
6.	Madhya Pradesh	—	130 (Nos.)	75	196
7.	Maharashtra	—	53(Boxes) 1 (Kg.) 4362 (Nos.)	17	1672
8.	Andhra Pradesh	—	679 (Nos.) 1.6 (Kgs.)	120	1396
9.	North East	—	16 (Nos.)	597	2063
10.	Tamil Nadu/ Kerala	—	—	64	107
11.	Orissa	—	426 (Boxes) 100 (Kgs.) 469 (Nos.)	34	118
12.	Karnataka	—	25 (Nos.) 1 (Kg.)	12	1415
13.	West Bengal	—	182 (Nos.) 21 (Bundles)	281	288
14.	Bihar	—	21 (Nos.) 8 (Boxes) 100 (Kgs.)	188	749
15.	Assam	—	276 (Kgs.) 1(Kg.)	248	3148
16.	Uttar Pradesh	—	277 (Nos.) 8 (Boxes)	4406	9394
17.	Himachal Pradesh	—	248 (Nos.) 1488 (Kgs.)	5	14

N.B.: Number connotes detonators, pencil bombs, grenade, timer pencil, release mechanism etc. whose weights are not available.  
Packets connotes packets of gelatine sticks, safety fuse etc.

### World Food Programme

1700. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of schemes started under the World Food Programme in Uttar Pradesh particularly in the Agra district; and

(b) the names of places where the World Food Programme has been introduced in the State from 1994 to 1995-96 ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Under the World Food Programme. (WFP) there are two Projects in Uttar Pradesh viz.,

1. Project 2206.06. Support to Integrated child Development Services (ICDS) Schemes.
2. Project 2751. Watershed Development and Afforestation in Uttar Pradesh.

Agra district is not covered in either of the projects.

(b) The following districts are covered in the two WFP assisted Projects in Uttar Pradesh :

Project	Districts covered
Project 2206.06. Support to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Schemes.	Sultanpur, Varanasi, Azamgarh, Ghazipur, Mau, Basti, Siddharthanagar, Gorakhpur, Maharajganj, Deona and Ballia.
Project 2751. Watershed Development and Afforestation in Uttar Pradesh.	Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Chamoli, Uttar Kashi, Dehra Dun, Pithoragarh, Almora, Nainital, Pilibhit, Sahajahanpur, Lakhimpur Kheri, Pratapgarh, Jaunpur, Sultanpur, Rai Bareilly, Unnao, Lucknow, Barabanki, Sitapur, Hardoi, Mirzapur, Varanasi, Allahabad and Sonbhadra.

### Subsidy on Urea

1701. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the decision taken by the Government to raise the subsidy on Urea;

(b) the rationale behind the proposal particularly in the context of the recommendations of the Committee on Secretaries; and

(c) the reaction of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the fertilizer pricing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No such decision has been taken.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Insurgency and Racial Riots in NER

1702. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :  
SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether insurgent activities and racial riots in the North Eastern region has increased recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of civilians/security personnel killed/injured in the insurgency and racial riots; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to root out such violence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Certain States in the North-East Region have varying degrees of militancy and terrorism. It cannot be said that there is any increase in such activities. The activities of Bodo militants in Assam, Kuku-Naga ethnic conflict in Manipur and Nagaland and the tribal-nontribal conflict in Tripura are a matter of concern.

(c) During the current year and upto 14 February, 1997 in the insurgency affected States of Assam, Tripura, Manipur and Nagaland, 132 civilians and 20 Security Forces/Police personnel were killed.

(d) The steps taken to root out such violence include, *inter alia*, deployment of additional units of the Central Para-Military Forces and the Army, improved coordination and sharing of intelligence, sanction of India Reserve Battalions, modernisation/upgradation of State Police Forces, sanction of special Central assistance, declaration of the most seriously affected areas as disturbed areas and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate decisions.

### Scholarships to Students of Minority Communities

1703. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for giving scholarships to the students of 1st to 10th Standard belonging to minority communities in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government also provide scholarships to the students belonging to the down trodden and backward communities of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) There is no Central Scheme of Scholarship for minorities. However, State Government of U.P. have provided scholarships to students of minority community studying in Madrasas who are below double the poverty line. The details during the last 3 years are as under :

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	Nil
1994-95	Nil
1995-96	15.89

(b) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships Government assistance is being given to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to students belonging to SCs, STS and pre-matric scholarships to the children of those engaged in unclean occupation *i.e.* scavengers, sweepers having traditional links with scavengers, flayers and tanners.

(c) Details during the last three years are as under :—

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Central Assistance Released Under	
	Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-matric scholarship (Class XI onwards)	Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-matric scholarship (Class I to X for day scholars and Class III to X for hostellers)
1993-94	350.00	80.33175
1994-95	386.9588	166.3125
1995-96	1669.82	68.13497

#### Wheat and Rice under P.D.S. and for Open Sale

1704. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India supplies the foodgrains under the Public Distribution System and in the open market;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat and rice sold under the Public Distribution System and the quantity sold in the open

market during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, State-wise;

(c) the maximum and minimum prices at which these were sold, State-wise;

(d) whether some conditions were laid down for the buyers at the time of sale of wheat and rice in the open market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Statements I and II indicating quantity of wheat and rice sold under Public Distribution System and the quantity sold in the open market from 93-94 to 96-97 State-wise are enclosed.

(c) Wheat and rice under PDS are made available through Food Corporation of India to States/UTs at Central Issue Price which are as under:—

Rs. per qtl.

Effective from	Wheat		
	PDS		
11.1.93	330.00		
1.2.94 (till further orders)	402.00		

Effective from	Rice (Rs./per qtl.)		
	Common	Fine	Superfine
11.1.93	437.00	497.00	518.00
1.2.94* (*till further order)	537.00	617.00	648.00

Statements III and IV indicating State-wise open sale prices of wheat and rice are enclosed.

(d) and (e) The terms and conditions of sale are reviewed from time to time. Sale of wheat and rice by FCI in the open market is subject to certain conditions which *inter-alia* include :—

- (i) identification of buyers/establishment.
- (ii) undertaking by the buyers to sell wheat/wheat products at the rates fixed by the State Government/FCI.
- (iii) maximum ceiling limit on buyers.
- (iv) issue of rice conforming to Prevention of Food Adulteration Act standards.

**Statement-I**

*Statement indicating Allotment (A) and Offtake (O) for Rice and Wheat from the Central Pool during April, 1993 to March, 1994 (P) (Financial-Year-Wise)*

(In '000 Tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		A	O	A	O
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2282.50	2172.70	172.60	117.20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	124.20	87.40	7.20	6.40
3.	Assam	510.80	397.30	260.00	247.10
4.	Bihar	299.20	85.30	725.20	430.40
5.	Delhi	240.00	142.30	864.00	568.60
6.	Goa	54.00	39.80	37.20	22.90
7.	Gujarat	414.00	239.00	642.00	308.30
8.	Haryana	38.00	15.90	141.90	74.10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	80.60	77.10	121.00	107.60
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	434.40	149.40	240.00	124.10
11.	Karnataka	828.50	590.30	295.00	250.50
12.	Kerala	1825.00	1579.40	350.00	315.50
13.	Madhya Pradesh	490.80	190.80	492.00	247.30
14.	Maharashtra	858.00	577.70	980.00	528.80
15.	Manipur	120.00	49.60	34.40	24.40
16.	Meghalaya	126.00	122.50	32.00	29.60
17.	Mizoram	103.20	92.40	16.80	16.30
18.	Nagaland	112.60	95.00	40.50	33.20
19.	Orissa	464.40	185.60	270.00	221.00
20.	Punjab	18.00	5.20	240.00	12.80
21.	Rajasthan	84.60	18.10	1140.00	577.30
22.	Sikkim	64.00	44.70	7.20	6.30
23.	Tamil Nadu	878.80	856.20	245.00	235.70
24.	Tripura	194.40	147.10	21.60	13.90
25.	Uttar Pradesh	535.60	228.70	972.60	405.90
26.	West Bengal	987.20	528.90	992.00	821.80

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	A&N Islands	30.00	0.00	12.00	0.00
28.	Chandigarh	3.00	2.50	21.00	10.90
29.	D&N Haveli	6.00	1.10	2.40	0.00
30.	Daman & Diu	8.00	1.10	1.80	0.40
31.	Lakshadweep	0.30	3.10	0.50	0.10
32.	Pondicherry	24.00	3.10	9.00	Neg
	Total	12218.70	8735.30	9368.10	5764.40

*Statement indicating Allotment (A) and Offtake (O) for Rice and Wheat from the Central Pool during April, 1994 to March, 1995 (P) (Financial-year-wise)*

(In '000 Tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		A	O	A	O
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2230.00	2198.80	180.00	110.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	90.70	82.70	15.20	13.60
3.	Assam	465.80	310.50	310.00	277.30
4.	Bihar	372.00	39.70	714.00	222.30
5.	Delhi	240.00	53.90	936.00	205.00
6.	Goa	63.00	39.50	40.30	17.30
7.	Gujarat	414.00	187.50	642.00	379.00
8.	Haryana	36.00	6.20	151.80	31.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	108.00	38.80	136.00	117.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	520.20	154.50	350.00	110.10
11.	Karnataka	1307.34	678.00	360.00	262.40
12.	Kerala	1800.00	1118.10	445.00	386.80
13.	Madhya Pradesh	559.74	162.20	560.94	142.80
14.	Maharashtra	858.00	284.40	980.00	463.50
15.	Manipur	120.00	30.70	32.40	13.20
16.	Meghalaya	136.00	113.80	25.00	24.40

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Mizoram	100.00	79.80	19.50	16.80
18.	Nagaland	84.00	75.90	70.00	59.30
19.	Orissa	543.60	192.40	415.00	182.20
20.	Punjab	17.25	1.30	210.00	1.50
21.	Rajasthan	46.00	14.40	1443.69	528.50
22.	Sikkim	56.10	31.80	10.00	8.30
23.	Tamil Nadu	1200.00	1224.30	300.00	155.10
24.	Tripura	194.40	125.80	21.60	8.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	549.60	205.20	1185.60	207.80
26.	West Bengal	932.40	434.40	1035.00	751.70
27.	A&N Islands	31.25	0.00	8.40	0.00
28.	Chandigarh	3.60	0.80	21.80	0.70
29.	D&N Haveli	8.00	0.00	2.40	0.00
30.	Daman & Diu	8.00	2.10	1.80	0.10
31.	Lakshadweep	6.30	0.70	0.50	0.10
32.	Pondicherry	24.00	3.00	9.00	0.00
Total		13121.28	7897.20	10612.73	4696.40

*Statement Indicating Allotment (A) and Offtake (O) for Rice and Wheat from the Central Pool during April, 1995 to March, 1996 (P) (Financial-year-wise)*

(In '000 Tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		A	O	A	O
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2620.00	2159.10	192.00	102.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	102.60	90.60	7.20	5.40
3.	Assam	568.00	434.50	360.00	351.70
4.	Bihar	381.60	23.50	705.60	227.30
5.	Delhi	240.00	26.50	840.00	153.20
6.	Goa	78.00	44.80	42.40	23.40

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Gujarat	409.00	208.60	835.50	425.00
8.	Haryana	53.56	8.40	209.48	62.40
9.	Himachal Pradesh	131.00	45.20	144.00	98.20
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	528.00	271.70	380.00	115.90
11.	Karnataka	1443.12	942.90	380.00	219.50
12.	Kerala	1800.00	1170.60	585.00	557.40
13.	Madhya Pradesh	580.16	204.60	583.92	136.60
14.	Maharashtra	858.00	359.70	1100.00	610.50
15.	Manipur	120.00	32.90	32.40	28.20
16.	Meghalaya	172.00	164.40	28.00	27.70
17.	Mizoram	90.00	93.70	24.00	23.30
18.	Nagaland	72.50	71.00	18.20	21.60
19.	Orissa	790.00	365.70	420.00	238.50
20.	Punjab	16.65	2.00	155.00	8.00
21.	Rajasthan	52.00	8.70	1453.92	458.30
22.	Sikkim	57.60	43.10	12.30	9.90
23.	Tamil Nadu	1590.00	1745.10	310.00	174.20
24.	Tripura	194.40	148.70	21.60	9.60
25.	Uttar Pradesh	549.60	209.50	1185.60	225.70
26.	West Bengal	856.00	447.10	1098.60	842.30
27.	A&N Islands	30.00	0.00	9.00	0.00
28.	Chandigarh	3.60	1.10	21.00	1.00
29.	D&N Haveli	6.00	1.60	2.75	0.70
30.	Daman & Diu	8.70	0.90	2.15	0.20
31.	Lakshadweep	0.30	4.70	0.50	Neg
32.	Pondicherry	24.00	2.00	9.00	Neg
Total		14430.39	9332.90	11129.72	5159.40

*Statement showing Allotment (A) and Offtake (O) of Wheat and Rice in respect of various States/UTs during 1996-97*

(In '000 Tonnes)

S.No.	States/UTs	Wheat		Rice	
		A	O	A	O
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	180.00	103.00	2520.00	1658.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.20	4.90	109.20	81.70
3.	Assam	355.50	270.40	630.70	427.10
4.	Bihar	697.50	351.60	389.60	26.00
5.	Delhi	700.00	442.40	240.00	90.20
6.	Goa	37.20	27.20	90.00	49.00
7.	Gujarat	693.50	515.30	376.00	220.40
8.	Haryana	208.16	97.20	52.00	18.50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	140.00	95.00	122.00	72.40
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	360.00	111.40	520.00	308.10
11.	Karnataka	356.00	235.90	1453.12	914.40
12.	Kerala	572.50	453.00	1847.00	1259.70
13.	Madhya Pradesh	605.62	341.40	598.60	249.50
14.	Maharashtra	1010.00	704.50	850.00	456.10
15.	Manipur	32.40	25.60	120.00	45.70
16.	Meghalaya	29.50	24.20	190.00	149.50
17.	Mizoram	23.59	18.60	92.05	72.10
18.	Nagaland	8.60	7.60	80.20	75.90
19.	Orissa	451.00	331.90	1002.00	496.10
20.	Punjab	121.00	93.90	18.00	1.20
21.	Rajasthan	1359.37	902.00	59.00	13.70
22.	Sikkim	10.70	11.10	60.10	50.30
23.	Tamil Nadu	217.20	185.00	1893.50	1557.20
24.	Tripura	21.60	13.30	194.40	122.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1140.40	633.50	532.20	233.00
26.	West Bengal	1071.00	742.70	300.00	425.30
27.	A&N Islands	3.00	8.00	30.00	0.00
28.	Chandigarh	21.60	4.90	3.00	1.00
29.	D&N Haveli	3.00	0.60	6.00	1.49
30.	Daman & Diu	2.40	0.00	1.10	8.99
31.	Lakshadweep	0.50	0.20	5.30	4.50
32.	Pondicherry	3.06	0.90	24.00	9.00
Total		10524.05	6781.50	14341.65	8185.60

\*Offtake upto Jan, 1997.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Jan. 95	0.83	1.57	1.83	0.18	0.15	0.04	0.09	4.69	0.25	0.62	0.13	1.00	0.98	0.47	1.59	3.04	0.57	0.30	0.50	0.08	1.45	10.18	
Feb. 95	0.59	1.70	1.39	0.29	0.20	0.03	0.04	4.24	0.01	0.62	0.15	0.78	0.64	0.51	1.02	2.17	0.62	0.25	0.57	0.12	1.56	8.75	
Mar. 95	0.67	1.27	1.17	0.51	0.04	0.04	0.12	3.82	0.28	0.54	0.17	0.99	0.54	0.41	0.46	1.41	0.51	0.35	0.30	0.08	1.24	7.46	
Total	3.25	7.18	6.72	1.26	0.40	0.17	0.48	19.46	1.20	2.79	1.48	5.47	5.32	2.07	4.47	11.86	6.25	2.11	4.36	0.78	13.50	50.29	
<b>1995-96</b>																							
Apr. 95	0.30	0.33	0.19	0.10	Neg.	0.02	—	0.94	0.08	0.18	0.16	0.42	0.42	0.11	0.08	0.61	0.20	0.35	0.06	0.17	0.79	2.76	
May 95	0.01	0.01	Neg.	—	—	—	0.04	0.06	0.56	0.01	0.13	0.20	0.29	0.03	0.02	0.34	0.21	0.14	0.28	0.05	0.68	1.28	
Jun. 95	0.07	0.07	—	Neg.	—	—	—	0.14	0.09	0.05	0.14	0.28	0.73	0.01	0.07	0.82	0.26	0.07	0.24	0.02	0.59	1.83	
Jul. 95	0.11	0.24	—	—	0.03	—	0.01	—	0.39	0.22	0.22	0.66	1.24	0.08	0.57	1.89	—	0.37	0.28	—	0.65	3.59	
Aug. 95	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.07	—	0.02	0.09	0.06	0.01	—	0.07	—	—	—	—	—	0.16
Sep. 95	0.31	0.96	0.74	0.33	—	0.03	—	2.37	0.30	0.48	0.33	1.11	1.31	0.35	0.94	2.60	0.23	0.29	0.16	0.13	0.82	6.88	
Oct. 95	0.42	0.89	0.49	0.22	—	0.02	—	2.04	0.26	0.36	0.16	0.78	0.61	0.43	0.48	1.51	0.49	0.20	—	0.11	0.80	5.12	
Nov. 95	0.79	1.82	1.05	0.03	—	Neg.	0.03	3.72	0.03	0.57	0.18	0.78	0.78	1.28	0.32	2.38	0.50	0.27	0.16	0.08	0.01	7.90	
Dec. 95	0.82	2.21	1.48	0.23	0.05	—	—	4.79	Neg.	0.70	0.16	0.86	0.73	0.79	0.98	2.50	0.70	0.12	0.55	0.09	1.46	9.60	
Jan. 96	2.10	2.68	1.95	0.22	0.14	0.02	—	7.11	—	0.72	0.14	0.86	0.26	0.21	1.28	1.75	0.40	0.12	0.27	0.10	0.89	10.61	
Feb. 96	2.03	2.62	1.21	0.18	0.17	0.03	—	6.24	0.03	0.54	0.13	0.70	0.25	0.38	0.56	1.19	0.40	0.24	0.23	0.08	0.95	9.09	
Mar. 96	0.73	1.00	1.47	0.09	0.05	0.01	0.06	3.42	0.01	0.18	0.11	0.30	0.12	0.31	0.19	0.62	—	0.20	—	—	0.20	4.55	
Total	7.69	12.84	8.58	1.44	0.41	0.14	0.13	31.22	1.14	4.02	1.88	7.04	6.80	4.00	5.49	16.29	3.39	2.37	2.24	0.83	8.83	63.38	

Statement showing the Quantity of Wheat Allotted and Sold under Open Market Sales Scheme during April '96 to February '97

Region	(Figs. in '000 MT) (Provisional)																	
	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Allotment	Qty. Sold	Allotment	Qty. Sold	Punjab Scheme		Allotment	Qty. Sold	Allotment	Qty. Sold	Total	
	April '96	May '96	June '96	July '96	Aug. '96	Sept. '96					Request Received	Qty. Sold						Jan. '97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Punjab	69	47.11	115	113.87	25	25.00	55	52.34	60	57.80	154.01	101.60	60	30.00	40	—	427.72	
U.P.	165	89.47	75	115.10	25	31.10	35	37.71	50	40.63	40.02	30.31	50	4.45	40	—	348.77	
Delhi	111	14.38	105	32.16	50	50.00	55	42.52	60	60.00	198.57	159.84	60	—	40	—	358.90	
Rajasthan	21	18.07	27	26.46	15	13.92	20	16.51	36	15.81	138.59	71.96	36	10.43	30	—	173.16	
H.P.	9	3.86	130	116.88	30	15.87	30	30.00	30	28.95	33.68	20.13	30	33.08	30	15.60	264.37	
J & K	3	1.50	12	11.90	6	6.00	8	8.00	10	5.00	5.88	13.91	10	1.05	8	4.40	51.75	
Total	3	5.15	28	28.00	10	10.00	12	12.00	10	10.00	8.02	6.18	10	3.00	10	—	74.34	
Total	381	179.55	492	444.37	161	151.89	215	199.08	256	218.19	548.76	403.93	256	82.01	198	20.00	1699.02	
W. Bengal	18	14.24	70	22.43	25	24.92	30	29.30	32	—	32.53	26.82	32	—	35	—	117.71	
Bihar	57	44.18	70	39.92	50	20.36	50	49.98	50	33.80	66.57	54.25	50	—	40	—	242.49	
Orissa	24	23.05	60	39.52	25	18.54	30	24.23	30	29.30	0.20	0.20	30	29.20	30	—	164.04	
Total	99	81.47	200	101.87	100	63.82	110	103.51	112	63.10	99.40	81.27	112	29.20	105	—	524.24	
Maharashtra	102	24.92	120	36.53	35	32.53	40	37.64	61	56.16	107.40	76.78	61	57.16	60	29.27	351.04	
Gujarat	63	53.29	45	43.52	30	29.21	35	34.51	55	54.89	34.29	23.22	55	32.94	55	—	271.58	
M.P.	81	47.87	70	56.19	30	28.67	35	34.83	35	31.51	52.50	31.68	35	20.35	35	—	281.10	
Total	246	126.08	235	136.29	95	90.41	110	106.98	151	142.56	194.19	131.68	151	82.32	150	29.27	873.72	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Tamilnadu	66	33.39	50	47.74	10	10.00	17	9.99	32	29.77	17.74	9.72	32	32	—	35	—	140.61
A.P.	24	13.20	45	44.59	10	9.36	16	14.95	27	18.57	13.82	12.74	27	27	8.39	30	—	122.30
Karnataka	27	20.90	65	41.24	10	9.36	15	14.82	30	27.32	20.33	17.38	30	30	13.13	35	—	145.15
Kerala	12	—	30	23.74	10	8.79	15	14.33	20	19.58	5.81	4.92	20	20	2.90	20	—	74.36
Total	129	67.49	190	157.31	40	38.51	62	54.09	109	95.84	57.70	44.76	109	109	24.42	120	—	482.42
North-East	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.5	2.50	—	0.48	2.50	—	4	—	—	2.08
Assam	—	—	—	—	2	—	2.00	1.93	3.2	1.90	15.18	11.54	2.00	—	3	—	—	15.37
Total	—	—	—	—	2	—	2.00	1.93	5.7	4.40	15.18	12.02	4.50	—	7	—	—	15.37
Country Total	355	454.69	1117	239.84	393	344.63	499	465.69	533.7	524.09	915.63	873.66	632.60	246.08	590	49.27	—	3632.60

## Quantity of Rice Sold Under Open Sale During 1993-94 onwards

(Figs. in '000 Tonnes)

Year	Punjab	Haryana	Delh	Uttar Pradesh	Rajasthan	J&K	Zaral Total	West Bengal	Bihar	Orissa	Zone Total	Madhya Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka	Kerala	Zone Total	Gandh				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
1993-94																						
Jan. 94	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.3	
Feb. 94	1.5	2.7	—	—	—	—	4.2	—	—	—	—	3.0	1.3	0.5	4.8	—	—	—	—	—	9.0	
Mar. 94	0.1	0.9	—	—	—	—	1.0	—	—	—	—	4.4	0.6	0.7	5.7	—	—	—	—	—	6.7	
Total	1.6	4.9	—	—	—	—	6.5	—	—	—	—	7.4	1.9	1.2	10.5	—	—	—	—	—	17.0	
1994-95																						
Apr. 94	—	1.3	—	Neg.	Neg.	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	6.5	1.4	4.0	11.9	—	—	—	—	—	13.2	
May 94	0.4	3.1	—	Neg.	0.3	—	3.8	—	—	—	—	3.7	1.2	2.0	6.9	—	—	—	—	—	10.7	

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Jun. 94	—	Neg.	—	—	0.3	—	0.3	—	—	—	—	9.5	2.2	3.4	15.1	—	1.9	Neg.	Neg.	1.9	17.3
Jul. 94	0.5	1.9	—	0.1	—	—	2.5	0.2	Neg.	—	0.2	9.9	2.2	5.5	17.6	Neg.	0.5	1.3	Neg.	1.8	22.1
Aug. 94	8.7	6.4	—	0.7	—	—	15.8	0.4	0.1	—	0.5	10.3	2.4	3.5	16.2	Neg.	2.9	6.2	0.3	9.4	41.9
Sep. 94	5.5	1.9	—	0.7	—	—	8.1	0.9	0.1	—	1.0	18.5	3.5	3.0	25.0	—	7.1	8.2	0.4	15.7	49.8
Oct. 94	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	0.4	1.0	0.1	—	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.0	3.3	—	Neg.	1.0	Neg.	1.0	5.8
Nov. 94	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	—	—	3.4	1.3	Neg.	—	1.3	12.9	2.0	3.8	18.7	0.4	2.0	2.3	0.2	4.9	20.3
Dec. 94	1.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	—	1.8	0.4	Neg.	—	0.4	24.2	3.3	4.6	32.1	2.5	2.8	2.5	0.1	7.9	42.2
Jan. 95	0.5	—	4.3	—	—	—	4.8	2.2	0.1	—	2.3	28.5	6.1	3.8	38.4	1.4	15.0	3.2	0.2	20.8	65.1
Feb. 95	4.7	—	4.5	—	—	—	9.2	0.1	0.4	—	0.5	33.2	12.4	3.6	49.2	2.1	15.0	5.2	0.5	22.8	81.7
Mar. 95	0.4	—	2.1	—	—	—	2.5	2.6	0.2	—	2.8	23.9	24.5	2.7	51.1	17.2	6.0	0.2	0.1	23.5	79.9
Total	24.7	15.5	11.4	1.9	0.6	—	54.1	9.1	1.0	—	10.1	182.1	62.5	40.9	285.5	23.6	48.7	30.1	1.8	104.2	453.9
<b>1995-96</b>																					
Apr. 95	—	0.01	0.04	0.3	—	—	0.8	—	0.4	—	0.4	36.2	19.1	3.3	58.6	1.4	12.9	—	0.7	15.0	74.8
May 95	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.1	—	0.4	—	0.4	29.6	0.9	2.2	40.7	3.0	18.8	0.4	2.4	24.6	65.8
Jun. 95	1.0	0.1	0.2	—	—	—	1.3	0.2	1.1	—	1.3	32.0	4.3	1.8	38.1	2.0	4.1	—	0.2	6.3	47.0
Jul. 95	1.2	2.0	0.3	—	—	—	3.5	2.6	0.1	—	2.7	35.0	3.2	1.0	39.2	1.0	20.3	—	2.1	23.4	68.8
Aug. 95	8.6	12.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	—	21.9	7.9	—	—	7.9	45.8	10.3	—	93.6	1.1	6.6	—	—	7.7	93.6
Sep. 95	7.6	16.3	—	—	0.2	—	24.1	0.9	—	—	0.9	44.5	28.9	2.6	76.0	0.3	23.6	—	—	23.9	124.9
Oct. 95	0.1	3.7	—	—	—	—	3.8	0.5	—	1.2	1.7	39.2	15.0	1.3	55.5	0.3	12.0	—	0.1	12.4	73.4
Nov. 95	0.3	0.7	—	—	—	—	1.0	0.4	—	—	0.4	14.9	5.6	0.7	21.2	2.0	—	—	0.5	2.5	25.1
Dec. 95	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	0.2	4.5	1.3	—	5.8	—	—	—	—	—	6.0
Jan. 96	0.8	0.2	—	0.8	—	—	1.8	—	—	—	—	8.0	2.0	0.3	10.3	—	—	—	0.5	0.5	12.6
Feb. 96	10.4	11.5	0.2	—	0.2	—	22.3	3.8	—	—	3.8	3.7	1.9	0.3	5.9	—	—	—	—	—	32.0
Mar. 96	6.2	0.9	1.4	0.1	—	—	8.6	—	0.1	—	0.1	1.6	2.4	—	4.0	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	12.8
Total	36.2	47.9	3.0	1.6	0.5	—	89.2	16.5	2.1	1.2	19.8	295.0	102.9	13.5	411.4	11.1	98.3	0.4	6.6	116.4	636.1

Provisional  
(Figures in '000 MT)

Statement showing the Quantity of Rice Allotted and Sold under Open Market Sale Scheme During April '96 to January '97

