

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 8, 2002/Phalguna 17, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Samajwadi Party's MLA Shri Manjoor Ahmed has been killed in Lucknow....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal, I have received a notice for Adjournment Motion.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, please resume your seat. This is Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Shri Advaniji should tender resignation for the incidents of riots in Gujarat.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is a serious issue. Just in front of the Raj Bhavan at the main gate the MLA of Samajwadi Party...(Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): It is Question Hour...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: The MLA of Samajwadi Party has been killed...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Sir, why are they interrupting the proceedings of the House....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will you decide about this...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI: Here in the Centre it is our Government, we will decide...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I am here to control the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please control your Members. He has given a notice for Adjournment motion. I have given the floor to him for two minutes.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, I have given the floor to you. Please do not go by the merit. You have given a notice for adjournment motion. I have given the floor to your for two minutes. I will give you first chance to speak on this issue during the Zero Hour.

[English]

Shri Basu Deb Acharia also has given the notice. All three of you have given the notice.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, we also give a notice. During Zero Hour you allow him first and then allow us also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, I will. Now please allow me to conduct the Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a serious issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given you chance to speak on this issue during the Zero Hour because it is a serious issue. Yesterday too there was no transaction of Business in the House, at least today you please let the proceedings of the House take place.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall give you first chance in the Question Hour.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: It is a very serious issue...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall give you chance. Now you please sit down.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: It is a very important subject...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already told you that since it is an important subject so you will get chance to speak. At present you please do not disturb the House.

[English]

Now Question Hour, Q. No. 121, Shri Sukdeo Paswan.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I have given a notice for Adjournment motion. I want your ruling on the Adjournment Motion. I would like to submit to the House as to how the democracy was murdered in Uttar Pradesh at the behest of the Central Government...(Interruptions) How the President's rule was imposed in Uttar Pradesh and how...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh Singh, I have already told you. Otherwise, nothing will go on record. This is Question Hour. After the Question Hour only you raise it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now whatever you say, nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh Singh, I am on my legs.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please resume your seat. This is Question Hour. Yesterday also you had done it and today you are repeating it. I have told you I am going to give you a chance to speak during the Zero Hour. This is Question Hour. Do not spoil the Question Hour. Do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sukdeo Paswan to put his question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I asked Shri Paswan to put his question. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a serious matter...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will be given chance to raise serious issues during the Zero Hour. Please do not behave like this. How the proceedings of the House will take place if you do this everyday?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, please tell your Members not to behave like this. I gave you a chance. But do not exploit that chance.

Shri Sukdeo Paswan to ask his question now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, this is not the way that you should behave. Please do not do that.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you following the rules of Lok Sabha?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, we prefer to discuss this matter during the 'Zero Hour'. Shri Ramji Lal Suman will speak first...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given the permission to him to speak in the 'Zero Hour'. They are not hearing.

Shri Dasmunsi, you tell them. I have gone on record. I have told that Shri Ramji Lal Suman will speak first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the way to behave in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, please tell your Members. You will get a chance during the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Certainly it is a serious matter and we will also discuss this issue however it will be appropriate to discuss this issue in Zero Hour.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am also telling the same thing. Please tell them. They are not listening to me in spite of my repeated request.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ramji Lal Suman ji it is not appropriate.

...(Interruptions)

11.09 hrs.

At this Stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other Hon'ble Members came and stood near the Table.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not oblige you. I will not allow you. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI: They are violating the rules so action should be taken against them as per the rules...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will give you a chance during the 'Zero Hour'. I will not allow you now.

The TV cameras may be switched off.

Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the TV cameras be off. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour. Q. No. 121.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to take serious note of your behaviour in the House.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Everyday, we are coming from far off places to attend Parliament to discuss people's issues and they are not allowing us to discuss anything. What is this going on? Everyday, they are disturbing the House. They should not do it....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Q. No. 121, Shri Sukdeo Paswan.

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Production of Cement

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

(a) whether there has been an overall decline in the production of cement in the country during the first nine months of current year;

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

(c) whether there has been a spurt in the price of cement during the last few months;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the factors responsible for that;

* Not recorded.

(e) the extent to which the non-utilization of the optimum use of installed capacity is responsible for fall in production of cement; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make cement availability at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The cement production during the first nine months of the current year April-December, 2001 was 78.40 million tonnes as against 72.66 million tonnes in the corresponding period of last year, thus registering a growth rate of 7.90%.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Prices have actually declined since April, 2001 as shown in the Statements-I and II enclosed.

(e) No, Sir. There was no fall in the production as indicated in answer to part (a) & (b).

(f) Cement is a delicensed commodity and its prices are determined by market forces of demand and supply. Inspite of decline in prices, the Government has reduced the custom duty from 35% to 25% in 2001-2002 Budget and further reduction to 20% is proposed in the Budget 2002-2003 with a view to stabilize the domestic prices.

Statement-I

Range of Retail prices of cement*

| | 1st week of Apr. 2001 | 1st week of Mar. 2002 | Variation in Mar. 2002 Over Apr. 01 |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Northern Region | | | |
| Delhi | 140-143 | 125-127 | -16 |
| Karnal | 146-148 | 132-134 | -14 |
| Chandigarh | 154-156 | 146-148 | -8 |
| Jaipur | 135-137 | 123-125 | -12 |
| Rohtak | 143-145 | 125-127 | -18 |
| Bhatinda | 154-156 | 142-144 | -12 |
| Ludhiana | 156-158 | 148-150 | -8 |
| Jammu | 192-198 | 185-187 | -11 |
| Shimla | 165-170 | 165-167 | -3 |
| Eastern Region | | | |
| Calcutta | 153-158 | 127-132 | -26 |
| Patna | 135-160 | 118-134 | -26 |
| Bhubaneswar | 145-161 | 125-142 | -19 |
| Guwahati | 182-184 | 171-172 | -12 |
| Muzaffarpur | 135-165 | 120-140 | -25 |
| Silchar | | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|-----|
| Western Region | | | |
| Bombay | 181-185 | 158-162 | -23 |
| Ahmedabad | 151-155 | 134-139 | -16 |
| Nagpur | 152-155 | 120-130 | -25 |
| Pune | 165-168 | 126-132 | -36 |
| Rajkot | 150-155 | 134-139 | -16 |
| Baroda | 150-155 | 134-139 | -16 |
| Surat | 150-155 | 134-139 | -16 |
| Southern Region | | | |
| Chennai | 165-180 | 160-170 | -10 |
| Thiruvananthapuram | 178-192 | 175-185 | -7 |
| Bangalore | 163-168 | 155-165 | -3 |
| Hyderabad | 135-148 | 135-145 | -3 |
| Calicut | 173-186 | 175-185 | -1 |
| Visakhapatnam | 145-155 | 145-155 | 0 |
| Goa | 152-155 | 148-152 | -3 |
| Central Region | | | |
| Lucknow | 146-150 | 130-135 | -15 |
| Meerut | 145-148 | 130-135 | -13 |
| Faizabad | 146-150 | 126-128 | -22 |
| Bareilly | 141-148 | 128-130 | -18 |
| Bhopal | 145-152 | 120-127 | -25 |

*Prices vary within the range in the same consumption centre depending upon the brands.

Statement-II

Average Retail Prices of Cement Per Bag*

| | Jan. 2002 | Feb. 2002 | Variation in Feb. over Jan. 2002 | March, 2002 | Variation in Mar. Over Jan. 2002 |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Northern Region | | | | | |
| Delhi | 132 | 130 | -2 | 126 | -6 |
| Karnal | 139 | 137 | -2 | 133 | -6 |
| Chandigarh | 152 | 147 | -5 | 147 | -5 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Jaipur | 130 | 124 | -6 | 124 | -6 |
| Rohtak | 130 | 128 | -2 | 126 | -4 |
| Bhatinda | 150 | 143 | -7 | 143 | -7 |
| Ludhiana | 157 | 149 | -8 | 149 | -8 |
| Jammu | 188 | 188 | 0 | 186 | -2 |
| Shimla | 161 | 161 | 0 | 166 | 5 |
| Eastern Region | | | | | |
| Calcutta | 138 | 138 | 0 | 130 | -8 |
| Patna | 133 | 135 | 2 | 126 | -7 |
| Bhubaneswar | 130 | 132 | 2 | 134 | 4 |
| Guwahati | 172 | 172 | 0 | 172 | 0 |
| Muzaffarpur | 134 | 136 | 2 | 130 | -4 |
| Silchar | | | | | |
| Western Region | | | | | |
| Bombay | 178 | 165 | -13 | 160 | -18 |
| Ahmedabad | 141 | 137 | -4 | 137 | -4 |
| Nagpur | 140 | 136 | -4 | 125 | -15 |
| Pune | 145 | 148 | 3 | 129 | -16 |
| Rajkot | 141 | 137 | -4 | 137 | -4 |
| Baroda | 141 | 137 | -4 | 137 | -4 |
| Surat | 141 | 137 | -4 | 137 | -4 |
| Southern Region | | | | | |
| Chennai | 180 | 180 | 0 | 165 | -15 |
| Thiruvananthapuram | 185 | 185 | 0 | 180 | -5 |
| Bangalore | 170 | 170 | 0 | 160 | -10 |
| Hyderabad | 150 | 145 | -5 | 140 | -10 |
| Calicut | 185 | 185 | 0 | 180 | -5 |
| Visakhapatnam | 155 | 150 | -5 | 150 | -5 |
| Goa | 150 | 158 | 8 | 150 | 0 |
| Central Region | | | | | |
| Lucknow | 133 | 124 | -9 | 133 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----------|-----|-----|----|-----|----|
| Meerut | 134 | 134 | 0 | 133 | -1 |
| Faizabad | 124 | 121 | -3 | 127 | 3 |
| Bareilly | 128 | 129 | 1 | 129 | 1 |
| Bhopal | 123 | 125 | 2 | 124 | 1 |

*Prices vary in the same consumption centre depending upon the brands.

Role of India Trade Promotion Organisation in Textile Exports

*122. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITPO is focusing on alternative markets like Latin America for Indian textile and cotton goods;

(b) if so, the work done by ITPO in this regard;

(c) whether any fairs have been held to focus on Latin America;

(d) if so, the details of such fairs; and

(e) the other steps the ITPO proposes to increase textile exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (e) Considering the potential that the Latin American Region offers and with a view to significantly enhancing India's trade with this region, an integrated programme 'FOCUS:LAC' was launched in November, 1997. The programme aims to focus on three major product groups, namely, (i) Textiles including ready-made garments, carpets & handicrafts; (ii) Engineering products including computer software; and (iii) Chemical products including drugs/pharmaceuticals.

In accordance with the role assigned to it under the FOCUS-LAC programme, ITPO has been arranging national level participation of Indian trade and industry in various general and specialized fairs as also organising exclusive India Exhibitions in this region where the textile sector was prominently represented. A statement-I giving details of these events since 1996-1997 is enclosed.

ITPO has been regularly organizing India's premier and largest export oriented specialized trade show on textile "Tex-Styles India" at Pragati Maidan for the last 7

years which have been visited also by a good number of buyers from the Latin American countries.

As a result of integrated efforts of various agencies, including IPTO, there has been a significant growth in India's exports, including textiles, to the Latin American region. A comparative statement-II for the last two years showing India's total exports to 11 major countries of the region, export of textiles, share of textiles in the total export basket, and percentage growth of total exports vis-a-vis that of textiles is enclosed.

Further, with a view to increasing textile exports to world markets, including Latin America, ITPO plans to take various steps which, *inter alia*, include the following:-

- Continue participation in specialised textile related trade events.
- Organise separate buyer-seller meets for different textile items.
- Organise contact promotion programmes with the prospective importers in markets abroad.
- Invite overseas buyers to the Textstyle India show and other textile events in India.
- Host the visits of reputed commentators of leading overseas textile magazines for generating greater awareness for Indian textiles.

Statement-I

Details of events in which participation was organised by ITPO since 1996-1997

1996-1997

- Caribbean Expo, Port of Spain, April 19-28, 1996
- Indian Exhibition, Sao Paulo, Brazil, November 6-10, 1996

- Expocomer, Panama City (Panama), March 5-10, 1997
- Indian Exhibition, Buenos Aires (Argentina), June 12-16, 1996

1999-2000

- Femit-International Textile and Fashion Fair, Sao Paulo (Brazil), June 22-25, 1999

- Expocomer, Panama City (Panama), March 15-20, 2000

1997-1998

- FISA, Santiago (Chile), October 24-November 2, 1997

2000-2001

- Indian Exhibition, Mexico City (Mexico), March 3-9, 1998

- Femit-International Textile and Fashion Fair, Sao Paulo (Brazil), June 27-30, 2000

- Expocomer, Panama City (Panama), March, 4-9, 1998

- Expo 2000, Santiago (Chile), July 20-26, 2000

- Expocomer, Panama City (Panama), March 7-12, 2001

1998-1999

- Femit-International Textile Industry and Fashion Trade Fair, Sao Paulo (Brazil), June 23-26, 1998

2001-2002

- Caribbean Expo, Port of Spain, September 17-28, 1998

- Expó India, Sao Paulo (Brazil), September 25-29, 2001

- Expocomer, Panama City (Panama), March 3-8, 1999

- Expocomer, Panama City (Panama), March 7-12, 2002.

Statement-II*India's Export to Latin America and Relative Share of Textiles in Export Basket*

(Value in US\$ Million)

| Country | Year | India's Total Export | Textiles | Textile Share % | General Growth % | Textiles Growth % |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Argentina | 1999-2000 | 62.76 | 14.92 | 23.77 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 98.85 | 22.16 | 22.42 | 57.50 | 48.53 |
| Brazil | 1999-2000 | 135.19 | 18.57 | 13.74 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 225.95 | 23.23 | 10.28 | 67.14 | 25.09 |
| Chile | 1999-2000 | 68.76 | 25.53 | 37.13 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 109.39 | 33.34 | 30.48 | 59.09 | 30.59 |
| Colombia | 1999-2000 | 33.43 | 13.8 | 41.28 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 49.4 | 20.84 | 42.19 | 47.77 | 51.01 |
| Mexico | 1999-2000 | 141.22 | 38.11 | 26.99 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 208.79 | 59.32 | 28.41 | 47.85 | 55.65 |
| Panama Rep. | 1999-2000 | 31.81 | 16.62 | 52.25 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 40.08 | 24.65 | 61.50 | 26.00 | 48.32 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| CFZ | 1999-2000 | 12.5 | 5.62 | 44.96 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 23.36 | 10.33 | 44.22 | 86.88 | 83.81 |
| Paraguay | 1999-2000 | 6.89 | 0.69 | 10.01 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 8.31 | 1.48 | 17.81 | 20.61 | 114.49 |
| Peru | 1999-2000 | 26.1 | 2.55 | 9.77 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 26.01 | 3.42 | 13.15 | -0.34 | 34.12 |
| Uruguay | 1999-2000 | 26.59 | 2.32 | 8.73 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 35.97 | 3.9 | 10.84 | 35.28 | 68.10 |
| Venezuela | 1999-2000 | 23.39 | 4.51 | 19.28 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 42.4 | 8.07 | 19.03 | 81.27 | 78.94 |

Source: National Centre for Trade Information.

[*Translation*]

Antyodaya Yojana

*123. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

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

(a) whether there is a demand to start Antyodaya Yojana from various State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States, where Antyodaya Yojana has been started till date and the States which are deprived of this facility;

(d) the reasons for not starting the above scheme in these States; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to start Antyodaya Yojana in all the States and the time by which this Yojana is likely to commence in each State?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR):
(a) to (c) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana is being implemented in all States and Union territories.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Merger of Subsidiaries of GIC

*124. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge all the four subsidiaries of the General Insurance Corporation and make it as one company to continue the business of non-life insurance;

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

(c) the time by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government regarding merger of the four subsidiaries of the General Insurance Corporation of India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Improvement of PDS

*125. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the State Governments particularly Kerala to improve the Food and Public Distribution System in the State and also for the release of good quality rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any action in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the time by which action is proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR):

(a) and (b) Some State Governments, including the Government of Kerala, have made certain requests relating to the Public Distribution System (PDS). These requests, *inter alia*, relate to increase in the number of BPL families for the purpose of allotment of foodgrains, additional allocation of foodgrains, reduction in the Central Issue Prices (CIP) for both APL and BPL categories, supply of good quality rice and wheat, sanction of additional Principal Distribution Centres (PDCs) and reimbursement of expenses on account of dealers' margins and transportation under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana. Besides the supply of good quality rice, the Government of Kerala has also requested for reintroduction of universal rationing, additional allocation of wheat for BPL families and restoration of the levy sugar quota and allotment of levy sugar for APL families.

(c) and (d) The allocation of foodgrains for BPL families is made as per the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1993-1994 based on the methodology of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion & Number of Poor. However, the population base of 1995 for the estimation of BPL families at the time of introduction of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been changed to 1.3.2000 with effect from December, 2000 thereby increasing the total number of BPL families from 596.23 lakhs to 652.03 lakhs at the national level. This basis has been applied to all States/ Union territories without exception. It is, therefore, not possible to accede to the requests received from the State Governments to increase the number of BPL families as per the identification made by them.

A proposal relating to additional allocation of foodgrains and reduction in the Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice is under consideration.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is required to supply foodgrains conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) standards for distribution under TPDS and other welfare schemes. The State Governments are free to inspect the stocks and satisfy themselves about their quality before lifting the same from FCI depots. The State Governments have also been advised to depute an officer not below the rank of inspector to check the quality of stocks.

The requests for sanction of additional Principal Distribution Centres (PDCs) are considered as per approved norms. In the recent past, additional PDCs have been sanctioned in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. The requests received from the State Governments of Jammu & Kashmir, Mizoram, Tripura in this regard are being examined.

The Government of India is already incurring huge expenditure as food subsidy on the implementation of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY). The subsidy is about Rs. 6.30 per kg. for wheat and about Rs. 8.30 per kg. for rice. As such, State Governments have been asked to bear the expenditure on transportation and margin to the wholesalers/retailers for distribution of foodgrains under the AAY.

The position in regard to the requests received from the State Government of Kerala is indicated below:

- (i) PDS, as it stood earlier, had been widely criticized for its failure to serve the population below the poverty line, its urban bias, etc. In order to streamline the PDS, the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), with its focus on the poor, was launched in June, 1997. As such, it is not possible to accede to the request of the State Government for universal PDS.
- (ii) The request of the State Government for additional allocation of wheat without reduction in the allocation of rice is difficult to accept, as it would make the allocation beyond their entitlement. The State Government is free to buy wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic).

- (iii) Instructions have been given to FCI to supply good quality rice conforming to PFA standards.
- (iv) The levy sugar quota of States, other than North-Eastern States, Hill States and Island Territories has been reduced and restricted to BPL families with effect from 1.2.2001 for better targeting under TPDS. As such, the request of the State Government cannot be acceded to.

Indo-Nepal Treaty

*126. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Industry has expressed grave concern about certain provisions of the Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty;
- (b) if so, the grounds thereof; and
- (c) the impact on domestic industry of levy of higher duty on different raw materials while exempting the finished goods from the incidence of customs duty?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) 1. Duty-free access to Nepalese imports on a non-reciprocal basis was first given in 1971 but with a Nepalese/Indian material content requirement of 90 (ninety) percent. This was gradually reduced when the Treaty was periodically renewed and in 1993, it was brought down to 50 (fifty) percent of Nepalese material content, Nepalese labour content and Indian material content.

- 2. However, when the Treaty was last revised in December 1996, this local content norm was completely deleted and a Certificate of Origin issued by the Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) was sufficient for duty-free access of Nepalese products into India.
- 3. This had led to a surge in the imports of some commodities, notably vegetable fat (vanaspati), acrylic yarn, copper items and zinc oxide. Consequently, there have been representations from the Indian industries in these sectors.
- 4. To address these concerns of Indian industry, a notice was issued on August 14, 2001 to the

Nepalese Government that India seeks a review and revision of the Trade Treaty which was to expire on 5th December, 2001. To provide time for the bilateral negotiations to continue, India extended the term of the Treaty for three months beyond 5th December 2001.

- 5. The Department of Commerce of the Government of India held several rounds of discussions with the Indian industry, especially the affected sectors mentioned above. The Indian industry's concerns formed the basis of the revisions in the Treaty proposed by India.
- 6. After six rounds of bilateral talks, three of them at the Commerce Secretary level, between September 2001 and February 2002, India and Nepal agreed to renew the Trade Treaty for five years with effect from 5th March 2002, incorporating revisions to address the concerns of Indian industry. The salient features of the revised Treaty are as follows:
 - While there is no change in the Treaty, the salient features of the changes in the Protocols, are as follows:
 - Validity period from 6th March 2002 to 5th March 2007;
 - Transition period until 16th April 2002;
 - Value addition norm: a maximum of 75% of third country inputs allowed for one year from 6th March 2002 and a maximum of 70% of third country inputs thereafter;
 - 4-digit HS transformation and exclusion list to processes prescribed for manufacturing;
 - Nepal to provide data to India on calculations for grant of Certificate of Origin;
 - Provision for review of Certificate of Origin by India in case of doubt;
 - Safeguard clause introduced by which India can take action to protect domestic industry in case of surge in Nepalese imports injuring or threatening to injure Indian industry;
 - Annual quota fixed for the following sensitive items:

| Sl. No. | Nepalese article | Quantity in MT per year |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Vegetable fats (Vanaspati) | 100,000 (One hundred thousand) |
| 2. | Acrylic Yarn | 10,000 (Ten thousand) |
| 3. | Copper products under Chapters 74 & Heading 85.44 of the H.S. Code | 7,500 (Seven thousand five hundred) |
| 4. | Zinc Oxide | 2,500 (Two thousand five hundred) |

The concerns of Indian industry have been adequately addressed in the revised Treaty signed on 2nd March 2002.

A copy of the Revised Protocols to the Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty have been made available to the Parliament Library.

Closure of Hong Kong Unit of UIIC

*127. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had shut down the operations of United India Insurance Company in Hongkong;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the volume of Insurance business handled by the company in Hongkong;

(c) whether the Government have reconsidered the decision in the context of entry of China into WTO;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation against such closure from the National Confederation of General Insurance Officers' Association; and

(e) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The United India Insurance Company Ltd. (UIIC) has reported that the company has been incurring continuous losses during the last five years on their Agency operations in Hong Kong. As the business in Hong Kong has not been profitable, it has been decided by the Board of UIIC to close down the operations there.

The results of past five years' business are indicated in the following Table:—

(Rupees in Crores)

| Details | 1996-1997 | 1997-1998 | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Net Premium | 19.47 | 29.90 | 35.90 | 36.02 | 72.80 |
| Net Loss | 5.60 | 4.86 | 10.87 | 22.69 | 21.98 |

(c) UIIC has reported that with the entry of China into WTO fold, there would hardly be any change in the nature and quality of portfolio underwritten by them as well as profitability of the Hong Kong operations.

(d) and (e) A representation from the National Confederation of General Insurance Officers' Association, Bangalore, was received. No new point has been raised in the representation to warrant reconsideration of the matter.

Withdrawal of Schemes by LIC

*128. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) is going to withdraw two guaranteed return schemes Children's Anticipated Plan and Jeevan Sanchaya;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the manner in which the interest of the holders of these schemes will be protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has informed that the two plans namely "Jeevan Sanchay" and "Children's Money Back Assurance Plan" are being withdrawn w.e.f. 15th March, 2002 and 30th March, 2002 respectively. These two policies provide for guaranteed

additions. During the last two years, the interest rates have witnessed a declining trend. On the basis of this LIC has actuarially evaluated these schemes and found that it will not be feasible for the Corporation to assure the benefits under these plans with the existing premium rates in respect of new policies. Hence they have decided to withdraw these two plans. So far as interests of holders of the existing policies under these plans are concerned, the contractual benefits under these policies will remain unaffected.

Increase in the Wages of Textile Workers

*129. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the wages of textile workers working in sick textile mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the rehabilitation package being extended for their upliftment?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Wage revisions in the textile industry including those in sick textile mills are carried out as per tripartite agreements on region-cum-industry basis.

(c) For eight sick subsidiaries of the National Textile Corporation, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) is considering a rehabilitation package consisting of modernisation of viable mills and offering an attractive voluntary retirement scheme to the employees. As a part of the package, most labour unions have entered into Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the management, agreeing for a moratorium on demands for wage revision during the implementation period of rehabilitation scheme.

Export of Flowers

*130. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated export of various kinds of flowers specially cut flowers to various countries during 2001-2002;

(b) the estimated contribution of Karnataka in the export of cut flowers;

(c) the countries to which cut flowers are being exported; and

(d) the facilities being provided to various States including Karnataka to push up our contribution to this \$50 billion global business?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Export of Floriculture products during the year 2001-2002 is projected at Rs. 130 crores out of which the share of fresh cut flowers is likely to be about Rs. 50 crores.

(b) State-wise export data is not maintained.

(c) Cut flowers are mainly exported to Japan, Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy, USA and Singapore.

(d) Financial assistance is provided by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to exporters for various activities such as conducting pre-feasibility studies, development of infrastructure, export promotion and market development, packaging development, promotion of quality and quality control, organisation building and HRD and Research and Development. Some such facilities are:-

(i) Cold storage and cargo handling facility at Bangalore Airport; and

(ii) Marketing Centre at Netherlands for export of flowers.

Indo-US Talks for High Technology Trade

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

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to establish bilateral cooperation with USA in high technology trade;

(b) whether the Indo-US talks were held in the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the programme drawn up for the expansion of Indo-US bilateral cooperation in the high technology sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Indo-US trade in high technology is part of an on-going process of deepening of bilateral commercial relations. The Government has been supportive of bilateral ties between the two countries in the high technology trade sector.

(d) At a meeting in Washington on 9.11.2001, the two Governments have agreed to discuss ways to stimulate bilateral high technology commerce. However, no further talks have been held so far.

[Translation]

Export of Grapes

*132. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to increase the export of grapes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the countries to which grapes are being exported;

(d) the quantum of grapes in terms of tonnes and value exported from India during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 till date; and

(e) the quantum of grapes targeted to be exported during the year 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Government's initiative for export promotion of grapes include *inter-alia* the following:

- Development of a comprehensive website by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to provide information on international prices.
- Monitoring of current exports of grapes through National Dairy Development Board, Rotterdam office.
- Analyzing market information on prices of competing countries.
- Preparation of guidelines for monitoring pesticide residue levels and circulating the same to exporters.
- Providing financial assistance under various schemes to grape exporters.
- Integrated training programme for pre and post harvest management from farm level to consumer in major producing States.

- Tracing and tracking of grape production through bar coding to ensure the source or origin of quality grapes.
- Creating Common Infrastructure facility at International airports in Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram.

(c) and (d) The major countries to which grapes are being exported are United Kingdom, Netherlands, United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh. Export of grapes in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 was under:

Quantity: M. Tonnes

Value: Rs Lakhs

| 2000-2001 (April-March) | | 2001-2002 (April-August) | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Qty | Value | Qty | Value |
| 20,646 | 8,293.56 | 2,773 | 1,123.91 (Provisional) |

(Source: Export Statistics for Agro & Food Products, APEDA)

(e) Exports being dependent on several factors, no target has been fixed specifically for export of grapes in 2002-2003.

[English]

Fall in Prices of Tea

*133. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tea industry is facing severe crisis due to steep fall in prices;

(b) if so, the price of tea in 1998 and at present;

(c) whether the cost of production has gone up during these years; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to bring about improvement in the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The average prices of tea in India registered a decline during the years 1999-2001 as compared to 1998. During 1999 the decline in prices was due to substantial set back in

prices to tea in South India, while the North Indian tea prices were at comfortable position over 1998. During 2000 and 2001 the prices of tea both in North and South India registered a decline over 1998, as a result of which the producers of tea in all the regions suffered heavily. The details of prices of tea in India are given below.

Region-wise Prices of Tea in India

| (Rs./Kg.) | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Year | North India | South India | All India | (+) or (-) over 1998 (in%) |
| 1998 | 80.22 | 68.78 | 76.43 | — |
| 1999 | 80.57 | 57.10 | 72.79 | (-) 4.76 |
| 2000 | 70.36 | 44.64 | 61.71 | (-) 19.26 |
| 2001 | 69.66 | 45.87 | 61.25 | (-) 19.86 |

The cost of production of tea in India has gone up due to increase in input costs. The details are given below:

Estimated Cost of Production of Tea in India

| (Rs./Kg.) | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| States | 1998-1999 | 2000-2001 | (+) or (-) |
| Assam Valley | 54.00 | 65.00 | (+) 11.00 |
| Cachar | 49.00 | 55.00 | (+) 6.00 |
| Dooars | 53.00 | 62.50 | (+) 9.50 |
| Teraï | 53.00 | 62.50 | (+) 9.50 |
| Darjeeling | 130.00 | 135.00 | (+) 5.00 |
| Tripura | 46.00 | 55.00 | (+) 9.00 |
| South India | 50.00 | 55.00 | (+) 5.00 |

In order to help tea growers and bring about improvement in the price situation, the Government has taken various steps which include:

- Increase in the basic customs duty on import of tea from 70% to 100% as announced in the Budget of 2002-2003.
- Reduction in Excise duty on tea from Rs. 2 per Kg. to Re. 1 per Kg. in the Budget 2002-2003.
- Increase in the allowance under Section 33 AB of Income Tax Act from 20% to 40% in the Budget 2001-2002.

- Modification of the Tea Marketing (Control) Order 1984 to remove the condition of obligatory sale of 75% of tea production through public tea auctions, thus giving freedom to the producers of tea to sell any quantity of tea through public auctions.
- Ban on sale of tea in the Domestic Tariff Area by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in Export Processing Zones (EPZs).
- Introduction of a factory upgradation Scheme by the Tea Board to encourage production of good quality orthodox tea required for export markets.
- Introduction of a Scheme for providing financial assistance to the exporters for meeting part of the cost of handling, packaging, transport/freight charges, to help them become competitive in the international markets.
- Launching of a Quality Upgradation Programme by the Tea Board for improving the quality of tea manufactured in the small sector.
- Launching of a Generic promotion campaign for improving the consumption of tea within the country.
- Formulation of a medium term export strategy in consultation with M/s Accenture to boost Indian exports of tea over the next five years.

Closure of Spinning Mills

*134. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of spinning mills in the country have been closed due to strike by workers;

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

(c) the measures taken by the Government to re-open these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) The State-wise position of 52 cotton/man-made spinning mills (non-SSI) closed due to strike/labour problems as on 31.12.2001 is as under:

| Sl. No. | Name of the mills | Date of Closure | Workers on roll |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | | | |
| 1. | Sri Murali Spinning Mills Limited | 24-July-97 | 456 |
| 2. | Sarvaraya Textiles Limited | 31-May-01 | 571 |
| 3. | Madanapalle Spinning Mills Limited | 10-Sep-98 | 993 |
| 4. | Shree Manufacturing Company Limited | 21-Mar-00 | 649 |
| 5. | Cuddapah Spinning Mills Limited | 09-Apr-01 | 728 |
| 6. | Shri Maruthi Textiles Ltd. | 15-Oct-98 | 432 |
| Gujarat | | | |
| 7. | Eureka Industries Limited | 11-Jan-01 | 10 |
| 8. | The Surat District Co-operative Ltd. | 01-Nov-99 | 1853 |
| 9. | Suketu Textiles | 01-Jan-94 | 64 |
| 10. | Madhu Textiles Ahmedabad Ltd. | 01-Dec-99 | 925 |
| Haryana | | | |
| 11. | Usha SPG & WVG Mill Ltd. | 20-May-83 | 1402 |
| 12. | Elsons Cotton Mills Limited | 09-July-95 | 847 |
| Karnataka | | | |
| 13. | The Bagalkot Coop Spinning Mills | 01-Aug-92 | 625 |
| 14. | Davangere Cotton Mills | 01-Apr-99 | 543 |
| 15. | Sree Valliappa Textiles Limited | 01-Apr-99 | 300 |
| 16. | Sridevi Textiles Pvt. Ltd. | 22-Oct-97 | 93 |
| Kerala | | | |
| 17. | Vaigai Thread Processors Ltd. | 14-Feb-93 | 850 |
| Maharashtra | | | |
| 18. | Jalna Vibhag Sahakari Soot Gimi Ltd. | 01-Mar-00 | 250 |
| 19. | Jalgaon Kapas Utpadak Sah Soot Gimi Ltd. | 01-Sep-98 | 391 |
| 20. | Nasik District Co-operative Spg Ltd. | 01-Apr-95 | 793 |
| 21. | Marathe Textiles Mills | 22-Jan-00 | 734 |
| 22. | Jain Spinners Limited | 03-Mar-98 | 1032 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----------------------|---|-----------|------|
| Punjab | | | |
| 23. | The Malout Cooperative SPG Mills | 12-Sep-96 | 1147 |
| 24. | The Mansa Co-operative SPG Mills | 01-Sep-95 | 1051 |
| 25. | Shree Bhawani Cotton Mills | 01-Jun-98 | 3199 |
| Rajasthan | | | |
| 26. | The Krishna Mills Limited | 12-Dec-99 | 431 |
| Tamil Nadu | | | |
| 27. | Shree Janardana Mills | 04-Oct-98 | 400 |
| 28. | Ganga Textiles Limited | 20-Oct-97 | 70 |
| 29. | Tamil Nadu SPG Mills | 01-Feb-95 | 49 |
| 30. | Thirumurugan Textiles (P) Ltd. | 01-Nov-01 | 90 |
| 31. | Sri Iyyan Textiles Mills Pvt. Ltd. | 01-Nov-01 | 115 |
| 32. | Shri Mahavishnu Textiles Pvt. Ltd. | 16-Jun-97 | 29 |
| 33. | Sri Ambal Mills Limited | 13-Jan-98 | 357 |
| 34. | The Madurai District Co-operative Mills | 04-Jan-99 | 749 |
| 35. | Sree Alagammai Textiles Mills (P) Ltd. | 09-May-99 | 99 |
| 36. | Mahalakshmi Textiles Mills Ltd. | 18-Apr-96 | 701 |
| 37. | Kalyana Chakravarthi Tex. P. Ltd. | 21-Nov-97 | 321 |
| 38. | Erode Spining (P) Ltd. | 22-Mar-01 | 62 |
| 39. | Sri Amman Spinning Mills (P) Ltd. | 01-Jul-98 | 60 |
| 40. | T.B.S. Thangavelu Chettiar SPG Mills | 29-Dec-95 | 5 |
| 41. | Annamalaiar Textiles (P) Limited | 11-Oct-01 | 243 |
| 42. | Buveneswari Spinning Mills (P) Ltd. | 09-Nov-96 | 83 |
| Uttar Pradesh | | | |
| 43. | Shri Vikram Cotton Mills | 17-May-92 | 565 |
| 44. | U.P. Co-operative Spinning Mills | 08-Jun-00 | 74 |
| 45. | U.P. Sahkari Katai Mills Limited | 15-Sep-00 | 968 |
| 46. | R P Tex Fab Ltd. | 04-Nov-98 | 964 |
| 47. | Modern Spinners Ltd. | 05-Aug-83 | 2054 |
| 48. | Vasant Spinners | 01-Jun-99 | 49 |
| 49. | Vishal Syntex Ltd. | 05-Oct-84 | 1793 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|--|-----------|------|
| 50. | U.P. State Yarn Company Limited West Bengal | 10-Feb-00 | 1297 |
| 51. | Shaktigarh Textile & Industries | 21-Apr-98 | 1184 |
| 52. | Birla Corp. Limited | 02-Nov-98 | 1321 |

Closure of textile mills can be attributed to many factors including obsolete technology, increase in cost of inputs, difficulties in getting timely and adequate credit, mismanagement, recessionary conditions and competition from decentralised powerloom sector producing fabrics at competitive price etc.

(c) The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with a view to timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies, change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions.

[Translation]

Recapitalisation of Weak Banks

*135. SHRI SUBODH ROY:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether weak banks and financial institutions have requested the Government for additional funds;

(b) if so, whether the RBI has finalised a recapitalisation package for the weak banks/FIs;

(c) if so, the details of the package and the names of banks which are likely to be offered the package;

(d) the extent to which the package would help the weak banks to come out of the red;

(e) whether the Government propose to privatise these banks/FIs;

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

(g) the other steps taken by the Government to bring down the cost of operation in banks and to ensure proper utilisation of this package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The three weak banks were identified by the RBI viz. Indian Bank, UCO Bank and United Bank of India. The Government proposes to provide Rs. 1300 crore for the recapitalisation of Indian Bank, on the basis of a commitment to Government for implementing monitorable reform measures. There is no proposal to provide recapitalisation support to the other two weak banks as they have turned around and have started making profits. Government has provided Rs. 400 crores to IFCI during the current financial year as subscriptions to their 20 years maturity convertible debentures. IDBI's capital is being strengthened by conversion of existing International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and National Industrial Credit (Long-term operations) loans into appropriate long-term instruments. Similarly, IIBI's existing NIC (LTO) loans are being converted into appropriate long-term instruments.

(d) The proposed recapitalisation support to Indian bank would enable it to have a positive net worth.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The public sector banks are taking several steps to improve their performance and increase their profitability, which include rationalizing their staff strength

and branch network, abolition of zonal offices, reduction of NPAs, lowering of cost of deposits and operations and by increasing productivity.

[*English*]

Non-Performing Assets of Banks

*136. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NPAs of public sector banks and financial institutions due from top 10 corporate houses are running into several crores;

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

(c) whether the banks and financial institutions have failed to recover dues (NPAs) from such corporate houses in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) According to RBI, corporate house-wise data is not generated from its database. As per the prevailing provisions of banking laws, names of defaulters against whom suits have been filed can only be disclosed. The list of top 10 suit filed account involving NPAs of Rs. 2913.67 crores of Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

| S. No. | Name of the Borrower | Amount Outstanding |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Harshad S. Mehta | 812.08 |
| 2. | Indian Charge Chrome Ltd. | 493.28 |
| 3. | Hindustan Photofilms Mfg. Co. Ltd. | 233.72 |
| 4. | Premier Vinyl Flooring Ltd. | 227.58 |
| 5. | Lloyd Steel Industries Ltd. | 220.00 |
| 6. | Continental Float Glass Ltd. | 209.82 |
| 7. | Mardia Chemicals Ltd. | 184.81 |
| 8. | Dynacraft Machine Co. Ltd. | 179.95 |
| 9. | Mackinnon Mackenzies & Co. Ltd. | 177.62 |
| 10. | Mideast Integrated Steels Ltd. | 174.81 |
| Total | | 2913.67 |

(c) Banks and Financial Institutions are continuously making efforts for recovery of dues from all the borrowers including the borrowers in the suit filed category. The banks efforts include compromise settlement, one time settlement, filing of cases with Debt Recovery Tribunals, filing of suits with Civil Courts. During the year ended 31st March 2001, the public sector banks recovered (including compromise/upgradation and write-offs) Rs. 12860 crores.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Pension Scheme for Unorganised Sector

*137. SHRI RAJO SINGH:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to introduce new voluntary pension regime for everyone, including the unorganised sector;

(b) whether IRDA has prepared a report and submitted it to the Finance Ministry suggesting above reforms;

(c) whether the Government are willing to accept IRDA's recommendation and are also ready to implement the scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (d) The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 framed under the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is already applicable to 180 Industries/classes of establishments employing 20 or more persons. The Scheme does not make any discrimination between organised and unorganised sectors. Possibilities are being explored by the Government for extending pension coverage to other groups who are presently not covered.

Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana 2001 was launched from July, 2001. The Scheme is to provide life-cum-accident insurance, money back and superannuation benefits. The scheme is expected to cover around 10 lakh agricultural workers in 50 selected districts in the country over a span of 3 years.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) was asked to provide a road map for pension reforms for the unorganised sector. IRDA's report has since been received. IRDA has recommended a regulatory framework for setting up pension funds to enable individuals to subscribe on a defined contribution basis to obtain the benefits of pensions on their retirement. Action has been initiated by the Government on the recommendations of IRDA.

[English]

FDI in Retail Sector

*138. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

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

(a) whether the issue of allowing foreign direct investment in retail sector has been left to a Group of Ministers (GoM);

(b) if so, whether Group of Ministers (GoM) have taken final decision on the issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether FDI is allowed to certain extent at present in retail sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the manner in which Government would save the Indian business houses engaged in retail sector?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) As per the extant policy FDI is to not permitted in retail trading.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

ODA from Japan

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

(a) whether Japan has extended a soft loan of Rs. 2,040 crore under its Official Development Assistance (ODA) programme;

(b) if so, the names of the two projects for which this aid has been earmarked; and

(c) the terms of the loan, giving details of the period of the loan, the instalments to be paid and the interest to be paid thereon?

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

(b) The two projects for which the loans have been extended by Govt. of Japan are as follows:

- (1) Simhadri Thermal Power Station Project-III
(Yen 27,473 million or Rs. 998 crores)
- (2) Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project-III
(Yen 28,659 million or Rs. 1041 crores)

(c) The loans carry interest rate of 1.8% per annum with scheduled repayment period of 30 years including grace period of 10 years.

Transport Subsidy for Sugar Exporting Mills

*140. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to introduce transport subsidy for sugar exporting mills;

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

(c) whether the Union Government are taking any steps to ensure that the farmers get the right price of sugarcane in time from the sugar mill owners; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 in this regard.

(c) and (d) The State Governments have the necessary powers and field agencies to enforce timely payment of cane prices to the sugarcane growers. The Central Government also reviews the cane price payment position from time to time and writes to the concerned State Governments to ensure timely payment of cane price dues.

Some of the measures taken by the Central Government to enable the sugar factories to make timely payment of cane prices are as follows:

- (i) The levy percentage was reduced from 40 to 30 with effect from 1.1.2000 and from 30 to 15 with effect from 1.2.2001. The levy percentage has been further reduced to 10 from 1.3.2002.
- (ii) Needy sugar factories having cane price dues are given advance freesale release of sugar subject to the condition that the sales realizations from the advance freesale sugar are utilized for payment of cane price dues.
- (iii) The Central Government has allowed the sugar factories to sell an additional quota upto 10% of their quarterly quota of non-levy, freesale sugar subject to the condition that the realisations from the sale of additional quota of sugar are utilized for payment of cane price dues.
- (iv) The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 has been amended empowering the Central Government/ State Government/authorised officers to recover cane price dues as arrears of land revenue.

Functional Tea Gardens

1236. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of functional tea gardens in West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and other States till 31 March, 1989;

(b) the number of tea gardens are now functioning as on 31 December, 2001;

(c) the total number of hectares which are out of tea cultivation due to closure of the tea gardens; and

(d) the total number of new areas expanded for tea cultivation in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP

RUDY): (a) The figures for number of tea estates and area under tea are being compiled on the calendar year basis. The total number of functional tea gardens which were under operation as on 31st December, 1989 is given below:-

| States | No. of Tea Gardens |
|--------------|--------------------|
| West Bengal | 347 |
| Assam | 848 |
| Tamil Nadu | 6812 |
| Tripura | 58 |
| Other States | 5791 |
| Total | 13856 |

(b) The total number of functional tea gardens which include a large number of small growers also, is given below:-

| States | No. of Tea Gardens |
|--------------|--------------------|
| West Bengal | 1,538 |
| Assam | 39,137 |
| Tamil Nadu | 60,633 |
| Tripura | 292 |
| Other States | 10,379 |
| Total | 111,979 |

(c) As per available information, the total area which is out of tea cultivation due to closure of tea gardens is 2432.23 hectares.

(d) During the course of last 5 years, substantial area has been brought under tea, the bulk of which comes from the small sector. The details are given below:-

(Figs. in Hectares)

| Year | Area under tea | | | Small Growers contribution | | |
|------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| | North India | South India | All India | North India | South India | All India |
| 1995 | 339233 | 87832 | 427065 | 4479 | 22001 | 26480 |
| 2000 | 393997 | 113199 | 507196 | 50755 | 46835 | 97590 |
| (+) or (-) | (+) 54764 | (+) 25367 | (+) 80131 | (+) 46276 | (+) 24834 | (+) 71110 |

Handicrafts Week Celebration

1237. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government was involved in the 47th All India Handicrafts Week celebrated from December 8 to 15, in order to create awareness about handicrafts in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the annual national crafts mela was held in Bangalore from 28th December, 2001;

(c) whether the Union Government also organised a one-day workshop for artisans on December 12, 2001;

(d) if so, whether the workshop was providing training, marketing availability of raw material, credit facilities, design development, improvement in tools, publicity, export promotion, welfare schemes and others; and

(e) if so, the extent to which it has achieved success?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. A Handicrafts Expo, 2001 was organised in Bangalore from 28.12.2001 to 6.1.2002.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The one day workshop was conducted on 12.12.2001 wherein experts from the fields of marketing, design and technology, financial institutions etc. were invited and had direct interaction with the handicrafts artisans.

The workshop has generated interest about product development & product diversification. It has also increased the general level of awareness about the schemes of the Government for promotion and development of handicrafts particularly relating to the Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) in the State of Karnataka.

Export Credit Guarantee Corporation

1238. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited has proposed to enter in export credit

insurance business;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether any Committee has been set up to advise ECGC on proposed business;

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith its recommendations;

(e) whether internal restructuring of ECGC has been completed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd. (ECGC), was set up by the Government of India in 1957. It offers export credit risk insurance cover to Indian exporters, export financing risk cover and counter guarantee covers to commercial banks, and overseas investment insurance cover to Indian investors abroad.

(c) No committee has been set up for advising ECGC on export credit insurance business since this is already the core business of the Corporation.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Internal restructuring had been undertaken from time to time, and it was done last in 1997-1998. Internal restructuring of ECGC is not under consideration at present.

(f) Does not arise.

Malabar Gramin Bank

1239. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the area operation of South and North Malabar Gramin Bank to Quilon, Pathanamthitta district also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that some time back the South Malabar and North Malabar Grameen Banks approached Reserve Bank of India, Regional Office at Thiruvnanthapuram with proposals for extending their area of operation to few more districts including Quilon and Pathanamthitta. However, as there was no consensus relating to Thiruvnanthapuram district, the proposal could not be finalized.

Weights and Measures

1240. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 1049 dated November 23, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the manufacturers can paste a downward price revision of the retail sale sticker on a package on the existing sticker of higher price;

(b) whether no action can be taken against the authorized suppliers of the manufacturer for supplying packages on which downward price revision sticker has been pasted by the manufacturer themselves;

(c) whether despite this, action has been taken to discontinue the supplies by an organization duly authorized to supply the stationery and other items to the Government offices; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) There is no bar on a manufacturer, under the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules 1977, to paste a downward price revision sticker on a pre-packed commodity provided the original declaration of sale price is not obliterated/smudged/blocked.

(c) and (d) No such case has been reported.

Deviation from Prudential Norms

1241. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 5074 dated April 20, 2001 regarding Deviation of Prudential norms and state:

(a) whether the information has since been received from the banks and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken thereon;

(c) the details of discrepancies found/noticed in the information received from the said 101 banks; and

(d) the action taken thereon by the RBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as on 31st January, 2001, the following three banks had exceeded the 5% ceiling stipulated by RBI for exposure to capital market:-

(Rs. in crores)

| S.No. | Name of Bank | Capital Market Exposure Level | % to Total Advances |
|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Karnataka Bank Ltd. | 144.00 | 5.87 |
| 2. | Bank of America | 171.00 | 5.04 |
| 3. | Development Credit Bank | 138.00 | 8.28 |

RBI had called the explanations of these banks. The over exposure of Karnataka Bank Ltd. and Bank of America was marginal. These banks by 31st March, 2001 brought down their exposure to 5% level. The Development Credit Bank Ltd. brought down its exposure to capital market to 3.93% as on 21st May, 2001.

Expansion of Trade with Russia and Neighbouring Countries

1242. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for expansion of trade with Russia and neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas identified for this purpose; and

(d) the specific steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to expand and enhance the trade with Russia and neighbouring countries.

(c) and (d) Apart from the existing export items to Russia, viz., RMG Cotton including accessories, Tea,

Drugs, Pharmaceuticals & Fine Chemicals, Coffee, RMG Wool, Cotton Yarn, Fabrics, made ups, Tobacco, etc., and import items from Russia, viz., Fertilizers, Iron & Steel, Non-ferrous metals, Newsprint, Coal, Machinery and Primary Steel, etc., a number of steps are being taken for identifying new areas of co-operation and to increase the bilateral trade with Russia. Efforts are also being made to expand trade with neighbouring countries, viz., Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. The various measures taken are as under:-

- (i) During the 8th Session of the Indo-Russian Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation held at New Delhi in February 2002, both sides agreed to take necessary measures to ensure sustainable growth and continue diversification of mutual trade;
- (ii) Promotion of dialogue with the Russian side including discussions at the highest level;
- (iii) Constant review of bilateral trade through the Joint Commission mechanism with its Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation and various Sub-Groups on Transport, Banking and Financial Matters, and Agriculture;
- (iv) Facilitating through bilateral consultations, the rapid utilisation of debt owed to Russia in the form of export of goods and services;
- (v) Except Afghanistan, our neighbouring countries are also members of SAARC and have been given duty-concessions under SAPTA with the ultimate aim of having a duty-free trade regime in South Asia.

- (vi) Other steps taken for expansion of trade include promotion of direct business contact through exchange of trade delegations, exchange of commercial information, organising and participation in Buyer-Seller meets, fairs and trade exhibitions and holding Joint Business Council meetings etc.

Foreign Visit by Chairman of GIC

1243. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3845 on August, 17, 2001 regarding Foreign Visit by Chairman of GIC and state:

- (a) whether the information has been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay in collecting the information; and
- (d) the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Chairman, General Insurance Corporation of India, Chairman-cum-Managing Directors (CMDs) and other officers of General Insurance Companies have undertaken foreign visits for business purposes, attending International Conferences, Training Programmes, Review of Re-insurance agreements, Annual review of Foreign Branches operations etc. Details regarding the number and duration of visit of the Chief Executives of General Insurance Corporation of India and its subsidiary companies for the period 1998 to 2001 are as under:

| Companies/ Corporation | 1998-1999 | | 1999-2000 | | 2000-2001 | |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| | No. of visits | Duration of visits (in days) | No. of visits | Duration of visits (in days) | No. of visits | Duration of visits (in days) |
| GIC | 7 | 31 | 13 | 60 | 10 | 52 |
| NICL | 1 | 5 | 1 | 3 | - | - |
| NIAC | 8 | 42 | 8 | 55 | 2 | 12 |
| OICL | 2 | 12 | 3 | 20 | 2 | 17 |
| UIICL | 4 | 29 | 5 | 12 | 2 | 5 |

The expenditure on foreign tour undertaken by Chairman, GIC was Rs. 4,28,025/-+US\$ 10,650, Rs. 855526/-+US\$ 24,350 and Rs. 11,25,799/-+US\$ 16,550 for the years 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

respectively. The officers of insurance companies, other than Chairman/Chairman-cum-Managing Directors of general insurance companies/corporation, put together, have undertaken 355 days of foreign tour in 1998-1999,

435 days in 1999-2000, and 598 days in 2000-2001. The total expenditure on foreign tour for these three years for the officials of the four insurance companies were estimated to be approximately Rs. 93.87 lakhs, Rs. 92.18 lakhs and Rs. 109.15 lakhs respectively. As a part of economy measures, the Government has issued instructions to all public sector insurance companies/corporation to restrict foreign travel to an essential official business only.

(c) and (d) The information was to be collected from the concerned agencies, which has since been collected.

Indian Trade Delegation to South Eastern Asian Countries Conference

1244. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Trade Delegation with representatives from the North-Eastern region, was sent to attend the international conference of the South-Eastern Asian countries held in February this year under the Kunming initiative in Dhaka;

(b) if so, which countries were represented therein;

(c) whether the need to develop the North-Eastern region, particularly Assam, as the business hub-centre of South Asian countries was considered at the meeting;

(d) if so, the decision taken therein, in this regard; and

(e) the steps since taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes Sir. The 3rd regional conference on regional cooperation among Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar which is also referred to as the Bangladesh China India Myanmar Conference or Kunming Initiative was held at Dhaka on February 6-7, 2002. The Indian delegation included Shri Prodyut Bordoloi, Minister of State for Finance & Home Government of Assam and Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, MP from Assam.

(b) Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar.

(c) No, Sir. However, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance and Home Government of Assam raised the issue relating to the viability of the use of some roads running

in North East India for linkages between countries referred to above.

(d) and (e) No decision was taken in this regard, after discussions.

Uniform Categorization of Reserved Categories

1245. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some communities are declared reserved in one State and treated in different categories in other State;*

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering uniform categorization of all reserved categories throughout the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The lists of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are notified under Article 341, 342 of the Constitution and under provisions of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 respectively. The lists of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes have been notified based on prevailing socio-economic condition of the community in a particular State/Union Territory. As socio-economic conditions of communities differ widely from States/Union Territories to States/Union Territories, it is not possible to have one list for the entire country.

[Translation]

Welfare Schemes for West Bengal

1246. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to West Bengal for the implementation of various welfare schemes during the last three years;

(b) the amount utilized out of total amount allocated; and

(c) the details of the unutilized fund?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Funds are released on the basis of norms and are generally utilized during the same year. The unspent balance if any is adjusted with the grant for the subsequent year.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| Welfare Schemes for | Funds released 1998-1999 | Funds released 1999-2000 | Funds released 2000-2001 |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Scheduled Castes | 4735.96 | 6620.17 | 7809.65 |
| Backward Classes | 53.89 | 608.65 | 462.68 |
| Disability | 106.87 | 535.01 | 748.73 |
| Social Defence | 340.26 | 544.29 | 475.39 |
| Minorities | - | - | 1.16 |

[English]

Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation

1247. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Breakfast Food Unit of Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation is operating profitably without any financial assistance from the Government for the last several years;

(b) if so, whether Government of NCT of Delhi has agreed to take over the said unit; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in handing over the unit to NCT of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The Breakfast Food Unit of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited (HVOC) has been making profit for the past few years except for the year 1999-2000 in which it incurred a loss.

(b) and (c) No firm proposal for the takeover of the said unit has been received from the Government of NCT of Delhi, although that Government had evinced some interest initially.

[Translation]

Welfare Schemes for the Handicapped

1248. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handicapped of different categories in Rajasthan and the schemes of the Union Government undertaken for their rehabilitation;

(b) the amount sanctioned to the Government of Rajasthan since April 1, 1998 separately scheme-wise, year-wise and amount-wise;

(c) whether the State Government of Rajasthan have failed to utilize the sanctioned amount in full for the benefit of adequate number of handicapped persons;

(d) if not, the number of handicapped people benefited and rehabilitated under this scheme; and

(e) the year-wise details of beneficiaries and the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) As per the Report (No. 393) on Disabled Persons by National Sample Survey Organisation estimated number of persons with disabilities having at least one of visual, hearing, speech and locomotor disability in Rajasthan was about 7,23,000 in 1999. The Government of India is supporting a number of programmes for socio-economic progress of persons with disabilities all over the country. These include the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities and the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP), Centrally sponsored scheme of Employment of Handicapped, National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) as State Sector Scheme. Besides, the National Institutes, National Handicapped Development and Finance Corporation (NHFDC), Composite Regional Centres, Regional Rehabilitation Centres and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres are also providing rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities.

(c) to (e) The amount sanctioned to the Government of Rajasthan during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 scheme-wise are as follows:-

(Amount : Rs. in lakhs)

| Scheme | 1999-2000 | No. of beneficiaries | 2000-2001 | No. of beneficiaries | 2001-2002 |
|--|-----------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Scheme of Employment of Handicapped | 11.33 | Not reported | 39.26 | 7226 | Nil |
| National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) | 25.00 | Not reported | 198.35 | Not reported | 156.05 |

Funds were reimbursed under the Scheme of Employment of Handicapped. NPRPD Schemes has been launched only at the fag end of 1999-2000 for setting up a hierarchical service delivery systems. It may take some time before the scheme is fully operationalised.

[English]

Wasteful Expenditure

1249. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3162 on August 10, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the said information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Unstarred Question No. 3162 answered on August 10, 2001 sought information in regard to details of guidelines to curb wasteland expenditure. The answer to the Question stated as below:

"It is Government's constant endeavour to curb wasteful expenditure. In this context instructions for austerity in Government expenditure are issued to all the Ministries/Departments from time to time. The austerity measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses, reduction in per diem allowance for travel abroad, etc. Instructions have been issued at the level of Prime Minister to all Ministers prescribing various austerity guidelines and calling for their strict observance."

As can be seen no collection of information was envisaged in the reply to Question No. 3162.

(c) Does not arise.

Formation of South Asia Business Forum

1250. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan have decided to form the South Asia Business Forum to accelerate the process of establishing a free trade zone;

(b) whether the broad details in this regard have been finalized;

(c) if so, the salient features of the proposed scheme and how the functioning of this forum is to be regulated; and

(d) the time by which the forum is expected to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan have decided at the Inception Meeting of the Trade, Investment and Private Sector Cooperation Working Group under Asian Development Bank's South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) project, held in Kolkata on 21st December, 2001 to set up the South Asia Business Forum (SABF). The SABF has been set up to enhance private sector cooperation within the sub-region by focusing on the opportunities for enhancing trade and investment in the sub-region.

Import by Chile From India

1251. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether the Government of Chile has agreed to import some items from India;

(b) if so, the names of these items;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Bilateral trade between India and Chile is carried out under the framework defined by World Trade Organization.

Production/Export of Handicrafts from Karnataka

1252. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the potential of the production and export of handicrafts from Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the possibility explored and the outcome thereof during last three years?

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

(b) Various steps have been taken to increase production and export of handicrafts from the entire country including Karnataka by way of implementation of different schemes for promotion & development of handicrafts during the last three years. The schemes include: training for skill upgradation; marketing; marketing development support; identification of important of craft cluster and their sustainable development; design and technology upgradation; setting up of Craft Development Centre and Common Facility Centres; construction of workshed and worksheds-cum-housing; sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad; organisation of buyer-seller's meet; overseas publicity; organisation of export promotion marketing programmes/packaging programmes; publication of international level categories; larger participation of exporters from Karnataka in Indian Handicrafts & Gifts Fair (spring & Autumn) annually at New Delhi and product specific website etc.

No State-wise data on production and export of handicrafts is maintained in the handicrafts sector. However with the implementation of above programmes/schemes, it is understood that the production and export of handicrafts have increased considerably from the State of Karnataka. It can be gauged from the fact that number of exporters from Karnataka registered with Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), New Delhi and

their export turnover has increased considerably during the last three years. The details are as under:-

| S. No. | Year | Nos. of Exporters Registered with EPCH | Export turnover |
|--------|-----------|--|-----------------|
| 1. | 1998-1999 | 64 | 36.00 crores |
| 2. | 1999-2000 | 97 | 38.00 crores |
| 3. | 2000-2001 | 142 | 43.00 crores |

Employment on Compassionate Grounds in PNB

1253. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from the dependents of the deceased employees on compassionate grounds, by the Punjab National Bank, Regional Office, Bhopal and Head Office, New Delhi during 2001 to date;

(b) the number of cases in which appointments on compassionate grounds has been made and the number of cases in which appointment has not so far been made with reasons for delay; and

(c) by when all cases are likely to be cleared for appointment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Punjab National Bank has reported that during the year 2001 to date (Jan. 2001 to Feb. 2002) 227 applications were received at the Head Office for appointment of the dependents of the deceased employee on compassionate grounds from all the twelve Zones including 10 applications of Bhopal Zone.

(b) Such applications are examined in terms of the extant scheme of the bank for providing employment on compassionate grounds. 74 applications (including 3 of Bhopal Zone) have been approved and 104 applications (including 4 applications of Bhopal Zone) have been declined. Action on rest of the applications is under way. Delay, if any, is on account of non-provision of requisite details by the applicants. The applications are decided generally in 3-4 months' time.

(c) The bank has reported that decision on 49 applications will be taken after receipt of requisite details from the applicants.

Hawala Transactions

1254. SHRI AMBAREESHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to legalise/regularise hawala transactions and regulate hawala transactions on the footing of commercial banks to curbs funding of terrorists activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the countries in the world who have taken steps in this direction and have regulated hawala transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) 'Hawala' refers to illegal transfer of money through un-official channels. The question of legalising/regulating such transactions does not arise.

World Bank Aided Projects in Maharashtra

1255. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some schemes have been undertaken in Maharashtra with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial assistance provided by the World Bank for each of the schemes since 1999 till date, year-wise; and

(d) the targets achieved under the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Statement enclosed.

Statement

(Figure in \$ million)

| S. No. | Name of the Project | Name of the Participating States | Date of Signing/ Closing | Amount of Assistance | Cumulative Disbursement as on 31.01.2002 |
|------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <i>Year 1999</i> | | | | | |
| 1. | Maharashtra Health Systems Development Project | Maharashtra | 14.01.1999/ 31.03.2005 | 134.00 | 10.85 |
| 2. | Integrated Child Development Service Project | Nation-wide | 06.07.1999/ 31.03.2005 | 300.00 | 60.47 |
| 3. | Second HIV/AIDS Project | Nation-wide | 14.09.1999/ 31.07.2004 | 194.75 | 58.99 |
| <i>Year 2000</i> | | | | | |
| 4. | Immunization Strengthening Project | Nation-wide | 19.05.2000/ 30.06.2004 | 142.60 | 53.61 |
| <i>Year 2001</i> | | | | | |
| 5. | National Leprosy Elimination Project | Nation-wide | 19.07.2001/ 31.12.2004 | 30.00 | 4.00 |

Vacant Posts

1256. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise names of posts lying vacant in his Ministry/Departments and subordinate offices under his Ministry as on December 31, 2001/March 31, 2002 alongwith the date since when these are lying vacant;

(b) the reasons for keeping these posts vacant; and

(c) the time by which these vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

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

(a) to (c) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

| Names of the post(s) lying vacant as on 31.12.2001 | Category | Date from which the post is lying vacant | Reasons for the post lying vacant | Time by which the post is likely to be filled up |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Director | Group 'A' | 17.10.2001 | The post has been lying vacant consequent upon lateral transfer of one of the Director to the Ministry of Culture by DOP | The panel of officers vice the vacancy has been called from DOPT. The post would be filled up after the selection by CSB with the approval of the Minister-in-charge. |
| Senior Principal Private Secretary | Group 'A' | 01.12.2001 | Retirement of the incumbent. Vacancy had been intimated to the DOPT. | Regular incumbent has already joined on 25.01.2002. |
| Deputy Director (Programme) | Group 'A' | 07.07.95 | The post of DD (Programme) is an Ex-Cadre post and is filled up on deputation basis. The post has been circulated time and again but no eligible candidates have been found so far. | The Ministry had once again circulated the post vide Employment News dated 24-30 June 2000. The proposal for selection to the post is pending with UPSC. |
| Statistician | Group 'A' | 29.10.1999 | The post of Statistician is an Ex-Cadre post and is filled up on deputation basis. The post has been circulated vide Employment News dated 15-21 January 2000. The detailed proposal was sent to the UPSC for selection of an officer for the post. The UPSC intimated the selection of an officer to the post in April 2001. However the parent department of the officer did not relieve him | The Ministry has once again circulated the post vide Employment News dated 27 October-02 November 2001. The proposal would soon be sent to UPSC for selection of an officer to the post. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--|---|--|
| | | | despite repeated reminders of this Ministry. Hence his offer of appointment to the post was cancelled in August 2001. | |
| Section Officer | Group 'B' | For the Select List year 1998, 2000 and 2001 | Retirement and deputation of regular incumbents. Vacancies have been intimated to DOPT on yearly basis as per the prescribed procedure. Nominations from DOPT are awaited. | Posts will be filled up on receipt of nominations from DOPT. |
| Private Secretary | Group 'B' | For Select List year 1999 | Deputation of regular incumbents. Vacancies have been intimated to DOPT. Nominations from DOPT are awaited. | Posts will be filled up on receipt of nomination from DOPT/fixation of zone of consideration for promotion to the post for the Select List year 1999 by DOPT. |
| Assistant | Group 'B' | Select List Year 1999 | Deputation of regular incumbents. The vacancies have intimated to DOPT and the nominations are awaited. | Posts will be filled up on receipt of nomination from DOPT. |
| Senior Research Investigator | Group 'B' | 11.08.1999 | The vacancy has to be filled up on direct recruitment basis as per the recruitment rules for the post and the roster maintained by the Ministry. One of the incumbent of the post of feeder grade i.e. Research Investigator has represented against the mode of recruitment. The matter is to be examined in consultation with DOPT. | Action to fill up the post would be taken after receipt of clarification from DOPT. |
| Senior Technical Assistant | Group 'B' | 01.02.2000 | The post of Senior Technical Assistant is an Ex-Cadre post and is filled up on deputation basis. The post has been circulated time and again but no eligible candidates have been found so far. | The Ministry has once again circulated the post vide Employment News dated 12-18 January 2002. The post is likely to be filled up May, 2002 subject to the availability of eligible candidate. |
| Research Assistant (Work Study) | Group 'B' | 22.09.2000 | The post of Research Assistant is an Ex-Cadre post and is filled up on | Expenditure Reforms Commission has recommended winding up of IWSUs in all the Ministries/ |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--|---|--|
| | | | deputation basis. The post had been circulated twice but no eligible candidates were found. | departments. Accordingly, the post has to be abolished. The proposal for abolition of post has been submitted for approval of Competent Authority in the Ministry. |
| Senior Investigator | Group 'B' | 27.12.2001 & 23.11.2001 | The posts of Senior Investigator are an Ex-Cadre post and are filled up on deputation basis. The vacancy has been circulated vide Employment News dated 22-28 December 2001. | The posts are likely to be filled up May 2002 subject to the availability of eligible candidate. |
| Junior Hindi Translator | Group 'C' | 22.12.1999 | The vacancy was intimated to the D/o Official Languages i.e. the cadre controlling authority of these posts. They had also nominated one candidate for this post but the candidate has turned down the offer of appointment. The Ministry has received another nomination from the Department and has sent the offer of appointment to the candidate. | The candidate has accepted the offer of this Ministry. |
| Stenographer | Group 'C' Grade 'D' | For the Select List Year 1999, 2000 & 2001 | Deputation of the regular incumbents. The vacancies have been intimated to DOPT and the nominations are awaited. | Posts will be filled up on receipt of nomination from DOPT. |
| Upper Division Clerk | Group 'C' | Select List year 1999 | The vacancies have been intimated to DOPT and the nominations are awaited. | Posts will be filled up on receipt of nomination from DOPT. |
| Lower Division Clerk | Group 'C' | Select List year 1999 | The vacancies have been intimated to DOPT and the nominations are awaited. | Posts will be filled up on receipt of nomination from DOPT. |
| Despatch Rider | Group 'C' | 01.06.2001 | Retirement of the incumbent. | Selection process is over and offer of appointment is under issue. |

Inclusion of Kidney Transplant Patients in Physically Challenged List

1257. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations for including the persons having undergone kidney transplant operation in the category of physically challenged; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Shortage of Coins and Smaller Denomination Notes

1258. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coins and notes of small denomination are not available sufficiently in the various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the availability of such currency notes and coins in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) There are reports about shortage of coins in some parts of the country. However, there is no shortage of Bank notes in the denomination of Rs. 10/- and above. Printing of Bank notes of Rs. 5 denomination has also been resumed during the current year for meeting the demand of smaller denomination notes.

(b) There has been significant increase in the demand for coins during recent years. As against a demand of 6500 million pieces (MPCs) of coins during 2001-2002, the four India Government Mints at Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Noida have an aggregate capacity to produce 3700 MPCs of coins per year, thereby resulting in shortages.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to address the problem of shortage of coins in the country, which, *inter alia*, include the following:

(i) The India Government Mints at Mumbai, Hyderabad and Kolkata have been modernised.

(ii) The Bank note of Rs. 5 denomination has been reintroduced during the current year to meet the shortage of Rs. 5 coins.

(iii) The coins in denomination of Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 are also being imported to meet the gap between demand and supply of coins in the country.

(iv) The Regional Offices of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are regularly supplying the coins/notes to their Currency Chests to ensure equitable distribution of coins/notes in the country.

[English]

Merger of Subsidiaries of SBI

1259. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received a proposal some time back from the Central office of State Bank of India, Mumbai regarding merger of its subsidiary banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Anti-Dumping on Steel

1260. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the designated authority in his Ministry has recommended the imposition of provisional anti-dumping duties against imports of cold rolled flat products of stainless steel from some countries including the United State of America;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Anti-Dumping investigations were initiated on imports of Cold Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel from USA, EU, Japan and Canada on 21.8.2001. On the basis of sufficient evidence of dumping, injury and a casual link between the two, provisional duties were recommended in the preliminary findings issued by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties on 29.11.2001, which were imposed on 28.12.2001 by a Notification issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. Final findings in this case are yet to be notified.

[Translation]

Financial Condition of Co-operative Banks

1261. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial condition of the co-operative banks in the country is miserable and consequently they are unable to pay salaries to their staff;

(b) if so, the number of such banks running in loss and whose licences have been cancelled during the last two years; State-wise alongwith the details of statutory cash ratio and cash reserve ratio of those banks;

(c) whether the Madhawan Committee appointed by the Government suggested that the dual control of the RBI and the State Governments is the reason for the miserable condition of the Cooperative Banks and had therefore recommended to do away with the dual control policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as on 31 March 2000, 5 State Cooperative Banks and 141 District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) were running in loss in the country. The licences of two DCCBs, viz. Daltonganj DCCB (Jharkhand) and Chapra DCCB (Bihar) have been cancelled by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on account of erosion in the value of assets and default in the maintenance of cash reserve ratio and statutory liquidity ratio. Further, RBI and NABARD have also reported that

they have no information of cooperative banks not been able to pay salaries to their staff.

(c) and (d) The Madhav Rao Committee appointed by RBI had looked into the various aspects of the working of Urban Co-operative Banks. The Committee had recommended clear demarcation of the banking related functions to be regulated solely by RBI and those related to establishment of co-operative societies and their co-operative character which shall remain within the domain of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies of the concerned States. These recommendations have been communicated to State Governments by RBI.

[English]

Purchase of Maize

1262. SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

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

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had purchased large quantity of maize from farmers during the year 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the central reimbursement has not reached the State Government till date for these purchases;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the amount is likely to be reimbursed to the Government of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) As on 28.2.2001, a quantity of 2,45,944 MTs, of maize was procured, out of which the Food Corporation of India (FCI) procured 1,23,262 MTs and Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation (KFCSC) procured 1,22,682 MTs. During March 2001, KFCSC alone had purchased 1,33,792 MTs of maize. Thus a sizeable quantity of 2,56,474 MTs was purchased by Karnataka Government through KFCSC.

(c) and (d) The KFCSC has submitted bills for the payment of procurement incidentals for the period from 1.3.2001 to end of the season. The payment thereof will

be released during the first half of March, 2002. The payment could not be released to the State Government as the KFCSC could not reconcile the quantity purchased by them.

(e) The balance payment will be released immediately on receipt of reconciled information from KFCSC.

[*Translation*]

Loans to Agriculture Sector

1263. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enhance capital investment in the agriculture sector for the growth of agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India in the year 1993 had issued direction that twenty percent of the total loan being disbursed by the banks should be provided to the agriculture sector;

(d) if so, whether banks are following this norm presently;

(e) if so, the percentage of average annual amount of loan provided during the last three years; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have taken several measures to enhance capital investment in agriculture sector. These measures include constitution of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) and Watershed Development Fund in NABARD for improving rural infrastructure like irrigation, rural roads, bridges, market yards, etc. and promoting watershed development in dry land areas. Further, NABARD also provides refinance at concessional rate for construction of cold storages and godowns in rural areas. All these measures have resulted in substantial increase in flow of investment credit to agriculture sector.

(c) to (f) As per the standing guidelines of RBI, domestic scheduled commercial banks are required to lend 18% of their Net Bank credit (NBC) to agriculture. The outstanding agricultural advances of public sector banks for the last three years are as follows:

| (Rs. crores) | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Year ended | Amount Outstanding | % to NBC |
| March, 1999 | 40078 | 16.28 |
| March, 2000 | 46190 | 15.77 |
| March, 2001 | 53685 | 15.65 |
| September, 2001 (half year) | 56108 | 15.63 |

It may be observed that although the target for lending to agriculture as percentage of NBC has not been achieved, the amount of outstanding advances to agriculture in absolute terms has increased substantially over the years.

[*English*]

Indo-Britain Trade Ties

1264. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Britain have agreed to expand bilateral trade between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. India and Britain have excellent bilateral trade relations and the same is reviewed from time to time during various bilateral interactions at official level and at private sector level.

An Indo-British Partnership Initiative (IBPI) is functioning in the private sector in order to expand bilateral trade and investment relations. The sectors identified for focussed Indo-British interaction under the IBPI include Agro/Food Processing, Environment, Infrastructure,

Manufacturing, Mining, Technical Education/Training and Financial Services.

**MOU between MMTC and
Chinese Iron and Steel Group**

1265. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether MMTC and China Iron and Steel Group Trade Corporation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for supply of iron and steel raw material to China;

(b) if so, the main features of the memorandum of understanding signed; and

(c) the total exports to be made from MMTC during 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between MMTC and China Iron and Steel Group Trade Corporation are as follows:

(i) The MOU would be effective for supplies from 1st April 2002 to 31st March 2003.

(ii) MMTC would export iron ore, chrome ore/chrome concentrates and maganese ore to China and would import coke, coal and limestone from China.

(c) MMTC has set an export target of Rs. 1,801 crores for the year 2002-2003.

Drug De-Addiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres

1266. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug de-addiction-cum-rehabilitation centre's are sanctioned for each district in the State of Orissa;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued for setting up an unit/organization within the radius of 25 kms;

(c) whether any State Government's proposals have come up for setting up the organization; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) A statement showing the district-wise number of De-addiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres in Orissa funded under the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs), is annexed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Under the scheme grant-in-aid is released to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

Statement

*Number of De-Addiction Centres Functioning in Orissa
(on 4.3.2002)*

| S. No. | Name of the District | No of De-addiction Centres |
|--------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Angul | 1 |
| 2. | Balasore | 1 |
| 3. | Banku | 1 |
| 4. | Baripada | 1 |
| 5. | Berhampur | 1 |
| 6. | Bhadrak | 1 |
| 7. | Bhubaneswar | 4 |
| 8. | Bolangir | 1 |
| 9. | Cuttack | 4 |
| 10. | Dhenkenal | 2 |
| 11. | Kendrapada | 3 |
| 12. | Khurda | 2 |
| 13. | Koraput | 1 |
| 14. | Kurumpada | 1 |
| 15. | Nayagarh | 1 |
| 16. | Puri | 3 |
| 17. | Sharadapur | 1 |
| 18. | Sundergarh | 1 |
| Total | | 30 |

Welfare Programme for SCs/STs

1267. SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various schemes and programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub-plan since 1978 for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes majority to whom live below poverty line;

(b) if so, indicate the schemes/programmes formulated/being implemented by Ministry of Textiles under SCP and TSP since their commencement specifying nature, scope and target groups thereof as stipulated in letter No. 280-PMO/80 dated March 12, 1980 from the Prime Minister's Office addressed to Textiles Ministry among other Ministries/organizations while commencing SCP/TSP;

(c) the amount of funds requisitioned and procured by his Ministry during VI, VII, VIII and Ninth Five Year Plan for such schemes/programmes;

(d) the number of benefits and targets achieved in this regard; and

(e) the details of any other scheme/programme being implemented by this Ministry for employment generation and economic empowerment of SCs and STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Since more than 80% of the beneficiaries under the Plan schemes/programmes, which are composite in nature and being implemented in the decentralised segment of the Textile Sector viz. Handloom, Sericulture, Handicrafts, Powerloom and Wool, belong to the weaker sections of society no separate allocations for SCP/TSP are made in the Textile Ministry's budget.

(c) The requisite sector-wise information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) As majority of beneficiaries belong to the weaker sections of society, no specific targets are fixed. However, efforts are made to ensure that benefits accrue to these categories of people to the maximum extent.

(e) The Schemes like training, design/product development, marketing, welfare etc. are designed for generation of employment opportunities and empowerment of SCs and STs.

Statement

Outlay and Expenditure in the decentralised textiles sector since the Sixth Five Year Plan

(Rs. crores)

| Sl. No. | Sector | VI Plan (1980-85) | | VII Plan (1985-90) | | VIII Plan (1992-97) | | IX Plan (1997-02) | |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | Outlay | Expenditure | Outlay | Expenditure | Outlay | Expenditure | Outlay | Expenditure* |
| 1. | Handlooms | 120.00 | 107.40 | 168.00 | 131.88 | 621.00 | 356.00 | 452.50 | 425.70 |
| 2. | Sericulture | 31.00 | 38.67 | 70.00 | 88.17 | 270.00 | 346.85 | 302.00 | 346.04 |
| 3. | Handicrafts | 56.40 | 44.92 | 66.00 | 57.12 | 223.00 | 194.15 | 257.00 | 267.42 |
| 4. | Powerlooms | 1.00 | 0.83 | 2.00 | 1.17 | 18.00 | 12.49 | 44.00 | 19.64 |
| 5. | Wool | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 20.00 | 13.19 | 28.00 | 22.09 |

*Upto 22.02.2002
(latest available)

Source: Indian Planning experience, a Statistical, Profile: Planning Commission.

Export of Consumer Goods

1268. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of consumer goods exported from India and the earnings made from such export during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively vis-a-vis the import of consumer goods in those years and total expenditure of foreign exchange on the imports during each of the above years; and

(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Union Government that due to dumping of consumer goods by some of our neighbouring countries, the industry and trade of our country have been severely affected leading to closure of few industries and depletion in the market for Indian products and the remedial steps taken or contemplated to be taken by the Union Government to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The number of consumer goods is quite large. The data on export & import of all items including consumer goods are published in the publication entitled "Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. I & Vol. II" brought out by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library also.

(b) There has been no spurt in imports into the country even after removal of quantitative restrictions. However the Government is constantly monitoring the situation and taking remedial measures so that imports do not cause any serious injury to the domestic economy.

Loans for Higher Education

1269. SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK:
SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the private banks have not given financial loans to engineering and medical students for their higher education both within and outside India as announced by Hon'ble Finance Minister in the last year budget;

(b) if so, the action the Government propose to take against those banks; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that poor students especially SC/ST students are not deprived from higher education due to non-availability of loan from banks?

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

(c) The instructions for extending educational loan under the new educational loan scheme have been issued to all Scheduled Commercial Banks (including Private Sector Banks) by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide its circular dated 28.04.2001. The introduction of the new educational loan scheme itself is for ensuring that poor students irrespective of the category they belong to are not deprived of educational loan for higher education.

Amendments in the UTI Act, 1963

1270. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several committees recommended the Government for amending the UTI Act, 1963;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main recommendations made by these committees regarding amendments in UTI Act 1963; and

(d) the time by which an amendment is likely to be made in the said Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Corporate Positioning Committee headed by Shri Y.H. Malegam and the High Level Committee headed by Shri S.S. Tarapore and other expert committees have recommended amendments to the UTI Act.

(c) The Malegam Committee has recommended, inter-alia, that the UTI Act should be repealed and replaced by a new enactment. In enacting this Act, it should be ensured that the Government is totally distanced from UTI.

The Tarapore committee has recommended, inter-alia, that the UTI Act should be amended by providing for an omnibus provision that wherever the UTI Act is in conflict with the SEBI Act, the SEBI Act will prevail.

(d) Government has initiated appropriate action in this regard.

Arrest of Hawala Dealers

1271. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several hawala dealers have been arrested in Delhi and other parts of the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether some of them also financed the operation of the terrorists from within and outside the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) 45 hawala dealers have been arrested in Delhi and other parts of the country during the last three years by the Enforcement Directorate.

(b) to (d) Preliminary investigations into some recent cases of 'hawala' transactions indicate prima facie linkage with terrorist activities. Action in such cases depends on completion of investigations.

[*Translation*]

**North East Handicrafts and Handlooms
Development Corporation**

1272. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North East Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation has submitted any proposal to provide financial assistance for manufacturing of goods from cane, bamboo and wood;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A proposal has been received recently from the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development

Corporation Ltd. (NEHHDC), Shillong under AHVY for procurement of additional machinery for the existing Common Facility Service Centre at Guwahati. The said proposal has been considered by the Government and a sum of Rs. 40.50 lakhs has been sanctioned. Out of this Rs. 20.25 lakhs has already been released to the corporation.

[*English*]

Fall in Prices of Rubber

1273. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

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

(a) whether the prices of rubber has been steadily declining for the last three years;

(b) if so, the extent to which prices have been declined during the above period, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have fixed minimum support price for rubber to stabilize the prices and to ensure a reasonable price to the growers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have received representations from rubber growers to raise the amount of Minimum Support Price for rubber;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) whether keeping in view the huge stock, Government are considering to export rubber;

(h) if so, the details thereof alongwith the countries to whom rubber is likely to be exported; and

(i) the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) During the last 3 years, the yearly average price of rubber has remained almost the same as may be seen from the table below:

| Year | Average price (Rs./kg) |
|------|------------------------|
| 1999 | 29.97 |
| 2000 | 31.25 |
| 2001 | 31.09 |

(c) and (d) The Government has not fixed 'Minimum Support Price' for rubber. However, Govt. has fixed and notified minimum price for trading in the two most commonly used classes of rubber namely Ribbed Smoked Sheet - 4 (RSS-4) and Ribbed Smoked Sheet-5 (RSS-5) at Rs. 32.09/kg and Rs. 30.79/kg respectively under the provisions of the Rubber Act, 1947.

(e) and (f) There have been requests from rubber growers for raising the minimum price for rubber. Government has fixed minimum price for RSS-4 and RSS-5 grades of Natural Rubber on the basis of import parity price keeping in view the international prices under the Quantitative Restriction free regime. Raising the minimum price for rubber is not feasible as any price fixed not taking into consideration the international price would lead to surge in imports thereby causing undue hardship to rubber growers.

(g) to (i) Yes, Sir. Government of India has approved a scheme for export of 20,000 MT of Natural Rubber through Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Marketing Federation with an outlay of Rs. 17.40 crore to be shared by the Government of India and Government of Kerala.

Target countries for export of Natural Rubber from the country include Nepal, Singapore, China, UAE, Australia, Sri Lanka, Turkey and USA.

Import of Cotton

1274. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the figure of actual imports of cotton during the period October, 2000 to September, 2001 in comparison to past three years;

(b) the details of any surplus stockpile with procurement agencies;

(c) whether the heavy imports of cotton is a result of price crash in the international market between December, 2000 to December, 2001;

(d) if so, the details of comparable international prices;

(e) whether 10 percent import duty is adequate to protect the cotton farmers and the procurement agencies; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Import of cotton during last four cotton years (October-September) is given in the following table:

(in lakh bales of 170 kgs.)

| 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| 4.13 | 7.87 | 22.01 | 22.00 |

Source: Cotton Advisory Board.

(b) The closing stock at the end of 2000-2001 cotton season was 29 lakh bales as estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board.

(c) and (d) Cotton is imported for various reasons including quality and price considerations. Price of cotton varies from variety to variety. The following table shows the comparison of domestic and international prices.

(in Rupees per candy)

| | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 (upto January 2002) |
|--|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Domestic Price (weighted average) | 20,858 | 16,958 |
| International Prices (weighted average) (landed price of imported cotton) | 22,968 | 17,183 |

(e) and (f) After taking into account the requirement of the industry and the prevailing difference between the domestic and international prices, Government hiked the customs duty on import of cotton from 5% to 10% with effect from 09.01.2002. The hike in duty would restrict undesired cotton imports. Moreover, the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has undertaken support price operation, to protect the interests of the farmers, wherever market price of kapas (seed cotton) touched the Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the Government. During the current cotton season, upto 28.02.2002, CCI has purchased 38,63,837 quintals of

kapas (equivalent to lint cotton of 7,25,344 bales of 170 kg. each) under support price operation.

Government has also launched the Technology Mission on Cotton to improve the productivity and quality of indigenous cotton.

Revenue from State

1275. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Central revenue contribution by different States during last three years;

(b) the allocation from Central fund to those States, respectively during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether some State Governments have requested for substantial enhancement out of the collections;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) State-wise collection of direct taxes during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-I. The collection of central excise duty from Central Excise Zones falling in different States is given in Statement II enclosed. It is not possible to attribute the collection of revenue from customs duty to individual States in which the imported goods are ultimately consumed.

(b) The amounts released to the State Governments as share in central taxes during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-III.

(c) and (d) A number of States including Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab and Tamil Nadu have made representations for enhancement of their respective shares of tax devolution vis-a-vis those recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC). The Government has however, accepted the recommendations of the EFC.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement-I

State and Union Territory-wise Break-up of Collection of Direct Taxes during last three years

| States | (Rs. crore) | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1372.38 | 1807.74 | 2481.07 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 3.32 | 7.08 | 5.01 |
| Assam | 255.58 | 360.52 | 681.13 |
| Bihar | 358.78 | 439.64 | 606.32 |
| Goa | 159.82 | 146.57 | 208.72 |
| Gujarat | 1994.68 | 2388.77 | 2714.28 |
| Haryana | 368.57 | 409.47 | 569.48 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 84.45 | 122.82 | 203.99 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 83.79 | 112.72 | 162.8 |
| Karnataka | 1917.71 | 2854.05 | 3564.97 |
| Kerala | 745.59 | 857.26 | 1017.09 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Madhya Pradesh | 1299.30 | 1294.24 | 1630.29 |
| Maharashtra | 18959.91 | 23442.39 | 26501.28 |
| Manipur | 5.75 | 4.66 | 13.43 |
| Meghalaya | 15.05 | 20.21 | 24.06 |
| Mizoram | 1.33 | 0.47 | 0.31 |
| Nagaland | 6.36 | 7.59 | 3.55 |
| New Delhi | 8430.29 | 9427.79 | 10165.74 |
| Orissa | 490.28 | 705.64 | 807.88 |
| Punjab | 660.89 | 927.56 | 1098.28 |
| Rajasthan | 669.39 | 730.06 | 766.15 |
| Sikkim | 0.09 | 0.31 | 1.00 |
| Tamil Nadu | 3202.26 | 3747.04 | 4493.71 |
| Tripura | 8.41 | 16.25 | 22.28 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2175.71 | 4028.36 | 5894.51 |
| West Bengal | 2253.48 | 2770.87 | 3301.11 |
| Total | 45523.17 | 56630.1 | 66938.44 |
| Union Territories | | | |
| Andaman Nicobar | 4.75 | 3.94 | 4.25 |
| Chandigarh | 199.63 | 240.37 | 239.85 |
| Daman | 0.05 | 0.85 | 2.43 |
| Diu | 0.05 | 0.16 | 0.16 |
| Dadar N. Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pondicherry | 27.21 | 38.38 | 36.32 |
| Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 | 0.02 |
| Silvassa | 0.01 | 0.41 | 0.36 |
| Total | 231.70 | 284.11 | 283.39 |
| Total (i) & (ii) | 45754.87 | 56914.21 | 67221.83 |
| Central T.D.S. (Prov.) | 845.2 | 1044.76 | 1083.56 |
| Grand Total | 46600.07 | 57958.97 | 68305.39 |

Statement-II*Collection of Central Excise from Excise Commissionerates Falling in Different States during last three years*

| Sr. No. | Name of the States | 1998-1999 Actual | 1999-2000 Actual | 2000-2001 (Provisional) |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3733 | 4628 | 5161 |
| 2. | Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura & Arunachal Pradesh | 837 | 1081 | 1499 |
| 3. | Bihar and Jharkhand | 2239 | 2767 | 2953 |
| 4. | Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and the U.T. of Chandigarh | 1740 | 2416 | 2797 |
| 5. | Delhi | 948 | 1359 | 1334 |
| 6. | Haryana | 2937 | 3891 | 4783 |
| 7. | Goa | 416 | 521 | 627 |
| 8. | Gujarat and the U.Ts. of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu | 8405 | 9212 | 10194 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 3891 | 4255 | 4842 |
| 10. | Kerala and U.T. of Lakshadweep | 1432 | 1983 | 2100 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh | 2758 | 2880 | 3029 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 12579 | 13034 | 13127 |
| 13. | Orissa | 655 | 812 | 924 |
| 14. | Rajasthan | 1310 | 1644 | 1842 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu & the U.T. of Pondicherry | 4339 | 5749 | 6749 |
| 16. | Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal | 4378 | 5192 | 5759 |
| 17. | West Bengal, Sikkim and the U.T. of the Andaman & Nicobar | 2596 | 2981 | 3435 |
| All India Total (Gross)* | | 55193 | 64405 | 71155 |

Note: The above figures are exclusive of cesses not administered by the Department of Revenue. The figures are based on the collection of revenue from Central Excise Commissionerates falling in the States and are as per departmental records.

*The figures of revenue are gross and do not exclude the drawbacks paid amounting to Rs. 2735 crore, Rs. 2658 crore and Rs. 2519 crore during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 at all India level.

Statement-III*Releases to State Governments as Share in Central Taxes during the last three years*

(Rupees Crore)

| Sl. No. | State | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3008.17 | 3343.30 | 3996.31 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 268.84 | 318.08 | 115.67 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 3. | Assam | 1349.33 | 1448.78 | 1682.93 |
| 4. | Bihar | 4441.23 | 4962.59 | 6937.37 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 509.94 |
| 6. | Goa | 97.12 | 95.92 | 105.34 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 1511.84 | 1665.04 | 1587.80 |
| 8. | Haryana | 480.04 | 525.27 | 563.35 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 728.86 | 819.45 | 330.54 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1152.55 | 1326.24 | 619.31 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 0.00 | 579.26 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 1923.92 | 2132.78 | 2573.83 |
| 13. | Kerala | 1382.3 | 1535.22 | 1594.12 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 2932.12 | 3261.64 | 4075.30 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 2385.81 | 2608.66 | 2796.51 |
| 16. | Manipur | 331.68 | 387.80 | 177.56 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 300.55 | 341.76 | 166.47 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 280.09 | 325.04 | 91.23 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 437.19 | 526.04 | 96.78 |
| 20. | Orissa | 1664.52 | 1777.10 | 2603.97 |
| 21. | Punjab | 587.16 | 638.59 | 725.98 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 1964.27 | 2184.82 | 2836.61 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 109.63 | 125.71 | 90.69 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 2408.98 | 2667.00 | 2852.45 |
| 25. | Tripura | 457.02 | 529.55 | 236.32 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 6267.72 | 6978.71 | 10104.17 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 132.90 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 2692.14 | 2984.41 | 4235.59 |
| Total | | 39163.09 | 43509.50 | 52418.30 |

Advance Tax by Share Brokers

1276. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that share brokers are not depositing their advance tax on operating profit;

(b) if so, the details of such cases that have come to the notice of the Government in the last three years; and

(c) the action has been initiated against them?

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

(b) Shortfall of payment of advance tax on the returned/assessed income by all categories of assessees, including share brokers, has been noticed. However, the trade-wise details in this regard are not maintained in this Ministry.

(c) Necessary action as per the provisions of the Income Tax Laws is taken in such cases.

Eleventh Finance Commission

1277. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 11th Finance Commission in its report suggested that financing of expenditure of special Category States need to be restructured; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken on the recommendation of the EFC to restructure financing of expenditure of Special Category States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Eleventh Finance Commission observed that the Non-plan gap of Special Category States had been covered by their recommendations on Revenue Deficit Grants. The Commission, therefore, felt that the then prevailing practice of diverting 20% of the Normal Central Assistance to Special Category States to meet their non-Plan gap may not be necessary. Subsequent to the EFC's award, non-Plan Revenue Deficit Grants are being released to Special Category States as per the Commission's recommendations. However, based on the actual assessment of revenue deficit, the Planning Commission still earmarks a part of Normal Central Assistance to meet the deficit. Secondly, the EFC also observed that the infrastructure needs of the North Eastern States, be assumed by the Central Government. From 1997/1998, each Central Ministry is supposed to earmark 10% of its Plan funds for the North East. Any shortfall in expenditure results in the residual amount flowing into a Non-lapsable Pool for the North East, ensuring that infrastructure projects of the North East are financed largely from Central funds. The EFC also recommended a review of the Plan assistance formula including the Gadgil formula. The National Development Council, in its meeting in September, 2001, did not accept any departure in the existing norms of Central Assistance to Special Category States or otherwise.

Income Tax Payers in Country

1278. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tax payers in the country during the following financial year (income tax payers) in the financial Years 1950-51, 1960-61, 1970-71, 1980-81, 1990-91 and 2000-2001; and

(b) the percentage increase in each of the above year over the preceding financial year?

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

(in Lakhs)

| Financial Year | Number of Income-tax Payers |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1950-1951 | Not available |
| 1960-1961 | 9.52 |
| 1970-1971 | 32.21 |
| 1980-1981 | 45.94 |
| 1990-1991 | 75.28 |
| 2000-2001 | 248.16 |

(b)

| Financial Year | Percentage increase (in respective decades) |
|----------------|--|
| 1950-1951 | — |
| 1960-1961 | — |
| 1970-1971 | 238.34% |
| 1980-1981 | 42.63% |
| 1990-1991 | 63.87% |
| 2000-2001 | 229.65% |

All PSUs Under One Ministry

1279. SHRI J.S. BRAR:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to wind up the Department of Heavy Industry;

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

(c) whether the Government are also seeking to enter into Joint venture partnership for 13 public sector undertakings and their subsidiaries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether most of the Heavy industries are in the disinvestments mode; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) List of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of the Department of Heavy Industry (DHI) wherein the process of Disinvestment/Joint Venture has been taken up is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

List of Public Sector Enterprises under Disinvestment/JV formation

(A) Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) where the process of Disinvestment/JV formation is being undertaken by the Department of Heavy Industry.

| Sl. No. | Name of PSE |
|---------|--|
| 1. | Hoogly Printing Co. Ltd. (HPCL) Subsidiary of AYCL |
| 2. | Bharat Wagon Engg. Co. Ltd. (BWEL) Subsidiary of BBUNL |
| 3. | BBJ Construction Co. Ltd. (BBJ) Subsidiary of BBUNL |
| 4. | Richardson & Cruddas Ltd. (R&C) Subsidiary of BYNL |
| 5. | Triveni Structural Ltd. (TSL) Subsidiary of BYNL |
| 6. | Bridge & Roof Ltd. (B&R) Subsidiary of BYNL |
| 7. | HMT (B) Ltd. Subsidiary of HMT |
| 8. | HMT (I) Ltd. Subsidiary of HMT |
| 9. | HMT Watches Subsidiary of HMT |
| 10. | HMT Machine Tools Subsidiary of HMT |
| 11. | HMT China Watches Subsidiary of HMT |
| 12. | Rajasthan Electronics & Instn. Ltd. (REIL) Subsidiary of ILK |
| 13. | Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. (HNL) Subsidiary of HPC |

Associate Company of PSEs

| S. No. | Associate Company |
|--------|-------------------|
|--------|-------------------|

1. Tide Water Oil Co. (India) Ltd., Associate Co. of AYCL

(B) Public Sector Enterprises Referred to Ministry of Disinvestment for Undertaking JV Formation/Disinvestment

| Sl. No. | Name of PSE |
|---------|-------------|
|---------|-------------|

1. National Instruments Limited (NIL)
2. Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL)
3. Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited (BOGL)
4. Jessop & Company Limited (JESSOP)
5. Burn Standard Company Limited (BSCL)
6. Braithwaite & Company Limited (BCL)
7. Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Limited (BHPV)
8. Tungabhadra Steel Products Limited (TSPL)
9. Hindustan Salts Limited (HSL)
10. Sambhar Salts Limited (SSL)
11. Tyre Corporation of India Limited (TCIL)
12. NEPA Ltd. (NEPA)
13. Instrumentation Limited (ILK)
14. Bharat Leather Corporation (BLC)
15. Engineering Projects India Limited (EPI)

World Bank Aided Projects in Orissa

1280. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the World Bank aided projects undertaken in Orissa as on date;

(b) the funds provided by the World Bank as aid; and

(c) the project-wise details of the work done so far with the World Bank assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) There are four ongoing state sector World Bank assisted projects in Orissa as on date. The details of the funds committed by the World Bank and utilization for work done so far is as under:-

(Amount in Million)

| Project | Committed | Utilization for work done |
|--|------------|------------------------------|
| (i) Orissa Power Sector Restructuring | \$ 272.67 | \$ 117.51 |
| (ii) Orissa Emergency Cyclone Project | SDR 35.00 | SDR 9.284 |
| (iii) Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project | SDR 194.80 | SDR 119.90 |
| (iv) Orissa Health System Project | SDR 56.80 | SDR 7.782 |

*[Translation]***Industrially Backward Districts**

1281. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report submitted by the study group constituted to identify the industrial backward districts of the country has since been reviewed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the industrially backward districts, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the decisions taken during the review?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Directors of NABARD**

1282. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have requested the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and other Regional Rural Banks to submit the list of proposed nominee directors for appointment by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on the lists submitted by NABARD and RRBs;

(c) whether the Government have appointed all political activists as nominees directors on the Board of Management of RRBs ignoring its own orders dated February 21, 1983 in this regard;

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

(e) whether the Government have revised its orders dated February 21, 1983 in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (f) No, Sir. As per provisions under Section 9 (I) (a) of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, two Directors, who are not officers of the Central Government, State Government, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), Sponsor Banks or any other banks are to be nominated by the Central Government on the Board of Regional Rural Banks. The Directors so appointed are termed as Non-Official Directors (NODs). The appointments of these Non-official directors are made out of names recommended by Sponsor Banks and VIPs keeping in view the social and local background of the candidates to be appointed.

*[Translation]***Relaxation in Terms and Conditions of
Central Loan**

1283. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
DR. ASHOK PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to relax the terms and conditions of the Central loan assistance for the State implementing reforms in the irrigation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criterion laid down for providing that loan assistance; and

(d) the time by which this decision is likely to be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d)

Yes Sir. The criteria for releasing the Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) has been relaxed w.e.f. 1.2.2002 for reforming States which agree to revise their water rates in phases so as to recover full operation and maintenance cost within a period of 5 years. Now the reforming States under general category will get CLA in the ratio of 4:1 (Centre: State) instead of the existing 2:1 and under Special Category, in the ratio of 1:0 (Centre:State) instead of the existing 3:1. CLA norms for non-reforming States will remain unchanged.

Credit to Farmers

1284. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patil Committee has made recommendations for providing financial assistance to the Government financial institutions operating in rural areas at all levels with a view to strengthen them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) A Joint Committee headed by the Union Minister of State for Finance was appointed by the Government to review the recommendations made on "revitalization", "funding mechanism" and "delaying" made by the Task Force under Shri Jagdish Capoor, former Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to study the cooperative credit system and suggest measures for its strengthening. The Joint Committee has recommended that revitalization assistance should be provided to bring the cooperative credit institutions to "take off" stage and enable them to stand on their own. The Committee has also identified items to be included in the assistance at different levels and has recommended that the amount of assistance should be shared in the proportion of 60:40 between Central Government and State Governments for both short-term and long cooperative credit structure. The Committee has also laid down reform preconditions to be fulfilled by States and institutions for becoming eligible to receive revitalization assistance. These preconditions include:

- Adoption of essential features of Model Co-operative Act especially removal of duality of control and conduct of regular elections;
- Abolition of common cadre systems of Primary Agriculture Credit Society (PACS) Secretaries;
- Audit by Chartered Accountants;
- Transparent Human resource policies;
- Autonomy to Co-operative Credit Institutions.

Economic Assistance by America

1285. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sectors for which economic assistance is provided to the country by America;

(b) the amount received from America during the last two years;

(c) whether America propose to enhance economic assistance to India in the current financial year;

(d) if so, whether such proposal has been received by India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) USAID provides assistance in the sectors such as, Population Stabilization and Child Survival; HIV/AIDS and Infectious Diseases; Energy; Environment; Economic Development and Humanitarian Assistance.

(b) Assistance of US \$ 121.539 million and US \$ 125.557 million including food aid was received during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Sick Companies

1286. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have defined the criteria for declaring a company sick;

(b) if so, the deciding factors in this regard;

(c) the State-wise number of companies declared sick during the current year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) defines a sick industrial company as an industrial company which has, at the end of any

financial year, accumulated losses equal to or exceeding its entire net worth. The criteria to determine the sickness in an industrial company is that the company should have completed five years of existence after incorporation, employed more than 50 or more workers on any day of the 12 months preceding the end of financial year with reference to which sickness is claimed and should have a factory.

(c) and (d) During the calendar year 2001, cases of 463 sick companies were registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of SICA. A State-wise list is enclosed as statement.

In the case of sick industrial companies registered with BIFR, wherever feasible, rehabilitation schemes are sanctioned for the revival of these companies by various methods including restructuring of the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, including Govt. for public sector units, merger with other companies, change of management, relief's and concessions by financial institutions, banks and Central and State Govts. by way of reschedulement of loans etc.

Statement

State-wise list of Companies Declared Sick 1-1-2001 to 31-12-2001

| Sl. No. | State | No. of Cases |
|---------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 31 |
| 2. | Bihar | 3 |
| 3. | Chandigarh | 1 |
| 4. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 4 |
| 5. | Goa | 3 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 47 |
| 7. | Haryana | 10 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 1 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 2 |
| 10. | Kerala | 6 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 14 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 19 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 119 |
| 14. | NCT Delhi | 42 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|---------------|-----|
| 15. | Nagaland | 1 |
| 16. | Orissa | 1 |
| 17. | Pondicherry | 2 |
| 18. | Punjab | 29 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 15 |
| 20. | Tamilnadu | 55 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 28 |
| 22. | Uttaranchal | 1 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 26 |
| 24. | Assam | 3 |
| Total | | 463 |

Representation of SC/ST in Indian Trade Service

1287. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of SCs, STs and OBCs has not reached the level of 15 percent, 7.5 percent and 27 percent respectively reserved for them in Indian Trade Service;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the total number of sanctioned posts of Indian Trade Service Group 'A';

(d) the number of persons belonging to SC, ST, OBC and General categories working against such posts including their respective percentage to such posts as on July 2, 1997 as ascertained as per the instructions contained under para 5 of DOPT OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt(Res) dated July 2, 1997; and

(e) the fresh vacancies occurred during 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 and year-wise number of such vacancies/posts filled by persons from SCs, STs, OBCs and General categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) While the representation of SCs and STs has reached the level of 15% and 7.5% respectively in the Indian Trade Service, the level of 27% reserved for the OBCs has not been reached as such reservation is applicable only in respect of direct recruitment and

there has been no direct recruitment to this service subsequent to the introduction of post based reservation roster on 2.7.1997.

(c) The Sanctioned Strength of Indian Trade Service is as under:-

| Grade | No. of Posts sanctioned |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Addl. DGFT (Senior Administrative Grade) | 3 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 2 |
| Jt. DGFT (Grade-I) | 63 |
| Dy. DGFT (Grade-II) | 63 |
| Assitt. DGFT (Grade-III) | 56 |
| Total | 185 |

(d) Number of officers in Indian Trade Service (category-wise) as on 2nd July, 1997 was as under:-

| Grade | SC | | ST | | OBC | | Gen | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------|------|-------|------|---|------|-------|
| | Nos. | % | Nos. | % | Nos. | % | Nos. | % |
| Addl. DGFT | Reservation is not applicable | | | | | | | |
| Jt. DGFT | Reservation is not applicable | | | | | | | |
| Dy. DGFT | 14 | 14.7% | 10 | 10.5% | — | — | 71 | 74.8% |
| Asstt. DGFT (DR) | 4 | 67% | — | — | — | — | 2 | 33% |
| Asstt. DGFT (Prom.) | 4 | 23.5% | 4 | 23.5% | — | — | 9 | 53% |

(e) Details in respect of Grade-II (Dy. DGFT) and Grade-III (Asstt. DGFT) to which reservation applies are given in the statement attached.

Statement

Representation of SC/ST in Indian Trade Service

| Year | No. of Vacancies occurred and filled Dg. DGFT (Grade-II) PR (Promotion) | | | | |
|------|--|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | No. of Vacancy occurred | Vacancy filled by SC | Vacancy filled by ST | Vacancy filled by OBC | Vacancy filled by Gen |
| 1997 | — | — | — | — # | — |
| 1998 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 3 |
| 1999 | 10 | — | — | — | — |
| 2000 | 12 | 5 | 2 | — | 10 |
| 2001 | 12 | — | — | — | — |

| Asstt. DGFT (Grade-III) | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| DR (Direct) Recruitment | | | | | |
| | No. of Vacancy occurred | Vacancy filled by SC | Vacancy filled by ST | Vacancy filled by OBC | Vacancy filled by Gen |
| 1997 | — | 1 [Ⓐ] | — | — | 2 [Ⓐ] |
| 1998 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1999 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 2000 | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| 2001 | 2 | — | — | — | — |

| Asstt. DGFT (Grade-III) | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| PR (Promotion) | | | | | |
| | No. of Vacancy occurred | Vacancy filled by SC | Vacancy filled by ST | Vacancy filled by OBC | Vacancy filled by Gen |
| 1997 | — | 4 | 4 | — | 9 |
| | | | | # | |
| 1998 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 3 |
| 1999 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 6 |
| 2000 | 13 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 2001 | 1 | — | — | — | — |

[Ⓐ]Filled on the basis of Civil Service Examination, 1996 and from 1997 onwards no direct recruitment to the ITS has taken place.

#There is no provision of reservation of OBCs in promotion.

Export of Granite' Marble

1288. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

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

(a) whether India is likely to register 30 percent rise in exports of granite, marble and the stones during the current year;

(b) if so, the extent to which they are more in comparison with the last two years;

(c) whether due to the September 11, 2001 incidents in the USA, exports to USA and Japan have been affected; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps under consideration to improve the exports of these items during the next year?

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

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

(c) Yes, sir. The exports to USA and Japan have been affected due to the September 2001 incidents in the USA.

(d) CAPEXIL, the nodal official Export Promotion Council under Department of Commerce, is organizing and participating in various international trade fairs' road shows with the objective to boost exports of granite, marble and the stones.

Schemes for the Welfare of Handicapped

1289. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT:

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

(a) whether the Government have implemented some schemes for welfare of handicapped/disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of the organizations/centres working for the disabled;

(d) the grants provided to the centres by the Government during the last three years;

(e) whether the Government have received any complaints against the functioning of these centres; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon?

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

(d) Details showing the number of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), State-wise, under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities and the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) and the grants given to them during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement. In addition, the centrally sponsored scheme of Employment of Handicapped and National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) as State Sector Scheme are also being supported. Besides, the National Institutes, Composite Regional Centres, Regional Rehabilitation Centres and District Rehabilitation Centres are also providing rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities. The expenditure incurred for the centers supported or run by them during the last three years was Rs. 23.75 crores in 1998-1999, Rs. 32.98 crores in 1999-2000 and Rs. 35.16 crores in 2000-2001.

(e) and (f) On the basis of complaints, 10 NGOs (7 from Uttar Pradesh, 1 each from Bihar, Maharashtra and Orissa) receiving Grant-in-aid under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities have been blacklisted and action for recovery of grant is initiated. Under the ADIP Scheme four NGOs from Maharashtra have been black listed.

Statement

The Number of organisations State-wise assisted under the schemes of (i) Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action (Umbrella Scheme) (ii) Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP)

| Sl. No. | Name of States/UT | Umbrella Scheme Expenditure (in lakhs) | | | | ADIP Scheme Expenditure (in lakhs) | | | |
|---------|-------------------|---|---------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | | No. of NGOs | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | No. of NGOs | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 91 | 663.31 | 1208.35 | 1283.57 | 14 | 201.82 | 134.25 | 211.09 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 3.71 | 13.00 | 6.32 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 8 | 15.37 | 28.35 | 40.11 | 0 | 1.32 | 4.47 | 0.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 8 | 65.81 | 60.31 | 162.47 | 6 | 58.22 | 31.76 | 22.16 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 2 | 1.03 | 1.42 | 6.57 | 0 | 22.19 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6. | Chhattisgarh | 1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 9.08 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7. | Delhi | 34 | 588.39 | 679.04 | 649.54 | 8 | 377.50 | 376.17 | 117.65 |
| 8. | Goa | 2 | 9.47 | 17.68 | 12.64 | 1 | 0.35 | 0.98 | 1.04 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|------------------|-----|---------|---------|---------|-----|---------|---------|---------|
| 9. | Gujarat | 25 | 36.89 | 75.36 | 114.52 | 6 | 76.59 | 101.25 | 119.37 |
| 10. | Haryana | 15 | 36.67 | 59.51 | 95.44 | 11 | 138.51 | 19.04 | 121.37 |
| 11. | Himachal Pradesh | 2 | 37.46 | 32.42 | 15.85 | 6 | 10.00 | 19.80 | 98.29 |
| 12. | Jammu & Kashmir | 3 | 1.78 | 7.24 | 12.23 | 0 | 12.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 57 | 261.93 | 571.99 | 640.58 | 1 | 34.33 | 28.51 | 5.00 |
| 14. | Kerala | 55 | 833.44 | 442.04 | 483.72 | 2 | 65.44 | 28.00 | 19.00 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 10 | 10.52 | 17.43 | 39.32 | 10 | 142.14 | 110.87 | 76.30 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 18 | 192.20 | 263.72 | 197.99 | 9 | 56.26 | 149.85 | 159.98 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 4 | 14.62 | 17.41 | 46.38 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 3 | 6.57 | 25.31 | 29.52 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.83 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 20. | Orissa | 24 | 93.73 | 193.96 | 252.26 | 6 | 272.04 | 135.61 | 120.87 |
| 21. | Pondicherry | 1 | 0.63 | 1.44 | 6.59 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Punjab | 11 | 46.17 | 64.94 | 91.39 | 7 | 146.67 | 55.19 | 96.98 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 11 | 55.49 | 88.13 | 93.99 | 2 | 266.27 | 348.78 | 360.00 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 37 | 153.66 | 325.69 | 396.07 | 12 | 46.51 | 86.01 | 61.27 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 57 | 501.87 | 772.39 | 873.19 | 30 | 353.44 | 1015.30 | 1052.94 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 5 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 95.85 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 42 | 233.86 | 365.53 | 492.52 | 11 | 79.74 | 169.48 | 256.21 |
| 28. | Tripura | 1 | 1.83 | 6.83 | 6.02 | 1 | 2.90 | 1.45 | 0.72 |
| 29. | Manipur | 5 | 29.54 | 57.06 | 56.63 | 4 | 34.28 | 25.00 | 10.50 |
| Total | | 534 | 3895.95 | 5396.55 | 6213.19 | 147 | 2398.52 | 2841.77 | 2910.74 |

New Branches of Bank

1290. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of new branches of various commercial banks opened during the last three years;

(b) the location of each of these new branches;

(c) whether any public sector bank is proposed to set up new branch in Orissa during 2002-2003 financial year; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals pending with the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) State-wise number of branches opened during 1st April 1998 to 31st March 2001 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Listing out the location-wise details of each new branches opened during the last three years entails tabulation of voluminous information and hence not feasible to accommodate in reply to the question.

(c) and (d) The following public sector banks have been authorized to open branches in Orissa.

| Sl. No. | Name of the bank | Centre | District |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | Indian Overseas Bank | Talcher | Angul |
| 2. | Corporation Bank | Paradeep | Cuttack |
| 3. | Central Bank of India | Sambalpur | Sambalpur |
| 4. | Oriental Bank of Commerce | Berhampur | Ganjam |
| 5. | Oriental Bank of Commerce | Balasore | Balasore |
| 6. | State Bank of Saurashtra | Bhubaneswar | Bhubaneswar |

The dates of opening of these branches will depend upon the completion of infrastructure etc. In addition to the above, Reserve Bank of India have received a request from Allahabad Bank for opening a branch at Baragarh, Bhubaneswar. RBI consider such proposals on the basis of bank's latest financial position.

Statement

Branches of Commercial Banks Opened During 1.4.1998 to 31.3.2001

| Name of the State | No. of branches opened during 1.4.98 to 31.3.01 |
|----------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 230 |
| Assam | 13 |
| Bihar | 19 |
| Chandigarh | 19 |
| Chhattisgarh | 22 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 1 |
| Daman & Diu | 2 |
| Delhi | 152 |
| Goa | 25 |
| Gujarat | 149 |
| Haryana | 72 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 9 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 23 |

| 1 | 2 |
|----------------|------|
| Jharkhand | 25 |
| Karnataka | 228 |
| Kerala | 151 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 89 |
| Maharashtra | 246 |
| Orissa | 53 |
| Pondicherry | 9 |
| Punjab | 105 |
| Rajasthan | 89 |
| Sikkim | 5 |
| Tamil Nadu | 177 |
| Tripura | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 187 |
| Uttaranchal | 18 |
| West Bengal | 93 |
| Total | 2212 |

Desert Triangle Scheme

1291. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Tourism forwarded duly recommended proposal "Desert Triangle" Scheme for Kutch district for a loan assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan;

(b) whether the proposal could not be included in the list submitted to the Government of Japan for OECF loan package during 1997-1998;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the same was included thereafter; and

(e) if so, the loan sanctioned so far and the progress of work done so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) The Department of Tourism, Ministry of Tourism and Culture has not forward to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, the proposal on "Desert Triangle" Scheme of Kutch District for JBIC funding. However, a project proposal on "Development of Tourism

Infrastructure in Desert Triangle in Rajasthan" was received in the past and was posed for 1995-1996 loan package which was not considered by the Government of Japan for OECF assistance.

[*Translation*]

Growth Rate

1292. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which growth rate of the country was maximum and the rate thereof;

(b) the name of the State with maximum growth rate in the country;

(c) the economic growth rate in State;

(d) whether the economic growth rate of the country/ States has again slowed down;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The country achieved a maximum growth rate of 10.5 per cent in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (1993-1994) prices, during the financial year 1988-1989.

(b) to (d) The State of Rajasthan achieved the highest growth rate of 35.9 per cent in terms of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at constant (1993-1994) prices, during the period 1981-1982 to 2000-2001, in the year 1988-1989. The GDP growth rate of the country during 2001-2002 has been estimated in real terms at 5.4 per cent compared with 4.0 per cent in 2000-2001.

(e) and (f) The various economic reforms undertaken along with the budget strategy outlined in the Budget 2002-2003 is likely to have a favourable impact on growth. The budget for 2002-2003 has announced a number of initiatives with emphasis on joint efforts of Centre and the States to put in place programmes and policies which will remove barriers to growth, accelerated the development process and improve the quality of life of people. In particular reform linked assistance to States is being provided for a number of sectors through Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme, (APDRP), Urban Reform Incentive Fund (URIF), Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for which a total

provision of Rs. 12,300 crore has been made during 2002-2003. In addition, a lump-sum amount of Rs. 2500 crore has been provided for policy reforms in sectors which are constraining growth and development.

[*English*]

Use of Jute Batching Oil' Jute Packaging Act

1293. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Commissioner of India has requested the I.G. Police of West Bengal for enforcement of Government's Notification dated 01.09.2001 and 28.08.2001, on Jute Bags both domestic and imported;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Jute Commissioner of India has implemented Ministry of Environment Notification No. GSR 457 dated 04.10.1996 recommending to restrict use of jute batching oil to three percent as late as 28.08.2001 vide Notification No. 828;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the action taken by the Government against the concerned officials and jute mill owners who delayed the implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Jute Commissioner requested the Additional Director General and Inspector General of Police, (Enforcement Branch), West Bengal for enforcement of Jute Commissioner's Orders dated 28.8.2001 and 01.10.2001 regarding, the use of Jute Batching Oil and printing of name of country of origin respectively. The Inspector General of Police has asked for specific complaints of violations of Jute Commissioner's Orders. As no specific complaint was received by the Jute Commissioner, no further action was taken.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment & Forests notified the criteria for labelling of textile products as environment friendly vide Government notification dated 04.10.1996, which included jute and jute products also. The notification applicable for all jute products for eco-labelling from the date of its notification.

Another notification dated 28.08.2001 was issued by the Jute Commissioner, with the approval of the Government, making it mandatory restricting the use of Jute Batching to 3%. While the notification dated 04.10.1996 provided an opting to jute mills for option for eco-friendly labelling of their products, the notification

dated 28.08.2001 made it mandatory for all the jute mills to restrict the use of Jute Batching Oil to 3% in jute products.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Theft of Foodgrains from Godowns

1294. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the theft of foodgrains from the godowns of the Food Corporation of India and are also exchanging the good quality of foodgrains for sub-standard foodgrains in collusion with the officers during the last three years and till date;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have initiated remedial measures in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the erring officials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The cases of theft of foodgrains from the godowns of Food Corporation of India during last three years are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The following remedial measures have been taken to prevent theft of foodgrains in FCI godowns:-

- (i) Physical measures like installation of barbed wires fencing of the boundary walls, provision of light for illumination of godowns and proper locking of the sheds to secure the godowns.
- (ii) Deployment of security staff of FCI as well as Home Guards for safety of the foodgrains stocks.
- (iii) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force and State Armed Police at vulnerable godowns.
- (iv) Periodic security inspections as well as surprise checks of the depots at various levels to detect and plug the theft/security lapses.
- (v) In case of occurrence of theft lodging of FIRs with the local police stations for investigation of the cases.

(e) Departmental action including recovery of losses is taken against the FCI officials who are found responsible for such occurrences of thefts.

Statement

| S. No. | Name of the State | Commodity | Stock Stolen | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|
| | | | Bags | Kattas |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Year 1998-1999

| | | | | |
|-------|---------------|-------|-----|-----|
| 1. | Punjab | Wheat | 410 | 175 |
| 2. | Uttar Pradesh | Wheat | 50 | — |
| 3. | Rajasthan | Wheat | 77 | 394 |
| 4. | Kolkata | Wheat | 66 | — |
| | | Rice | 152 | — |
| 5. | Maharashtra | Wheat | 6 | — |
| | | Rice | 15 | — |
| 6. | Guwahati | Rice | - | 39 |
| 7. | Chennai | Rice | 39 | — |
| Total | | | 815 | 608 |

Year 1999-2000

| | | | | |
|-------|----------------|-------|------|------|
| 1. | Punjab | Wheat | 2 | 82 |
| | | Rice | 42 | 167 |
| | | Paddy | 404 | — |
| 2. | Rajasthan | Wheat | — | 892 |
| 3. | Guwahati | Wheat | — | 11 |
| | | Rice | 115 | — |
| 4. | Maharashtra | Wheat | 122 | — |
| | | Rice | 56 | — |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | Wheat | 162 | 134 |
| 6. | Chennai | Wheat | — | 30 |
| 7. | Raipur | Wheat | 29 | — |
| 8. | Kolkata | Wheat | 62 | — |
| | | Rice | 150 | — |
| Total | | | 1144 | 1316 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------------------|-------|------|------|---|
| <i>Year 2000-2001</i> | | | | |
| 1. Punjab | Wheat | 129 | 1156 | |
| | Rice | — | 535 | |
| | Paddy | 586 | 437 | |
| 2. Rajasthan | Wheat | — | 19 | |
| 3. Delhi | Wheat | — | 249 | |
| 4. Haryana | Wheat | — | 367 | |
| 5. Madhya Pradesh | Wheat | — | 447 | |
| | Rice | 2 | — | |
| 6. Gujarat | Wheat | 16 | 57 | |
| 7. Chennai | Wheat | 121 | 48 | |
| 8. Andhra Pradesh | Wheat | 5 | — | |
| 9. Kolkata | Wheat | 76 | 59 | |
| 10. Maharashtra | Rice | 196 | — | |
| 11. Trivandrum | Rice | 55 | — | |
| Total | | 1186 | 3374 | |

Year April, 2001 to December, 2001

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----|------|--|
| 1. Punjab | Wheat | 10 | 516 | |
| | Rice | 34 | — | |
| 2. Rajasthan | Wheat | — | 46 | |
| 3. Haryana | Wheat | — | 379 | |
| 4. Madhya Pradesh | Wheat | 2 | 398 | |
| | Rice | 1 | — | |
| 5. Maharashtra | Wheat | 130 | 36 | |
| | Rice | 233 | — | |
| 6. Raipur | Wheat | 11 | 255 | |
| 7. Chennai | Wheat | 26 | — | |
| 8. Kolkata | Rice | 6 | 83 | |
| 9. Ahmedabad | Wheat | — | 363 | |
| 10. Delhi | Wheat | — | 74 | |
| Total | | 453 | 2150 | |

Supply of Cotton Yarn to the Weavers on Concessional Rates

1295. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide cotton yarn to handloom weavers in the country at concessional rates through State Handloom Development Corporation;

(b) if so, whether any other arrangement has been made for providing cotton yarn to handloom weavers;

(c) whether any complaints have been received about selling cotton yarn at concessional rates to powerloom sector instead of the handloom sector;

(d) if so, the number of complaints received during last three years; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for ensuring that only handloom weavers get the benefit of concessional cotton yarn?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has been implementing a scheme for supply of Yarn including cotton yarn at Mill Gate Price to the handloom weavers/weavers' organizations at the price at which it is available at the Mill Gate.