S. No.	Region	1st Qtr. April 96 to June 1996 Qty. sold	2nd Qtr. July 96 to Sept. 1996 Qty. sold	2nd Qtr. July 96 to Sept. 1996 Qty. sold	Allotment of Oct. 1996	Qty. Sold in Oct. 1996	Allotment of Nov. 96	Qty. Sold in Nov. '96	Allotment of Dec. 1996	Qty. sold in Dec. 96	Allotment of Jan. 97	Qty. sold in Jan. 97	Allotment of Feb. 97	Qty. sold in Feb. 97	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Punjab	26.27	60.00	0.06	15.00	—	20.00	—	20.00	—	20.00	—	20.00	—	26.33
2.	Haryana	12.83	12.00	—	20.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.83
3.	U.P.	24.12	45.00	4.02	15.00	0.32	26.00	—	26.00	—	26.00	—	26.00	—	28.46
4.	Rajasthan	5.23	30.00	—	10.00	—	10.00	—	10.00	—	10.00	0.10	10.00	—	5.33
5.	Delhi	1.89	6.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	1.89
6.	J&K	—	6.00	—	2.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	70.23	159.00	4.08	64.00	0.32	58.00	—	58.00	—	58.00	0.10	58.00	—	74.84
8.	West Bengal	1.05	15.00	3.19	5.00	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	4.24
9.	Bihar	0.38	6.00	0.03	5.00	—	15.00	—	15.00	—	15.00	—	15.00	—	0.41
10.	Orissa	—	15.00	—	5.00	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	1.00	—	—
	Total	1.43	36.00	3.22	15.00	—	17.00	—	17.00	—	17.00	—	17.00	—	4.65
11.	Maharashtra	11.60	105.00	1.49	35.00	0.25	22.00	0.09	22.00	—	22.00	—	22.00	—	13.43
12.	Gujarat	8.94	15.00	0.79	5.00	—	21.00	—	21.00	—	21.00	—	21.00	—	9.73
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5.37	30.00	44.25*	10.00	5.61*	15.00	9.40*	15.00	35.02	15.00	—	15.00	0.72	100.37
	Total	25.91	150.00	44.53	50.00	5.86	58.00	9.49	58.00	35.02	58.00	—	58.00	0.72	123.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
14.	Tamil Nadu	—	15.00	1.00	10.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	2.00	—	1.00
15.	Andhra Pradesh	—	30.0	—	10.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Karnataka	—	30.00	—	10.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Kerala	9.86	30.00	10.46	10.00	—	15.00	1.05	15.00	2.81	15.00	—	15.00	—	24.18
	Total	9.86	105.00	11.46	40.00	—	17.00	1.05	17.00	2.81	17.00	—	17.00	—	25.18
18.	Assam	—	—	—	2.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Grand Total	107.54	450.00	65.29	171.00	6.18	150.00	10.54	150.00	37.83	150.00	0.10	150.00	0.72	236.76

**Statement-III**

*Statement Indicating Open Sale of Wheat with effect from November, 1993 to March, 1995*

(Rate Rs. per MT)

Sl No	Name of the State	Nov. 93	Dec. 93 & Jan 94	Feb & Mar. 94	Apr. 94	May, June July, 94	Aug. & Sept. 94	Oct. & Nov. 94	Dec. 94	Jan. 95 to Mar. 95
1	Punjab/Haryana/U.P.	3850	3850	4100	4100	4100	4150	4200	4150	4100
2	Delhi	4050	4050	4250	4250	4200	4250	4300	4200	4150
3	Rajasthan	4000	3950	4150	4150	4150	4200	4250	4200	4150
4	J & K/H.P.***	4000	4000	4200	4200	4200	4250	4300	4200	4150
5	Maharashtra	4450	4400	4650	4500	4500	4550	4600	4550	4500
6	Gujarat	4300	4250	4450	4350	4350	4400	4450	4400	4350
7	M.P	4100	4000	4200 (4100*)	4100	4100	4150	4200	4150	4100
8	West Bengal	4400	4250	4400	4350	4350	4400	4450	4400	4350
9	Bihar	4300	4190	4350	4300	4300	4350	4400	4350	4300
10	Tamil Nadu	4500	4500	4750	4600	4600	4650	4700	4650	4600
11	Andhra Pradesh	4450	4450	4700	4550	4550	4600	4650	4600	4550
12	Karnataka	4550	4550	4750	4600	4600	4650	4700	4650	4600
13	Kerala	4600	4600	4800	4600	4600	4650	4700	4650	4600

\* Price of wheat in M.P. under open sale reduced to Rs. 4100/- w.e.f. 4.3.94.

\*\* Open sale remained suspended from 1st August, to 27th August, 95.

\*\*\* 4250/- for October, 95 in respect of Himachal Pradesh.

*Statement Indicating Open Sale Price of Wheat with effect from April, 1995 to February, 1997*

(Rate Rs. per Mt.)

Name of the State	April to July 95	28 Aug. to Sep. 95	October 1995	Centre	Nov. 95 to Mar. 96	April 96 to July 96	August 96 to 17th Sept. 96	18th Sept. 96 to 3rd Feb. 97	w.e.f. 4th Feb. 1997
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Punjab	4100	4150	4150	Chandigarh	4150	4410	4550	4900	4900
Haryana	4100	4150	4150	Chandigarh	4150	4410	4550	4900	4900
Delhi	4150	4200	4150	Delhi	4150	4410	4550	4900	5000
U.P.	4100	4150	4150	Lucknow	4300	4600	4800	5150	5400
				Kanpur	4300	4600	4810	5160	5400
				Varanasi	4360	4660	4894	5244	6000
				Bareilly		4410	4550	4900	5000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rajasthan	4150	4200	4250	Jaipur	4300	4600	4765	5115	5200
Himachal Pradesh	4150	4200	4250	Shimla	4250	4550	4681	5031	5031
J & K	4150	4200	4200	Jammu Srinagar	4200 4200	4500 4500	4655 4655	5005 5005	5200 5300
Bihar	4300	4350	4400	Patna Ranchi	4420 4450	4720 4750	4963 5056	5313 5406	6500 7000
Assam	—	—	4450	*Guwahati	4450	4900	5188	5538	7500
Orissa	4350	4400	4475	Cuttack Bhubaneshwar	4500 4500	4800 4800	5143 5149	5493 5499	7400 7400
West Bengal	4350	4400	4475	Calcutta Siliguri	4510 4520	4810 4820	5091 5110	5441 5460	7400 7400
Madhya Pradesh	4100	4150	4250	Indore Gwalior Raipur	4350 4280 4330	4650 4580 4730	4925 4753 5066	5275 5103 5416	7200 6000 7400
Gujarat	4350	4400	4500	Ahemdabad Surat	4570 4570	4870 4870	5007 5016	5357 5366	7300 7300
Maharashtra	4350	4450	4550	Mumbai Nagpur	4600 4560	4900 4860	5080 5005	5430 5355	7400 7400
Andhra Pradesh	4550	4600	4600	Hyderabad Vishakhapatnam	4650 4670	4950 4970	5142 5223	5492 5573	7500 7500
Karnataka	4550	4600	4650	Bangalore Mysore Belgaum	4670 4690 4690	4970 4990 4990	5280 5299 5198	5630 5649 5548	7700 7700 7700
Tamil Nadu	4550	4650	4650	Chennai Coimbatore Madurai	4680 4700 4710	4980 5000 5010	5234 5303 5333	5584 5653 5683	7800 7800 7800
Kerala	4550	4650	4700	Cochin Trivandrum	4740 4740	5040 5040	5334 5365	5684 5715	7900 7900

In case of open sale at Depots at other centres, the rate fixed for nearest major centre shall apply *w.e.f.* November, 1995.

The prices of wheat for Port Towns and areas within 50 Kms. thereof is Rs. 4773/- with effect from 16.1.96 & Rs. 5073/- with effect from 1.4.96 to July, 1996.

Bareilly has been added as additional centre with price of Rs. 4150/- per tonne *w.e.f.* 1.2.96 & Rs. 4410/- *w.e.f.* 1.4.96.

\*Enhanced to Rs. 4600/- *w.e.f.* December, 1995.

**Statement-IV***Statement Indicating Open Sale Price of Rice fixed for the months of Feb. '94 to September, 1995**(Rate Rs/per MT)*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Feb./ Mar./ April 94	May 94	June/ July 94	Aug/ Sept. 94	Oct. 94 (1.10.94 to 16.10.94)	w.e.f. 17.10.94	Nov./ Dec. 94	Jan. 95 to March 95	April 1995 to Sep. 95
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Punjab	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	7050	7050	7000	7000
2.	Haryana	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	7050	7050	6950	6950
3.	U.P.	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6800	6800	6800	6800
4.	Rajasthan	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6900	6900	6800	6800
5.	J&K	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6900	6900	6800	6800
6.	Delhi	6700	6700	6600	6600	7200	6900	6900	6700	6700
7.	Maharashtra	6800	6800	6700	6650	7250	6800	6800	6600	6600
8.	Gujarat	6800	6800	6700	6650	7250	6800	6800	6600	6600
9.	Madhya Pradesh	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6700	6700	6600	6600
10.	W. Bengal	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6800	6800	6600	6600
11.	Bihar	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6800	6800	6600	6600
12.	Orissa	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6750	6750	6550	6550
13.	Tamilnadu	7000	6900	6700	6650	7250	6800	6800	5600	6500
14.	Karnataka	7000	6900	6700	6650	7250	6800	6800	6600	6600
15.	Andhra Pradesh	6600	6600	6550	6550	7150	6700	6700	5600	6600
16.	Kerala	7100	7000	6700	6650	7250	6800	6800	6800	6800

Note : Price of Fine Rice was Rs. 200/- per MT less than that of Super Fine Rice during Feb. 94 to May 94 in all Regions except in A.P. where the price of Fine Rice was Rs. 100/- per MT less than that of super fine Rice. From June 94 to Sept. 95, the price of fine rice is Rs. 300/- per MT less than that of super fine rice.

*Statement indicating Open Sale Price of Rice fixed for the months of October, 1995 to February, 1997**(Rates Rupees Per MT)*

S.No.	Name of the State	October 95		November, 95		Dec. 95 to June, 96		July, 96 to February, 97	
		Fine	Super-Fine	Fine	Super-Fine	Fine	Super-Fine	Fine	Super-Fine
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Punjab	6700	7000	6750	7050	7050	7350	7050	73
2.	Haryana	6650	6950	6780	7000	7000	7300	7000	73
3.	Uttar Pradesh	6500	6800	6600	6900	6900	7200	6900	72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Rajasthan	6500	6800	6550	6850	7000	7150	7500	76
5.	J & K	6500	6800	6500	6800	6680	7000	6680	70
6.	Delhi	6400	6700	6700	7000	6740	7060	6740	70
7.	Maharashtra	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
8.	Gujarat	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
9.	Madhya Pradesh	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
10.	West Bengal	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
11.	Bihar	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
12.	Orissa	6350	6650	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
13.	Tamil Nadu	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
14.	Karnataka	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
15.	Andhra Pradesh	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74
16.	Kerala	6300	6600	6450	6750	6630	6950	7130	74

\*The price of rice for port towns and areas within 50 Kms thereof, will be Rs. 50/- per tonne less than the Export price.

[English]

#### Handicapped Development Corporation

1705. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :  
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a Handicapped Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes formulated so far by the Corporation for the economic upliftment of the handicapped persons;

(c) details of the progress reported under each of the schemes, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the other major projects undertaken by the Corporation and the progress reported thereunder ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation has been set up as a Company not for profit under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956, w.e.f. 24th Jan., 1997. Action to formulate schemes, guidelines, etc., has been initiated.

#### Conference of State Ministers of Animal Husbandry

1706. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of State Ministers of Animal Husbandry and Dairying was held recently;

(b) if so, whether emphasis was given there at to develop the livestock sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith other points discussed and decisions taken at the conference ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The conference broadly discussed the draft national livestock policy and approach to livestock development during the Ninth Plan. The major decisions and recommendations of the conference are given below:

1. The conference broadly endorsed the national livestock policy.
2. The conference strongly recommended for the establishment of an Indian Council of Veterinary Research.
3. The conference recommended for setting up of 60,000 additional artificial insemination centres for effective cross breeding programmes for upgradation of genetic potential and the productivity level of indigenous livestock.
4. The conference recommended for formation of one lakh dairy cooperatives in areas not covered under Operation Flood Programme.

5. The conference recommended for establishment of District Composite Livestock and Demonstration Centres (Pashu Vigyan Kendras).
6. The conference recommended for provision of higher allocation for the rapid development of animal husbandry sector during the Ninth Plan.

#### **Support Price of Wheat**

1707. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the support price of wheat during the 1997-98 rabi marketing season has been fixed at Rs. 415 per quintal;

(b) if so, the extent to which it is higher in comparison to the last year;

(c) the extent to which this decision will be helpful in procuring the wheat in the open market;

(d) whether the Government have advised the States to make adequate arrangement to tackle the problem of storage and movement in the major wheat producing States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The minimum support price of wheat during 1997-98 marketing year is higher by Rs. 35 per qtl. or 9.2% over that of the last year.

(c) The increase provided by the Government in the MSP of wheat is expected to induce the farmers to increase their production and offer higher supplies for procurement to the public sector agencies.

(d) and (e) The Government has held discussions with the wheat producing states about the arrangement for procurement of wheat *vis-a-vis* other related problems such as storage, movement, availability of gunny bags, opening of purchase centres etc.

#### **Graveyard Land of Wakf**

1708. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Graveyard land of Wakf at Kamal-Ganj area of Kanpur, U.P. has been encroached and 500 buildings that were on rent are still not being vacated by the tenants; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to safeguard the Wakf properties ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the State Government of Uttar

Pradesh, there are six graveyards in Karnel Ganj area which are under encroachment by 251 persons. Out of these, 175 cases of encroachments are sub-judice and 76 cases have been referred to Sunni Central Wakf Board, Lucknow, by the Managing Committee of Graveyards for taking necessary action for retrieval of encroached properties under Uttar Pradesh Muslim Wakfs Act, 1960. These encroachments are of permanent nature.

#### **Corrupt IPS Officers in Tamil Nadu**

1709. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IPS officers in Tamil Nadu as on December, 1996;

(b) the number of IPS officers in State against whom charges of corruption have been framed since 1995 till date; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) There are 143 IPS officers in Tamil Nadu as on December, 1996.

(b) Corruption charges have been framed against 3 IPS officers since 1995.

(c) The State Government have already launched investigations against these officers.

[*Translation*]

#### **SC/ST/OBC/Females Population in Uttar Pradesh**

1710. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total population of Uttar Pradesh as per 1991 census and the percentage of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Other Backward Classes/Females therein;

(b) the steps taken to provide reservation to them in services and political, economic and educational areas as per the provisions of the Constitution;

(c) whether Other Backward Class persons in the State have been identified; and

(d) if so, the details of the list pertaining to OBCs, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ?

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

*[English]***Siberian Cranes**

1711. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wild Siberian Cranes which flew this year from Siberia to Keoladeo National Park at Bharatpur, Rajasthan;

(b) whether the experiment of fixing satellites in their wings to avoid their killing on the way has been successful; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Three Siberian cranes arrived in Keoladeo National Park at Bharatpur, Rajasthan in November, 1996.

(b) No, Sir. Attempts to trap one of the birds for fixing the Platform Terminal Transmitter (PTT) did not succeed.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Stocks of Wheat and Rice**

1712. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India had sold wheat and rice in the open market to reduce huge stocks of foodgrains and control prices of foodgrains in the open market;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat and rice which remained in the godowns during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) the quantity of wheat and rice sold during each of said years; and

(d) the maximum and minimum prices thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) FCI was allowed to make open sale of wheat and rice on the following important grounds :

- (i) to release much needed storage space for fresh procurement;
- (ii) to reduce the carrying cost of stocks with FCI;
- (iii) to exercise, as a measure of market intervention, a sobering effect on the open market prices;

(iv) to reduce, to some extent, the burden on food subsidy.

(b) The stock position of wheat and rice in Central Pool keeps on varying on day to day basis. However, the stock position at the close of the last three Financial Years is as under :—

Figures in Lakh Tonnes  
(Provisional)

Year	Wheat	Rice	Total
31.3.94	69.98	135.46	205.44
31.3.95	87.20	180.82	268.02
31.3.96	81.70	139.72	221.42

(c) The following quantity of wheat and rice were sold under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) during the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 (Audited figures):—

(Figs. in Lakh MT)

Year	Wheat	Rice
1993-94	28.70	0.90
1994-95	51.90	4.90
1995-96	65.10	19.70

(d) The following are the maximum and minimum prices during the said periods in Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic):—

(Rate Rs. per M.T.)

Year	Wheat		Rice	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
1993-94	3850	4800	6600	7100
1994-95	4100	4700	6500	7250
1995-96	4100	4700	6600	7350

*[English]***Decline in Sugar Production**

1713. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :  
SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :  
SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sugar production declined by 43% in the second month of the current season;

(b) if so, the extent of fall in production of sugar and the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the impact of this decline on the sugar export particularly in the context of unattractive international prices of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The sugar production during the second month of current 1996-97 season *i.e.* November, 1996 was 6.79 lakh tonnes as against 11.59 lakh tonnes in the month of November, 1995 representing a fall of 41.4%. The reason for the shortfall can be attributed to delayed commencement of crushing operations for the season 1996-97 on account of prolonged crushing in 1995-96 sugar season.

(d) The fall in production of that particular month would not have any impact on export in view of the fact that production picked up in subsequent months and that the current season had started with high level of carry over stocks.

#### **Bangladeshi Culprits**

1714. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Police has arrested some

Bangladeshis involved in the cases of murder, decoities, etc. during 1996 and 1997 to date;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of cases registered against Bangladeshis in Delhi and in the neighbouring States for various offences; and

(c) the action taken against the illegal infiltrators and to deport them to their home country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Crime Branch of Delhi Police arrested 58 illegal immigrants from Bangladesh in connection with 53 cases of decoity, etc. as per details given in the attached statement, during 1996 and 1997 (upto 25.2.97). None of these cases involved murder.

Law and order being a State subject, the State Governments handle the matters relating to involvement of illegal immigrants in anti-social activities in their respective jurisdiction.

(c) While identification/deportation of illegal immigration is a continuing process, the Government have taken several measures for prevention/detection of illegal migration from Bangladesh. These include, *inter alia*, construction of network of roads/fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh Border, intensification of riverine patrolling by the Border Security Force and strengthening of Foreigners (PIF) and Mobile Task Force (MTF) schemes.

#### **Statement**

Year	Murder	Dacoity	Forgery	Theft	Arms Act	Foreigners Act	Kidnaping	Robbery	Attempt to Murder	Careless Driving	Total
1996	—	2	5	34	3	2	1	1	1	1	50
1997 (upto 25.2.97)	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	—	2	7	35	3	2	1	1	1	1	53

#### **Horticulture Development Plan for Karnataka**

1715. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had sent any integrated Horticulture Development Plan;

(b) if so, the amount sought by the State Government for the purpose;

(c) the amount released so far for the implementation of the said plan; and

(d) the places where the plan is already under implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Poaching of Animals**

1716. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether poaching of wild animals is continuing unabated which is testified by frequent seizures of animals skins, furs, tiger bones etc.; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) It is not a fact that poaching of wild animals is continuing unabated, although there is some poaching of wild animals in the country. The frequent seizures of wildlife products testify increased detection, due to greater vigilance and enforcement activities.

(b) The measures taken to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and their derivatives include :

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tigers, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 447 wildlife sanctuaries and 83 National Parks covering 1,50,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.
- (iv) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of all major enforcement organisations such as : Customs, Revenue intelligence, CBI, Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and Foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.
- (v) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies in February and November, 1996.
- (vi) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies, if necessary, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.
- (vii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.

(viii) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

(ix) A Committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.

(x) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mainly at the major export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

#### **Militant Activities at International Border**

1717. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :  
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up the matter of militant activities being carried on by ISI of Pakistan at Indo-Nepal border with the Government of Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the sneaking in of the militants across the border ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Government is in regular touch with His Majesty's Government of Nepal on various issues including security issues. During the visit of the Foreign Minister of Nepal to India in August, 1996 the subject of security and measures to counter militancy/terrorism was discussed. Both sides reiterated their commitment not to allow militant activities in territory of either country prejudicial to the security of each other. It was also decided that in order to discourage movements of undesirable elements across the border, there should be a more effective system of monitoring of movement across the border. Regular exchange of views takes place between concerned authorities in India and Nepal to tackle specific issues.

(d) All concerned specially in bordering areas have been alerted to keep strong vigil to prevent frequent entry and exit of undesirable elements. Some of the measures adopted are as follows :—

- (a) The Government have taken steps to check the efforts of the Pak ISI by increasing the number of Police posts and intelligence network on the border and by advising the concerned States to intensify

police patrolling so as to check infiltrators and militant elements.

- (b) The enforcement agencies have been instructed to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the provisions contained in various Acts.
- (c) Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been strengthened. Reward Scheme for the informers and enforcement officers is being implemented zealously under the NDPS Act.
- (d) Field level contact points in all Central and State Government enforcement agencies have been established to provide inter-agency cooperation in enforcement work.
- (e) Coordination meetings are being held periodically at the Central and State level to review the working of enforcement agencies and to exchange intelligence on various illegal activities.

#### **Rural Godowns**

1718. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to construct Rural Godowns in every State particularly in the poor and backward States during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the number of such godowns proposed to be constructed in different States; and

(c) the fund provision made therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Governments/UT Administrations for construction of small godowns of the capacity upto 2000 MTs in interior areas where it is necessary to maintain adequate stocks to ensure regular supplies under PDS. This scheme is being implemented to supplement the resources of State Governments/UT Administrations to augment their storage capacity in remote/inaccessible/hilly areas covered in the identified RPDS Blocks. The Scheme is proposed to be continued in the 9th Five Year Plan. For the Annual Plan 1997-98 an outlay of Rs. 12.50 crores has been approved by the Planning Commission.

#### **Tenure of Employees of FCI and Super Bazar**

1719. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to fix a tenure of three years for the employees of the Food Corporation of India and Super Bazar in view of the Fifth Pay Panel Report;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of employees in the FCI and Super Bazar who have been at one assignment for more than three years; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to rotate them ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions have informed that the Fifth Pay Commission have, *inter-alia*, made recommendations in Chapter 25 Section-III (Vol. I) as regards tenure and transfer policies applicable to posts in the Central Government. These recommendations are not applicable in the case of Food Corporation of India and Super Bazar employees.

#### **Condition of the Jails**

1720. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Seventh Finance Commission (1978) had observed that a certain minimum standard of upkeep of prisoners, improvement in diet and amenities and to certain extent, addition to jail capacity are urgently called for but even after 19 years there has been practically no improvement in the environment and the living conditions of prisoners are deplorable;

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking any action to improve the condition of the jails; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Seventh Finance Commission had observed that a certain minimum standard of upkeep of prisoner improvements in diet and amenities, and to a certain extent additions to jail capacity were urgently called for. There is scope to improve environment and living conditions in jails, it would not be correct to say that no improvement in this regard has been made during the last 19 year

Under Entry 4, List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, 'Prisons' is a State subject. It is primarily for the State Governments to take steps to improve the conditions of jails within their respective jurisdiction. To supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Central Government, under the Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration, has been providing financial assistance to the State Governments to improve living conditions in prisons. The Finance Commissions have also been regularly providing financial assistance to the state

Governments for the purpose, which has resulted in visible improvements in the living conditions in the prisons in the country.

#### Reintroduction of Incentive Scheme for Sugar Mills

1721. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reintroduce the incentive scheme for the sugar mills;

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the manner in which it is different from the earlier scheme;

(c) whether the Government will be having some control on sugar mills under this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent to which it is likely to benefit the sugar mills and cane growers; and

(f) the time bound programme has been set for issuing letters of intent to new sugar mills ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government have decided to accept the recommendations of the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices to grant incentives in the form of additional quota of free-sale sugar in the establishment of new sugar factories and expansion projects.

The new Incentive Scheme covers letters of intent issued after 31.3.1994. Like earlier scheme, incentives under the new Scheme are also in the form of extra free-sale quota to new and expansion projects. A statement showing the incentive free-sale quota, including the normal free-sale, is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The monthly releases of free-sale sugar shall be regulated by the Central Government.

(e) The scheme shall improve the feasibility of new sugar factories and expansion projects and will also result in higher utilisation of sugarcane for sugar production in the long run.

(f) No time bound programme can be set for issuing letters of intent but on account of simplified procedure for licensing processing of application is likely to be faster.

#### Statement

##### *Benefits of Additional Free-Sale Quota Including Normal Free-Sale Quota under New Incentive Scheme*

Year	New		Expansion		Expansion	
	2500 TCD		1250 TCD to 2500 TCD		2500 TCD to 5000 TCD	
	HRA	ORA	HRA	ORA	HRA	ORA
1.	100	100	85	100	80	90
2.	100	100	85	100	80	90
3.	100	100	85	100	80	90
4.	100	100	85	100	80	90
5.	100	100	85	100	80	90
6.		100				
7.		100				
8.		100				

#### NOTE :

(i) Ceiling :

50000 MT for HRA &  
44000 MT for ORA

25000 MT for HRA &  
22000 MT for ORA  
with Respect to  
Excess Production

50000 MT for HRA &  
44000 MT for ORA  
with Respect to  
Excess Production

(ii) HRA indicates High Recovery Area and ORA indicates Other Recovery Area.

**Supply of Inferior Quality of Foodgrains by FCI**

1722. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director General of Investigation and Registration (DGIR) filed an application with the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) for action against FCI for allegedly supplying inferior quality of foodgrains for the PDS;

(b) if so, the details of the complaint;

(c) the details of action taken thereon; and

(d) the details of fresh initiative taken to ensure that the quality of foodgrains is not tampered with by the vested interests?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Director General of Investigation and Registration (DGIR) has filed an application with the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) on the ground that the Food Corporation of India has over-charged the consumers in the State of Kerala.

The application of DGIR is based on the C&AG Report that the Food Corporation of India has overcharged the consumers by issuing lower group of rice in higher group, in the State of Kerala. The C&AG has alleged that the FCI has earned an amount of Rs. 418.71 lakhs and customers have been over-charged to that extent.

(c) The Food Corporation of India has given a detailed reply to the MRTPC listing therein the procedure being followed in the issue, of rice under Public Distribution System. As per the procedure foodgrains are moved from the procuring States to the consuming States and the stocks so despatched should contain the details of the group of stocks. In the case of loss of despatching documents in transit, the group of stocks is determined on the basis of the result of spot analysis by a Committee of Officers. This becomes inevitable because waiting for the despatched documents would result in delay in the issue of foodgrains. The spot analysis has resulted into upgradation of rice in 0.03% cases and down-gradation in 0.003% cases. The error could happen either way.

(d) As a remedial action, to avoid recurrence of such cases, instructions have been issued by the Food Corporation of India that the stocks of foodgrains without despatching details will be issued only after confirmation of the group of the despatched stocks.

**Insurgency in NER**

1723. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "North East going the

Kashmir way' appearing in the Assam Tribune, dated February 16, 1997

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

(c) whether Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) are increasing its activities because of the alarming increase of Muslim population in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to check their scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The activities of Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) are kept under surveillance and appropriate decisions taken from time to time.

(c) and (d) Links of Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence with some of the North-East insurgent groups and Muslim fundamentalist groups have come to notice. A close watch is being kept on their activities.

(e) Intelligence machinery for collection, analysis and sharing of information has been improved and there is better coordination between the various agencies.

**Death of Elephants Due to Starvation**

1724. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Statesman' dated December 30, 1996 that a large number of elephants in the Kazhiranga and Manas reserves of Assam have starved to death during the past six months but for non-payment of bills for elephant feed to its suppliers;

(b) if so, number of elephants who died due to starvation and otherwise in Assam and in other States during the said period and in the preceding two spells of six months each; and

(c) the action taken in the matter and the steps proposed to be taken to preserve this majestic animal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The Government has seen the newspaper report in the Statesman of December 30, 1996. The State Government has reported that there is no death of departmental elephants by starvation during 1995-96.