(c) and (d) Under the scheme, the yarn is being supplied to handloom weavers' organizations/handloom weavers. However, there were 2 complaints about misuse of this yarn from Solapur in Maharashtra and Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh. The complaint about the misuse in Solapur was about some specific co-operative societies, and therefore, instructions were issued not to supply yarn to those societies. The complaint regarding Moradabad was not specifically about any particular organization. The yarn supply to societies at Moradabad had been made as per the recommendations of the State Government. Therefore, the State Government was requested to take suitable corrective measures to ensure that the yarn purchased under the scheme reached genuine handloom weavers only.

(e) The objective of the scheme is to supply yarn to genuine handloom weavers/weavers' organizations only. Prompt corrective action is taken if any misuse of this scheme is alleged.

[English]

NAV of US-64

1296. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India, fixed Net Asset Value (NAV) of its US-64 scheme of Rs. 5.94 per unit of the face value of Rs. 10.00;

(b) if so, the manner in which such a low NAV has been arrived at;

(c) its overall impact on the investors; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The US-64 Scheme of the Unit Trust of India (UTI) has become Net Asset Value (NAV) based with effect from January 01, 2002. The NAV per unit of US-64 as on 01-01-2002 was Rs. 6.09 per unit.

(b) The NAV of units of mutual fund schemes are determined on the basis of income and market valuation of assets after providing for the liabilities and expenses on a particular day. A below par NAV indicates that the value of assets of the scheme has depreciated below its cost of acquisition. The NAV changes in accordance with the changes in the value of the underlying assets.

(c) and (d) UTI has recorded Rs. 52.25 crore worth of sales and Rs. 12.87 crore worth of repurchases at NAV related prices up to January 31, 2002. UTI, with financial support from Government of India, has declared a special repurchase package enabling existing investors to redeem up to 5000 units per unit holder at pre-determined, progressively increasing prices upto May, 2003. This package covers 99% unitholding accounts of US-64. Further, UTI has also offered to repurchase units at an assured price of Rs. 10/- for units not covered under the special package on 31st May, 2003.

[Translation]

Assistance through NABARD

1297. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by NABARD and the public sector financial institutions to each State during the last three years;

(b) the criteria for providing such assistance;

(c) whether the said amount provided to Maharashtra is too meager as compared to the financial assistance provided to other States; and

(d) if so, the reasons and the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pending Cases in Consumer Courts

1298. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

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

(a) the State-wise number of pending cases with the State Consumer Grievance Redressal Commission and the time since when they are pending; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken for speedy disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The State-wise number of cases pending with the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions is given in the enclosed statement. Information regarding the time since when cases are pending is not maintained.

(b) The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2001 has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 26th April, 2001. The amendment proposals include provisions that will facilitate the quicker disposal of cases.

Statement

Cases Pending With the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions

| State/UT | Cases pending | As on |
|-------------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2337 | 31.12.2001 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 5 | 31.12.2001 |
| Assam | 676 | 30.9.2000 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------------|-------|------------|
| Bihar | 4722 | 31.12.2001 |
| Goa | 199 | 31.12.2001 |
| Gujarat | 3884 | 31.12.2001 |
| Haryana | 3970 | 31.12.2001 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 1743 | 31.12.2001 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 622 | 31.3.1999 |
| Karnataka | 2334 | 31.12.2001 |
| Kerala | 1994 | 31.12.2001 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 2990 | 31.12.2001 |
| Maharashtra | 10173 | 31.12.2001 |
| Manipur | 21 | 31.5.2000 |
| Meghalaya | 24 | 30.9.2000 |
| Mizoram | 45 | 31.12.2001 |
| Nagaland | 25 | 31.3.2000 |
| Orissa | 4518 | 31.12.2001 |
| Punjab | 2570 | 31.12.2001 |
| Rajasthan | 12236 | 31.12.2001 |
| Sikkim | 2 | 31.12.2001 |
| Tamil Nadu | 3418 | 31.12.2001 |
| Tripura | 329 | 31.12.2001 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 24902 | 31.12.2001 |
| West Bengal | 2302 | 31.12.2001 |
| A & N Islands | 7 | 31.12.2001 |
| Chandigarh Admn. | 318 | 31.12.2001 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0 | |
| Daman & Diu | 5 | 30.9.2000 |
| Delhi | 4948 | 31.12.2001 |
| Lakshadweep | 0 | 31.12.2001 |
| Pondicherry | 39 | 31.12.2001 |

*[English]***Demutualisation of Stock Exchange**

1299. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the process of demutualisation of various stock exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representation from various Stock Broker Associations, Investors Associations and MPs in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government with the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Consequent to the announcement made by the Government to improve institutional mechanisms and trading practices in the stock markets which, inter-alia, included demutualisation of all stock exchanges, there have been consultations among Government Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and stock exchanges on implementation of this proposal. Government has also received representations/letters in this regard.

The issue of demutualisation was discussed in the SEBI Board meeting held on December 28, 2001 and it was, inter-alia, decided that no broker member shall be an office bearer of an exchange. Following this, SEBI issued an order January 10, 2002 under Section 8 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, directing all stock exchanges to suitably amend its Rules/Regulations etc. within a period of two month to give effect to SEBI's decision.

Action has been initiated to work out the other complex administrative and legal modalities for demutualisation of stock exchanges.

Export of Orange

1300. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total value and quantity of oranges exported from India during the last three years;

(b) the countries to which oranges were exported; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to increase the export of orange?

Quantity (in M. Tons)

Value (In Rupees Lakhs)

| 1998-1999 | | 1999-2000 | | 2000-2001 | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value |
| 10,407 | 1,022.87 | 24,019 | 2,375.47 | 26,822 | 2,737.34 |

Source: Export Statistics for Agro & Food Products, APEDA, New Delhi.

(b) Some of the major countries to which oranges are exported are Bangladesh, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE and USA.

(c) The Government has been encouraging exports of fruits including oranges through various schemes, such as arranging buyer-seller meets; participation in important international fairs and exhibitions; setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various international Airports; providing assistance for specialized transport vehicle, reefer van, containers, pre cooling units; assistance to set up pre and post harvest management facilities; providing technical advisory services and other support services to, trade and industry, etc.

National Policy on the Aged Persons

1301. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Article 41 of the Constitution enjoins upon the State to secure the rights of the aged persons to public assistance and make provisions of their well-being;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated the National Policy on aged persons;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress so far made to implement the provisions of the National Policy on aged persons?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, a National Policy on Older Persons has been formulated in January 1999.

(c) and (d) The Policy, *inter-alia*, visualises support for financial security, health care, shelter, welfare and other needs of older persons, protection against

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The total value and quantity of oranges exported from India during the last three years are as follows:

exploitation, provision of opportunities for development of potential and provision of services to improve the quality of their lives and their meaningful participation in the community and need for affirmative action in favour of elderly. Financial assistance has been provided by the Ministry to 609 NGOs to set up 391 Old Age Homes, 469 Day Care Centres, 83 Mobile Medicare Units and 2 Non Institutional Service Centres in the country. Under Annapurna Scheme, 10 kg of food grain is distributed to each destitute elderly every month. All States/UTs have been advised to provide for separate queues for elderly persons in hospitals. Priority is given for telephone connections and to grievance redressal to Senior Citizens above 65 year. Senior Citizens are allowed concessional fares for rail and air travel. Some public sector banks are also allowing higher interest on deposits by the elderly. National Institute of Social Defence conducts three months course for NGO personnel engaged in geriatric care.

Changes in FEMA, 1999

1302. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make changes in the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999;

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

(c) whether the violations of FEMA, 1999 by leading industries and business houses have come to the notice of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the changes in the FEMA are going to check violations of leading industries and business houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Certain proposals for taking effective measures against financing of terrorism are under consideration of Government.

(c) to (e) While no violation of FEMA, 1999 by "leading industries and business houses" has come to the notice of the Government, violations, whenever noticed are to be dealt with in accordance with the existing provisions of FEMA.

Trade Ties with Israel

1303. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel have planned to commemorate 10 years of bilateral trade and mutual cooperation with a series of interactive trade delegations, exhibitions and high level meetings over the next few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether so far, US and Europe enjoyed a lion's share of 70 percent in Israel's trade basket, with free trade agreements and most favoured nation status accorded by Israel;

(d) whether during the first nine months of 2001, there is a decline in trade between India and Israel comprising to that of corresponding period last year;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any agreements have been signed to boost the bilateral trade; and

(g) the extent to which the trade between the two countries will be improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of events involving exchange of high level visits, trade delegations and seminars have been planned to commemorate 10 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Israel. Some events that have already taken place include the visit of Mr. Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister of Israel to India to attend the annual conference of the Confederation of the Indian Industries on 10th Jan.' 02 in Bangalore; visit of Shri Pramod Mahajan, Minister of Information Technology, Communication and Parliamentary Affairs to Israel from 21-23 Jan.'02 and a seminar

organised by the Indian Embassy in Israel entitled Business and Banking with India, in cooperation with the Israel-Asia Chamber of Commerce on 22nd January, 2002.

(c) As per the information available with the Government, the USA and the European Union account for over 70% of Israel's global trade.

(d) and (e) According to the Central Bureau of Statistics of Israel, India-Israel Trade declined by 20.6% in the first nine months of 2001 from US\$ 850.30 million in Jan-Sept. 2000 to US\$ 675.40 million in the same period in 2001. This was mainly due to the sluggish economic conditions in Israel.

(f) and (g) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation in Information Technology and Electronics was signed between the two countries in January 2002. Recent bilateral commercial agreements signed include MOU between the National Association of Software and Service of India and the Israeli Association of Software Houses, Cooperation Agreement between India Trade Promotion Organisation and Federation of Israeli Chamber of Commerce and Information Technology Bridge Agreement between Indian Chambers of Commerce and Federation of Israeli Chamber of Commerce. These steps and other measures taken to boost bilateral trade are expected to facilitate improvement in bilateral trade.

Urban Co-operative Banks

1304. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has recently reviewed the working of Urban cooperative banks in the various States with a view to monitor and regulate their functioning and as to promote the interest of customers/investors;

(b) if so, the details of the review recently carried out, State-wise;

(c) the details regarding growth of Urban Cooperative Banks in recent years and how does it compare with the growth rates during the last three years; and

(d) the fresh policy initiatives taken/proposed to monitor and regulate the functioning of Urban Cooperative Banks and other financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) monitors the performance of Urban Cooperative Banks by (i) Statutory Inspections, (ii) various statistical returns, and (iii) information through market intelligence on an ongoing basis. For banks

showing incipient sign of financial problems, there is an ongoing system of identification of weakness through on-site inspection, off-site monitoring through periodical statutory returns and visit to problem banks. Further, the financial position of weak banks is closely monitored through quarterly reports and reviewing the progress in revival of such banks by a State Level Rehabilitation Review Committee.

(c) The details of the growth of urban co-operative banks during the last three years are given below:

*Variations in Major Aggregates of Urban
Co-operative Banks*

(Per cent)

| Item | Financial Year | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 1998- 1999 | 1999- 2000 | 2000- 2001* |
| Owned Funds | 22.3 | 27.2 | 23.2 |
| Deposits | 29.5 | 35.1 | 27.6 |
| Borrowings | 17.5 | 41.7 | 8.9 |
| Loans Outstanding | 23.0 | 34.4 | 26.2 |
| C.D. Ratio@ | 65.0 | 64.6 | 64.6 |

*December 2000 over December 1999.

@As at the end of period.

(d) With a view to strengthen and streamline the operations/functioning of urban co-operative banks, RBI has taken certain measures which include, *inter-alia*, prohibition of keeping deposits with other urban co-operative banks; restricting borrowings from call money market to 2% of its deposits at the end of the previous financial year; increasing the component of investment in Government securities for Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) purposes; prohibition for lending directly or indirectly against security of shares either to individuals or any other entity; introduction of off-site surveillance system for scheduled urban co-operative banks, etc.

Consumer Courts

1305. DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is fear complex in the mind of general public to go to consumer courts;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to convince the public about their rights and responsibilities;

(c) the number of consumer courts functioning in the country;

(d) whether it is proposed to have consumer court in each large urban settlement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. Over 18 lakh complaints have already been filed in the consumer forums.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on date, one National Commission, 33 State Commissions and 570 District Forums are functioning in the country.

(d) and (e) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides that at least one District Forum shall be established by the State Government in each district of the State.

Amendment in Income Tax Act, 1961

1306. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have realised the need for re-writing the Income Tax Act, 1961; and

(b) if so, the changes are contemplated and the time by which the new Act is likely to be brought out?

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

(b) Rationalisation and simplification of the Direct Tax law is an ongoing process, and amendments to the Income-tax Act as are considered necessary in this regard are brought in every year through the annual budget. The changes that are contemplated this year have been reflected in the Finance Bill, 2002.

*[Translation]***Grants to Boost Export**

1307. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:

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

(a) whether the Government have provided an assistance of Rs. 97 crore to the States for promotion of exports;

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

(c) whether it has produced any results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The details of the grants released to States during 2001-2002 are as under:

| | | | | (Rs. in lakhs) |
|-------------|--|--|--|----------------|
| Sr. No. | Name of the States/ Union Territory | Amount Released under Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme | Amount Released under Export Promotion Industrial Park Scheme | Total |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 142.35 | 100.00 | 242.35 |
| 2. | Assam | 300.00 | | 300.00 |
| 3. | Bihar | | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 4. | Haryana | 12.20 | | 12.20 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 165.00 | | 165.00 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 110.13 | | 110.13 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 274.08 | 200.00 | 474.08 |
| 8. | Kerala | 507.46 | | 507.46 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 115.41 | | 115.41 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 221.18 | | 221.18 |
| 11. | Nagaland | | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 12. | Pondicherry | 150.00 | | 150.00 |
| 13. | Punjab | 100.00 | 234.00 | 334.00 |
| 14. | Rajasthan | | 70.00 | 70.00 |
| 15. | Tamilnadu | 96.17 | | 96.17 |
| 16. | Tripura | 185.23 | 300.00 | 485.23 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 431.61 | 435.00 | 866.61 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 264.16 | 61.00 | 325.16 |
| Grand Total | | 3074.98 | 2200.00 | 5274.98 |

(c) and (d) It is not possible to quantify its impact on exports.

Schemes for Development of Handloom

1308. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the centrally sponsored schemes operating in the country for the development and promotion of the handloom industry in the country at present alongwith the details of provisions made therein;

(b) the results achieved under these schemes in Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(c) the problems of the handloom weavers and the details of the action taken during the current financial year; and

(d) the cooperative societies for the handloom weavers and the average production made by them State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The Government of India has been implementing various Centrally sponsored and Central Sector Schemes for the development and promotion of handloom industry and for the welfare of Handloom weavers in the country. The details of the Centrally sponsored schemes implemented for the development and promotion of Handloom industry are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) The Government of India has been implementing the aforesaid schemes for the overall development of the handloom industry. These schemes have been running uninterruptedly since their inception. State-wise information on the funds released under these schemes alongwith the number of projects/units sanctioned during the IX Plan period is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(c) The handloom weavers require adequate hank yarn in the required counts at reasonable prices and also credit and marketing facilities. In order to make available hank yarn in adequate quantities, the Government of India has been enforcing the Hank Yarn Obligation Order under which the mills are obliged to pack yarn of the prescribed percentage quantity and counts in hank form for use in the Handloom sector. In order to make available the hank yarn at reasonable prices, the Government of India has been implementing a scheme called Mill Gate Price Scheme through the National Handloom Development Corporation, under which

yarn is supplied to weavers/weaver's societies at the price at which it is available at the Mill Gate. As regards credit, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been extending refinance facilities to the handloom co-operatives and corporations through co-operative and commercial banks at concessional rates of interest for carrying out their production, procurement and marketing activities. For publicity, marketing and infrastructural support as well as for the welfare of handloom weavers, the Government of India has been implementing Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme apart from Welfare Schemes like Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Health Package Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme and Insurance Scheme. Further, an integrated and comprehensive scheme called Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana is also implemented by the Government of India under which assistance is provided for product development, infrastructural support, institutional support and marketing support. These schemes have been continued during the current financial year also for the overall development and promotion of the handloom sector and its weavers.

(d) This information is not maintained and therefore, is not available.

Statement-I

Details of the Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by the Government of India during the IX Plan period for development and promotion of handloom industry

(i) Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana

With a view to improving the infrastructure facility for product diversification and quality upgradation as well as supporting the efforts of marketing, design, consultancy etc., a comprehensive scheme called Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana has been introduced by the Government of India w.e.f. 1.4.2000. The scheme envisages product development, infrastructural support, institutional support, training to the weavers, supply of equipments and marketing support etc. both at macro and micro level in an integrated and co-ordinated manner for an overall development of the handloom sector.

(ii) Development of Exportable Products and Their Marketing Scheme

This Scheme aims at giving substantial impetus to the export of handloom fabrics, made-ups and other handloom items from the country. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for infrastructure development including engagement of designers for development of designs to suit the international market thereby enhancing the export of handloom apparels from the country.

(iii) Workshed-Cum-Housing Scheme

This Scheme is aimed at providing dwelling units and suitable work place for weavers so as to improve their productivity, quality of life and earnings.

The assistance under the Scheme is Rs. 7000/- for a Rural Workshed, Rs. 10,000/- for an Urban Workshed, Rs. 18,000/- for a Rural Workshed-cum-House and Rs. 20,000/- for an Urban-Workshed-cum-House.

Statement-II

State-wise Number of Projects/units Sanctioned and Amount Released under the Centrally sponsored Handloom Development Schemes During IX Five Year Plan

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl. No. | State | Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana | | Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme | | Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme | |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|---|--------|-----------------------------|---------|
| | | No. of projects | Amount | No. of projects | Amount | No. of units | Amount |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 56 | 469.16 | 6 | 39.72 | 7980 | 1140.67 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 22 | 122.27 | 0 | 0 | 2569 | 449.12 |
| 3. | Assam | 45 | 424.10 | 2 | 44.25 | 2799 | 137.56 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6.50 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 1 | 13.58 | 1 | 4.25 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Delhi | 0 | 0 | 2 | 30.75 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 1 | 337.50 | 1 | 12.50 | 2500 | 230.00 |
| 8. | Haryana | 0 | 0 | 3 | 24.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 11 | 15.63 | 13 | 184.22 | 655 | 45.86 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 6 | 44.54 | 2 | 11.39 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 0 | 166.32 | 1 | 4.10 | 1965 | 340.34 |
| 12. | Kerala | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19.90 | 1000 | 180.00 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 4 | 35.99 | 4 | 51.50 | 1000 | 200.00 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3078 | 211.80 |
| 15. | Manipur | 74 | 143.51 | 0 | 0 | 6196 | 382.25 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 1 | 6.00 | 0 | 0 | 476 | 36.82 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 0 | 0 | 1 | 7.48 | 570 | 23.85 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 10 | 33.10 | 5 | 30.25 | 6811 | 683.21 |
| 19. | Orissa | 0 | 0 | 1 | 7.50 | 6553 | 403.90 |
| 20. | Punjab | 0 | 0 | 4 | 46.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3530 | 239.35 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|---------------|-----|---------|----|--------|------|--------|
| 22. | Sikkim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1000 | 100.00 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | *0 | 1924.02 | 5 | 53.13 | 6932 | 854.29 |
| 24. | Tripura | 16 | 33.14 | 1 | 5.00 | 330 | 28.10 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 172 | 537.86 | 12 | 164.53 | 200 | 20.00 |
| 26. | West Bengal | 12 | 28.15 | 10 | 98.30 | 6146 | 454.70 |

*Amount has been released under the component of Marketing Incentive.

**Amount has been released towards second instalment in respect of the projects sanctioned earlier.

[English]

National Commission for SCs/STs

1309. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the National Commission for Backward classes, SC/ST, Minorities, Safai Workers etc. working under his ministry;

(b) the composition of each commission with dates of their notification, tenure alongwith the brief work done during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to improve their functioning and make them more effective; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The following Commission are working under the aegis of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment:

- (i) National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
- (ii) National Commission for Safai Karamcharis
- (iii) National Commission for Backward Classes
- (iv) National Commission for Minorities.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) These Commissions are equipped with proper infrastructural facilities to function smoothly. Further, the role of Commissions are to advise the Government for empowerment of the Scheduled Castes, Safai Karamcharis, Backward Classes and Minorities. The

Government is committed to earnestly consider the advice/ recommendations of the Commission.

Statement

National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Present Composition

| S. No. | Name and Designation | Date of Joining | Tenure |
|--------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. | Smt. Veena Nayyar, Member | 3.6.1999 | Three years |
| 2. | Shri C. Chellappan, Member | 3.7.2000 | -do- |

The National Commission for SCs and STs have Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and 5 Members. The tenure of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and three Members has expired. However appointment of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and three Members is under process and will be finalized shortly.

Date of Notification 27.1.1999, 2.7.1999 and 3.7.2000

Work Done:

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been set up under Article 338 of the Constitution as a high level independent Constitutional body to monitor the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also review various issues concerning their welfare. The Commission visited many States and UTs and several districts to evaluate the implementation of development programmes for SCs and STs. The Commission held a National Workshop in August 2001 of Collectors of selected Districts,

Secretaries/Commissioners of some of the important States for improving the effectiveness of strategies for the overall development of SCs and STs. The Commission presented its 6th Report to the President of India on 16.11.2001 covering the working of the Commission during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.

National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

Present Composition

| S. No. | Name and Designation | Date of Joining | Tenure |
|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. | Smt. Anita Arya, Chairperson | 22.2.2001 | Three years |
| 2. | Smt. Manju Chandra, Vice Chairperson | 16.2.2001 | -do- |
| 3. | Shri Girija Shankar Prasad, Member | 19.2.2001 | -do- |
| 4. | Shri Subhas Dawre, Member | 19.2.2001 | -do- |
| 5. | Shri Ganga Ram Teja, Member | 16.2.2001 | -do- |
| 6. | Shri Chinta Sambha Murthy, Member | 26.2.2001 | -do- |
| 7. | Shri Ram Prasad Balmiki, Member | 16.2.2001 | -do- |

Date of Notification 10.4.2001

Work Done:

The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis was constituted to promote and safeguard the interests and rights of Safai Karamcharis. So far the Commission has given four reports all these reports have been laid on the both Houses of Parliament along with memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken. The present Commission has held 3 quarterly meetings with concerned Central Ministries and discussed various issues concerning the safai Karamcharis. Consultation also held with various other agencies concerned i.e. HUDCO, NSKFDC and others to review the progress of various programmes and schemes meant for the target group.

National Commission for Backward Classes

Present Composition

| S. No. | Name and Designation | Date of Joining | Tenure |
|--------|--|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. | Justice Banwari Lal Yadav, Chairperson | 21.8.2000 | Three years |
| 2. | Shri C.T. Benjamin, Member-Secretary | 1.8.2000 | -do- |
| 3. | Shri Mohinder Singh Matharoo, Member | 14.7.1999 | -do- |
| 4. | Smt. Neera Shastri, Member | 3.8.2000 | -do- |
| 5. | Dr. Bhuvan Mohan Das, Member | 28.8.2000 | -do- |

Date of Notification 8.7.99 and 28.7.2000

Work Done:

The National Commission for Backward Classes examines the request for inclusion of any class of citizens as backward class in the Central list of OBCs and hears complaints of over inclusion and under inclusion of any backward class in the list and tenders advice to Central Government, as it deems appropriate. During the last two year, the 152 advices for rejection and 102 advices for inclusion of castes/communities in the Central lists of OBCs to the Government of India. This work has been performed by NCBC satisfactory and successfully.

National Commission for Minorities

Present Composition

| S. No. | Name and Designation | Date of Joining | Tenure |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Justice Mohammed Shamim, Chairman | 24.1.2000 | Three years |
| 2. | Shri Tarlochan Singh, Vice Chairman | 24.1.2000 | -do- |
| 3. | Lt. Gen. (Retd) A.M. Sethna, Member | 24.1.2000 | -do- |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 4. | Shri T.K. Lochen Tulku, Member | 24.1.2000 | three years |
| 5. | Shri John Joseph, Member | 24.1.2000 | -do- |
| 6. | Shri Shamim Kazim, Member | 31.1.2000 | -do- |
| 7. | Mr. Vijay Kumar Das, Member | 24.1.2000 | -do- |

Date of Notification 21.1.2000

Work Done:

The National Commission for Minorities initiated follow up on the decision taken in its meeting. The Commission used its statutory powers of a civil court for hearing the petition sent to the Commission. Chairman and Members continued to visit States to review of minorities problems besides taking stock of the overall implementation of the 15 Point Programme. The Commission is also examining the complaints received on various aspects of communal discrimination, harassment and atrocities.

Non-Banking Finance Companies

1310. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has fine tuned non-banking finance companies rules by aligning them with Indian Company's Act, 1956; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2000 included, inter-alia, the amendments relating to definition of a private company, applicability of Section 58AA of the Companies Act regarding intimation within 60 days to Company Law Board of default, if any, in respect of small depositors, and constitution of Audit Committee by every company having a paid up capital of Rs. 2 crore or above and prescription regarding the composition and methodology of the functioning of the Committee.

RBI has further reported that the above provisions are applicable to NBFCs also. So RBI has issued detailed instructions to NBFCs on 1st January, 2002.

[Translation]

Sugar Industry in Crisis

1311. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

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

(a) whether sugar industry is facing serious crisis due to increase in the rates of sugarcane and the decision of the Union Government decontrol it;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to provide special assistance to help the sugar units to come out of this crisis;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government also propose to provide subsidy on export to sugar exporters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. The sugar industry does not face any crisis due to increase in the Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane by Rs. 2.55 per quintal in 2001-2002 sugar season and decision of the Government to decontrol sugar.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to provide subsidy on exports of sugar. However, the Government has decided to amend Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 for enabling it to defray expenditure from the Sugar Development Fund on internal transport and freight charges on export shipments of sugar to promote export of sugar.

[English]

Patent Applications

1312. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of patent applications received so far;

(b) the number of preliminary examination reports issued so far;

(c) whether the Government's initiative to complement the changes in intellectual property laws with upgradation and modernisation of the administrative framework have begun to show initial results; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) During the period of last five years, that is, 1997-1998 to 2001-2002 (upto January), the Patent Offices received 41,868 patent applications.

(b) The Patent Offices started the practice of issuing preliminary examination reports from October, 2000 and have issued 26,829 reports till January, 2002.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The Patent Offices which have been examining around 2800 applications per year examined 4264 applications in 2000-2001 and 4,257 applications in 2001-2002 (upto January). The average output of Patent Examiners has improved by more than 50%. Modernised Patent Offices which were operationalised in Delhi in July and in Chennai in August, 2001 have also started showing improvements in the examination of patent applications. The Delhi Patent Office is currently examining food, drug and medicine related patent applications filed in March, 2001 and the Chennai Office is examining applications filed in June, 2001.

Sericulture Development Plan Drawn up by Central Silk Board

1313. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of silk in the country during 2001-2002;

(b) out of which, the contribution of Karnataka;

(c) whether the Central Silk Board has drawn up sericulture development plan for the next five years for Karnataka;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the special programmes, if any launched in Karnataka for growing high grade silk of bivoltine variety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The estimated production of raw silk in the country during 2001-2002 is 17980 MT. Contribution of Karnataka is estimated to be 8754 MT.

(c) to (e) The strategy for Sericulture sector for the X Five Year Plan drawn up by the Central Silk Board in consultation with the State Governments including Karnataka, aims to substantially expand bivoltine mulberry silk production and improve production of non-mulberry silk varieties by assisting and supporting quality and productivity of silk, by the adoption of new technologies in rearing & reeling, improved on-farm infrastructure, certified seed supplies and seed supply systems, improved & liberalized marketing system etc. Programmes for Research & Development, transfer of technology and provision of critical inputs to States have been emphasized.

Protection of Handloom Workers

1314. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handloom workers in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the handloom workers are facing difficulties due to downslide of the handloom industry; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the handloom workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) As per the latest available records with the Government of India, there are 65.51 lakh handloom workers in the country. The State-wise detail is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) There is no report about the downslide of the handloom industry.

(c) The Government of India has been implementing a number of schemes for the development of handloom sector and the welfare of handloom weavers throughout the country which include:

1. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana
2. Mill Gate Price Scheme
3. Setting up of Marketing Complexes
4. Publicity and Exhibition Scheme
5. Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing
6. Work-shed-cum-Housing Scheme
7. Health Package Scheme
8. Group Insurance Scheme

9. Thrift Fund Scheme

10. Setting up of Enforcement Machinery

11. National Centre for Textile Design.

Statement

| S. No. | Name of state | No. of Handloom workers |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 490616 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 53473 |
| 3. | Assam | 2322268 |
| 4. | Bihar | 110732 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 28362 |
| 6. | Delhi | 6708 |
| 7. | Goa | 25 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 57936 |
| 9. | Haryana | 22810 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 65099 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 51847 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 56975 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 177562 |
| 14. | Kerala | 63153 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 27744 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 80901 |
| 17. | Manipur | 462087 |
| 18. | Meghalaya ## | — |
| 19. | Mizoram ## | — |
| 20. | Nagaland | 126228 |
| 21. | Orissa | 246782 |
| 22. | Pondicherry | 7369 |
| 23. | Punjab | 13160 |
| 24. | Rajasthan | 71915 |
| 25. | Sikkim | 1228 |
| 26. | Tamil Nadu | 607675 |
| 27. | Tripura | 291761 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|---------------|---------|
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 401362 |
| 29. | Uttaranchal | 19322 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 686254 |
| Total | | 6551354 |

Data not received from Meghalaya & Mizoram.

*[Translation]***Ban of Import of Wool**

1315. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to imported wool, the price of the local wool has gone down causing problems to sheep rearers;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to promote indigenous wool;

(c) if so, the measures to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are also considering to impose ban on import of wool; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The price of indigenous wool has remained steady for the last several months.

(b) and (c) Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Textiles is administering various projects and programmes through the State Government departments and agencies for improving the quality and yield of wool, improving techniques of shearing and the process of grading, etc. in order to facilitate better returns and more remunerative prices to the sheep breeders of the country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Welfare of SCs/STs

1316. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jharkhand Government have submitted any schemes to the Union Government for the welfare of SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Under the strategy of Tribal Sub-Plan and Special Component Plan, Government of Jharkhand is implementing schemes for welfare of Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) respectively, details of which are maintained by the State Government.

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing schemes for supplementing the efforts of State Government for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. List of such schemes are enclosed as statement-I. Assistance under these schemes is released based on the proposal sent by the State Government and utilization of fund released under the scheme earlier.

A statement-II showing the status of the proposals submitted by Government of Jharkhand under these schemes is enclosed.

Statement-I

List of Schemes Implemented for the Development of SCs/STs by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Schemes for SCs

1. Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for SCs
2. Special Educational Development Programme for SCs
3. Post Matric Scholarship
4. PCR and Atrocities
5. Hostel for SC boys & girls
6. National Scheduled Castes Finance Development Corporation
7. State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations
8. National Safai Karamcharis Finance Development Corporation

9. Book Banks
10. Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers
11. Pre-Matric Scholarship
12. Coaching & Allied
13. Supporting Project to All India Nature of SCs (Research & Training)
14. Upgradation of Merit of SCs/STs students
15. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Scheduled Castes/OBCs and Minority Concentrated districts
16. National Overseas Scholarships.

Schemes for STs

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan
2. Grants under first proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution
3. Vocational training in Tribal Areas
4. Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce
5. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups
6. Post Matric Scholarship for ST students
7. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of STs
8. Upgradation of Merit of ST students
9. Educational complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of ST Girls in Tribal Areas
10. Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes
11. Boys Hostels for Scheduled Tribes
12. Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas
13. Grants to Tribal Research Institutes
14. Book Bank Scheme for ST students
15. Coaching and Allied Scheme for STs
16. Village Grain Bank Scheme
17. State Tribal Development Finance Corporation
18. National Overseas Scholarship scheme for STs.

Statement-II

Status of proposals submitted by Govt. of Jharkhand to Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs during 2001-2002

| S. No. | Name of the Scheme | Status of proposal |
|--------|---|--|
| 1. | Hostels for SC Boys and Girls | Released Rs. 245.80 lakh each for Boys and Girls Hostels separately. |
| 2. | Implementating of the Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 | State Government has been requested to submit the proposal in the prescribed format. |
| 3. | Book Bank | State Government has been requested to submit utilization certificates and other requisite documents. |
| 4. | Upgradation of merit for SCs | -do- |
| 5. | Pre-Matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in unclean occupations | State Government has been requested to submit complete proposal. |
| 6. | Boys and Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes | Rs. 1.94 crores each have been released to Government of Jharkhand for construction of 14 Hostels each for Boys and Girls. |
| 7. | State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation | State Government has been requested to submit certain clarifications. |
| 8. | Construction of 30 hostels for ST Boys @ Rs. 61.70 lakh per hostel | The proposal is under process. |
| 9. | Setting up of five industrial school for tribal girls | -do- |
| 10. | Upgradation of merit centre at Jamshedpur | -do- |

Complaints on Quality of Wheat Exported

1317. SHRI RAMSHAKAL:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

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

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from a number of countries in regard to the quality of the wheat being exported to them by India;

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

(c) the steps taken to improve such a situation and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No complaint has been received by the Government from any country on the quality of wheat exported from the Central Pool.

However, some consignments of wheat sent to Iraq by private parties were rejected on account of presence of inorganic foreign matter, although, these consignments conformed to the internationally accepted CODEX standards.

Also there were press reports in middle of 2001 that the Bogasari Flour Mills of Indonesia had stopped buying

Indian wheat due to high dirt contents, although it did not rule out future purchases from India if the quality improved. This was however enquired by the Embassy of India, Jakarta and found to be factually incorrect. Moreover, upto 15.02.2002, 2.77 lakh MTs of wheat has been exported to Indonesia.

(c) Improvement of quality for export is an ongoing process. In the interest of export, cleaning facilities have been set up at Kandla. Exporters lifting wheat or rice from the Central Pool are also permitted to select the stocks of their choice. There has been an appreciable increase in export of wheat and rice in the current year.

[English]

FDI Inflow

1318. DR. V. SAROJA:
DR. NITISH SENGUPTA:
SHRI Y.V. RAO:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

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

(a) whether India is far behind in attracting FDI in comparison to other countries like China, Singapore etc.;

(b) if so, whether the percentage of actual inflow of FDI compared to the investment outflow is exceptionally low;

(c) if so, whether the FDI inflow has slipped from \$5.18 billion in 1999-2000 to \$5.1 billion in 2000-2001;

(d) if so, whether FDI inflow has further shown negative growth of 3% during the current financial year;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the efforts being made by the Government to reverse this trend and action plan of the Government to attract the foreign investors;

(g) whether the Government are also aware that multinational companies are bringing outdated technologies and setting up 100% subsidiaries; and

(h) if so, the action taken/being taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Comparative inflow figures for the year 2000 in respect of India, China and Singapore as reported in UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2001 (WIR'01) are as under:

(Million of Dollars)

| Year | India | China | Singapore |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 2000 | 2315 | 40772 | 6390 |

(b) No, Sir. The FDI inflow to investment, outflow ratio is 6.89: 1 as reported in UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2001.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. FDI inflows net of ADRs/GDRs and advance pending issue of shares during 2001 was US\$ 3.57 billion, which is 47% higher than received during the previous year in dollar terms.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Government of India is making continuous efforts to make India the most preferred investment destination in Asia by providing an internationally competitive investment climate in terms of policy framework, factors and institutions. The FDI policy is reviewed continuously to make it more investor friendly. In order to increase FDI, the Government has permitted access through the automatic route upto 100% FDI for all activities except a small list.

(g) and (h) Indian partners/companies are free to enter into technology collaborations with foreign partners of their choice. Such technical collaborations are guided by commercial considerations like market competitiveness and product demand.

LIC Housing Finance Limited

1319. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing norms for empanelment/appointment of panel valuer in Life Insurance Company Housing Finance Limited particularly in Delhi and U.P. State;

(b) the number of final valuer those who are appointed by LIC Housing Finance Limited;

(c) whether there is any requirement of panel valuer in LIC Housing Finance Limited in Delhi and U.P.; and

(d) if so, the number of panel valuer appointed by the LIC Housing Limited during last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As per the statement enclosed.

(b) The number of Panel Valuers throughout the country is 1259.

(c) and (d) LIC Housing Finance Limited has informed that at present there is no requirement of Panel Valuers in Delhi or any of the offices located in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Two appointments have been made in the last three years, one each in Ghaziabad (UP) and Noida (UP).

Statement

Guidelines for Appointment of Valuers/Engineers in LIC Housing Finance Limited

Depending upon the need of the Area Office assessed from time to time, the Area Manager makes out a case and puts up request for appointment of Valuer from amongst the applications received (on first come first served basis) to Regional Manager. Initially, their appointments shall be for a period of two years and renewable thereafter, subject to their satisfactory performance. The guidelines for eligibility for Valuers are:

- (i) The Valuer should hold an Architectural or Engineering Degree from one of the recognized Universities in India or an equivalent qualification.
- (ii) He may preferably be a member of one or more the Institutions like, Institution of Engineers, Architects, Surveyors, Valuers or any Institution whose membership is considered at par with these.
- (iii) The age should fall between 30 and 60. However, relaxation may be made in this respect provided the other qualifications and conditions are suitable. This may particularly be necessary in smaller towns, where there may be scarcity of valuers.
- (iv) He should bear good moral character and should not have been involved in any case questioning his integrity.
- (v) The appointed Engineer/Architect should be in a position to inspect all the properties personally and should not depute his Assistants. His report should be based on personal inspection and valuation and not on the basis of the reports of his assistant's visit or on the statement of the applicant or any other person.
- (vi) Firms of Architects or Engineers as a rule will not be taken on Panel but one of the partners may be taken on the Panel in his personal capacity.

- (vii) He should have the ability to carry out valuation of property upto the standard required.

[Translation]

Hurdles in Industrial Policies

1320. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether desired results are not being achieved in industrial sector due to the process of liberalisation in the country;

(b) whether Government have identified the impediments coming in the way of industrial policies of the Central and State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to remove these impediments so that maximum number of industries could be set up in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (d) The overall decline in Industrial Sector has been attributed to a number of structural and cyclical factors such as investment and business cycles, inherent adjustment lags of corporate restructuring, lack of consumer and investment demand, continued high real interest rates, etc. The difficulties caused by internal constraints were exacerbated by the slow growth in the world economy, which contributed to a substantial slowdown in manufactured exports.

Review of the industrial policy, procedures and their implementation is an ongoing process. Corrective measures as required are being taken by the Government to increase industrial growth.

Civil Servants Involved in Corruption

1321. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of civil servants in each grade apprehended by the Vigilance Department of his Ministry for their involvement in corrupt practices, unscrupulous dealings and for having assessed disproportionate to their known sources of income during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 till 31 January, 2002;

(b) whether the Vigilance Department has taken any action against the said employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

FFI's Loan to Maharashtra

1322. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government have forwarded any developmental projects to the Government seeking financial assistance from the International Financial Agencies during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of the proposals and the action by the Government of India are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of the proposals forwarded by Government of Maharashtra for seeking financial assistance from International Financial Institutions and Foreign Countries

- (i) **Maharashtra Water Services Improvement project:** The project, with an estimated cost of Rs. 2041.50 crores, has been posed to the World Bank on 7.2.2002.
- (ii) **Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP)-II:** The project, with an estimated cost of Rs. 6871 crores (of which World Bank funding is estimated at Rs. 4038 crores), is under preparation with the assistance of World Bank.
- (iii) **Second Maharashtra Forestry Project:** The project, with an estimated cost of Rs. 599 crores, has been posed to the World Bank.

(iv) **Second Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project:** An agreement has been signed with the World Bank for preparation of the project.

(v) **Relocation of Slum dwellers in Mumbai:** The project has been posed to Embassy of Italy.

(vi) **Jawakwadi Irrigation Project:** Recently French have expressed their interest in the project.

Proposals for Setting up Marketing Yards

1323. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) whether any proposals for setting up marketing yards and Government godowns, for providing additional storage and marketing facilities to the farmers have been submitted by Government of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Kamataka and Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether proposals received from State Governments during the last three years are pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Proposals for setting up of marketing yards only, have been received from the State Governments of Assam and Maharashtra. No proposal has been received from other State Governments for setting up of marketing yards and rural godowns.

(b) The State Government of Assam has requested for financial assistance of Rs. 145.00 lakhs for development of 8 markets in the State under the Mini Mission III of the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in the North Eastern States including Sikkim. The State Government has been requested to furnish additional information for release of funds.

The State Government of Maharashtra had requested for financial assistance for setting up of rural primary markets and secondary markets by reviving the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of Agricultural Produce Markets, which was transferred to the States/UTs on 1-4-1992 as per the recommendation of National Development Council (NDC). The Government has approved two New Central Sector Schemes, namely, Marketing Information Network and Capital Investment Subsidy schemes for construction of rural godowns. The Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Task Force to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of

Agricultural Marketing. In view of these new initiatives, the Government is not in a position to revive the erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of Agricultural Produce Markets.

Under the Mini Mission III of the Technology Mission on Cotton being implemented by the Ministry of Textiles, targeted 51 market yards have been sanctioned with an estimated cost of Rs. 75.31 crore, out of which Government of India's share is Rs. 38.68 crore. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question does not arise.

Statement

State-wise Progress of Technology Mission on Cotton (Mini Mission-III)

| Sl. No. | State | Mini Mission-III | | | | Funds Reimbursed Upto Jan. 2002 |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | # No. of Market Yards Sanctioned | GOI Share | State Share | Total Cost (4)+(5) | |
| 1. | Punjab | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Haryana | 5 | 385 | 360.84 | 745.84 | 201.21 |
| 3. | Rajasthan | 7 | 560.81 | 498.79 | 1059.6 | 279.85 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 15 | 1013.78 | 892.08 | 1905.86 | 383.34 |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | 6 | 535 | 579.02 | 1114.02 | 232.72 |
| 6. | Maharashtra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Andhra Pradesh | 8 | 580 | 704.27 | 1284.27 | 252.83 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 5 | 385 | 336.02 | 721.02 | 223.56 |
| 9. | Tamil Nadu | 2 | 238.49 | 174.45 | 412.94 | 175.74 |
| 10. | Orissa | 3 | 170.07 | 117.54 | 287.61 | 22.26 |
| Total | | 51 | 3868.15 | 3663.01 | 7531.16 | 1771.51 |

Funds are Reimbursed in a phased Manner on Receipt of Bills from the APMC Concerned.

Haryana: (05): Improvement of existing yards-04, Activation of dormant market yards-01

Rajasthan (07): Improvement of existing yards-06, Activation of dormant market yards-01

Gujarat (15): Setting up of new yards-01; Improvement of existing yards-08; Activation of dormant market yards-06

M.P. (06): Setting of new yards-01; Improvement of existing yards-04; Activation of dormant market yards-01

A.P. (08): Setting of new yards-02; Improvement of existing yards-02; Activation of dormant market yards-04

Karnataka (05): Improvement of existing yards-04; Activation of dormant market yards-01

Tamil Nadu (02): Setting of new yards-01; Improvement of existing yards-01;

Orissa (03): Setting of new yards-01; Improvement of existing yards-01; Activation of dormant market yards-01

Central Economic Intelligence Bureau

1324. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau;

(b) when was this Bureau established;

(c) the staffing pattern of the Bureau;

(d) the budget given to this Bureau for the year 2001-2002;

(e) whether there is an appraisal of the work of this Bureau; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The role of the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau is as under:

(i) Collecting intelligence and information regarding aspects of black economy, (ii) keeping a watch on different aspects of economic offences, emergence of new types of such offences and to evolve counter measures to combat the same, (iii) acting as a coordinating catalytic agency in the Department of Revenue, (iv) undertaking studies on economic offences and tax evasion, (v) preparing monthly bulletin on trends in economic offences including modus-operandi, (vi) implementing COFEPOSA Act against smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers, (vii) facilitating exchange of information amongst various agencies, (viii) acting as a secretariat of Economic Intelligence Council to facilitate coordination amongst other enforcement agencies dealing with economic offences, (ix) monitoring the functioning of 18 regional Economic Intelligence Committees set up under the aegis of Economic Intelligence Council, (x) organizing training courses for the officers engaged in intelligence/investigative activities.

(b) July, 1985.

(c) The Bureau has a sanctioned strength of 133 posts. It is headed by Special Secretary & Director General and supported by 3 deputy Directors General & Joint Secretary, 5 Assistant Directors General, 8 Senior Technical officers and 28 Intelligence Officers. The statistical wing of the Bureau is manned by one Senior Statistician Grade-I, one Senior Statistician Grade II and two Investigators.

(d) The budget allocation for the year 2001-2002 for the Bureau was Rs. 2.26 crore.

(e) and (f) Government has reviewed the working of CEIB and decided to take appropriate steps for broadening the scope of its activities and strengthening its organisational set-up accordingly.

Misuse of Import Licences by MNCs

1325. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the foreign based companies who were granted licence for import of scotch concentrates have misused the licence by misdeclaring of imported goods and by under-invoicing;

(b) if so, the names of these companies; and

(c) the action of the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) One such case of misdeclaration of value, quantity and classification of scotch whiskey concentrates involving evasion of customs duty by M/s Seagram Mfg. Ltd. has been detected during the last three years. Two show cause notices demanding total customs duty of Rs. 50.04 crores have been issued to the company. Prosecution complaint has also been filed against the company and its four officials before the jurisdictional Court.

Proposals for Two Wheeler

1326. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Suzuki Motors Ltd. for a two wheeler unit;

(b) if so, the present position of proposal;

(c) whether the Foreign Investment Board has raised objection on Suzuki proposals; and

(d) if so, the details with the final decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal has been received from Suzuki Motors Ltd. for establishment of a two wheeler unit.

(b) to (d) Applications filed with the Foreign Investment Promotion Board are considered keeping in view a 30 day time frame for communicating Government's decision subject to the application being complete in all respects.

Corrupt Banks

1327. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of top 20 corrupt banks as per findings of the Central Vigilance Commissioner; and

(b) the action taken against such officials involved in marring the honest image?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Central Vigilance Commission has reported that the Commission has not conducted any study so far to grade the public sector banks in the order of level of corruption.

(b) In terms of the Conduct/Discipline and Appeal Regulations of the banks the concerned Disciplinary Authority takes action against employees in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission wherever necessary.

Participation of Foreign Countries in IITF, 2001

1328. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign countries which have not participated in India International Trade Fair, 2001 alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government propose to take some steps ensuring participation of maximum number of foreign countries in IITF, 2002; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The following 21 countries participated in IITF' 2001:-

1. Bangladesh
2. Belarus
3. Bhutan
4. Brazil

5. China
6. Hong-Kong
7. Iran
8. Korea
9. Malaysia
10. Myanmar
11. Nepal
12. Pakistan
13. Qatar
14. Romania
15. Russia
16. Sri Lanka
17. Taiwan
18. Tunisia
19. Turkey
20. UAE
21. Vietnam

ITPO has extended invitation to all foreign countries through Indian Missions abroad, Foreign Missions in India and Chambers of Commerce in different countries for participation in IITF' 2002. Foreign offices of ITPO located in Frankfurt, New York, Tokyo, Sao Paulo and Moscow also hold presentation meetings for mobilising participation in IITF. Also, ITPO is in the process of despatching mobilisation folders inviting participation from foreign countries for IITF 2002.

Attaching Properties of Smugglers

1329. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to attach the properties of people found in smuggling activities;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976 (SAFEM (FOP) Act)

provides for forfeiture of illegally acquired property of the persons convicted under the Sea Customs Act, 1878, the Customs Act, 1962 and the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 as well as the persons detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) provides for tracing, freezing, seizure and forfeiture of illegally acquired property of persons convicted under the Act or any corresponding law of any foreign country and those who are detained under the Prevention of Illicit in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 and Jammu & Kashmir Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988.

Five Competent Authorities appointed under the SAFEM (FOP) Act and the NDPS Act, located at Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi, Lucknow and Mumbai, have been regularly carrying out forfeiture of such illegally acquired properties.

Recovery of Outstanding Income Tax

1330. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of outstanding income tax at present in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that to recover outstanding income tax, Government can attach/sale of movable and immovable properties and can also attach bank accounts etc. of the defaulter against whom taxes are due;

(c) if so, the details of bank accounts, movable and immovable properties attached and quantum of money recovered from the sale of movable and immovable properties during the last three years;

(d) whether it is also a fact that corporate houses, MNC's etc. against whom income tax worth more than Rs. 100 crore are due neither their bank accounts were attached nor any of their movable and immovable properties were put on sale;

(e) if so, the reasons for the same and details/names of all such corporate houses, MNCs etc. against whom income tax worth Rs. 100 crore or more is due as on date;

(f) whether the Government have prepared any time-bound action plan for recovery of taxes from all such companies; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The total outstanding arrears of income tax as on 31st December, 2001 is Rs. 57009.71 crores.

(b) Yes, sir.

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

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The Income Tax Act prescribes a statutory procedure for collection and recovery of taxes. The recovery of the outstanding tax is a continuous process. The process starts after the demand falls due after 30 days of the service of the demand notice. Thereafter, action is taken by Assessing Officer in respect of unstayed demand by attaching bank accounts, charging interest, levying penalty etc. In difficult cases, matter is referred to Tax Recovery Officer who takes various coercive measures as per the Act like attachment and sale of defaulter's movable and immovable properties, arrest of defaulter and his detention in prison, appointment of Receiver for the management of the defaulter's movable and immovable properties. The recovery action taken by the Assessing Officer and TROs is closely monitored by the higher income tax authorities.

Dossier cases having outstanding demand of Rs. 10 lakhs and above are monitored by higher authorities on a regular periodic basis and necessary instructions are issued for taking various coercive measures for effecting the recovery of demand.

Distribution of Foodgrains Under Antyodaya Anna Yojana

1331. SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL): Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains given to States by the Government under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana during the last one year;

(b) the number of families benefited under this scheme so far;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more concessions to the persons belonging to the SCs/STs under this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government of Karnataka have requested for increase in allocation of foodgrains; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) A quantity of 19,59,734 tonnes of foodgrains has been allotted to the States/UTs under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) from April 2001 to March 2002.

(b) As per reports received from the State Governments/UT Administrations 96,28,421 families have been benefited under AAY.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir, no request has been received from the Government of Karnataka for increase in the allocation of foodgrains under Antyodaya Anna Yojana.

(f) Does not arise.

Special Central Assistance to States

1332. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes sponsored by his Ministry through which Special Central Assistance is granted to every State;

(b) the amount of Special Central Assistance sanctioned to each State under these schemes during the last three years;

(c) whether the funds allocated under the schemes are not being properly utilized by some States;

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

(e) the specific steps taken to stop such practice?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Under the Central scheme of Special Central Assistance (SCA), 100% grant-in-aid is provided to 27 States/UTs having sizeable Scheduled Castes (SC) population as an additive to the Special Component Plan of the States/UTs and is intended to augment the efforts of the States/UTs for the economic development of SCs. The objective of SCA is to provide additional support to SC families to enhance their productivity and income. It focuses on providing occupational needs and maximizing the returns from their limited assets.

(b) A Statement showing the details of Special Central Assistance released to the States/UTs during the last three years is enclosed.

(c) to (e) Funds allocated to States are being utilized as per guidelines. However, there has been delay in sending Utilization Certificates because of which SCA could not be released to Bihar, Punjab, Goa and Delhi during 2000-2001.

The concerned State Govts./Administrations have been advised to utilize the SCA grant released as per guidelines and to send utilization certificate for release of further grant. Further, for proper utilization of SCA funds, the States/UTs have been advised to formulate specific project proposals covering activities by dovetailing subsidy under SCA and loan from NSFDC/Banks from one point alongwith required forward and backward linkages. They have also been advised to open separate budget head for same.

Statement

Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes released to the States/UTs during the last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S. No. | States/UT | 1998-1999 Released | 1999-2000 Released | 2000-2001 Released |
|--------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3388.78 | 4134.94 | 3720.00 |
| 2. | Assam | 596.66 | 695.31 | 1810.69 |
| 3. | Bihar | 3620.07 | 3471.49 | 0.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 371.40 | 682.27 | 1521.88 |
| 6. | Goa | 2.72 | 5.49 | 8.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 741.77 | 840.36 | 930.63 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 259.56 | 298.18 | 440.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 132.80 | 183.44 | 218.00 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 1820.07 | 2097.36 | 2643.64 |
| 12. | Kerala | 724.54 | 813.24 | 1251.07 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 2237.08 | 3303.27 | 1720.00 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 1673.92 | 2067.30 | 2722.00 |
| 15. | Manipur | 10.62 | 12.54 | 38.96 |
| 16. | Orissa | 2281.57 | 1907.72 | 1884.00 |
| 17. | Punjab | 1119.74 | 1280.29 | 1784.00 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 2575.48 | 2792.68 | 3738.96 |
| 19. | Sikkim | 4.03 | 22.37 | 23.87 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 3236.93 | 4036.92 | 3558.00 |
| 21. | Tripura | 108.72 | 159.14 | 476.48 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 7518.15 | 9728.65 | 9398.00 |
| 23. | Uttaranchal | 0.00 | 0 | 500.00 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 3378.39 | 4962.00 | 5450.63 |
| 25. | Chandigarh | 22.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| 26. | Delhi | 201.71 | 149.91 | 149.91 |
| 27. | Pondicherry | 73.29 | 30.13 | 25.18 |
| Total | | 36100.00 | 43700.00 | 45038.90 |

Development Schemes for OBCs

1333. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to increase the total allocation of funds for carryout various development projects/schemes for welfare of OBCs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct a comprehensive survey on the impact of the implementation of such development projects/schemes for the betterment of OBCs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Against the actual expenditure of Rs. 297.18 crores during the IX Five Year Plan under various schemes for the welfare of OBCs, an allocation of Rs. 660.00 crores has been proposed for the X Five Year Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

World Bank Loan for Rural Water Supply Scheme

1334. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received financial assistance from World Bank/International Monetary Fund for Rural Water Supply Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether any project was taken up in Gujarat with WB/IMF assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agreements for the following loan amounts were signed with the World Bank for the Rural Water Supply projects during the last three years:-

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| 1999-2000 | - | Nil |
| 2000-2001 | - | \$ 65.50 million (for Kerala Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project) |
| 2001-Feb. 2002 | - | Nil |

(c) and (d) At present there is no such proposal from the Government of Gujarat.

Export of Agricultural Products

1335. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand of Indian agricultural products, fruits, vegetables etc. in the world;

(b) if so, whether the Government have undertaken any study to identify the countries where these are in great demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the agricultural commodities exported during each of the last two years; and

(e) the incentives proposed by the Government to the farmers of these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The World demand for agricultural products including fruits and vegetables varies from time to time depending on various factors. Exports of agricultural products is continually reviewed on an ongoing basis by the Government through its agencies.

(d) Agricultural commodities exported during the last two years include cereals, poultry and dairy products, floriculture products, tobacco unmanufactured and manufactured, spices, sugar, molasses, cashew, oil meals and oilseeds, shellac, fruits and vegetables, meat and its preparations, cotton, tea and coffee etc.

(e) The Government provides a variety of incentives in the form of financial and other assistance to the farmers through its agencies such as Commodity Boards, Authorities etc.

Request for Market Borrowing

1336. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of proposals have been received by the Union Government from the various State Governments for making market borrowing;

(b) if so, whether all the proposals received has been agreed to; and

(c) if not, the present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Requests have been received from some State Governments for additional market borrowings in the context of specific problems being faced by them, and for mitigating the shortfall in States share in Central taxes. These requests are over and above the approved market borrowings allocated to States by the Planning Commission. Government of India, in keeping with the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) and in view of the specific requests from States have allowed feasible additional market borrowings for the year 2001-2002 linked to States preparing their Medium Term Fiscal Reform Programme (MFRP).

Besides, so as to reduce the impact of shortfall in estimated States share in Central taxes, Central Government have permitted additional market borrowings to States in two tranche. The first tranche was raised by

RBI on January, 28-30, 2002 and the second tranche will be raised in the current month. Additional borrowings allowed to States during the current year is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Additional Market Borrowings Allowed During 2001-2002

(Rs. in crores)

| Additional Market Borrowing Allowed | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---|--------|
| Sl. No. | State | Under MTRP/Specific Problems | In lieu of Shortfall in Share in Central Taxes | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 350.00 | 346.54 | 696.54 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | | 10.98 | 10.98 |
| 3. | Assam | | 147.83 | 147.83 |
| 4. | Bihar | | 521.48 | 521.48 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | | 107.33 | 107.33 |
| 6. | Goa | | 9.27 | 9.27 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 700.00 | 126.95 | 826.95 |
| 8. | Haryana | | 42.48 | 42.48 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 150.00 | 30.74 | 180.74 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 116.75 | 58.05 | 174.8 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | | 135.36 | 135.36 |
| 12. | Karnataka | | 221.85 | 221.85 |
| 13. | Kerala | 200.00 | 137.57 | 337.57 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | | 290.39 | 290.39 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 250.00 | 208.44 | 458.44 |
| 16. | Manipur | | 16.47 | 16.47 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | | 15.39 | 15.39 |
| 18. | Mizoram | | 8.91 | 8.91 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 26.00 | 9.90 | 35.90 |
| 20. | Orissa | | 227.52 | 227.52 |
| 21. | Punjab | | 51.62 | 51.62 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | | 246.29 | 246.29 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 23. | Sikkim | | 8.28 | 8.28 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | | 242.33 | 242.33 |
| 25. | Tripura | | 21.92 | 21.92 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | | 861.14 | 861.14 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 89.11 | 29.75 | 118.86 |
| 28. | West Bengal | | 365.22 | 365.22 |
| Total | | 1881.86 | 4500.00 | 6381.86 |

[Translation]

[English]

Surplus Employees in Public Sector Industrial Units

1337. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated total number of employees working in the industrial institutions under the public sector;

(b) whether the Government have estimated the number of employees found surplus in these institutions than their requirement;

(c) if so, the estimated number of surplus employees; and

(d) the steps taken for their re-deployment and full utilization of these employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) As per available information the Central PSUs as on 31.3.2001 had 17.42 lakh employees. Estimation of surplus staff in the Central Public Sector Undertakings are done by the respective Managements of the PSUs. 29628, 43760 and 45625 number of employees opted for VRS in CPSUs during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively.

(d) For the employees released under VRS a scheme for Counselling, Retraining and Redeployment is in operation which *inter alia* provides for reorientation of the rationalised employees to equip them with skills and re-orient them to engage themselves in self employment activities.

Surplus Stock and Starvation Deaths

1338. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to answer given to Unstarred Question No. 2965 dated August 10, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the said information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) No starvation deaths have been reported by any State Government/UT Administration.

[Translation]

Schemes for SC/ST

1339. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether article 46 of the Constitution directs the State to promote with special care the economic and other interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular of the SCs and STs so as to protect them from social injustice and exploitation and to overcome the prevailing deep rooted social prejudices and historical economic handicaps suffered by them; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to promote with special care the interests of the SCs and STs through sponsored schemes/programmes for providing agricultural land and right to tap forest, mining and mineral resources etc. with a view to provide more employment opportunities and to economically empower and bring them on the mainstream of our national economic life?

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

(b) Under the strategy for Tribal Sub Plan and Special Component Plan, the State Governments/UTs/Central Ministries/Departments are to prepare and implement Special Plan for welfare of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes respectively. Besides the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing special schemes for promoting the economic and educational interests of SCs and STs respectively, which are of additive nature. A list of such schemes is enclosed as statement.

Statement

List of Schemes Formulated/Implemented for the Development of SCs/STs.

Schemes for SCs

1. Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for SCs.
2. Special Educational Development Programme for SCs.
3. Post Matric Scholarship.
4. PCR and Atrocities.
5. Hostel for SC boys & girls.
6. National Scheduled Castes Finance Development Corporation.
7. State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations.
8. National Safai Karamcharis Finance Development Corporation.
9. Book Banks.
10. Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers.
11. Pre-Matric Scholarship.
12. Coaching & Allied.
13. Supporting Project to All India Nature of SCs (Research & Training).
14. Upgradation of Merit of SCs/STs students.
15. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Scheduled Castes/OBCs and Minority Concentrated districts.
16. National Overseas Scholarships.

Schemes for STs

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan.
2. Grants under first proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution.
3. Vocational training in Tribal Areas.
4. Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce.
5. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups.
6. Post Matric Scholarship for students.
7. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of STs.
8. Upgradation of Merit of students.
9. Educational complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Girls in Tribal Areas.
10. Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes.

[English]

Fiscal Reforms Committee

1340. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee on Fiscal Reforms of Assam has recommended substantial special relief for the State, as extended to Punjab in respect of security related expenditure, besides, special allocations for the State plan;

(b) if so, the Union Government response thereto;

(c) the other recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) According to the Government of Assam the Committee on Fiscal Reforms constituted by Government of Assam has made a number of recommendations to the State Government, including special relief on the lines granted to Punjab, restructuring of loans and also a one time grant of Rs. 1,000 crores from Government of India. The

State Government have not formally forwarded the recommendations of the Committee on Fiscal Reforms as yet.

(c) According to the Government of Assam, the Committee on Fiscal Reforms has made 208 recommendations aimed at improving the State's finances.

(d) It would be premature for the Government of India to formulate any response, in the absence of the Report being forwarded to Government of India and a specific request being made by the Government of Assam.

Old Age Homes in Maharashtra

1341. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the old age homes functioning in the country, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more old age homes particularly in Maharashtra;

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

(d) the assistance being provided to these homes;

(e) the number of aged persons benefited from these homes during the last three years, State-wise; and

(f) the additional facilities proposed to be given to these homes?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The State-wise number of old age homes in the country, run by the non-governmental organizations with the help of financial assistance of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Setting up of more Old Age Homes depends upon the recommendations of the State Government to the proposals of the non-governmental organizations, receipt of complete documents, availability of funds and the requirement in the area.

(d) Ninety percent of total expenditure subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2,76,412/- as recurring and Rs. 64,687/- as non-recurring grant, per old age home, per annum are released to eligible non-governmental organizations.

(e) The State-wise number of aged persons benefited from such old age homes during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(f) There is no proposal for additional facilities.

Statement

State-wise Total Number of Old Age Homes Run with Financial Assistance of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Number of Beneficiaries

(Position as on 4.3.2002)

| S. No. | Name of the State | Number of Old Age Homes | Number of beneficiaries |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 116 | 2900 |
| 2. | Assam | 7 | 175 |
| 3. | Bihar | 1 | 25 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 3 | 75 |
| 5. | Haryana | 5 | 125 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 4 | 100 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 40 | 1000 |
| 8. | Kerala | 2 | 50 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 6 | 150 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 7 | 175 |
| 11. | Manipur | 24 | 600 |
| 12. | Nagaland | 1 | 25 |
| 13. | Orissa | 44 | 1100 |
| 14. | Punjab | 6 | 150 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 2 | 50 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 49 | 1225 |
| 17. | Tripura | 2 | 50 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 35 | 875 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 34 | 850 |
| 20. | Pondicherry | 3 | 75 |
| Total | | 391 | 9775 |

Scheduled Caste Hostels and Schools

1342. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste hostels and schools funded by his Ministry in various States particularly in Maharashtra and Karnataka since 1999;

(b) the number of applications pending with the ministry, for such approval;

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved;

(d) whether some instances of irregularities in the allotment to such schools came to the notice of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) 281 hostels/schools have been funded by the Ministry under the "Scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations working for Scheduled Castes" since 1999. A statement indicating State/UT-wise position is enclosed. Besides, assistance for construction of hostels for SC Boys and Girls is provided under the "Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostel for SC Boys and Girls". statement I and II indicating the number of hostel sanctioned during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 under this scheme, State-wise, are enclosed.

(b) and (c) No application for hostel/school is pending for consideration under the scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organization working for Scheduled Castes. Proposals for release of Central assistance under the Scheme for construction of Hostels are being processed based on the progress of construction of hostels sanctioned earlier, utilization of funds released, subject to availability of land. Proposals, which are complete and could not be considered during current year, will be sanctioned during 2002-2003.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement-I

List of Hostels/Schools sanctioned since 1999 under the Scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for Scheduled Castes

| S. No | State/UT | No. of Hostels/Schools |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 45 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | 5 |
| 4. | Bihar | 5 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | Nil |
| 6. | Goa | Nil |
| 7. | Gujarat | 2 |
| 8. | Haryana | 2 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil |
| 11. | Jharkhand | Nil |
| 12. | Karnataka | 37 |
| 13. | Kerala | 2 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 18 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 30 |
| 16. | Manipur | 4 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | Nil |
| 18. | Mizoram | Nil |
| 19. | Nagaland | Nil |
| 20. | Orissa | 37 |
| 21. | Punjab | Nil |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 20 |
| 23. | Sikkim | Nil |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 4 |
| 25. | Tripura | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 42 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 4 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 22 |
| 29. | Andaman & Nico. Islands | Nil |
| 30. | Chandigarh | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|----------------------|-----|
| 31. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Nil |
| 32. | Daman & Diu | Nil |
| 33. | Delhi | 2 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | Nil |
| 35. | Pondicherry | Nil |

Statement-II

List of Hostels sanctioned during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 under CSS of Hostels for SC Boys and Girls

| S. State/UT/University | | No. of Hostels | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| No. | | SC Boys | | SC Girls | |
| | | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | 10 | Nil | 14 | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 7. | Gujarat | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 8. | Haryana | Nil | Nil | Nil | 4 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Jharkhand | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Karnataka | 34 | 29 | 16 | 12 |
| 13. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 77 | Nil | 53 | Nil |
| 15. | Maharashtra | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 19. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 20. | Orissa | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 21. | Punjab | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Rajasthan | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 23. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 12 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 25. | Tripura | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 28. | West Bengal | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 29. | Andaman & Nico. Islands | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 30. | Chandigarh | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 31. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 32. | Daman & Diu | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 33. | Delhi | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 35. | Pondicherry | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 36. | Amravati University, Maharashtra | 1 | Nil | Nil | 1 |
| 37. | Assam Univ., Silchar | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil |
| 38. | Guru Nanak Dev Univ., Amritsar | Nil | 1 | Nil | 1 |
| 39. | Pondicherry Univ., Pondicherry | 1 | Nil | 1 | Nil |

Economic Cooperation with Japan

1343. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to establish better economic relations with Japan;

(b) if so, the various proposals under the consideration of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether one of the proposal was to set up an institution of Japanese studies in the State of Karnataka;

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

(e) the details of the economic cooperation for the global partnership proposed to be established between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Japan is India's largest bilateral aid partner and also a leading trade and investment partner. The lifting of the economic sanctions in October, 2001 by Japan and subsequent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Japan has given an impetus to closer economic relations. A high level delegation from Japan is scheduled to hold

Policy Dialogue with Government of India during March 12-17, 2002 to work out future course of economic cooperation.

(c) and (d) An Eminent Persons' Group, set up between the two countries has proposed to establish India-Japan Centres in Bangalore and Delhi areas, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan. The two Governments are presently studying the proposal.

(e) One of the major objectives of Prime Minister's visit to Japan in December, 2001 was to concretise the Global Partnership for the 21st Century that was agreed to during Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori's visit to India in August 2000. This included, *inter-alia*, establishing better economic relations with Japan, both at the level of Government and industry, as also encouraging greater Japanese interest and awareness of opportunities for investment and business in India.

Loss of Foodgrains Due to Rodents

1344. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any estimate has been made of the quantum of foodgrains lost due to rodents in godowns of FCI in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of such losses every year in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether FCI has taken any steps to improve the quality of storage of FCI godowns in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the details of steps proposed to reduce destruction of foodgrains by rodents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir. However, the godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Andhra Pradesh are scientifically built and rodent proof.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The FCI undertakes storage of foodgrains on scientific lines following the prescribed code of storage practices. Necessary pest control operations through prophylactic and curative treatments including rodent control measures like poison baiting and burrow fumigation are undertaken as and when necessary.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance for Development of Backward Districts

1345. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to provide special financial assistance for the development of backward districts of the country is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the necessary steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Planning and Development of an area within a State and allocation of funds for this purpose are primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in its development, through releases under the award of the Finance Commissions, releases of Central Assistance for State Plan and through assistance under various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The backwardness of the State is taken into consideration by the Finance Commission while determining their award. The allocation of assistance for State Plans is based on the Gadgil-Mookerjee formulas wherein eighty percent weightage is given to population and per capital income below the national average. Besides, the Central Government announced a new scheme during 2002-2003 called the Jai Prakash Rozgar Guarantee Yojana (JPRGY) to provide employment guarantee to the unemployed in the most distressed districts of the country. The State Government can avail of assistance available under various Programmes aimed at poverty alleviation, infrastructure development and social security to improve the quality of life in the Backward Districts within the State.

[English]

CBI Anti-Corruption Drive

1346. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI had undertaken nationwide anti-corruption drive recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the drive; and

(d) the further steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to curb the corruption in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. CBI undertook a nationwide special drive against corrupt public servants, economic offenders and others, on 22 February 2002.

(c) 36 cases were taken up by CBI during the drive. Of these, 23 cases were against corrupt public servants, 4 cases related to economic offences and 9 cases related to conventional crimes, viz., murder, kidnapping, illegal arms licence racket, etc.

(d) In the Central Board of Direct Taxes, the vigilance set up has been strengthened by (1) upgrading the existing Directorate of Income Tax (Vigilance) to the level of Directorate General of Income Tax (Vigilance), (2) creating four Regional Directorates of Income Tax (Vigilance) and (3) instructions for closer monitoring by the supervisory officers. Similarly, various steps have been taken in the Central Board of Excise & Customs, which include use of information technology to tighten vigilance machinery, posting officers of integrity and efficiency in vigilance organisations, not giving sensitive postings to officers of doubtful integrity, and keeping watch on the lifestyle of the officers.

[*Translation*]

Base Depots of FCI in Bihar

1347. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of base depots of Food Corporation of India in Bihar for distribution of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System;

(b) whether the said number of base depots are sufficient to meet the requirement of the State;

(c) if not, whether the Government are contemplating to set up more base depots in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The number of FCI base depots in Bihar is 30.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Duty Evasion by M/s. Frontier Trading

1348. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a importer M/s Frontier Trading of Mumbai imported Japanese made luxury massage mattresses, calling them Magnetic Acupressure Treatment System and evaded customs duty over Rs. 40 crores;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome therefor; and

(d) the amount of customs duty recovered from the Frontier Trading in terms of provision 28(2) of Customs Act, 1962 with the other action taken against the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) A case of import of Magnetic Mattresses, Quilts and Pillows called Magnetic Acupressure Treatment Instrument was adjudicated by the Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai vide an order, dated 31.08.2001 holding that the goods are classifiable as 'mattresses' under heading 9404.29 of the Customs Tariff. In the order, a sum of Rs. 16.02 crores was demanded as duty short levied. The matter was subsequently examined by the Government, and it was found that the goods are appropriately classifiable under heading 9019.10 as 'massage apparatus'. Accordingly, a Circular was issued to this effect on 25.10.2001 so as to bring about uniformity in the assessment practice of the goods.

(d) Against the order of the Commissioner of Customs, the importer filed an appeal before the CEGAT with an application for grant of stay. The stay has been granted by the hon'ble Tribunal.

Arrangement for Mobile Banks

1349. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to provide credit and storage facilities to the farmers at their door-step, the Government have been considering to take steps to ensure Rural and Cooperative Banks to arrange mobile banks, who may while giving loans also provide stores for agricultural produce which they may collect from the farmers to keep it as security for the loan funds extended to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the financing of investment credit for construction of storage/godowns and for providing short-term credit for marketing of crops against pledge by banks. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides refinance to the banks for financing of storage requirements of the farmers and also to enhance their holding capacity to fetch a remunerative price for their produce under a model scheme for construction/renovation/expansion of rural godowns in the private sector. NABARD also provides refinance under a scheme of extending short term refinance support to cooperatives and Regional Rural Banks for financing cultivators for marketing of crops against pledge of their agricultural produce. Further, as per the prevailing instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), where banks do not find it economical to open full fledged branches or satellite offices at Rural centers, they can open mobile offices after obtaining necessary licence from the concerned Regional Office of RBI.

Decline in Sugar Production

1350. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether the country's production has fallen by over five per cent to 17.5 million tonnes in the current year;

(b) if so, the States where sugar production has fallen;

(c) the main reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps which are being considered to improve sugar output in the year 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The sugar production during the current season 2001-2002 is provisionally expected to be around 17.5 Million Tonnes as against 18.42 Million Tonnes (Provisional) during the previous season (2000-2001), indicating a fall of 0.92 Million Tonne i.e. 4.99% over the previous season.

(b) The fall in production of sugar is mainly in the State of Maharashtra.

(c) According to Government of Maharashtra, the main reasons for the fall in production is unfavourable monsoon condition and diversion of sugarcane for fodder purpose.

(d) The major part of the sugarcane crushing season 2001-2002 is going to be over by April, 2002 and as such, it is not possible to do anything to improve sugar output in the current 2001-2002 season at this stage.

Lifting of Controls Imposed on Sugarcane Based Industries

1351. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lift all controls and regulations imposed on sugarcane based industries to face free trade regime under W.T.O.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the other measures suggested for growth of sugarcane based industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The major sugarcane based industry is sugar industry. As regards price and distributional control sugar, the Government has decided to effect complete decontrol of sugar after operationalisation of futures/forward trading in sugar in 2002-2003 financial year. As regards trade in sugar, the Government has issued an order under the title "Removal of (Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits

& Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs Order, 2002" on 15th February, 2002. With the coming into effect of this Order, any dealer may freely buy, stock, sell, transport, distribute, dispose, acquire, use or consume any quantity of, inter alia, sugar and shall not require a permit or licence therefore. The Order shall have effect after 30 days from the date of its issue notwithstanding anything contrary in any order made by a State Government before the commencement of the Order. Issue of any control order by the State Governments under the delegated powers for regulating by licenses, permits or otherwise, the storage, transport, distribution, etc. of the specified commodities shall require the prior concurrence of the Central Government. However, nothing contained in this Order shall affect the operation of the Public Distribution System (Control Order, 2001 issued by the Central Government and orders of the State Governments issued in pursuance thereof.

(d) The Government has been taken appropriate measures from time to time for promoting growth of sugar industry. In this regard, the Government has taken/is taking the following measures:-

1. Government has de-licensed the sugar industry. The entrepreneurs are free to set up a new sugar mill up to any capacity or expand the capacity of the existing mills according to their best commercial judgement. The only stipulation prescribed by the Government is that the minimum distance between an existing sugar factory and a proposed sugar factory should not be less than 15 kms.
2. Government has decided to completely decontrol the Sugar Industry in a phased manner. The compulsory levy obligation of the sugar factories was reduced from 40% to 30% w.e.f. 1.1.2000. The compulsory levy obligation has been further reduced to 15% and 10% w.e.f. 1.2.2001 and 1.3.2002 respectively.
3. Government is boosting export of sugar and has taken the following measures:-
 - (i) The quantitative restrictions on export of sugar have been lifted.
 - (ii) The requirement of registration of quantity to be exported with the Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Agency (APEDA) has been dispensed with.
 - (iii) Sugar factories exporting sugar have been allowed exemption from levy on the quantity of sugar exported.

- (iv) The adjustment in freesale stocks of sugar factories exporting sugar is being made at the end of 18 months from the date of export.
 - (v) Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) benefit @ 5% on the f.o.b. value of exports has been allowed on export of sugar.
4. Apart from the above, the Government is providing financial assistance from the Sugar Development Fund through loans for modernization, technology upgradation and for sugarcane development and grants-in-aid for research for the advancement of the sugar industry. Further, the Government has recently taken the following decisions for promoting growth of sugar industry:-
- (i) Government has decided to undertake legislation to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 for enabling it to grant loans from the SDF at concessional rate of interest to the sugar factories or units thereof for undertaking bagasse-based-co-generation of power projects and for production of anhydrous alcohol/ethanol from alcohol to improve the viability of the sugar factories.
 - (ii) Government has decided to undertake legislation to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 for enabling it to defray expenditure from the SDF on internal transport and freight charges on export shipments of sugar to promote export of sugar.

[Translation]

Investment by Japan

1352. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited Japanese industrialists to invest in India during the recent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Japanese industrialists thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Destination India events have been held in several countries, including Japan, to promote India as an attractive investment destination. The favourable investment climate in India as also the significant potential of investment flows between the two countries was also

highlighted during the recent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Japan.

(c) Japanese investors perceive India as an important investment destination in the medium and long term. The Japan Bank for International Cooperation Survey 2001 ranks India as the fifth most promising overseas destination for Japanese investors over the medium term (next three years). Japan ranks III in terms of total Foreign Direct Investment inflows to India during 1991 to 2001.

[English]

Vacant Posts in SC/ST Commission

1353. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that SC/ST Commission's Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members posts are vacant for the last two months;

(b) if so, the reasons for not filling up these posts so far; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The process of appointment of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and three Members in the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is on, and necessary notification shall be issued after the completion of the process.

[Translation]

FDI in Defence Related Industry

1354. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have notified guidelines to allow Foreign Direct Investment in defence related industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which these are likely to be notified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c)

Government has issued guidelines vide Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion Press Note No. 2 (2002 series) permitting FDI up to 26% in defence industry sector subject to compulsory licensing.

[English]

Attaching Bank Accounts of Plantation Companies

1355. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to attach the bank accounts of defaulted Plantation Companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number and details of such companies brought under this attachment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Schemes through which instruments such as agro bonds, plantation bonds etc. are issued are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) under the SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999. Many CIS entities had collected funds from the public prior to being brought under the regulatory jurisdiction of SEBI. SEBI issued two press releases in 1997 directing information was received from 660 entities which had reportedly mobilised about Rs. 2690 crores.

In Civil Writ Petition No. 3352/98, in the matter of Shri S.D. Bhattacharya and Others versus SEBI, the Delhi High Court impleaded all CIS entities and inter alia restrained them from selling, disposing of and/or alienating their immovable properties. Their directors have also been interdicted from transferring their immovable property in any manner or parting with the possession of the same. The Court also made it clear that its order will not come in the way of companies intending to refund money to their investors. On 22nd January 2002, the Court ordered the freezing of bank accounts of 513 erring entities and their directors/promoters till they comply with the Regulations/SEBI's directions regarding repayment of their investors.

(c) The names and details of these 513 entities were published leading Indian newspapers namely, the Indian Express dated 22nd February 2002 and the 'Business Standard' dated 23rd February 2002. This information is also available on the SEBI website (www.sebi.gov.in).

Credit Relief Scheme

1356. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise, number of farmers, rural artisans and persons belonging to the SCs/STs and OBCs benefited under the Agriculture and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1999; and

(b) the total financial assistance provided to each State under the aforesaid scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

VRS in Public Sector Undertakings

1357. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:

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

(a) the basis on which payments have been made to the employees of public sector undertakings of Central Government who opted VRS prior to November 6, 2001 alongwith the basis of ex-gratia payments made to them;

(b) the number of employees of public sector undertakings opted VRS from November 6, 2001 to January, 2002 and the basis on which ex-gratia and other payments have been made to them;

(c) the reasons for keeping difference in payments made to employees opted for VRS prior to November 6, 2001 and thereafter;

(d) whether the Government propose to make equal payments to employees opting VRS before November 6, 2001 vis-a-vis those who opted for it later on;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether productivity of industries will decline in case more employees opt for the scheme; and

(g) if so, the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

(DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (g) The revised guidelines on VRS was issued on 5.5.2000. The employees of Central Govt. Public Sector Undertakings who opted for VR were paid ex-gratia as per the laid down norms. On 6th November, 2001 further liberalization had been made in the ex-gratia for employees of those public sector undertakings in which pay revision have not been effected either from 1.1.92 or from 1.1.97. The 6th November, 2001 guidelines were issued very recently. The month-wise information regarding VRS optees in all the PSUs is not centrally maintained. The guidelines are to take effect only on prospective basis. With more employees opting for VRS, per capita productivity is likely to improve.

[*English*]

Funds for Infrastructure

1358. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India has mooted a proposal for allocating 20 percent of superannuation funds besides earmarking of Insurance funds for investment in specified infrastructure projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Government has not received any such proposal from the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India. The investment of all funds including superannuation funds managed by insurance companies are governed by the provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938 and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Investment) Regulations, 2000.

Admission to Educational Institutions

1359. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Lawmakers overlook threatens disabled" as appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated the February 7, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether Section 39 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Right and Full Participation), Act, 1995 is not clear;

(d) if so, whether some High Courts of the country also made some remarks in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) A news item Captioned "Lawmakers overlook threatens disabled" appeared in the Pioneer dated 7.2.2002. The matter relates to interpretation of Section 39 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 by Hon'ble High Courts. Section 39 of the Act provides that all Government educational institutions and other educational institutions receiving aid from the Government, shall reserve not less than three percent seats for persons with disabilities. Keeping in view the above provision, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment have requested all appropriate Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments to ensure implementation of this provision. The Ministry of Human Resource Development that is the nodal Ministry in so far as education is concerned have also issued similar instructions to the Education Secretaries of State Governments/U.T. Administrations, University Grants Commission, etc.

However, as this provision appears in the Chapter under 'Employment' (at Section 39) and not under Chapter on Education, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court have held that this provision of reservation does not relate to reservation of seats in admission in educational institutions, but reservation in posts. In order to clarify the position, there is a proposal to amend the Act suitably.

Supply of Substandard Rice under Antyodaya Yojana

1360. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice provided to Orissa under 'Antyodaya' 'Annapurna' and 'Food for Work' schemes is of poor quality;

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

(c) whether the State Government of Orissa have requested the Union Government to initiate remedial steps in this regard and have also asked for supply of rice procured from the State itself;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have initiated any steps in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir. Only fair average quality rice free from insect infestation and conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act standards are being supplied to Orissa under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes including Antyodaya Anna Yojana, Annapurna and Food-for-Work schemes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) While the Government of Orissa has not made any complaint regarding the quality of rice, it has requested the Union Government to allow to utilise the stocks available with in the State for Food-for-Work programme in order to decongest Food Corporation of India (FCI)'s godowns in the State to facilitate procurement operations during Kharif Marketing Season 2001-2002.

(d) and (e) The Government has advised the FCI to issue rice stocks to the State Government for TPDS and other schemes from the stocks available in Orissa itself.

[Translation]

Import of Silk

1361. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the quantum and value of silk imported during each of the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): Quantum and value of silk imported into India during each of the last three years, country wise, is as under:-

| Country | 1999-2000 | | | 2000-2001* | | | 2001-2002 (April-October, 01)* | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Qty | Value | | Qty | Value | | Qty | Value | |
| | (tons) | Lakh Rs. | Mn. US \$ | (tons) | Lakh Rs. | Mn. US \$ | (tons) | Lakh Rs. | Mn. US \$ |
| China P. Republic | 4581 | 37841.88 | 87.29 | 4291 | 43122.83 | 94.40 | 3029 | 30149.53 | 63.17 |
| China Taipei (Taiwan) | 24 | 193.53 | 0.45 | 159 | 1701.92 | 3.73 | 64 | 664.86 | 1.39 |
| Brazil | 107 | 967.77 | 2.23 | 22 | 228.29 | 0.50 | 47 | 532.69 | 1.12 |
| Korea Republic | 46 | 346.41 | 0.8 | 28 | 262.9 | 0.58 | 5 | 40.87 | 0.09 |
| Hongkong | 203 | 1467.60 | 3.39 | 103 | 942.02 | 2.06 | 15 | 69.82 | 0.15 |
| Singapore | 4 | 37.22 | 0.09 | 3 | 34.01 | 0.07 | 8 | 67.00 | 0.14 |
| Others | 53 | 419.95 | 0.97 | 107 | 1222.99 | 2.68 | 84 | 510.23 | 1.07 |
| Total | 5018 | 41274.36 | 95.21 | 4713 | 47514.96 | 104.02 | 3252 | 32035.00 | 67.12 |

* Provisional figures

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata

[English]

Corrupt PSUs

1362. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of top 20 corrupt public sector units as per findings of the Central Vigilance Commissioner; and

(b) the action taken against such officials involved in corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per available information, the Central Vigilance Commission has not graded public enterprises as per some corruption index.

(b) Disciplinary action against public sector officials for commission of any misconduct is taken by the disciplinary authorities stipulated in the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal rules applicable to the concerned official. The nature of action to be taken against them depends upon the nature of misconduct and available evidence.

Revival of Burn Standard Company at Salem

1363. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Burn Standard Company operating Magnesite Mines Salem in Tamil Nadu has been awarded the Rehabilitation Scheme by BIFR;

(b) if so, whether employees of the Magnesite Unit are opposing the BIFR order;

(c) whether any representations have been received by the Government for withdrawal of BIFR Order; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) BIFR had sanctioned a rehabilitation scheme of BSCL, which included the revival of three units at Howrah, Bumpur and Salem, vide an Order dated 16.4.1999.

(b) to (d) As the performance of BSCL as a whole, including that of Salem unit, was not as per the targets

fixed in the scheme, BIFR vide an Order dated 14.09.2001 declared the revival scheme as failed and directed the 'Operating Agency' (OA) i.e. IDBI to invite offers for change of management in BSCL. The employees of Salem unit had represented against this Order of BIFR. In the BIFR hearing of BSCL held on 23.1.2002, the OA reported failure in their attempts for change of management. Normally, in such a situation the BIFR issues winding up notice. However, on being informed that, in line with the existing policy of disinvestment in all non-strategic PSUs, the Government of India has already initiated action for joint venture formation in respect of BSCL, the BIFR granted extension of time upto 30.09.2002. It is expected that the joint venture partner will bring in the necessary financial, technical and managerial inputs for the turnaround of the company.

[Translation]

Writing-Off Loans of Riot Victims

1364. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have waived the Government loans given to riot victims of riot affected States;

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

(c) whether the Government loans provided to the victims of riots that took place in Bhagalpur district of Bihar in 1989 have since been waived; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) As regards waiver of bank loans given to victims of 1984 riots in various parts of the country, Government initially introduced a Scheme, in June, 1993 known as "Debt Relief Scheme for November, 1984 Riot Affected Borrowers". Under this Scheme, aggregate of eligible loans from all banks up to and inclusive of Rs. 25,000/- as principle granted on 1st November, 1984 or afterwards, together with outstanding interest, were to be written off by the banks. The Scheme was subsequently modified in October, 1994 to include Central, State and Union Territory Financial Institutions in the definition of 'Bank' in the Scheme. Later, in December, 1997 the Scheme was revised and the amount of eligible loans taken from banks/ financial institutions to be written off under the Scheme

was raised from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- The relief provided to November, 1984 riot victims was due to extra ordinary circumstances and wide-spread nature of riots.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not been in favour of any loan waiver scheme because of its possible adverse impact on the recoveries and financial discipline. However, immediately after the 1989 Bhagalpur riots, all scheduled commercial banks were advised by RBI in November, 1989 to extend relief and rehabilitation assistance to the affected people in terms of the standing guidelines issued to banks in this regard in August, 1984.

[English]

Essential Commodities Act, 1955

1365. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculturists in the country have urged the Union Government to scrap the Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) In response to suggestions/views received from various quarters, Government have been reviewing the operation of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The Central Government have issued an Order under the Essential Commodities Act by which any dealer may freely buy, stock, sell transport, distribute etc., any quantity of wheat, paddy/rice, coarse grains, sugar edible oilseeds and edible oils and shall not require a permit or licence therefor under any Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The provision of this Order will take effect after 30 days from the date of publication (15/2/2002) in the Official Gazette.

Smuggling of Narcotics

1366. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two day International Narcotics Strategy Meeting, sponsored by the US, was held in February this year in the Turkish Capital of Ankara and India also participated in the meeting;

(b) if so, the main issues discussed at the meeting; and

(c) the details of the decisions taken therein to prevent smuggling of narcotics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Regional Counter Narcotics Strategy Meeting, which was organized by the Turkish National Police and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), was held in the Turkish capital Ankara on 5-6 February, 2002.

(b) The main issue discussed was to evolve a strategy to counter drug trafficking and control issues with particular reference to the current and potential drug trafficking situation in and from Afghanistan in view of its changed political situation.

(c) Some specific recommendations/decisions taken in the meeting to prevent smuggling of narcotics were (i) evolving Information Sharing Systems against traffickers, (ii) tightening control on precursor chemicals used for manufacturing of heroin, (iii) encouraging Afghanistan to adopt the UN Convention of 1988 on Illicit Trafficking, (iv) resource commitment on training and equipment, (v) establishment of a floating committee, (vi) to identify and target drug trafficking organizations through collective efforts and (vii) to step up interdiction at borders and particularly target precursor movement.

[*Translation*]

Investment in Industrial Sector

1367. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRIMATISANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) the investment made by the Union Government and State Governments respectively in industrial sector in each State during each of the last three years;

(b) whether investment in the industrial sector is declining continuously;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether investment in industrial sector in various States is not uniform;

(e) if so, the States which are most backward in the field of investment in industrial sector;

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the percentage of investment in the industrial sector particularly in most backward States; and

(g) the projected investment in industrial sector during 2002-2003, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (e) Under the liberalised industrial policy, investment in various industries depends upon the commercial judgement of the entrepreneurs which, in turn, is based on the initiative taken by the State Governments/UTs in the creation of conducive economic environment by way of providing basic infrastructural facilities and other incentives. Central Government supplements their efforts to the extent possible. A statement is enclosed showing proposed industrial investment by entrepreneurs in the non-SSI sector in various States during the last three years.

(f) With a view to promote industrialisation of the backward areas in the country, the Central Government in June 1988 announced the Growth Centre Scheme. This scheme is a major effort to promote industrialisation of backward areas in the country. 805 industrial units are reported to have been established since the inception of the scheme at 68 Growth Centres sanctioned in various States throughout the country. In addition to this, the Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme is being implemented for development of infrastructure facilities for small industries to facilitate location of industries in rural/backward areas.

(g) The Central Government does not fix any target for industrial investment for various States.

Statement***Yearwise and Statewise Proposed Investment in Rs. Crore***

| Name of the State | Proposed Investment in Rs. Crore | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andaman & Nicobar | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 3943 | 2223 | 46493 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 2 | 27 |
| Assam | 102 | 583 | 1413 |
| Bihar | 82 | 101 | 23 |
| Chandigarh | 188 | 11 | 25 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 1787 | 1070 | 2111 |
| Daman & Diu | 377 | 139 | 166 |
| Delhi | 19 | 52 | 0 |
| Goa 212 | 355 | 1058 | |
| Gujarat | 15066 | 10154 | 11596 |
| Haryana | 1217 | 3594 | 778 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 260 | 557 | 470 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 114 | 40 | 141 |
| Jharkhand | 505 | 5604 | 66 |
| Karnataka | 2985 | 3853 | 4307 |
| Kerala | 1388 | 316 | 533 |
| Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 4168 | 1061 | 771 |
| Maharashtra | 51338 | 22182 | 7554 |
| Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Meghalaya | 55 | 68 | 331 |
| Mizoram | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nagaland | 0 | 0 | 49 |
| Orissa | 7253 | 1899 | 1289 |
| Pondicherry | 202 | 1587 | 253 |
| Punjab | 13722 | 2382 | 1239 |
| Rajasthan | 2002 | 4939 | 2255 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Sikkim | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Tripura | 1 | 0 | 789 |
| Tamil Nadu | 6472 | 3893 | 2148 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 5355 | 1939 | 2261 |
| Uttaranchal | 131 | 88 | 553 |
| West Bengal | 6661 | 2402 | 1608 |
| More than One State | 33 | 20 | 0 |
| Chhattisgarh | 4081 | 2257 | 2268 |
| Total | 129719 | 73374 | 92575 |

Note: The investment figures are based on Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda part A filed and Letters of Intent Issued.

[English]

Public Insurance Companies

1368. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the top posts of Public Sector Insurance Companies continue to remain vacant for long time;

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

(c) the time by when these posts are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The posts of Chairman-cum-Managing Director, National Insurance Company Limited, Oriental Insurance Company Limited and New India Assurance Company Limited have fallen vacant on superannuation of the existing incumbents on 30.9.2001, 31.10.2001 and 28.2.2002 respectively. The post of Chairman, Life Insurance Corporation of India has fallen vacant on 20.2.2002.

(c) The posts have been filled up temporarily and the process for filling up of these posts on regular basis is underway.

[Translation]

Recovery of Bank Loans

1369. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated action against the big industrial houses who have taken loans from banks and non-banking financial institutions and have not refunded the same within the stipulated time;

(b) if so, the total amount outstanding against these houses by the end of the December 2001;

(c) the names of the business houses against whom actions have been initiated by each public sector bank, the courts and tribunals for realisation of these loans; and

(d) the amount of loan realised/proposed to be realised through the said actions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

[English]

FFI's aid to Gujarat

1370. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the international organizations like World Bank, ADB and other agencies have extended financial help/loan assistance to the Government of Gujarat for rehabilitation purposes after the killer earthquake on January 26, 2001; and

(b) if so, the details of financial help/loan assistance granted so far by the International financial institutions to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:

(US \$ Million)

| Institution | Approved | Disbursed |
|-------------|----------|-----------|
| World Bank | 303.00 | 207.67 |
| ADB | 500.00 | 80.00 |

Fixation of Higher Rates of Wheat in Orissa

1371. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have fixed the price of wheat at Rs. 705/- per quintal for Orissa under OMSSO (D) Scheme, which is Rs. 55/- quintal higher than the rates for the neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to treat all the States at par in case of rates for wheat of all categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The High Level Committee (HLC) of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is authorized to fix the open sale rates of wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic). For the months of February and March, 2002, the OMSS (D) rates have been fixed State-wise after taking into

account the acquisition costs and the average freight to the States. The open sale rates for Lustre lost wheat (crop of 2001-2002) and normal wheat for the State of Orissa have accordingly been fixed at Rs. 665/- and Rs. 705/- per quintal respectively. The Statewise rates are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

| North Zone | | Rate per qtl. (in Rs.) | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| S. No. | Name of State/UT | Lustre lost wheat 2001-2002 | Sound wheat |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Delhi | 615 | 655 |
| 2. | Chandigarh | 615 | 655 |
| 3. | Punjab | 615 | 655 |
| 4. | Haryana | 615 | 655 |
| 5. | Uttar Pradesh | 625 | 665 |
| 6. | Uttaranchal | 625 | 665 |
| 7. | Rajasthan | 625 | 665 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 620 | 660 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 630 | 670 |
| South Zone | | | |
| 10. | Tamil Nadu | 685 | 725 |
| 11. | Pondicherry | 685 | 725 |
| 12. | Kerala | 685 | 725 |
| 13. | Andhra Pradesh | 680 | 720 |
| 14. | A & N Islands | 690 | 730 |
| 15. | Lakshadweep | 690 | 730 |
| 16. | Karnataka | 680 | 720 |
| East Zone | | | |
| 17. | Bihar | 640 | 680 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 660 | 700 |
| 19. | Sikkim | 665 | 705 |
| 20. | Orissa | 665 | 705 |
| 21. | Jharkhand | 650 | 690 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------------------|---|-----|-----|
| North East Zone | | | |
| 22. Assam & Other | | 675 | 715 |
| NE States | | | |
| 23. Maharashtra | | 655 | 695 |
| 24. Goa | | 660 | 700 |
| 25. Madhya Pradesh | | 630 | 670 |
| 26. Chhattisgarh | | 650 | 690 |
| 27. Gujarat | | 650 | 690 |
| 28. Daman & Diu | | 650 | 690 |
| 29. Dadar & Nagar Haveli | | 650 | 690 |

[*Translation*]

Redressal of Consumer Disputes

1372. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairmen of the tribunals set up for redressal of consumer disputes and secretaries who are incharge of concerned departments in the States have expressed the opinion at a conference that there is a need of strengthening consumer courts in order to provide more protection to the consumers;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any action plan in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The need to strengthen the consumer disputes redressal agencies set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has been expressed in various fora. The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2001 has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The amendments proposed include provisions for strengthening the consumer disputes redressal agencies.

[*English*]

Direct Tax Collection

1373. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the direct taxes collection during the financial years 1950-1951, 1960-1961, 1970-1971, 1980-1981, 1990-1991 and 2000-2001; and

(b) the percentage increase made in each of the above years over the preceding financial years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The details of the tax collections during the years are given below:

| (Rs. in Crores) | | |
|-----------------|----------|--------|
| Financial Year | Amount | % age |
| 1950-1951 | 173.22 | — |
| 1960-1961 | 291.45 | 68.25 |
| 1970-1971 | 863.88 | 196.41 |
| 1980-1981 | 2906.65 | 236.46 |
| 1990-1991 | 10844.57 | 273.10 |
| 2000-2001 | 67919.91 | 526.30 |

Close Down of Jessop and Company India Limited

1374. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to close down Jessop and Company Limited, Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that company is manufacturing Rail Wagons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to revive the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) During the last three financial years, the wagon orders received by Jessop from Railways and the orders executed by them are as under:-

| Year | Four Wheeler Units | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | Orders received | Orders Executed |
| 1998-1999 | 385 | 407.5* |
| 1999-2000 | 355 | 187.5 |
| 2000-2001 | 542.5 | 385 |

* Includes execution of pending orders of previous years.

(e) In 1986 Government provided financial restructuring of Rs. 54 crore to Jessop for its turnaround. In 1997 & 1998, Government of India (GOI) infused fresh funds of Rs. 54 crore and provided financial restructuring of Rs. 171 crore to the company as a part of the BIFR revival scheme. In addition GOI has released fresh funds of Rs. 118 crore for salary & wages, VRS, statutory dues and capital expenditure during the last two years. Even with this huge assistance, the company has not been able to turnaround. The BIFR had declared the revival scheme of the company as failed on 17.8.2000 and ordered change of management, which did not succeed. On GOI's request, instead of issuing winding up notice, the BIFR have allowed to explore revival through joint venture formation. The disinvestment process is in progress.

Seizure of Narcotics

1375. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of narcotic drugs have been seized at several places in the country;

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

(c) the number of people arrested for possession of narcotics during the last three years and the punishment awarded to them; and

(d) the steps taken to check the rampant smuggling of narcotic drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A detailed State-wise list of narcotic drugs seized during the last three years, as reported by various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The total number of persons arrested for drug trafficking, as reported by various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, during 1999, 2000 and 2001 are 13490, 15065 and 13827 respectively. All the arrested persons are liable to be prosecuted and punished under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

(d) The steps taken to check drug trafficking include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training of officers, fencing and flood-lighting of part of Indo-Pak border, vesting of powers in the Border Security Force and Coast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs, notifying certain precursor chemicals, viz., Acetic Anhydride, Ephedrine, etc., as 'Controlled Substances' under the NDPS Act, quarterly coordination meetings by the Narcotics Control Bureau with all Central and State agencies concerned, holding of periodic bilateral meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies, holding of operational level meetings with Myanmar officials and providing some assistance to Myanmar.

Statement

State-wise Details of Drugs (Opium, Morphine, Heroin, Ganja, Hashish, Cocaine, Methaqualone, Phenobarbital and LSD) Seized During The Last Three Years As Reported by various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies As on 12.02.2002.

(in kgs.)

| Sl. | Name of States | Years | | |
|-----|-------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| | | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 (Prov.) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andaman & Nicobar | 3.55 | 5.95 | 0.00 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 1716.55 | 32699.80 | 15806.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 9.11 | 331.24 | 72.08 |
| 4. | Assam | 5244.54 | 11971.96 | 12835.37 |
| 5. | Bihar | 924.17 | 1489.43 | 2525.00 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 22.43 | 19.94 | 8.75 |
| 7. | Delhi | 6396.70 | 4472.69 | 10647.20 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 751.70 | 988.44 | 731.77 |
| 9. | Goa | 250.47 | 85.21 | 22.00 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 137.99 | 307.43 | 186.81 |
| 11. | Haryana | 420.65 | 4096.69 | 103.14 |
| 12. | Jammu & Kashmir | 192.66 | 470.16 | 304.26 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 0.00 | 6.68 | 0.00 |
| 14. | Kerala | 46.32 | 15.30 | 132.57 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 21.602 | 768.61 | 719.53 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 7190.49 | 8758.13 | 5625.58 |
| 17. | Manipur | 4600.92 | 6074.42 | 7830.11 |
| 18. | Madhya Pradesh | 667.83 | 800.84 | 866.34 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 32.97 | 55.06 | 79.40 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 2998.05 | 13010.52 | 10984.08 |
| 21. | Orissa | 15.54 | 1791.3 | 3696.60 |
| 22. | Punjab | 429.98 | 995.91 | 548.89 |
| 23. | Pondicherry | 1.07 | 0.93 | 0.67 |
| 24. | Rajasthan | 1163.93 | 1348.39 | 1807.97 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 6133.68 | 2671.51 | 4554.13 |
| 26. | Tripura | 17.01 | 452.90 | 53.6 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 6589.51 | 11289.48 | 11888.85 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 749.24 | 5602.45 | 663.38 |
| 29. | Daman & Diu | 22.2 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Approval to Divest UTI Holdings

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

1376. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(c) whether the proposal has been approved by the Government; and

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India has sought the approval of the Government to divest its holdings in five companies;

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Unit Trust of India (UTI) is not required to seek Government approval for its investment/divestment decisions. Such decisions are made on the basis of UTI's own commercial judgement.

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

[Translation]

Agro-Climatic Export Zones

1377. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

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

(a) whether in order to make India's agricultural exports more competitive in view of the WTO agreement coming into force from April, 2002 the Union Government propose to follow a focused policy to develop agro-climatic zones;

(b) if so, whether some agro-climatic export zones have been identified as suitable for cultivation of different commodities, fruits and vegetables;

(c) if so, the details of such zones, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are also considering to divert some of the subsidies towards these zones for providing financial support for an all round development of these zones as export pockets; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The scheme of Central Governmental agencies are being converged to set up Agri Export Zones (AEZs) under Exim Policy 2001 to promote Agro Exports from contiguous agriculture producing areas identified by States.

(b) to (e) The Government has approved 15 AEZs so far to make agricultural exports more competitive. Financial assistance is being provided to these AEZs by Central State Government Agencies. The details of the AEZs, State-wise are as follows:

1. Pineapple (West Bengal)
2. Gherkins (Karnakata)
3. Lychee (Uttaranchal)

4. Vegetables (Punjab)
5. Potatoes (Uttar Pradesh)
6. Mangoes in Uttar Pradesh (Lucknow)
7. Potatoes (Punjab)
8. Mangoes in Uttar Pradesh (Saharanpur)
9. Grapes & Grape Wine (Maharashtra)
10. Mango Pulp & Fresh Vegetables. (Andhra Pradesh)
11. Pineapple (Tripura)
12. Potatoes, Onion & Garlic (Madhya Pradesh)
13. Mangoes (Maharashtra)
14. Apples (Jammu & Kashmir)
15. Flowers (Tamil Nadu)

[English]

Impact of Economic Growth

1378. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are satisfied with the progress in the implementation of the economic reforms;

(b) if so, whether the Government have assessed the benefit and its adverse impact on common man;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to remove the adverse impacts on the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Various economic reforms measures initiated over the last one decade have had a favourable impact on the economy. The country registered higher growth performance during the 1990s compared with the previous decades. The price situation has been comfortable and the incidence of poverty has also reduced from 36% in 1993-1994 to 26% in 1999-2000. Various steps taken by the Government viz. increasing outlay for social sectors like health, education, development of women and children, rural water supply and sanitation etc., increased emphasis on social and rural infrastructure as well as programmes like Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, issue of Kissan Credit Cards, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana, Self Help Groups Bank Linkage Programme etc. are all aimed at improving the economic

condition of the common man and removing any possible adverse impact of the liberalisation process on the common man.

Stake of Multi-National Companies

1379. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from Multi-National companies to increase their stake in Indian companies during the last year;

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

(c) the present status of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Increase in foreign equity holding can be by way of acquisition of existing shares, or induction of fresh equity, or buyback of resident equity in accordance with Companies Act, 1956/SEBI regulations. Any proposal for transfer of existing shares from residents to non-residents has to be supported by a Board Resolution to that effect and requires prior approval of Foreign Investment Promotion Board. In the case of a listed company, the Government approval is further subjected to SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations. Pricing of shares has to be in conformity with RBI/SEBI norms.

Receipt and consideration of such proposals is an ongoing process. Details of cases approved by Foreign Investment Promotion Board are published in the monthly Secretariat for Industrial Assistance Newsletter, which is widely circulated, including Parliament Library.

Export of Silk

1380. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that Indian silk exports are expected to fall far short of the \$430 million target in 2001-2002 fiscal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the duty drawback issue has been resolved to the satisfaction of exporters; and

(d) if so, the positive impact on the exports of silk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Against the target of US\$ 430 million of silk goods exports for the year 2001-2002, silk goods amounting to US \$ 308.32 million have been exported during April-November, 01. Silk exports have shown a declining trend due mainly because of the recessionary trend in the international market.

(c) and (d) The Duty Drawback rates have been enhanced for silk garments under SS Nos. 62.23 and 62.24 to Rs. 350 per sq. mtr. of silk fabric content. These enhanced rates would help the exporters of silk garments.

Technology Upgradation Fund

1381. SHRI RAMSHEETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the groups constituted by the Technical Advisory-cum-Monitoring Committee under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme has submitted its report to the Government;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government on the basis of the said recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Technical Advisory-cum-Monitoring Committee (TAMC) under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) had constituted a Group to examine the coverage of weak but potentially viable textile units under the scheme. The Group has recommended to the TAMC as follows:

(i) A separate special dispensation for weak/sick modern processing units under TUFS; and

(ii) Relaxation of financial norms for weak units of all the segments of the textile industry for coverage under TUFS.

(c) The recommendation of TAMC were examined by the Inter-Ministerial, Steering Committee (IMSC) which observed that relaxation in norms for cash profit, promoters' margin, debt equity ratio and revaluation of assets could be considered by Financial Institutions and banks while preparing restructuring proposals for the industry.

Scheme for Weaker Sections

1382. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has launched any scheme for the welfare of weaker sections;

(b) if so, whether his ministry has also been giving relief work to the disabled, orphaned and aged etc.; and

(c) if so, the details of the States which have been given Central fund for the above purpose either directly

or through States/NGOs under Central Scheme during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002?

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

(a) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched schemes for the welfare of weaker sections.

(b) Yes Sir. The Ministry implements schemes for the welfare of disabled, orphaned and aged etc.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Number of NGOs and Assistance Given during 3 years under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities

| State | 1999-2000 | | 2000-2001 | | 2001-2002 | |
|-------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Nos | Rs in lacs | Nos | Rs in lacs | Nos | Rs in lacs |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 84 | 1208.35 | 91 | 1283.57 | 99 | 1001.82 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 2 | 13 | 1 | 6.32 | 2 | 18.98 |
| Assam | 3 | 30.56 | 8 | 40.11 | 8 | 14.3 |
| Bihar | 11 | 57.68 | 8 | 162.47 | 18 | 221.6 |
| Chandigarh | 2 | 1.42 | 2 | 6.57 | 2 | 5.22 |
| Chhattisgarh | | | 1 | 9.08 | 3 | 12.49 |
| Delhi | 31 | 679.04 | 34 | 649.54 | 36 | 484.43 |
| Goa | 2 | 17.68 | 2 | 12.64 | 3 | 24.07 |
| Gujarat | 17 | 75.36 | 25 | 114.52 | 16 | 94.73 |
| Haryana | 10 | 59.51 | 15 | 95.44 | 15 | 54.84 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 1 | 32.42 | 2 | 15.85 | 3 | 24.49 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 7.24 | 3 | 12.23 | 4 | 4.36 |
| Jharkhand | | | | | 3 | 7.01 |
| Karnataka | 58 | 571.99 | 57 | 640.58 | 63 | 600.19 |
| Kerala | 49 | 442.04 | 55 | 483.72 | 62 | 496.63 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 8 | 17.43 | 10 | 39.32 | 15 | 47.21 |
| Maharashtra | 26 | 263.72 | 18 | 197.99 | 24 | 200.94 |
| Manipur | 7 | 57.06 | 5 | 56.63 | 7 | 53.45 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|
| Meghalaya | 4 | 17.41 | 4 | 46.38 | 4 | 38.05 |
| Mizoram | 1 | 25.31 | 3 | 29.52 | 2 | 30.06 |
| Nagaland | | | 1 | 2.83 | 0 | 0 |
| Orissa | 21 | 193.96 | 24 | 252.26 | 25 | 260.27 |
| Pondicherry | 2 | 1.44 | 1 | 6.59 | 1 | 5.85 |
| Punjab | 10 | 64.94 | 11 | 91.39 | 11 | 79.85 |
| Rajasthan | 6 | 88.13 | 11 | 93.99 | 21 | 149.86 |
| Sikkim | | | | | 1 | 1.94 |
| Tamil Nadu | 34 | 325.69 | 37 | 396.07 | 41 | 370.29 |
| Tripura | 1 | 6.83 | 1 | 6.02 | 1 | 6.5 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 67 | 772.39 | 57 | 873.19 | 59 | 681.52 |
| Uttaranchal | | | 5 | 95.85 | 8 | 35.18 |
| West Bengal | 43 | 365.53 | 42 | 492.52 | 48 | 372.54 |

ADIP Scheme

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S. No. | Name of State/UT | 1999-2000 | | 2000-2001 | | 2001-2002 | |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | | No. of implement Agency | Amount released | No. of implement Agency | Amount released | No. of implement Agency | Amount released |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 08 | 134.25 | 14 | 211.09 | 12 | 313.37 |
| 2. | Assam | 01 | 4.47 | — | — | 1 | 2.25 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1.95 |
| 4. | Bihar | 06 | 31.76 | 06 | 22.16 | 10 | 58.37 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | — | — | — | — | 01 | 7.53 |
| 6. | Goa | 01 | 0.98 | 01 | 1.04 | 01 | 1.95 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 05 | 101.25 | 06 | 119.37 | 06 | 155.92 |
| 8. | Haryana | 03 | 19.04 | 11 | 121.37 | 02 | 16.86 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 01 | 19.80 | 06 | 98.29 | 02 | 6.25 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | — | — | — | — | 01 | 1.00 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 03 | 28.51 | 01 | 5.00 | 10 | 72.77 |
| 12. | Kerala | 02 | 28.00 | 02 | 19.00 | 06 | 54.45 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|----------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|------|---------|
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 10 | 110.87 | 10 | 76.30 | 06 | 55.68 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 13 | 149.85 | 09 | 159.98 | 05 | 144.33 |
| 15. | Manipur | 07 | 25.00 | 04 | 10.50 | — | — |
| 16. | Orissa | 09 | 135.61 | 06 | 120.87 | 15 | 231.30 |
| 17. | Punjab | 06 | 55.19 | 07 | 96.98 | 06 | 46.45 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 03 | 348.78 | 02 | 360.00 | 04 | 382.92 |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 14 | 86.01 | 12 | 61.27 | 16 | 101.70 |
| 20. | Tripura | 01 | 1.45 | 01 | 0.72 | 01 | 4.15 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 39 | 1015.30 | 30 | 1052.94 | 36 | 1762.00 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 08 | 169.48 | 11 | 256.21 | 10 | 374.65 |
| 23. | Delhi | 08 | 376.17 | 08 | 117.65 | 12 | 384.67 |
| 24. | Uttaranchal | — | — | — | — | 01 | 94.51 |
| Total | | 148 | 2841.77 | 147 | 2910.74 | 1650 | 4254.09 |

National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD)

| S. No. | State/UT | No. of | Amount Released | Districts | Amount Released | Amount Sanctioned |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|--|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | Districts | During 1999-2000 (For State Centre) (Rs. in lakhs) | covered | During 2000-2001 (Rs. in lakhs) | For 2001-2002 (incl. Rs. 12.50 lakh for State/Centre) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Arunachal Pradesh | 13 | 12.50 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |
| 2. | Assam | 23 | 12.50 | 4 | 260.3 | 203.9 |
| 3. | Andhra Pradesh | 23 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 4. | Orissa | 30 | 25.00 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |
| 5. | Uttar Pradesh | 70 | 25.00 | 7 | 446.15 | 347.45 |
| 6. | Uttaranchal | 13 | Nil | 2 | 148.9 | 108.2 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 27 | 25.00 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |
| 8. | Kerala | 14 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 9. | Gujarat | 25 | 12.50 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |
| 10. | Goa | 2 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 14 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 12. | Tamil Nadu | 29 | 25.00 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------|----------------------|-----|--------|----|---------|--------|
| 13. | Tripura | 4 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 14. | Nagaland | 8 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 15. | Punjab | 17 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 16. | West Bengal | 18 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 17. | Bihar | 37 | 25.00 | 5 | 322.25 | 251.75 |
| 18. | Jharkhand | 18 | Nil | 3 | 210.85 | 156.05 |
| 19. | Manipur | 8 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 45 | 25.00 | 6 | 384.2 | 299.6 |
| 21. | Chhattisgarh | 16 | Nil | 3 | 207.9 | 156.05 |
| 22. | Maharashtra | 33 | 25.00 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 7 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 3 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 25. | Rajasthan | 32 | 25.00 | 3 | 198.35 | 156.05 |
| 26. | Sikkim | 4 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 27. | Haryana | 19 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 28. | Himachal Pradesh | 12 | 12.50 | 2 | 136.4 | 108.2 |
| 29. | Andaman & Nicobar | 2 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | 1 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 31. | Daman & Diu | 2 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 32. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 1 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 33. | Delhi | 1 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 34. | Pondicherry | 4 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | 1 | 12.50 | 1 | 74.45 | 60.35 |
| Total | | 576 | 500.00 | 82 | 5551.95 | 4361.2 |

State/UT-Wise Amount Released Under Scheme of Employment of The Handicapped During the Last Three Years

| Sl. Name of State/UT | | Years | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | — | 5.90 | 8.17 | — |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — |
| 3. | Assam | — | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 4. | Gujarat | — | — | 14.25 | — |
| 5. | Haryana | 2.20 | 0.25 | 0.52 | — |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — |
| 7. | J & K | — | — | — | — |
| 8. | Karnataka | 13.05 | — | — | — |
| 9. | Kerala | — | 7.96 | — | — |
| 10. | Manipur | — | — | — | — |
| 11. | Maharashtra | — | — | — | — |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | — | 8.94 | — | — |
| 13. | Nagaland | — | — | — | — |
| 14. | Orissa | — | 1.61 | — | — |
| 15. | Punjab | — | — | 6.46 | — |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 2.75 | 11.33 | 39.26 | — |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | — | — | — | — |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | — | 16.50 | 17.63 | 29.05 |
| 19. | Chandigarh | — | 8.32 | 4.56 | 5.72 |
| 20. | Delhi | — | 21.90 | — | — |
| 21. | Tripura | — | — | — | — |
| 22. | Pondicherry | — | — | 8.71 | 1.97 |
| 23. | Mizoram | — | — | — | 15.21 |
| Total | | 18.00 | 82.71 | 99.56 | |

State-wise Release of The Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organisations under the Scheme of Assistance to Homes (Shishu Greh) for Children to Promote in Country Adoption During the Year 1999-2000 to 2001 to 2002 (till date)

| State/U.T. | | Amount of Grant-in-Aid Sanctioned during the years (in Rupees) | | |
|------------|-------------------|--|------------|------------|
| | | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2,148,600.00 | 872,250.00 | — |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 600,000.00 | 583,200.00 | 533,700.00 |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | — | 323,811.00 |
| 4. | Delhi | 1,064,400.00 | 177,314.00 | 466,650.00 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 353,700.00 | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 6. | Haryana | 447,030.00 | 347,276.00 | 578,102.00 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | 78,763.00 | 191,803.00 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 496,800.00 | 496,800.00 | 252,000.00 |
| 9. | Kerala | 698,400.00 | 449,072.00 | 870,413.00 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 600,000.00 | 600,000.00 | 262,800.00 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 5,711,645.00 | 7,628,700.00 | 5,536,758.00 |
| 12. | Manipur | 99,000.00 | 456,300.00 | 1,063,800.00 |
| 13. | Mizoram | 49,500.00 | 496,800.00 | 525,600.00 |
| 14. | Orissa | 2,129,100.00 | 4,077,600.00 | 1,421,325.00 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 491,400.00 | 1,387,800.00 | 1,040,400.00 |
| 16. | Tamilnadu | 716,850.00 | 583,200.0 | 291,600.00 |
| 17. | Tripura | 599,400.00 | 583,200.00 | 266,850.00 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | Nil | — | — |
| 19. | West Bengal | — | — | 161,325.00 |
| | Total | 16,205,825.00 | 18,818,275.00 | 13,786,937.00 |

State-wise Grant-in-aid released to Non-Governmental Organisations under the scheme of Integrated programme for Older Persons for running Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres

Mobile Medicare Centres and Non-institutional Service Centres during 1992-1993 to 2001-2002 (till date)

| S. No. | State/UT | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 |
|--------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 290.69 | 322.43 | 236.30 |
| 2. | Assam | 9.64 | 20.29 | 20.76 |
| 3. | Bihar | 0.54 | 00 | 4.15 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 6.68 | 125.95 | 2.36 |
| 5. | Haryana | 25.32 | 22.07 | 17.44 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 7.07 | 4.82 | 0.76 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 30.62 | 64.14 | 69.65 |
| 8. | Kerala | 13.66 | 9.72 | 8.78 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 22.61 | 24.21 | 14.82 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 15.72 | 11.13 | 13.89 |
| 11. | Manipur | 59.89 | 86.33 | 58.03 |
| 12. | Orissa | 185.00 | 139.56 | 178.84 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 13. | Punjab | 19.04 | 24.13 | 17.14 |
| 14. | Rajasthan | 1.35 | 00 | 3.14 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 94.50 | 60.86 | 128.72 |
| 16. | Tripura | 8.63 | 9.75 | 26.10 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 153.44 | 93.75 | 84.82 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 112.81 | 119.93 | 111.83 |
| 19. | Delhi | 16.37 | 35.27 | 65.90 |
| 20. | Pondicherry | 10.12 | 6.94 | 1.08 |
| 21. | Jammu & Kashmir | 6.87 | 11.27 | 8.92 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 1.37 | 1.67 | 0 |
| 23. | Nagaland | — | 1.2 | 5.49 |
| 24. | Uttaranchal | — | 0 | 4.31 |
| Total | | 1091.94 | 1195.42 | 1083.23 |
| B.E. | | 1500.00 | 1000.00 | 1500.00 |
| R.E. | | 1000.00 | 1247.00 | |

State-wise Grant-in-aid released under the scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons during 1998-1999, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto 6.3.2002)

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S. No. | Name of the State | Amount released | Amount released | Amount released |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 50.00 | 10.00 | 30.00 |
| 2. | Assam | 28.86 | 22.31 | 25.74 |
| 3. | Chandigarh | 10.00 | 5.00 | 0.00 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 0 | 0 | 10.00 |
| 5. | Haryana | 29.00 | 0 | 10.00 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 10.00 | 0 | 00 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 0 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| 8. | Kerala | 0 | 22.00 | 10.00 |
| 9. | Manipur | 10.00 | 0 | 00 |
| 10. | Orissa | 0 | 0 | 00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|--------|-------|--------|
| 11. | Punjab | 31.50 | 0 | 00 |
| 12. | Rajasthan | 10.00 | 2.50 | 00 |
| 13. | Tamil Nadu | 10.00 | 0 | 00 |
| 14. | Uttar Pradesh | 27.00 | 0 | 00 |
| 15. | West Bengal | 10.00 | 0 | 00 |
| 16. | Delhi | 10.00 | 0 | 00 |
| 17. | Pondicherry | 0 | 0 | 00 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 0 | 0 | 6.60 |
| 19. | Chhattisgarh | 00 | 00 | 10.00 |
| Total | | 236.36 | 71.81 | 112.34 |

Use of Jute Bags

1383. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per a notification issued on October 10, 1996 Ministry of Environment and Forests permitted use of jute batching oil .40 to maximum of 3 per cent in jute bags;

(b) whether the BIS amended its standards regarding jute bags in September, 2001 after a period of four years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay; and

(d) the action taken against the official responsible for it?