(b) The information on captive elephants in India is not compiled or collated in this Ministry as large number of elephants are owned by private individuals and organisations. The number of wild elephants reported to have died due to natural causes and poaching is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) To preserve the majestic animal, the elephant have been placed under the Schedule I of the Wild Life

(Protection) Act, 1972. In order to discourage poaching of tuskers, a ban has been placed on the trade in ivory. For international control, the elephant has been included in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), which

prohibits international trade among the signatory countries in ivory. In order to strengthen the protection of elephant populations and their natural habitats in India, the Government of India has launched Project Elephant to provide assistance to the elephant range states.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	State	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
		N	P	N	P	N	P
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	4	Nil	2	Nil
3.	Assam	20	4	24	3	14	6
4.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
5.	Karnataka	3	12	4	18	—	10
6.	Kerala	6	6	33	3	34	3
7.	Meghalaya	Nil	1	7	1	9	10
8.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	8
9.	Orissa	—	12	—	13	6	10
10.	Tamil Nadu	—	2	—	4	—	7
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	19
12.	West Bengal	12	2	13	3	6	3
Total		41	40	85	46	77	77

**Child Labour**

1725. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are convening a meeting to discuss the strategy on the growing problems of child labour and street children;

(b) if so, the time by which a meeting is likely to be convened;

(c) whether the Ministry have also decided to set up a 15 member Committee to suggest the ways and means for making the functions of NGOs and other social organisations engaged in the rehabilitation programmes of children more effective and purposeful;

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

(e) the steps Government propose to take in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (e) The information is

being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Prices of Rice, Wheat etc. under P.D.S.**

1726. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :  
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a hike in the Central issue prices of rice, wheat and other essential commodities being distributed under the Public Distribution System;

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

(c) the number of items and extent of increase in their prices during the last three years;

(d) whether any final decision to hike the prices of these items has been taken; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) In statements made in both the Houses of Parliament on 24.2.97, the Government have proposed the introduction of Targeted Public Distribution System with Central Issue Prices as under :—

	(Rs. per kg.)			Wheat
	Rice			
	Common	Fine	Supertine	
Below Poverty Line	3.50	3.50	—	2.50
Above Poverty Line	—	6.50	7.50	4.50

The aforesaid prices show a decrease in the prices for B.P.L., and increase in the prices for A.P.L. population.

So far as sugar is concerned, the price has been raised from Rs. 9.05 to Rs. 10.50 per kg. w.e.f. 10.2.1997. Important reasons for the revisions include increases in the Minimum Support Prices, higher cost of procurement incidentals, increase in statutory minimum price of sugarcane and over all inflation.

Central Issue Prices of rice and wheat and retail price of levy sugar have been as under in the last three years :—

*Central Issue Prices of Rice & Wheat*

Effective from	(Rs. per quintal)			Wheat
	Rice			
	Common	Fine	Supertine	
11.1.93	437	497	518	330
1.2.94	537	617	648	402

*Retail Issue Price of Levy Sugar*

	(Rs. per kg.)
17.2.93	Rs. 8.30
1.2.94	Rs. 9.05
10.2.97	Rs. 10.50

**WWF's Report on Population of Tigers**

1727. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Saviours of Tiger Fight

for Funds" appearing in the 'Asian Age', dated December 18, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the precise concern expressed or conveyed to the Government by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) about the fast depleting population of the Indian Tigers; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Concern has been expressed over the threat faced by Indian Tiger. Government is already taking all possible measures to save the tiger. World Wildlife Fund — India (WWF—India) have been associated as member of Indian Board of Wildlife, Steering Committee of Project Tiger and Tiger Crisis Cell.

**Cost of Processing Milk**

1728. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the Dairy Sector the cost of processing milk is very high;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to lower the cost of processing milk ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The cost of processing of milk can be reduced by having larger capacity plants so as to make use of economies of scale. But in India, milk production being scattered, it is often not feasible to have large capacity plants. But efforts have been made to put up state of art technology dairy plants in areas of high milk production thereby saving on cost of processing.

**Number of Gorkhas and Nepalese**

1729. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Indian Gorkhas/Indian Nepalese; and

(b) whether sub Castes like Rai, Limbu, Tamang, Gurungs, Mangar, Bahun, Chhetri, Newar, Sanyasi, Bhujel, Thami, Kami, Damai, were counted as Indian Nepalese/ Indian Gorkhas of Darjeeling hills, Sikkim, Assam, Dehradun, Himachal Pradesh and North-East States of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) These details are not collected at the Census and hence are not available.

**Search Warrants**

1730. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a police officer can search the house premises of a person without making investigation to verify the correctness of the accusations before resorting to search;

(b) if so, the section of the IPC/CrPC and the circumstances under which the officer can do so;

(c) the safeguards available under the law to the affected person if later on it is established that the person searched upon was innocent; and

(d) the action provided in the Constitution against such police officer who acts in a rash manner ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Under the provisions of Section 165 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, a police officer may search any place for bonafide investigation of any offence, after recording in writing the grounds for doing so and specifying the thing for which the search is being made.

(c) and (d) Safeguards are built into the provisions of Section 165 (1) to (5) such as the recording of reasons for the search, observing the requirements under Section 100, Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 which provides for the presence of two independent respectable persons to be witness to the search, forthwith sending the records to the nearest Magistrate and furnishing a copy to the occupier of the place searched. While conducting a search, if a Police Officer acts in contravention of the law, action can be taken against him in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

**Bhopal Gas Tragedy**

1731. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of compensation so far paid to the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy of 1984;

(b) the different categories under which the compensation has been paid and the extent of amount falling under each of these categories; and

(c) the total money out of the amount deposited by the Union Carbide still lying with the Supreme Court of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 881.88 crores has been paid to the gas victims till 31.01.1997.

(b) The following amount of compensation has been paid to the gas victims under various categories upto 31.01.1997.

01 Category (Personal injury) Rs. 808.57 crores

04 Category (Death) Rs. 73.31 crores

(c) No amount out of the money deposited by the Union Carbide is lying with the Supreme Court of India.

**Courts for Bhopal Gas Tragedy Victims**

1732. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of courts of Deputy Commissioners presently functioning at Bhopal under the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of claims) Act and the number out of them are functioning without the presiding officers;

(b) the number of Additional Commissioners posted to hear the appeals under the aforesaid Act;

(c) the number of posts lying vacant; and

(d) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up ?

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

(a) Presently 37 claims tribunals are functioning for the disposal of cases. For filing of new claims, 56 courts are functioning and Deputy Commissioners have been made in-charge of more than 1 court.

(b) 6 Additional Commissioners have been posted for disposal of the appeals.

(c) 4 posts of Additional Commissioners (Judicial) are vacant.

(d) The posts will be filled up as and when the judges are made available by the Madhya Pradesh High Court.

**Action Plan for Bhopal Gas Tragedy**

1733. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the period of the action plan of the Bhopal Gas Leak Tragedy has been extended;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the enlarged scope of the action plan alongwith the pattern of sharing the items between the Union Government and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(d) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have submitted audited statement of the expenditure incurred under the action plan; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(a) to (c) The period of the Action Plan has been extended

upto 31.03.1997. The Action Plan outlay has been enhanced by Rs. 25.40 crores to cover the escalation in the cost of capital works of various schemes which could not be completed. The pattern of sharing of expenditure between the Union Government and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh is in the ratio of 75:25 respectively.

(d) and (e) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have not submitted the full audited statements of the expenditure incurred under the Action Plan and have stated that effort is being made by them to get the audit certificate from the Accountant General of Madhya Pradesh.

#### **Road Accidents in Delhi**

1734. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :  
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of deaths due to road accidents in Delhi along with their comparative figure with the other metropolitan cities during the last two years till today;

(b) whether the bad condition of roads in Delhi and a large number of vehicles contribute towards road accidents; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to reduce the number of vehicles on the roads so as to improve the quality and maintenance of the roads and to start mass rapid transport system in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per information presently available with National Crimes Records Bureau, the number of persons who died in road accidents in Delhi and three other metropolitan cities during the last two years is as under :—

Sl. No.	City	1995	1996
1.	Calcutta	480	353
2.	Chennai	500	736
3.	Delhi	2090	2091
4.	Mumbai	837	753

(The data for the year 1996 in respect of Calcutta and Chennai relates to the period from January to September and in case of Mumbai upto November).

(b) These factors do contribute to road accidents.

(c) The Government recently approved introduction of a Mass Rapid Transit System in Delhi to relieve congestion on Delhi roads.

#### **Assassination of Rajiv Gandhi**

1735. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inquiry in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case is nearing completion;

(b) if so, the stage at which it stands today;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the president of the Indian National Congress has complained about the non-cooperation by the Government with the Jain Panel;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the time by which the Commission is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) and (f) The Jain Commission of Inquiry has not concluded its inquiry and its current term is upto 31st August, 1997.

(d) and (e) The President of All India Congress Committee has written to the Prime Minister requesting for rendering all the assistance possible to complete its onerous task and give further extension of six months beyond 28th February 1997. The Government has extended the term of the Commission upto 31st August 1997 and is committed to extend all possible cooperation to the Commission for completion of its inquiry.

#### **Land Occupied by CRPF**

1736. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether CRPF have forcibly occupied the cultivable land of the farmers in Allahabad to set up their camp office and are not vacating the land;

(b) whether the farmers have petitioned the Central Government to get their land vacated and quoted the orders of the Allahabad High Court not to dispossess them of their land;

(c) whether some of the Members of Parliament have also brought the fact to the notice of the Government and requested them to ask the CRPF to set up their office on the other land lying nearby not under cultivation;

(d) if so, whether the CRPF have since vacated the cultivable land;

(e) whether the Government propose to direct the CRPF to vacate the land immediately; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Yes Sir, Some villagers/farmers who were occupying some portions of the Defence surplus land outside the 200 acres land allotted to CRPF, have submitted a Petition quoting the orders of the Allahabad High Court dated 24.8.92 not to dispossess them of their land. As the land allotted to CRPF was free from encroachment the question of dispossessing the farmers by CRPF does not arise.

(c) to (f) Yes Sir, One Member of Parliament has written to Hon'ble H.M. requesting him to give direction to CRPF to vacate the land. In view of answer given at (a) and (b), the question does not arise.

#### **Export of Wheat**

1737. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :  
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAIKWAD :  
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to export wheat to Afghanistan and Maldives;

(b) if so, the value, quantum and rate per quintal of wheat already exported/to be exported to each country;

(c) whether the Government have contracted for the imports of wheat from Canada and Australia; and

(d) if so, the reasons for importing wheat to meet the domestic shortage on the one hand and exporting it on the other ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) to (d) Government have allowed export of 30,000 metric tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan from the open market on a request from International Red Cross Society on humanitarian grounds. So far no contract has been finalised with UN Relief Agency for export of wheat to Afghanistan.

Government has also decided to export 2,500 MTs of wheat flour to Maldives from the open market in view of the small quantity involved as a special case. The total value of the contract works out to US \$ 7.63 lakhs (equivalent to Rs. 274.5 lakhs) at the rate of US\$ 305 per MT C&F Male. Government has since banned issue of new Registration - cum-Allocation Certificate (RCAC) or revalidation of the RCAC already issued for export of wheat and wheat products.

Government have decided to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat to augment its domestic availability in view

of the fall in production of foodgrains in the country and rising prices during 1996-97. Till 14.2.1997, the State Trading Corporation of India has finalised contracts for 16.75 lakh tonnes of wheat from Canada, Australia and Argentina.

#### **Impact of Sugar Licensing Policy**

1738. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether NRI, industrialists and Executive Chairman of Sugar and Chemicals industries have criticised the Government's decision to lower the spatial distance between the two sugar factories to 15 kms. from the existing 25 kms.;

(b) if so, the causes cited by them;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether they have hailed the Centre's decision to decanalise sugar exports;

(e) if so, the time by which these decisions are likely to be implemented;

(f) whether the Government's decision to provide incentives for setting up new sugar factories and expanding the existing ones may culminate into an impending food disaster; and

(g) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Representations have been received from M/s. The Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd., Sameerwadi Distt. Bijapur, Karnataka & Indian Sugar Mills Association, criticising the Government's decision to lower down the spatial distance between the sugar factories to 15 Kms. from the existing 25 Kms.

According to them, this would render the sugar units totally sick & non-functional.

(c) The spatial distance between the sugar factories has been kept at 15 Kms. for encouraging entrepreneurs.

(d) and (e) A Trade Notice inviting offers for export of sugar under this system has been issued on 17.2.97 by the Agriculture & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

(f) and (g) The Government of India have decided to have a new incentive scheme for entrepreneurs to whom letters of intent for establishment of new sugar factories and expansions in the existing units were issued after 31.3.94 to mitigate their hardships and to make their projects viable by utilising surplus funds generated through higher free sale quota for repayment of term loans.

**Women Prisoners**

1739. SHRI KOTA SYDAIAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of prisons exclusively for the women prisoners in the country;

(b) the locations thereof and the number of women prisoners therein, State-wise;

(c) whether there is a proposal to set more prisons for the women in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) According to information available, there are 14 prisons in the country which are exclusively for women. These prisons are located in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The number of women prisoners in the country is 6188. Prison-wise details of prisoners are not maintained centrally.

(c) and (d) 'Prison' is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. It is for the State Governments to set up more prisons exclusively for women.

[Translation]

**Castecism**

1740. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the racial riots which took place due to castecism in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to make laws in order to wipe out castecism and prevent people from adding caste based surnames;

(c) if so, the time by which a bill is likely to be introduced in this regard;

(d) whether Government has proposed to issue an ordinance to prevent the bureaucrats from using surname of their caste to their name; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) A statement indicating the number of caste related violent incidents occurred in various states during 1994, 1995 and 1996 is enclosed.

(b) and (d) No such steps are contemplated by the Central Government as of now.

(c) and (e) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Number of caste related violent incidents in various states during 1994, 1995 and 1996*

States	No. of incidents		
	1994	1995	1996
Andhra Pradesh	10	12	10
Bihar	118	147	132
Delhi	—	02	01
Gujarat	05	18	13
Haryana	04	01	03
Himachal Pradesh	04	02	01
J & K	—	02	01
Karnataka	29	38	17
Kerala	01	—	02
Madhya Pradesh	16	06	13
Maharashtra	84	105	61
Orissa	86	31	08
Punjab	01	03	02
Rajasthan	28	23	33
Tamil Nadu	160	210	282
Uttar Pradesh	219	122	93
West Bengal	01	01	—

[English]

**New Drug Policy**

1741. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made by the Government to ascertain the extent to which the New Drug Policy and the Drug Price Control Order have been effective in increasing the drug production and availability of life saving drugs at reasonable prices besides restraining the drug manufacturing companies in the reckless profiteering;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the deficiencies, if any, identified in implementation of the New Drug Policy and Price Control Order; and

(c) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) The "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986" announced in September, 1994 were aimed to ensure abundant availability at reasonable prices of essential and life saving and prophylactic medicines of good quality. Accordingly, Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO) was promulgated in January, 1995 in line with the policy guidelines. No general shortage of essential/life saving drugs, except localised shortage of some particular branded formulations have been reported from time to time for which steps to rush supplies are taken. Prices of scheduled drugs and formulations are fixed/revised under the provisions of DPCO on the recommendations of a body of experts after scrutiny of the cost components. In case of medicines outside price control where abnormal price increases are noticed or reported, the same are probed and meetings are held with the concerned companies with a view to check the prices.

[Translation]

#### Import of Chemical Fertilizers

1742. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of chemical fertilizers is increasing continuously;

(b) the amount of import of chemical fertilizers made during 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(c) the amount of import of chemical fertilizers likely to be made during the next year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Urea, DAP and MOP are three major fertilizers currently being imported for bridging the gap between their assessed demand and indigenous availability. Out of these, only urea, which is under price, distribution and movement control, is imported on Government account. The imports of DAP and MOP have been decanalised w.e.f. 17.9.1992 and 17.6.1993 respectively and are freely importable. The quantities of major fertilizers imported during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as under :—

(Qty. in Lakh Tonnes)

Fertilizer	1995-96	1996-97
Urea	37.82	23.28 (upto Feb. '97)
DAP*	14.06	5.05 (upto Jan. '97)
MOP*	21.92	7.34 (upto Jan. '97)

\*As these fertilizers have been decanalised, the figures of their imports are as available with the Department of Fertilizers.

(c) It is not possible to indicate the likely imports of urea during 1997-98 as it will depend upon a variety of factors like trend of indigenous production, consumption of fertilizers in the country, behaviour of prices in the international market, global demand and supply position, etc.

[English]

#### All India Jail Manual

1743. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: SHRI JAISINH CHAUHAN : SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jail Prisoners' Act has become too old keeping in view the prison scenario of the country;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has recommended preparation of a common 'All India Jail Manual' for all the prisons in the country;

(c) the details regarding the recommendations made on the jail manual and prison reforms; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of the jails in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Supreme Court in its order dated 23.12.1996 has highlighted the prevailing conditions in the prisons and has reiterated the need to take action on some of the problems relating to streamlining of the remission system and parole, to deliberate about enacting of a new Prison Act to replace the old Indian Prison, 1894, to examine the question of framing of model new All India Jail Manual, to improve medical facilities and hygienic conditions, to think about introduction of liberalisation of communication facilities, to take needful steps for streamlining of jail visits and to ruminate on the question of introduction of open air prisons in the districts headquarters of the country.

(d) 'Prisons' being a State subject as per entry 4 of List-II State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, it is primarily for the State Governments to deal with any matter relating to prison administration according to their rules, regulations, Jail manuals, etc. However, the Government of India provides financial assistance, under the Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in improving prison infrastructure and living conditions of prisoners. The Tenth Finance Commission has also recommended financial assistance to the State Governments

for repair and renovation of jail buildings and for providing medical facilities in jails.

#### **Production of Drugs in IDPL and HAL**

1744. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of production of drugs in the IDPL and the HAL and their subsidiaries during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of losses suffered by these units during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make up these losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) The details are being collected and they would be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Modernisation of Fertilizer Plants**

1745. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :  
SHRI N.J. RATHWA :

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

(a) the details of fertilizer plants modernised and the capacity raised thereof during the last three years, statewide;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred on the action plan for modernisation of the fertilizer plants, plantwise/statewise/yearwise;

(c) the details of fertilizer plants for which modernisation plan is under consideration of the Government, Statewise;

(d) whether the foreign technology has been used/being used in their modernisation process;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the latest position in this regard;

(f) whether NFL has managed to secure financial support for meeting the working capital requirement development needs through Government/Banking institutions/other organisations; and

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

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

#### **Fertilizer Units**

1746. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Japanese company has sought guarantee from the Central Government for the revival of Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup fertilizer plants; and

(b) if so, the justification for not giving guarantee to the Japanese company for the revival of the sick fertilizer plants in the interest of farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) A preliminary offer has been received from the Export and Import Bank of Japan for participating in the revamp of Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC). The conditionalities of the proposed financial assistance which, include a Government guarantee, require further examination.

#### **Illegal Immigrants**

1747. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh in the country;

(b) whether the Government have taken up the matter of their deportation with the Government of Bangladesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) It is difficult to estimate the exact number of infiltrators from Bangladesh because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities.

(b) and (c) The interception/apprehension of unauthorised Bangladesh migrants and their deportation to Bangladesh is an on-going process. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels from time to time.

#### **Shahtoosh Trade**

1748. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAI SI :

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

(a) whether trading in Shahtoosh is banned in the country except in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether despite the ban Shahtoosh trade is mushrooming day by day;

(c) if so, the details of seizure of items of raw Shahtoosh made during 1994 to December, 1996; and

(d) the action being taken against the illegal traders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Although some cases of attempted smuggling and trade of raw Shahtoosh and Shahtoosh items have been detected, it is not a fact that the trade of Shahtoosh is mushrooming day by day. Between January 1994 and

December, 1996, 10 cases of illegal trade/smuggling of shahtoosh were detected. Details of the seized items are given below :

1. Raw Shahtoosh                      10 bales + 15.750 kg.
2. Shawl/mufflers made of      225 Nos.  
shahtoosh

(d) Action against the accused in these cases is being taken under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and other relevant acts and rules.

#### Price Preference for Domestic Fertilizer Industry

1749. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the confederation of the capital goods industry members have drawn the attention of the Government to the non-restoration of 15% price preference to the domestic manufacturers in the fertilizer industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) The request for restoration of 15% price preference to domestic manufacturers of capital goods for the fertilizer industry for the purpose of evaluation of bids under the international competitive bidding procedure was considered by the Government. It was, however, not found possible to accord any price preference to Indian manufacturers of capital goods/equipment for supplies to the fertilizer plants.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yesterday I said there would be no Zero Hour and the Prime Minister will straightway reply.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJEEV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Chief Minister of Bihar has made a statement that our Police...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. It is not permitted by the Chair.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Rudyji, this is not the way. You should abide by what I have announced yesterday.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Before the Prime Minister replies, Katheriaji has got a very important thing to say. I am allowing him as a special case. Katheriaji you can take just one minute, please.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj) : About Baripada medical hospital in Mayurbhanj, I want to give some information to the House.

MR. SPEAKER : You met me yesterday. I have taken up the matter with the Government. At our level we are taking up the matter.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : People are still dying there. We are still not taking any initiatives from the Central Government. There should be a recommendation from the House also. People are getting admitted in the hospital. They will simply die. They are not ready to get transferred to another hospital also. We tried our level best to transfer them to Tata Hospital.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, Sushilaji. We have taken up the matter with the Orissa Government.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : I do not want to waste the time of the House. This is a very important incident. I just request you for a minute more.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point in more than a minute. I have told you that I have taken up the matter personally.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : I have spoken only three sentences and I will speak three more sentences. There is no burning unit there. There is only one burning unit in the whole of Orissa at Cuttack SCB Medical College. There is no air-conditioning facility and there is no cooler also at Baripada Hospital. Those who are admitted to the hospital definitely God bless them, but you cannot assure that they will be cured tomorrow. There should be a proper burning unit with all facilities. Only a burning unit can provide them some relief.

I thank the Prime Minister because he announced a relief of Rs. 50,000 for the next of kin of the deceased and Rs. 25,000 for the injured. I thank all those people of Baripada and Mayurbhanj who came forward with some kind of relief and helped the people.

My demand is that immediately the Central Government should take up the matter and take an immediate decision

to provide a burning unit with all facilities for giving treatment to the people there...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have made it very clear. I think, the Government would look into it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to draw attention of the Government and of the House to the news items with regard to Uttar Pradesh wherein it has been reported about the Governor that...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Katheria, I have not allowed you to tell this. You are betraying me. You wanted to raise something about your son who has been kidnapped. I will allow you only on that.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, well, now I will speak of myself. On 17th February some members of my family, including my 18 year old nephew Ashok and another 17 year old boy of my family, namely Ram Swaroop left my house at Ferozabad, in a car at 10.00 A.M. and reached Jaipur at 1.00 P.M. Thereafter there is no trace of them. They were riding a car bearing number UP 80-E-9967 but so far there is no trace of either my family or the car they were riding.

I came to know about it on 20th. I was in Farrukhabad on 21st in connection with the murder of a leader of my party and I returned from there on 22nd. On 23 when I talked to the senior Officers of Police in this regard, the SSP of Agra suggested me that this incident should not appear in the newspapers. Therefore I did not lodge the FIR. But the question is what happened to my family. Have they been kidnapped or murdered ? When I got no trace of them, I had to lodge an FIR of this incident. I brought this incident in the knowledge of senior leaders of my party including Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. I apprised you also of this incident and you promptly talked to the Chief Secretary in this regard but, Sir, see the irony of my fate that so far no such fact has come to light that could give me some relief...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point. It is enough.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are our custodian. I want to tell you as to how a Member of Parliament is being treated. I want to tell you as to what type of incident happened with me. After taking appointment with the Governor on phone when I went to the reception and told them that I was a representative of the people and

therefore I should be given a hearing, I was asked as to which caste I belonged to. Thereafter they asked me as to which party I belonged to. Mr. Speaker, Sir, what a sorry state of affairs that a Member of Parliament is being asked and to which particular caste or which particular party he belonged to.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell about the incident of yesterday. May be that the Governor is not aware of that. But you please listen about it. After all you are our custodian. I want to bring it in your cognizance that in reception I was accompanied by three People's Representatives, including Ratna Singh, M.P. and Shrimati Bano, from Rampur. I do not know as to what type of instructions had been issued to the staff at reception, as when I told them that we were Members of Parliament and as such we may please be given priority on others, we were asked to join the queue and accordingly, I joined the queue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, No. You please sit down.

*[English]*

That is enough. You have made your point.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : When the commoners and two Members of Parliament also got entry passes, I asked them whether discrimination is made even in making entry passes and why we were not allowed entry. Thereafter I asked the Governor and the DGP as to why discrimination is being done against us.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel pained to narrate this incident. To whom we, the Members of Parliament should go for redressal ? Now-a-days such is the state of affairs in Uttar Pradesh that one can contact God but cannot contact an Officer of U.P. Government even on telephone. No Officer is prepared to listen. Therefore I urge that my family should be traced out...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to kindly look into it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my request.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not prolong this issue. You have said what you wanted to say.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may tell you for your information that one boy has been apprehended...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : As far as the kidnapping part is concerned, the Hon. Minister may kindly look into it.

I have told the Minister now. You please sit down. I have told the Minister to take whatever action that is possible.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not understand this. Hon. Prime Minister is going to reply to the debate.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria because his was a special case. Do not take undue advantage.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)\*

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I rise to reply to the debate on the Address delivered by His Excellency, the President, to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What are you talking?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You please keep quiet, Mr. Katheria. What else do you want?

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Home Affairs may say something on the incident...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I cannot shout...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Will you behave or not ? Please do not force me to take an extreme step. Mr. Katheria, I have done a favour to you and you are not behaving now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. What is this ? Do not take the House to ransom. I am not going to tolerate this any more. Please keep quiet.

...(Interruptions)

12.14 hrs.

[English]

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Prime Minister will reply to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, before I start my reply, I would only like to inform my colleague and hon. member who has expressed a serious apprehension about the whereabouts of his family Members, that I also have got the same concern.

It seems, Sir, your goodself has given a consent for having a Short Duration Discussion tomorrow or today itself after my reply. I will sit here and I will hear every word of the events that took place which is going to be a ...(Interruptions) Either today or tomorrow, any time ...(Interruptions) I am going to...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is referring to the earlier ruling of mine, regarding UP

...(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : This is regarding Uttar Pradesh. I am only saying this to that hon. Member. A serious allegation was made by the hon. Member. Hon. Speaker told me yesterday that there would be a Short Duration Discussion concerning Uttar Pradesh. I do not know under what Rule the hon. Speaker is going to allow. It is up to the House and the hon. Speaker. I am only going to give an assurance on behalf of the Government that whatever situation that is prevailing in Uttar Pradesh will be discussed in the House. Sir, you have also given a ruling to constitute an Advisory Committee of the Members of Parliament. So, all these things are going to come up...(Interruptions) No, I am not going to ...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : First of all, may I know this ? Why can the Prime Minister not agree to have a discussion under Rule 184 ? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I will agree to whatever the hon. Speaker decides. I do not know ...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : But you are not opposed to that!...(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am not going to ...*(Interruptions)* Please hear me ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Leader of the Opposition wants to bring that Motion under Rule 184. If his intention is that the Motion may be adopted and the Government may go, please do not worry about it. If that is his intention, I am not worried about that. Whether the Motion under Rule 184 is going to be voted here in favour of the Government or against the Government, I am not bothered about that; please do not worry about that.

Now I am only confining myself to the reply to the debate. That is all I would like to say.

Sir, at the outset, I would like to express my thanks to the Hon. Members who have participated in the 'Governor's Address' ...*(Interruptions)* I am sorry, the 'President's Address' ...*(Interruptions)* I am sorry, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)* That is my habit ...*(Interruptions)* That is my habit. All right ...*(Interruptions)*

Nearly 52 Members of this august House have participated in the debate. They have given valuable suggestions and constructive criticisms also. I welcome all those suggestions and constructive criticisms, from the point of view of toning up the administration. I welcome all those suggestions made by the Hon. Members and I am grateful to them.

Sir, I would like to go back to the past events. On 1st June 1996, we took over the responsibility of running this country. I do not want to go back to whatever had happened before the 1st of June 1996. I would like to refresh my memory again, only from the 1st of June 1996, as to what are the things that have happened in this country.

Sir, on the 1st of June, I do not think, my party had got any mandate. We are hardly 44 people. Thirteen political parties have formed the United Front. Certain independent Members have also extended me cooperation. This Government was — with the support of the Congress from outside and with the support of CPI (M), also from outside — installed by the respected Rashtrapati.