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

(b) Use of maximum 3 percent batching oil for jute goods for packaging purposes has been made mandatory vide Ministry of Textiles O/o Jute Commissioner's notification S.O. 828(E) dated 28th August, 2001. On receipt of notification, all the important standards were amended immediately.

(c) and (d) There has been no delay in amending the relevant Indian Standards.

*[Translation]***Assistance to Physically Handicapped, Deaf and Dumb**

1384. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance provided to the poor and physically handicapped, deaf and dumb persons living in the rural areas of various States especially in Maharashtra and the names of the such agencies through which assistance is being provided to them;

(b) whether the poor and physically handicapped, deaf and dumb persons are not getting any type of assistance even now; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide direct assistance to the poor, physically handicapped, deaf and dumb persons?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) A statement indicating to names of organizations, which have been assisted in the State of Maharashtra during the year 2001-2002 under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disability (Umbrella Scheme) and Scheme of Assistance to Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP Scheme) is annexed. Assistance is provided to needy persons in procuring standard aids and appliances to facilitate rehabilitation and improvement in the quality of life. Assistance is given to voluntary organizations for taking

up projects in the area of education, vocational training and for provision of rehabilitation and therapeutic services. The National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD), which is also being implemented as a State Sector Scheme in Maharashtra, provides delivery systems upto the Panchayat level.

Statement

List of Institutions/Organisation which have received assistance during the year 2001-2002 under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities (Umbrella Scheme) and Scheme of Assistance to Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP Scheme)

| S No. | District | Name of the Organisation |
|-------|------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Amravati | Apang Jivan Vikas Sanstha |
| 2. | Bhandara | Om Hari Bahuddeshiya Shikshan Sanstha |
| 3. | Bhandara | Parivartan Shikshan Sanstha |
| 4. | Mumbai | Bombay Leprosy Project |
| 5. | Mumbai | Hellen Keller Institute for Deaf and Deaf Blind |
| 6. | Mumbai | National Association for the Blind (Bombay) |
| 7. | Mumbai | Saraswati Mandir School for MR Children |
| 8. | Mumbai | Society for the Education of the Crippled |
| 9. | Mumbai | The Reserach Society for the Care, Treatment and Training of Children in Need of Special Care |
| 10. | Mumbai | Indian Cancer Society |
| 11. | Mumbai | Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped |
| 12. | Mumbai | Valabhdas Dagara Indian Society for Mentally Retarded |
| 13. | Mumbai | Vijay Merchant Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled |
| 14. | Gadchiroli | Bhagyashali Bahuddeshiya Kalyankar Sanstha (Bori) |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------------|---|
| 15. | Gadchiroli | Swami Vivekanand Dhyam Prasarak Mandal |
| 16. | Kolhapur | Sanmati Matimand Vikas Kendra |
| 17. | Latur | Ahilyadevi Holkar Shikshan Prasark Mandal |
| 18. | Miraz | Society for the Welfare of Mentally Handicapped |
| 19. | Nagpur | Apang Va Niradhar Bahuddeshiya Kalyankari Sanstha |
| 20. | Nanded | Shri Sahir Annabhau Sathe Shikshan Prasark Mandal |
| 21. | Pune | Ayodhya Charitable Trust |
| 22. | Pune | Poona District Leprosy Committee |
| 23. | Pune | SAVALI |
| 24. | Sangli | Navjeevan Matimand Mulanchi Vikas Sanstha |
| 25. | Thane | Swami Brahmanand Pratishthan |
| 26. | Virar | Shree Trust |

Funds to NGO's of Rajasthan

1385. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned and released for the welfare schemes and programmes to the voluntary organization of Rajasthan during each of the last three years, Scheme-wise and programme-wise;

(b) the voluntary organization whose proposals have been rejected or pending during the above period and as on date;

(c) the reasons for their rejection;

(d) whether any complaint of misappropriation of sanctioned amount has been received by any of the organization during this period; and

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

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

(a) The details of scheme-wise funds sanctioned and released for the welfare schemes and programmes to the voluntary organization of Rajasthan during each of the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) A total no. of 16 proposals have been pending for want of requisite documents/inspection reports from the State Government/clarification from the State Government about authenticity of the recommendation/

clarifications from the NGO/availability of the sufficient funds etc. under the various schemes of this Ministry.

14 proposals have been rejected for not being in accordance with guidelines.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

| S. No. | Name of the scheme | Amount Released in Rajasthan (Rs. in lakhs) | | |
|--------------|--|--|---------------|---------------|
| | | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
| 1. | Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities | 29.71 | 88.13 | 93.99 |
| 2. | Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids/Appliances | 348.78 | 360.00 | 382.92 |
| 3. | Prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drugs) Abuse | 66.93 | 66.54 | 72.69 |
| 4. | Grant-in-aid Programme for Assistance in the field of Social Defence | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Integrated Programme for Street Children | 147.78 | 25.67 | 17.68 |
| 6. | Integrated Programme for Older Persons | 0.60 | 1.35 | 0 |
| 7. | Assistance to Panchayati Raj Instt./Vol. Orgns./self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons | 5.00 | 10.00 | 2.50 |
| 8. | Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Orgns. Working for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes | 41.43 | 66.05 | 95.18 |
| 9. | Scheme of Assistance to Vol. Orgns. Working for the Other Backward Classes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for the Other Backward Classes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections based on Economic Criteria | 4.06 | 5.25 | 2.45 |
| Total | | 511.29 | 622.99 | 667.41 |

[English]

Filling of Wealth Tax Return

1386. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether declarants under Voluntary Disclosure Income Scheme (VDIS), 1997 are liable to file their wealth tax returns after 1997;

(b) if so, the number of declarants filed returns and the status of remaining declarants;

(c) the punitive action the Government propose to take against the persons who have not filed their wealth tax returns;

(d) whether there is large scale evasion of wealth tax in cases of VDIS declarants; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir. The declarants under Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme (VDIS), 1997 are liable to file their Wealth Tax Returns after 1997, if the assets declared were chargeable to Wealth Tax and the net wealth exceeded the exemption limit of Rs. 15 lakhs.

(b) As particulars contained in a declaration were to be treated as confidential, no verification has been made to find out persons who have not filed Wealth Tax Returns in respect of assets declared in VDIS, 1997.

(c) to (e) As and when information comes to the notice of the Assessing Officers, suitable action as per provisions of the Wealth Tax Act is taken.

Funds for Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme

1387. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Maharashtra has approached the Union Government seeking additional funds for continuation of Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme and provide financial assistance for paying the arrears of cotton farmers of the State;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government to the proposal;

(d) the present status of the proposal and future of the scheme; and

(e) the details of objective review of the scheme under implementation and steps suggested to make its working more efficient in the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Government of Maharashtra, in view of the progressive losses faced by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation, have sought financial assistance for the Federation, for commencement of cotton procurement under the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme. The State Government have requested that the Federation be allowed credit line of Rs. 1200 crores from Consortium headed by State Cooperative Bank and Rs. 500 crores as additional open market borrowings. Keeping

in view the debt sustainability of the State and impact on the macro economic stability, the Central Government have allowed Rs. 250 crores as additional market borrowing for this purpose. In expending credit line, the Consortium headed by Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank is guided by the instructions of RBI/NABARD.

(e) The State Government have now formulated a mechanism to make the scheme self financing from the next Procurement Season.

Foreign Direct Investment

1388. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial institutions have requested the Government to stop further Foreign Direct Investment:

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the FI's in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

LIC's Share in Rural Market

1389. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation is planning to grab the rural market with regard to its policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total percentage of business presently the LIC is doing from the rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has at present, a sizeable number of policies from rural areas. They have also taken a number of steps to increase its share of business from the rural market like strengthening of Branch Offices in the rural areas, posting of newly recruited Development Officers in the mofussil/rural areas and having a scheme of rural career agents. Recently LIC have introduced the concept of *Bima Gram* to help their field force to cover a larger proportion of rural population.

(c) Based on the criterion laid down in the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Obligations of

Insurers to Rural or Social Sectors) Regulations, 2000, during the year 2000-2001 LIC has procured 18.18% of new individual life insurance policies and 14.59% of the sum assured thereunder from rural areas.

[*Translation*]

Subsidy for Export of Sugar

1390. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide financial assistance out of sugar development fund for generation of electricity from ethanol and bagasse;

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

(c) the names of the three exchanges approved by the Government for starting forward trading in sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Central Government has decided to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 *inter alia* to apply the Sugar Development Fund (i) for making loans to any sugar factory or any unit thereof for bagasse-based co-generation power projects with a view to improving their viability and (ii) for making loans to any sugar factory or any unit thereof for production of anhydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol with a view to improving their viability.

(c) Government has given in-principle approval for future trading in sugar for the following three applicants:

- (i) M/s e-commodities Ltd., 1020, Maker Chamber V, Nariman Point, Mumbai-21.
- (ii) M/s NCS Infotech Ltd., 405, Minar Apartments, Deccan Towers, Bassher Bagh, Hyderabad-1.
- (iii) M/s Esugarindia Private Ltd., Bajaj Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Jamnalal Bajaj Marg, 226, Nariman Point, Mumbai-21.

They are in the process of completing the prescribed logistics and formalities for setting up the Exchanges for commencing future trading.

[*English*]

Computerisation of Banks

1391. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of computerisation of nationalised banks in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of banks and their branches proposed to be computerised during the current year; and

(c) the details and location thereof, bank-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will laid on the Table of the House.

One Time Settlement for SSI

1392. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount recovered by various bans under the Samadhan Scheme;

(b) whether the Govt. have come out with a specific scheme called as one time settlement-II for Small Scale Units whose loan have been categorized as PA;

(c) if so, the salient features of this scheme;

(d) the names of the banks have agreed to implement this scheme;

(e) the number of units which are likely to be covered under this facility;

(f) whether there is any proposal to make the scheme flexible to suit the needs of the small scale sector; and

(g) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in consultation with Government of India (GOI) issued guidelines to Public Sector Banks for consultation of Settlement Advisory Committees (SACs) and compromise settlement of chronic Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of small sectors in May, 1999. The guidelines applied to all NPAs in the small scale, namely, Small-Scale Industries Sector, Small Business including Trading and Personal Segments and Agriculture Sector, which are, chronic and at least three years old as on 31st March, 1999. The Bank-wise detail of the recovery under the scheme is given in

Statement I. In the light of the need for further bringing down the stock of NPAs, RBI modified the guidelines of May, 1999 and issued revised guidelines to Public Sector Banks in July, 2000 providing a simplified, non-discriminatory and non-discretionary mechanism for recovery of the stock of NPAs in all sectors. The scheme expired on 30th June, 2001. The details of the recovery of dues (bank-wise) relating to the NPAs of Public Sector Banks under the scheme as on 30th September 2001 are given in the Statement II.

RBI in consultation with Gol issued guidelines on 22nd December 2001 to Public Sector Banks for recovery of all loan accounts with outstanding balance upto Rs. 25,000/- The salient features of the guidelines are as under:

- (i) The guidelines will cover all loan accounts with outstanding balance of upto Rs. 25,000/- principal amount (excluding any interest element) in all sectors irrespective of the nature of business or purpose, which have become NPAs as on 31st March 1998;
- (ii) It will also cover suit-filed and decreed debts. After the settlement is reached, the banks may take appropriate steps for closure of cases in respective courts;
- (iii) Cases of fraud and malfeasance will not be covered; and
- (iv) The guidelines will be operative upto 30th June 2002.
- (d) All Public Sector Banks have agreed to implement the scheme.
- (e) to (g) The new scheme covers all sectors irrespective of the nature of business or purpose, which have become NPAs as on 31st March 1998.

Statement-I

Progress in Compromise Settlements Through
Settlement Advisory Committees (SACs)
As on March 31, 2000

| Rs Crore | | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sr. No. | Name of the Bank | No. of Cases Settled | Amount of Settlement |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Allahabad Bank | 9735 | 14.37 |
| 2. | Andhra Bank | 302 | 5.14 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 3. | Bank of Baroda | 1234 | 29.98 |
| 4. | Bank of India | 12172 | 47.38 |
| 5. | Bank of Maharashtra | 1803 | 10.73 |
| 6. | Canara Bank | 7006 | 50.39 |
| 7. | Central Bank | 19628 | 40.31 |
| 8. | Corporation Bank | 2049 | 6.14 |
| 9. | Dena Bank | 1213 | 16.92 |
| 10. | Indian Bank | 1493 | 52.82 |
| 11. | Indian Overseas Bank | 1096 | 11.53 |
| 12. | Oriental Bank of Commerce | 1408 | 7.92 |
| 13. | Punjab & Sind Bank | 1770 | 13.49 |
| 14. | Punjab National Bank | 12991 | 123.18 |
| 15. | State Bank of India | 15585 | 126.77 |
| 16. | State Bank of Indore | 809 | 22.25 |
| 17. | State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur | 1099 | 4.24 |
| 18. | State Bank of Hyderabad | 626 | 6.88 |
| 19. | State Bank of Mysore | 492 | 1.42 |
| 20. | State Bank of Patiala | 391 | 8.20 |
| 21. | State Bank of Saurashtra | 178 | 2.18 |
| 22. | State Bank of Travancore | 1662 | 5.59 |
| 23. | Syndicate Bank | 2542 | 24.31 |
| 24. | UCO Bank | 2723 | 6.54 |
| 25. | Union Bank | 1090 | 6.81 |
| 26. | United Bank of India | 18487 | 16.93 |
| 27. | Vijaya Bank | 361 | 5.95 |
| Total | | 119945 | 668.37 |

Statement-II

Recovery of NPAs By Public Sector Banks Under RBI's Revised Guidelines As on September 30, 2001

Rs. Crores

| Name of the Bank | Applications received for Settlement | | Settlement Approved | | Recoveries Made | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| | No. of A/cs | Amount | No. of A/cs | Amount | No. of A/cs | Amount |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Allahabad Bank | 27741 | 212 | 18697 | 108 | 18697 | 68 |
| Andhra Bank | 7450 | 79 | 7425 | 71 | 7377 | 42 |
| Bank of Baroda | 74135 | 278 | 71836 | 265 | | 236 |
| Bank of India | 71925 | 376 | 70934 | 364 | 65247 | 210 |
| Bank of Maharashtra | 9908 | 92 | 9558 | 90 | 8628 | 51 |
| Canara Bank | 13694 | 92 | 13690 | 93 | | 45 |
| Central Bank of India | 20312 | 240 | 20278 | 237 | 20278 | 191 |
| Corporation Bank | 4427 | 19 | 4427 | 24 | | 10 |
| Dena Bank | 4449 | 52 | 4120 | 45 | 3787 | 21 |
| Indian Bank | 34881 | 597 | 34627 | 581 | 28585 | 235 |
| Indian Overseas Bank | 9807 | 136 | 9485 | 124 | 8134 | 56 |
| Oriental Bank of Commerce | 17605 | 101 | 17290 | 85 | 24507 | 82 |
| Punjab National Bank | 39606 | 250 | 39606 | 250 | | 170 |
| Punjab & Sind Bank | 4547 | 170 | 4169 | 140 | 2359 | 55 |
| Syndicate Bank | 11235 | 107 | 11162 | 103 | 10257 | 46 |
| UCO Bank | 34205 | 259 | 30831 | 243 | 30183 | 49 |
| Union Bank | 40106 | 178 | 40106 | 207 | | 102 |
| United Bank of India | 22446 | 102 | 22285 | 78 | 20782 | 59 |
| Vijaya Bank | 4128 | 51 | 4117 | 50 | 2850 | 29 |
| State of Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur | 35830 | 60 | 35830 | 60 | 35830 | 41 |
| State Bank of Hyderabad | 31064 | | 29037 | 76 | 28930 | 44 |
| State Bank of India | 331280 | | 331280 | 1059 | | 633 |
| State Bank of Indore | 11358 | 47 | 11335 | 44 | 10943 | 18 |
| State Bank of Mysore | 17182 | 46 | 17173 | 45 | 15509 | 25 |
| State Bank of Patiala | 24127 | 200 | 14406 | 114 | 8414 | 51 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|
| State Bank of Saurashtra | 7414 | 43 | 6156 | 35 | 6156 | 16 |
| State Bank of Travancore | 8038 | 59 | 7332 | 59 | 7200 | 14 |
| Total | 918900 | 3846 | 887192 | 4650 | 364653 | 2599 |

Loss of Revenue Due to Ban on Tobacco Products

1393. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had conducted any survey regarding the loss of revenue due to the proposed ban on Tobacco products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, ban is proposed on the production of tobacco products in "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution), Bill, 2001."

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

[Translation]

Assistance to Promote Silk

1394. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of silk industry in the country and the number of research and development centers presently doing research work in silk and names of places where these are situated;

(b) whether the Government are proposing to provide more assistance to State Government to promote silk industry; and

(c) if so, the extent of the assistance provided to the silk growers and exporters separately during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Presently India is the second largest producer of silk in the world. India is now technologically more equipped to attempt qualitative and quantitative increase in silk production.

The details of the Centrally supported Research and Development Centres presently doing the research work in silk is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) Yes Sir, the CSB Plan budget for 2002-2003 for assistance to States through its plan & schemes has been considerably enhanced over the previous year.

(c) During the last three years i.e., 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, a total no. of 34661 sericulturists/farmers were benefited with the assistance provided by the Central Silk Board under the Catalytic Development Schemes. The State-wise details of farmers benefited is given in the statement-II. Assistance to exporters is extended by Indian Silk Export Promotion Council. Details are given in the statement-III.

Statement-I

The various research units presently functioning under Central Silk Board are as follows:

A. Mulberry Sector:

Main Institutes [6]:-

Central Sericulture Research & Training Institutes[CSR&TI] (3 Nos):

Berhampore [West Bengal] - 1

Mysore (Karnataka) - 1

Pampore [J & K] - 1

Silkworm Seed Technology Laboratory [SSTL]: Bangalore [Karnataka]

Central Sericulture Germplasm Resources Centre [CSGRC] Hosur [Tamil Nadu]

Seri Biotech Research Laboratory [SBRL] Bangalore [Karnataka]

Sub-Units [53]:-

Regional Sericultural Research Stations [RSRS] [10]:

5 Under CSR&TI, Mysore: Chamrajanagar & Kodathi [Karnataka],

- Coonoor & Salem
[Tamil Nadu],
Ananthpur [Andhra Pradesh]
- 3 Under CSR & TI, Berhampore: Kalimpong [West Bengal], Koraput [Orissa], Ranchi [Jharkhand]
- 2 Under CSR & TI, Pampore: Jammu [J & K], Sahaspur [Uttar Pradesh]
- 1 Under CMER&TI, Lahdoigarh: Jorhat [Assam]

Research Extension Centres [REC] [19]:

- 9 Under CSR&TI Mysore: Madivala, Bidaraguppe & Chitradurga, [K a r n a t a k a], Samayanallur & Krishnagiri, [Tamil Nadu] Angamali [Kerala], Parbhani [Maharashtra], Vikarabad & Rayachoti [Andhra Pradesh].
- 7 Under CSR&TI, Berhampore: Kamnagar & Mothabari [West Bengal], Deograh, [Orissa], Singhanpur [Chhattisgarh], Gumla & Maheshpur Raj, [Jharkhand], Majitar [Sikkim].
- 3 Under CSR&TI, Pampore: Kathua [J & K], Sujampur [Punjab], Gonda, [Uttar Pradesh]

Sub-Research Extension Centres [Sub-Rec] [24]:

- 9 Under CSR&TI, Mysore: Mugur, Kinkanahalli, Koppal Bidar And Shimoga [Karnataka], Marayur [Kerala], Eluru, [Andhra Pradesh], Chengannur & Nilambur [Kerala]
- 7 Under CSR&TI, Berhmapore: Kashipur & Mohanpur [West Bengal], Lohardaga, Dumka & Rajmahal [Jharkhand], Saharsa & Sabour [Bir].

- 8 Under CSR&TI, Pampore: Anantnag, Tikri, Tral, Pattan & Seri-Bhaderwah [J & K], Gorakhpur [UP], Una [HP], Bagheswar [Uttarakhand]

B. Non-Mulberry Sector:**Main Institutes [2]:-**

- Central Tasar Reserach & Training Institute: Ranchi [Jharkhand]-1
- Central Muga Eri Research & Training Institute: Lahdoigarh [Assam]-1

Sub-Unis [30]:-**Regional Tasar Research Station [RTRS] [8]:**

- 8 Under CTR&TI, Ranchi: Batote [J & K], Bhimtal [Utharakhand], Imphal [Manipur] Dumka [J h a r k h a n d], Jagadai pur [Chhattisgarh], Baripada [Orissa], Warangal [Andhra Pradesh], Bhandara [Maharashtra]

Regional Muga Research Station [RMRS] [1]:

- 1 Under CSER&TI, Ladoigarh: Boko [Assam]

Regional ERI Research Station [RERS] [1]:

- 1 Under CSER&TI, Lahdoigarh: Mendipathar [Meghalaya].

Research Extension of Centres [REC] [19]:

- 10 Under CSR&TI, Ranchi: Palampur [Himachal Pradesh], Umrangsu [Assam], Kikruma [N a g a l a n d], Yaikongpao [Manipur], Bangriposi [Orissa], Hatgama h a r i a [Jharkhand], Sultanpur [Uttar Pradesh], K h a t g h o r a [Chhattisgarh], Mulug [Andhra Pradesh], Purulia [West Bengal].
- 4 Under CSER&TI, Ladoigarh-Coochbehar [West Bengal], Tura [Meghalaya], Diphu, Lakhimpur, [Assam]

6 Under RSRS Jorhat: Mangaldoi [Assam],
Aizwal [Mizoram],
Dimapur [Nagaland],
Shillong [Meghalaya],
Agartala [Tripura],
Imphal [Manipur]

C. Post-Cocoon Sector:

Main Institutes [1]:-

Central Silk Technological Reserach Institute [Cstri],
Bangalore [Kamatatka]

Sub-Units [31]:-

Demonstration-Cum-Technical Service Centres [DCTSC]

16 Under CSTRI: Bakreswar [West
Bengal], Bhandara
[Maharashtra],
Berhampore [West
Bengal], Bhagalpur
[Bihar], Champa
[Madhya Pradesh],
D e h r a d u n
[Uttarakhand],
Dharmapuri [Tamil

Nadu], Rayapura
[Karnataka], Fakirpur,
[Orissa], Hindpur
[Andhra Pradesh],
Jammu [J & K], Malda,
[West Bengal],
Naupatna [Orissa],
Palakkad [Kerala],
Sualkuchi [Assam],
Varanasi [Uttar
Pradesh].

Silk Conditioning and Testing House [SCTH]

6 Under CSTRI: Bangalore [Karnataka],
Dharmavaram [Andhra
Pradesh], Jammu &
Srinagar, [J & K],
Kancheepuram [Tamil
Nadu], Malda [West
Bengal],

Eco Testing Laboratories [Eco-Lab]

2 Under CSTRI: Bhagalpur [Bihar],
Varanasi [Uttar
Pradesh].

Statement-II

Year-wise, State-wise No. of beneficiaries covered under Catalytic Development Programme

| Name of the State | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------|---------|-------|------|-----------|-------|------|--------|-------|------|
| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme | Karnataka | T. Nadu | J & K | A.P. | W. Bengal | Maha. | M.P. | Orissa | Bihar | U.P. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 1. | On farm training and supply of start up tools under mulberry and non-mulberry sectors | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1998-1999 | — | 600 | 1000 | 1000 | 354 | 1809 | 1000 | — | — | |
| | 1999-2000 | | 1000 | 1000 | | 800 | 1163 | | 562 | | |
| | 2000-2001 | 1000 | 1000 | | 4000 | 1350 | 2500 | — | — | — | — |
| | Total | 1000 | 2600 | 2000 | 5000 | 2504 | 5472 | | 1562 | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|----|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|----|------|----|-----|
| 2. | Promotion of resource conservation technologies through drip irrigation | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1998-1999 | — | 225 | 220 | — | 200 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 1999-2000 | — | — | — | — | — | 100 | — | — | — | — |
| | 2000-2001 | 300 | 170 | — | 100 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Total | 300 | 395 | 220 | 100 | 200 | 100 | | | | |
| 3. | Support to Pre-reeling Productivity measures of a demonstrative kind adopted by States. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1998-1999 | — | — | 3600 | 20 | 50 | — | — | 110 | — | 150 |
| | 1999-2000 | 450 | — | — | — | 100 | — | 15 | 100 | 40 | — |
| | 2000-2001 | — | — | — | 100 | 200 | — | 39 | | | |
| | Total | 450 | | 3600 | 120 | 350 | | 54 | 210 | 40 | 150 |
| | Grand Total | 1750 | 2995 | 5820 | 5220 | 3054 | 5572 | 54 | 1772 | 40 | 150 |

Year-wise, State-wise No. of beneficiaries covered under Catalytic Development Programme

Name of the State

| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme | Kerala | H.P. | Sikkim | Assam | Ar. Prsh | Meghalaya | Mizoram | Nagaland | Tripura | Total |
|---------|---|--------|------|--------|-------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 1. | On farm training and supply of start up tools under mulberry and non-mulberry sectors | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1998-1999 | 550 | — | 80 | 200 | 30 | 102 | 1202 | 96 | 266 | 8289 |
| | 1999-2000 | 667 | — | — | 399 | — | 254 | 20 | 53 | 600 | 6518 |
| | 2000-2001 | 330 | 600 | 112 | 1370 | 127 | 604 | 233 | 230 | — | 13456 |
| | Total | 1547 | 600 | 192 | 1969 | 157 | 960 | 1455 | 379 | 866 | 28263 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|----|--------------|
| 2. Promotion of resource conservation technologies through drip irrigation | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1998-1999 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 645 |
| 1999-2000 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 100 |
| 2000-2001 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 574 |
| Total | 4 | | | | | | | | | | 1319 |
| 3. Support to Pre-reeling Productivity measures of a demonstrative kind adopted by States. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1998-1999 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 100 | — | — | 4030 |
| 1999-2000 | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 710 |
| 2000-2001 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 339 |
| Total | | | 5 | | | | | 100 | | | 5079 |
| Grand Total | 1551 | 600 | 197 | 1969 | 157 | 960 | 1555 | 379 | 866 | | 34661 |

Statement-III

| State | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Maharashtra | — | 3 | 6 |
| Karnataka | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| New Delhi | 9 | 7 | 8 |
| Bihar | — | — | 2 |
| Tamilnadu | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| West Bengal | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| M.P. | 1 | — | 1 |
| Assam | 1 | — | — |
| A.P. | 1 | 1 | — |
| U.P. | 2 | 7 | 10 |
| Total | 17 | 25 | 54 |

*[English]***Compulsory Rolling Settlement**

1395. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI has stipulated that all stock markets exchanges make daily disclosures on the stock-wise deliverable position under compulsory rolling settlement;

(b) if so, whether some stock exchanges have not fulfilled this stipulation;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the other steps taken by SEBI to ensure that all malpractices are curtailed in the stock exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) SEBI has intimated that it has stipulated vide its circular dated January 30, 2002 that the exchanges would disclose scrip wise deliverable positions grossed across clients for that day's trading session. The major stock exchanges viz., BSE, NSE and DSE have informed that they have been disclosing the scrip wise deliverable positions across clients at the end of trading session on a daily basis.

(b) and (c) Information about the other stock exchanges is being obtained.

(d) The steps taken by SEBI to curtail malpractices on the stock exchanges, inter-alia, include implementation of rolling settlement, introduction of margin system based on value-at-risk basis, financial and accounting disclosures through consolidated financial statements, related party transactions and segment reporting, establishment of dedicated surveillance cells in stock exchanges, risk containment measures in the form of elaborate margining system and further strengthening of insider trading regulations.

Hostels for SC/ST in Kerala

1396. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for construction of hostels for students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the State of Kerala for the last two years;

(b) whether any more hostels have been sanctioned for Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) During the last 2 years, 3 hostels for ST boys for Rs. 22.05 lakh and 2 hostels for ST girls for Rs. 14.70 lakh have been sanctioned to State Government of Kerala.

(b) to (d) During current year 2001-2002, assistance for one hostel for SC boys has been sanctioned and proposal for sanction of 3 hostels for SC girls, 3 hostels for ST boys and 2 hostels for ST girls are under process for the State of Kerala.

Financial Assistance to the Mills of Rajasthan

1397. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of textiles mills functioning at present in co-operative, private and public sector in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) the number of workers working therein;

(c) the facilities being given by the above mills to the workers; and

(d) the financial assistance provided to these mills during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The details of cotton/man-made fibre textiles mills (Non-SSI) functioning as on 31-12-2001 in co-operative, private and public sector in the State of Rajasthan are as follows:

| Management | Number of mills | | | Workers on roll |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|-----------------|
| | Spinning | Composite | Total | |
| Public | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2781 |
| Private | 38 | 6 | 44 | 49525 |
| Co-operative | 4 | - | 4 | 5015 |
| Total | 44 | 9 | 53 | 57321 |

(c) The Government does not maintain data regarding the facilities being given by the industry.

(d) Under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for textile and jute industries out of the above mentioned 53 cotton/man-made fibre textiles mills (Non-SSI), 12 have

applied for loan assistance. These units have been sanctioned an amount of Rs. 159.76 crores, out of which Rs. 78.09 crores have been disbursed to 9 units.

Anti-Dumping Duty on BOPP Film

1398. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed anti-dumping duty on the imports BOPP film, a critical raw material for package industry;

(b) if so, the reasons for imposition of such a duty;

(c) whether any representation has been received from the paper film and foil converters association;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Anti-Dumping investigation was initiated on imports of BOPP film from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Oman, UAE, Singapore and Thailand on 30.05.2001. On the basis of sufficient evidence of dumping, injury and a casual link between the two, provisional duties were recommended in the preliminary findings issued by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties on 14.08.2001, which were imposed on 9.10.2001 by a Notification issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

(c) to (e) Representations were received from Paper Film and Foil Converters Association vide their letters

dated 17.09.2001 and 22.10.2001 i.e. after the preliminary findings. All the representations received from the interested parties are examined during the course of investigations. The final findings in this case are yet to be notified.

Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers

1399. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to different States during the last three years to implement the Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS);

(b) the role played by the public sector banks in assisting the beneficiaries;

(c) the number of scavengers in various State benefited by the scheme;

(d) whether the Government have set target to cover all the scavengers to get the benefit of the scheme; and

(e) if so, how far the target has been achieved in every State, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) State-wise performance data for the year 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 indicating the amount allotted to different States during last three years, vis-a-vis the target as well as achievements are given in the statement. The progress in this regard is monitored in the State Level Bankers' Committees meeting from time to time.

Statement

Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS)

State-wise Performance of Banks for the Years Ended 31st March 1999, 2000 and 2001

(Rs. lakh)

| | 1999 | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| | Target | No. of Appl. Recd. | Total Loan Sanctioned | | Total Loan Disbursed | |
| | | | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 233 | 690 | 527 | 52.86 | 453 | 49.49 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| Assam | 20 | 48 | 46 | 6.05 | 28 | 1.83 |
| Bihar | 26 | 32 | 17 | 3.84 | 15 | 3.59 |
| Goa | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Gujarat | 1564 | 2095 | 1244 | 116.99 | 1211 | 106.80 |
| Haryana | 930 | 1881 | 1221 | 188.73 | 975 | 140.87 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 20 | 77 | 68 | 11.87 | 63 | 10.64 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 42 | 26 | 26 | 3.18 | 25 | 3.00 |
| Karnataka | 154 | 895 | 782 | 66.37 | 66 | 55.98 |
| Kerala | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Madhya Pradesh | 8026 | 6701 | 3646 | 755.56 | 2212 | 462.19 |
| Maharashtra | 1299 | 2584 | 1288 | 395.99 | 1081 | 309.79 |
| Manipur | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meghalaya | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Mizoram | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Nagaland | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| NCT of Delhi | 1510 | 1251 | 380 | 45.66 | 136 | 19.10 |
| Orissa | 778 | 986 | 821 | 70.85 | 733 | 64.32 |
| Punjab | 159 | 364 | 211 | 53.09 | 139 | 29.85 |
| Rajasthan | 3454 | 1213 | 844 | 132.75 | 538 | 71.27 |
| Sikkim | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tamil Nadu | 1441 | 3475 | 2233 | 277.27 | 1933 | 220.59 |
| Tripura | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Uttar Pradesh | 16430 | 16734 | 9696 | 1219.02 | 6670 | 811.31 |
| West Bengal | 87 | 222 | 185 | 595.21 | 173 | 591.11 |
| Andaman & Nicobar | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Chandigarh | — | 14 | 13 | 1.82 | 13 | 1.82 |
| Dadra & NH | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Daman & Diu | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lakshadweep | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pondicherry | 59 | 68 | 60 | 8.90 | 57 | 8.40 |
| Chhattisgarh | | | | | | |
| Uttaranchal | | | | | | |
| All India | 36232 | 39346 | 23308 | 4004.01 | 17151 | 2961.95 |

| 1 | 2000 | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------|
| | Target | No. of Appl. Recd. | Total Loan Sanctioned | | Total Loan Disbursed | |
| | | | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 301 | 568 | 391 | 53.05 | 265 | 50.18 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Assam | 232 | 341 | 313 | 28.33 | 279.4 | 22.78 |
| Bihar | 50 | 33 | 26 | 5.30 | 24 | 5.00 |
| Goa | — | 55 | 45 | 6.38 | 45 | 6.38 |
| Gujarat | 2054 | 2124 | 1467 | 173.25 | 1442 | 167.83 |
| Haryana | 1524 | 1601 | 978 | 158.45 | 658 | 101.59 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 232 | 223 | 132 | 26.42 | 112 | 23.82 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 47 | 5 | 3 | 0.65 | 3 | 8.63 |
| Karnataka | 537 | 1112 | 643 | 65.67 | 530 | 51.50 |
| Kerala | 21 | 31 | 9 | 2.02 | 9 | 1.99 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 6672 | 6090 | 3840 | 748.23 | 1702 | 36.62 |
| Maharashtra | 1301 | 2430 | 1227 | 198.39 | 997 | 151.66 |
| Manipur | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meghalaya | | | | | | |
| Mizoram | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Nagaland | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| NCT of Delhi | 1879 | 2235 | 1122 | 191.33 | 628 | 95.82 |
| Orissa | 1375 | 1275 | 1084 | 111.71 | 990 | 100.92 |
| Punjab | 123 | 444 | 375 | 49.82 | 261 | 40.32 |
| Rajasthan | 2556 | 116 | 546 | 103.32 | 329 | 55.20 |
| Sikkim | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tamil Nadu | 1467 | 6535 | 4098 | 562.29 | 3301 | 432.10 |
| Tripura | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Uttar Pradesh | 15639 | 17798 | 11697 | 1424.17 | 6973 | 825.02 |
| West Bengal | 95 | 444 | 355 | 75.59 | 386 | 69.16 |
| Andaman & Nicobar | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Chandigarh | 100 | 88 | 64 | 5.82 | 58 | 4.39 |
| Dadra & NH | — | 33 | 29 | 5.00 | 29 | 5.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| Daman & Diu | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lakshadweep | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pondicherry | — | 118 | 67 | 9.20 | 54 | 7.67 |
| Chhattisgarh | | | | | | |
| Uttaranchal | | | | | | |
| All India | 36268 | 44752 | 28446 | 4084.39 | 19085 | 2572.51 |

2001

| 1 | 2 | 3 | Total Loan Sanctioned | | Total Loan Disbursed | |
|-------------------|------|------|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| | | | No. | Amount | No. | Amount |
| | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 694 | 1177 | 816 | 111.78 | 710 | 90.93 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Assam | 580 | 686 | 621 | 152.19 | 621 | 152.07 |
| Bihar | 85 | 113 | 48 | 9.04 | 48 | 8.00 |
| Goa | — | 71 | 68 | 8.80 | 66 | 8.05 |
| Gujarat | 1911 | 1768 | 1357 | 162.90 | 1342 | 139.72 |
| Haryana | 1040 | 1407 | 900 | 177.54 | 697 | 126.24 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 110 | 145 | 108 | 23.87 | 99 | 21.87 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 119 | 14 | 10 | 1.32 | 10 | 1.27 |
| Karnataka | 773 | 696 | 562 | 78.62 | 532 | 72.74 |
| Kerala | — | 152 | 139 | 21.67 | 135 | 20.91 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 5702 | 4757 | 3115 | 574.66 | 2503 | 428.09 |
| Maharashtra | 933 | 1407 | 793 | 107.91 | 692 | 87.66 |
| Manipur | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meghalaya | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Mizoram | | | | | | |
| Nagaland | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| NCT of Delhi | 1525 | 471 | 219 | 37.17 | 157 | 24.16 |
| Orissa | 693 | 918 | 659 | 80.39 | 639 | 70.80 |
| Punjab | 132 | 241 | 187 | 30.38 | 170 | 26.59 |
| Rajasthan | 2027 | 741 | 488 | 84.32 | 341 | 55.51 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| Sikkim | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tamil Nadu | 281 | 3540 | 3088 | 451.84 | 2888 | 408.85 |
| Tripura | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Uttar Pradesh | 10142 | 10351 | 7033 | 823.67 | 5219 | 561.48 |
| West Bengal | — | 93 | 76 | 8.57 | 72 | 8.02 |
| Andaman & Nicobar | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Chandigarh | — | 1 | 1 | 0.30 | 1 | 0.30 |
| Dadra & NH | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Daman & Diu | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lakshadweep | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pondicherry | 10 | 170 | 158 | 16.14 | 129 | 14.58 |
| Chhattisgarh | 326 | 310 | 144 | 32.59 | 79 | 16.58 |
| Uttaranchal | 516 | 600 | 423 | 50.5 | 257 | 30.48 |
| All India | 27599 | 29791 | 21014 | 3026.24 | 17407 | 2375.15 |

Income of Film Personalities**Statement**

1400. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proper documentation on the income earned by the film personalities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the list of film personalities who have paid income tax to the tune of Rs. 10 lakhs or above in the last three years and the total income generated through the income-tax paid by them to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the returns of income filed by assesseees with the Department are indicative of the income earned by them. Documentations are available in the form of returns and various registers kept by the assessing officers.

(c) The list of film personalities who have paid income tax to the tune of Rs. 10 lakhs or above in the last three years is given in the enclosed statement. The total income generated through the income-tax paid by them is Rs. 94.60 crore.

S. Name of the Assessee
No.

- | 1 | 2 |
|-----|-------------------|
| 1. | Aishwarya Rai |
| 2. | Amitabh Bachchan |
| 3. | Jaya Bachchan |
| 4. | Abhishek Bachchan |
| 5. | Amrishlal Puri |
| 6. | Salman Khan |
| 7. | Rani Mukherji |
| 8. | Shahrukh Khan |
| 9. | Yash Johar |
| 10. | Karishma Kapoor |
| 11. | Madhuri Dixit |
| 12. | Anu Malik |
| 13. | David Dhawan |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 14. | Bharat Shah |
| 15. | Abhijeet Bhattacharya |
| 16. | Alka Yagnik |
| 17. | Anand Bakshi |
| 18. | Anupal Kher |
| 19. | Archana Puran Singh |
| 20. | Asha Bhosale |
| 21. | Asha Parekh |
| 22. | Dimple Kapadia |
| 23. | Farah Khan |
| 24. | Fardeen Khan |
| 25. | Govind Ahuja |
| 26. | Gulshan Grover |
| 27. | J.P. Dutta |
| 28. | Juhi Chawla |
| 29. | Jyotika Sadanah |
| 30. | Kadar Khan |
| 31. | Lata Mangeshkar |
| 32. | Manisha Koirala |
| 33. | Manoj Bajpai |
| 34. | Mithun Chakravorthy |
| 35. | Mukesh Khanna |
| 36. | Nana Patekar |
| 37. | Nasiruddin Shah |
| 38. | Om Puri |
| 39. | Pankaj Kharbanda |
| 40. | Preity Zinta |
| 41. | Raj Kanwar |
| 42. | Raj Babbar |
| 43. | Rajesh Roshan |
| 44. | Rakesh Roshan |
| 45. | Raveena Tandon |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 46. | Rishi Kapoor |
| 47. | Sachin Pilgaonkar |
| 48. | Saif Ali Khan |
| 49. | Salim Akhtar |
| 50. | Sanjay Dutt |
| 51. | Sankar Mahadevan |
| 52. | Shekar Suman |
| 53. | Shridev Anand |
| 54. | Sonu Nigam |
| 55. | Twinkle Khanna |
| 56. | Udit Narayan |
| 57. | Vijaysingh Deol |
| 58. | N. Balakrishna |
| 59. | K. Kalyan Kumar |
| 60. | V. Jagapathi Rao |
| 61. | A. Nagarjuna Rao |
| 62. | Rajinikanth |
| 63. | A.R.Rehman |
| 64. | G. Subramaniam @ Manirathinam |
| 65. | A. Sreedevi |
| 66. | K.J. Yesudoss |
| 67. | Ramyakrishnan |
| 68. | K.S. Ravi Kumar |
| 69. | A. Vijayakanth |
| 70. | Sathyaraj |
| 71. | A. Ramesh |
| 72. | S. Ajeeth Kumar |
| 73. | Arjun |
| 74. | S.P. Balasubramaniam |
| 75. | R.B. Chowdhury |
| 76. | K. Chiranjeevi |
| 77. | K. Coundamani |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|

78. C. Joseph Vijay

79. D. Meena

80. Mohanlal

81. Kamal Hassan

82. T.L. Prasanth

83. R. Madhavan

84. K.S. Soumaya

85. T.N. Venkatesh

86. Puttaswamy alias Shivaraj Kumar

87. Basant Kumar Patil

Interest of Small Investors

1401. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently the Government have initiated any fresh steps to protect the interest of small investors in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Government is examining proposing legislative changes to further strengthen provisions in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992 for investor protection and to make SEBI a more effective body for regulation and development of capital markets.

Impact of Global Glut in Tea Industry

1402. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the impact of the global glut in the tea industry;

(b) if so, the steps taken to tide over the present global glut in the tea industry;

(c) whether any marketing strategy has been prepared therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The world production of tea was higher than the world demand for tea in the year 2001 causing a decline in the prices of tea in the auction centers of the major tea producing countries. However, the rate of decline in prices has not been very high and therefore there is no global glut in the tea industry.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Fall in Sale of Cigarette

1403. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in cigarette sales due to increase in consumption of crude tobacco;

(b) if so, whether adding to this the ban on advertising in the media and the sports arena and the smuggling going unchecked the tobacco industry has been hit very badly; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to save the industry and workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The data on the production of cigarettes in India for domestic consumption and export over the past few years is given below:

| Year | Cigarette Production (In Million. Pieces) (a) | Cigarette Export (In Million Pieces) (b) | Cigarette Production for Domestic Consumption (In Million Pieces) (a)-(b) |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1996-1997 | 103895 | 714 | 103181 |
| 1997-1998 | 106970 | 1205 | 105765 |
| 1998-1999 | 101001 | 1432 | 99569 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|-------|
| 1999-2000 | 97629 | 1851 | 95778 |
| 2000-2001 | 96642 | 2016 | 94626 |
| 2001-2002 (April-November) | 55037 | 1936 | 53101 |

Source: Tobacco Board

These figures do not suggest any substantial decline in the production of cigarettes for domestic consumption.

Acting on reports on smuggling of cigarettes into India, the field formations under the Customs Department, including the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, are vigilant and alert to check smuggling of contraband goods, including cigarettes. As far as the impact on the tobacco industry of the ban on advertising of tobacco products in the media and the sporting arena is concerned, it is difficult to make any assessment at this stage.

(c) Does not arise.

Circulation of Soiled Notes

1404. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of large scale circulation of soiled and mutilated currency notes in many parts of the country especially in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to withdraw these currency notes from circulation and make available currency notes in good condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken various steps for retrieval of soiled and mutilated notes and for exchanging them with fresh notes/coins by opening special counters at various Regional offices of RBI, including at Ahmedabad. All the public sector banks and currency chest branches have been instructed to mop up soiled and mutilated notes and exchange them with supply of fresh notes and coins. The lead banks have also been advised to identify a branch in each block to provide the facility of exchange of mutilated/soiled notes.

Inspection of Private Banks

1405. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Nos. 538 and 5352 dated July 25, 1997 and December 22, 2000 regarding inspection of private sector banks and internal audit system respectively and state:

(a) the details of the private banks whose Chief Executive officers and their executives were called by RBI in the last three years for a discussion to identify the steps to be taken to eradicate the deficiencies in the system and outcome of each of those meetings;

(b) whether major shortcomings noticed by inspection teams of RBI including deficiencies in the exercise of delegated authority; appraisal of credit proposals, compliance of RBI instructions/guidelines as well as policies and procedures laid down internally still continue unabatedly in the banks; and

(c) if so, the reasons for RBI not keeping proper track on them giving room for frauds like the Madhavpura Mercantile Cooperative Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during the last three years the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of the following 32 private sector banks were called for discussions on deficiencies noticed by the RBI's inspection department.

1. Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.
2. Bank of Madura Ltd.
3. Benares State Bank Ltd.
4. Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.

5. City Union Bank Ltd.
6. Development Credit Bank Ltd.
7. Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.
8. Federal Bank Ltd.
9. Ganesh Bank of Kurundwad Ltd.
10. Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
11. Karnataka Bank Ltd.
12. Karur Vyasa Bank Ltd.
13. Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd.
14. Lord Krishna Bank Ltd.
15. Nainital Bank Ltd.
16. Nedungadi Bank Ltd.
17. Ratnakar Bank Ltd.
18. Sangli Bank Ltd.
19. SBI Commercial and International Bank Ltd.
20. South Indian Bank Ltd.
21. Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.
22. United Western Bank Ltd.
23. Vyasa Bank Ltd.
24. Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd.
25. Bank of Punjab Ltd.
26. Centurion Bank Ltd.
27. Global Trust Bank Ltd.
28. HDFC Bank Ltd.
29. ICICI Bank Ltd.
30. IDBI Bank Ltd.
31. Indusind Bank Ltd.
32. UTI Bank Ltd.

During the discussions, serious deficiencies noticed in the banks' functioning were brought to the notice of CEOs and they were advised to initiate steps for rectifying the deficiencies. The banks were also given time bound action plans for improving their capital adequacy position, asset quality, house keeping etc. The follow up action on the deficiencies observed in RBI's inspection reports is monitored on an ongoing basis by the Bank.

Development of SCs/STs

1406. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the recommendation of Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebration Committee during 1992 to earmark every year funds out of the Plan outlays at least proportionate to the SC/ST population for their overall development and to bring them on the mainstream of our national life;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total national plan outlays during the Eighth (1992-1997) and Ninth (1997-2002) Five Year Plans;

(d) the funds earmarked and spent for overall development of SCs and STs indicating schemes/programmes and results achieved; and

(e) if not, the reasons for non-implementation of the said decision of the national Committee?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The National Committee for the Centenary Celebrations of Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had recommended for provision of fund for development of SCs and STs according to their population percentage in 1992. Under the strategy of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) introduced by the Planning Commission in 1975 and Special Component Plan (SCP) in 1979, the State Governments/Union Territories have been advised to prepare and implement TSP and SCP to by earmarking part of the Plan fund in proportion to the percentage of STs and SCs in the States/UTs respectively. The Central Ministries/Departments have also been requested to make similar action. Implementation of TSP and SCP by the State Government/UTs is monitored by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and this Ministry respectively. Implementation of TSP and SCP by the Central Ministries are monitored by the Standing Tripartite Committee of the Planning Commission, the National Commission for SCs and STs, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and this Ministry.

(c) to (e) As per the figures given by Planning Commission, the total National Plan outlay during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans was Rs. 4,34,100 crores and Rs. 8,59,200 crores respectively.

During Eighth Five Year Plan, Rs. 1591.00 crores was provided and Rs. 1977.63 crores was spent for scheme on welfare of Scheduled Tribes and Rs. 2322.30 crores was provided and Rs. 2909.37 crores was spent on schemes for welfare of Scheduled Castes, which were additive in nature, by the Ministry of Welfare. During Ninth Five Year Plan, Rs. 4,156.50 crores was provided and Rs. 2763.09 crores was spent during 1997-1998 to 2000-2001 on welfare of SCs. Rs. 414.13 crores was provided

for schemes other than Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-plan (TSP) and Grant under Article 275(1) of the Constitution and Rs. 2,271 crores have been spent on the schemes during 1997-1998 to 2000-2001 on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes by this Ministry and Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Details of amount spent on SC and ST welfare by the State/UT Governments and other central Ministries maintained by the State/UT Governments and will be collected and placed on the Table of the House.

IDA Assisted Projects

1407. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects with the assistance of Department for International Development Agency have been launched in various States;

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

(c) whether any project has been Launched in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the names of the NGOs who are receiving funds from DFID for launching those Projects; and

(e) the amount sanctioned during the last three years by DFID to different NGOs in different States for implementing those Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of ongoing DFID Assisted Projects are as given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Details of amount sanctioned by DFID to different NGOs in different States for implementing DFID assisted Projects, during last five years are as given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

List of ongoing DFID assisted projects (Financial Assistance Projects)

| S. No. | Name of the Project | State where implemented | Date of Agreement |
|--------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh Energy Efficiency Project Grant, 1994 | Andhra Pradesh | 22.12.94 |
| 2. | Eastern India Rainfed Farming Project Grant, 1995 | West Bengal, Orissa & Bihar | 8.9.95 |
| 3. | UK/India Andhra Pradesh District Primary Education Project, LCG, 1996 | Andhra Pradesh | 29.8.96 |
| 4. | West Bengal District Primary Education Project | West Bengal | 16.5.97 |
| 5. | Karnataka Watersheds Development Project | Karnataka | 28.5.97 |
| 6. | Orissa Health & Family Welfare Project Phase, 3 | Orissa | 21.8.97 |
| 7. | Cuttack Urban Services Improvement Project (Main Phase), 97 | Orissa | 20.10.97 |
| 8. | Western India Rainfed Farming Project Phase, II | Gujarat, M.P., Rajasthan | 26.4.99 |
| 9. | Andhra Pradesh Urban Services for the Poor Project | Andhra Pradesh | 3.6.99 |
| 10. | Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project | Andhra Pradesh | 23.7.99 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---|---|------------|
| 11. | Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project | Orissa | 23.7.99 |
| 12. | Partnership for Sexual Health in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala & Orissa | Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala & Orissa (through NACO) | 27.10.99 |
| 13. | Shiksha Karmi Project Phase, III | Rajasthan | 16.3.2000 |
| 14. | UK/India Forestry Training Project Grant, 2000 | Uttar Pradesh (now Uttaranchal) | 11.4.2000 |
| 15. | West Bengal District Primary Education Project Expansion Phase | West Bengal | 16.5.2000 |
| 16. | Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme- Andhra Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh | 2.8.2000 |
| 17. | Lok Jumbish Phase, III | Rajasthan | 4.8.2000 |
| 18. | Support for the Governance Reform Programme in Andhra Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh | 27.8.2001 |
| 19. | Orissa District Primary Education Project | Orissa | 10.10.01 |
| 20. | Calcutta Slum Improvement Project Phase I C | West Bengal | 10.3.98 |
| 21. | Orissa Cyclone Damaged Lift Irrigation Point Project | Orissa | 29.8.2001 |
| 22. | Calcutta Environment Project Grant, 2001 | West Bengal | 26.11.2001 |
| 23. | Orissa Power Sector Reforms Project | Orissa | 29.8.96 |
| 24. | Orissa Post Cyclone Reconstruction of Primary schools | Orissa | 1.1.2002 |
| 25. | Polio Eradication Programme (Final Phase) | Throughout country | 2.1.2002 |
| 26. | Cochin Urban Services Improvement Project | Kerala | 1.5.97 |
| 27. | Western Ghats Forestry Project | Karnataka | 8.10.92 |
| 28. | Himachal Pradesh Forestry Project | Himachal Pradesh | 19.12.97 |

| DFID Assisted Projects | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------------------------|--|---------|----|---|-----------|
| (Technical Cooperation Assistance) | | | 2. | Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project | 16.6.99 |
| S. Name of Project | Date of Agreement | | 3. | National Micro Finance Support Project | 24.2.2000 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4. | Orissa Public Sector Reforms Project | 17.3.99 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh Power Sector Reform Project | 17.5.99 | 5. | West Bengal Reproductive Health Project | 4.11.96 |
| | | | 6. | Reproductive Health Project, Orissa | 27.11.96 |

Statement-II**List of NGOs Engaged by DFID for Assisting DFID Funded Projects**

| Figures in £ | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Agency | Allocation |
| Civil Society Challenge Fund | |
| 1 | 2 |
| TVE International | 21,421 |
| AID-Alternative for India Development | 82,147 |
| India | 56,397 |
| Susila Dharma | 10,000 |
| Leprosy Mission | 42,155 |
| Village Service Trust | 7,126 |
| Womankind | 28,149 |
| AID CSCF 85 | 22,184 |
| West Devon Environment | 9,500 |
| AID CSCF 84 | 50,125 |
| Find Your Feet | 63,977 |
| Phoenix India | 9,775 |
| Action Village India | 13,359 |
| Ashram | 10,000 |
| Childhope | 10,000 |
| Hope for Children | 6,750 |
| ITDG | 10,000 |
| Joint Funding Scheme | |
| Plan International | 317,929 |
| International Family Health | 642,408 |
| Find Your Feet | 106,379 |
| Care International | 336,077 |
| NAZ Foundation | 152,510 |
| Wells for India | 35,291 |
| Homeless International | 91,813 |
| CHEC | 37,212 |

| 1 | 2 |
|---|-----------|
| Opportunity International | 345,638 |
| Care International | 169,216 |
| Leprosy Mission | 28,777 |
| Tradecraft Exchange | 107,876 |
| AID (JFS 1560) | 222,519 |
| Homeless International JFS 1596 | 105,669 |
| Plan International | 87,837 |
| Tear Fund | 80,240 |
| APTIBET | 61,967 |
| Action Village India | 36,466 |
| Action Health | 56,906 |
| CHEC (JFS 1571) | 60,575 |
| Leprosy Mission | 44,935 |
| Healthlink | 131,116 |
| Care International JFS 1567 | 278,464 |
| Find Your Feet JFS 1585 | 69,308 |
| OXFAM | 1,000,000 |
| CARE | 500,00 |
| SCF | 450,000 |
| Christian Aid | 350,000 |
| Help Age International | 200,000 |
| Adra UK | 115,000 |
| Food for the hungry | 51,950 |
| BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha | 250,000 |
| Handicap International | 200,000 |
| Credit & Savings for Household Enterprise | 1,018,260 |
| Christian Aid & CASA | NA |
| ACCEPT, Madras & 37 other NGOs in the country | 4,620,000 |
| CORD, New Delhi | 107,150 |
| WWF - New Delhi | 983,000 |
| Save the Children Kalahandi water | 708,500 |

| 1 | 2 |
|--|-----------|
| CARE, for Orissa | 2,419,000 |
| CRS for Orissa | 1,161,300 |
| Actin AID (for Orissa) | 1,900,000 |
| CYSD (for Orissa) | 303,635 |
| Parivar Seva Sanstha (for Orissa) | 4,997,780 |
| MYRADA, Bangalore | 208,930 |
| SEWA, Ahmedabad | 14,128 |
| FWWB, Ahmedabad | 13,126 |
| Oxla (India) Trust New Delhi and Lucknow | 496,264 |
| SPWD, New Delhi | 137,802 |
| Oxfam (India) New Delhi | 685,600 |

FDI in Banks

1408. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted 49% FDI in Indian Banks;

(b) if so, the response of the banks to this policy;

(c) whether foreign banks operating in India can buy specific branches of Indian Banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is demand to increase the percentage of FDI in banks;

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

(g) whether RBI had made any study on the likely impact of this policy; and

(h) if so, the findings by RBI thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Government has permitted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 49% from all sources in private sector banks.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has not received any proposal, as yet, from any bank in this regard.

(c) and (d) There is no restriction on transfer of business between branches of banks operating in India, including foreign banks, against considerations. According to RBI, so far there has been no case of the business of a branch of an Indian domestic bank having been transferred to a foreign banks.

(e) and (g) No, Sir.

(f) and (h) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Brass Articles

1409. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of brass articles exported during the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of brass articles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Quantum of export of brass articles is not available. However, the total export of Art-metalwares which primarily consist of brass ware during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom is as under:-

| Sl. No. | Year | Exports of Artmetalware | Foreign Exchange earning |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | 1998-1999 | 1324.16 Crores | 314.73 US Million \$ |
| 2. | 1999-2000 | 1497.18 Crores | 345.51 US Million \$ |
| 3. | 2000-2001 | 1778.10 Crores | 393.26 US Million \$ |

(c) To boost the export of handicrafts, including brass wares, the steps taken include: organisation of buyer—seller's meet; overseas publicity; organisation of workshops on design development; export marketing and packaging etc; participation in various international fairs; sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad; setting up of National level design centre at Moradabad and New Delhi; and organisation of Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fairs (Autumn and Spring) by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, annually in New Delhi.

Welfare Schemes for SCs/STs in Bihar

1410. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being implemented for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes particularly in Bihar;

(b) the schemes being implemented for welfare and upliftment of the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the year 2001-2002; and

(c) the head-wise total amount spent under these schemes during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Under the strategy of Tribal Sub-Plan and Special Component Plan, Government of Bihar is implementing schemes for welfare of Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) respectively, details of which are maintained by the State Government.

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing schemes for supplementing the efforts of State Government for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. List of such schemes is enclosed in statement-I. A statement showing fund released for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bihar under these schemes during 2000-2001 is enclosed in statement-II.

Statement-I

List of Schemes Implemented for the Development of SCs/STs by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Schemes for SCs

1. Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for SCs.
2. Special Educational Development Programme for SCs.
3. Post Matric Scholarship
4. PCR and Atrocities
5. Hostel for SC boys & Girls
6. National Scheduled Castes Finance Development Corporation
7. State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations
8. National Safai Karamcharis Finance Development Corporation
9. Book Banks
10. Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers
11. Pre-Matric Scholarship
12. Coaching & Allied
13. Supporting Project to All India Nature of SCs (Research & Training)
14. Upgradation of Merit of SCs/STs students
15. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Scheduled Castes/OBCs and Minority Concentrated districts.
16. National Overseas Scholarships.

Schemes for STs

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan.
2. Grants under first proviso to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution.
3. Vocational training in Tribal Areas.
4. Grant in aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce.
5. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups.
6. Post Matric Scholarship for ST students.
7. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of STs
8. Upgradation of Merit of ST students
9. Educational complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of ST Girls in Tribal Areas.
10. Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes.
11. Boys Hostels of Scheduled Tribes.
12. Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas.
13. Grants to Tribal Research Institutes
14. Book Bank Scheme for ST students
15. Coaching and Allied Scheme for STs
16. Village Grain Bank Scheme.
17. State Tribal Development Finance Corporation
18. National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for STs.

Statement-II

Fund released for welfare of SCs/STs in Bihar by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs during 2000-2001

| S. No. | Name of the Scheme | Financial assistance released (Rs in lakhs) |
|--------|---|---|
| 1. | Pre-Matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations | 20.00 |
| 2. | Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 | 34.03 |
| 3. | Book Bank | 7.38 |
| 4. | Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations for Scheduled Castes | 46.68 |
| 5. | National SC/ST Finance and Development Corporation | 105.30 |
| 6. | Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan | 1711.06 |

[English]

Funds to Technical Institute For Disabled Jawans

1411. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Disabled jawans may lose their training institute", appearing in the 'Times of India' dated December 5, 2001;

(b) if so, whether "the Queen Mary Technical Institute for disabled soldier" is facing funds crisis; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide funds to the institute?

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

(b) and (c) Queen Mary Technical Institute (QMTI) imparts technical training in different vocational trades to disabled servicemen and exservicemen to enable them to earn an independent living. A proposal for assistance to finance certain items of capital expenditure and recurring items relating to liabilities on account of 5th Pay Commission recommendations, amounting to around Rs. 90 lacs was received. Budgetary requirements of Rs. 46 lacs was found to be acceptable as per the modalities of the Scheme and a sum of Rs. 22 lacs was sanctioned and released for meeting the expenditure on certain items of capital nature as per the provisions of the scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities. Further release of grants could not be considered as the utilization certificate of the grants released of Rs. 22 lacs furnished by QMTI was defective and clarification was sought from the Institute.

NGOs Involved in Educational Field in Bihar

1412. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial assistance is being granted to voluntary organizations and NGOs running educational centers for SCs, STs and OBC women in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) There is no specific scheme exclusively for women for which voluntary organizations and NGOs are given grant-in-aid for running educational centers. However, generally schemes include girl students as beneficiaries.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Revival of Textile Mills

1413. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI A. NARENDRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the textile mills proposed to be revived by the Government and the amount earmarked alongwith the details thereof, mill-wise;

(b) the mills which are likely to be revived during the current financial year alongwith the details of the amount likely to be spent on each mill;

(c) the extent of loss being suffered by each mill during each of the last three years;

(d) the names of the mills in regard to which decision has been taken to close them down alongwith the details of loss being suffered by each mill every year during the aforesaid period; and

(e) the time by which the revival work of the textile mills is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (e) The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established

the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with a view to timely detection of sick & potentially sick companies including textile mills and for the speedy determination of preventive ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions. 591 textile mills are registered with BIFR as on 31.10.2001.

In respect of NTC mills, Rehabilitation Schemes are under consideration of BIFR. Revival/closure of mills would be finalised after BIFR approves the Scheme. The position regarding Profit & Loss in respect of NTC mills during the last three years is as follows:

Statement

| S. No. | Name of the Mills | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | NTC (DPR) Ltd. | | | |
| | PUNJAB | | | |
| 1. | Dayalbagh SPG. & WVG. Mills | -5.40 | -6.48 | -7.32 |
| 2. | Kharar Textile Mills | -3.89 | -5.15 | -5.38 |
| 3. | Panipat Woollen Mills | -7.30 | -8.67 | -9.48 |
| 4. | Surat Textile Mills | -4.66 | -4.95 | -4.82 |
| | RAJASTHAN | | | |
| 5. | Edward Mills | -4.99 | -4.82 | -5.40 |
| 6. | Mahalakshmi Mills | -4.30 | -4.88 | -5.61 |
| 7. | Shree Bijay Cotton Mills | -3.74 | -4.37 | -4.67 |
| 8. | Udaipur Cotton Mills | -3.81 | -4.71 | -4.67 |
| | NTC (Madhya Pradesh) Ltd. | | | |
| | CHHATTISGARH | | | |
| 9. | Benal Nagpur Cotton Mills | -16.34 | -19.04 | -18.85 |
| | MADHYA PRADESH | | | |
| 10. | Burhanpur Tapti Mills | -11.00 | -12.70 | -13.38 |
| 11. | Hira Mills | -10.02 | -10.70 | -11.40 |
| 12. | Indore Malwa United Mills | -15.35 | -17.67 | -18.86 |
| 13. | Kalyanmal Mills | -13.71 | -14.70 | -17.20 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 14. | New Bhopal Textile Mills | -10.86 | -12.07 | -12.99 |
| 15. | Swadeshi Textile Mills | -8.84 | -10.10 | -10.70 |
| | NTC (Uttar Pradesh) Ltd. | | | |
| 16. | Atherton Mills | -10.40 | -11.40 | -11.38 |
| 17. | Bijli Cotton Mills | -2.66 | -4.17 | -2.48 |
| 18. | Laxmirattan Cotton Mills | -13.71 | -15.43 | -14.95 |
| 19. | Lord Krishna Textile Mills | -7.33 | -7.43 | -8.70 |
| 20. | Mayur Mills | -16.30 | -80.11 | -19.33 |
| 21. | New Victoria Mills | -17.54 | -19.70 | -20.59 |
| 22. | Rae Bareli Textile Mills | -3.25 | -5.36 | -2.27 |
| 23. | Shri Vikram Cotton Mills | -4.15 | -4.41 | -3.91 |
| 24. | Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Mau | -4.27 | -4.59 | -5.25 |
| 25. | Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur | -19.72 | -21.27 | -20.54 |
| 26. | Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini | -14.95 | -18.84 | -17.33 |
| | NTC (South Maharashtra) Ltd. | | | |
| 27. | Apollo Textile Mills | -9.79 | -14.96 | -13.01 |
| 28. | Aurangabdd Textile Mills | -2.82 | -2.50 | -2.46 |
| 29. | Barshi Textile Mills | -1.33 | -1.51 | -1.65 |
| 30. | Bharat Textile Mills | -10.93 | -12.40 | -12.74 |
| 31. | Chalisgaon Textile Mills | -5.19 | -5.37 | -5.71 |
| 32. | Dhule Textile Mills | -7.93 | -6.78 | -6.40 |
| 33. | Digvijay Textile Mills | -16.86 | -19.54 | -16.64 |
| 34. | Elphinstone SPG & WVG. Mills | -10.08 | -11.32 | -12.41 |
| 35. | Finlay Mills | -13.73 | -13.93 | -15.67 |
| 36. | Gold Mohur Mills | -9.76 | -9.79 | -11.54 |
| 37. | Jupiter Textile Mills | -13.92 | -18.02 | -16.70 |
| 38. | Mumbai Textile Mills | -13.07 | -13.35 | -15.87 |
| 39. | Nanded Textile Mills | -7.28 | -7.14 | -7.00 |
| 40. | New City of Bombay Mfg. Mills | -11.55 | -10.55 | -11.64 |
| 41. | New Hind Textile Mills | -13.26 | -18.38 | -17.09 |
| 42. | Podar Processors | -6.71 | -7.14 | -7.65 |
| 43. | Shree Madhusudan Mills | -7.01 | -7.96 | -8.18 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| (NTC (Maharashtra North) Ltd.) | | | | |
| 44. | India United Mills No. 1 | -19.48 | -19.68 | -22.53 |
| 45. | India United Mills No. 2 | -13.45 | -12.80 | -14.34 |
| 46 & | India United Mills No. 3 & 4 | -21.07 | -18.90 | -22.38 |
| 47 | | | | |
| 48. | India United Mills No. 5 | -10.94 | -10.84 | -13.03 |
| 49. | India Untied Mills Dye Works | -8.66 | -9.09 | -10.60 |
| 50. | Jam Mfg. Mills | -9.16 | -8.55 | -10.48 |
| 51. | | | | |
| 52. | Kohinoor Mills No. 1, 2 & 3 | -13.51 | -14.98 | -15.27 |
| 53. | | | | |
| 54. | Podar Mills | -12.96 | -11.16 | -11.12 |
| 55. | Model Mills | -18.44 | -18.97 | -20.80 |
| 56. | R.B.B.A. Mills | -7.29 | -8.61 | -8.25 |
| 57. | R.S.R.G. Mills | -6.30 | -5.83 | -6.26 |
| 58. | Savatram Ramprasad Mills | -4.57 | -4.81 | -5.21 |
| 59. | Shri Sitaram Mills | -9.53 | -8.44 | -6.30 |
| 60 | Tata Mills | -18.15 | -16.96 | -20.45 |
| 61. | Vidharbha Mills | -6.37 | -6.49 | -6.78 |
| N.T.C. (Gujarat) Ltd. | | | | |
| 62. | Ahmedabad Jupiter Textile Mills | -12.56 | -13.66 | -17.39 |
| 63. | Ahmedabad New Textile Mills | -12.49 | -14.82 | -16.37 |
| 64. | Himadri Textile Mills | -8.33 | -11.46 | -11.47 |
| 65. | Jehangir Textile Mills | -14.97 | -18.59 | -19.09 |
| 66. | Mahalaxmi Textile Mills | -9.55 | -11.28 | -13.39 |
| 67. | New Manekchowk Textile Mills | -10.01 | -12.45 | -12.43 |
| 68. | Petlad Textile Mills | -5.10 | -5.12 | -6.86 |
| 69. | Rajkot Textile Mills | -3.49 | -4.04 | -4.75 |
| 70 & | Rajnagar Textile Mills 1 & 2 | -15.22 | -16.53 | -18.77 |
| 71 | | | | |
| 72. | Viramgam Textile Mills | -7.96 | -9.48 | -10.40 |
| N.T.C. (APKK&M) Ltd. | | | | |
| ANDHRA PRADESH | | | | |
| 73. | Adoni Cotton Mills | -1.44 | -1.60 | -1.86 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|--|--------|--------|--------|
| 74. | Anathapur Cotton Mills | -3.77 | -4.28 | -4.67 |
| 75. | Azam Jahi Mills | -7.32 | -8.03 | -8.60 |
| 76. | Natraj Spinning Mills | -3.58 | -4.24 | -4.88 |
| 77. | Neha Spinning & Weaving Mills | -1.77 | -2.12 | -2.31 |
| 78. | Tirupati Cotton Mills | -2.99 | -3.59 | -3.90 |
| | KARNATAKA | | | |
| 79. | M.S.K. Mills | -9.51 | -10.46 | -10.63 |
| 80. | Minerva Mills | -11.61 | -13.03 | -14.28 |
| 81. | Mysore Spg. & Mfg. Mills | -7.33 | -8.09 | -8.53 |
| 82. | Sree Yallamma Cotton Mills | -4.24 | -4.60 | -5.78 |
| | KERALA | | | |
| 83. | Alagappa Textile Mills | -4.43 | -4.44 | -5.06 |
| 84. | Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Can | -0.58 | -0.04 | -0.29 |
| 85. | Kerala Lakshmi Mills | -3.09 | -1.70 | -1.24 |
| 86. | Parvathi Mills | -10.25 | -9.49 | -11.52 |
| 87. | Vijaymohini Mills | -2.73 | 2.71 | -1.70 |
| | PONDICHERRY | | | |
| 88. | Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills Mahe N.T.C. (TN & P) Ltd. | -1.82 | -1.01 | -0.48 |
| | TAMIL NADU | | | |
| 89. | Balaramvarma Textile Mills | -2.58 | -1.65 | -2.76 |
| 90. | Cambodia Mills | -3.60 | -3.94 | -4.27 |
| 91. | Coimbatore Murugan Mills | -3.49 | -3.98 | -2.71 |
| 92. | Kishnaveni Textile Mills | -3.00 | -3.40 | -3.91 |
| 93. | Om Parasakthi Mills | -2.74 | -2.36 | -2.11 |
| 94. | Pankaja Mills | -2.57 | -2.68 | -3.14 |
| 95. | Pioneer Spinners Mills | -1.37 | -1.59 | -1.29 |
| 96. | Sri Rangavilas S. & W. Mills | -2.60 | -3.32 | 3.28 |
| 97. | Somasundaram Mills | -4.13 | -4.39 | -4.69 |
| 98. | Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit N.T. C. (WBAB&O) Ltd. | -1.89 | -1.61 | -2.65 |
| | ASSAM | | | |
| 99. | Associated Industries | -4.26 | -4.35 | -5.06 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| BIHAR | | | | |
| 100. | Bihar Co-op. Weavers Spg. Mills | -3.39 | -3.71 | -3.53 |
| 101. | Gaya Cotton & Jute Mills | -5.40 | -6.45 | -7.01 |
| ORISSA | | | | |
| 102. | Orissa Cotton Mills | -3.87 | -4.73 | -4.88 |
| WEST BENGAL | | | | |
| 103. | Arati Cotton Mills | -3.42 | -4.45 | -4.94 |
| 104. | Bangasri Cotton Mills | -3.04 | -3.40 | -4.01 |
| 105. | Bengal Fine S. & W. Mills No. I | -6.60 | -8.10 | -8.88 |
| 106. | Bengal Fine & W. Mills No. II | -1.78 | -2.31 | -2.50 |
| 107. | Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills | -7.94 | -10.01 | -10.53 |
| 108. | Manindra B.T. Mills | -4.94 | -6.03 | -6.45 |
| 109. | Jyoti Wvg. Factory | -3.06 | -3.73 | -4.18 |
| 110. | Laxminarayan Cotton Mills | -4.82 | -5.22 | -6.38 |
| 111. | Rampooria Cotton Mills | -8.12 | -9.59 | -10.09 |
| 112. | Central Cotton Mills | -10.55 | -12.67 | -14.41 |
| 113. | Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton Mills | -8.16 | 10.06 | 10.34 |
| 114. | Sodepur Cotton Mills | -2.66 | -2.94 | -3.42 |
| NTC (Holding Company) | | | | |
| PONDICHERRY | | | | |
| 115. | Swadeshi Cotton Mills | -6.98 | -8.04 | -7.73 |
| 116. | Sri Bharati Mills | -6.95 | -7.15 | -6.61 |
| COIMBATORE | | | | |
| 117. | Sri Sarda Mills | -6.41 | -4.86 | -5.07 |
| 118. | Coimbatore Spg. & Wvg. Mills | -12.48 | -11.47 | -13.46 |
| 119. | Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' Unit | -9.08 | -11.01 | -10.49 |

[English]

Japanese Aided Projects

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

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted projects for the upgradation of infrastructure,

construction of new houses and training of slug dwellers to enhance their income in 22 districts of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the whether these projects which are to be funded by Japanese Bank for international Co-operation are likely to be cleared in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c)

Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation had forwarded the proposal on "Slum Development Programme for 21 class one cities of Karnataka" for JBIC funding during September, 2001. It could not be taken up for consideration due to economic sanctions by Japan. The Ministry of Urban Development has recommended the proposal which would be considered for posing to the Govt. of Japan for FY 2003-2004 loan package.

Reservation in Private Sector

1415. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI E. AHAMED:

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to enact any legislation for providing reservation to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in private sector, Armed Forces and Judicial services;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter regarding reservation in private sector has been examined and it is opined that it would not be permissible under the Constitution, as it would be violative of the equality provision of the Constitution.

Recruitment in the Armed Forces is based on merit and is open to every citizen of the country including SC/ST candidates without any discrimination on the basis of their caste, creed, religion or region. The basic objective of the Recruitment Policy of the Armed Forces is to obtain the best manpower from the youth of country while at the same time giving equal opportunity to all citizens of India to join the Armed Forces.

Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and High Courts is made under Article 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The Government have, however, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time requesting them to locate

persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

Financial Restructuring Plan of Orissa

1416. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government have sought sanction of the Union Government for seeking World Bank and DFID loan for its financial restructuring plan;

(b) if so, the amount sought by the State Government;

(c) whether the World Bank and DFID team visited the State recently for reviewing the programme;

(d) if so, the views expressed by the team thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to pursue the matter for expeditious release of funds to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amount indicated by the State Government is Rs. 3000 crore from both World Bank and DFID.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The World Bank has raised following major issues:-

- (i) Restructuring of the ongoing power sector reform programme, following the lifting of loan suspension; and adequately accounting for the budgetary costs of power reforms in the Medium-Term Fiscal Framework;
- (ii) Evidence of improved management of resources-including operationalizing the civil service rightsizing program and improving monthly cash management to ensure larger and timely flow of funds for priority development programmes; and
- (iii) Willingness of the Government of India to provide exceptional transitional assistance at a level commensurate with Government of Orissa's own efforts and financing needs.

(e) Government of India has formally posed the programme to World Bank and DFID. The programme is in preparation stage with the World Bank/DFID and Government of Orissa. Government of India is reviewing the position from time to time.

Loans to Farmers

1417. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to notice of the Government that some banks denying funds to farmers on the pretext that they are not actual farmers and not holding land ownership in their names;

(b) whether in view of the above situations, farmers are not able to utilize the banking facilities properly; and

(c) if so, the measures taken/being taken by the Government to avoid the occurrence of these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that no instances of denial of funds by banks to farmers on the pretext that they are not actual farmers are not holding land ownership in their names, have come to their notice.

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

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Mints

1418. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mints in the country at present State-wise;

(b) the number of employees working in these mints;

(c) whether the existing mints are adequate to meet the requirements of coins;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to set up some more mint in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) There are 4 mints in the country as detailed below:-

1. India Government Mint, Noida (Uttar Pradesh)

2. India Government Mint, Mumbai (Maharashtra)

3. India Government Mint, Kolkata (West Bengal)

4. India Government Mint, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)

(b) The number of employees working in these mints is 5656.

(c) No, Sir. The four India Government Mints have an aggregate annual capacity to supply about 3700 million pieces of coins against the average annual demand for 6500 million pieces.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration at present. However, efforts are being made to increase the capacity of the existing mints through modernisation/replacement of worn-out machinery and through addition of a second shift in India Government Mint, Noida.

[*English*]

Juvenile Delinquency

1419. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made about the Juvenile Delinquency in the country;

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

(c) the rate of growth of such cases; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to protect the Juvenile Delinquency?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Studies to evaluate the rehabilitation programme for juvenile delinquents were carried out in Gujarat & Maharashtra, Orissa & Bihar and Kerala in the years 1992-1993, 1993-1994 & 1999-2000 respectively.

(c) A statement giving cases against juvenile delinquents registered in each State, as per the latest data available, is enclosed.

(d) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is administering the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, which has consolidated and revised the laws relating to juveniles in conflict with law. This Act is more child friendly and provides for proper care and

protection as also for ultimate rehabilitation of delinquent juveniles. To implement this Act, this Ministry has a scheme called 'A Programme for Juvenile Justice', under

which financial assistance is given to State/Union territories on 50:50 basis for establishment and maintenance of the homes and institutions envisaged under the Act.

Statement

| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | No. of cases registered during 1998 | No. of cases registered during 1999 | Percentage of increase/decrease over 1998 |
|--------|----------------------|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 754 | 590 | -21.75 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 24 | 42 | +75 |
| 3. | Assam | 146 | 182 | +24.66 |
| 4. | Bihar | 407 | 382 | +6.14 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | * | * | * |
| 6. | Goa | 27 | 21 | -22.22 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 1033 | 1075 | +4.06 |
| 8. | Haryana | 325 | 300 | -7.69 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 57 | 47 | -17.54 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | * | * | * |
| 12. | Karnataka | 255 | 286 | +12.15 |
| 13. | Kerala | 65 | 51 | -21.54 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 2349 | 2380 | +1.32 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 2254 | 1848 | -18.01 |
| 16. | Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 42 | 15 | -64.28 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 89 | 11 | -87.64 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 8 | 0 | -100 |
| 20. | Orissa | 108 | 195 | +80.56 |
| 21. | Punjab | 10 | 20 | +100 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 683 | 674 | -1.32 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 5 | 6 | +20 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 394 | 403 | +2.28 |
| 25. | Tripura | 0 | 17 | +1700 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | * | * | * |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 23 | 14 | -39.13 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|----------------------|------|------|--------|
| 28. | West Bengal | 5 | 15 | +200 |
| 29. | A & N Islands | 1 | 3 | +200 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | 14 | 16 | +14.28 |
| 31. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 2 | 0 | -100 |
| 32. | Daman & Diu | 1 | 0 | -100 |
| 33. | Delhi | 246 | 288 | +17.07 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 0 | 1 | +100 |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 12 | 6 | -50 |
| Total | | 9339 | 8888 | -4.83 |

* Not applicable, as these States were not formed at that time.

[*Translation*]

Exemption to Companies/Institutions

1420. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several companies are being given income tax exemption;

(b) if so, the names of such companies alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some of the above companies are involved in fraud cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to withdraw the income tax exemption being given to such companies and various religious institutions and other action taken against them; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Several companies are granted exemption from Income-tax subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions under various provisions of Income-tax Act, 1961.

(b) No centralized information is maintained in Central Board of Direct Taxes regarding the exempted companies.

(c) to (f) Exemptions under the Income tax Act, 1961 are allowed subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions

including certification from the Chartered Accountants regarding the correctness of the claim. Any company/religious institution indulging in irregular practices/fraud vis-a-vis the Income Tax Act, 1961 forfeits its exemption under the Income-tax Act, 1961.

[*English*]

Loans by PS Banks

1421. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has taken a tough decision on ever greening of loans by banks and financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details of guidelines issued to various banks and financial institutions in this regard;

(c) whether the various public sector banks and financial institutions are flouting the guidelines of the RBI and are sanctioning loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that in pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee on Banking Sector Reforms (Narasimham Committee), the Bank have advised all commercial banks

in October, 1998 reiterating that they should adhere to the prudential norms on asset classification, provisioning etc. and avoid the practice of ever greening i.e. making fresh advances to their troubled constituents only with a view to settling interest dues and avoiding classification of the loans in question as NPAs. RBI has further advised that the account of the borrower can be treated as standard only if the account is regularised before the balance sheet date by repayment of overdue amounts through genuine source of income and not by sanction of additional facility or transfer of funds between the accounts.

(c) to (e) Banks are generally following the guidelines of RBI. In case any instance of non-adherence to guidelines comes to notice, banks and financial institutions are advised by RBI to correct the position immediately.

Committees on Co-operative Banks

1422. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present state of cooperative banks is not in order;

(b) if so, whether a number of committees were appointed by the Government so far;

(c) whether all these committees/groups have focused on the urgent need to inject some life into the overall co-operative system in the country;

(d) if so, whether they have also identified the problem areas which are most typical of these banks, namely low capital base, inadequate loan appraisal systems and credit planning, poor recovery performance and mounting overdues;

(e) if so, the steps the Government has taken to implement the recommendations of these committees; and

(f) to what extent the cooperative banks have been set in order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (f) Co-operative Credit system suffers from systematic short comings and erosion of net worth. Government of India had constituted a Task Force (known as 'Capoor Committee') in April 1999 to study the functioning of cooperative credit system and suggest measures for its strengthening. The Task Force made wide ranging

recommendations which have been examined by the Government in consultation with State Governments and deliberated upon in a conference of Chief Ministers of States. It was decided in the above Conference to constitute a Joint Committee of the Cooperative Ministers of select States under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of State for Finance. This Committee has since submitted its report on the required reform and for improving the net worth of these institutions which is now under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Production 'Export of Tea'

1423. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:
SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

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

(a) the estimated target/production of various brands of tea in the country during the last three years including current year, brand-wise and State-wise;

(b) the total domestic requirement of tea and surplus available for export during the above period;

(c) the total area as on date under tea cultivation in each State;

(d) the countries to whom tea has been exported/being exported;

(e) the quantity of tea exported to these countries during the last three years and proposed to be exported during current year;

(f) the contribution of foreign exchange by the tea industry to the Indian economy during the above period;

(g) the salient features of various schemes launched by the Governments/Tea Board for the development of tea sector;

(h) the loans/assistance given to tea growers during each of the last three years alongwith the number of tea growers benefited thereby in each State; and

(i) the expected growth in the tea production at end of the Ninth Five Year Plan and tentative projection for the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Targets for production of tea are fixed on an all India basis and not separately for States and brands. All India production targets were fixed at 860 million kgs.

in 1998-1999, 843 million kgs in 1999-2000, 873 million kgs in 2000-2001 and 850 million kgs in 2001-2002. State wise production of tea during the last three years, including current year, is as follows:

(Figures in million kg)

| States | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 (April-Dec.) |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Assam | 454.71 | 442.13 | 454.89 | 429.23 |
| West Bengal | 189.46 | 174.35 | 184.23 | 1181.24 |
| Tamil Nadu | 126.61 | 131.67 | 127.77 | 102.08 |
| Kerala | 68.48 | 71.81 | 66.09 | 51.32 |
| Karnataka | 5.67 | 5.44 | 5.39 | 4.35 |
| Others | 9.85 | 9.95 | 9.99 | 9.76 |
| Total | 854.78 | 835.35 | 848.36 | 777.98 |

(b) The total domestic consumption of tea and the surplus available for export during the last three years is as follows:

(Figures in million kg)

| Year | Production | Consumption | Surplus for Exports |
|------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1999 | 824.41 | 633 | 191.41 |
| 2000 | 846.48 | 653 | 193.48 |
| 2001 | 853.71 | 673 | 180.71 |

(c) Total area under tea cultivation in major tea producing States is as follows:

| States | Area under Tea cultivation (in Hectare) |
|-------------|--|
| Assam | 267392 |
| West Bengal | 109690 |
| Tamil Nadu | 74331 |
| Kerala | 36762 |
| Karnataka | 2106 |
| Others | 16915 |
| Total | 507196 |

(d) to (f) Indian tea is exported to more than 80 countries of the world. The major countries to which tea

was exported and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years are as follows:

(Quantity in Million Kgs.)

(Value in Rupees Crores)

| Name of the Country | 1998-1999 | | 1999-2000 | | 2000-2001 | | 2001-2002* (April-Nov) | |
|---------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|---------------------------|--------|
| | Qty | Value | Qty | Value | Qty | Value | Qty | Value |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Russian Federation | 82.17 | 814.36 | 96.54 | 808.87 | 78.46 | 540.40 | 48.34 | 328.27 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| United Arab Emirate | 20.00 | 209.13 | 19.12 | 219.00 | 22.00 | 257.59 | 14.95 | 183.38 |
| United Kingdom | 21.03 | 222.63 | 17.73 | 197.87 | 21.17 | 204.26 | 13.6 | 126.73 |
| Kazakhstan | 7.87 | 82.77 | 6.78 | 72.19 | 8.22 | 86.76 | 8.5 | 89.71 |
| United State of America | 4.61 | 66.49 | 7.78 | 110.17 | 6.72 | 86.84 | 3.8 | 57.87 |
| Others | 70.18 | 796.46 | 44.49 | 524.56 | 66.98 | 713.93 | 36.01 | 321.19 |
| Total | 205.86 | 2191.84 | 192.44 | 1932.66 | 203.55 | 1889.78 | 125.20 | 1107.25 |

* Estimated

(g) During the Ninth Five Year Plan, Tea Board has launched eight Plan Schemes. These Schemes provide for extending financial assistance by way of long term loan, subsidy and grant in aid. The activities for which financial support is extended include replanting, rejuvenation, quality enhancement through replacement of old machinery, creation of irrigation facilities, extension of

advisory services to small growers, R&D support, market development and export promotion, organizing training programmes/study tours and setting up of tea nurseries etc.

(h) The major State/region-wise assistance given to tea growers during the last three years is as follows:

(Value in Rs. Lakhs)

| State | Year | Subsidy Disbursed | Loan Disbursed | No. of Beneficiaries |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| West Bengal | 1998-1999 | 1205.23 | 443.08 | 188 |
| | 1999-2000 | 1167.78 | 467.45 | 148 |
| | 2000-2001 | 1916.81 | 361.39 | 89 |
| North East | 1998-1999 | 412.95 | 552.15 | 597 |
| | 1999-2000 | 392.51 | 514.37 | 421 |
| | 2000-2001 | 751.80 | 243.89 | 300 |
| South India | 1998-1999 | 137.64 | 163.59 | 402 |
| | 1999-2000 | 143.24 | 52.98 | 253 |
| | 2000-2001 | 92.70 | 59.70 | 195 |

(i) By the end of the Ninth Plan, tea production is estimated to be around 858 million kgs. Tea production is estimated to reach 975 million kgs by the end of the Tenth Plan.

[English]

Anti-Dumping Duty on Acrylic Fibre

1424. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the designated authority in his Ministry has recommended the imposition of provisional Anti-dumping duty on all imports of acrylic fibre from the UK, Germany, Bulgaria and Brazil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the other measures taken to protect the interest of manufacturers of acrylic fibre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Anti-Dumping investigations were initiated on imports of Acrylic Fibre from Germany, UK, Brazil and Bulgaria on 28.8.2001. On the basis of sufficient evidence of dumping, injury and a casual link between the two, provisional duties were recommended on imports from these countries in the preliminary findings issued by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties on 7.12.2001, which were imposed on 31.12.2001 by a Notification issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

Customs Preventive Commissionerates

1425. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided for creation of Customs Preventive Commissionerates in different parts of the country especially in coastal States in order to check smuggling of dangerous explosive, modernised weapons and drugs in coastal areas;

(b) if so, the number of Custom Preventive Commissionerates proposed to be created in Maharashtra; and

(c) the fresh steps taken/proposed by the Government to check rampant smuggling in the coastal areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Government is presently engaged in cadre restructuring of various grades of posts in the Customs and Central Excise Department which may result in the creation of new commissionerates of Central Excise and Customs including Customs Preventive Commissionerates in some parts of the country. There is no proposal for creation of a separate customs preventive commissionerates in the State of Maharashtra at present.

(c) All the field formations under Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are vigilant, alert and equipped to prevent smuggling of contraband goods all over the country including coastal areas.

Fast by Disabled Persons

1426. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item "Disabled Observe Fast against

Government Apathy" as appeared in the 'Hindu' dated the February 8, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Disabled Rights Group have submitted several demands to the Prime Minister on their problems;

(c) if so, the details of the demands made by them; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item referred to has been perused. According to the press report, demands have been sent to the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition. The Ministry has received copy of a letter sent by the Disabled Rights Group to the Home Minister.

(c) The demands cover a wide range of issues such as raising of limit of income tax exemption for disabled, abolition of tax on aids & appliances for disabled people, private sector incentives to promote employment, shifting of office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCD) from NOIDA to Delhi, sacking of CCD, all facilities/concessions given to persons with orthopedic, visual and hearing disabled to be extended to mentally impaired, one per cent reservation for people with mental and/or developmental disabilities in group C&D posts, standardization of Indian Sign Language, immediate revision of the "Revised List" (June, 2001) of identified posts for persons with disabilities, abolishing Office of CCD and constituting a Disability Commission, passage of amendment to Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, shifting 'Special Education' from Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment to Ministry of Human Resource Development and passage of an Ordinance to ensure barrier free design and access features in all future construction.

(d) The demands relating to legislative, financial and administrative aspects involve consideration by Ministries/ Departments of Government of India and the State Governments.

Import by Foreign Companies in India

1427. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the items imported by the foreign companies in India on which customs duty has been reduced;

(b) whether as a result thereof the rates of indigenous goods have become much higher than the foreign goods;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to adopt a concrete policy to boost export of indigenous goods; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) The customs duties on imports are being reduced, as part of the economic liberalization policy being followed by the Government since early 90's. Custom tariff on all commodities is decided taking into account various factors including the interests of domestic producers. The likely import of any particular item by a foreign company is not one of the criteria for reduction in customs duty. Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), the official agency for compilation of trade data, does not compile company-wise trade statistics.

The reduction in custom duty rates has not altered the overall rate of growth of imports of the country. The growth rate of imports was 15.3% in 1993-1994, 23.1% in 1994-1995, 36.4% in 1995-96, 13.2% in 1996-1997, 11% in 1997-1998, 14.2% in 1998-1999 and 13.6% in 1999-2000 (in rupee. terms). The import growth rate during the year 2000-2001 was only 5.59% in rupee terms and 0.27% in US dollar terms. The growth rate of imports during the first nine months of this financial year was only 0.31% in Dollar terms and 4.55% in Rs. terms, compared to the same period last year.

The Government is committed to providing an encouraging policy regime to boost exports from India. Towards this end, the Government has recently formulated a medium term export strategy for the period 2002-2007 with a view to achieving a share of at least 1% of the world trade by the year 2007. Copies of this document are available in the Parliament library.

Collection of Surcharge on Income Tax

1428. SHRI PRAVIN RASTHRAPAL:
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI
CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether surcharge @ 2% on Income Tax was levied by the Government for the development and rehabilitation of earthquake victims of Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance out of the total amount collected, released to the Gujarat State so far, for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested for additional financial assistance for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) An amount of Rs. 1467.37 crores has been released to the State Government under National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and Rs. 750 crores under Non-Plan Grant has been provided to the State Government, for earthquake relief between 2001-2002. This is over and above Rs. 700 crores of Additional Market Borrowings approved for Gujarat for earthquake relief, and Multilateral Assistance from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

Inclusion of More SC/ST and OBC in the Reservation List

1429. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
DR. V. SAROJA:

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

(a) whether some State Governments have asked for inclusion of more casts in the list of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes;

(b) if so, the details of these castes, State-wise;

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken on the matter;

(d) whether some tribes have been deleted from the Scheduled Tribes List; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The statement is enclosed.

(c) No specific time can be indicated as it involves with the concerned State Governments, Registrar General of India and National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

| S. No. | State/UTs | Proposals received for Scheduled Castes lists | Proposals received for Scheduled Tribes lists |
|--------|--------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 32 | 95 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 16 | 24 |
| 3. | Assam | 16 | 112 |
| 4. | A & N Islands | 6 | 2 |
| 5. | Bihar | 39 | 37** |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 15 | 17 |
| 7. | Delhi | 22 | 1 |
| 8. | Dadar Nagar Haveli | 7 | 3 |
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 1 | 2 |
| 10. | Goa | 4 | 13 |
| 11. | Gujarat | 32 | 14 |
| 12. | Haryana | 25 | 4 |
| 13. | Himachal Pradesh | 35 | 14 |
| 14. | Jammu and Kashmir | 9 | 11 |
| 15. | Karnataka | 61 | 54 |
| 16. | Kerala | 59 | 58 |
| 17. | Madhya Pradesh | 44 | 34*** |
| 18. | Maharashtra | 37 | 90 |
| 19. | Manipur | 3 | 28 |
| 20. | Meghalaya | 17 | 17 |
| 21. | Mizoram | 3 | 7 |
| 22. | Nagaland | — | 24 |
| 23. | Orissa | 58 | 88 |
| 24. | Pondicherry | 17 | 11 |
| 25. | Punjab | 18 | 13 |
| 26. | Rajasthan | 24 | 18 |
| 27. | Sikkim | 3 | 7 |
| 28. | Tamil Nadu | 80 | 70 |
| 29. | Tripura | 18 | 12 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|---------------|-----|-----|
| 30. | Uttar Pradesh | 60 | 68* |
| 31. | West Bengal | 22 | 22 |
| Total | | 783 | 920 |

* Includes proposals of Uttaranchal

** Includes proposals of Jharkhand also.

*** Includes proposals of Chhattisgarh also.

Inflation Rate

1430. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI Y.V. RAO:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inflation rate once again dipped to the lowest-ever figure of 2.40 percent in the last 18 months for the period ended November 24, 2001 as against 7.84 percent in the comparable period a year ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether despite this the industrial growth is not showing any positive result; and

(d) if so, the steps being considered by the Government to contain the inflation rate and to increase the base of industrial growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Unlike last year when administered prices of fuel group were raised twice, the current year witnessed moderation in international prices of crude oil. The price rise in manufactured sector remained negligible, though, the primary product group prices which include mostly agro commodities rose by over 3 per cent. On the supply side there was improved availability of most of the essential commodities particularly foodgrains which was an important factor in keeping the price rise subdued.

(c) and (d) Industrial production recorded a growth rate of 2.3 percent during first nine months (April-December) of 2001-2002 as compared with 5.8 percent during the corresponding period of the previous year. The Central Government budget for 2002-2003 has announced

several measures to boost industrial production and investment. These measures have been targeted to improve productivity and competitiveness of Indian industry in general and to boost aggregate demand, improve infrastructure base, upgrade technology and encourage foreign investment flows. In addition, specific measures have been taken in specific sectors such as steel and textiles. These measures are expected to have a favourable impact on industrial production and investment.

Fall in Prices of Tobacco

1431. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

SHRI AMBAREESHA:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the falling prices of tobacco;

(b) if so, the extent to which prices of tobacco have been declined during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have intervened through Tobacco Board to arrest the falling prices of tobacco; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The prices of tobacco over the past few years have been fluctuating. This is illustrated by the average prices realised by the tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, which have been as follows:

| Year | Andhra Pradesh Avg. Price (Rs./Kg.) | Karnataka Avg. Price (Rs./Kg.) |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1998 | 40.12 | 34.47 |
| 1999 | 34.85 | 42.07 |
| 2000 | 32.15 | 55.04 |
| 2001 | Crop Holiday | 38.29 |

The auction of the Andhra Pradesh crop of the 2001-2002 season has commenced recently and so far, the prices have been remunerative, averaging Rs. 43.83 as on March 4, 2002.

(c) and (d) Government, through the Tobacco Board, endeavours to safeguard the interests of the farmers. The measures taken in this direction include, inter-alia, efforts to maintain demand-supply balance through regulation of production, sale of tobacco through established auction platforms and assistance in identifying export markets.

Most Favoured Nation Status

1432. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being adopted by the Government for according Most Favoured Nation status in respect of trade with other countries;

(b) the benefits accrued to the country in terms of exports as a result of granting of this status to other countries during each of the last three years and during the current year, so far;

(c) the names of the countries to whom MFN status has been accorded by India;

(d) whether these countries have also granted this status to India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (e) India has generally been granting MFN status to all countries and has also generally received a similar treatment from its partner countries. Benefits of granting MFN are that Indian exports also receive a similar treatment.

Pakistan has however not granted MFN treatment to India even though this matter has been taken up with the Government of Pakistan at various levels from time to time.

HDFC Loan

1433. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State other than Rajasthan has sought loan assistance from HDFC during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons why these State Governments have not been granted loan; and

(d) the steps taken to reconsider their requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd., (HDFC), the amount of loan sanctioned by HDFC to various State Governments towards the construction of houses for their employees during the last three years is as under:

| Year | Amount (Rs. in Crores) |
|------|---------------------------|
| 1999 | 155 |
| 2000 | 260 |
| 2001 | 180 |

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Cooperative Banks

1434. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cooperative banks operating in each State of the country at present;

(b) the State-wise number of proposals received by the Reserve Bank of India to set up more such banks during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by the RBI on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The State-wise details of the number of cooperative banks operating in the country are given in Statement-I.

(b) and (c) The details of the number of proposals received by Reserve-Bank of India (RBI) for setting up of urban cooperative banks and number of licences issued by RBI during the last three years are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of the number of cooperative banks in the country

| S. No. | State/Union Territory | Urban Cooperative Banks | State Cooperative Banks | Distnict Central Cooperative Banks |
|--------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | — | 1 | — |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 169 | 1 | 22 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | 1 | — |
| 4. | Assam | 13 | 1 | 1 |
| 5. | Bihar | 11 | 1 | 26 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | — | 1 | — |
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | — | 1 | 7 |
| 8. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | — | — | — |
| 9. | Daman & Diu | — | — | — |
| 10. | Goa | 7 | 1 | — |
| 11. | Gujarat | 359 | 1 | 18 |
| 12. | Haryana | 8 | 1 | 17 |
| 13. | Himachal Pradesh | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 14. | Jammu & Kashmir | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 15. | Karnataka | 321 | 1 | 19 |
| 16. | Kerala | 65 | 1 | 14 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|----------------|------|----|-----|
| 17. | Lakshadweep | — | — | — |
| 18. | Madhya Pradesh | 90 | 1 | 38 |
| 19. | Maharashtra | 666 | 1 | 31 |
| 20. | Manipur | 5 | 1 | — |
| 21. | Meghalaya | 3 | 1 | — |
| 22. | Mizoram | 1 | 1 | — |
| 23. | Nagaland | 1 | 1 | — |
| 24. | NCT of Delhi | 21 | 1 | — |
| 25. | Orissa | 14 | 1 | 17 |
| 26. | Pondicherry | 2 | 1 | — |
| 27. | Punjab | 5 | 1 | 19 |
| 28. | Rajasthan | 44 | 1 | 26 |
| 29. | Sikkim | — | 1 | — |
| 30. | Tamil Nadu | 136 | 1 | 24 |
| 31. | Tripura | 1 | 1 | — |
| 32. | Uttar Pradesh | 77 | 1 | 51 |
| 33. | Uttaranchal | 7 | — | 9 |
| 34. | West Bengal | 55 | 1 | 17 |
| Total | | 2090 | 30 | 367 |

Statement-II

Statement indicating the details of the number of proposals received by RBI for setting up of urban cooperative banks and the number of licences issued by RBI during the last three years

| S. No. | State/UT | 1999-2000 | | 2000-2001 | | 2001-2002 | |
|--------|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | | Proposals Received | Licences Issued | Proposals Received | Licences Issued | Proposals Received | Licences Issued |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 13 | 20 | 6 | 2 | 2 | — |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4. | Assam | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — |
| 5. | Bihar | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 6. | Chandigarh | — | — | — | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|----------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|---|
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 9. | Daman & Diu | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10. | Goa | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 11. | Gujarat | 17 | 13 | 5 | 3 | — | — |
| 12. | Haryana | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13. | Himachal Pradesh | — | — | 2 | — | 1 | — |
| 14. | Jammu & Kashmir | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15. | Karnataka | 9 | 10 | 5 | 2 | — | — |
| 16. | Kerala | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 17. | Lakshadweep | 9 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 18. | Madhya Pradesh | 9 | 7 | 6 | — | — | — |
| 19. | Maharashtra | 92 | 24 | 14 | 7 | 21 | 6 |
| 20. | Manipur | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 21. | Meghalaya | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 22. | Mizoram | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 23. | Nagaland | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 24. | NCT of Delhi | 4 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| 25. | Orissa | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 26. | Pondicherry | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 27. | Punjab | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 28. | Rajasthan | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| 29. | Sikkim | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 30. | Tamil Nadu | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 31. | Tripura | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 32. | Uttar Pradesh | 8 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 6 | — |
| 33. | Uttaranchal | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 34. | West Bengal | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | | 158 | 90 | 47 | 18 | 32 | 6 |

*[English]***Utilization of Capacity of Mills**

1435. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton/man-made fibre mills in the public/cooperative/private sector in the country as on date;

(b) the details of their capacity alongwith actual utilisation;

(c) whether the public sector undertakings and cooperative sectors in the field are not utilised fully to their installed capacity;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to utilise their installed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b): (i) The details of no. of Cotton/Man-made fibre textile mills and their capacity in the public/Co-operative/Private sector in the country as on 31.12.2001 (Provisional) are given below:

| Sl. No. | Sector | No. of cotton/man made fibre textile units | | | Installed Capacity | | |
|---------|--------------|--|-----------|-------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | Spinning | Composite | Total | Spindles (million) | Rotors ('000) | Looms ('000) |
| 1. | Public | 81 | 111 | 192 | 5.58 | 2.20 | 53.83 |
| 2. | Co-operative | 155 | 2 | 157 | 3.42 | 18.18 | 0.29 |
| 3. | Private | 2372 | 168 | 2540 | 29.12 | 452.98 | 68.68 |
| | Total | 2608 | 281 | 2889 | 38.12 | 473.36 | 122.8 |

(ii) The details of sector wise capacity utilisation for the year 2000-2001 are given below:

| Sl. | Sector | Capacity utilisation of Spindles (%) | Capacity utilisation of Looms (%) |
|-----|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Public | 18 | 10 |
| 2. | Co-operative | 44 | 40 |
| 3. | Private | 90 | 76 |
| | Total | 85 | 47 |

(c) to (e) The capacity utilisation in the public and co-operative sector is lower than that of private sector. The major reason for lower capacity utilisation in public and co-operative sector is due to lack of modernisation, and having obsolete machinery and equipment. The steps taken by the Government to utilise their installed capacity include inter alia, launching of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) w.e.f. 01.04.99 for a period of five years. Under the Scheme, 5% interest reimbursement is provided for technology upgradation in conformity with the Scheme.

Industrial Growth Rate

1436. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

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

(a) whether the country had been witness of a downslide industrial growth rate since, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the Government have found not the factors for such downslides;

(c) if so the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the industrial growth rate decline to about 2% during the first three-quarters of the current fiscal year in comparison to 6% in the same period of previous year;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the main factors that led to the decline and the sectors which have shown maximum decline;

(g) the extent to which this growth is less than the target fixed, if any;

(h) whether there are indications of overall decline in the annual industrial growth during 2001-2002;

(i) if so, the extent to which it is likely to fall against the annual target; and

(j) the plans formulated by the Government to boost its industrial growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) The industrial growth rate since 1995-1996 has shown a fluctuating trend. The growth rates registered since 1995-1996 are given below:

| | |
|------------|------|
| 1995-1996 | 13.0 |
| 1996-1997 | 6.1 |
| 1997-1998 | 6.7 |
| 1998-1999 | 4.1 |
| 1999-2000 | 6.7 |
| 2000-2001 | 5.0 |
| 2001-2002* | 2.3 |

* April-December

Several cyclical and structural factors are believed to be primarily responsible for these fluctuating trends in industrial growth rate and the imbalances across the sectors, especially, in the post-liberalised era. Cyclical turns have impacted industrial output by accentuating demand-supply imbalances while the structural factors have inhibited the growth of capacity creation/expansion in industry, eroded competitiveness and increased the vulnerability of the economy to adverse cyclical or exogenous shocks.

(d) to (f) As per the latest data available, the industrial growth during April-December 2001-2002 has been 2.3% as against 5.8% registered during the corresponding period of last year. Mining and manufacturing sectors have been worst hit by the slowdown. The declaration in industrial growth has been attributable to a number of structural and cyclical factors such as:

- Investment and business cycles.
- Inherent adjustment lags of corporate restructuring.

- Lack of both consumer and investment demand.
- Continued high real interest rates.
- Infrastructure constraints particularly in power.
- Delays in establishing credible institutional and regulatory framework to provide also dampened private investment and industrial production.
- Lack of reforms in land and labour markets.
- Continued economic slowdown in countries that are major trading partners of India, viz, USA, Japan, and European Union.

(g) to (i) The Planning Commission has set an annual growth target of 8.2% for Ninth Five Year Plan. As against this target a growth rate of 2.3% has been achieved during April-December 2001-2002. According to the Estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the growth rate for manufacturing sector which has a weight of 79.4% in the overall Index of Industrial Production (IIP), is likely to be 3.3% during 2001-2002. This growth rate is also below the annual target of 8.2% fixed by the Planning Commission for the industrial sector.

(j) The Government has taken several policy initiatives to boost industrial production in the country. These measures have been targeted to improve competitiveness of Indian industry in general and to boost aggregate demand, improve infrastructure base, upgrade technology, introduce labour flexibility and encourage FDI flows. Some of the initiatives taken recently are briefly mentioned below:

- Public spending out of the budgetary allocations has been stepped up. Government has already identified several 'last mile projects' under various ministries for speedy completion.
- DIPP has proposed to conduct sector-wise studies in respect of capital goods, electrical manufacturing, pulp and paper and cement industries with a view to enhance the competitiveness of these industries.
- Companies Act has been amended to allow 'buy-back of shares, by the companies.
- To deepen reforms in stock exchanges and to provide protection to the investors, Union Budget 2002-2003 proposes amendments in SEBI Act 1992.
- The Government has announced guidelines for allowing 100% FDI in the development of integrated townships and regional urban infrastructure. This is expected to boost housing/real estate sector and also boost production in cement and steel sector.

- To boost Foreign Institutional Investment (FII) in India, FII portfolio investments will not be subject to the Sectoral limits of foreign direct investment except in specified sectors.
- Mid term Export strategy for 2002-2007, to lay stress on effective tax rebate schemes to help exporters. These include transparent and comprehensive schemes of reimbursement, comprehensive VAT system at every level, rebating service tax besides lower customs and excise duties for major inputs needed for exports, which can minimise the need for duty drawback.
- Sector-wise strategies to boost production for exports in key sectors, which include engineering/electronic/electrical and allied equipments, textiles, gems & jewellery, chemicals & allied sector have also been announced.
- To reduce infrastructure bottlenecks several incentives have been announced in the Union Budget 2002-2003 for improvement in power, roads, civil aviation and ports.
- The Golden Quadrilateral project will be substantially completed by December 2003-a year ahead of schedule, major ports to be corporatised in a phased manner and an allocation of Rs. 2500 crore has been made for the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana for 2002-2003.
- Infrastructure equity fund of Rs 1000 crore will be set up to help in providing equity investment for infrastructure projects. Total Plan outlay on infrastructure in power, roads and railway is Rs. 37919 crores.
- Union Budget 2002-2003 proposes abolition of 16% special excise duty on all, cept eight items.
- Additional 15% depreciation of new plant and machinery.
- Reduction of peak rate of custom duty to 30% from March 2002 and rationalisation of custom duty rates to two duty rates by 2004-2005.
- Budget 2002-2003 announced special incentives for textile industry.
- Measures to boost Housing sector such as repeal by the States of the rules under the Urban Land Ceiling Act and rationalisation of high stamp duty regimes proposed in the Union Budget 2002-2003.

Trade Between India and China

1437. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

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

(a) whether the trade between India and China has scaled new heights;

(b) if so, whether the trade volume between the two countries during January to September, 2001 touched \$2.67 billion registering a growth of 29.8 percent over the corresponding period of last year;

(c) whether the China exports to India grew by 25.9 percent;

(d) if so, the efforts made to improve the trade between the two countries during 2001-2002; and

(e) the extent to which trade between two countries is likely to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Indo-China Trade, at US\$ 2.297 billion during 2000-2001, has been the highest recorded so far. As per information available with DGCI&S, the volume of trade was US\$ 1.36 billion during April-September 2001-2002, up by 24.70% compared to the corresponding period of 2000-2001.

(d) and (e) The Government of India works towards the improvement and expansion of trade between the two countries. The various steps taken in this direction include exchange of delegations, holding of Joint Business Council meetings, exchange of commercial information, participation in fairs and exhibitions, etc.

Priority Sector Lending

1438. PROF. UMMAEDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to evaluate the performance of the various nationalized banks in regard to priority sector lending;

(b) if so, the loans advanced to priority sector areas out of the total loan amount provided by each public sector banks during the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(c) whether RBI has a monitoring mechanism to supervise/oversee the compliance of banks to its guidelines in regard to issuing credit/loans to priority sector upto 40%;

(d) if so, the number of banks which have not adhered or failed to comply with the guidelines; and

(e) the measures have been taken to penalize banks which have not complied the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Performance of Public Sector Banks in lending to the priority sector is reviewed by Reserve Bank of India and also by Government of India at regular intervals with a view to formulate adequate policy responses to integrate and harness the financing agencies for provision of sufficient and timely credit as an integral part of the plan for the development of agriculture and other priority sector areas. However, no special study as such has been conducted to evaluate the performance of banks in regard to priority sector lending;

(b) The bank-wise and State-wise advances to priority sector during the last three years are given in Statement-I and II respectively.

(c) As mentioned above, RBI has a monitoring mechanism in place for keeping track of the banks'

performance vis-a-vis the priority sector stipulations as reflected in half-yearly and annual statements received from banks containing the related data. RBI take stock of the bank-wise achievement/shortfall position as on the reporting Friday of March every year.

(d) Two public sector banks have failed to achieve their priority sector lending targets as on the last reporting Friday of March 2001.

(e) Effective 1995, rural infrastructure development fund (RIDF) has been created in NABARD out of contribution by defaulting domestic banks for their failure to achieve targets in priority sector/agricultural lending. The RIDF funds are utilized for providing loans to State Governments/State owned corporations or bodies for undertaking new infrastructure projects or completing existing projects relating to irrigation, soil conservation, watershed management and other rural infrastructure. Successive Annual Budgets have enhanced allocations to RIDF Corpus (the corpus of RIDF was Rs. 2000 crore) and extended the scope of the fund to cover Gram Panchayats, Self Help Groups and certain other institutions like the Rural Electrification Corporation for developing rural infrastructure. The Union Budget for the year 2002-2003 has announced setting up of the VIIIth tranche of these funds, the corpus of which will be Rs. 5500 crore.

Statement-I

Bank-wise Priority Sector Lending of Public Sector Banks

| Name of the Bank | March 1998 | | | March 1999 | | | March 2000 | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | NBC | Total PS advances | % of PS to NBC | NBC | Total PS advances | % of PS to NBC | NBC | Total PS advances | % of PS to NBC |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| State Bank of India | 60127.00 | 22523.00 | 37.46 | 65775.00 | 26527.00 | 40.33 | 79003.04 | 32273.67 | 40.85 |
| State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur | 3875.60 | 1573.77 | 40.61 | 3956.33 | 1767.66 | 44.68 | 4339.81 | 2125.10 | 48.97 |
| State Bank of Hyderabad | 4903.82 | 1843.64 | 37.60 | 5019.77 | 2037.58 | 40.59 | 5760.00 | 2492.50 | 43.27 |
| State Bank of Indore | 1907.27 | 862.39 | 45.22 | 2137.63 | 975.54 | 45.64 | 2765.65 | 1220.10 | 44.12 |
| State Bank of Mysore | 2559.38 | 1070.92 | 41.84 | 2739.93 | 1258.51 | 45.93 | 3016.68 | 1377.34 | 45.66 |
| State Bank of Patiala | 4368.00 | 1742.00 | 39.88 | 4639.00 | 1986.00 | 42.81 | 5363.90 | 2236.47 | 41.70 |
| State Bank of Saurashtra | 2476.04 | 1099.64 | 44.41 | 2708.08 | 1326.30 | 48.98 | 3189.68 | 1480.35 | 45.78 |
| State Bank of Travancore | 2372.34 | 1375.65 | 57.99 | 2313.63 | 1524.46 | 65.89 | 2573.51 | 1843.34 | 71.63 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Allahabad Bank | 5928.63 | 2140.24 | 36.10 | 6934.77 | 2821.09 | 40.68 | 8361.00 | 3572.66 | 42.73 |
| Andhra Bank | 3373.84 | 1395.71 | 41.37 | 4274.65 | 1874.08 | 43.84 | 5221.86 | 2358.06 | 45.16 |
| Bank of Baroda | 12927.82 | 6058.17 | 46.86 | 13383.56 | 6560.14 | 49.02 | 15548.61 | 7670.55 | 49.33 |
| Bank of India | 13007.87 | 6278.28 | 48.27 | 14166.10 | 6855.93 | 48.40 | 16733.45 | 7567.50 | 45.22 |
| Bank of Maharashtra | 3947.67 | 1619.30 | 41.02 | 4304.02 | 1875.32 | 43.57 | 5339.83 | 2289.06 | 42.87 |
| Canara Bank | 13586.79 | 6598.85 | 48.57 | 15131.88 | 6966.53 | 46.04 | 17622.35 | 7717.38 | 43.79 |
| Central Bank | 10840.00 | 4396.31 | 40.56 | 12885.00 | 5595.47 | 43.43 | 15350.00 | 6635.26 | 43.23 |
| Corporation Bank | 3098.66 | 1321.59 | 42.65 | 4697.63 | 1887.73 | 40.18 | 6071.65 | 2561.14 | 42.18 |
| Dena Bank | 5191.11 | 2197.14 | 42.33 | 6243.32 | 2772.45 | 44.41 | 7080.18 | 3063.49 | 43.27 |
| Indian Bank | 5709.26 | 2465.31 | 43.18 | 5931.66 | 2489.20 | 41.96 | 6946.25 | 3190.78 | 45.94 |
| Indian Overseas Bank | 6179.50 | 2756.62 | 44.61 | 7445.26 | 3159.09 | 42.43 | 7820.54 | 3603.81 | 46.08 |
| Oriental Bank of Commerce | 5794.88 | 2560.00 | 44.18 | 8000.00 | 3300.00 | 41.25 | 9708.00 | 4080.40 | 42.03 |
| Punjab National Bank | 15960.30 | 6489.40 | 40.66 | 18282.49 | 8038.87 | 43.97 | 22035.00 | 9833.91 | 44.63 |
| Punjab & Sind Bank | 3303.35 | 1461.30 | 44.24 | 4136.86 | 1750.27 | 42.31 | 4281.36 | 2079.05 | 48.56 |
| Syndicate Bank | 5362.00 | 2286.00 | 42.63 | 7546.64 | 3598.00 | 47.68 | 8760.00 | 4170.00 | 47.60 |
| Union Bank of India | 9144.54 | 4220.76 | 46.16 | 9939.79 | 4683.77 | 47.12 | 13467.00 | 5414.04 | 40.20 |
| United Bank of India | 4182.00 | 1754.00 | 41.94 | 4696.00 | 1891.00 | 40.27 | 5634.00 | 2459.87 | 43.66 |
| UCO Bank | 5213.37 | 1943.65 | 37.28 | 5305.42 | 2128.03 | 40.11 | 6843.00 | 2550.00 | 37.26 |
| Vijaya Bank | 2877.85 | 1285.00 | 44.65 | 3609.00 | 1550.00 | 42.95 | 4107.09 | 1961.31 | 47.75 |
| Total | 218218.89 | 91318.64 | 41.85 | 246203.42 | 107200.02 | 43.54 | 292942.54 | 127807.14 | 43.63 |

Statement-II

State-wise Public Sector Banks' Advances to Priority Sector as on March 1998, 1999 and 2000.

| Name of State/Union Territory | Total priority Sector Advances | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 95968536 | 104098749 | 30150164 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 237868 | 299284 | 136285 |
| Assam | 10156843 | 11329827 | 6176554 |
| Bihar | 31102546 | 36181534 | 15399144 |
| Goa | 3490108 | 4329047 | 1695747 |
| Gujarat | 60184354 | 69376142 | 14539513 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Haryana | 29873832 | 36779550 | 6594420 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 5864951 | 6859561 | 3446690 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 7378304 | 9235298 | 5443899 |
| Karnataka | 84699885 | 101291684 | 29925725 |
| Kerala | 51229701 | 57870251 | 27175603 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 50268439 | 57524266 | 19436190 |
| Maharashtra | 191250811 | 237312977 | 67447355 |
| Manipur | 1028583 | 1110957 | 443671 |
| Meghalaya | 623977 | 674202 | 460843 |
| Mizoram | 227247 | 273501 | 201765 |
| Nagaland | 594616 | 662653 | 240828 |
| NCT of Delhi | 64334209 | 76487553 | 34182108 |
| Orissa | 21009165 | 21233409 | 9408210 |
| Punjab | 56699579 | 68120223 | 13440912 |
| Rajasthan | 40942423 | 48654582 | 12474274 |
| Sikkim | 246671 | 278235 | 192010 |
| Tamil Nadu | 126532802 | 140260885 | 28390941 |
| Tripura | 1324261 | 1387257 | 725037 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 86545856 | 96199339 | 29780907 |
| West Bengal | 59471512 | 65798984 | 17151802 |
| Andaman & Nicobar | 168964 | 248879 | 150386 |
| Chandigarh | 5475874 | 7125947 | 1782689 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 278180 | 30381 | 49218 |
| Daman & Diu | 237189 | 206450 | 32869 |
| Lakshadweep | 42655 | 47045 | 22910 |
| Pondicherry | 1562529 | 1528773 | 360806 |
| All India | 1089052472 | 405097387 | 377065475 |

Promotion of Education in SC Students

1439. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps to promote education among Scheduled Castes students; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the last three years in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh?

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

(b) Assistance for promoting education among entire population including the Scheduled Castes is being provided under various schemes implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is providing additional

assistance to students belonging to Scheduled Castes for supplementing the above efforts. List of schemes implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and assistance provided to Madhya Pradesh during last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The following schemes are being implemented in Madhya Pradesh to promote education among Scheduled Caste students. The details of Central assistance released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years under these Schemes is as below:

| S. No. | Name of the Scheme being Implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment | Central Assistance Released to Government of Madhya Pradesh (Rs. in lakhs) | | |
|--------|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| | | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
| 1. | Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students | Nil | 193.849 | 382.469 |
| 2. | Pre Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations | 90.22 | 86.05 | 153.4485 |
| 3. | Special Educational Development Programme for SC girls belonging to very low literacy levels | 38.95 | 20.97665 | Nil |
| 4. | Book Bank for SC/STs | Nil | Nil | 12.79 |
| 5. | Upgradation of Merit of SC/STs | 55.74 | 39.15 | 16.80 |
| 6. | Construction of Boys Hostels for SCs | 574.53 | 254.19 | 764.95 |
| 7. | Construction of Girls Hostels for SCs | Nil | 277.99 | 437.51 |
| 8. | Coaching & Allied Scheme for SC/STs | 82.94 | 66.09 | 44.03 |

Separate Export Policy for Service Sector

1440. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are preparing a separate export policy for service sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which said policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The Government has already included a Chapter on Export of Services in the Exim Policy since

1999-2000. Action has now been initiated to evolve a Medium Term Export Strategy for Services Sector, the preparation of which involves collection of information from India and abroad and discussions with all stake holders in the Services Sector.