What were the circumstances this Government was facing at that time? Every day, there was a suspicion in the minds of the people, a suspicion in the minds of the bureaucrats, a suspicion also in the minds of the media, a suspicion outside the country and inside the country as to whether this new experiment would work; and how could this Government — of 13 political parties with different ideologies, with different manifestoes and with different programmes — can function?

This was the atmosphere prevailing on that day in the country. Even the bureaucrats were countering whether this Government would survive for three months or one month or two months. I am not going to blame anybody. But that was the atmosphere prevailing in this

country on the day when I took over the responsibility with my colleagues to run this country. Sir, with this background, anyway we have completed nine months. And what is that we have actually achieved? Have this Government done anything tangible in these nine months from the point of view of the development of the nation and to create an atmosphere that even this new experiment can successfully manage the affairs of the nation? Whether we have done it or not is a matter which we shall now place before the House.

Let me now try to narrate what we have done in the last nine months. Sir, for the first 12 days, there was total uncertainty. The stability of the Government had to be established by the voting and mandate of this House. The vote of confidence was taken on 12th June. From 12th June onwards, we started our functioning.

Sir, we have got our own party programmes, our own party manifesto and our own ideologies. For the smooth functioning of the Government, we all sat together and accepted the Common Minimum Programme. That was our guideline. That is our barometer. We wanted to function very smoothly without creating among ourselves any major areas of difference. We wanted to see that this new experiment should be successful and the mandate given by the people in the Eleventh Lok Sabha should be honoured. No political party was able to get the mandate including the Congress, including the larger party, the BJP or smaller parties. No political party was able to get a clear mandate. With this background, when we took over the responsibility, we wanted to see that this experiment should be made successful with the cooperation of the supporting parties and the parties which are in the Government.

Sir, I am only placing the accountability of the Government, of what we have done in these last seven to eight months, to the nation through this House. I have gone through some of the points raised by the hon. Members about agriculture, regional imbalances and Defence. I have gone through some of the issues raised by the hon. Members in this House. I would like to cover almost all the points, with your kind permission.

Dr. Muri Manohar Joshi has said as to what we have done in the agricultural sector. I have gone through his speech. The first decision which the Government took within fifteen days after the vote of confidence was given by this House was to give Rs. 2500 crore to the agricultural sector as a subsidy component to di-ammonium sulphate and phosphatic fertilisers. That is the first decision we have taken. I know that the President's Address is a policy document. I will come to the policies and programmes of this Government at a later stage. What have we done in seven months? The people of the nation are expecting us to tell them what this Government has done because they are our masters. We have to place our accounts and achievements in the last seven to eight months.

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

Sir, today, the result of Rs. 2500 crore which we have given to the farmers is that in the agricultural sector, our production has gone to 191 million tonnes. That is only one point that I would like to say.

I convened a meeting of all the Chief Ministers because we are working in a different political atmosphere. The regional parties and the national parties are involved to form this coalition Government. And I do not want to discriminate between one State and another State. So, I convened the meeting of all the Chief Ministers. The Chief Ministers' Conference was held in Delhi for two days. We have arrived at a consensus decision. The decision is for identifying seven areas where we have to give more allocation because they are the priority sectors according to the views expressed by all the Chief Ministers of the States. The first Budget for 1996-97 was placed by Dr. Manmohan Singh. After the election, we got the opportunity to place the second Budget in this very House for 1996-97. For that purpose, in that Budget for nine months, we have provided Rs. 2,466 crore or so and distributed the same to all the States. There is no question of any discrimination between 'X' party Government or 'Y' party Government. We have taken a firm decision. This was the second step taken by us.

In our Budget for 1996-97, I am going to highlight some of the issues. I do not want to take credit for this. For a short duration of three years and ten months, I was also a Member of this House. When I used the term "Governor's Address", somebody tried to take it as a sort of this thing. For 35 years, I was there in the Assembly ...*(Interruptions)* That is the practice that we follow there. For four years, I was sitting there. Our senior leader, Shri George Fernandes, was here. Shri George Fernandes and myself were together. Fortunately, even when I was sitting there, I was unable to come nearer to him ...*(Interruptions)* I was sitting there.

I requested the former Minister of Agriculture, Shri Balram Jakhar, in this very House — our former Speaker used to sit here — to, at least, restore the subsidy for the phosphatic fertiliser and diammonium sulphate; otherwise, the agricultural community was going to suffer. The records will disclose it. There is nothing new for me. I never expected that I was going to become the Prime Minister of this country ...*(Interruptions)*

The first decision which I took was that I identified the area of the agricultural community. In the budget for irrigation, we had requested the Government about it not only in this House but also by writing directly to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Irrigation. We have provided Rs. 900 crore for acceleration of irrigation works. Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi is not here in the House. We have provided subsidy for tractors of 18 HP and power tillers.

This Government is committed to the rural masses. This Government is committed to the poor sections of

the society — that too from the agricultural sector ...*(Interruptions)* I will tell you very frankly ...*(Interruptions)* I request your goodself that if they want any clarifications, I am prepared to cooperate. But let them allow me to express my views.

MR. SPEAKER : You can carry on. If there is any question, they can ask it later on.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, Rs. 250 crore has been allocated for the development of the slum dwellers. We all are rich people and that is why we have allocated Rs. 250 crore in the Budget for these people.

Sir, I would like to submit on what we have done so far. This is done not to take any credit. The impression outside the country was that there was a lot of red tapism, corruption and bureaucratic hurdles which would create problems for investment and the investors in this country. That was the impression prevailing outside about this country. Dr. Manmohan Singh himself accepted and openly expressed that he had not been able to clear the power projects because of procedural hindrance. This was his open admission. We have taken some steps to decentralise powers with the sole objective of accelerating our economic reforms whether it is infrastructural development or industrial growth; whether it is inflow of private investment for the agricultural sector or for the power sector.

The Foreign Investment Promotion Board was directly under the control of the PMO. I have delegated powers to the Minister of Industries. Within a short span of four to five months, almost all the pending projects before the Central Government involving an amount, I think, of seven million dollars was cleared.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : What is the *havala* amount in it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, it is totally unacceptable ...*(Interruptions)* Was that justified even as an interruption? There is a limit to heckling a Prime Minister when he is replying to the Address and making an allegation of that kind without any basis whatsoever. Does the Leader of the Opposition support that?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I did not hear what he had said. Kindly repeat it ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He said that what was the *havala* amount ...*(Interruptions)* What does that mean?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : We are not in favour of any interruptions. The Prime Minister knows it ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : There is a limit to that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not allow your leaders to handle things ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Members of all sides, not only the BJP Members that in these nine months if we have been involved in any scam or in any *havala* — do not try to play politics at every stage — I would repeat again that if any scam has taken place during the tenure of this Government in Office or any *havala* deal has been transacted, let the matter be brought before this House and a No-Confidence Motion moved against this Government. If I am involved, I would tender my resignation in this very House. If my colleagues are involved, I am going to sack them. I can assure you to this extent. Please for God's sake, do not spare us. You have every right and every privilege to move a No-Confidence Motion or bring in any type of motion under the Rules. I have no objection to it. But there is no need for a sarcastic remark.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : The Minister in your Government has not replied to a case involving Rs. 546 crore. This is a big scam ...*(Interruptions)* I have received a letter ...*(Interruptions)* That has been accepted on the floor of the House but he is not revealing the names ...*(Interruptions)* What are they talking about ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am prepared to hear ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Prime Minister finish his speech.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I have only said 'this Government', the Union Government headed by Deve Gowda in the last nine months.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : I have received a letter.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : You keep that letter safely. Do not waste that letter. Use it at an appropriate time. That is all I want to say on it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, delegation of powers to Foreign Investment Promotion Board was done only to see that the projects are cleared in time, the investors have confidence, and there is no delay either at bureaucratic or at political level. With this background I took that decision.

About power projects, there were eight mega-power projects for which MOUs were signed under the earlier Government. Counter-guarantees were given only in two power projects. The Maharashtra Government, when Sharad Pawarji was the Chief Minister, cleared the Enron Project. And what happened subsequently, we know the whole thing. Subsequently, the present Government went to the extent of filing an affidavit before the Court. Whatever allegations were made were only under the political circumstances and there is nothing wrong. That is the situation there.

Why is it that in the Eighth Plan we are unable to achieve the target in power sector ? I do not want to go into the details about the figures. Today the power problem in the whole country is very acute, barring one or two States. Even if for three hours, four hours, or maximum six hours, power is made available to agriculturists in a State, that is the happiest State. Except in one or two States, everywhere the power problem is very acute.

In the next five years, if we want to achieve the target that we have fixed for the Ninth Plan not only for power generation but for distribution and allocation — all these things put together come to about Rs. 3,20,000 crore — how do we get the money ? How do we generate the resources ? Is it possible for us to generate the resources unless we create a climate for investment either domestic or global ? We took the decision to see that these projects are not delayed. The impression the overseas investors had got about this Government, first of all, was the suspicion whether this Government will survive, and whether stability will be there. The life of the Government was hanging according to those people. Everyday when you went through the media and the newspapers, the first agenda that you found was that this Government will go day after tomorrow, or next week, and we have completed nine months. Today, I am happy to say that on matters we intended to take decisions, we have taken decisions. Whether the Government is going to survive or not going to survive, is not my concern.

Today, in the whole country and in the whole world an atmosphere has been generated after the Budget is presented by my colleague Mr. Chidambaram. Today, there is all-round appreciation by investors, by industrialists, by the common man. This is the impression that we have created today.

I am going to list out the areas which we have touched in the Budget. Power sector, yes, I decentralised it. I left it to the States. Up to 25 megawatts, the States can clear the projects; there is no need for them to come to us. If they want to go in for a higher magnitude of power project, then they should come, and that too only on three issues. One is the fuel, because we have to allot it. Then comes the problem of allocation, because if they produce surplus power, the national grid has to agree to purchase it.

About the technical feasibility and the price fixation, suppose one State says Rs. 6 per unit, then how can I purchase ? Only on these three issues, we have issued instructions to the States to consult the Central Government or the Union Government that within two months or eight weeks we are going to clear the projects. Whatever may be the magnitude and size of the project, we do not want to withhold it, we do not want to unnecessarily delay it. If it is 250 kw and above then they must come before the Central Government. This is how, we have delegated the powers and requested the State Governments to cooperate.

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

Sir, about some of the pending issues like the *Mahakali* Treaty between Nepal and our country, sharing of river waters between Bangladesh and India, I am not going to claim that we have done a miracle, but we have made sincere efforts to improve our relationship with our neighbours. Whether you are going to appreciate or not, it is for the people to judge. I am not bothered. But only thing is that we have done this in a short span of seven or eight months. I am not going to take it as an individual achievement; it is the achievement of this House because you have all cooperated and we have done our little bit to the nation.

Even on the CTBT issue, if you have not cooperated, if the people of the nation have not cooperated, it would not have been possible for the Government to take such a hard decision. I could say that it is a minority Government. Some people say that we have got 330 hon. Members including the outside support of the Congress. That is a different matter. Unless I get the cooperation of the people, unless I get the cooperation of the House, it is rather difficult for me to take certain hard decisions. Even on the CTBT issue we took a hard decision expecting that the House would stand by us. For that, I would like to express my thanks to the entire House for their cooperation.

When we congratulated our scientists for the successful launch of the Prithvi, some people on that day asked, what about Agni ? The other side, were also expressing their concern. I would like to tell the House that as far as giving necessary support by the Government to our scientists is concerned, we will extend full support. Even on the issue of 'Agni' missile we will extend our full support. That is all I would like to say at this stage.

About the regional imbalance, I would like to say that even today, after 50 years of Independence when we are going to celebrate the Golden Jubilee year in 1997, I think, six States are more backward, namely, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : No. It is Assam.

These are the six States.

As far as North-Eastern States are concerned, they altogether, come under different category. In the North-Eastern States, not only backwardness but also insurgency problem is there. I am going to give the details as to what we have done there. I took personal interest, and I took all my officers there. I stayed there for six-and-a-half days. Without mixing politics, I had meetings with the Leaders of every political party, the Non-Governmental Organisations, Christian Missionaries, the Governors, the Chief Ministers, the MLAs whichever Party they may belong to. I tried to meet every section of the society for getting a feedback.

Before I left Guwahati, I announced a financial package. After consulting almost all political party leaders, we have identified Rs. 6100 crore worth of development works. The Home Secretary was there. Some of the senior officers were with me. All those works, I would like to mention today in this august House, have been included in the Annual Budget and some of the major projects were included in the Ninth Five-Year Plan. Sir, some allocations were made for the first year of 1997-98 and some of the very major projects worth Rs. 1000 crore or Rs. 12000 crore projects were brought under the purview of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Similar is the case of Kashmir. I had made three visits. I had also announced certain financial packages. Sir, with all sincerity, we wanted to implement the financial package which we had announced. All those works have been cleared. In this year's Budget also, we have provided certain amount of money. The details of it will be given by the Finance Minister. All those major works also were brought under the purview of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : What about Bihar ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : We have not given special package for Bihar and U.P. I have announced economic packages only for the North-Eastern States and Kashmir.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You have taken Ganga water from Bihar but you have neglected the interest of Bihar.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, you must come out with a package for these six States also. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : When will you consider economic packages for Bihar and U.P.?

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : A period of more than six months has elapsed but so far work has not been taken up even on a single project in Kashmir.

*[English]*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Please wait. I will tell you what we have done ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think the Prime Minister can go on answering to every query. Mr. Prime Minister, you can carry on now.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Do not worry.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Let the Prime Minister conclude first. Doubts can be raised and allayed later. If hon. Members go on interrupting like this and the Prime Minister continue to reply them, his speech will go bereft of continuity.

*[English]*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, for the benefit of the hon. Member I will read out the figures from the list. This list includes the Central Works including the Annual Plan of 1997-98.

We have given, this year, Rs. 100 crore for Udhampur-Baramulla Railway line. We have also given in the current year's Budget Rs. 300 crore for Uri Hydro-Electric Project; Rs. 112 crore for Dulahasti Hydro-Electric Project; Rs. 12 crore for one year for National Highway; Rs. 10 crore for Mughal Road; Rs. 2.4 crore for setting up of a Convention Centre at Leh; Rs. 23 crore for development of Kargil Airport; Rs. 300 crore for rural infrastructure and basic minimum needs; and Rs. Five crore for sewerage component of Dal Lake. The debt relief to borrowers comes to about Rs. 118 crore. We have waived-off that component at the rate of Rs. 50,000.

Sir, the list of projects in the Ninth Five Year Plan include Rs. 2,000 crore for Udhampur-Baramulla Railway line. We have also included in the Ninth Plan Dulahasti Hydro Electric Project and have allocated Rs. 3,000 crore for that. Development of Kargil Airport is also included in the Ninth Five Year Plan and we have given Rs. 23 crore for this. We want to complete it but if it is going to be carried over, it will be carried forward to the next year.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, it will create further imbalances.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rudy, you are in the habit of interrupting too much.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, the hon. Member from Jammu & Kashmir wanted to know what we have done for that State ...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Rs. 400 crore was released out of the sanctioned amount of Rs. 7000 crores.

*[English]*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, for the first time, the Annual Plan for Jammu & Kashmir is for Rs. 1550 crore in a financial year.

Similarly, we have given packages for the North-Eastern States. I have got the list which has been cleared and has been included in the current year's Budget and also in the Ninth Plan. I do not want to read out all those things here, but if it is necessary, I will circulate it to all the hon. Members. This list shows the works that we have included in the current year's Budget and also in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA (*Junagarh*) : The Government have not said anything about Narmada Project. Hon. Supreme Court has issued injunction ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Let me complete my speech, then I will answer to your queries. Please cooperate.

Sir, this Document, the President's Address, normally is a policy document. It states our programmes for the next year, that is 1997-98. It also states whether we have made any necessary allocations for the programmes which have been announced through this Address, which the President delivered to the joint Session of both the Houses of Parliament. It further states whether we have taken care of those programmes ...(*Interruptions*) I would like to request the hon. Members to please bear with me.

Sir, for the basic minimum service works, last time we have given Rs. 2,466 crore and this time we have increased it to Rs. 3,300 crore. We have given Rs. 8,000 crore for PDS.

George Saheb and myself have addressed a public meeting collectively. On fertiliser subsidy and on food subsidy we collectively addressed the public meeting. At least you must say one word, 'You have done some good work'. You must say that.

Some hon. Members wanted to know as to how much money goes to different States under this category ...(*Interruptions*) Please wait. Assam will get a sum of Rs. 472 crore under this category. Kerala's share is the highest one because they have implemented this scheme from the beginning. Kerala, Andhra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu have already implemented this scheme and of course, Maharashtra also, if I am correct. Since all these States have already implemented this and subsidised the PDS, they are going to get a little more. The other States have to identify the people who are below the poverty line and we have requested the State Governments ...(*Interruptions*) I will read out the money allotted to every State ...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (*Hissar*) : How much money has been allotted to Haryana ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a Question Hour.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Andhra is getting about Rs. 452 crore; Assam — Rs. 472 crore; Bihar — Rs. 314 crore; Gujarat — Rs. 279 crore and Jammu — Rs. 536 crore. This is based on the Lakadawala norms regarding the people

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

below the poverty line. It is based on the norms and the guidelines that have been adopted by the Planning Commission. And this amount of Rs. 8,000 crore is going to be distributed to the beneficiaries in case the States are going to implement this scheme. If any State is not going to take advantage of this scheme that has been announced, we cannot straightway ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : The people of Haryana are very poor. When you are telling about all states, then tell about Haryana as well ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Both the food subsidy and the agricultural subsidy put together comes to about Rs. 17,000 crore. Unless the State Governments are going to implement this scheme, the question of releasing the subsidy amount is ruled out. We are not going to release this amount to any State unless they cooperate, identify the beneficiaries and issue the cards and prepare all infrastructure. Particularly on the issue of diverting this money for some other purpose, we are not going to oblige. We have requested the Chief Ministers of all the States to see that at least in the next two months, the beneficiaries must be identified. This money should not go to the traders. This House will agree with me that this huge amount should not go in the pocket of the vested interests. That is what I would like to make it clear to all the Chief Ministers through this House. Let them take this opportunity and see that this scheme is implemented as early as possible ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL (Varanasi) : Ask from the Governor as well ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, now I come to irrigation sector. What is the responsibility before us ? Shri Sharad Pawarji has mentioned several issues. What are all the responsibilities before all of us now ? In the power sector itself, a sum of Rs. 3,20,000 crore is required. For completion of all the pending irrigation works or the works that are lingering on for the last several years, we need about Rs. 40,000 crore ...*(Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You take care of only Shri Sharad Pawar. Other people have also spoken.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Your goodness has suggested about the basic minimum programme. In your

speech under agricultural sector, you have also mentioned all these things. Only on the power sector, you tried to impress what exactly the quantum of the burden that is before all of us. The official figure is Rs. 3,51,000 crore.

Regarding irrigation projects, 194 major and 176 medium projects are lingering on for the last 20-25 years. To complete these projects at the current rate, it requires about Rs. 42,000 crore. After all, we have provided only Rs. 1300 crore. Last year, we had provided Rs. 900 crore and this year, we have provided Rs. 1300 crore.

Sir, for housing, we have provided Rs. 330 crore for the urban people, who are living in slums and for the first time we tried to launch this scheme. I do not think this country belongs only to some affluent sections of society. Those people have no voice. For the rural masses, there is no scheme. For landless labourers, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, we have Ambedkar Yojana or Indira Avas Yojana. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : The selection of beneficiary is very faulty ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I know that. I am telling about that. Why do you lose your patience ? Indira Avas Yojana and Ambedkar Yojana are for landless and for those people who have no roots. A person who has got two acres, three acres or five acres of land and who want to construct some houses which will have some modern facilities, there is nobody who is going to advance money for him ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. UPENDRA : The selection of the beneficiary is faulty. The money is not being properly distributed. This has been brought to your notice earlier.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Under Indira Avas Yojana and Ambedkar Yojana, the beneficiaries have to be identified for the houses that we are going to allot or the funds that we are going to allot. One of the demands of our hon. Members is to see that the beneficiaries should be identified by us. That is one of the demands. But the only thing is that there are Panchayat Raj institutions, which we have accepted in principle. The matter whether we should take over the powers again to identify the beneficiaries or to allow them is to be decided again by this House. Sir, I will only be guided by this House. I do not want to interfere at this stage.

[*Translation*]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet) : The M.Ps. are not being associated in Indira Avas Yojana. Money is being allotted to District Collectors only. It is a Central Scheme, therefore Members of Parliament should be associated in it.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : We will discuss that issue. ...*(Interruptions)* For the first time, we have launched this scheme to provide financial assistance from the financial institutions whether it is Life Insurance Corporation or Banking Institution to the tune of Rs. 2 lakh per house. This time initially we wanted to identify up to 50,000 beneficiaries. We want to launch this scheme in the rural areas. I myself discussed with the executives of some of the financial institutions who said that in the rural areas, we cannot expect the appreciation value of the house as we expect in the urban area. In addition to that, we cannot take the land as a collateral security. That is why we do not want to risk ourselves. This is the argument they try to advance in response to the question as to why they are not going to advance the housing loan for the rural areas. When I discussed with the officers, they are not prepared for that. In this country, somebody has to broach this subject. I do not know whether it is the destiny which has been on my head but now this responsibility has been shouldered.

I would like to make myself clear. There were bad debts to the tune of Rs. 39,000 crore in the banking sector.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Is Shri P. Chidambaram not doing anything ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : He is doing his best. You wait for that. It is not yesterday that they had accumulated. Bad debts to the tune of about Rs. 4,000 and odd crores have already been waived. We thought several times about the rural people because they are not organised, they have no voice and we have to do something.

Yesterday in the Budget speech Shri P. Chidambaram has said that lending had been increased to Rs. 6,000 crore for the first time for the agricultural sector. Is that not an achievement ? We wanted to go further. There is no question of any hesitation on that. We have provided the Infrastructural Development Fund which is in the third phase, and which is only for the rural areas. We have provided Rs. 3,300 crore for basic minimum services in the rural areas. My colleague Shri Yerrannaidu who is looking after this Employment Assurance Scheme, Indira Avas Yojana knows that for rural development itself we have provided this time Rs. 9000 and odd crores. About Rs. 8000 crore is under the Plan expenditure. We have increased it to Rs. 9,000 crore. Is it not enough for the sake of the poor people that we have done this ? The programme that we have launched by the Address of Rashtrapati is not a mere programme. We have provided sufficient cushion, sufficient allocation even for the implementation of this programme.

In the name of Kasturba Gandhi we have launched a new scheme, *i.e.* Residential Schools for Girls. We have provided Rs. 250 crore for the Residential Schools for Girls.

When I went to the Mewar region, I found that not even two per cent of the people are educated. Eighty per cent of the people residing there are Muslims. When I went to Madhya Pradesh — some of our MPs who are here know it — the memorandum given by the Scheduled Tribes in a Tribal Conference showed that in the tribal area not even two per cent literacy was there. I mentioned to the Finance Minister that we could not allow it to continue like that. The entire responsibility of running the residential schools, including feeding, providing the shelter, clothing, books, everything should be borne by the Government. We have provided Rs. 200 crore. Each school may cost one crore and 250 schools are there. We are going to start 250 schools this year itself.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Mr. Prime Minister, do you know that Forty-five girl child schools in West Bengal have already been de-recognised. 'De-recognised' means the Government acquisitioned the schools. The Government has already passed a resolution that they should be acquisitioned by the Government. That is how they were acquisitioned. This has already been announced.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is done by the Government. By the resolution 45000 girl children are affected. They are not going to get educational facilities. What about that ? ...*(Interruptions)* Do something for them.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Even if it is a State subject, I would like to request the concerned State Chief Ministers, if at all there is any grave deviation, to intervene. ...*(Interruptions)*

For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the other minorities the small and marginal agriculturists we have introduced a new scheme called the 'Ganga Kalyan Scheme' to give free water.

And in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for five years, even the maintenance charges will be borne by the Welfare Department. The money is going to be provided by us and only implementation is the duty of the State Government as we cannot implement it. We need cooperation of the State Governments whether it is the implementation of the Public Distribution System, whether it is the implementation of the Ganga Kalyan Scheme or whether it is the implementation of the Housing Scheme. We are going to provide financial assistance to one million educated unemployed youth this year and identification of those beneficiaries is to be done by the State Governments. I need cooperation of the State Governments. Otherwise, it is practically impossible for us to implement all these schemes. So, irrespective of the party affiliations, I only appeal to all the Chief Ministers to see that they fully cooperate with the Government for implementation of some of the schemes which are going to help the poor sections

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

of the society. This is a very humble appeal I am going to make.

The other thing is about the price rise. It is one of the major issues raised by the hon. Members. Under the Essential Commodities Act, the Centre cannot have any right. I got it examined whether we can make a surprise raid. But they say that it is not possible unless the State Governments cooperate. So, I have written to the Chief Ministers of all the States to see that the hoarders should be tackled firmly under the Essential Food Commodities Act. One or two States have cooperated. *(Interruptions)*.

AN HON. MEMBER : Which are those States ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I do not want to cast aspersions on other States. I only appeal to all the States to firmly deal with the hoarders. Otherwise, the Centre cannot do anything. The Centre can only advise them. The Centre can insist upon them to see that they should take firm action so far as this area is concerned. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Prime Minister, you please carry on with your speech. You do not have to answer to everybody. Otherwise, there will be no end.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : What about poor people of poor States ? *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : One of the important issues is about the resource mobilisation. Under the power sector, the outstanding dues from the Central Public Sector Undertakings and the Ministry of Power are Rs. 8,512 crore. Almost all the Electricity Boards, barring one or two, are in red. We do not know how to cooperate with the State Governments. What are we doing now for the National Power Grid for supply of power ? A total amount of Rs. 8,512 crore is pending — Uttar Pradesh Rs. 1,791 crore; Bihar Rs. 1,771 crore; West Bengal Rs. 876 crore; Delhi Rs. 863 crore, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 697 crore; Haryana Rs. 571 crore; Jammu and Kashmir Rs. 325 crore. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : What about Bihar ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I told you. You are not attentive. What can I do for that ?

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : You write them off.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : We can write them off. That is very easy. *(Interruptions)*. Even regarding the coal supply, an amount of Rs. 6,000 crore and odd is due from various States to the Central Government, that is, the Railway Department and the Department of Coal.

Unless they cooperate with us it is very difficult to extend the same facilities. Now we have taken a decision to give

it on 'cash and carry' basis. Otherwise, there is no question of allowing the States because they think that everything can be made available by the Centre. It is practically impossible for us and we have made it amply clear that from here-afterwards it should be on 'cash and carry' basis. So, this is one of the decisions which we have taken. I need the cooperation of the House.

They have raised about the law and order problem and other issues of North-Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir. I would like to refer to it.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about backward States ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Backward States also will get a major share under some of the new scheme which we have launched, not Karnataka or Andhra Pradesh....*(Interruptions)* They will get the major share ...*(Interruptions)* Major share will go to them.

Sir, I am not going to deal with the U.P. issue because a separate discussion has been allowed. The successful conduct of Assembly elections and the installation of a popular government in Jammu and Kashmir have been the major steps forward for restoring the normalcy and putting the State back on the path of economic development. There has been a qualitative change in the security situation after the elections in the State. Some violent incidents intended to disrupt peace continue to come in the way of complete restoration of normalcy. That is largely due to frustration of terrorists and their mentors across the border, after the failure of their designs to thwart the democratic process in the State. We are keeping a close watch on the situation and are in regular contact with the State Government. I have visited the State three times during the last few months and have sought to ensure that all the assurances given by our Government have been fulfilled so far as the economic package is concerned.

The disturbed conditions in some of the States in the North-East are clearly a matter of concern. In the recent weeks, there has been an escalation of violence in Tripura. Conditions in Manipur and Assam are also not satisfactory. In October last year I visited all the seven North-Eastern States to study for myself the problems faced by the people of these States. At the end of my visit, I announced a package of programmes containing several "New Initiatives for the North-East" with a view to restoring normalcy and increasing the tempo of development in the region. We are closely monitoring the schemes and programmes mentioned in this Package. A High Level Commission has been set up to identify gaps in Infrastructure and Basic Minimum Services in the North-Eastern States. A High Level Expert Committee on employment of the educated in the North-East has also started its work in right earnest.