[Translation]

Welfare Schemes for SCs/STs and OBCs

1441. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:

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

(a) the details of the Centrally-sponsored schemes for SCs/STs and OBCs introduced during each of the last three years;

(b) the funds provided for these schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the funds provided are not being used for the very schemes it is meant for; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Following schemes have been introduced for the welfare of STs since 1997-1998 and OBCs since 1998-1999.

Scheduled Tribes

(i) Girls Hostels for STs.

(ii) Boys Hostels for STs.

(iii) Ashram Schools for STs.

(iv) Post Matric Scholarships for STs.

(v) Research and Training scheme for STs.

Backward Classes

(i) Post Matric Scholarships for OBCs

(ii) Pre-Matric Scholarships for OBCs

(iii) Hostels for OBCs Boys and Girls.

(iv) Pre-examination Coaching for OBCs

(v) Assistance to Voluntary Organizations for OBC.

The details of funds provided are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

Amount Released Under the Scheme of Girls Hostels for STs

(Amount in lakhs)

| S. No. | State/UT | 1997-1998 | | | 1998-1999 | | | 1999-2000 | | | 2000-2001 | | | 2001-2002 | | |
|--------|------------------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|
| | | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 60.2 | 4 | 416 | 236.44 | 20 | 50 | 178.88 | 10 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232.5 | 32 | 8315 |
| 2. | Assam | 16 | 30 | 150 | 50 | 1 | 50 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 3. | Gujarat | — | — | — | 4.02 | 7 | 230 | 6.25 | 7 | 350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10.29 | 7 | 201 |
| 4. | Himachal Pradesh | 15 | 1 | 50 | 37.845 | — | — | 79.9 | 2 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 109.3 | 2 | 165 |
| 5. | Daman & Diu | 20 | 1 | 60 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 6. | D & N Haveli | — | — | — | 60 | 2 | 220 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 7. | Kerala | — | — | — | 22.05 | 3 | 180 | 14.7 | 2 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 8. | Madhya Pradesh | — | — | — | 100 | 34 | 1700 | — | — | — | 44.8 | 1 | 144 | — | — | — |
| 9. | Manipur | 3 | 1 | 15 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 10. | Meghalaya | 13.8 | 5 | 200 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 11 | 5 | 100 | — | — | — |
| 11. | Orissa | 45 | 11 | 330 | 17.5 | 3 | 66 | 13.15 | 2 | 64 | 8.5 | 2 | 90 | — | — | — |
| 12. | Rajasthan | 150 | 46 | — | 70.77 | 6 | 200 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 13. | Tamil Nadu | — | — | — | — | — | — | 100 | 6 | 494 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|-------------------|---|-------|-----|------|---------|----|------|--------|----|------|-------|----|-----|-------|--------|-------|
| 14. Tripura | | 17.3 | — | — | 51.64 | 1 | 50 | — | — | — | 20 | 1 | 50 | 10 | 1 | 50 |
| 15. Uttar Pradesh | | 11.2 | 1 | — | 11 | 1 | 50 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 16. West Bengal | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 17. J & K | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 18. Karnataka | | 15 | 2 | 100 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 2 | 100 |
| 19. Maharashtra | | 10 | 4 | 340 | 33.07 | 2 | 165 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 67.72 | Arrear | 400 |
| 20. Bihar | | — | — | — | 75 | 3 | 150 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 21. Nagaland | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 32.5 | 1 | 100 | — | — | — |
| 22. JNU Delhi | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 117 | 1 | 100 | — | — | — |
| 23. Jharkhand | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 197.4 | 14 | 1400 |
| Total | | 376.5 | 106 | 1661 | 769.335 | 83 | 3111 | 392.88 | 29 | 1728 | 233.8 | 11 | 574 | 667.2 | 58 | 10631 |

Amount Released Under the Scheme of Boys Hostels for STs

Amount in lakhs

| S. No. | State/UT | 1997-1998 | | | 1998-1999 | | | 1999-2000 | | | 2000-2001 | | | 2001-2002 | | |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|
| | | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat | Amt. | Hostel | Seat |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | | 45.45 | 3 | 312 | 49 | 4 | 200 | 87.3 | 8 | 400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 2. Assam | | 16 | 29 | 145 | 50 | 1 | 50 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 3. Gujarat | | — | — | — | 2.29 | 7 | 405 | 3 | 2 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21.57 | 8 | 248 |
| 4. Himachal Pradesh | | 15 | 1 | 50 | 108.3 | 1 | 200 | 87.22 | 2 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 113.5 | 2 | 150 |
| 5. Daman & Diu | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 6. D & N Haveli | | — | — | — | 60 | 1 | 100 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 7. Kerala | | — | — | — | 22.05 | 3 | 180 | 22.05 | 3 | 180 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 8. Madhya Pradesh | | — | — | — | 100 | 9 | 450 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 9. Manipur | | 13 | 1 | 30 | 13 | 1 | 35 | 26 | 1 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 10. Meghalaya | | 13.75 | 5 | 200 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 13.75 | 5 | 100 | — | — | — |
| 11. Orissa | | 35 | 8 | 240 | 17.31 | 3 | 66 | — | — | — | 12.75 | 3 | 120 | — | — | — |
| 12. Rajasthan | | 159.6 | 46 | 1150 | 192.1 | 13 | 450 | 319.2 | 53 | 2650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 13. Tamil Nadu | | — | — | — | — | — | — | 50 | 3 | 190 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 14. Tripura | | 15.24 | 1 | 50 | 35.86 | 1 | 50 | 103.7 | 5 | 250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 15. Uttar Pradesh | | — | — | — | 9 | 2 | 100 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|-------|-------------------|--------|-----|------|--------|----|------|-------|----|------|-------|----|-----|-------|--------|------|
| 16. | West Bengal | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 17. | J & K | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 18. | Karnataka | 27.5 | 4 | 200 | 29.44 | 3 | 150 | — | — | — | 75 | 5 | 250 | 135 | 9 | 450 |
| 19. | Maharashtra | 12.5 | 5 | 300 | 66.24 | 10 | 775 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | 217.9 | Arrear | |
| 20. | Bihar | — | — | — | 75 | 3 | 150 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — |
| 21. | Nagaland | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 32.5 | 1 | 100 | — | — | — |
| 22. | Delhi | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 116.7 | 1 | 100 | 50 | 1 | 380 |
| 23. | Jharkhand | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 197.4 | 14 | 1400 |
| 24. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 2 | 60 |
| Total | | 353.04 | 103 | 2677 | 829.59 | 62 | 3361 | 698.5 | 77 | 4070 | 250.7 | 15 | 670 | 745.4 | 36 | 2688 |

Amount Released Under the Scheme of Ashram School for STs

(Amount in lakhs)

| S. No. | State/UT | 1997-1998 | | | 1998-1999 | | | 1999-2000 | | | 2000-2001 | | | 2001-2002 | | |
|--------|------------------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|--------|-------|-----------|------|--|
| | | Amt. | School | Seat | Amt. | School | Seat | Amt. | School | Seat | Amt. | School | AAmt. | School | Seat | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 218.46 | 7 | 700 | 113 | 3 | 150 | 225.86 | 6 | — | 0 | 0 | 262.5 | 7 | 840 | |
| 2. | Assam | — | — | — | 25.2 | 2 | 100 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 3. | Gujarat | — | — | — | 175.29 | Arrear | — | 83.17 | 15 | 1800 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 4. | Himachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 5. | Daman & Diu | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 6. | Kerala | — | — | — | 67 | 7 | 1650 | 116.5 | 8 | 1590 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | — | — | — | 100.21 | 9 | 450 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 8. | Manipur | 3 | 1 | 30 | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | Upgrad. | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 9. | Orissa | 50 | 4 | 240 | 40 | 4 | 200 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 10. | Rajasthan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 11. | Tamil Nadu | — | — | — | — | — | — | 53.75 | 5 | 250 | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 12. | Tripura | 93.46 | 1 | 300 | 85.44 | 1 | 100 | 50 | 1 | Arrear | 0 | 0 | 50 | 1 | 100 | |
| 13. | Uttar Pradesh | — | — | — | 175.445 | 15 | 750 | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| 14. | Karnataka | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | 128 | 9 | 900 | |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 104.5 | 88 | — | 157.38 | 56 | — | — | — | — | 0 | 0 | — | — | — | |
| Total | | 469.42 | 101 | 1270 | 938.965 | 97 | 3400 | 532.28 | 36 | 3640 | 0 | 0 | 440.5 | 17 | 1840 | |

Grants-in-aid released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship during the last three years

(Rs in lakhs)

| S. No. | State | 1997-1998 | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 553.676 | 143.92 | 963.023 | 1577.74 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 130 | 0 |
| 3 | Assam | 0 | 72.335 | 2005.6 | 1000 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0 | 602.216 | 1206.9 | 0 |
| 5. | Goa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | Haryana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 4.6 | 18 | 18.27 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 14.9 | 27.31 | 12 | 0 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 0 | 0 | 243 | 301.98 |
| 11. | Kerala | 0 | 0 | 185 | 83.52 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 652.58 | 174.22 | 0 | 249.08 |
| 14. | Manipur | 0 | 475.89 | 672.42 | 665.56 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 0 | 744.371 | 605.542 | 666.0962 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 0 | 521.008 | 334.75 | 281.65 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 0 | 1084.26 | 673.11 | 1231.94 |
| 18. | Orissa | 0 | 0 | 323.16 | 113.83 |
| 19. | Punjab | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 39.55 | 227.73 | 218.31 | 0 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.201 |
| 23. | Tripura | 0 | 54.14 | 53.19 | 51.074 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 33 | 64.0584 |
| 26. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Daman & Diu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|------------------|----------|------|------|------|
| 29. | Delhi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 30. | Guwahati Project | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 31. | Pondicherry | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 1260.706 | 4132 | 7681 | 6310 |

Research & Training

Amount Released

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S. No. | Name of State/ T.R.I.s | 1998-1999 | | | 1999-2000 | | | 2000-2001 | | |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|-------|
| | | TRI | Fellow | Total | TRI | Fellow | Total | TRI | Fellow | Total |
| | | 26 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 5.00 | 1.93 | 6.93 | — | 3.75 | 3.75 | — | 0.44 | 0.44 |
| 2. | Assam | 16.18 | — | 16.18 | 8.65 | 1.36 | 10.01 | — | 0.44 | 0.44 |
| 3. | Bihar | 50.00 | 3.40 | 53.40 | — | 1.31 | 1.31 | — | — | 0.00 |
| 4. | Gujarat | — | 0.86 | 0.86 | 12.90 | 1.25 | 14.15 | — | 0.44 | 0.44 |
| 5. | Kerala | 20.00 | — | 20.00 | 6.36 | 0.44 | 6.80 | — | 0.44 | 0.44 |
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | 47.74 | 1.65 | 49.39 | — | 2.62 | 2.62 | 29.76 | 2.61 | 32.37 |
| 7. | Maharashtra | 29.13 | 1.05 | 30.18 | 16.35 | 0.87 | 17.22 | 8.50 | 0.87 | 9.37 |
| 8. | Manipur | — | — | 0.00 | 27.00 | 1.12 | 28.12 | — | — | 0.00 |
| 9. | Orissa | 35.00 | 3.47 | 38.47 | — | 5.28 | 5.28 | 36.70 | 4.02 | 40.72 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | — | — | 0.00 | — | 1.70 | 1.70 | 9.29 | 1.74 | 11.03 |
| 11. | Tamil Nadu | 25.16 | — | 25.16 | 11.77 | 0.87 | 12.64 | — | — | 0.00 |
| 12. | Tripura | 71.50 | 1.42 | 72.92 | 22.50 | — | 22.50 | — | — | 0.00 |
| 13. | Uttar Pradesh | 3.14 | — | 3.14 | — | 1.40 | 1.40 | — | — | 0.00 |
| 14. | West Bengal | 23.78 | — | 23.78 | — | 0.92 | 0.92 | — | 1.40 | 1.40 |
| 15. | Himachal Pradesh | — | 0.84 | 0.84 | — | — | 0.00 | — | 0.43 | 0.43 |
| 16. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | 0.00 | — | — | 0.00 | — | — | 0.00 |
| 17. | Karnataka | — | 0.31 | 0.31 | — | — | 0.00 | — | — | 0.00 |
| Total | | 326.63 | 14.93 | 341.56 | 105.53 | 22.89 | 128.42 | 84.25 | 12.83 | 97.08 |

* There is no Tribal Research Institute (T.R.I.)

Welfare Scheme for SCs/STs and OBC

(Rs. in Lakhs)

I. Pre-matric Scholarship for OBCs:

| S. No. | Sate/UT | 1998-1999 Funds Released | 1999-2000 Funds Released | 2000-2001 Funds Released |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Bihar | 840.60 | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | A.P. | Nil | 325.00 | Nil |
| 3. | M.P. | 64.00 | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Tripura | 1.40 | 100.00 | 95.79 |
| 5. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | 16.00 |
| 6. | Assam | Nil | Nil | 62.50 |
| 7. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | 425.71 |
| Total | | 150.00 | 425.00 | 600.00 |

II. Post-Matric Scholarships to the OBC students for studies in India

| S. No. | Sate/UT | 1998-1999 Funds Released | 1999-2000 Funds Released | 2000-2001 Funds Released |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Bihar | 196.50 | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | A.P. | 116.00 | 324.26 | 559.25 |
| 3. | M.P. | 149.00 | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Tripura | 3.00 | 55.00 | Nil |
| 5. | Karnataka | Nil | 118.00 | 110.72 |
| 6. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | 91.36 |
| 7. | Goa | Nil | Nil | 25.00 |
| 8. | Assam | Nil | Nil | 94.47 |
| 9. | J & K | Nil | Nil | 8.00 |
| 10. | U.P. | Nil | Nil | 10.20 |
| Total | | 464.50 | 497.26 | 899.00 |

III. Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls:

| S. No. | Sate/UT | 1998-1999 Funds Released | 1999-2000 Funds Released | 2000-2001 Funds Released |
|--------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Bihar | 120.53 | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | A.P. | Nil | 144.26 | Nil |
| 3. | M.P. | 10.00 | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 4. | Rajasthan | Nil | 57.48 | Nil |
| 5. | Karnataka | Nil | 78.26 | 183.23 |
| 6. | Sikkim | Nil | 20.00 | Nil |
| 7. | Tripura | Nil | Nil | 10.00 |
| 8. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | Nil | 259.86 |
| 9. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | 46.91 |
| Total | | 130.53 | 300.00 | 500.00 |

IV. Assistance to the Voluntary Organisations for OBCs:

| S. No. | Sate/UT | 1998-1999 Funds Released | 1999-2000 Funds Released | 2000-2001 Funds Released |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | A.P. | 11.18 | 15.82 | 9.71 |
| 2. | Assam | 2.70 | 4.32 | 7.04 |
| 3. | Gujarat | Nil | 0.89 | 4.67 |
| 4. | Haryana | Nil | 7.33 | 5.39 |
| 5. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | 3.62 |
| 6. | Karnataka | Nil | 1.55 | 2.88 |
| 7. | M.P. | 8.50 | Nil | 24.14 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | 27.65 | 20.13 | 20.77 |
| 9. | Manipur | 2.16 | 10.56 | 23.40 |
| 10. | Orissa | 2.69 | 3.66 | 16.31 |
| 11. | Sikkim | 1.73 | Nil | 2.11 |
| 12. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | 0.95 | 2.81 |
| 13. | U.P. | 5.59 | 25.11 | 12.10 |
| 14. | West Bengal | 1.13 | 5.66 | 2.56 |
| 15. | Delhi | 1.13 | 11.02 | 19.67 |
| Total | | 64.46 | 107.00 | 157.17 |

V. Pre-examination Coaching for OBCs:

| S. No. | Sate/UT | 1998-1999 Fund Released | 1999-2000 Fund Released | 2000-2001 Fund Released |
|--------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Assam | 6.78 | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | Kerala | 3.33 | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | M.P. | 5.19 | 2.13 | Nil |
| 4. | Orissa | 2.12 | 0.85 | 0.01 |
| Total | | 17.42 | 2.98 | 0.01 |

*[English]***Import of Sensitive Items**

1442. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

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

(a) whether the import of sensitive items has registered a positive growth of 6.7% during April-December, 2001;

(b) if so, the names of items whose import has increased alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent which the total import of the country has increased during the above period in comparison to the total export as a result thereof;

(d) the extent to which the increase in import of sensitive items has affected the domestic industry; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to bring down the import of sensitive items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) Increase has been witnessed broadly in import of edible oil, rubber, cotton & silk and spices. After removal of Quantitative Restrictions, import of a commodity depends upon the domestic demand, international supply and prices of the commodity. However, Government is constantly monitoring the situation and taking remedial measures so that the imports do not cause any serious injury to the domestic industry. Towards that end import duty on natural rubber latex (Tariff Code No. 4001.10), spices (pepper, cloves and cardamom) has been increased from 35% to 70% in the Budget for the year 2002-2003. Earlier in the year the import duty on cotton was revised from 5% to 10%. Import of natural rubber is being strictly monitored and now permitted only through the customs ports at Kolkata and Vishakhapatnam. These measures should help contain the growth in import of sensitive commodities. The total import of the country during the above period has shown 4.55% increase whereas export has shown 5.05% increase in rupee terms.

Offices of Tea/Coffee Board

1443. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of offices of Tea Board and Coffee Board functioning at present abroad;

(b) whether there is a need to revamp these offices, and

(c) if so, the steps taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) There are 5 Tea Board Offices functioning abroad. There is no Coffee Board office abroad. A Committee has been constituted to study and formulate a plan to revamp the foreign offices of various Commodity Boards in order to make them effective from export promotion point of view.

New NABARD Branches

1444. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Branch Offices of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in the country at present and their location, State-wise;

(b) whether some State Governments including Gujarat have been requesting for opening of more such branch offices of NABARD in their respective States particularly in the backward and remote areas of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has 28 Regional Offices in various States, one sub-office at Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Islands) and 320 District Development Manager's (DDM) Offices at District Level in various States. The State-wise and location-wise details of these offices are furnished in Statement-I and II enclosed.

(b) and (c) NABARD has reported that requests for opening of new DDM offices are received from various quarters including State Governments which are taken into account while deciding on the selection of districts for opening of these offices every year. The policy for opening of such offices in the districts is based upon the State of development of the district, number of offices already opened in the State and connectivity and communication facilities in the district, etc. Requests from State Governments for opening of new DDM offices are given priority while selecting districts for opening of new offices.

Statement-I

State-wise break-up of Regional Offices and Sub-Office of NABARD (As on 28.2.2002)

| S. No. | Name of State/ Union Territory | Name of Regional Office |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Hyderabad |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Itanagar |
| 3. | Assam | Guwahati |
| 4. | Bihar | Patna |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | Raipur |
| 6. | Goa | Panaji |
| 7. | Gujarat | Ahmedabad |
| 8. | Haryana/Punjab | Chandigarh |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | Shimla |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | Jammu |
| 11. | Jharkhand | Ranchi |
| 12. | Karnataka | Bangalore |
| 13. | Kerala | Thiruvananthapuram |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | Bhopal |
| 15. | Maharashtra | Pune |
| 16. | Manipur | Imphal |
| 17. | Meghalaya | Shillong |
| 18. | Mizoram | Aizwal |
| 19. | Nagaland | Dimapur |
| 20. | New Delhi | New Delhi |
| 21. | Orissa | Bhubaneswar |
| 22. | Rajasthan | Jaipur |
| 23. | Sikkim | Gangtok |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | Chennai |
| 25. | Tripura | Agartala |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | Dehradun |
| 28. | West Bengal | Kolkata |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Sub Office | | |
| A & N Islands | | Port Blair |
| Grand Total | | 28 ROs & 1 Sub Office |

Statement-II

Statement showing the State-wise/location-wise details of DDM Offices of NABARD in the country (As on 28-2-2002)

| S. No. | Name of the State/U. T. | Name of the District |
|--------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh (18) | Ananthapur, Chittoor, East Godavari, Guntur, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Parakasm, Srikakulam, Vishakapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal |
| 2. | Assam (12) | Barpet, Dibrugarh, Diphu, Goalpara, Jorhat, Bongaigaon, Mangaldoi, Morigaon/Jagiroad, Nagaon, Sibsagar, Tezpur (Sonitpur), Cachar. |
| 3. | Bihar (19) | Begusarai, Bhojpur, Darbhanga, East Champaran, Gaya, Jehanabad, Madhubani, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Purnea, Rohtas, Samastipur, Saran, Sitamarhi, Siwan, Vaishali, West Champaran, Bhagalpur |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh (8) | Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Korba, Mahasbund, Rajnandgaon, Sarguja, Raigarh. |
| 5. | Goa (2) | South Goa (Margoa), North Goa. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| 6. Gujarat (14) | Bharuch, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch (Bhuj), Mehsana, Navasari, Panchmahal, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara, Valsad, Dahod. | |
| 7. Haryana (13) | Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jind, Karnal Kurukshetra, Mahendergarh, Rohtak, Sirsa, Sonapat, Yamunanagar. | |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh (7) | Hamirpur, Kangra, Kulu, Mandi, Sirmour, Solan, Una. | |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir (2) | Kathua, Udhampur | |
| 10. Jharkhand (11) | Bokaro, Deogarh, East Singhbhum, Giridih, Gumta, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Palamau, West Bengal Singhbhum, Dhanbad. | |
| 11. Karnataka (20) | Bagalkot, Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chickmangalur, Chitradurga, Dakshin Kannada, Dharwar, Gulbarga, Hassan, Kodagu, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore, North Kanara, Shimoga, Tumkur, Raichur, Chamrajnagar | |
| 12. Kerala (13) | Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Idukki (Thodupuzha), Kannur, Kasargod, Kollam, Kottayam, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur, Wynad. | |
| 13. Madhya Pradesh (23) | Betul, Chindwara, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Hoshnagabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Khandwa, Khargone, | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------------|---|--|
| | | Morena, Narsinghpur, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Shahdol, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha, Mandla. |
| 14. Maharashtra (25) | Ahmednagar, Akola, Amaravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik, Osmanabad, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Wardha, Washim, Yeotmal, Beed, Parbhani. | |
| 15. Meghalaya (2) | Jaintia Hills, West Garo Hills. | |
| 16. Orissa (19) | Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Ganjam (Berhampur), Kalahandi, Kendrapada, Keonjhar, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nayagarh, Phulbani (Kandhamal), Puri, Raygada, Sambalpur, Sundergarh, Nabarangpur, Jagatsinghpur. | |
| 17. Pondicherry (1) | Pondicherry | |
| 18. Punjab (13) | Amritsar, Bhatinda, Fatehgarh, Saheb, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Moga, Muktsar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur, Ferozpur, Gurudaspur. | |
| 19. Rajasthan (19) | Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Hanumangarh, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Kota, Pali, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Sriganganagar, Udaipur. | |
| 20. Tamil Nadu (21) | Cuddalore (South Arcot), Dinigul, Erode (Periyar), | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------------|---|--|
| | | Kanchipuram (Chingleput MGR), Kanyakumari, Dharmapuri, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Shivaganga, Thanjavur, Tuticorin, Tiruchirappalli (Trichy), Tirunelveli, Vellore, Vilupuram, Virudhunagar (Kamraja Nagar), Coimbatore, Thiruvannamalai. |
| 21. Uttaranchal (5) | | Almora, Hardwar Nainital, Tehri Garhwal, Phitoragarh. |
| 22. Uttar Pradesh (41) | | Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Azamgarh, Baghpat, Baharaich, Ballia, Basti, Bijnore, Buland Shahar, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghazipur, Ghaziabad, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Hardoi, Jalaun (Orai), Janunpur, Jhansi, Lakhimpur Kheri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Mirzapur, Moradabad, Muzafarnagar, Pilibhit, Pratapgarh, Rai Bareilly, Saharanpur, Sitapur, Varanasi, Barabanki. |
| 23. West Bengal (11) | | 24 Paraganas (North), Bankura, Birbhum, Burdwan, Hooghly, Jalpaiguri, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, Purulia, Uttar Dinajpur. |

Income Tax Dues of IDBI

1445. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IDBI owes nearly Rs. 877 crores as income tax liability to the Government;

(b) if so, whether the IDBI has gone to court against such demands from the income-tax department;

(c) if so, whether the Government have encouraged any compromise between IDBI and the Income Tax Department;

(d) if so, the results of such a compromise worked out by the Government;

(e) the outstanding income tax against other FIs and PSUs as on date; and

(f) the further steps proposed to be taken to resolve such disputes out of court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. The income tax liability of IDBI as on date stands at Rs. 210.91 crores.

(b) The IDBI has filed an appeal before the CIT (A).

(c) and (d) There is no provision for compromise, however, out of a total demand of Rs. 420.91 crores, IDBI has paid Rs. 210 crores.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

(f) There is no provision for settlement of tax related disputes out of the court. The assessee can go either to the Appellate Authorities or to the Settlement Commission for settlement of tax related disputes for which machinery are provided in the I.T. Act 1961 itself.

[Translation]

Medium Term Financial Reforms Programme

1446. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have formulated medium term financial reforms programme;

(b) the States out of the above which signed MoUs with his Ministry; and

(c) the amount allocated to the States from the incentive fund till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Medium term Fiscal Reforms Programme (MTFRP) of twelve States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, J & K, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal have been approved in the Monitoring Committee Meeting. The Governments of Karnataka, Nagaland and Orissa have

since entered into Memoranda of Understanding with Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Grant amounting to Rs. 1,284.89 crores has so far been released to States from the Incentive Fund.

Construction of Godowns in Bihar

1447. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance was provided to the Bihar Government for the construction of godowns during the last three years;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance provided;

(c) whether it has come to notice of the Government that the Bihar Government has misappropriated the funds provided by the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No financial assistance has been granted to Government of Bihar under the Centrally sponsored scheme 'construction of godowns' in the last three financial years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls

1448. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has taken up a project to construct 68 Hostel buildings for OBC boys and girls under Centrally-sponsored scheme during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has been requested by the Karnataka Government to release the sanctioned amount at the earliest; and

(c) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) During 2000-2001, the State Government of Karnataka submitted three proposals for construction of total 99 hostels for OBC boys and girls under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls. Due to limited availability of funds under the Scheme, the Government of India could release an amount of Rs. 182.23 lakhs only to the State Government of Karnataka for construction of 31 hostels. During the current financial year 2001-2002, a proposal for construction of 70 hostels has been received from the State Government of Karnataka, which has been processed for sanction of the grant keeping in view the availability of funds under the scheme.

Long Term Grain Export Policy

1449. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for long term grain export policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any meeting with exporters has been held in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (e) The decision on export of foodgrains on Government Account is taken after constantly reviewing the stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool vis-a-vis the prescribed buffer norms, production of foodgrains in the country, trend for procurement for Central Pool, requirement for Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes, Open Market sales Scheme etc. A meeting was held with exporters on 12.02.2002 in the Department of Food & Public Distribution to discuss various matters connected with export of wheat and rice from the Central Pool. Pursuant to the meeting, the following important decisions have been *inter-alia* taken:-

1. the offer price for export of wheat and rice will be fixed for a period of 3 months and such prices would be announced by the Government 45 days in advance;

2. the minimum quantity of rice to be lifted by an exporter has been reduced to 2,000 MTs from the earlier level of 5,000 MTs.

Establishment by Heavy Industry

1450. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish any Heavy Industry in the State of Orissa during the year 2002-2003 and for that whether any MoU has been signed or letter of intent issued to any industrialist during the year 2000-2001 to 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are proposing to disinvest any Public Enterprise in the State of Orissa during the year 2002-2003; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to establish any Heavy Industry in the State of Orissa during 2002-2003 in so far as the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of Department of Heavy Industry (DHI) are concerned.

(c) None of the PSUs under the administrative control of DHI is located in the State of Orissa.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

VRS for Bank Employees

1451. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Banks Association has finalised a new Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to offload over 50% workforce of the public sector banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of employees availed of VRS last year;

(d) the total amount paid to them;

(e) whether services to customers at various branches of the public sector banks have suffered due to retirement of staff under VRS; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to identify those branches and post the required staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per available information, upto 30.9.2001, 1,01,217 employees were relieved under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) introduced by the Public Sector Banks and an amount of Rs. 12,453 crores was paid to them of which Rs. 7071 crores accounted for ex-gratia.

(e) and (f) Banks have informed that generally there has been no deterioration in the quality of customer service. It is likely that the Scheme might have created surplus/deficit pockets in certain banks. In order to meet such situations, banks have initiated measures for redeployment of officers and staff as per the Manpower Plans, improve efficiency including, inter-alia, re-structuring of the administrative tiers/controlling offices, speeding up of computerisation, installation of ATMs at major commercial and residential centers, rationalisation of procedures etc.

[*English*]

Investment Fluctuation Reserve

1452. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India recently came out with guidelines to transfer gains on sale of investment to the investment fluctuation reserve; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide guidelines dated 10th January, 2002 advised all scheduled commercial banks to transfer the gains realised on the sale of investments to Investment Fluctuation Reserve (IFR) account. These guidelines, inter-alia, stipulate that the banks should achieve IFR of a minimum of 5% of their portfolio within a period of 5 years. Banks to ensure that the unrealised gains on valuation of their investment

portfolio are not taken to their income account or to the IFR. Individual scrips held under the 'Available for Sale category' should be marked to market at least at quarterly intervals.

The guidelines aim to caution the banks on the need to follow more prudent policy for utilising the gains realised on sale of investment in securities arising from the decline in interest rates and for building up adequate reserves to guard against any possible reversal of the interest rate environment in future due to unexpected developments.

Price Rise

1453. SHRI A. NARENDRA:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite of low rates of inflation recorded in the recent months the prices of most commodities are still high for common man;

(b) if so, the reasons for this paradoxical situation;

(c) the trends of consumer price index and inflation rate from month to month since April, 2001 and the comparative figures for the last three years;

(d) the percentage of increase in prices of essential commodities during the last three years, till date;

(e) the extent to which the rise in the cost of living resulting therefrom has been compensated in respect of Union Government employees by way payment of DA indicating the neutralisation in rise in cost of living; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure that consumer prices remain within easy reach of the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The group of 30 essential commodities whose wholesale prices are monitored every week have, so far till 16th February 2002, registered an annual price rise of 2.9%. Some of the essential commodities in this group are seasonal in nature and their prices fluctuate during the year.

(b) For common man it is the foodgrains that constitute the wage goods and their prices have not risen at all, if obtained through PDS. Even outside the PDS, the prices of rice and wheat have not risen during the current year. There has been some rise in the price of edible oil which is partly due to increase in the import duty on oils imported into the country. Some of the commodities whose prices are lower than last year are: tea, sugar, salt and urad. Other essential commodities have recorded only a marginal increase in prices.

(c) Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers and annual inflation based on this is listed below:

| Month | 01-02 | | 00-01 | | 99-00 | |
|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| | Index | % incr. | Index | % incr. | Index | % incr. |
| Apr. | 448 | 2.3 | 438 | 5.5 | 415 | 8.4 |
| May. | 451 | 2.5 | 440 | 5.0 | 419 | 7.7 |
| Jun. | 457 | 3.4 | 442 | 5.2 | 420 | 5.3 |
| Jul. | 463 | 4.0 | 445 | 5.0 | 424 | 3.2 |
| Aug. | 466 | 5.2 | 443 | 4.0 | 426 | 3.1 |
| Sep. | 465 | 4.7 | 444 | 3.5 | 429 | 2.1 |
| Oct. | 468 | 4.2 | 449 | 2.7 | 437 | 0.9 |
| Nov. | 472 | 4.9 | 450 | 2.7 | 438 | 0.0 |
| Dec. | 469 | 5.2 | 446 | 3.5 | 431 | 2.6 |
| Jan. | 467 | 4.9 | 445 | 3.2 | 431 | 0.5 |
| Feb. | - | - | 443 | 3.0 | 430 | 3.6 |
| Mar. | - | - | 445 | 2.5 | 434 | 4.8 |

(d) The annual inflation (end of the year-point to point) in essential commodities based on WPI and CPI-IW for the last three years is given below:

| | (Per cent) | | |
|-----------|------------|-------|-------|
| | 99-00 | 00-01 | 01-02 |
| WPI based | 5.4 | 3.0 | 1.7* |
| CPI based | 2.8 | 2.9 | 4.3** |

* as on January, 2002. ** As on December 2001.

(e) Per cent increase in Dearness Allowance paid to Central Government employees during the last three years is listed below:

| Year | Jan-Jun | Jul-Dec | Total |
|------|---------|---------|-------|
| 1999 | 10 | 5 | 15 |
| 2000 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 2001 | 2 | 2 | 4 |

(f) The Government has already in place the policy of supplying foodgrains to an estimated number of 65.2 million BPL families at a highly subsidized rate of Rs. 4.50 per kg for wheat and Rs. 5.65 per kg for rice. The monthly quota for BPL families was raised from 10 kgs to 20 kgs w.e.f. April 2000, which was again increased to 25 kgs w.e.f. July 2001. Under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana Scheme, launched in December 2000, 10 million poorest families out of the BPL population would be supplied 25 kgs of foodgrains per family at a much lower price of Rs 2 per kg for wheat and Rs 3 per kg for rice. Apart from this direct support, the low inflation rate recorded during the last two years is considered beneficial to the common man.

Production/Export/Consumption of Coffee

1454. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:

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

(a) the total production, export and domestic consumption of coffee during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) whether there is constant decline in the export and domestic consumption;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have chalked out any plan to boost the production, export and the domestic consumption of coffee during the next five years;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether some countries like European countries have shown keen interest in buying Indian coffee;

(g) if so, whether any coffee export deal has been concluded with European buyers, if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government have identified new regions for the cultivation of coffee;

(i) if so, the details of such regions, State-wise; and

(j) the steps the Government have taken to develop the existing coffee growing areas to increase the production of coffee in order to stay in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Production, export and domestic consumption of coffee during the last few years is given below:

| | (Qty. in lakh tonnes) | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------|-------------|
| Year | Production | Export | Consumption |
| 1998-1999 | 2.65 | 2.12 | 0.50 |
| 1999-2000 | 2.92 | 2.45 | 0.55 |
| 2000-2001 | 3.01 | 2.47 | 0.58 |
| 2001-2002 | 3.06(E) | 1.49* | 0.60(E) |

(E) Estimated * 1.4.2001 to 25.2.2002

(b) and (c) As is evident from the above table, there is no decline in either exports or domestic consumption of coffee in the last 3-4 years.

(d) and (e) Coffee Board has already been implementing a number of plan schemes for increasing production and productivity of coffee. For boosting coffee exports, the Board is also implementing a medium-term export strategy to sustain and gain market share in the key markets and also to improve the competitiveness of Indian Coffee in the global markets over the next five years. Similarly, for increasing domestic consumption of coffee, the Board is taking a number of steps. In this direction, Govt. of India/Coffee Board has also taken initiative to encourage procurement and marketing of

coffee by the Indian Coffee Marketing Cooperative Ltd. (COMARK) in collaboration with co-operative societies viz. National Dairy Development Board and Gujarat Cooperative of Milk Marketing Federation (Amul) etc.

(f) and (g) Traditionally, European Union has been the major market for Indian Coffee and it accounts for over 50% of total coffee exports from the country. With the liberalisation of coffee industry, coffee trade is completely in private hands and Coffee Board/Govt. of India has no role in coffee marketing activities.

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Does not arise.

(j) For the benefit of the coffee growers, the Govt. of India, through Coffee Board, besides operating several plan schemes and developmental activities aimed at intensive cultivation, quality up-gradation and water augmentation, has also been providing necessary support in the form of research, extension, arrangement of credit and finance and other back up support like supply of seed for planting purposes etc. Further thrust is being given for increasing productivity of coffee particularly in the small grower sector and improving quality of the product to achieve competitiveness in the international markets. The Board is also encouraging the large growers to produce specialty coffee which fetches attractive premiums in developed countries like USA and European Union.

Issue of Licences Under Explosive Act, 1884

1455. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the explosives cell under his Ministry has not been able to check the units for which they have issued licence under Explosive Act, 1884 and Petroleum Act, 1934;

(b) if so, the number of licences issued and inspected during the last three years;

(c) whether it is mandatory for such units to install safeguard measures in their units;

(d) if so, the number of cases in which licence holders have violated the prescribed norms; and

(e) the action taken against such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Explosives checks the units for which they have issued licences under Explosives Act, 1884 and Petroleum Act, 1934, through the verification of monthly returns filed and by physical inspection of premises specially in cases of issue of fresh licences under the Explosive Act, 1884. The number of licences issued and premises inspected during the last three years are as below:-

| | | Act | | During the Year | | |
|-----|------------------------|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
| (1) | No. of Licences issued | (i) | Explosives Act, 1884 | 3774 | 4948 | 5904 |
| | | (ii) | Petroleum Act, 1934 | 6722 | 9571 | 11020 |
| | | Total | | 10496 | 14519 | 16924 |
| (2) | Premises inspected | (i) | Explosives Act, 1884 | 16,916 | 17,095 | 28,852 |
| | | (ii) | Petroleum Act, 1934 | 14,408 | 15,048 | 17,403 |
| | | Total | | 31,324 | 32,143 | 46,255 |

(c) Yes Sir. It is mandatory for all the units licensed under the Explosives Act, 1884 and Petroleum Act, 1934 to install and observe safeguards and safety features as detailed in the drawings which are first approved by the

Department as per the requirements of conditions of licence.

(d) and (e) In cases of violations of prescribed norms/rules/conditions of licences, licensees are issued show

cause notices and licences are cancelled/suspended, wherever necessary, depending upon the response of the defaulters and as per the statutory procedures. The number of cases in which show cause notices have been issued and licences have been suspended in last three years are as below:-

| | 1998- 1999 | 1999- 2000 | 2000- 2001 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| (1) Show cause notices issued | 490 | 625 | 845 |
| (2) No. of licences suspended | 196 | 204 | 265 |

Lending of ICICI

1456. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICICI has been lending to farm sectors and its debt recovery position is very satisfactory;

(b) if so, whether the ICICI would extend its lending to individual farmers for growing various crops in different States; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal of ICICI in extending loan assistance to the small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No Sir. ICICI being Financial Institution is lending only to companies and has not yet extended any credit to individual farmers till date.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Production of Tea and Coffee in Southern States

1457. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of Tea and Coffee is declining continuously in the Southern States;

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

(c) whether the United Plants Association of India have expressed its concern thereon; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the quality of land in order to check the decline in production of tea and coffee in Southern States?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Procurement of Cotton by CCI

1458. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the States from whom cotton is being procured by the Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) the details of procurement made by CCI during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the number of major cotton purchasing countries buying Indian cotton have been declining over the years;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to find out the new markets and to attract the existing buyers towards Indian cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) procures cotton from all cotton growing States except from Maharashtra where Raw Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme of the State Government is in operation.

(b) Procurement made by CCI, State-wise is given in the following table:

| State | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 (upto 27.02.2002) |
|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Punjab | 35,738 | 62,074 | 12,570 |
| Haryana | 18,533 | 34,409 | 9,963 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Rajasthan | 1,24,175 | 1,17,234 | 60,468 |
| Gujarat | 1,12,913 | 1,26,774 | 2,14,503 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 44,248 | 62,108 | 60,955 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1,22,945 | 1,79,868 | 3,82,415 |
| Karnataka | 16,713 | 14,627 | 18,457 |
| Tamil Nadu | 2,735 | 1,154 | 200 |
| West Bengal | 2,125 | 1,184 | 441 |
| Orissa | 2,447 | 3,489 | 14,503 |
| Maharashtra Federation | 25,500 | 00 | 00 |
| Total | 5,08,072 | 6,02,921 | 7,74,475 |

(c) Export of cotton from India during last three cotton years (October-September) is given in the following table:

| | 1998-1999 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Quantity (in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each) | 1.01 | 0.65 | 0.60 |
| Number of countries | 33 | 19 | 25 |

(d) and (e) Unfavourable price and quality of cotton are primary reasons for low export of cotton from India. Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton to improve the productivity and quality of cotton so as to make the Indian cotton more competitive globally.

[Translation]

National Scheme for the Scavengers

1459. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the unit cost from 50,000 to 5,00,000 under National Scheme for Scavengers and their dependents;

(b) if so, the number of units that have been sanctioned in the revised rates to each State; and

(c) the number of units requested by the Government of Karnataka for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Proposal for revision of the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents covering various aspects, including revision of unit cost has been received.

(c) During 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, Government of Karnataka had requested for assisting 4646 and 3861 number of scavengers respectively.

[English]

Non-Performing Assets of Banks

1460. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total aggregate losses to various banks due to Non-Performing Assets;

(b) the bank-wise details thereof;

(c) the total amount of NPAs on account of default by beneficiaries under various centrally sponsored schemes, and their percentage in total aggregate NPAs; and

(d) the total amount of NPAs on account of default in payment by various industries and their percentage in total aggregate NPAs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and

(b) According to latest information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total aggregate losses (computed as the sum of provisions made for NPAs and bad and doubtful debts written-off) due to non-performing assets (NPAs) of the scheduled commercial banks amounted to Rs. 7230 crores for financial year 2000-2001 and Rs. 3,584 crore from April, 2001 to September 2001. The bank-wise details are given in Statement enclosed.

(c) The data reporting system of RBI does not generate the requisite information.

(d) The total amount of Gross NPAs of banks on account of default in payment by various industries as on 30th September, 2001 stood at Rs. 36, 293 crore, constituting 54.5% of banks total aggregate NPAs of Rs. 66,549 crores.

Statement

Loan Loss provision M 2001

Bank-wise details of Losses due to NPAs

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

| Bank Name | Total Losses Due to NPAs | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | April 2000 to March 2001 | April 2001 to September 2001 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Indian Bank | 248.31 | 33.59 |
| Indian Overseas Bank | 148.99 | 56.62 |
| Oriental Bank of Commerce | 254.00 | 67.00 |
| Punjab & Sind Bank | 69.48 | 25.68 |
| Punjab National Bank | 325.80 | 262.79 |
| Syndicate Bank | 83.19 | 53.49 |
| UCO Bank | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Union Bank of India | 230.80 | 127.02 |
| United Bank of India | 74.92 | 38.00 |
| Vijaya Bank | 67.32 | 41.39 |
| Bank of Punjab Ltd. | 13.89 | 5.89 |
| Centurion Bank Ltd. | 21.37 | 39.46 |
| Global Trust Bank Ltd. | 73.01 | 78.01 |
| HDFC Bank Ltd. | 24.01 | 24.14 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---------|--------|
| ICICI Banking Corpn. Ltd. | 0.00 | 62.63 |
| IDBI Bank Ltd. | 39.87 | 29.08 |
| Indus ind. Bank Ltd. | 110.87 | 26.65 |
| UTI Bank Ltd. | 21.55 | 73.32 |
| Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. | 22.43 | 2.82 |
| Benaras State Bank Ltd. | 4.73 | 0.00 |
| Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd. | 5.00 | 6.55 |
| Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd. | 23.63 | 11.99 |
| City Union Bank Ltd. | 10.00 | 8.50 |
| Development Credit Bank Ltd. | 13.83 | 11.01 |
| Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd. | 11.28 | 9.83 |
| Federal Bank Ltd. | 102.25 | 72.26 |
| Ganesh Bank of Kurundwad Ltd. | 0.17 | 0.00 |
| Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. | 35.27 | 0.00 |
| Karnataka Bank Ltd. | 36.40 | 20.00 |
| Karur Vysya Bank Ltd. | 6.29 | 3.41 |
| Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd. | 18.87 | 14.50 |
| Lord Krishna Bank Ltd. | 8.66 | 3.00 |
| Nainital Bank Ltd. | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Nedungadi Bank Ltd. | 40.56 | 0.00 |
| Ratnakar Bank Ltd. | 1.70 | 1.67 |
| SBI Commercial & International Bank Ltd. | 50.63 | 0.27 |
| Sangli Bank Ltd. | 2.72 | 0.00 |
| South Indian Bank Ltd. | 38.09 | 19.84 |
| Tamilnadu Mercantile Bank Ltd. | 12.50 | 0.00 |
| United Western Bank Ltd. | 47.32 | 26.87 |
| Vysya Bank Ltd. | 43.15 | 36.00 |
| State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur | 81.00 | 38.00 |
| State Bank of Hyderabad | 159.67 | 80.00 |
| State Bank of India | 1382.52 | 778.00 |
| State Bank of Indore | 77.61 | 35.67 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| State Bank of Mysore | 74.31 | 34.15 |
| State Bank of Patiala | 122.60 | 73.11 |
| State Bank of Saurashtra | 95.24 | 37.43 |
| State Bank of Travancore | 93.59 | 54.00 |
| Total All Banks | 7229.78 | 3584.31 |

Note: Negative values implies excess provisions made during earlier periods written back

Source: DSB Returns

International Consultants for Growth Rate

1461. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have appointed some international consultants to review the country's annual growth rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the charges paid to them;

(d) whether said international consultants has suggested some formula to achieve 10 per cent annual growth rate;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

Sale of Computers at Higher Prices by NCCF

1462. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether NCCF had supplied computers to Additional Directorate General of Information Technology, Army Headquarter, New Delhi on higher rates;

(b) whether the Union Government have directed NCCF to initiate departmental proceedings against the persons responsible for the irregularities committed by them; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken in the matter, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The NCCF has informed that they have not sold the Computers to the Additional Director General (IT) Army Headquarters, New Delhi at higher rates. However, the management of the NCCF has been asked to hold an inquiry into the matter and take suitable action.

Investors Protection Fund

1463. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any claims under Investors Protection Fund (IPF) has been lodged with National Stock Exchange, during the last one year;

(b) if so, the number of claims out of which settled;

(c) the reasons for not settling all the claims;

(d) whether Government will ensure that the fund is properly administered and utilized and claims against brokers are settled in time-bound programme;

(e) if so, the details; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) According to the information furnished by the National Stock Exchange, it has received 527 claims during the period March, 2001 to February, 2002.

(b) 21 claims out of 527 claims received have been settled.

(c) The Exchange has intimated that a large number of claims (288) relate to two expelled members. The claimants, in many cases, have also been unable to provide adequate documents to support their claims. In an effort to expedite the process of assessing the claims, the exchange has retained the services of an independent chartered accountant firm. Various claimants had filed criminal cases as well as civil suits against the expelled members. In one case, the expelled member has distributed certain funds/securities to various claimants through the attorneys as part of the compromise arrived in a criminal case. Various claims are, therefore, required

to be re-worked in consultation with the attorneys appointed by these claimants in view of these payments received/receivable by claimants. Another 192 claims out of the 527 claims relate to other defaulters/expelled members, for which public notice period of 90 days is either over recently or still to get over. Even in these cases, the processing of claims received has commenced. The exchange has intimated that it is making all efforts to expedite the processing of settlement of all valid claims

(d) to (f) According to the bye-laws and procedure in place, whenever any member is either declared a defaulter or expelled from the membership of the exchange, the exchange gives a public notice intimating investors to lodge their claims within 90 days of the publication of the notice. The claims of investors are to be first considered against the assets lying with the exchange. In case of insufficiency of assets, the claims have to be paid pro-rata which can be considered only after any arbitration proceedings, which may be pending, are completed. The remaining claims will be eligible to be considered for payment out of investors' protection fund. The claims have to be verified for their genuineness. At times, the clients are unable to provide the necessary documents in support of their claims.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme

1464. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:
SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:
SHRI SAIDUZZAMA:
SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced a voluntary retirement scheme for its employees who were rendered surplus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified the employees to be covered under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof Ministry/Department-wise;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a), (b) and (f) Yes, Sir. A copy of the order issued by Govt. of India on 28.02.2002 regarding Special Voluntary Retirement

Scheme (VRS) for Surplus Central Govt. Employees is enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e) The information is not maintained centrally. Identification of surplus employees for the purpose of VRS is to be done by the individual Ministries/Departments as per the prescribed procedure. In order to facilitate the maintenance of a close watch on the implementation of the Scheme, all Ministries/Departments have been instructed to submit quarterly returns to the Surplus Cell of Department of Personnel & Training.

Statement

No. 25013/6/2001-Estt.(A)

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Department of Personnel & Training

New Delhi, the 28th February, 2002

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme for Surplus Central Government Employees.

The Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) set up by the Government of India has suggested a liberal Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for the employees declared surplus. This recommendation, contained in Commission's second Report on 'Optimising Government's Staff Strength — Some General Issues' has been considered carefully and the Central Government have decided to introduce a special Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) as per details given in para 2 hereunder for the permanent employees declared surplus in any Ministry/Department as a consequence of one or more of the following:-

- (i) Implementation of decisions of the Cabinet regarding restructuring of Ministries/Departments;
- (ii) Implementation of the recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission;
- (iii) Implementation of the decision of a Ministry/Department relating to downsizing/rightsizing including, inter alia, restructuring of an organization, transfer of an activity to a State Government, Public Sector Undertaking or other Autonomous Organisation discontinuation of an ongoing activity and introduction of changes in technology; or

- (iv) Implementation of work study reports undertaken by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance or any other body set up by the Central Government or the Ministry/Department concerned.

2. The features of the Special VRS for the employees declared surplus are as under:-

- (a) All permanent employees rendered surplus irrespective of their age and qualifying service can opt for the scheme.
- (b) An optee of Special VRS will be entitled to receive an ex-gratia amount equal to basic pay plus dearness allowance of the number of days worked out on the basis of length of service @ 35 days for each completed year and 25 days for each remaining year. For any part of year, the number of days, for ex-gratia amount, will be worked out on the basis of 365 days in a year. The ex-gratia amount will be further subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) total number of years to be counted for payment of ex-gratia will not exceed 33 years;
 - (ii) No weightage of additional service will be given for the purpose of calculation of ex-gratia;
 - (iii) The ex-gratia will be subject to a minimum of Rs. 25,000/- or 250 days emoluments, whichever is higher;
 - (iv) The ex-gratia amount should not exceed the sum of the basic pay plus DA that the employees would draw at the prevailing level for the balance of the period of service left before superannuation;
 - (v) The ex-gratia amount will be paid in lump-sum;
 - (vi) The ex-gratia amount up to Rs. 5.00 lakhs will be exempted from Income Tax;
- (c) A weightage of five years to the qualifying service shall be given under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 to such permanent surplus employees who have rendered a minimum of 15 years of qualifying service on the date they are declared surplus. However, as provided in rule 29 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, the qualifying length of service after taking into account the aforesaid weightage should not be more than the service he would have rendered had he retired on the date of his superannuation.
- (d) Encashment of Earned Leave accumulated on the date of relief as per CCS (Leave) Rules, 1972;

- (e) Payment of savings element with interest in the Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme as per rules;
- (f) TA/DA as on retirement for self and family for settling anywhere in India as per Travelling Allowance Rules;
- (g) Group 'A' officials opting for the special VRS will be exempted from the operation of rule 10 of the CSS (Pension) Rules which stipulates previous sanction of the Government for accepting commercial employment.

3. Payment of ex-gratia to the employees declared surplus and opting for the special VRS within the specified three months period will be over and above the normal retirement entitlements under CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972.

4. The order of voluntary retirement in each case should clearly stipulate that the surplus post held by the retiring incumbent will stand abolished from the date of his/her voluntary retirement.

5. The identification of surplus employees for the purpose of VRS would be guided by procedure given in Item 3 of Annexure-I under the heading "Steps for identification of Surplus staff" to the revised scheme of the disposal of personnel rendered surplus due to reduction - of establishment in Central Government Department/Offices notified at Circular No. 1/18/88-CS-III of DoPT dated 1st April, 1989.

6. The permanent employees declared surplus will have to exercise option for special VRS within three months from the date he or she has been declared surplus in any Ministry/Department. Surplus employees presently on the Rolls of the Surplus Cell (Redesignated as the Division of Retraining and Redeployment) of the Department of Personnel & Training as on the date of this OM can also opt for special VRS within three months from this date.

7. In order to facilitate the maintenance of a close watch on the implementation of the scheme, all Ministries/Departments are required to submit quarterly returns to the Surplus Cell of Department of Personnel & Training that may be prescribed by that Cell.

8. Ministry of Finance, etc. are requested to give wide publicity to the contents of this O.M. to the employees declared surplus.

Sd/-

(Smt. Pratibha Mohan)
Director (E-II)
Tel.: 301 3180

To

All Ministries/Departments (As per standard list).

Visit of World Bank Team in Jharkhand

1465. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of the World Bank has visited various districts of Jharkhand in February 2002 in regard to the Jharkhand community development project of the State Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) A World Bank mission visited various districts of Jharkhand from February 6-18, 2002. This was an initial visit to identify the scope and issues for a proposed community forestry project which has been posed to the Bank for possible financing by the Government of India at the request of the Government of Jharkhand.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 976 DATED 23.11.2001 RE: LIFTING OF BAN ON INDIAN COMPANIES

Statement

1. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry had given an answer to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 976 relating to lifting of ban on Indian companies by Shri Ram Prasad Singh, Dr Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Shri Mohd. Shahabuddin.

2. It is informed that in the information contained in the reply to Part (a) to (d) of the above question the name of the Bharat Dynamics Limited (1 entity) may also be added along with other Indian entities that remain on the Entity List.

Reasons for delay

3. The above information could not be laid on the Table of the House as the House adjourned sine die on 19.12.2001. This is an inadvertent mistake and is deeply regretted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 O'clock.

11.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at One Minute past Twelve of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): On behalf of Shri George Fernandes, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5056/2002]

- (2) A copy of the Defence Services Estimates for the year 2002-2003 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5057/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): On behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the India-Nepal Treaty of Trade (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5058/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 96(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 2002 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 630(E) dated the 31st August, 2001 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5059/2002]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Statement Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Leather Corporation Limited, Agra, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Leather Corporation Limited, Agra, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5060/2002]

- (b) (i) Statement Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited, Ooty, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited, Ooty, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5061/2002]

- (c) (i) Statement Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5062/2002]

(3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5063/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5064/2002]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (b) of item (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5065/2002]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hind and English versions) of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hind and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 2000-2001.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5066/2002]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5067/2002]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2000-2001.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5068/2002]

- (9) A copy of the Textiles (Development and Regulation) Order, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. NO. 8/3/2001-TPC in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 2001 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5069/2002]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report of the Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5070/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (2nd Amendment) Regulations, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. EP. 36(2)/86 in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 2001 under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5071/2002]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi for the year 1997-1998, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi for the year 1997-1998.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5072/2002]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report of the Central Warehousing Corporation, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (11) of section 31 of the Warehousing Corporation Act, 1962.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Warehousing Corporation, for the year 2000-2001.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5073/2002]

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Reports of the Food Corporation of India for the years 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5074/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Thane, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Thane, for the year 2000-2001.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5075/2002]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5076/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1255 (E) in Gazette of India dated 24th December, 2001 together with an explanatory memorandum under section 77 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5077/2002]

- (2) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 95(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 2002 together with

explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on flexible slabstock polyol of molecular weight 3000 to 4000, originating in or exported from the United States of America, the European Union, Japan and Singapore at the rate recommended by the designated authority.

- (ii) G.S.R. 102(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 2002 together with explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on D(-) para hydroxy phenyl glycine base (PHPG base) originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China and Singapore at the rates recommended by the designated authority.

- (iii) G.S.R. 103(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 2002 together with explanatory memorandum seeking to impose definitive, anti-dumping duty on Ferro silicon originating in or exported from Ukraine and imported into India, as recommended by the designated authority.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5078/2002]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

- (i) G.S.R. 874(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 2001 together with explanatory memorandum seeking to amend 11 Notifications mentioned therein.

- (ii) G.S.R. 52(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st January, 2002 together with explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 17/2001-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2001.

- (iii) G.S.R. 53(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st January, 2002 together with explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 48/99-Cus., dated the 29th April, 1999.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5079/2002]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 97(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2002 together with

explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 32/99-Cus., dated the 8th July, 1999 so as to extend the scope of exemption from excise duty to industries located in additional Industrial Estates and Industrial Areas in the State of Assam.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5080/2002]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, for the year 2000-2001.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5081/2002]

- (7) A copy of the 31st Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as at 31st March, 2001 under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5082/2002]

- (8) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kamraz Rural Bank, Sopore for the year 2000-2001.
- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5083/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of the section 619 of the Companies Act, 1956:—
 - (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the years 1997-98 and 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-1998, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (iii) Annual Report of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-1999, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5084/2002]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the PEC Limited, New Delhi, for year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the PEC Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5085/2002]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the State Trading Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for year 2000-2001.
- (ii) Annual Report of the State Trading Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies (Vol. I and II), for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies (Vol. I and II), for the year 2000-2001.

- (4) *Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.*

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5087/2002]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (Cochin), for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (Cochin), for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5088/2002]

[English]

ASSENT TO BILL

12.03 hours

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table a copy, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Bill, 2001 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Seventh Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on 26.2.2002.

[English]

12.03 ½ hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received a letter dated 7th March, 2002 from Kumari Mayawati, an elected Member from Akbarpur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh, resigning from the membership of the Lok Sabha. I have accepted her resignation with effect from 7th March, 2002.

[English]

12.03 ¾ hrs.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEES — A REVIEW

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table (Hindi and English versions) of the "Financial Committees (2000-2001) — A Review".

[English]

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Twentieth to Twenty-Sixth Reports

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet).
Sir, I beg to present a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance:—

- *(1) Twentieth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs and Expenditure).
- *(2) Twenty-First Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Ministry of Planning.
- *(3) Twenty-Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Sixteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- *(4) Twenty-third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Department of Disinvestment.
- *(5) Twenty-fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Financial Institutions — Objectives, Performance and Future Prospects.
- *(6) Twenty-fifth Report on the General Insurance (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2001.
- *(7) Twenty-sixth Report on the Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

*Presented to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on 28th December, under Direction 71A of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha when the House was not in Session. Hon'ble Speaker ordered the printing, publication and circulation of the Reports under Rule 280 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

[English]

12.04 3/4 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Forty-Ninth Report

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN (Coimbatore): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Forty-ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Commerce on the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2001.

12.05 hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

Sixty-Fourth to Sixty-Eighth Reports

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following reports of the Standing Committee on Industry:—

1. Sixty-Fourth report on the Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programme of Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (HZL);
2. Sixty-Fifth report on the Modernisation, Restructuring and Expansion Programme of Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL);
3. Sixty-Sixth report on Performance Review of Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (NARDDC);
4. Sixth-Seventh report on the Organisational Structure and Performance Review of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM); and
5. Sixty-Eighth report on the Working and Performance Review of Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL).

12.05 1/2 hrs.

[Translation]

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the 8th sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House held on 12 December, 2001.

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Guidelines for Granting Authorisation to Market Transportation Fuels — Laid*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, with your permission, I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding 'guidelines for granting authorization to market transportation fuels'.

@As the House is aware, Petroleum Sector has been under Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) since 1976. The Government decided, in November, 1997 to introduce a phased programme of reforms in this sector. The complete deregulation of this sector including upstream and marketing is scheduled to be achieved by 31st March, 2002.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, in March, 1999, had set up a Group of Ministers for working out a specific framework for developing "India Hydrocarbon Vision — 2025". The Group submitted its report to the Prime Minister on 23.3.2000. The report has *inter-alia* recommended that marketing rights for transportation fuels be made conditional to a company investing or proposing to invest Rs. 2,000 crore in exploration or production, refining, pipelines or terminals. The report has also recommended to set up mechanisms to enable new entrants to establish own distribution networks for marketing without encroaching on the retail networks of the existing marketing companies.

In order to achieve the complete deregulation of the Petroleum Sector as per the phased programme of reforms laid down by the Government in November, 1997, it has been decided by the Government to grant authorization to market transportation fuels, namely, Motor Spirit (MS), High Speed Diesel (HSD) and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to the new entrants including the private sector. So far, only Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies were having the authorization to market transportation fuels in the country.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5089/2002]

*Laid on the Table.

[Shri Ram Naik]

It may be mentioned that the import and pricing of ATF has already been decontrolled with effect from 1.4.2001.