This is a very important thing which I would like to disclose. During my tour to the North-East, I made a public

announcement inviting the underground groups for discussions without preconditions, in order to find a political solution which would ensure durable peace in the region. It was also my assessment that the common people in all these areas genuinely desired restoration of peace and normalcy so that they could pursue their avocations without hindrance and unemployed youth could find employment. My call was responded to by National Socialist Council of Nagaland and I had a meeting recently with Shri Isac Swu, Chairman and Shri Muivah, General Secretary of this organisation. It has been agreed that further talks would be held. I also discussed this matter with the Chief Minister of Nagaland and other leaders and they have also agreed to extend their full cooperation so far as bringing normalcy in Nagaland is concerned.

It is a very complicated issue. But the first response was, they had given an assurance that they were going to extend cooperation. This is one development which I would like to disclose in this august House.

I take this opportunity to repeat my offer to all the insurgent groups in the North-East to give up the path of violence and come to the negotiating table to work out an acceptable solution. This is one issue about which the House is very much concerned. As regards the North-Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir, what the Government has tried within its limits is to see that we get cooperation from some of these tribal groups or militant groups. That is why I gave an unconditional call and two leaders, of course, have met me and have given their assurances. With the cooperation of the State Government and the cooperation of other leaders, we have to see that normalcy in some of these three or four States is restored. We must bring normalcy. It is a very difficult task. It is not so easy. It is not so simple. The House knows it. But we will try our best. With all sincerity at my command, I assure this House ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : I want to know whether a part of the cost of counter-insurgency operations will be shared by the Centre because the States have no money ?

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir) : The previous Government and the former Prime Minister had announced a package of about Rs. 5,500 crore for KBK. You also visited that particular backward area and announced Rs. 50 crore for natural calamity and drought. I want to know whether you are going to adjust all the funds against drought-prone areas or not ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Every State is representing its problems. Now it has started district-wise. How long will the Prime Minister go on replying ? After all, we should show much of courtesy when the Prime Minister of the country is replying to a very important debate.

If any questions are there, they can put them later on. The hon. Members have followed the procedure in the past. I request them not to do this.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai-North East) : They thought that the speech is over.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I promised on the other day about Orissa, about which his impression was that while releasing the funds I had discriminated so far as Orissa is concerned. The whole idea was that I had shown favour to Andhra Pradesh and not to Orissa. That was the feeling or the impression. I will tell you frankly that on that day, I assured the House that I was going to give a detailed reply so far as the amount that was released to Orissa for the drought-prone areas is concerned. Sir, after I visited Orissa, I made a promise to release Rs. 50 crore. On the other day, these people had doubted that it was not being released. That is one of the issues raised by some of the Members from Orissa. We have released Rs. 106 crore initially and then Rs. 38 crore ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : It is almost 1.30 p.m. Mr. Prime Minister, it is better if you wind up on important issues rather than responding to everybody's queries.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Both the figures put together, we have released Rs. 144 crore under the Employment Assurance Scheme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, even though the earlier money had not been spent and the utilisation certificate was not given. In addition to that, over and above this, the State Famine Relief Fund, according to the Ninth Finance Commission, was also fully released and as a special case Rs. 50 crore from Famine Relief Fund was also released to Orissa. This is what I would like to say ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Prime Minister, you need not react to every query. You should respond only to important issues.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I will conclude within five minutes.

Sir, the object of this Government is to see that the infrastructure is provided for agricultural growth and industrial growth. Our intention is not to encourage foreign investors by giving them several concessions. The very object is to see that sufficient private funds or private investments, either domestic or global, are attracted. We need money. There is no question of any hesitation to say this. That is why we have taken certain decisions and we have stated it in the Presidential Address itself.

Sir, I am not an economist. There may be several economists in this august House itself. I have tried to take the advice of several economists. I had a meeting in New Delhi itself on the 30th December, 1996 where I invited

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

industrialists, economists and some of the experts in the investment sector. I had a frank discussion with them. The Finance Minister was there, The Commerce Minister was there and all senior officers were also there. We tried to hear them for one day. We took their views. In addition to that, I have met the global investors in Mumbai. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra arranged that meeting. Then, I separately met the small scale industrialists. I tried to get their views also and ultimately I have come to the conclusion that unless we encourage investments by giving certain concessions, it is practically impossible for this country to grow faster.

Sir, a small country like Myanmar is going to have \$ 4 billion of global investment. Today, China is a communist country and they are able to get \$ 100 billion of investment. Till now, we are able to get only \$ 1.7 or \$ 1.8 billion of investment. We have cleared the projects to the tune of \$ 7 billion. Our whole objective is that we must, at least, get \$ 10 billion of investment this year. We have opened up the power sector, mining sector, coal sector and the highways' sector. We have opened up some of these areas ...*(Interruptions)*. I do not think that the opening up of the health insurance sector should hurt you.

We have opened up even the communications' sector. The very object is to see that we must get sufficient investment. Otherwise, wherefrom do we get Rs. 3,54,000 crore required for the power sector? Where do we get this money from? Are we in a position to generate that much amount? How much internal resources have we been able to mobilise in these 50 years? Some honest efforts might have been made. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to bring one fact to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister. There was a power project in Bihar and OECF was willing to fund it. But the Department of Economic Affairs sat over the file and they turned down the offer of OECF. Now, he is saying that he is encouraging foreign investment in the power sector!

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, we have not only given encouragement to the investors, but we have also given sufficient thought over the growth of agricultural sector, social sector and education. We have increased the allocation to the field of human resource development by Rs. 2,000 crore this time. We have given sufficient weightage to the field of primary education and other educational needs. We have also given sufficient weightage for the social sector and the minorities. We have allocated Rs. 40 crore to the Maulana Azad Trust, Rs. 40 crore to the Minorities Development Corporation and Rs. 70 crore to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Finance Development Corporation. We have tried to see that sufficient care is taken this time in all these areas.

What I would like to say is that this Government is not only for the industrial growth, this Government is also for agricultural growth. The Government is also here to take care of the poor people of the rural areas whether they are Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes or Backward Classes or the minorities or the poorer sections of the society. We have taken sufficient steps to provide necessary allocations for these areas ...*(Interruptions)*.

With these few words, I would like to conclude. Thank you.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South) : Sir, what about the National River Water Policy?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, we are bringing the Lokpal Bill ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. RITA VERMA : What happened to the Women's Reservation Bill?

*[English]*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, I have already requested the Law and Justice Minister to introduce the Lokpal Bill which is before the Standing Committee. We are determined to pass the Lokpal Bill during this Session...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, kindly let us know the present state of affairs with the Women's Reservation Bill whether that is going to come in this Session or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to him.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, I would like to take all the political party leaders into confidence and see that this time, the Women Reservation Bill is passed. I would like to see that this Bill, with the opinion of all the political party leaders, is also going to be passed this time.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, a number of amendments have been moved by the Members to the Motion of Thanks.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Mr. Prime Minister, you, as Chief Minister of Karnataka, fought for the National River Water Policy.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, a number of amendments have been moved to the Motion of Thanks. Shall I put all the amendments to the vote of the House together or that any hon. Member wants any particular amendment to be put separately?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Sir, I want to move separately.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, what about National River Water Policy ? What about enunciation of National River Water Policy ?

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, I am on point of order ... (Interruptions). My point of order is that the Prime Minister has replied to the debate. But the mover has to reply to the debate and then the motion can be decided this way or that way. The mover has to reply. The mover must say something.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not really know whether it is mandatory. I am not very sure whether it is mandatory. Shri Naik, Rule 20 sub clause (2) says :

"The mover or the seconder shall not have any right of reply after the Prime Minister or any other Minister has explained the position of the Government at the end of the discussion."

A number of amendments have been moved by the Members to the Motion of Thanks. Shall I put all the amendments to the vote of the House together ?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, I have moved amendment No. 163 which may be put separately.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, would you like to move separately ?

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Sir, I do not want to move separately ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Amar Pal Singh, would you like to move separately ? Please listen, otherwise, you will miss your chance.

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Sir, I do not want to move separately ... (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, I should read out my amendment to the Motion because most of the Members may not know about it.

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the progress of the Jain Commission of Enquiry into the assassination of a former Prime Minister."

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, the Government has extended the time by six months. We are happy to note that the results would come within that time.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendment No. 163, moved by Shri George Fernandes, to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 163 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put all other amendments to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the main Motion to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms :—

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 20th February, 1997."

*The motion was adopted.*

13.36 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

#### Annual Report, Review on the working of National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training and Research, Cuttack for the year 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1452/97]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for the

Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1453/97]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1454/97]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Limited, New Delhi for the year 1995-96 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1455/97]

**Notification under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Annual Report and Review on the working of Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi for the year 1995-96 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 622(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1996 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 83(E) dated the 16th February, 1987, issued under section 10 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 623(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1996 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 84(E) dated the 16th February, 1987, issued under section 11 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 624(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1996 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 394(E) dated the 16th April, 1987, issued under section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- (4) A copy of the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 625(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1996, under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- (5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 23(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 1997 delegating the powers to Chairman, State Pollution Control Boards/ Committees to issue directions to any Industry or any local or other authority for the violations of the standards and rules relating to hazardous wastes notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 issued under section 23 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1456/97]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1457/97]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Madras, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Madras, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1458/97]

**Notification under Border Security Force, 1968 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Border Security Force Engineering set up (Group 'C' combatised, technical staff) Recruitment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 553 in Gazette of India dated the 14th December, 1996, under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1459/97]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Assessment Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Programme and its implementation for accelerating the spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for the various official purposes of the Union for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1460/97]

- (3) A copy of the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Tax on Advertisements other than Advertisements published in Newspapers) Bye-laws, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. E 13(125)/94-96/UD/10922 in Delhi Gazette dated the 15th July, 1996, under section 481A of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 1461/97]

13.36<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS  
AND RESOLUTIONS

**Sixth Report**

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : I beg to present the Sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

13.37 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

**Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Reports**

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy :

- (1) Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-Fifth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on "Rehabilitation Policy of Tehri Hydro Electric Project — A Case Study".
- (2) Sixth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-Sixth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on "Fast Track Power Projects — An Evaluation".
- (3) Seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-Fourth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on "Nuclear Power Programme — An Evaluation".
- (4) Eighth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-Seventh Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on "Problems of Rajasthan Atomic Power Stations".
- (5) Ninth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-Eighth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on "Finalisation of Service Conditions and Absorption of Deputationists in Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.".

13.38 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till forty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.48 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at forty-eight minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(COL. RAO RAM SINGH in the Chair)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, the hon. Minister of Railways, to present a statement showing

the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Railway Budget for 1996-97.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I am only on a point of information. Yesterday, the hon. Speaker had said that he would give a ruling on the admissibility of the Motion of Shri Jaswant Singh under Rule 184. What happened to that ruling ? The question is not when that ruling comes. But then if we know of it, we can be present at that particular time also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will bring it to the notice of the hon. Speaker. I am not in the knowledge of it at present. But I will certainly bring the point to the notice of the hon. Speaker.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Speaker has sent a note saying that yesterday he announced that he would give a

ruling on the Motion of Shri Jaswant Singh under Rule 184. He has decided to give the ruling later.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West): Sir, what about Matters Under Rule 377 ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : After the Railway Minister presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants, it will be taken up.

14.49<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

\*SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—  
(RAILWAYS), 1996-97

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1996-97.

*Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1996-97 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants to be submitted to the Vote of the House (in Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Railway Board	1,16,30,000
2.	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	3,45,39,000
3.	General Superintendence and Services on Railways	22,61,44,000
4.	Repairs & Maintenance of Permanent Way & Works	56,35,56,000
6.	Repairs & Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	60,16,39,000
7.	Repairs & Maintenance of Plant and Equipment	27,95,89,000
8.	Operating Expenses — Rolling Stock & Equipment	79,68,35,000
11.	Staff Welfare & Amenities	8,66,97,000
13.	Provident Fund, Pension and other retirement benefits	135,54,68,000
16.	Assets — Acquisition, Construction and Replacement	
	Revenue	
	<i>Other Expenditure</i>	
	Capital	1,000
	Railway Funds	304,73,32,000
	Total	700,34,30,000

\*Presented with the recommendation of the President.

[English]

14.50 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT  
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**Steep fall in the prices of natural rubber and other  
cash crops in Kerala**

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Commerce to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :—

"Situation arising out of steep fall in the prices of natural rubber and other cash crops in Kerala and the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : Sir, with your permission, I lay on the Table of the House a statement regarding the prices of coffee and other commercial crops like rubber, tea, cardamom.

Sir, in reply to the Calling Attention Notice given by some Hon'ble Members of the House, I am making the following statement.

Urgent attention of the Government has been called to the alleged steep fall in the prices of natural rubber and other cash crops in Kerala, I am giving below the price data and other details in respect of natural rubber, coffee, tea and cardamom in Kerala to show that there has been no steep decline in prices. In the case of rubber, there has been levelling of price from the peak achieved in mid-1995. In the case of other three crops, there has been no decline.

Domestic prices of Natural Rubber had witnessed considerable fluctuations in 1994-95 and the trend continued in 1995-96 also. From Rs. 2851 per quintal (for RSS-4 Grade) in June, 1994 it climbed upto Rs. 6171 per quintal in June, 1995 which is the highest monthly average price ever reached. Thereafter, it came down to Rs. 4197 in September, 1995. Again it improved to Rs. 5500 in December, 1995. It has shown a downward trend thereafter and in March, 1996, the price was Rs. 5007. It further came down to Rs. 4350 per quintal on 19.2.97. Compared to February 1993 price, which was Rs. 2562/ quintal, the current price is Rs. 4300/ quintal as on 20.2.1997. Compared to February 1994 price the current price is Rs. 1707 higher per quintal. Hence it cannot be said that the current price is very low. On an examination of price levels during these months, it cannot be construed that there has been a crash in price. Average monthly price of RSS-4 Grade for the last three-four months indicates that at present the domestic prices are favourable when compared to international prices for Natural Rubber. The domestic and international prices of rubber in November, 1996 were ruling at Rs. 4897 and Rs. 4467 respectively. On 19th February,

1997, the domestic price of natural rubber was Rs. 4350 per quintal as against the international price of Rs. 4332 per quintal.

The price of Natural Rubber could not have stayed at the extraordinary high levels touched about one and a half years ago in the lean season because there has been perceptible slowing in demand from some sections of rubber based industry and this is reflected in the price of natural rubber as rubber is an industrial raw material.

The bench-mark price of rubber was last declared on 22nd February, 1994, when standard cost of production for RSS-4 and RSS-5 was put at Rs. 2490 and Rs. 2440 per quintal respectively. As a few years have elapsed after this calculation was done cost of production has undergone an increase. Even allowing for general increase in price levels, the present prices are higher than this benchmark price and therefore, not unremunerative to farmers. Besides, the recent decline in prices is partly due to seasonal arrivals of natural rubber.

As regards coffee, there has not been any price crash in recent months. In fact, the prices of coffee have gone up during the month. The monthly average domestic wholesale prices of Arabica and Robusta Coffee, which were ruling at Rs. 104 per kg. and Rs. 68 per kg. respectively during July, 1996, have gone upto Rs. 129 per kg. and Rs. 71 per kg. respectively during February, 1997.

The average domestic price of small cardamom during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (August-January) has been Rs. 254.45 per kg, Rs. 207.27 per kg and Rs. 410.02 per kg. respectively. The prices have shown an upward trend during 1996-97. The average domestic price of small cardamom in Kerala during the same period August, 1996-January, 1997 was Rs. 410.02 per kg. as against Rs. 184 per kg. during the period August, 1995-January, 1996.

The prices of cardamom are determined by supply and demand factors. Production of small cardamom has increased to 7000 MTs during the crop year 1994-95 due to various measures adopted for enhancing productivity, the fall in prices in the case of cardamom witnessed during 1995-96 were mainly on account of the increased production and reduced exports due to stiff competition faced from Guatemala in the overseas market. However, the situation has substantially improved during 1996-97.

In so far as tea is concerned, there is no crash in prices of tea produced in the State of Kerala. On the contrary, prices of tea at Cochin auctions which were depressed on account of conditions that prevailed in the international market have increased recently. Average prices of tea during 1994 at Cochin auctions were Rs. 34.39/kg. This increased to Rs. 41.86/kg. during 1995 and for the year 1996 average prices of tea at Cochin were Rs. 44.48/kg. During 1997, average prices of tea at Cochin Auctions have improved from Rs. 42.48/kg. in the first auction of the year to Rs. 47.93/kg. in February.

[Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah]

Sir, Government is keeping a close watch on the price situation and will do the needful in case it is required.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I have gone through the statement of the hon. Minister. But before that, I would like to thank the hon. Speaker and the Chair too for allowing this Calling Attention Motion on such an important subject which affects the large number of rubber growers as also the cash crop growers in the State of Kerala ...*(Interruptions)* Can I proceed, Sir ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I suppose, you are seeking clarification on the statement laid on the Table of the House by the hon. Minister.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go ahead.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The statement made by the hon. Minister is certainly very much disappointing. We have drawn his attention to the fact that the price of natural rubber, cardamom and other cash crops has fallen steeply. We are asking him as to what steps he would like to take to mitigate the grievances of the growers, specially in regard to giving them remunerative price. But unfortunately, he has not taken cognizance of the situation. He has not narrated anything or mentioned anything at all in the statement as to what steps are being taken to ensure better price for the farmers. This is very much disappointing. This shows utter disregard to the problems of the growers in Kerala. I would say this rather much blatantly. It is most unfortunate. I wanted him to apply his mind to this problem and react.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargoda) : Why are you avoiding copra ?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : This question pertains to cash crops and copra is not a cash crop.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN : The support price for copra has recently been revised by the Government

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : There are so many subjects. This question pertains to the cash crops and it comes under the Commerce Ministry. Copra is not a cash crop and it comes under the Agriculture Ministry. At least you must understand this much ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kurien, you seek your clarification.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : That is what I am doing. But I have to explain the situation because the Minister has either not understood it or if he has understood it is deliberately avoiding the fact. He should have taken some steps to give better and remunerative price to the farmers. Sir, there are nine lakhs of rubber growers and 95 per cent of them are in Kerala. Further, more than 90 per cent of them are small

farmers whose holdings may be up to one hectare or even below that. For all these rubber growers or for that matter, cardamom cultivators, this is their sole source of livelihood. And the price has fallen to the extent of 30 per cent. Last year, you yourself admitted that the price was higher. The price for one kilogram of rubber was about Rs. 55 to Rs. 60. Today it has come down to Rs. 40 to Rs. 42. Having admitted this fact, he simply says in the statement that the prevailing price today is better than the lowest price that existed some time back and, therefore, he takes satisfaction and finds justification for not taking any action.

This is very bad. Why don't you compare the current price with the highest prices ? We have got the highest price, which is Rs. 60 per kilo. From Rs. 60, it has come down to Rs. 42. Instead of comparing that, you take the other side and you compare with the lowest ...*(Interruptions)*

That is not the way the Government should react in this situation. I am sorry to say that.

Sir, we went in for rubber cultivation after giving up remunerative pepper cultivation, areca nut cultivation etc., because that was a national need. The Government of India encouraged us and asked the people of Kerala to go in for rubber cultivation saying that the Government of India will take care of their rice needs and other needs because at that time, we were importing rubber. There was very huge drain of foreign exchange from our country. Therefore, as a foreign exchange substitute, to save the foreign exchange, we went in for rubber cultivation. For that patriotism, we should not be punished. That is what I want to say.

What has happened now ? Prices have fallen from Rs. 60 a kilo to Rs. 40 a kilo. For the last three months, if you compute, the loss to the rubber growers in Kerala is to the tune of about Rs. 500 crore. Today, we in the country, produce rubber more than our requirement though once upon a time, we were importing rubber. The credit goes to the farmers of Kerala that today the country is self-sufficient and we are producing what we want.

Sir, here, what is this Government doing ? They are allowing import of rubber. I crave your indulgence, I need your support also. In spite of the fact that we produce more, more than we require, you are allowing import. Why ? To save whom ? So, I would like to know, why do you allow import.

Secondly, import tariff is reduced. I would like to know, why do you do that?

Thirdly, when there is an excess of rubber produced in the country, we should export it. This year, our requirement is only 5.5 lakh tonnes of rubber. According to your own report, we have produced upto 6 lakh tonnes of rubber. So, there is a need for exporting about 50,000 tonnes of rubber. But nothing is being done.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I suggest that you please ask pointed questions or clarifications.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, these are all pointed questions.

So, why don't you encourage export when there is excess production of rubber in this country ? Earlier whenever such crises were there, the Commerce Ministry used to ask the STC — to intervene in the market and procure the rubber. Why don't you do that now ? I am not asking that you should give Rs. 60 a kilo but you ask the STC to enter the market and buy the rubber at a price higher by Rupees five than the prevailing price in the market. That is what I am asking. Not only that, you can also ask the NDCD also. The NDCD come forward whenever there is crash in price for wheat or price fall for sugarcane. Why cannot they come forward for rubber also ?

Therefore, I would like to submit that you take up with the NDCD or other agencies like NAFED. Your Ministry can take up with all these agencies and ask them to go in for the purchase of rubber from the market. So far, nothing of these things have been done.

Further, Sir, we produce latex rubber. But unfortunately, no buyer for latex rubber. For the last six months, producers of latex rubber are not able to sell it and those who are able to sell it, they are not getting the prices ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, if you ask so many clarifications, it may lead to confusion.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, in the Calling Attention, it is only one problem but there are various aspects which I have to highlight. This is the problem of nine lakh farmers. So, please allow me to submit. I will take only two minutes more.

The latex rubber is used by the small-scale industries to produce natural rubber foam. At the same time, there is a substitute which is called 'polyurethane'.

**15.00 hrs.**

That is being used by big manufacturers and big industries to produce synthetic foam. This Government is giving protection to the big industrialists to produce synthetic foam which competes with the natural rubber product, that is, natural rubber foam which is used by small scale industries. What is the justification for that ? Why do you have this very low import tariff of polyurethane and allow it to compete with the natural rubber foam ? Why do you not reduce the excise duty of natural rubber foam ? I would like to know therefore whether you are prepared to

protect the small scale industries which are using latex. I know your Ministry cannot reduce the tariff. Therefore, my pointed question is whether you will take up with the Industry and the Commerce Ministries the question of reducing the excise duty on the natural rubber foam or increasing the duty of the imported polyurethane, so that the natural rubber industry is protected and they will be able to buy latex from the poor growers.

I will sum up. My first question is, will you ban the import of rubber.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you have already asked that a number of times. Do not repeat it. He is a very capable Minister. He has heard your questions and he will be able to answer them.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Yes, Sir. Will you ban the import? Will you reduce the tariff duty ? Otherwise will you export the rubber ? Will you ask the STC to intervene in the market and procure rubber at a higher price than what is prevailing in the market ? Will you take up with the Finance Ministry the question of reducing the excise duty on the natural rubber foam ?

These are my pointed questions.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, let other Members also put their questions and then I will give answer to all of them together.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If they want to put questions, they should put it now. Mr. Thomas, do you want to ask some clarificatory questions ?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (*Muvattupuzha*) : I have also moved a notice for Calling Attention. My name is also there in the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is why I called out your name. Please ask pointed questions only. Do not take up too much time.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I shall be very pointed in my questions. I would like to say that the rubber farmers, as has been already enunciated, are mainly in the very marginal and small sectors. The problem is, even if the price goes down today the farmer cannot keep his produce for another day and he has to sell it out. If the price crashes, say for example the price yesterday was Rs. 50 and today it is Rs. 30, the small and marginal farmers have no other go than to sell it at that price.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is there any system of procurement by Government agencies ?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : That is exactly what I am coming to, Sir. You have caught the right point in a very very short time. That is exactly what we would like to point out. Unless

[Shri P.C. Thomas]

the Government of India and the State Governments come forward, how can this be done? The answer given by the Government on the floor of Parliament is that out of 9.11 lakhs of people, 8.23 lakhs of people are in the small sector. So, you will have to save these 8.23 lakhs of people in the small sector who are responsible for bringing the production of rubber of the country up to almost fourth position in the world. Incidentally, productivity-wise we are number-one in the world. That means, it is the hard labour of these 8.23 lakhs of small and marginal farmers and the poor labourers who are working with them. This is not only controlling the economy of Kerala, it is going to control the economy of the whole nation because now we are planting rubber in eight States, including of course your State. I am not very sure of it. But northeast has already gone for that, Orissa, Goa and many other States, including Maharashtra, have gone for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please confine yourself to the subject.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government of India will come forward to procure rubber from the market, so that the price can be brought up.

Secondly, I would also like to ask whether if the Government of India could not purchase it, as such, then, can the Government of India think of some agencies? There are already some agencies like the Rubber Marketing Federation; then, the rubber producers have their own societies; then, the STC is there. These are the fora through which rubber could be purchased for which money is necessary. My second question is this. Will the Government accord some amount, sanction some amount for the purchase of rubber through these agencies? My suggestion is that Rs. 100 crore may be given. If Rs. 100 crore are given, the Government of India will get it back within two months. There would be no problem. The price will come up and the growers would not need this money. This money will go back to the Government's Treasury and the Government would not be at a loss at all. So, my second question is whether Rs. 100 crore could be given for this or not?

My third question is this. Since the Government of India has at last come forward with this statement, we would also like to ask whether the Government of Kerala has given any scheme to the Government of India to safeguard the interests of the farmers. The major chunk, say, 95 per cent of the farmers in the small sector are from that poor State. So, my question is this. Has the Government of Kerala given any proposal to the Government of India?

My last question on rubber is this ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, I have a very specific question to ask. There are two more Members who have given notice but they are not here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The rule is very clear. Let us stick to the rule.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : My last question on rubber is this. Can the Government of India think of stopping completely the import and starting export of rubber? We are now producing rubber in excess. We are producing 5.85 lakh MT of rubber. This is the statistics given by the Rubber Board; but actually the farmers would say that they are producing much more than that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister knows what the production is.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I would like to know whether some export could be done by the Government or not. That is all about rubber.

Then, there is another item also — cardamom. That is also facing a very serious crisis. We are producing the best cardamom in the world. Our country, India, can be very proud of it. There is another country, Guatemala producing the stuff. Their stuff is very cheap. This is a very great problem which has already come to the notice of the Government of India. The Guatemala cardamom is being imported by Nepal. For that purpose, the cardamom goes through the Calcutta port. I would like to know whether the Government of India has got statistics on the import of Guatemala cardamom which is being done by Nepal; if so, whether that import has risen in a steep manner; and whether that cardamom which is being taken from Calcutta to Nepal by road or by air or by some other means of transport is being smuggled into our country and thereby our good cardamom is being contaminated with the low quality cardamom. It is going to affect our exports. It has already brought down our exports.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, that is sufficient.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : My question is this. What action would the Government of India take to stop the smuggling of cardamom and to safeguard the interests of the cardamom growers. Thank you.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Mr. Chairman Sir, on the question of these two items — one is rubber and the other is cardamom — hon. Members have raised very valid questions. It is a very important issue. I would like to bring to your notice that there is, what is called, 'peak prices' and there is also, what is called, 'reasonable prices'. There is a system by which we can always work out which is

reasonable for the farmers and it is also a very unusual type of situation when there is scarcity. In 1994, we have worked out what is called the ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I request the Minister to restrict his reply to the specific question that Shri Kurien asked : 'Are you importing rubber when there is enough production in the country ? Is that a fact or not ? Are you doing anything for procurement ?' Please answer those questions.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : We are not importing any rubber in spite of the fact that many tyre industries asked for rubber imports. We are now allowing it but there is a small quantity of rubber imported which is called 'export oriented quota' which is available for import. Otherwise, we are not permitting any import of rubber. The year before last, we have imported a lot of rubber.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat) : How much are you importing now ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : We are not importing any rubber.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : I am asking about the export figures.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : No, I have to get the data. The Ministry of Commerce has not given any permission for import of rubber in spite of the tyre industry's demand for the import of rubber. I told them not to give any permission unless and until we make it sure that there is shortage. Only in that case we are going to import rubber.

MR. CHAIRMAN : In short the reply is, we are not importing rubber.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Yes, that is the first thing. The second thing is the bench mark price which was fixed in 1994 which is between Rs. 2,440 and Rs. 2,490. In the Planning Commission there is a formula for the last three years —  $\text{Plus} \times 1.28$ . Using that same formula it works out to Rs. 3,187.20 which should be a reasonable price for rubber today. But I am not going to stick to that.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : This is an account given by you. We do not agree with you. This has not been declared. That has got no legal sanctity at all. We disagree with that.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : I am not taking that into consideration. I said that there must be some basis for it. But today the price is around Rs. 4,250. We also realise that we should support the farmers. In view of that, as has been suggested, we already started procurement of rubber through the cooperative department and already 370 tonnes have been purchased and we are going to intervene at the appropriate time along with this thing. We are constantly watching it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, may I intervene for a minute ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have said that the price per quintal is now Rs. 1,707 higher compared to 1994 prices.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then, how are the Members saying that the prices have crashed ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : It is because the peak price has gone upto Rs. 5560-6000. From that it is has come down.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : With your permission I would like to raise one question. What is the use of comparing today's price with the price that existed three or four years back ? The price of every item has gone up. Cost of production has gone up and the price of tyre which you and many others are buying has gone up steeply.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : I am just saying what is the reasonable price and what is the support price. In spite of that we are considering your request. Let me come to the other point ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him complete his reply.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : In spite of taking reasonable price and abnormal price into consideration, we thought, in the large interest of the farmers, we should intervene. Already we started purchasing about 370 tonnes. The Government of India along with the State Governments would like to make additional funds available to them ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Which agencies are buying on behalf of the Government ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : The cooperative societies are buying.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Which cooperative societies ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Cooperative societies of Kerala because they are the people who have got the experience in the purchase of rubber. We are getting it through them. Rs. 36.61 crore have been utilised for the purchase of rubber. We also intervened and keeping a close watch over the market condition.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : At what price they are buying ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : I have no idea because they want to see that prices should not come down. That is why they have maintained it at Rs. 4,250-4,300. It is

[Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah]

because they do not want the prices to come down. They want to protect the rubber producing farmers of Kerala.

The hon. Member has asked a question about cardamom. I also have got some information about cardamom. The hon. Member has said that the prices of cardamom have fallen slightly as compared to the peak price ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : What is the point in saying that 240 tonnes have been purchased ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : We have started only recently.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Cooperative societies are primary societies for which the Government of India should not take the credit. Can your agency intervene in the market ? We can manage the cooperative societies. We do not need your assistance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : In short the question is : Will the Government intervene for the procurement of rubber ?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I was also Minister of Commerce for some time. STC is under your Ministry. If the Government wants to intervene, then you should ask the STC to go and purchase 'on no loss no profit' basis. Why do you not do that ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : That is what I said.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : We are managing the cooperative societies. You say about the STC.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, will you consider the question of procurement of rubber by Government agencies?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : If necessary, the Government will come into the picture.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : That is very much necessary.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : We are keeping a close watch on that.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : My question is : Will the Minister consider giving Rs. 100 crore for procurement ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : I do not say that specifically.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He said that he would consider procurement. The question of allotting Rs. 100 crore will rise after that.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I would like to know whether the Government of Kerala has made any request with regard to this.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : No. We have not received any proposal. But we will have to be in touch with them and find out what is the requirement ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Has no proposal come from the Government of Kerala till now ? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Not yet ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Oh! It is terrifying ...*(Interruptions)* We are really ashamed to hear that ...*(Interruptions)* We are really ashamed. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, nine lakh farmers are dying and the Government of Kerala is unconcerned about that. We are really ashamed ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : No. The Government of Kerala has sent their proposal to the Government of India ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, Mr. Minister, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. The Rule does not allow that. We have spent enough time on this.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : What about the import of polyurethane ? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us maintain some discipline in the House please. Everybody shouting at the same time gives a very bad impression. Hon. Members asked pointed questions and the Minister is giving his reply. Kindly do not interrupt him.

The Rule about the Calling Attention is very very clear. It says :

"There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made but each Member in whose name the item stands in the list of business may, with the permission of the Speaker, ask a clarificatory question and the Minister shall reply at the end to all such questions."

Accordingly, the two Members who were present have asked questions; two other hon. Members were absent. Let the Minister give his reply. Mr. Minister, if there is any doubt in your mind, I would request you to say that you would give a reply in writing and send the details to them.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : As far as the import of polyurethane is concerned, as the hon. Member has requested, I will be in touch with the Ministry of Finance because both the tariff and customs & excise are a part of that Ministry. I will take care of that.

The second thing is about cardamom about which also the hon. Member has asked. In the last two years, Nepal has imported about 48.28 tonnes and 33.9 tonnes of cardamom. This year they have imported about 3,000 tonnes. When this matter came to our notice, immediately our Ministry has alerted the Excise and Customs people. They have immediately taken action. Already they were able to seize about 27.89 tonnes. They are taking active part now. We will also definitely come into the picture and we will protect this industry. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The apprehension of the hon. Members was that the low quality cardamom that was being imported by Nepal from Guatemala was being diverted to India to adulterate the Indian high quality cardamom. Can you give an assurance that you will take action to stop this ?

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : The moment it has come to our notice, we have alerted our Excise and Customs people and they were on the job. They were also able to seize 27.89 tonnes. That means, they had immediately taken action on that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is good. Thank you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kurien, I think, we have heard enough of this.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, that is the Press report. Nepal does not need 3,000 tonnes. They may need a few hundred tonnes and all the rest of it would be diverted to India by smuggling ...*(Interruptions)*

15.20 hrs.

BILL INTRODUCED

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE AUTHORITY BILL\***  
*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Environment Appellate Authority to hear appeals with respect to restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Environment

Appellate Authority to hear appeals with respect to restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

*The motion was adopted.*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I introduce\*\* the Bill.

15.21 hrs.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE AUTHORITY  
ORDINANCE

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the National Environment Appellate Authority Ordinance, 1997

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1463/97]

15.22 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

**(i) Need to Develop Kushinagar and Fazilnagar as Places of National Tourist Centre**

*[Translation]*

LT. GEN. SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Padrauna and Deoria districts are places of vital tourism importance. Followers of Lord Buddha from all over the world visit Kushinagar as they feel reverence for this shrine. Only at a distance of 20 Km from Kushinagar, Pavanagar is located which is presently known as Fazil Nagar. It is the seat of Lord Mahavira. Two great religions of the world were originated from here. Both these places fall in my constituency. But the Department of Tourism has not undertaken development of this area.

Not only this area, but also the area in its vicinity has been the abode of great thinkers and philosophers of Hindu religion. Neither the Indian Railways, nor the Indian Airlines has taken any steps with a view to facilitate easy access to these places for the foreign tourists and to develop tourism here. The followers of Jainism in India would like to visit Pavanagar in large number but there is no air service or rail

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2 dated 4.3.97.

\*\* Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

service despite the fact that an airport is located at this place.

Therefore I urge upon the Government to treat Kushinagar and Fazil Nagar as tourist centres and evolve a package for this area and give it priority with a view to bring the Padrauna-Deoria area on the tourism Map so that tourists from all over the world could find an easy access to this area.

**(ii) Need to clear the proposals of Karnataka Government for Upgrading State Highways into National Highways**

*[English]*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Sir, the traffic density on National Highway 17, Kanyakumari-Bombay via Mangalore and on National Highway 48, Bangalore-Mangalore roads has increased manifold during the last ten years. A number of motor accidents which occurred on these roads recently has resulted in loss of many lives. The road condition is also very bad. There is an urgent need for converting these roads into four lane roads specially on National Highway 17 between Shiroor and Talapady and on National Highway 48 between Mangalore and Gundya.

There has been a consistent demand for converting the Buntwal-Mysore State Highway into a National Highway. The traffic density on this road is also very heavy. Therefore, there is a need for upgrading the State Highway into National Highway. Incidentally, the proposals made by the Government of Karnataka for upgrading a number of State Highways into National Highways have been pending consideration of the Central Government for the last 15 years.

I urge upon the Government to fulfill the above demands.

**(iii) Need to prevent use of Propane for any other purpose other than Cooking**

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU (Cuttack) : Sir, the honourable Supreme Court in its order dated 1.2.1994 had directed the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to explore the possibility of using propane as a possible alternative fuel in the industrial sector.

During the course of hearing a public interest litigation, the honourable Supreme Court on 9.12.96 had directed the Central Government to conduct an experiment through a private company for use of propane in the automobile industry.

Propane is one of the components of LPG. LPG is in short supply in the domestic sector. If any experiment is

undertaken and propane is used in industrial and automobile sectors and more number of users take to propane in these sectors, then there will be acute shortage of LPG for domestic consumption.

I urge upon the Central Government to file a special leave petition or a review petition, as the case may be, in the Supreme Court to prevent any experiment of propane for any other purpose other than cooking. In addition, its use in the industrial and automobile sectors may be banned till the LPG supply eases.

**(iv) Need to declare Special Package Programme for naxalite affected districts particularly Aurangabad District in Bihar**

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, incidences of terrorism have been on the rise in Aurangabad, Jahanabad, Navada, Gaya, Chatra, Hazaribagh and Palamu districts of Central Bihar and South Bihar. Incidents of mass killings, looting and kidnapping have been increasing there day by day. People there feel scared. Even the people's representative cannot visit that area in night. The Union Government have to take some initiative in order to find some permanent solution to this problem.

The Government should implement some comprehensive action plan on the lines of one introduced in Kashmir so that the problems of poverty, starvation and unemployment could be solved on permanent basis in all these terrorism infested districts.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to announce a special package programme for all the terrorism infested districts of Bihar particularly for the most backward district Aurangabad.

**(v) Need to review the decision to withdraw the Rebate on Sale of Handloom Cloth during Festival Season**

*[English]*

SHRI V.P. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, the handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu were traditionally getting a rebate on the textiles sold during the festival season and other important functions from both the Central Government and the State Government. Recently, this rebate has been withdrawn by the Central Government. In this context, attention is drawn to the fact that handloom weaving is being done by lakhs of weavers and is perhaps the second largest employment avenue in the State. By withdrawing the rebate, the Government has affected the lives of these poor people and in fact inadvertently discouraged an

important self-employment scheme. I am given to understand that this move of the Government was basically aimed at curbing bogus societies of handloom weavers. It is not fair to discourage genuine societies just to curb some bogus ones. Such a move is likely to be self-defeating in the future.

I urge upon the hon. Minister for Textiles to take necessary steps to bring back the rebate scheme so as to benefit the lakhs of handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu.

**(vi) Need to allow Government of Maharashtra to purchase Wheat directly from Punjab and Haryana**

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West): Sir, on 18th September, 1996, the Food Corporation of India informed the Government of Maharashtra about the revision of price structure of wheat.

This revision caused injustice to the public and the Government of Maharashtra. The revised price has been enhanced by Rs. 200 approximately.

Previously, the FCI used to supply wheat to its godowns. And from such godowns, the Government of Maharashtra used to collect wheat for public distribution system and for open market at reasonable rates fixed by the State Government.

Since these revised rates are exorbitant, the Government of Maharashtra requested the Central Government to allow them to purchase wheat directly from the godowns of the FCI in Punjab and Haryana at the rate of Rs. 4,900 per metric tonne fixed by the Government of India. The transportation charges introduced by the FCI are exorbitant.

The private traders are allowed to purchase wheat directly from Punjab and Haryana. However, the Government of Maharashtra has been denied this facility. It is, therefore, requested that this matter may be looked into at the earliest and the Government of Maharashtra be allowed to use their own transport for purchase of wheat from the godowns of the FCI in Punjab and Haryana as per the quantity allotted by the Government of India to that State.

**(vii) Need to provide sufficient irrigation facilities to Deoria, U.P.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI (Salempur) : Salempur Tehsil in district Deoria of Uttar Pradesh is adjoining the Bihar State. The land of three tehsils of Salempur, Rudrapur and Deoria under the Deoria district falls between two rivers Gandak and Ghaghra and is very fertile. Wheat, rice and sugarcane are the main crops of this area in addition to

cultivation of oil seeds and pulses. But the farmers of this area have to depend upon nature to earn their livelihood. Prosperity of farmers of this area depends on rains but if nature does not favour them, they have to face starvation mainly due to inadequate irrigation facilities there. There is no canal and tube wells are there just for name sake. Population wise Deoria is the largest district of U.P. and in it Tehsil Salempur has the largest population. But so far no irrigation facilities have been provided to the farmers of this area. The land between Gandak and Ghaghra river is plain and very fertile but in want of irrigation facility, the farmers of this area are forced to live in poverty.

If a network of tubewells is provided in this area, the farmers can match the performance of the farmers of Haryana and Punjab in respect of wheat production and solve their own problems beside providing large quantity of foodgrain to the country. The land can be highly beneficial to the farmers if tubewells are provided there in adequate number.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take necessary action in this regard.

15.32 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

**Re : Disapproval of the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 and Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Bill**

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up Statutory Resolution.

Shri Annasahib M.K. Patil	—	not present
Shri Pramod Mahajan	—	not present
Shri Ram Naik	—	not present
Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava		

Now, the time allotted for this item and consideration and passing of the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Bill, to be moved by Shri P. Chidambaram is one hour. So, kindly be brief.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, it would take only a few minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : I beg to move the following resolution :

"That this house disapproves the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to transactions in securities) (Amendment) Bill 1997 (No. 6 of 1997)."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the ordinance and the Bill would be taken up simultaneously there is nothing new in it. This Bill has all those provisions which are contained in the ordinance.

[English]

Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Bill

[Translation]

There is a minor amendment in it.

[English]

In sub-Section 2 for the words "a sitting judge"

[Translation]

It reads

[English]

The word one or more sitting judges.

[Translation]

That means that instead of one sitting judge two or more judges can be appointed. The second amendment is:

[English]

In Section 3, for the words "Judges of the Special Court" at both the places where they occur, the word, the "Judge of a Special Court shall be substituted".

[Translation]

After amendment it reads :

[English]

"Where the Special Court consists of two or more judges, the Chief Justice of the High Court within the local limit of whose jurisdiction the Special Court is situated, may from time to time by general or special orders make provisions as to the distribution of cases among the judges and specify the matters which may be dealt with each of the judges".

[Translation]

It provides that where there is any court within the legal jurisdiction of a High Court judge. The High Court judge would decide as to which case would be heard and decided by a particular judge. There is nothing special in it. I welcome this Bill. On 6 June, 1992

[English]

The Special Court Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities

[Translation]

was formed and after its formation many amendments were made in it. It was formed because it

[English]

provides for the establishment of a Special Court for the Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities and for matters connected thereto or incidental thereto.

[Translation]

Similarly Section 5 reads :

[English]

"Conferred power upon the Central Government to establish a Special Court consisting of a sitting Judge of the High Court nominated by the Chief Justice of the High Court."

[Translation]

It so happened that there appeared 2910 cases in the special court and were registered. Then the Government felt the need of appointing more judges to settle these cases. It reads :

[English]

"Since establishment of a Special Court in 1992, about 2910 matters have been filed before the Special Court. In addition, the Central Bureau of Investigation have also registered 70 cases relating to irregularities in transactions of securities and in 18, chargesheets have been filed in this Special Court. With a view to expedite disposal of the cases pending in the Special Court, it has become necessary to appoint additional Judges in the Special Court."

[Translation]

This Bill has been brought to appoint additional judges in the Special Court. That is why I am not opposing it. But it has become the habit of this Government.

There was a gap of only one month between the last session and the current session. The Government did not issue even a single ordinance during the last session, whereas during this inter session period of one month they have issued thirteen ordinances. I want to tell this Government that only in case of urgency the President should be requested to promulgate an ordinance. I am opposing this ordinance because during this session of such a short period thirteen ordinances have been promulgated.

That is why I am opposing this ordinance but I welcome this bill introduced with a good intention after the ordinance. Now Mr. Minister may himself tell why the President was made to promulgate thirteen ordinances. Therefore I oppose the ordinance and support the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992 was enacted on the 6th day of June, 1992 to provide for the establishment of a Special Court for the trial of offences relating to transactions in securities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act conferred power upon the Central Government to establish a Special Court consisting of a sitting Judge of the High Court. The Government established in June, 1992 at Mumbai a Special Court consisting of a sitting Judge of the Bombay High Court, Mr. Justice S.N. Variava, for dealing with the cases.

Since the establishment of the Special Court in 1992, about 2910 matters have been filed before the Court. In addition, the Central Bureau of Investigation have also registered 70 cases relating to irregularities in transactions in securities and in 18 cases, chargesheets have been filed in the Special Court.

As the main objective of enacting the Act was the speedy trial of offences relating to transactions in securities, the Government considered the question of expeditious disposal of cases pending in the Special Court.

After consulting the Chief Justice it was pretty clear that one learned Judge cannot dispose of so many cases and that it will take many many years for these cases to be disposed of. Hence, the position in law was examined whether the law itself allows the appointment of another sitting Judge of the High Court. The advice was that the law did not enable the appointment of another sitting Judge and that it would be better and prudent to amend it to make it clear that one or more Judges can be appointed. Accordingly, after consulting the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, Mr. Justice M.S. Rane, a sitting Judge of the Bombay High Court has been appointed as another Judge in this Special Court.

Trials were getting affected, trials were getting delayed. Therefore, it was considered necessary to promulgate an Ordinance, as Parliament was not in Session. Mr. Justice M.S. Rane has also assumed office and as in any other matter, there are more than one judge, who are hearing similar matters. The allocation of work is always left to the Chief Justice of the High Court. So, as between the two judges, the Chief Justice of the High Court will allocate the work. This, I say, will speed up the trials of these cases.

That is why, this amendment is being brought. It is completely a non-controversial amendment. As my learned friend has agreed to, I would urge upon the hon. Members to pass this amendment. There is not really much to discuss on this Ordinance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions moved :

"That this House disapproves of the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 6 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 16, 1997."

"That the Bill further to amend the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : I welcome the purpose for which the Government has moved the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Bill. My predecessor speaker has explained the purpose of the Bill. I welcome this Bill but oppose the tendency of promulgating Ordinances. Securities scam is a blot in the economic history of India. The securities scam came in light after formation of Joint Parliamentary Committee. The securities scam involving an amount of Rs. 8,000 crores is the biggest scandal ever committed in banking sector in which name of many economic offenders such as Harshad Mehta, Jitendra Dalal and many others have figured. Prior to 1997 also the Special Court's had been set up and amendments were moved in this regard in 1992, 1994 and 1995. The Special Courts were established to try economic offenders as special powers were given to these Courts. Now the judges of the status of High Court judges have been appointed in these Courts. Now in place of these judges sitting judges are going to be appointed. It is also being discussed that in case there are two judges or more than two judges, then which case would be heard by which judge. The earlier Government, which used to be termed as the sleeping Government, has gone and now we have a Government which takes decision. So far as the previous and the present Governments are concerned, I think they are birds of the same feather.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rawatji, what relevancy it has to this Bill ?

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : That is what I am going to tell. The Special Courts were set up to try economic offenders to auction their properties, to prevent such scams and to bring these offenders to book. Through you, we would like to know as to how many cases have been registered by this Court, though, of course, Mr. Minister has stated that 2910 cases have been filed in these Courts. The CBI also registered 76 cases of irregularities in transaction of securities but could file charge sheets in these Special Court only in 18 cases. It is just like a drop in the

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

ocean. A number of big economic offenders are involved in this big security scam. JPC gave its report on this scam. The then Government also submitted the action taken report thereon. But despite all these exercises, nothing substantial has come out. 2910 cases were filed, out of them only 76 were registered but the accused persons were charge-sheeted only in 18 cases.

I would like to submit that during the last five years inspite of empowering the judiciary to that extent, not a single person could be punished and now the number of judges is going to be increased. I would like to know as to how much amount has been recovered in the Rs. 8000 crore security scam ? Whether their properties have been attached or their accounts have been sealed. I would like to know as to how much amount has been recovered through these seized accounts and attachment of property.

Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister that although Government is going to provide more powers to these special courts and judges but in these courts also.

[English]

Justice delayed is justice denied.

[Translation]

The procedure followed by judiciary is quite cumbersome. Earlier it was stated that cases in courts were delayed due to civil procedure code. At that time these special courts were allowed to lay down their special procedure for the speedy disposal of these cases.

Sir, public memory is very poor. The guilty persons of these bank scams have not been punished even after 4-5 years. as a result, the number of scams have also increased. Recently I have read in newspapers about a scam in the Indian Bank and it is alleged that prominent politicians are involved in it. Several writ petitions have been filed in this regard in the High Court and Supreme Court. In the name of judicial activism, hearing on these petitions is started on the public interest, at earliest. Special courts are set up for it. Parliamentary committee was constituted which lasted for 18 months and submitted its report. Later on Jankiraman Committee was constituted. Several efforts were made to check these economic offences but the number of bank scams did not decline. Today economic offenders are roaming freely. Sir, through you, I would like to know :

[English]

What are the reasons of the slow pace of progress of these trials ?

[Translation]

What are the reasons for the slow pace of progress and delay in the disposal of these cases. There were two types

of cases in bank security scam — first the Rs. 8000 crore share scam in which share brokers were involved, secondly, the scam involving Rs. 36,000 crore regarding disinvestment in public undertakings. In total it was a Rs. 44,000 or Rs. 45,000 crores scam. Several matters since 1990 were pending about embezzlement of funds in National Housing Banks etc. Later on it was decided that matters raised after a specific date of 1991 will be taken up. I would like to know how much money has been recovered so far in these scams.

[English]

At what stage the cases are going on ?

[Translation]

I would like to know as to how many cases are still at investigation stage. In how many cases chargesheets have been filed, how many cases have been disposed of and how many persons have been punished so far ? Please tell all these points in details.

Sir, I would like to add one more point which relates to banks and security scam. Sir, through you, I would like to know as to

[English]

What steps this new Government has taken to reform the banking system ?

[Translation]

More such scams can take place if this new Government kept on following the old procedure. You may go on setting up new courts and filing such cases but the persons like Harshad Mehta may keep on roaming fearlessly. Recently there was a news in newspapers that most of the economic offenders have gone abroad or gone underground and running their business on a fictitious name and agencies. Government has set up SEBI to regulate the share market but it seems that the Government lacks will power, essential to deal with economic offenders and to check such type of Banks scams. Public invest money in shares and now a days banks too are coming out with their issues and it seems that at present control of the Government on banks has been declined. Budget has been presented. I do not like to mention the amount of external debt on Indians but there is no improvement in economic condition, inflation rate, budget deficit and other related problems. This Bill will be passed as we are supporting it. Later on 2 or 3 judges will be appointed for special courts after seeking the consent of the Chief Justice of High Court and Supreme Court. But I would like to draw your attention towards a constitutional question. In 1992, a suggestion was given to bring a comprehensive Bill after discussion for setting up special courts. Till now four amendments have been made therein and I do not know as to how many more times it will be amended. This ordinance has been brought in hurry and

thereafter you will introduce another Bill to remove the 'lacunae. Standing Committee have been set up for every Ministry. Whether the Bill regarding setting up special courts or any such matter should not be referred to committee for discussion ? Only after it, the Bill should be passed after discussion on it in Lok Sabha. This Bill has been brought to replace the ordinance. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek your protection and leave this issue to your discretion as to what guidelines should be issued to the Government for paying attention towards it in future.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rawatji, please wind up your debate.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will conclude after this point. Civil cases should be disposed of at the earliest, as the concept of justice is being followed in the House. I would also like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Government to check the likely interference and pressure of World Bank and IMF in economic condition of the country. There should be a time bound programme for hearing of cases regarding economic offences for their speedy disposal. People should have a feeling that one would be punished for the crime committed by him. The wrong message will be conveyed among public if big economic offenders are not caught and punished and they will have a feeling that good and efficient lawyers can save them. The Government should pay attention towards it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, much has been said about the need for improving our banking system. What measures are being taken by the Government to check scams taking place in the name of economic liberalisation, implementation of Jankiraman report and strengthening the financial institutions. The House should be informed about the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the banks defaulters, tax evaders so that misuse of funds can be checked. An intelligence department under C.B.D.T. has been set up to check economic offences. It should be strengthened by giving more powers and cases should be presented in such a way that the judge can decide them at the earliest.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rawatji, please wind up you have covered so many points and taken the allotted time.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, I support the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Bill, 1997 and hope that judicial process will be expedited to settle these cases at the earliest so that economic offenders can be punished. The public should be told that on the basis of the Action Taken Report on Security Scam how many guilty persons have been punished so far and how much recovery has been made ?

With these words, I thank you for allowing me to speak.

[English]

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill which has been moved by our

hon. Finance Minister. I wholeheartedly support this Bill because this Special Court Amendment Bill deals with serious offences like economic offences and economic offenders, who were holding high and key posts of our country and most of them are very rich and are the richest persons of our society.

This is a very important Bill. This Bill will help to expedite the cases which are pending year after year before the Special Court. It is our experience that not only in the Special Court but in every Court, in every stature of the Court, a large number of cases are long pending. And people are waiting for the judgment on those cases. Before the judgment comes, people are going to pass away from this world. So, I think, this Bill will expedite the disposal of the cases. Those cases which relate to economic offenders and which come within the purview of this Special Court Act should be disposed of as soon as possible after their registration.

I would also like to point out to the hon. Finance Minister and this House that it is our duty to see that the prosecuting agency is cautious and takes care in prosecuting the offender. It is also our experience that due to lacunae of the investigating agency and due to the reluctance of the prosecuting agency, in most of the cases the offenders are being acquitted. This is our experience. After registering a case, the investigating agency is not taking much care to investigate the case properly. After filing the charge-sheet in a final form, there is some lacuna and defect in the prosecution of the case. The prosecutors are duty bound to prosecute the offenders. They are very much reluctant to do their duty; particularly the lawyers, who appear for the prosecution, are not taking much care to prosecute the offender. In this case we should be cautious to see that the prosecuting agency takes care to prosecute the accused person properly.

Sir, this is a proper time to amend this Act. So, I support this Special Court Amendment Bill wholeheartedly.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the proposed amendment in the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions of Securities) Amendment Ordinance, which is being passed as Bill, is quite simple and technical amendment. It says that more than one judge can be appointed if required for the special courts. I have no objection to this amendment.

16.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the 86 crore people of this country are being misled in the name of special courts. Sir, you and whole public of this country know about the Security Scam in which Harshad Mehta and his colleagues were arrested.

[Justice Guman Mal Lodha]

Hundreds of cases have been filed against them, which revealed that high bank officials, politicians and some other influential persons were involved in this scam. They embezzled the hard-earned money of poor people, hence they should be imprisoned. This money should be recovered and cases should be filed against them. But it is a bitter reality that so far, Harshad Mehta has not been awarded sentence so far even for a day in any of these cases. It is also a fact that Harshad Mehta is still playing havoc with the stock market and still considered benami stock market king. He is still misleading the public by using score of names and roaming scot-free and causes fluctuation in stock market. Our Finance Minister, officials of stock exchange, the entire prosecution and Intelligence Branch and all the concerned officers have not been able to prevent him from doing that. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to whether the National Security Act, COFEPOSA Act and other preventive measures are not sufficient to arrest and check the activities of the guilty persons who swallowed the money of poor people and to prevent such activities so that such scams could be checked in future. But why these persons have been given so much freedom? I would like to know as to whether the Finance Minister and the related departments are not aware of this fact or our Intelligence Department is so inefficient or corrupt or are they hand in gloves with the culprits, that is why they have been given freedom to that extent. He is still considered hero of Indian stock market and creates fluctuation in stock market, this all reveals that the public is being misled in the name of special courts. The Government lacks commitment, strong will, burning desire and firm determination in the implementation of its policies. It is just a camouflage and protective cover to give freedom to persons like Harshad Mehta for looting the poor. Therefore, I would like to say that the Government should clarify its views as whether it will keep on misleading the public or will arrest Harshad Mehta. Reliance is a big company. Crores of Indian people have made investment in UTI especially after retirement, people had invested their fund, like P.F., Pension, gratuity with a confidence that it is a Government organisation and the government have so many rights in its Board of Directors and thus there cannot be any scam. But it is a fact that people from Reliance company and higher officials of UTI had woven a conspiracy and artificially created fluctuation in stock exchange to raise the prices of shares of Reliance Company which were later on purchased by UTI. UTI had not purchased shares worth Rs. 10 or 20 lakh but shares worth thousands of crores were purchased. This benefited Reliance Company and other rich people. UTI purchased these shares on artificially created higher prices. It means that UTI committed a breach of trust with poor people who deposited their hard-earned money with UTI. According to an estimate about Rs. 50,000 crore has been earned by Reliance Company and as a result of it UTI totally collapsed.

What will happen to the economy of the country if Reserve Bank of India collapses. Now we came to know that the Governmental or semi-Governmental institution for savings in the country has collapsed due to conspiracy.

Now when people sent the share of UTI like Master Gain and Master Share to encash, they are told to wait due to paucity of funds. What will be the plight of the country if RBI refuses to pay Rs. 100 for paucity of funds? Hon. Minister has been a meek spectator of this scandal. No CBI inquiry has been conducted into the matter at any stage. No case has been filed so far in this regard. When senior Minister and allied Minister of a Government maintain silence on such matters it means that —

[English]

Silence is the half consent.

[Translation]

They agree to it.\*

I charge the Finance Minister that Finance Minister, all the officers, enforcement officials, officials of stock exchange, police officers and CBI were involved in this embezzlement of billions of rupees transacted between UTI and Reliance Company. That is the reason why no officials of Reliance company have been arrested and sued so far. Neither the property of any person has been attached nor anything recovered from anyone. I demand that the Chairman or Managing Director of UTI, whosoever is found guilty should be brought behind the bars... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Justice Guman Mal Lodha, these are very serious charges that you are levelling — A Member's speech in the House is a protected and privileged piece.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I am levelling them to protect the interests of crores of investors of India.

[Translation]

I demand that hon. Finance Minister should institute an inquiry into this matter. I know that our present Finance Minister is also an eminent jurist and expert of law. I demand that CBI inquiry should be conducted into this scam to find out the guilty. Who is responsible for looting the billions of rupees through this transaction after artificially raising the prices? The guilty should be put behind the bars.

In this era of Judicial activism guilty persons should not be spared whether he is related to any political party or holding higher post. He should be put behind the bars.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, these Business Magnet and big Business Houses keep on evading the law by greasing the palms of concerned authorities. I, therefore, request to conduct a CBI inquiry into it and those found guilty whether they are officials of UTI or owners of Reliance Company should be sued.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member from Nagpur has written four letters to the Finance Minister that billions of rupees had been embezzled by violation of FERA. The

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

House should be informed about the guilty persons. Chidambaramji has admitted that FERA had been violated and billions of rupees have been embezzled but so far the investigation of this forgery case is concerned, CBI inquiry is still going on. Revealing the names of guilty persons cannot be considered appropriate because it will hamper the investigation and create hurdle in prosecution.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to why he was worried about it as CBI inquiry is being conducted and for it F.I.R. is lodged which is an official judicial record and anyone can buy a copy of it for two rupees. Why he wanted to conceal this information? I demand that the correspondence between Purohitji and the Finance Minister and names of the bank officers and other persons involved in this forgery should be made public so that the people of this country should know the truth.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this proposed amendment to the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transaction of Securities) Amendment Bill. But persons like Harshad Mehta should be put behind the bars under the Preventive Detention Act or COFEPOSA so that they could not loot the hard-earned money of public. Preventive and Punitive action should be taken against the owners of Reliance Company and Chairman or Managing Director of UTI if their involvement in this forgery is proved. In the interest of investors, the guilty persons should be punished deterrently. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to speak on this issue.

[*English*]

SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY (Burdwan) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. However, I want to point out certain features mentioned in the Bill which should have received the attention quite earlier.

This Bill provides for Special Court for trial of offences in respect of transactions in securities committed between 1st April, 1991 and 6th June, 1992. This was the time when the securities scam of about Rs. 5,000 crore had surfaced in the country and it was necessary that the Government came out with some measures to satisfy the people that something is seriously being done to see that in future at least such scams do not take place. But has this Special Court been able to achieve any part of it? It has not. Surprisingly, one Special Court at Mumbai has taken cognizance of 2,910 cases—3,000 cases. Seventy charge-sheets have been submitted. That is mentioned in the Object of the Bill itself.

What is devised in the Bill is that the High Court judge shall, for the first time, try cases of this nature. That means, first time, the trial initiates at the High Court level. A judge of the High Court is the judge of the special court. There is an ambiguity here. It is an accepted norm now all over the world that trial on facts should take place at two stages. If

the High Court tries or the judge of the High Court tries in any form, either as special court or otherwise, then a second inquiry on facts is to be before the Supreme Court. The amendment itself points out the delay that will take place.

16.16 hrs.

(SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*)

It has already been mentioned that the Mumbai High Court is unable to cope up with the number of cases there. One judge cannot deal with it. Therefore, more judges should be appointed and there should be a scheme for transfer of the cases from one judge to another, and that will be by the Chief Justice of the High Court.

The Act had been challenged when it was introduced in 1992. Its values have been challenged before the Mumbai High Court and also before the special court itself. It had succeeded in pointing out that this is a well-classified legislation and then there is no violation of Article 14. But now the Chief Justice of the High Court shall transfer the cases. This provision is made that the Chief Justice has no jurisdiction over the cases which are filed before the special court and when transfer comes, he will transfer the cases and assign from one judge to another. I do not know how far it will survive the scrutiny of another challenge. But, in any event, this is clear that as of today, during the last five years, no effective result has been delivered by any special court created under this Act.

Sir, in the past five years, for a limited period from 1st April, 1991 to 6th June, 1992 — the present Finance Minister is not responsible for the legislation itself — there was a scam which just was an earthquake in the country. It shook everybody, every knowing person, all knowledgeable people. As a result, a legislation was devised and was just handed down to the people that here is the law by which those who are involved in the scam will certainly be tried and punished. In five years, nothing has been done.

There is one question to which immediately, all of us, I think, should closely attend to. We are always thinking of alternative fora for dissolution of disputes and all resulting from such a situation. A peculiar situation is presented in the country all of a sudden and you see either a special court or a Debt Tribunal or a State Special Court — various types of tribunals and courts. An examination of the activities of this tribunal, its capacity to dispense with justice, will only show that the arrears accumulated there are no less than in ordinary courts — in some cases it is much more. Before alternative fora are thought of, the infrastructure to be given to that alternative fora and the procedure that has to be devised for early disposal of cases, have to be found out. They have not been found out. The result is the stagnation. In this country all alternative fora are stagnant except, possibly, the Debt Tribunal. To know the way in which the Debt Tribunal disposes of cases, one has to go before the Tribunal and see for himself.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Only the green belt is supreme....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : The judge of the Debt Tribunal only asks : 'Have you taken the money or not?'

Whether it is a small amount or a big amount, he will ask, if you have taken the money, pay it back. Then, there is no explanation. After all, we have never conceived that justice should be delivered in that form. This is not the summary trial. In some tribunals, same form of taking evidence and written statement in the name of alternative plaint or petition is followed, which is just like the form followed in High Court. It takes years to dispose of the cases. This special court has yet not been able to dispose of the cases quickly, particularly, the cases of that nature, occurring in the country in a short period. When it will have no impact, what is the significance of this Tribunal ? If this Tribunal or let us say Special Court, after 10 years delivers a judgement, the people will forget by the year 2001 or 2002 what had happened between 1st April, 1991 and June, 1992. The idea was to give the country a decisive verdict that those who are guilty have been punished and their properties have been attached. The apparatus that we have discovered is totally insufficient for that and is incompetent.

Moreover, one thing I want to point out is that the High Court is always in arrears of cases. Large number of cases have accumulated in High Courts and the Law Minister on the other day had made a statement that in the whole country the arrears are of more than three crores in Trial Courts, High Courts and all courts. High Court is in arrears of cases. We take High Court judges to try those cases. After all, offences in securities are not very complicated offences. These are all, more or less, the offences of cheating and fraud. The offence of cheating and fraud are tried by Magistrates or Assistant Sessions Judges quite competently. Then, what is necessary is expeditious disposal. If you put the High Court judge to do all the duties of a Magistrate, then you increase the arrears of the High Court. We do not know how does it help this forum. In any event, what I suggest is that if an alternative forum has to be there, this forum cannot be the forum manned by High Court judges. This could never have been thought of.

High Court is a court of record. Normally, the idea is that it can try all cases including the cases of contempt unless that case is taken away by a procedural law. Now, that High Court judge is asked to try a case of magisterial jurisdiction. Then again, sufficient means have not been provided so that it could dispose of cases within the short period. It was established in 1992. We could very well understand its speed. Sometimes, High Court judges are taken away for inquiry of aircraft crash. That is quite understandable. But if the High Court judges will be meant for trying cases of the jurisdiction of a Magistrate for years together and if they will go on doing this for coming 10 or 15 years, that will not help, according to me, the justice

system in the country nor will it achieve the object that was thought of that it will achieve.

I would suggest one thing that another aspect should have also been thought of when it was conceived. I cannot blame the present Finance Minister who is just bringing an amendment. Now, for cases of fraud and cheating of equal dimension — it is not a question of whether it is violative of Article 14; it is a question of policy regarding dispensation of justice in a civilised country — some people for such offences will go before a first class Magistrate or Assistant Sessions Judge and others will have the umbrella of a High Court judge for the trial of having committed the same type of offence. The only object is to delay the trial and that object has succeeded. By now, nothing has been done and nothing will be done. People have started forgetting the scam of Rs. 5,000 crore. By the time one or two decisions come, people will totally forget it.

It may be Rs. 5,000 crore or Rs. One lakh crore, but the people will forget all about it in 10 or 20 years. Therefore, speedy trial should be done and justice should be rendered quickly. Nothing can be achieved by the scheme that was conceived in 1992 to which we are bringing an amendment now.

Madam, the strength of the High Courts is fixed. It cannot be increased just as a matter of convenience for one kind of trial. You take away three or four or five judges from that court and reduce it into a smaller court to the detriment of the people in general whose cases are pending in the High Court. Therefore, if alternative forums have to be thought of, there should be, I think, a Commission or a Committee to go into the entire question of alternative forums for dissolution of disputes. If there should be such a forum, everything should be examined and then such an amendment should be brought.

This amendment is nothing but for addition of one more judge and about the mechanism of transfer. But that does not raise any question of either objecting or supporting the Bill. It is more or less a neutral situation in which we are there. If the Act remains, the amendment has to be supported certainly and more judges have to be given. But at the same time, this will not achieve the object. Therefore, an attempt should be made to see as to how the alternative forums are working in the country. All sorts of special courts have been devised in this country and a country which is incapable of presenting to the world that we have a uniform system of justice itself defeats the purpose for which it exists and that is what we are going to do by this type of diverse system of justice to diverse cases.

With these words, however, I support the Bill.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This proposal boils down to the associated amending Bills, adding to the size of the High Court as well as the Supreme Court. Would he agree that such a thing should be done ?

SHRI BASAVARAJ RAYAREDDI (Koppal) : Madam, this Bill can be passed without any further discussion. I do not think that any further discussion is required for this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Kirpal Yadav is the last speaker on this Bill.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Madam, may I interrupt for a minute ? We have a meeting of the Standing Committee now and I am one of the speakers on the next Bill which is to be taken up after this one. I am just in a dilemma. If I leave for that Committee meeting and that Bill is taken up and deliberated upon, the House may be saved or at least my leader will be saved. So, what can be done? Can it be that it may be taken up tomorrow ? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : I will finish in two minutes. I am the only person who remains to speak.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let Shri Ram Kirpal Yadav finish his speech and in the mean time, you can settle what is to be done.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Madam Chairperson, I rise to support the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Bill, 1997 introduced by the hon. Minister.

Several hon'ble Members have expressed their views on this Bill. There is no doubt in it that the objectives of this Bill reflect the will of the Government. The Government's intention is to set up special courts by way of this Bill and settle the cases which are pending since long time and only with this objective the Bill has been brought. We all know that due to certain loopholes in our banking system a great security scam, involving thousands of crores of rupees, has taken place. This scam was much talked about not only in the entire country but in the whole world. I hold that it was an unprecedented and unfortunate incident which had created many doubts in our people's minds. They had started thinking whether the people involved in such big economic offence would get punishment or not ? This was a general impression among the people. Our hon. Member has said it correctly that five years have gone since 1992 but so far no concrete results have come before. It seems that people's memory in this respect is vanishing gradually. By setting up such special court, the Government want to dispose of such cases. It has been clearly mentioned in this Bill that a special court will be set up by the Chief Justice, High Court in consultation with the Chief Justice of India which will dispose of the cases related to the security scam expeditiously. Intention of the Government is crystal clear. Our many hon. Members from opposition have said that the Government wants to hush up the issue. But the intention of the

Government is very clear and that is to give rigorous punishment to the economic offenders and to get the cases disposed of expeditiously. With these objectives, the hon. Minister has moved this Bill in the House. I think that all Members should unanimously support this Bill. The hon. Minister should take care that no such scams take place in the future. The Minister should have to take note of this incident so that people involved in such economic offences are discouraged. If it requires any amendment that should be done and the guilty persons should be given the most stringent punishment so that the money of the poor, which has been looted on large scale, is looted no more in the future. A large number of such cases are pending settlement in many courts. They are not being disposed of with as much speed as they should be. I would say that the hon. Minister has taken a good step by bringing in this Bill. In case, the economic offences which have surfaced require any further amendment in the dealing laws, that should be done so that the matters pertaining to economic offences are filed in the Court, people involved in those cases are prosecuted and awarded punishment.

I would also request the hon. Minister to frame the charges against the persons found involved in the cases of security scam more effectively and get them disposed of. I do welcome the amendments moved by you in this regard and request to take such action in the matter so as to prevent the scamsters from indulging in such financial bunglings in future. They should be given the most stringent and rigorous punishment to teach them a lesson so that they dare not indulge in such activities again in future. At the same time, cases are also disposed of in the shortest possible time by the special court.

With these words, I conclude by extending my support to this Bill.

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Madam, I am grateful to the hon. Members for the views expressed by them while intervening in the discussion on this Bill. I am grateful that everyone of them has supported the amendment. All that we are doing is enabling the appointment of more than one Judge as a Special Court in order to speed up the trial of cases. I think, the appointment of another Judge of the Mumbai High Court, in addition to Justice Variava, will speed up the trial of cases.

Madam, there is a misconception that Justice Variava's Court has not dealt with these matters expeditiously. I wish to dispel that impression. I think that Justice Variava has done a tremendous job in dealing with thousands of petitions and suits that have been filed before him. I have with me an abstract of matters disposed of until the 28th of August, 1996. Two thousand nine hundred and ten applications, petitions, suits, chamber summons, notices of motion,

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

contempt notices, remand applications, criminal cases and garnishee notices, were filed before the learned Judge. He has disposed of 2,099 of them; each one of them involves questions of facts and law. And I think the Judge has done a tremendous job in dealing with a very complicated set of cases. There are now 811 cases pending, and we think that the appointment of another Judge will speed up the disposal.

There is also a misconception that no action has been taken so far. According to the information that I have, action has been taken against 54 officials of banks. Of these, punishments have been imposed on a number of people — 18 have been dismissed, two have been compulsorily retired, and other punishments have been imposed upon other officers. In 42 cases, sanction for prosecution has been given. There was some comment about one of the accused by name Harshad Mehta. I have with me a list of cases in which Harshad Mehta is shown as an accused. Many of these cases are in an advanced stage. For example, in RC 51 — framing of charges; in RC 2 — arguments on the charge; in RC 50(a) — inspection of documents; in RC 7 (a) — draft charges; in RC 8 (a) — supply of documents; in RC 41 (a) — prosecution's evidence; in RC 41 — arguments on charge; in RC 52 — draft charges, and in RC 9 — arguments on draft charges; these cases are going on. I believe, the said accused was arrested on 4th June, 1992. The Ordinance was promulgated on 6th of June, 1992. He was in custody for several weeks or months and, eventually, he was released on bail. If he is on bail today, it is on the orders of the Court; the Government cannot interfere with an order of the Court.

Some comment was made about the validity of the provisions that I am bringing. As the House knows, the validity of this Act was challenged before the Mumbai High Court. The High Court has upheld the Act. I believe, certain specific sections have been challenged in one petition before the Supreme Court, and in another petition before the Delhi High Court. We are satisfied that the Act is valid. We are also satisfied that the Amendment that we are bringing, namely, allowing one more sitting Judge of the Mumbai High Court to act as a Special Court along with Justice Variava, is correct.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad) : Is it only for Mumbai ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He is the sitting Judge of the High Court.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Now-a-days, 'Bombay' is referred to as 'Mumbai'.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I said 'Mumbai' only. May be, my cold is making 'Mumbai' into 'Bombay'.

I am also bound to disclose to this House that as on 31st July, 1996, 41 persons were notified under the Act.

Also, securities of the value of Rs. 2,674 crore have been attached and are pending. It is not as though these cases are being delayed. They are being tried as expeditiously as possible and I think the addition of one more judge will further expedite the cases.

I request hon. Members to cooperate and pass this law.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I want to ask one clarification. The hon. Minister has said that many charges have been framed, papers are given and applications have been disposed of. I want to know pointedly whether any of the card-holders of the stock exchange, not to talk of Shri Harshad Mehta, any one, has been convicted by now. This is number one.

Secondly, I want to know whether any one has been sent to jail by substantive imprisonment because after four years if we are at the stage of introduction by way of giving of documents or framing of charges, it means that the trial, by the time it comes to the Supreme Court, would take another 50 years.

So, I want to know what is the situation about the conviction and sentence to jail, whether any one broker or stockholder has been convicted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The hon. Member ought to know better than I do how trials take place. The point is, this Act came in 1992. That was challenged and that was later upheld. Then petitions were filed. Today we have reached the stage, as I have explained, where prosecution evidence has been recorded in one case against one of the principal accused. We have reached that stage. Trials do take place in this country and they do take a lot of time. My information is, subject to correction, no one has perhaps been convicted so far by the Special Court. But from the information that I have furnished, it appears to me that many of the cases are at the advanced stage and we should leave it to the courts to conclude them as quickly as possible.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I was in the Scam Committee. The question partly arises from that.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA: You were in the scam !

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : How can I be when you are there already ?

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I was not there in the Committee!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : One line of investigation — it is not strictly related to this Bill — which we are insisting for the last three or four years is that in fact the share transactions value was about Rs. 13 lakh crore. I submitted before the House also that out of that and, in the same way as the Income-tax Department calculates, at least Rs. 1 lakh crore was earned. We wanted in the JPC

report also that the cheques from Shri Harshad Mehta and others should be traced to find out who were the other persons who are involved in the whole game. I am once again raising this issue. I failed with the earlier Government. Let me see whether I will succeed with the United Front Government, whether even any token cheque chasing will be done of the cheque issued by Shri Harshad Mehta and followed up to the farthest end. Can that be done? Can there be an assurance? The House is discussing about the people involved in these frauds etc. So, they should also be caught as parties involved in the fraud. What is your policy in this regard?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am not in a position to give an off the cuff answer. I will look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the people who are sitting in the treasury benches today, used to sit earlier in this side.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Earlier they were in communist.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You are in the wrong. You are only extending your support and you have got to play only this much role. Now these people are sitting in that side but earlier when they used to be here, they made much hue and cry over this issue and raise the issue of security with much vigour. All these people, including Ram Vilas Paswanji, used to make much hue and cry but today they are in power.

Therefore, it is my request that, in case, if you are setting up special court then try to see that matters are tried expeditiously. If this is possible then this exercise is going to be fruitful, otherwise, introduction of this Bill, setting up of special court, appointment of judges is going to serve us no purpose. Today the situation is, I am sorry to say, that if you call someone leader, it would imply as if he is involved in some scam. Today the definition of the word 'leader' has changed. This has become a very vicious and subtle word. Today who is not scam tainted in the entire country. If I name somebody, it would not be proper. I want to say that, today, nobody is away from some or other scam. Slowly and gradually the secret of everyone is being made public. There are so much so scam related cases today that even the setting up of numerous courts, I doubt, will suffice for their trial.

Sir, 70 scam cases were detected in the county whose number has gone up very high so far. Newspapers and TV channels are daily reporting some or other scam news. Sometime it is reported that Chandraswamiji and his companions have been interrogated and sometime others. Out of 2910 cases made out, irregularities have been found committed in 78 cases and out of these 78 cases only 10 cases have been filed. Action has been taken only in respect of 10 cases. A sum of Rs. Eight thousand crore are involved in the security scam. Everybody demanded to take action

against Harshad Mehta. We are not opposing your this move rather we are supporting you for having brought in this Bill. At least you are making some attempt in this regard which we appreciate whole heartedly. What I want is to expedite the trial otherwise elections and we people also are losing our credibility. People are raising their fingers on everyone among us. Take action against the persons found involved in the scam. It was your sheer luck that you survived your downfall and remained in power. The reason is that the Congress party does not want elections right now for he fears the prospects of BJP coming to power... (Interruptions) I want you to divulge the details of the scam cases and disclose the names of the persons who have been found involved in the security scams. This is my request to you.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, confine to the subject, please... (Interruptions) One hour is allotted for this. Already one-and-a-half hours' time is over It should have taken five minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Further, I would like you to let us know as to what remedial measures you are going to take for banking improvement. You are a good Finance Minister. You have presented the Budget but what provisions have you made for effecting improvement in the banking system. You are inviting some foreign banks by giving them certain exemptions in your Budget. We are producing many things in India itself and in view of this, we should discourage the use of foreign goods. Otherwise our domestic industry is bound to suffer. These all things should be taken into consideration by you.

My party does not oppose the Bill brought by you rather we are supporting it but the point is that you should nail the corrupt people and debunk their identity before the public. And this should be done expeditiously. I want you to ensure that special court do function expeditiously. So far I have been opposing this Ordinance, which has been promulgated by you in a hurry but now since you have made the things clear enough, I do support this Bill. The Resolution to repeal this Ordinance was moved by me but since you have brought this Bill with good spirit, I do withdraw my Resolution by extending my support to this Bill. I hope and I request that you will take action in this regard as early as possible... (Interruptions)

Sir, if the House wants me to withdraw my Resolution, which I have moved to repeal the Ordinance, then I have to let the will of the House prevail.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava be withdrawn?

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long title stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

16.53 hrs.

#### STATUTORY RESOLUTION

**Re : Disapproval of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Ordinance and Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Bill**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up Item Nos. 16 and 17 together. Shri Rasa Singh Rawat to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Madam, Chairperson, I beg to move the following Resolution :

"That this House disapproves the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 6 of 1997) promulgated by the President on 16 January, 1997."

Madam, Chairperson, the Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Bill, 1997 has been brought in the form of an Ordinance. I would like to oppose the tendency to bring in a legislation in the form of an ordinance. This Ordinance given assent to and promulgated by His Excellency the President of India on 24th January, 1997 whereas just two days after that occasion, we were going to celebrate the Republic Day on 26th January. This Republic Day assumes much significance as this year we are celebrating the Golden Jubilee Year of our Independence but the Ordinance was promulgated just two days before the Republic Day. This tendency should meet opposition.

Madam, Chairperson, I through you, would like to remind the people sitting in front of me that when they used to sit in these Chairs earlier, they were in the habit of protesting almost each and every Ordinance, They used to term every Government as a Government which believes only in Ordinances. Several references of several legislation were used to be given by these people. Such sentences were repeated many a time that Ordinances should be promulgated only in an emergency like situation in the country or when possibility of convening the Parliament session seems far away or when the country is likely to suffer any unavoidable loss. Any Ordinance should be promulgated only in such conditions. Otherwise in a normal situation, when Parliament is in session, the Government should introduce a Bill then it should be referred to the Standing Committee of the concerned Ministry where it should be discussed hair breadth. Members of all party should cut across their party line and give their valuable suggestions which should be taken into consideration by the Committee and then only the Government should introduce that Bill in the House for discussion. This is the way to follow the democratic system properly but when these 13 parties, which are having conflicting view points on every thing, do say that they have got full faith in democracy and they respect it, it becomes unbelievable. I, through you, would like to know as to why this Ordinance was promulgated with so much hurry ? So far the Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Bill was in effect and we were, however, managing the things to get on and there should have been no need to bring in this Ordinance in a hurry. I, through you, severely condemn the tendency of promulgating the Ordinances in this way. I also charge this Government for not showing due respect to this House and not taking the Parliament seriously. This is the reason that this Government is resorting to Ordinances time and again and avoiding deliberations on different issues.

Sir, howsoever good or bad a law may be, but it is very necessary to have a good source for reaching your targeted

end. I can not support even the very subject on which they have brought this Ordinance. Many of my friends might not have read the contents of this Bill. Just to write off the crores of rupees and get it stamped by the Parliament, this Government has brought this Bill in order to convert this Bank into a company, I want to draw your attention towards the financial memorandum on page 8 of this Bill which says :

[English]

"(a) reducing paid up capital of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India by writing off the equity to the extent of Rs. 74.30 crore against past non-performing assets:"

Earlier, who were responsible for the non-performing assets ?

[Translation]

Who were responsible for the non-performing assets ? How did it become as non-performing and who were responsible for writing it off ? Why the money was not realised, why no guarantee papers were signed, why no security was deposited and why no attempts were made to put the things in order in this regard ? And today they want to get it stamped by the Parliament which is why I am opposing it. It has clearly been mentioned in the Bill that:

[English]

Kindly see minutely between the lines.

After that, it is also written on page 8 of the Bill under 'Financial Memorandum' which is as under :

"(b) convert an amount of Rs. 52.25 crore of equity share capital of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India into redeemable preference shares carrying the dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum and redeemable at par on the expiry of ten years from the date of allotment."

[Translation]

This is evident from these lines as to what are the Government's intentions behind this Ordinance. I, therefore, do condemn this tendency of promulgating an Ordinance. They want to write off the hard earned money of the people of this country — whether it is invested in BIFR or in sick industries or to eradicate the backwardness from the country—which has accumulated to the tune of Rs. 74.30 crores during the last 13 years since the inception of Industrial Reconstruction Bank in 1984. I leave it upto Parliament to decide as to how much fruitful this move will be for Indian economy. Hence, I do oppose it.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, before I finish my speech, I would like to say one more thing and that is about the deliberations in the Constituent Assembly which was going on in respect of the articles providing powers to the President to promulgate an Ordinance. When the Assembly was discussing this matter, the then Speaker Shri Mavlankar ji had pointed out that except for special circumstances or an emergency like situation, such powers should not be used. Which is why I oppose this way of promulgating an ordinance which is basically against the very spirit of democracy. Following are the few lines which he has said in the name of economic liberalisation.

[English]

"...ensure greater flexibility and consequent ability of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India to respond to the needs of the fast changing financial system, the Industrial Reconstruction bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 was promulgated by the President on the 24th day of January, 1997."

[Translation]

About Non-performing assets, it has been said that :

[English]

"As the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India was predominantly engaged in reconstruction and rehabilitation of sick companies, its assets structure got heavily burdened with non-performing assets."

[Translation]

My friends should take note of the phraseology used in the above lines. It has been said in the above lines that they would set up a company by the name of Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India limited which would work like Industrial Investment Bank which I do oppose. I oppose the very objective of bringing this ordinance and with these words, I move the Statutory Resolution disapproving the promulgation of the Ordinance.

17.01 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, I had given notice for the Statutory Resolution disapproving the promulgation of the Ordinance. Now I want to support the Bill and withdraw the Resolution. Kindly allow me to speak before the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : At this stage nobody is allowed to do so. The Minister has to move the Bill first.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer and vesting of the undertakings of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India to and in the Company to be formed and registered as a Company under the Companies Act, 1956, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and also to repeal the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984, be taken into consideration."

The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India was constituted under the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984. The Charter of the bank stipulates that it shall function as the principle credit and reconstruction agency for industrial revival and coordinate similar work of other financial Institutions as well as assist and promote industrial development and rehabilitate industrial concerns. Subsequently, in 1985, Parliament enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, SICA, with a view to ensure timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies, speedy determination of suitable measures in respect of such companies and for enforcement of these measures. Under the provisions of SICA, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, BIFR, was set up in 1987. With the enactment of SICA and setting up of BIFR, the coordination and catalytic role for rehabilitation has become strongly institutionalised in BIFR. Currently, financial institutions and commercial banks are nursing sick units in their own portfolio. Keeping in view that the role of IRBI as principal agency for reconstruction and rehabilitation of sick units was no longer relevant, it was felt that there is a need to redefine the role and functions of IRBI and if possible transform it into a full-fledged all purpose development financial institution.

Hon. Members will recall that in my Budget speech last year, I promised to bring a law to transform IRBI into a full-fledged financial institution and all sections of the House welcomed that proposal and supported me.

Presently, IRBI's profitability and other parameters had been adversely affected due to its asset structure having got heavily burdened with non-performing assets and implementation of provisioning norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India.

In fact, if I may refer to some ratios of the IRBI, it would be seen that they are very adverse. The earnings per share is only five paise; the book value per share is Rs. 10.00; the notional debt service coverage ratio is only 1.79; the reserves as a proportion of equity is 0.01 and the percentage of NPAs is as high as 32.1. Hon. Members are aware that several changes in the financial sector during the last five years or so have made it vital for the financial institutions to raise funds largely from the capital market. This poses great difficulties for IRBI which has hitherto not been competitive in resource mobilisation. IRBI's survival in the

existing financial system would, therefore, depend crucially on its ability to mobilise resources, equity as well as debt, competitively and transmute these into high quality assets. IRBI, if it is continued in its present form, would not be in a position to garner adequate resources for growth and would continue to remain uncompetitive *vis-a-vis* other all India financial institutions. It is also necessary to give IRBI greater functional autonomy and operational flexibility in its operations.

The Bill also empowers the Central Government to reduce equity capital of IRBI and/or convert equity into redeemable preference shares. This is being done so that a part of the non-performing assets can be written off and another part can be converted into preference shares. This will clean up the balance sheet. This will also enable us to infuse more capital into the Company as well as raise capital in the market.

One of the questions that was put to me when I was sitting here was : 'What do you propose as authorised capital of IRBI?' I am happy to inform the House that as of now in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the proposed Company, I propose to have an authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crore for the IRBI. This will make it a huge financial institution based in Calcutta. Its headquarters will remain in Calcutta as I promised in my last Budget Speech. It is necessary that eastern India has a full-fledged financial institution just as Mumbai today has more than one full-fledged financial institution. It will help in the development of industry in the eastern part of India, including Assam and the North-East.

We appointed CRISIL, one of our rating agencies to look into the situation of IRBI and suggest various options. They examined all the options and recommended certain options. The Board of IRBI finally chose the option that it should be converted into a Company and that its capital should be restructured and fresh capital infused into the Company. The Government has accepted this suggestion.

Since this promise was made in last July and since I am anxious that the new Company should be inaugurated in Calcutta before the 31st of March, I could not lose time. I was hoping that I would get legislative time in the last Session of Parliament. In the last Session of Parliament, I did not get legislative time. The only way I could get legislative time is — to get this done before March — to use the intervening break to make an Ordinance so that the preliminary work on drafting of Memorandum and Articles of Association is complete. As soon as this Bill is passed in this House and in the Rajya Sabha, I hope to travel to Calcutta. With all the Members from Bengal and other parts there, we hope to get this institution going before the 31st of March.

I think, this is a welcome step. It will be a great boon to IRBI. Otherwise, IRBI would become sick in a few months.

IRBI should not become sick. IRBI should be converted into a full-fledged institution and we should be able to complete this process before the end of the financial year.

I request the hon. Members to cooperate in passing this, what I consider, a very important Bill to protect an institution which was founded in different times and for a different purpose and convert it into a strong full-fledged financial institution for industrial investment and development in that part of India.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand to vehemently oppose the Bill proposed by the hon. Finance Minister.

Sir, whatever objects and intentions which the hon. Minister of Finance has given in the statement, if precisely put, means that IRBI have become uneconomic, failed, collapsed and there are bad debts up to an extent of 35.10 per cent, as the hon. Minister has put it, and which comes to Rs. 74.30 crore as declared in the Financial Memorandum. To camouflage this, the terminology or phraseology 'non-performing assets' has been used. We want that this bank should take rebirth after Rs. 74 crore, which is the Government money, is wiped off or written off. This august House should put a seal on it that we approve of writing off the bad debts of Rs. 74 crore.

Now, the people of India would like to know as to why this is being written off. The hon. Minister of Finance has not said a word as to who are the business houses who have taken this Rs. 74.30 crore. This is the public money. This is the money of the Government which means the people and they are answerable to the people. Why have they lost this money? Why has it become bad debt? Why could they not recover it? Why have they given it? Is it on account of favouritism or nepotism or corruption? How was it paid without ensuring security and without ensuring that it would be repaid? Where has this money gone?

Unless it is explained to the people, it would not be proper for us to put a seal and write off those bad debts. It is a device and it is an attempt to write off the bad debts in the form of converting the statutory bank into the company. Therefore, I strongly object to it. I object to the *modus operandi* to befool the people of India, to betray the people of India and to commit breach of trust of the people's money and thereby commit a serious offence against the people of India.

Secondly, Sir, the Financial Memorandum says the reduction of capital would be made. It is well known that under the Indian Companies Act permission of the High Court has to be taken for reducing the capital. The High Court has to decide whether to allow the company to reduce its capital or not because reduction of capital has got serious and adverse financial consequences. This means that they are reducing the capital and they are virtually liquidating it, that too without the permission of the High Court by this

device of converting the statutory bank into a company under the Indian Companies Act.

My next objection is that this device should not be allowed because they want the verdict of this august House. This House is seized of the matter and this House must read between the lines as to what are the nefarious designs and what is the ulterior motive. We should understand this *mala fide modus operandi* to oblige those persons who have taken Rs. 75 crore. Who are those persons? Would the hon. Minister give the list to the House? I am certain that he would not give. He may give the reasons. He will give many reasons. He being an eminent advocate, would be able to give various reasons which *prima facie* seems to be correct. But if a probe is done, we will find that the object is to oblige those persons who have taken Rs. 75 crore and want to go scot free.

Therefore, this House should oppose this Bill vehemently. Whatever had happened to IBRD, the same thing would happen to this also. One after the other, this will go on happening. You would first create a company — a statutory company of a company under the Companies Act, then wind up or convert it into another company and then you would say that there are non-performing assets worth Rs. 100 crore or Rs. 75 crore and so on and so forth. This device must stop. I would give an example here.

I was in Chennai some time ago in connection with the work of a Committee of the Parliament. In Chennai, it was talked about and it is on record that there is one bank known as the Indian bank. That bank has squandered the money to the extent of some thousands of crores of rupees. The Chairman and Managing Director of that bank and the persons who were in charge, gave money to some airlines, to some other persons or some other bogus companies, without getting a resolution to that effect passed. Thus, thousands of crores of rupees were squandered, not in just thousands or lakhs. I am saying this on the basis of the First Information Report which has been recorded in the court. Cases have also been filed against one time Chairman of that bank and other persons who had entered into a conspiracy. That type of a conspiracy or that type of an offence had been committed because of which an FIR had been lodged. Now, an effort is being made to cover it up by setting up a committee. We should find out whether it was an account of a *mala fide* intention of the Chairman and the Managing Director or it was on account of the failure of the system.

A new phrase was coined like 'system's failure', for obliging Shri Harshad Mehta and others at the time of securities scam. They said, "Look here, the Ministers had not committed any wrong; the Ministry had committed wrong; and therefore, the Ministries' wrong is failure of system and not a *mala fide* act of commission or omission." This type of a device which is being adopted to befool the people should not be allowed to succeed.

[Justice Guman Mal Lodha]

Just prior to this discussion I have said about this and the hon. Finance Minister has not given any reply or has not spoken a word about that. This type of a device is very well prevalent in this country. I have pointed out another thing also. The Unit Trust of India is a Trust having the money of crores of people which is the whole life time savings of poor people like peons or clerks, like pension, provident fund, etc. But that money has been squandered by them. In the stock exchange, by artificially creating a rise in the price of the shares — in collusion and conspiracy with the bosses in the Unit Trust of India — they got those shares purchased by the Unit Trust of India and people's money was squandered. Thus the share market collapsed. Now, the investors in the Unit Trust of India are looking forward for refund. But they said that they did not have any money.

Here, the Finance Minister had got tight lips; he did not say a single word to mention why it has happened like that or how it has happened and what the Government is doing about that. The Finance Minister is a watchdog and a sentinel of all these fiscal matters or transactions. Here, people's hard-earned money is involved. On account of these various devices, big business bosses are making juggleries in the stock exchange; squandering, playing and gambling with people's money and people's fortunes. Thousands of persons have committed suicide on account of that.

It is because suddenly the market collapses and suddenly, there is artificial rise in prices and they remain as silent spectators sitting on the Treasury Benches. Holding the responsibility as Finance Minister of the country, it is his duty to safeguard it. But nothing is done. Now, this is another device. I therefore, strongly oppose it. I would appeal that this must be withdrawn and at least, a closure must be put to squandering of public money. The House has to put a seal on such non-performing assets, a phrase which has been coined to conceal bad debts, to conceal nepotism, favouritism and corruption in giving loans to a few persons either on account of personal or political influence and then they are declared as non-performing assets. I would, therefore, submit that this Bill should not be passed and it must be vehemently opposed.

The other day, a mention was made that the Standing Committee is seized of it. If the Standing Committee is seized of it, then the report of the Standing Committee must be obtained and thereafter, it must be considered. In any case, I vehemently oppose it and I appeal to the hon. Members to defend the interest of those undefendable persons who are not in the House, who are sitting in the various cities, towns and villages of this country and watching as to how the leaders of the people act and react — each one representing 15 lakhs of people — to this game of bad debts, this game of hide and seek and squandering of public money.

With these words, I vehemently oppose this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kumari Mamata Banerjee may speak now.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, I am on a point of information. This is the original Bill and all such original Bills are required to be sent to Standing Committee. There was a proposal. We had discussed it. At that time, the hon. Speaker had said that he will examine the point. Now, we would like to know the Government's reaction to that and then, the discussion can be continued.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Your Party has already spoken. Now allow other Parties also to speak ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no check for you to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Please sit down, please...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Why to sit down ? You should have allowed us to speak without any request by us ...*(Interruptions)* Your party has already spoken ...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : O.K. You may speak now ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is different thing that it can be referred to the Committee after the discussion is over. I have no objection in allowing you to speak but the ruling given by the hon. Speaker will be final

...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK : This is why, I am not opposing your speaking; you can continue. My only point is, before the Minister replies, we must know about that position so that the debate can go on in a proper way.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will check up.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak. I am not opposing the views of Shri Ram Naik. What I said was, before their party started this discussion, they should have appealed to the House and then, we could have discussed it unanimously. There is no harm in that. In my mind, I also think that instead of discussing this Bill today in this House, it should have been discussed in the Standing Committee first. It is because all finance-related Bills are important Bills. So, it is a lacuna only on the part of the Government to have brought this Ordinance and then coming to the House for passing it. So, it is better that instead of bringing this Ordinance and get it passed immediately or hurriedly, it should have been discussed in the Standing Committee. Only for this purpose,

the Standing Committee is set up by the Parliament itself. Of course, sometimes circumstances prevent the Government to bring this Ordinance to the House. It is a fact. But I have seen that this time, Government has brought so many Ordinances within these two months. I do not know the number of such Ordinances. Then, what is the need of this Parliament? I may tell you that I am really hurt to see such type of things. This is an important finance-related Bill. They come to Parliament with Ordinances. I am not blaming Chidambaramji because circumstances might have prevailed upon him to bring this Bill before the House to replace the Ordinance issued by the President. That is all right. But when the Standing Committee on Finance is there, why is it not referred to it? I do not know the reason.

I can give you one example. Lokpal Bill was Introduced in Lok Sabha. As a Member of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs, I raised this matter in that Standing Committee as to why it should not be referred to the Standing Committee. First, it should come to the Standing Committee. We will discuss it. We will give our suggestions. Then, it should be discussed in the House

Our Standing Committee has been kind enough. They have accepted our proposal. Now, we are discussing it as a Standing Committee. After that, it will come to the Parliament. That is the system. That is the tradition. There is no harm in doing it.

The hon. Minister has mentioned three points. He has stated very clearly that he is not going to shift the Headquarters from Calcutta. He has also mentioned about the authorised capital. What he has said is good.

But what was the reconstruction proposal that was there with the IRBI though it did not work effectively? When Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister in 1984, IRBI was set up to identify sick companies and to make a time-bound programme so that such companies could survive. In Calcutta, only one financial institution is there, that is, the IRBI. I am proud of Mumbai. I am not saying that I am not proud of Mumbai. Maharashtra is a progressive State. Many developments are taking place there. So, I must congratulate the people of Mumbai. We have to congratulate the people of a State which is doing good work. Of course, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab and Haryana are also doing very good work.

SHRI G.L. KANAUIA : Not Bengal ?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am telling you not only about West Bengal but also about other parts of the country.

You have also to appreciate the regional imbalances and the difficulties from the geographical arena. Of course, the people in the North-Eastern Region cannot reach because of communication problems. There are some problems. Even Bihar and Orissa are backward States. West

Bengal is not a backward State. It is a progressive State. But I must say that the IRBI have totally failed to revive the companies. The Government had set up the BIFR in 1987 to revive the sick industries. But I do not know what are the achievements of the BIFR. There are some doubts in my mind when the Government is going to repeal the IRBI. I believe, where there is a will, there is a way. If there is no will, there will be no way. If there is a will, then, of course, the Government can do something. But the problem in our country is that we have passed so many laws. We have passed so many Bills. The problem is that due to lack of coordination between the Central Government and the State Governments and between one financial institution and another institution, the people are suffering a lot. The working class is suffering a lot. That is my first apprehension.

My second apprehension is that IRBI is an operating agency to revive the sick companies. Now, 321 cases are pending with the IRBI. When 321 cases are already pending with the IRBI, would these cases be looked into by this company or not? There is a change in name. If they do not revive the sick industrial companies, then, there will be no meaning of this Bill. That is why the Government has to investigate into the matter as to how many companies are now lying with the IRBI. According to me, there are 321 cases. So, the Government should investigate into the matter and see that the industry should not suffer.

The Government have mentioned that the conversion of the IRBI from a statutory authority into a company would assist it to enter the capital market for equity and debt and to create a more level playing field across other broadly similar financial institutions. But I have an apprehension in my mind. What is that apprehension? I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to that.

Sir, it has been said that Rs. 1,000 crore would be given as authorised capital to these companies.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It has not been given, it is proposed to be given.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : You propose to give. When you say that you propose to give, that means it is an assurance. You should not withdraw your assurance now. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it has been stated: To enter the capital market for equity and debt and create a more level-playing field across other broadly similar financial institutions.

The Finance Minister has announced a scheme for making white money from black money. There are two types of people in the country. There are some people who are honest and there are some people who are dishonest. I cannot say that all are honest and I also cannot say that all are dishonest. Some people are there who earn money, pay their Income tax and do everything honestly. My point is about the other class of people who are blacklisted people, blackmarketeers, smugglers, hoarders etc.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

[Translation]

Whether a person would get these facilities to make his money white from black ?

[English]

Would they also get these facilities or not ? This is my apprehension. If this happens then it would mean that we are strengthening the hands of the blacklisted people, the blacklisted industrialists who only have commercial purposes. That is why I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this fact and would urge upon him to monitor it.

[Translation]

Earlier 70 per cent of the blackmoney would go to the Government and the rest 30 per cent would accrue to the blackmarketeters but now the system has changed.

[English]

Only 30 per cent would go to the Government and the rest 70 per cent would accrue to the blackmarketeters and other such persons. My apprehension is whether the blacklisted industrialists would get their capital in this process.

Sir, the IRBI looks after the jute, the textile, the food processing industries and many other such industries. You will appreciate as to what has happened in the textile industry and more specially in the jute industry. Several industrialists every year purchase an industry and after that they just close that industry and purchase another industry. They totally forget about the interests to the workers of those industries. They do not pay their salaries; they do not pay their gratuity; they do not pay their provident fund. But such industrialists everytime get the loan from the banks and the financial institutions. The Government knows all these things. I do not know as to why they are not declared as blacklisted industrialists. I am raising this issue not only this year because the United Front Government is there, I have been raising this issue for the last six to seven years. The industrialists take loan from the banks or from the financial institutions and after that they are not paying the money. They are not repaying and then they are going for purchasing another industry leaving the workers virtually on the streets to starve and die. Why again is the Government giving loan to such industrialists ? The Government should stop these type of industrialists — who are going to close down their industries and are not going to repay their loan — from being sanctioned loan by the banks and the financial institutions. There is no investigation.

Now, regarding bank scam I would like to say that there are some influential persons in this country who do not repay their bank loans. But if the poor farmers do not repay the loan then the bank officials harass them and they even seal their houses and business. But if the big

industrialists, the politicians and the big people do not repay their loan to the bank then the bank officials do nothing. There is no action against them. That is why I am raising this issue. Action should be taken against these blacklisted industrialists, these type of people who are betraying the country and who are ditching the people.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Is there any such black-list ?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : What ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please address the Chair.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am yielding, Sir. If the hon. Member wants to say something, he can do so.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Is there any such black-list with the Government ?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is trying to provoke me. I can relate many stories which even the Finance Minister knows of.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Do not raise individual cases.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am not raising any individual issues. I am raising a general issue.

There are some investment companies called chit fund companies. You know as to how much money they collect throughout the country. They collect a lot of money from housewives, poor farmers, rickshaw pullers and middle-class people. After their collecting thousands of crores of rupees, people come to know that they are going to get nothing back because the people who owned the company have wound up their business and gone abroad. I raised this issue many times. I wrote many letters. I wrote letters to the earlier Finance Minister also. I do not know what action was taken by the Government against such companies. If these financial companies continue to increase their capital for vested interests and ditch the common people of the country, what will be the fate of the country ? I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter seriously. He is a very dynamic and efficient Minister. Problems are problems, commitment is commitment, and credibility creates credibility. Let the Minister not lose his credibility. I would like to quote a Spanish proverb — "Life is for one day only and good name is for ever." Whatever he is trying to do, let him do it assertively so that it does not go to the waste paper basket. Workers should get justice, common man should get justice. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJE (Dumdum) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am in a very unfortunate situation. I wanted that this be referred to the Standing Committee despite this being an Ordinance. Somehow that has not happened. And another very important Bill, the Insurance

Regulatory Bill to which I have sent amendments, is being deliberated at : Standing Committee meeting right now. And yet, there are so many things to be stated in terms of this Bill.

I regret that this was introduced as an Ordinance. It does seem to me that the only purpose it has served is that it could not go to the Standing Committee. The hon. Minister has to keep a promise. That promise was made when he delivered the last Budget speech. Even then, in order to keep that promise, we could have given priority here because this Ordinance has served no purpose, we have done nothing from January to this period. This Ordinance was not called for in that sense. Why I regret this is that the Standing Committee is busy discussing the banking sector. I myself have gone to the capitals of different States, talked to the banking people, found out many of their problems. We will, perhaps, be presenting a general report on the banking sector. That opportunity is lost in this particular case.

I know that it will be claimed as it has been claimed in this year's Budget that the banking system is turning the corner and more profit than in the past would come to the Government as dividend. That is good. And yet, beneath this good, unimaginable things are happening, even in the case of this Bank. I have got the whole documents with me. People will take a working loan of Rs. Five crore and simply divert it to other purposes. Now somebody is being punished and somebody may not be punished. And all this talk about improvement in non-performing assets is taking place in not entirely non-bizarre way. There are write offs, there are compromises, and through all these means, the non-performing asset is coming down. We wanted to discuss all this. There is no time and I am not going into all that. But the net worth of the banking sector, if that is improving because of reduction in NPA ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Chatterjee Saheb, I want to say one thing. I have just said that this Bill can be sent to the Standing Committee even after the discussion also. I have obtained the information that this Bill can not be referred to the Standing Committee or the same is to be passed before the 3rd April. I have listened the things seriously in this regard. I do not want this Bill to be passed in a hurry.

*[English]*

It should be thoroughly discussed.

*[Translation]*

Chatterjee Saheb, now you may make your submissions.

*[English]*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I have suggested that the Standing Committee be given 10 to 15 days time so that they can give their report. Plenty of material has already been accumulated not only for this bank but also for other banks. But it is the wisdom of the Chair by which I am limited.

I just wanted to highlight the various problems about the banking scam. On the previous Bill, I commented that the tracing has to be done to that part of the story. Everybody says that banking scam is worth Rs. 5000 crore. That is not true. The real truth is, as I mentioned earlier in the House, that Rs. 14 lakh crore were transacted, which generated an income of Rs. 1 lakh crore. Where has that income gone ? The earlier Government had refused to make any inquiry. In the Report also, we had to comment unfavourably on the working of the CBI. Now, he has said — on my earlier intervention — that they will think about this and they will get back. But in the present situation also and even in this case, I do not want to mention the name; he knows the name no less than I do. Almost in every bank that we had visited, we had discovered that non-performing assets are primarily due there can be external factors also to some collusion with the bank officials and the borrower. That should be investigated. I am not happy with the new arrangement which has been made. In case of any inquiry, first of all, there will be a Board to which things have to be referred to, before proceeding further. I do not think will help in clearing off all the difficulties inside the banking sector. I know, I have heard the Finance Minister's speeches also in other fora, where he said and the banking people also said that they are awestruck. They feel that if they do anything, even in a *bona fide* manner, they may be caught because of the failure on somebody else's part. That is true. The Finance Minister's advice is, 'you dare it'. They do not dare it. In order that they can dare it, therefore, they are being provided with this umbrella. I do not think that is the route to make the banking sector function in a more liberalized manner.

For one simple reason, I will not refer to our suggestions that Comptroller & Auditor General should be allowed to audit. I, again, asked all the Chairmen whom I met that how much of their funds have remained unreconciled within their own branches and between the branches of different banks. How do they check as valid, the statements that they are getting from other banks ? Either they agreed that something centralised can only detect these things or they just gave us a blank stare. Such problems are there. I am not forcing a discussion on such problems. I can narrate so much of it. I will be happy if at the end of it, the Finance Minister promises us to have a discussion on the activities in the banking sector with all its problems. In the meantime, we shall submit a Report of the Standing Committee. Let that be a base for the discussion. I am not saying that the

[Shri Nirmai Kanti Chatterjee]

discussion should be held under Rule 184. What I am saying is that that discussion can be held under Rule 193. This is a very very vital sector. In all the other sectors, we have given some concessions to the foreign sector. They are doing certain things in certain ways. We know that in the banks there is a foreign sector which is trying to open up a small window for the insurance sector. All these are there. We shall be speaking more when the Budget discussion takes place. But right now in order not to consume more time I shall leave it at that. I do not know if he agree with my suggestion to have a discussion on the banking sector later. If he agrees, then I do not go into the general situation now.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, as soon as the Report of the Standing Committee comes, we can have a full-fledged discussion on banking sector.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Thank you Therefore, I need not elaborate them. But on this specific thing what I want to say is this. These banks have certain kind of functions, at least on theory and on paper, which many other banks did not have. I know this. What is happening is that in toto, the whole thing is being transferred into Indian Investment Bank of India. Nothing is left out. Therefore, all those functions will remain. But I will request the Finance Minister that it should function as a long-term finance body without forgetting its earlier operations.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am learning from the mistakes of the earlier operations.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You have learnt it very correctly. It is because, outside Mumbai, now, there is only one long-term financial institution, that is IFCI, the Headquarters of it is in Delhi. Calcutta would be very happy to have at least one long-term financial institution in the form of this one. I have no doubt about it. It should be distributed as far as possible. Sometimes even Lucknow is utilised as Headquarters for certain things. Calcutta, for some reason or other, is not being utilised.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Anyway, Calcutta is getting it now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is because, at one time, one Prime Minister, at least, thought that Calcutta is a dying city. I am glad that the United Front does not think so... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : We strongly oppose this.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We strongly oppose his view.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Sir, it should be expunged

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, perhaps I should speak in Bangla so that they can understand what I am saying. Would you permit me that ? They have forgotten what I have said.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We have not forgotten that. He has said that Calcutta should be improved. It is because of these people and because of misrule of CPI(M) people, Calcutta is like this.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That may be so ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Let me reiterate what I have said so that with patience they can understand it. I said this.

At one time when I was a Member of the Rajya Sabha, the Prime Minister declared Calcutta to be a dying city ... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, it is because of CPM's misrule in that State. We wanted that Calcutta should be improved.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I strongly oppose this word 'declare'. What is the meaning of 'declare' here ? Was there any public meeting on the floor of the House ? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Yes, you are right. It was done on the floor of the House ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Sir, in a statement, he made a reference that some people have been saying ... *(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, that has been said in reference to others ... *(Interruptions)* One Prime Minister had mentioned that some people have been saying ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, you please speak on the subject.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, what he has said is totally out of context ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I have not spoken out of context... *(Interruptions)* I am not yielding ... *(Interruptions)* What I said, I reiterate ... *(Interruptions)* It was said on the floor of the House in Rajya Sabha ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, he is a new Member, he does not know about it ... *(Interruptions)* It was in reply to my question itself ... *(Interruptions)* I did not want to mention the Prime Minister ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please leave the side issue and come to the main subject.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, they must understand what was the truth ... *(Interruptions)* I am paying tribute to the present United Front Government ... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : What is he saying, Sir ? He is getting oxygen from this bench and he is commenting on the United Front Ministry. He has double standards ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I was present in the Rajya Sabha at that time ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Gentlemen, please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, please address the Chair.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please leave that issue now.

... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : He should not say such things here. Those words should be expunged ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : There is no question of expunction ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude, Mr. Chatterjee.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Ms. Banerjee, please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, what about the corruption in West Bengal Chief Minister's State, you ask him ? Sir, Calcutta is dying because of CPM people ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, nobody can compete Nirmalji in quoting out of context and creating controversies ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, he is putting another subject.

... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, we will not allow this ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, that line should be expunged ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will examine the records and see to it.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will go through the records.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him conclude gentlemen.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Why should it be expunged ? There is nothing wrong in it ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, you may please look into it ... *(Interruptions)*

Now I refer to the composition of the Board. The composition of the old Board is that the Board shall consist of the following :

"A Chairman to be appointed by the Central Government; a Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank to be nominated by that Bank; a Director to be nominated by the Development Bank; not more than 15 directors to be nominated by the Central Government, etc.; and that there should be three salaried officials, etc."

In other commercial banks there are provisions for representation of the employees, officer as well as non-officer grades.

Sir, I want the hon. Finance Minister to consider this proposal for this Bank also. Now, he has made a statement here, he had assured; I do not doubt the assurance as I did not doubt the assurance of Shri Rajiv Gandhi either ... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I will add something here... *(Interruptions)*\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please utilise the time for this Bill only.

... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : ... *(Interruptions)*\*

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Has the name of Rajiv Gandhi or anybody else any relevance in this Bill ? If it is so, the corruption charges of anybody else can also be discussed under this Bill... *(Interruptions)*\*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : You should have the coverage to face the truth.

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a very important Bill. Therefore we should utilize this time for this Bill.

[English]

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, please conclude now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I intended to conclude but I did not anticipate the logical reactions ... (Interruptions)

Sir, an announcement has been made that the authorised capital would be raised to Rs. 1,000 crore from Rs. 200 crore. That is a welcome announcement. But what I am criticising is the haste of this Ordinance has led to not including such an amendment in the Bill itself. In the IRBI Act, it is provided that the authorised capital would be Rs. 200 crore. Now, could that be done ? I have drawn the attention of the Finance Minister to that. Yes, that can be done as it has been done in the case of this Bill itself. In fact, Chapter IV is an amendment to the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984, which says that the Central Government will reduce the share capital of the Reconstruction Bank, etc. I do not want to give an amendment now. The point I am making is simply that in such cases, such Bill should be referred to the Standing Committee. I am satisfied with his reply that while he submits a report, a general discussion can take place. And in any case, just because Calcutta is no longer being considered as a dying city, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balua, Bihar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there are many contradictions and vague things in the Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Bill, 1997 introduced by the

hon. Minister towards which I would like to draw the attention of the Government.

18.00 hrs.

It has been said in the objectives of the Bill that the Industrial Reconstruction Board, IRB was set up in 1987. It has also been mentioned that with the setting up of this Bank, the burden of financial reconstruction has been borne by several authorities.

Another intention for bringing in this Bill has been told that it would increase the competitiveness of the Industrial Reconstruction Banks. There are other four main points which has been raised. The first point is the conversion of this Reconstruction Bank into a company.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is six O'clock.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is an important Bill. Many Members want to speak on it.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No, Sir, not today. We will take it up tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : O.K. Shri Singh will resume his submissions tomorrow.

[English]

The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

18.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Wednesday, March 5, 1997/Phalguna 14, 1918 (Saka)*