The guidelines have been approved by the Government on 27.2.2002 which, *inter-alia*, provide for the following-

- (i) the companies investing or proposing to invest Rs. 2,000 crore in exploration and production, refining, pipelines or terminals may be granted authorization to market transportation fuels, namely MS, HSD and ATF;
- (ii) the eligible investment would be in setting up new refineries, expansion of the existing refineries, exploration and production of hydrocarbons including coal bed methane and associated facilities like crude oil/natural gas pipelines and processing plants, terminals for crude oil/LNG, common carrier natural gas/petroleum products/LPG pipelines, and investments in these activities for setting up additional assets for improvement of product quality to meet environmentally related norms;
- (iii) the investment should be in the form of equity, equity like instruments or debt with recourse to the company and should result in the additionality to the existing assets and/or creation of new assets in the eligible activities;
- (iv) in case of companies proposing to invest, a bank guarantee of Rs. 500 crore will be obtained to ensure that they fulfil their commitment. Further the time frame for making investment in the eligible activities would be 10 years including the period of 5 years earmarked for financial closure;
- (v) every eligible company would get only one authorization and it will not be transferable without permission of the Government. The applicant will be required to submit a scheme for marketing to the Government or the Regulatory Board and while granting authorization, the latter may impose conditions in public interest including the obligation to set up retail outlets in remote areas and low service areas and that the eligible company will not encroach upon the retail networks of existing marketing companies;
- (vi) the companies who have already made in full the investment of Rs. 2,000 crore in the eligible activities would be granted authorization during

APM itself while the companies proposing to invest would be granted authorization only after the APM is dismantled.

It is expected that these guidelines will herald a new era of competition leading to better services for the customers.

12.07 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—LAID

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, 11th March, 2002 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
2. Discussion on Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.
3. General Discussion on the General Budget for 2002-2003.
4. Discussion and voting on the following Demands and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bills:—
 - (a) Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2002-2003
 - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2001-2002
 - (c) Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1998-1999.
5. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by the Rajya Sabha:—
 - (a) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2001
 - (b) The St. John Ambulance Association (India) Transfer of Funds (Repeal) Bill, 2001
 - (c) The Indian Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2001.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Submission by Members to the Government Business for the next week would be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Need to renovate old minor irrigation project of Madhya Pradesh.
2. Need to implement Central Crop Insurance Scheme in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

- (i) Rotting of foodgrains in godowns of FCI — distribution to save storage cost.
- (ii) Border tension between India and Pakistan — status and progress made to defuse the tension.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Forest Act of 1980 prohibits other development works in hill tribals and Adivasi areas.
2. Agriculture is the back-bone of Indian economy. In view of alarming increase in the population, there is a need to adopt latest technology in agriculture so that agricultural output can be increased. Therefore, there is a need to accord technical status to it.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Need to take effective steps for improving sale policy of products of Bokaro Steel Plant thereby preventing loss of about rupees two crores per day being incurred by it.
2. Need to take effective steps and conduct survey for setting up food processing industries and creation of more employment opportunities in Bokaro, Dhanbad and Giridih district.

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

- (i) Communal tension in the country as a result of the threat by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to start the work on the Temple in Ayodhya.
- (ii) Reforms in the Electoral System.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Need to open gas agencies soon at Simri Bakhtiarpur under district Saharsa and Veerpur under district Supol in Bihar.
2. Need for making Sonvarsaraj-Simir Bakhtiarpur-Bharyahi Bazaar-Saharsa, a 40 km. stretch on NH-107 in Bihar traffic-worthy expeditiously.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Need to set up Soyabean Extraction Plant (Factory) in Bilaspur district for providing employment to educated unemployed youths so as to alleviate unemployment in Chhattisgarh and promotion of soyabean crop for progress of farmers.
2. Need to provide 50 percent grants by the Government of India to the schools or voluntary educational institutions which are interested to impart education to children under 'compulsory education for children upto 14 years of age scheme' and whose students outperform figuring in First Division and Merit List.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Ajmer and Puskar both these cities are important in historical, religious and tourist perspective. A large number of Keralites live in Ajmer, and in order to fulfil their requirements there is a need to extend Trivandrum-Jaipur train upto Ajmer so as to connect far flung coastal State of Kerala to Ajmer.
2. Earlier Agra-Ahmedabad was connected by meter gauge via Ajmer-Jaipur-Agra Fort. But, after gauge conversion, this popular train service was suspended. Bandi Kui-Agra Fort gauge conversion work has not been completed so far and this is causing inconvenience to the people of Rajasthan. Therefore, there is a need to complete gauge conversion work on Bandi Kui-Agra Fort route without further delay and restore Ahmedabad-Agra Fort train service.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna): The following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Need to discuss damage caused to the crops of farmers by severe hailstorm in month of February in Madhya Pradesh, especially in district Satna.

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

- (i) Need to allocate adequate funds for construction of a new international airport terminal at Trivandrum and completion of the work within a time frame.
- (ii) Need to provide minimum support prices for growers of cash crops like coconut, rubber, etc. in view of falling in prices of these crops.

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(c) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972 read with rules 4(1) of Marine Products Export Development Authority Rules, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(c) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972 read with rules 4(1) of Marine Products Export Development Authority Rules, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

12.08 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Tea Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(f) of the Tea Act, 1953 read with rules 4(1)(b) and 5(1) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(f) of the Tea Act, 1953 read with rules 4(1)(b) and 5(1) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS — RAILWAYS, 2001-2002

12.09 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 2090/2002]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, item no. 22

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, you ought to take up the issue for which we have given notice before the legislative business is taken up...(Interruptions) This issue should be taken up first...(Interruptions)

[English]

12.08 1/2 hrs.

(ii) Marine Products Export Development Authority

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Sir, I beg to move:

[*Translation*]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, by killing Manjur Ahamed, the MLA of Samajwadi Party have created an atmosphere of terror the killers....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, you should first take up the Adjournment Motion....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, all four of you are standing together. Whom should I listen to? I have to seek your permission now.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I had given a notice....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would take it up later.

...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, I also have given notice....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. Now, Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

12.10 hrs.

**RE: SITUATION ARISING OUT OF
CABINET'S REPORTED APPROVAL FOR
IMPOSITION OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN
UTTAR PRADESH**

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir Manjur Ahamed, the MLA of Samajwadi Party was killed in front of the main gate of Raj Bhavan in Lucknow....(*Interruptions*) A person named Abhishek has been nabbed in this connection....(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are creating confusion throughout the country....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA (Gajipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, has he given any notice....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have also given chance to those Members who had given notices.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, MLA of Samajwadi Party, Manjur Ahamed was killed in front of the main gate of Raj Bhawan and the killer Abhishek Bhardwaj was caught on the spot and the weapon used for killing was recovered....(*Interruptions*) Please listen to me. Why are you worried....(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: The House cannot be run in this manner....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this way they cannot stop me from speaking....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): You did not cry on killing of innocent persons in Godhara. Please speak on that also....(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: We also want to cry for that....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Brahma Nand Mandal, please resume your seat, I have given the floor to him.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Akhilesh Bhardwaj was caught immediately after the killing....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your issue?

[*English*]

Your issue is regarding imposition of President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I am coming to that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What are you saying please come to your point.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very serious matter....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, would you not allow your own leader to speak? What is this?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Except Abhishek Bhardwaj, no other person has been named in FIR registered in this case but local administration is trying to dub it in other colour. Provoking slogans were raised when Abhishek Bhardwaj was produced in the court. I would like to say that activists of Bhartiya Janata Party, Bajrang Dal and Shiv Sena are deliberately trying to vitiate the atmosphere of Uttar Pradesh. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very serious matter...(Interruptions) on the one hand MLA Manjur Ahmed of our party has been killed and on the other hand our Party was not allowed to form Government.

The Adjournment Motion Notice given by me is regarding imposition of President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh. I would like to make a submission that after legislative assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh Samajwadi Party emerged as the largest party in the Legislative Assembly and except Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, the leader of Samajwadi Party, no other person has staked his claim to form Government. It has been a healthy and recognized traditions of our democracy that President and Governors have always invited the single largest party for forming the Government. Atalji is present here in 1996 his party did not have majority but BJP was the largest party, therefore, the hon'ble President invited Atalji for formation of Government. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in 1989 majority was in favour of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh but Congress was the largest party so Rajiv Gandhi was invited for forming the Government. Nitish Kumarji was also present here, recently the Government formed under this leadership in Bihar, at that time their party was also not in majority. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are deliberately not allowing Samajwadi Party to form the Government. They wish that BJP should continue to rule in Uttar Pradesh through the President's rule. It is a serious matter and we wish that it should be discussed in the House...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how can the conduct of a Governor be discussed here?... (Interruptions) How are you allowing it, Sir?... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (Bilaur): They are misleading the House.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I have given notice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has given notice on this subject and I have given the floor to him.

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA: Name of Samajwadi Party activist has been mentioned in FIR registered there...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): Abhishek Bhardwaj, who has been caught in this case has also stated this...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir,... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shyam Bihari Mishra, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ashok Pradhan, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ashok Pradhan, this is 'Zero Hour'. He has mentioned something in the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): They have killed him and Shiv Sena is being blamed.

[English]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Your party was involved in Gujarat...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, you have already got your chance.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Where were you when people were burnt alive in Godhara...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi says.

...(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, today is the Women's Day. I have given a notice to raise the issues of women during the 'Zero Hour'...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, today is a very solemn occasion as the Women's Day is being observed throughout the world...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes; and you have given a notice regarding imposition of President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, today, we never liked to discuss any subject other than women's issue but we are compelled to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the concerns of the Opposition parties including the principal Opposition party and the manner in which the things have taken shape in the last two weeks in Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are quite aware of the fact that in consonance with the spirit of the Constitution, we cannot discuss the discretion of a Governor in the House...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL (Monghyr): Please announce the support of your party first.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Brahma Nand Mandal, this is unbecoming of a Member's behaviour. Please take your seat. I may have to take your conduct seriously.

Please do not interrupt. This is not the way to behave in the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, we are not here to discuss the discretion of a Governor. But this House may be on record that both in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha in 1967, the conduct of Shri Dharamveera the then Governor of West Bengal, and also the conduct of Shri Romesh Bhandari, on the motion moved by the then principal Opposition party, i.e. BJP were debated and discussed. These issues were taken up in the right earnest.

I do hope that an occasion may be provided by you and the entire House to discuss the manner in which, immediately after the mandate of the Uttar Pradesh, how the single largest party has been denied the opportunity to form the Government. And as you are aware how the traditions were followed by the principal ruling authority which is today sitting on that side, when the process of formation of the Government in Bihar started with Shri Nitish Kumar followed by Shrimati Rabri Devi. Then you are aware of the formation of the Government in this country by Shri Vajpayee in 1998 followed by Shri Deve Gowda. Then you are also aware of the formation of the Government in 1990 when Shri Rajiv Gandhi was called but he refused to form the Government, and subsequently Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh was called.

Sir, according to our own Prime Minister, the Leader of the House Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee, at the present scenario, no single party alone can form the Government at the Centre. He himself has said that ethos have been evolved; consensus have been evolved by various parties for this coalition culture.

In this connection, this practice and tradition have been followed both by the President of India and a few Governors of the States. In that background, I would like to say that the single largest party has been denied the opportunity to test its majority on the floor of the House; and immediately the President's Rule has been recommended.

Sir, we all know that we are political beings. The Home Minister himself is aware how difficult it would be for him to get the approval of the President's Rule in the other House. Therefore, we strongly apprehend that during the recess period of this Session, a kind of manipulation process and horse-trading will start to destabilise the whole process. This practice, in the situation of the country at the moment, is not a welcome step. We are opposed to it. When the time will be permitted by you, we shall put forward our view points.

* Not recorded.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Things should not have been done in this manner. We strongly disapprove the manner in which the Governor has acted and also the manner in which the Cabinet has also approved the recommendation of the Governor to impose President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Election was held in Uttar Pradesh and the Samajwadi Party came out as the single largest party. The tradition or the convention of the country which was followed in a number of States and even in this House is that when there is no majority for any single party, then the single largest party was being asked to form the Government.

In 1996, the BJP knew well that they did not have any majority; in spite of that, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee occupied the chair of the Prime Minister for 13 days. He was called to form the Government. Shri Nitish Kumar was also asked to form the Government in Bihar. The then Governor of Bihar, in spite of knowing well that his party and the coalition did not have any majority, had invited Shri Nitish Kumar to form the Government; and he was made the Chief Minister for some days.

In Bommai case, it was very well made clear by the Supreme Court of India that majority should not be decided in Raj Bhawan, but it should be decided on the floor of the House. But the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, very hurriedly took a decision to recommended imposition of President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh, with an ulterior motive; and immediately, last evening, the Cabinet approved the recommendation of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, which we, the opposition, consider the most undemocratic decision on the part of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

We urge upon the President not to approve the recommendation of the Cabinet, of the Government of India. We also urge that the single largest party should be called a form the Government and the majority should be proved on the floor of the House.

It is an unconstitutional action of the Government. We had discussed on the floor of the House in 1996, a motion moved by Shri Vajpayee who is the present Prime Minister, to condemn the action of the then Governor of Uttar Pradesh. He moved the motion, sitting on this side of the House, as the Leader of the Opposition. Now, a substantive motion should be moved in order to condemn the undemocratic and unconstitutional action of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh. Thank you.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the electoral results for the

Fourteenth Vidhan Sabha in Uttar Pradesh, it was clearly becoming evident that Samajwadi Party was emerging as the single largest party in Uttar Pradesh. It become clear through the reactions of the leader of Bhartiya Janata Party which was expressed in various T.V. news channels that Bhartiya Janta Party was interested in retaining power in Uttar Pradesh through President's rule exploring all possibilities to realise their target.

Hon. Prime Minister is sitting in the House. In 1996 when Bhartiya Janta Party emerged as the largest party in Uttar Pradesh, hon. Prime Minister was the leader of the opposition and he, in his capacity as the leader of opposition, not only vehemently opposed the imposition of President's rule in Uttar Pradesh but also went on a hunger strike in front of the residence of the then Prime Minister. We have been elected for the first time in the House. We are compelled to follow the suit of senior leaders. I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister in this House as to whether the then Governor Shri Romesh Bhandari's move in 1996, not to invite the largest party to form the Government was right or wrong or whether the move of present Governor Shri Vishnu Kant Sashtri not to invite the Samajwadi party which is the largest party to form government is right or wrong? If the hon. Prime Minister thinks that the step taken by the Governor is right then he should apologise to the entire country for wrongfully choosing the path of hunger strike at that time.

Through you, I would like to say that when the MLA's of Samajwadi Party were sitting on a dharna outside Rajbhavan and demanding for the restoration of democracy, Shri Manjoor Ahmed is murdered in broad day light by a killer who came out of Rajbhavan. Not only that the murder is committed but the lawers of the BJP and allied organisations raise slogans in his support when he is brought to the Court after the surrenders...(Interruptions) He was designated as martyrs like Bhagat Singh and Chandrashekhar Azad. I would like to say that political protection is given to the killer of an elected legislator...(Interruptions) Humanity has been disgraced by the way in which Ashok Jafari, a former MP in Gujarat was murdered...(Interruptions) I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister as to what action will you take against the guilty persons...(Interruptions)

Sir, similarly the Member of this House Phoolan Deviiji was murdered in broad day light and the killer Teja Singh Rana was treated as a hero by the Government...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: The House is being misled...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please conclude now. Kumari Mamta Banerjee.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: This has lead to the debasement of faith in democracy. By conspiring against the elected representatives...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kumari Mamta Banerjee, you have given two Notices—one is on International Women's day and the second on Adjournment motion.

12.29 hrs.

[English]

RE: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Thank you very much. Today is the International Women's Day. This day is being celebrated all over the world not only by the women but also by our brothers. On behalf of the Indian Parliament I would like to congratulate all the women of our country. We also convey our best wishes to all the women and the women organisations of the world family. We wish to congratulate not only our brothers but children also because without the help of our brothers...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

What is there to shout on it...(Interruptions)

[English]

It seems that you do not want me to consider you as my brother.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): You have not followed what I have said.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: We congratulate our brothers for the sisters can not progress without their support. It is very necessary to congratulate you today.

[English]

I would request the hon. Prime Minister, who has been kind enough to be present here in the House, and appeal to him that the Women's (Reservation) Bill has been pending since long. I appeal to the leaders of all the political parties represented in the House to apply any formula they may like — though we are in favour of 33 per cent reservation to be given — and pass this Bill in this Session itself so that a right message goes to the world...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Let the Prime Minister bring it in any form or any shape, we are ready to pass it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Let it be brought tomorrow. We will support it...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, we are ready to support it. Let the Prime Minister say that he is bringing it.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: We convey our best regards to all our colleagues here. We know that the Prime Minister himself convened many meetings so that a consensus could be arrived at. But till today nothing has come out. So, he is trying his best. I would urge the Prime Minister as well as all the leaders in this House to do it as early as possible.

Secondly, we want equal opportunity for the women, especially from the education point of view. Sir, the girl child education rate is deteriorating day-by-day. That is why, my appeal would be that up to higher education level, the education should be free for the girl child. Thirdly, atrocities are being committed against children and women. Even the children and women are not being spared from burning alive whenever there is violence or communal riots. I am sorry to say that they are also being burnt alive. I condemn it and I think the House would also condemn it.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

Sir, I would also like to submit that the working women are being harassed in their offices. I think the Government is already in a mood to introduce a Bill in this regard. I think that Bill should be introduced.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): That Bill will not serve the purpose...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, you have to seek my permission before speaking. Have you forgotten all your experience of Kerala Assembly?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, you were the Speaker of Kerala Assembly and you should have the minimum courtesy of getting permission from the Chair.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, let me say that I am not a feminist. I consider myself as a human being. As a human being we feel that it is our duty to help women, minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, OBCs and also the neglected class. You have to remember that. Sir, I think that women should not be harassed. The Government must take care of it. Lastly I want to tell one thing to the MP's from Samajwadi Party.

[Translation]

We are very aggrieved over the demise of MLA of your party, all are our brothers. I express my deep sorrow for that, but you have also accused Congress for that they have not extended support to you...(Interruptions) You should not disturb the House in this way, let the House run...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): I think you should not bother about the Congress...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shrimati Renu Kumari would speak. Today is International Women's Day. They have all given notices and I want to give them chance.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, you have not given a notice.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is this? All the former Speakers are trying to interrupt?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given permission to her.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI (Khagaria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today it is International Women's Day. The year 2002 is being celebrated as the Women Empowerment Year...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not disturb. Today is the International Women's Day. They have all given Notices.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI: Many programmes throughout the country were taken up for the development of women. Moreover in the name of development, only the formality has been fulfilled. I would like to say that women have been contributing a lot for the development of the country. The women are not lagging behind the men in any of the spheres. Our hon. Prime Minister is also sitting in the House today. He had also said that he will provide the reservation and the right to equality to the women. Balika Samridhi Yojana was also announced but it is not running well and the girls are not being educated properly. The women are not getting education in large number, hence atrocities against them are increasing. Foeticides are taking place and even the women were burnt in Gujarat recently. However no male parliamentarian condemned these acts. Through you, I would like to say that you should try to ensure the passage of Women Reservation Bill. If this does not take place then only these lines of a poem comes to my mind 'Abla Jivan Hai Tumhari Yehi Kahani, Aanchal Mein Hai Doodh Aur Ankhon Mein Panee.' Hence I would like to say that the rights conferred to the women by the constitution should certainly be provided to them and the laws relating these should be implemented sternly.

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU (Vardha): The Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister as to when do the Government propose to introduce the Women's Reservation Bill as it has nowhere been mentioned in the Presidential Address.

SHRIMATI SANDHYA BAURI (Vishnupur): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the speech of the lady member. Hon. Prime Minister is sitting here. Through you I would like to know from him as to what is the fate of the Women Reservation Bill especially in view of its repeated introduction and subsequent failure to ensure its passage. Though several programmes related

to the development of women have been launched but nothing fruitful has resulted. I insist that the hon. Prime Minister should tell as to when that will be passed. Many parties are in favour of the Women Reservation Bill. The introduction of the Bill will keep identifying its opponents and this is what we want to know.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with whatever has been said by my lady colleagues here.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Swai Madhopur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you. Today is the Women's International Day. We have been repeating for years to give reservation rights to women. Today, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Prime Minister towards the repeated assurance given in this regard. We want to ensure the passage of this Bill but our brother from Samajwadi party tore apart the draft of the Bill on the floor of the House. I would like to submit to them to evolve consensus and unanimity for passage of this Bill and cooperate with the Government so that this Bill may get passed. They have malafide intentions and it was being expressed by their act of tearing apart of the Bill that day....(Interruptions) if all of you have a feeling of respect for women then you should evolve a consensus for passing this Bill...(Interruptions) if you continue not to practice what you preach then you should try to recollect the adage "Yatra naryaste Pujayante Tatra Ramnte Devata" which has been the cornerstone of our culture. You must co-operate with women by identifying their strength. If you extend your help in this regard then undoubtedly the existing Government will get this Bill passed. "Moh Nari Nari Ke Roopa, Pannagari Yeh Riti Annupa". A woman is not infatuated with the beauty of a woman. This is true in regard to the woman in active politics. Even some women are not in favour of 33 percent reservation for woman due to which the Women Reservation Bill has not been passed in the Parliament. The women members belonging to various political parties have difference of opinion. Due to which the Women Reservation Bill is yet to be passed...(Interruptions) I would like to submit to you that this Bill should be passed quickly. I hope that today, the Government will provide reservation to women by passing this Bill.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the International Women's Day. Today, very few women in the country find themselves living a dignified life. Though the women in this House feel themselves dignified life. Though the women in this House

feel themselves dignified, women comprising more than half of the country's population are living a neglected life. All the constitutional provisions enacted in regard for the welfare and emancipation of women like anti dowry act and prevention of atrocities on women are not being implemented properly. Everyday, the news of dowry related deaths and rape are reported on one or the other pages of the newspapers. Many women were also injured in the recent communal riots in Gujarat. Today we are celebrating International Women's Day. Are all these laws meant to remain on paper only? Stern punishment should be given under anti-dowry laws so that the people may not dare to commit such offence. If the Government is genuinely committed for the welfare of women and want to provide them reservation then stern measures should be taken by it. Election for the State Assemblies were held in four States. It clearly reflects as to how much committed are the members of ruling party for giving reservation to the women? If they had the courage and will to provide reservation to the women, why they did not give 33 percent reservation to the women candidates while allocating the party tickets. Now they want to show that they are not anti women rather they are pro women...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Kanti Singh, please conclude. Do not spoil your case. All are supporting your case.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: If you want to provide reservation to the women belonging to the OBC and to those who belong to minorities...(Interruptions) A lot of atrocities are being committed against the downtrodden women. You should also look towards them also...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with all the sentiments expressed by the other women Members. Today is a day that we should celebrate, being women, and to celebrate the difference between men and women, not only their physical difference which is obvious but also the difference in their mental out work. A famous feminist has said that a woman needs a man as much as a fish needs a bicycle! Some people think that men are not necessary to the welfare of women. But I would say that men and women are necessary for strengthening the family unit which is the basis of society.

[Dr. (Shrimati) Beatrix D'Souza]

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Government for introducing two Bills, the Indian Divorce Act (Amendment) Bill and Inheritance Bill to give Christian women equality with men. But I would also like to point out that Domestic Violence Bill that is going to be introduced is quite unsatisfactory because the Domestic Violence Bill has not defined domestic violence. It gives the man a chance to say that the violence is because he is protecting himself against the woman and it does not give a woman a chance to stay in the matrimonial home. Women outside Parliament also have objected to the Bill in the present form. I would like the Government to reconsider the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ (Misrikh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, right now Shrimati Renu quoted 'Abla Jeevan Tumhari Yehi Kahani, Anchal Main Hai Doodh Aur Ankhon Main Pani.' Circumstances have changed a lot since these lines were penned down by Shri Maithilisharan Gupta. Today the women are not incapable and powerless but powerful for they have been conferred on with many rights and privileges. Women have the right to have share in the parental property but the dowry related deaths of women are still taking place. Though dowry is illegal yet its exchange is taking place. Rape and eve-teasing are still rampant. Though the Government have enacted several laws to protect the women yet how much of those are being implemented effectively. Today women are a deprived lot. Though they are being given assistance through laws but these laws have remained confined only on papers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today there is a proposal of providing 33 percent reservation to women. Our party is in favour of providing reservation to the women but at the same time we also want that the benefit of this reservation should be given to the women belonging to backward, minority and dalit sections of the society. Dr. Lohia had said that the Dalit women and those belonging to minorities could only be benefited when 60 percent reservation is provided to them. Until the rhetoric for the welfare of women is translated into action by codifying laws in this regard, country will be bereft of the true fruits of revolution and only through the realisation of the goal mother India will be free from the chains of enslavement. Dr. Lohia fielded a sweeper women against the Maharani. Dr. Lohia wanted that everyone should get equal rights and that the women belonging to dalit, backward and minority sections of society should be given reservation.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving this opportunity on this important day of International Women's Day. I request the hon. Prime Minister to reach a political consensus within and outside to pass the Women Reservation Bill to bring socio, political and economic empowerment to women at large. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE (Jabalpur): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the views expressed by the women members in the House. I would like to urge upon all the hon. Members to support the proposed Women Reservation Bill. The Members indulge in rhetorics to give 33 percent reservation to women and today all of them are supporting it but the litmus test of their support will only take place when the Bill is introduced in the House. I would urge the hon. Prime Minister to bring the Bill and we will see as to whether the same Members who are raising their hands in support of it, today, will also do so after introduction of the Bill or not. Hence without saying much, I would like to conclude by saying that though a lot of laws have been enacted for the welfare and development of women, but their proper implementation has not taken place. Hence I would urge upon the Members to support the Women Reservation Bill. With these words I thank you and conclude.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister who is sitting in the House should have given a statement about Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, the hon. Prime Minister should give his statement in the House about the President's rule being imposed in Uttar Pradesh....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please hear me. This is to much.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You let the hon. Prime Minister to intervene.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: The Prime Minister should give a statement about the President's rule being imposed in Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Today is the International Women's Day. All the hon. Lady Members have participated in the discussion. The hon. Prime Minister wants to intervene. Do not block him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: For Heaven's sake, please do not interrupt him now. Please allow the hon. Prime Minister to intervene.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, firstly the hon. Prime Minister should give a statement about the incident in Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions) The hon. Prime Minister should give a statement with regard to this matter. The Prime Minister should give a statement on the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We want that the Prime Minister should respond to the undemocratic and unconstitutional act of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh by not allowing the single largest party to form the Government...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am on my legs. Will you please resume your seat?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, please resume your seat. You are the leader of your party. I am on my legs. Will you please resume your seat?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: First, hon. Prime Minister should express his views on President's rule.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon. Prime Minister is present here, he should clarify the situation in Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, I am on my legs. You are a senior Member. You should know, at least this. You should allow the Presiding Officer to speak. The International Women's Day is a very important matter. Almost all the lady Members have participated in the discussion. The hon. Prime Minister wants to intervene.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): What is the difference between a new Member and Shri Acharia if he does like this?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sudhip Bandhopadhyaya, will you please resume your seat? You are also violating the rules. I am on my legs. Please hear me.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: First he should speak about Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, I have given you enough opportunity.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the views expressed by Ms. Mamata ji and other women Members on the occasion of International Women's Day. One woman Member was right in saying that women are not weak, they are strong and are capable of protecting their rights. As for the issue of reservation, all hon. Members know that we are in favour of reservation...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Introduce the Bill.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It was introduced.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to him.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But it could not be passed due to circumstances created. Now, the effort is to evolve a consensus and in this direction, a new

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

development has taken place. Election Commission has given a formula and that should be considered by all the political parties. Shri Dasmunsi ji was saying that they are ready to support it in whatever form or content. In my opinion, on the basis of that formula. Consensus can be evolved and the bill can be passed after making some modifications.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You are not making enough efforts. Try for consensus...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You assured us that you would take the initiative to talk to all the political parties and bring out a formula. Why did you not implement your formula?...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Samajwadi Party approve the formula of Election Commission and we are ready for that.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): This matter was brought up when the earlier Chief Election Commissioner was there. He made a suggestion. At that time, the principal Opposition party had reservations about that. They said that the Bill, as introduced, should be passed. On that, there has been no consensus. That is all what the Prime Minister has pointed out. According to your statement today, you are willing to accept any formula. If that is the case, then, there is a possibility.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I would like to correct myself. The Prime Minister took the initiative in a meeting that he would consult all parties and come out with his own consensus formula. We wanted to know as to what happened to that. If that consensus has been arrived at by the initiative of the Prime Minister, what is the exact position? If there is any change, we do not mind. In whatever form you bring it, we would support it but there has to be reservation. We may have difference of opinion about the Chief Election Commission. Why should we make the Chief Election Commissioner a party to it? The Prime Minister should take the initiative in this regard...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am ready to call an all-party meeting to reconsider the issue and I am sure a unanimous solution to this

issue would emerge in the all-party meeting. On the basis of which reservation for women could be provided. As for the issue of Uttar Pradesh, we will have time for detailed discussion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will be fixed in the B.A.C

12.58 hrs.

[Translation]

SITUATION ARISING OUT OF CABINET'S REPORTED APPROVAL FOR IMPOSITION OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN UTTAR PRADESH — *Contd.*

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): It will be fixed by the B.A.C. Our party Members from Uttar Pradesh or those of other parties, should wait so that a detailed discussion can take place after time is fixed for it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why to wait?...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Why should we wait?...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Now I am replying to that...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the hon. Prime Minister conclude and then you can speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why should we wait for that?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It has been decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is unconstitutional...(Interruptions) Why should we wait?...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Please tell us why the largest party in the Legislative Assembly was not called to form the Government?...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please allow the hon. Prime Minister to reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the Prime Minister reply. That is decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Prime Minister, when you were in the Opposition, you did not wait. Today, you want us to wait...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You do not want to hear the Prime Minister. Please do not interrupt. Let the Prime Minister complete.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Prime Minister, when you were in the Opposition, you did not wait. Today, you want us to wait. Why should we wait?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You want the Prime Minister to respond but you are not allowing him to do so. It is very surprising.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is the Leader of the House. Please allow him to reply.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Tell us as to why the single largest party was not called to form the Government in Uttar Pradesh. You allowed Shri Nitish Kumar to form the Government in Bihar without majority. You were in office for 13 days without majority. Now, you are advising us to wait for discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: He speaks something here and the other there. The House cannot function like this...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you not want the reaction from Government?

...(Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is the Leader of the House. Please allow him to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please hear him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please let the hon. Prime Minister complete his speech.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you not want any response from the Government?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Prime Minister should tell us whether he had the majority when he was sworn in...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in our childhood we used to hear that respected Vajpayeeji is a scholar of Parliamentary rules and store house of knowledge...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Prime Minister wants to respond even regarding the imposition of the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh. Unfortunately, you are not allowing the Prime Minister to say anything. I am sorry to say this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Prime Minister had opposed imposition of President's Rule in 1996, now why he is approving President's rule there? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will have to take a serious note of your behaviour in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, hon. Prime Minister also had no majority when he was sworn in...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you not want the Prime Minister to respond?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, if you behave like this, I will have to name you. I will take it seriously. Please resume your seat now. There is a limit to it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can appreciate so much excitement on the issue of Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You do not interrupt him now. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it will not do. The House can not function like this...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if some members present in the House do not like to listen to me, I would not express my views...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why this running commentary is going on?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The discussion is on Uttar Pradesh. So it is but natural that there may be some excitement. But it is expected to have a discussion on every issue in a healthy atmosphere. My name has been repeatedly cited in the discussion on Uttar Pradesh

that is why I had to intervene. Otherwise the Minister of Home Affairs will reply to the detailed discussion on Uttar Pradesh.

All the members could not take part in the discussion today. When I requested Members of other parties to wait, there was uproar in the House. It does not add to the glory of the House nor it strengthens your view point. The decision in democratic set up are taken on the basis of number. Hon'ble Members from the Opposition have said that when my party emerged as the largest party only then it was called for forming the Government. At that time who opposed that move, I would not like to make any mention in this regard. Unparliamentary words against the Governor were used, only because he had called me to form a Government. This House must follow some conventions...(Interruptions) If all the parties unanimously agree to this convention that the largest party should be called to form the Government, do the House is ready to accept it? Do all the parties agree...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: We are ready...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): We are ready...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: One Member Party is also ready...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the election results do not suit our friends' party, what can be done?...(Interruptions) As the largest party should they be called to form the government...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It can be tested in the Legislative Assembly...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Provided such a situation emerges...(Interruptions) Different parties and individual members have expressed their views which indicates that majority of Uttar Pradesh Legislatures do not want your Government. It has become clear...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: this is not the situation in Legislative Assembly...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This can be seen from the figures...(Interruptions) They have written letters...(Interruptions) Leaders of other parties have written to the Governor that they are not ready to support this party. Now what can the Governor do?

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: You can form your own Government...(Interruptions) others can form Government. Please do not impose President's rule in Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Should the Governor pave way to defection?...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You have done this last time...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Congress party has not yet decided whether it would support you or not...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Have you taken a decision to support Sushri Mayawati?...(Interruptions) First of all, clear this...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: No we have not decided...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You should not say like this...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We have already declared that we would sit in the Opposition...(Interruptions) I would not like to say anything to the Congress Members...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): You cannot look into our eyes, therefore, you are using glasses...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is immaterial whether I use glasses or not, but our party is deadly against B.J.P. Be it U.P. or any other part of the country...(Interruptions) Do not teach us this lesson. First of all, decide how soon you would contact Mayawati ji...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Prime Minister is coming to an end of this speech.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: They cannot muster majority even with the support of Congress party. Now they say that they should be given a chance. This can also be discussed in the House. We are ready to discuss it at length. If new conventions are to be established, the issue should be discussed and decided also.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: How Shri Nitish Kumar was made Chief Minister...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Ten Minutes past Two of the Clock.

[English]

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirteen Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, in the Chair]

PREVENTION OF TERRORISM BILL

Withdrawal of Motion to Introduce Bill

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now take up Item No. 22.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the following motion moved on the 11th December, 2001, namely:—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the prevention of, and for dealing with, terrorist activities and for matters connected therewith."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have received a notice from Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan for opposing the withdrawal of motion listed at Item No. 22 in today's List of Business. There is no provision in the rules to oppose such motion. Notice tabled by Shri Radhakrishnan is, therefore, inadmissible.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Even without referring to the question! Sir, in the schedule of Business it was stated that if the first item is not accepted, the second item will not be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are a very able advocate and you were the Speaker of Kerala Assembly. I have read out the rule also.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I am not on the issue of Speakership. I am only referring to the rules.

You must realise that the Government may come and go. It cannot be taken in a casual manner.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the following motion moved on the 11th December, 2001, namely:—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the prevention of, and for dealing with, terrorist activities and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I withdraw the motion to introduce the Bill.

14.16 hrs.

[English]

PROTECTION FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): On behalf of Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to protect the rights of women who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to protect the rights of women who are victims of violence of

any kind occurring within the family and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Sir, I am happy to introduce the Bill on the International Women's Day.

14.17 hrs.

[English]

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENTARY AND LEADERS OF OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): On behalf of Shri Pramod Mahajan, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament Act, 1953 and the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament Act, 1953 and the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977."

*The motion was adopted ***

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: I introduce the Bill.

14.18 hrs.

[Translation]

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Hon.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-II dated 8.3.2002.

* Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-II dated 8.3.02

** introduced with the recommendation of the President.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, "I beg to move that leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950"

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.19 hrs.

[English]

INFANT MILK SUBSTITUTES, FEEDING BOTTLES AND INFANT FOODS (REGULATION OF PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION) AMENDMENT BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): On behalf of Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: I introduce the Bill.

14.19 hrs.

[English]

PREVENTION OF TERRORISM BILL*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the prevention of, and for dealing with, terrorist activities and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the prevention of, and for dealing with, terrorist activities and for matters connected therewith."

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, Shri G.M. Banatawalla, Shri Suresh Kurup, Shri Ramjilal Suman and Shri Basu Deb Acharia have all given notices to oppose the introduction of this Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I strongly oppose the introduction of this Bill. Just now, he had an opportunity of withdrawing the very same Bill....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you are wrong. The Bill was not introduced and only the motion was there. That is exactly what I read out the rule.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: There is no difference between the one introduced and one that is now before the House. When this Ordinance was first promulgated, this is a Bill to replace an Ordinance...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What subject are you talking about?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am referring to this Bill. This is a Bill to replace an Ordinance. That is why, I referred to the Ordinance...(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Sir, he is correct.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He was not correct earlier and he is now correct.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I am not doing well. Please do not interrupt always.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot interrupt all of you together.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, the Minister must realise that this Ordinance was issued long before.

And it is in the expectation that terrorist activities should be prevented. We were not having enough criminal preventive Acts and on that understanding this Ordinance was issued. When this Ordinance was in promulgation or when it was in force, we had the bitterest experience of the December 13th attack on this House. The Ordinance did not help us in preventing that attack. So, for prevention of terrorist attacks, the Ordinance is of no avail to the Government in preventing the attack. If the Ordinance could save the country, definitely it would have been welcomed but it was not so preventive in any manner. It took place as usual. Due to the courage shown by our security staff, our lives could be saved. So, Ordinance is not the only effective order or effective step.

Sir, I would tell you that MISA could not prevent the occurrence of criminal acts in India. I remember I was also handling cases under the Defence of India Rules during Emergency. That also did not save the country. We remember the Maintenance of Internal Security Act. That also did not help us in preventing the criminal acts in India. On a perusal of the criminal records in our criminal jurisdiction, we could find out that most of the cases ended on acquittal. There is some inference...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore); Sir, I have a point of order.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Has discussion on merit been allowed?

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR (Pudukkottai): He can only oppose the Bill.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I have a point of order under rule 72. There is a point of order. Rule 72 says:

"If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, brief statements from the member who opposes the motion and the member who moved the motion, may, without further debate, put the question:

Provided that where a motion is opposed on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House..."

Is it outside the legislative competence of the House? He is making a full speech. You should not allow. How can he start a full-fledged discussion on this?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan you know the rules. I am not going to repeat it.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I agree I shall refer to all these details at a later stage when I disapprove it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When it comes for discussion, you can go to the merit of the Bill. Now you have to only come to the legislative competence.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Here the main question is about the competence of this House to discuss this matter. The Supreme Court has clearly laid down that there cannot be any excessive limitations on fundamental rights. There can be only reasonable restrictions on fundamental rights. Now this is a Bill curtailing the fundamental rights of a citizen. Reasonable restrictions have been placed on the fundamental rights of a citizen as provided under article 19 of the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You need not elaborate the other grounds.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: If you always intervene, I cannot continue my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have I become a nuisance to you now?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is arguing his case. Please do not interrupt him.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, a brief statement is required and not a full-fledged speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, you talk about the legislative competence.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Hon'ble Member is opposing only for the sake of opposition...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Does he support all these terrorist activities?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Radhakrishnan says.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Shall I begin, Sir?...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The Supreme Court, while dealing with the provisions of the Maintenance of Internal Security Act had made it clear that only reasonable restrictions could be imposed. The Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, briefly called POTO, is a legislation with excessive restrictions on the Fundamental Rights of a citizen.

In the first place, in criminology, the fundamental concept of criminal law is that the accused is presumed to be innocent. Here, it is a violation of that principle. Secondly, the Fundamental Rights enshrined in the Constitution provide that whenever a person is taken into custody, he should be produced before magistrate within 24 hours. Thirdly, a citizen should not be compelled to give evidence against him. Now, these three fundamental concepts of law are being flagrantly violated under the provisions of POTO.

In the first place, there is a provision in this particular Bill that a confession before a police officer could be treated in evidence against him. This cannot be accepted. It is against the fundamentals of criminal law and the Fundamental Right of a citizen...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: All these points could be made at the time of consideration of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt him. He is concluding now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Could I be compelled to give evidence against myself? Section 7 of the Evidence Act clearly states that a confession before a police officer, however great he may be, should not be treated in evidence. So, here is a violation of that fundamental principle.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are giving the details now. Please wind up without repeating whatever has been already said.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: A police officer can record a confession of a person in custody and that could be treated as evidence against him. This is a clear violation of the fundamental law. The Supreme Court has

never said that anybody could be brought before a police officer and evidence given before a District Superintendent of Police is admissible. It cannot be accepted. Even the right to produce before a court of law has been done away with in this particular statute. This shows that it is a violation of the Fundamental Rights enshrined or guaranteed under the Constitution.

I am not going into the other details. I would do that at a later stage. So, there are three violations: (i) evidence before a police officer; (ii) not to produce before a court of law; and (iii) compelling a person to give evidence against him.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not repeat the same points.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: There are sufficient safeguards in our criminal law. There are sufficient safeguards even in our statute books to prevent such crimes. So, I submit with all my strength that this is a flagrant and a gross violation of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed under the Constitution that would go a long way in protecting human dignity. Ours is a nation having established a Human Rights Commission. For what purpose was that established? It was to safeguard human rights.

The Human Rights Commission itself have examined this statute and they have declared that this law is a flagrant violation of human rights.

With these words, I strongly oppose the introduction of this Bill.

[Translation]

14.31 hrs.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with some amendments, the Minister of Home Affairs has introduced the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002. Samajwadi Party opposes the introduction of this bill in any form. Unfortunately, two ordinances were promulgated by the President, the first one on 24th October 2001 and the second one on 2nd January, 2002. These ordinances were promulgated just before the commencement of Lok Sabha session. From my standpoint, this is not a good sign for democracy. I would not like to go into the details like Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, but I would like to say one thing that we should learn from our past experiences when TADA was in force in the country, almost 76000 people were booked under it. Out of them, charges on only 800 people were proved. This means that only 2% charges were proved, thousands of innocents were put in jails. Therefore, not

* Not recorded.

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

only other organisation but the Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission Justice Verma, has also opposed the bill and said that this is against democracy and Civil liberties.

So far as the Government is concerned, it is not that the Government alone want to fight terrorism. The statements of the these leaders are published if POTO law is passed. Government would win and if it is not passed, the BJP would get benefit. In UP election, the PM speech hovered around terrorism and he gave message to all over the country that with respect to POTO law whoever is with him want to counter terrorism and those who oppose it, are sympathetic to terrorists. Therefore, I want to urge very humbly that terrorism will be fought by not only the Government but whole of the country.

With these words, I want strongly oppose to the Prevention of Terrorism Bill and urge the Minister of Home Affairs to withdrew it.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002.

The Ordinance was promulgated in the month of October but the Bill was not introduced because the entire Opposite was against the promulgation of the Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance. Then again, when that Bill could not be introduced in the House, not because the House was adjourned *sine die* but because there was no consensus in the House as the entire Opposition was against the introduction of that Bill, the Opposition was not taken into confidence and the Ordinance was re-promulgated on 30th of December.

The law is still there. The law is there since the month of October. In spite of having POTO, several incidents have taken place. Our apprehension is that the main purpose to pass this Draconian Bill is to take away the Fundamental Rights of the people of our country.

We have the experience in the past about TADA. Seventy thousand people were arrested and only a few hundred were convicted under that Act. A similar thing will be done and with similar purpose now. This Government wants to bring an undemocratic and a draconian Bill. That is why we oppose the Bill and we want that this draconian Bill should not be introduced. Before the introduction of the Bill the Government should

take the entire Opposition into confidence and then they should act if there is a necessity. We think that there is no necessity for such a law. Even with that law, the type of incidents that are taking place in our country cannot be prevented unless the Government has the political will to prevent such incidents.

That is why the entire Opposition is opposing this Bill and we want that the Government should not introduce this draconian Bill today.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is the first stage of the Bill which is the introduction, and therefore, I expected those who gave notice for opposing the Bill either to deal with how it is beyond the competence of Parliament to enact this Bill or....

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is against the fundamental rights of the people of our country. It is against the Constitution of the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please allow the hon. Minister to complete.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, the Left Front Government in West Bengal is going to bring such a Bill in the State...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Do not mention West Bengal here.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Let us not re-start...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We are in Parliament and not in the Assembly...(Interruptions) Do not mention the Assembly here.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: I am aware of it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Whether you have different policies at State and Centre?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, the hon. Minister is speaking. Please hear the hon. Minister.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the TADA was enacted in 1985.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You opposed it then and we also opposed it...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I know that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, why do you make running commentaries? Let the hon. Minister say whatever he wants to say.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): Sir, he is reminding the hon. Minister. That is very important...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Yes, it is important. Therefore, if I oppose a certain enactment, you have every right to remind me just as he has every right to remind you that your own State Government is enacting a law...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, it is different. Mr. Home Minister, it is quite different...(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): There is no parallel to this...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You cannot compare POTO with POCA. You are the Home Minister. Please do not compare it...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: When there is a full debate, when we have a full debate we will consider all aspects. After all there are several States which, because there is no TADA....

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why can you not take the Opposition into confidence?... (Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Therefore, they needed that. They said — how do we deal with a certain situation?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You want to run the Government in this fashion...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have been in this office since 1998 and I remember how many State Governments, how many police officials of the States have been coming to me telling me that after the lapse of TADA there is no law which deals with particular parts of crime. Now, it was said by hon. Member Shri Radhakrishnan that it did

not prevent the attack on Parliament. He is very right...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: My simple question is one...(Interruptions) It is a legislation with excessive restrictions.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Please let me complete.

[Translation]

You have to have this much patience.

[English]

You are very right that POTO and the Ordinance did not prevent the attack on Parliament.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: It did not go into details...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, let the hon. Minister complete.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It did not prevent the attack on Parliament. It did not prevent other things...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is already imposed.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There is a law against murder. There is a law against rape. Does that prevent murder? Does that prevent rape? It does not. So, laws are intended for different purposes. They are intended to see that those who commit a crime are brought to book. Today, there are no laws. The present criminal system and the structure does not have adequate laws to deal with crimes of this kind. It is not a preventive law. Preventive detection is a different law. TADA also was intended to bring to book certain kinds of criminals, terrorist acts and disruptive acts. It failed. He is right when he says that so many thousands were arrested and only a few hundred were booked. One reason was that very many thousands were arrested who were not terrorists. I have known of it in Gujarat. I was perhaps among the first to oppose, to preside over a conference against TADA in Gujarat because TADA was being used against farmers...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I was detained under MISA...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Shri Acharia, please listen to me.

I would appeal to you that today the world over suddenly after 11th September, even the democracies, which are committed to human rights and which have a system which was far more lenient than ours, have come to the conclusion that the present laws are inadequate. So, America, U.K. and very many countries of Europe, which are democracies, have adopted far more stringent laws than the one that I propose to introduce today, not because they have abandoned, not because they have suddenly felt that democracy is meaningless and there must be authoritarian rule. No. It is because terrorism and terrorist crimes are a threat of a nature for which the present laws were not formulated and it is therefore that today, I would like to appeal to the House, appeal to the political parties, particularly the principal opposition party, that if you have suggestions to make, we are willing to amend it. The Prime Minister had already convened a meeting of all the Opposition Parties in which he had said to kindly give us suggestions. The shortcomings of TADA had been removed from this. Very many other suggestions have been incorporated in this. Therefore, I see no reason why the House should not unanimously adopt this when we discuss the matter. If you have any suggestions to offer, I would still welcome them.

Sir, I think, at this point of time, I have nothing more to add except to say that terrorism is a serious challenge for this country and let us not think that the criminal laws are adequate. We need more stringent laws and we need laws...(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): How many people have been arrested under this Act in Gujarat?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Under this Act, we have not arrested people. Even in Jammu and Kashmir, we are using it very sparingly. We are not using it very casually. Otherwise, this would also suffer the fate that TADA suffered. Therefore, we are determined to see that this new Act is used only against terrorists and sparingly, not casually.

With these words, I once again commend introduction of this Bill in the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Since this is the most draconian law, we are walking out.

14.44 hrs.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other hon. Members then left the House.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, we are also walking out.

14.44 hours

Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, Shri Ramji Lal Suman and some other hon. Members then left the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the prevention of, and for dealing with, terrorist activities and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.44 1/2 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT RE: PREVENTION OF TERRORISM (SECOND) ORDINANCE — LAID

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Sir, beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Prevention of Terrorism (Second) Ordinance, 2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 5091/2002]

14.45 hrs

[Translation]

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Sir, I beg to move that leave be grant to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) order, 1950 and the constitution (Scheduled Tribes) order, 1950 so as to provide for inclusion of certain schedule castes and schedule tribes ousted of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, who have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Project on the Narmada River and were settled or may be settled in the State of Gujarat in the lists of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes specified in relation the State of Gujarat.

*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-II dated 8.3.02.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 so as to provide for inclusion of certain Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes oustees of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, who have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Project on the Narmada River and are settled or may be settled in the State of Gujarat in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes specified in relation to the State of Gujarat."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.46 hrs.

[English]

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATIA
MOOKHERJEE); Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, so far as this Act is concerned, it was passed in 1998. There is a Board of Governors to which the Speaker of the Lok Sabha nominates two Members, and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha nominates one Member. Now, Sir, the tenure is for a fixed term, but it does not take into consideration the fact that when a Member becomes a Speaker, or a Minister or a Minister of State or a Deputy Minister, then the term of the member will come to an end...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER There is lot of noise in the House. If anybody wants to go out, please go out quietly.

SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE: The intention is to introduce a proviso in this Act so that when a Member of the Lok Sabha becomes a Minister or a Minister of State or a Deputy Minister or a Speaker or a Deputy Speaker, or a Member of the Rajya Sabha becomes the Deputy Chairperson, he will automatically cease to be a member of the Board of Governors. That is why, this proviso is sought to be introduced, and hence this Amendment...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): He is one of the talented persons on the Treasury Benches. For the first time, he is moving a Bill for consideration. Let us all hear him. Why are they creating problems?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Madam Minister, please resume your seat.

SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE: This Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on the 4th of December, 2001.

Sir, so far as the section is concerned, it is section 4 (3)(o). The proviso is sought to be introduced in sub-section (4) of the Act.

Sir, I beg to move that this Bill be taken into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not opposing this Bill. However, I would like to place certain facts before you.

We are happy that a very eminent jurist has moved this Bill for consideration. He is bereaved by the death of his wife, and we offer our condolences to him.

It is very strange that they have brought this National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2001. As per the Amendment, the term of office of a Member nominated under clause (o) of sub-section (3) shall come to an end as soon as he becomes a Minister or Minister of State or Deputy Minister, or the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Nathiappan]

House of the People, or the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States, or ceases to be a member of the House from which he was nominated. Except the last clause, that is, "or ceases to be a Member of the House from which he is elevated to an office of profit, automatically ceases to be a Member. The rules also provide that the hon. Speaker will inform the statutory authority concerned that particular post has become vacant and, therefore, he is nominating a new Member or new Members. This is sufficient, and it can be dealt with as an internal matter.

But there is no need for mentioning this. This is being proposed as if something very important has happened in this area. Is there any litigation? Has anybody after being appointed as Minister contested saying that he or she still wants to be a Member of the Governing Board and that he or she has the authority to be there till his or her tenure of three years was over? I find there are no such instances. A Member, after becoming a Minister, automatically ceases to be a Member of that Governing Board and he or she is not going to sit in that Committee and a new Member would be elected in his or her place. It is a routine case. It is because the power to nominate the Members are with the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha and with the hon. Chairman, Rajya Sabha. Therefore, they are in a position to find out as to which post is lying vacant and which post would have to be filled in. So, this amendment is not at all necessary.

Sir, but at the same time, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that when such a specialised enactment is being brought forward we expect that the Government would take a holistic view of the economic liberalisation and globalisation that has taken place. If that were to be so, then there should have been an amendment in this Act itself which would have made an attempt to make this institute a pioneering institute in the whole of India that was capable of catching the eye of the world in this field of pharmaceuticals. This institute has the potential to bring in a lot of income by way of research and patent registration.

Sir, what is the thinking of the Government about this Institute? The Members of Parliament are nominated to the Governing Board to supervise the functions of the Institute according to sections 20 and 21 of the Act. The Parliament of India appropriates certain sum of money in every financial year to this Institute for development of the Institute and directs it to perform certain functions as stipulated in section 7. Now, if that section 7 is to be fully gone through, then we could very easily find out that this Institute is oriented towards research and a lot of intellectual property is also coming up there and since

this Institute has got an intellectual property, would the Government take steps to make this Institute accountable? Would the Government find out as to how much money they have earned by patenting? How much have they earned by way of research? How many new pharmaceutical formulas have they developed? How many new products and processes have they been able to manufacture so far? These are the questions that are needed to be answered by the Government when they are proposing to bring forward such an amendment to the Act.

Sir, I would like to make certain observations regarding nomination of Members. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to sub-clause 4 (j) (k) and (l) of section 4. The President of the Drug Manufacturing Association is a Member of this Board, the President the Pharmaceutical Association is also an *ex-officio* Member; and the industrialists who are involved in the manufacturing of drugs are also Members of this Board. The services of these people could very well be utilised for marketing the products. They could bring in a lot many things to this institution and this institution can benefit from them. They could have a patent registered. This institution should have self-sufficiency and that it should have its own funds.

Sir, as a Member of the Committee of Science and Technology, I had the opportunity to visit a lot of such institutions in this country. I have seen that the Directors of these institutions are not ready to go beyond their own fields. They do not want to go for research. They do not want to earn more money for their institutes. They just like to get support of the Government. They want money from the Government and send the bills. That is what they are doing. All these aspects should be taken into consideration.

Sir, finally I would like to submit for the consideration of the hon. Minister that if this institution could be made a multi-disciplinary one. That is the main thing that has been stated in section 7(xi) of the Act. The development of a multi-disciplinary approach in carrying out research and training of pharmaceutical manpower is the main thrust. therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister if he could make arrangements for nominating persons from the fields of Siddha, Ayurveda and Unani so that the concept of making this institution a multi-disciplinary one becomes a reality.

Post-Graduate and Post-Doctoral Degrees are also awarded by this Institute. Therefore, this type of a

combination of all the Indian disciplines could also be made available. Then only this research institute can be a very successful institute.

Finally, I would like to suggest that there should be satellite institutes. Because this Institute is located in Punjab, there should be a satellite institute in Tamil Nadu such as Sivaganga. Similarly satellite institutes may be set up in other places also so that people in those areas who are involved in the research activity can be benefited.

With these words, I support this Bill. At the same time, I would like to say that there should be some new thinking in this regard in the context of the World Trade Organisation. Since we are competing with the pharmaceuticals giants of the world, we have to be fully aware of the situation and make proper efforts.

SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for the suggestions made. With respect if I may submit, these relate to the working of the Act. We are now concerned with a very small amendment with regard to the position of the members who are nominated by the Speaker and the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, and as to what should be their tenure. The amendment only takes care of that. The other suggestions which have been made shall certainly be taken into consideration while implementing the provisions of the Act.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): This is the Minister's maiden speech, Sir.

SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE: I was submitting that so far as the suggestions are concerned, they really relate to the working of the Institution and not to the amendment. As I said, we will certainly take into consideration the suggestions made.

There are two amendments to the Act. One is with regard to the Enacting Formula. In the first line, instead of Fifty-second it should be Fifty-third. The other one is on the fourth line. Instead of 2001, it should be 2002. These are the two amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1— Short Title

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 4,-

for "2001"

substitute "2002" (2) (Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1,-

for "Fifty-second"

substitute "Fifty-third" (1) (Shri Satya Brata Mookherjee)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14.59 hrs.

[English]

JUTE MANUFACTURERS CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Jute Manufacturers Cess Act, 1983, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am privileged to place before this august House the Jute Manufacture Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2001, for consideration and adoption.

Members are aware that the jute sector plays an important role in the economy of the country in general and in the eastern region in particular.

About four million farmers, most of them small and marginal, are engaged in jute and mesta cultivation, and about two lakhs workers are employed in the jute industry. Jute sector also provides indirect employment to a considerable number of people.

15.00 hrs.

[DR. LAMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*]

Sir, for the development of production of jute manufactures and to help the growth of jute sector, the Jute Manufacturers Development Council (JMDC) was set up originally in 1976 under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, as a Development Council. It was established as a statutory body in the present form under the Jute Manufacturers Development Council Act, 1983, for taking up supporting activities related to development of the jute sector. For this purpose, the Council receives grants from the Consolidated Fund of India.

The Jute Manufacturers Cess Act, 1983 was, therefore, enacted to provide for the levy and collection, by way of cess, a duty of excise on jute manufacturers. The case is being collected by the Central Government and credited to the Consolidated Fund of India. Funds are provided to the Jute Manufactures Development Council by appropriation through the Budget. Under the said Act, cess is collected as a duty of excise at a fixed rate on different articles on tonnage basis specified in the Schedule to the Jute Manufactures Cess Act, 1983. At present, the cess is collected at the maximum rate specified in the Schedule to the Jute Manufactures Cess Act, 1983. The cess collections have been found to be inadequate to meet the requirements for development and promotion of activities related to the jute industry as specified in Section 7 of Jute Manufactures Development Act, 1983.

It is, therefore, considered necessary to generate additional resources through a revised cess to enable JMDC to take up a range of activities for the overall development of the Jute industry, particularly, in the context of the need for improving productivity and competitiveness in the jute sector. It is, therefore, proposed that the cess on the articles of jute manufacturers may be levied on *ad valorem* basis instead of per tonne basis.

The levy of cess on *ad valorem* basis instead of per tonne basis will also enable the collections to keep pace with the increasing value of the jute manufacturers. The increased collections will also enable JMDC to meet its obligations for taking various measures for development of jute manufacturers and the modernisation of the jute sector, including jute industry.

The proposal is to amend the Jute Manufactures Cess Act, 1983 to provide for levy of cess on jute manufactures at an actual rate of one per cent till a different rate is specified by the Central Government subject to a maximum of two per cent. The Government have taken care to ensure that the additional burden on account of the proposed increase is minimal.

I am sure that with additional resources, JMDC will be able to play a Pro-active role in the modernisation of the jute industry and enhance the export competitiveness of the jute products.

Sir, I commend the Bill to the House for adoption.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Jute Manufactures Cess Act, 1983, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, while I rise to support this increased cess Amendment, I would like to inform the House, through you, that though the hon. Minister in his objective statement had made it very clear of his pious wishes to modernise the jute industry development etc., yet in para (3), the hon. Minister has admitted that at present the jute scenario in the Eastern India and specially in Bengal has reached the most darkest age of the jute development programme since it was initiated.

Our beloved leader, late Prime Minister, Bharat Ratna Shrimati Indira Gandhi had wide interaction in the early 1970, with the trade unions of the jute mills and a few other concerns and took the courageous initiative for the first time, to bring a few large scale jute mills into the public sector, forming National Jute manufacturing Corporation (NJMC). So, for the first time, under her leadership, a large chunk of jute mills came under the public sector and she nationalised the national jute mill and a few other jute mills into one.

The whole objective view was this. It was done not only to ensure and protect the employment of the people, but also to meet the demands of this country and other countries in regard to use of jute. It is a fact that in the whole world, soon after 1980, the entire world's scenario of construction industry gripped with plastic fibres, an alternative to jute including packaging materials, resulting in a situation where there was a big threat to the jute industry both in Bangladesh and in India.

Bangladesh, soon after its freedom, tried to modernise its jute units, but could not compete in the international level. It is a Least Developed Country, that is, LDC and India's status is that of a Developing Country, that is, DC. So, Bangladesh had a special advantage to sell its jute in comparison to the Indian jute.

This further developed sickness of various other jute industries both in Bengal and otherwise, in the rest of India also. Shrimati Indira Gandhi thereafter took enough care to develop and modernise other jute units. You may see from the whole process of legislation that in 1976, the Jute Manufacturing Development Council was formed when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister. The Cess Management Act was also created in 1983 when she got the mandate in 1980. Just a year before her death also, she had an interaction with the Government of Bengal as well as the jute manufacturers and the trade unions, and considered this aspect. She thought that certain amount of revenue could be generated in terms of cess from among the jute manufacturers which could be ploughed back for the modernisation of the units. But what happened actually?

I give the figures. The Minister may correct me, if I am wrong. Since the introduction of cess — when it was one per cent — 90 per cent of functional jute mills, till 1988 did not even attempt to modernise. I remember that figure because I was the then Minister in the Government looking after support and supply of jute B-TWILL Bags and putting that into jute industry. Till 1988, it was found that 90 per cent of the functional jute mills of those days did not even attempt to modernise their units' plant and machinery; and thereby compelling the trade union leaders and workers to carry the load per tonnage, more than it was fixed in the industrial disputes settlement. Therefore, the unrest among the labour increased and intensified and no effective monitoring and control were done to those manufacturers.

Later on, I may remind the House that when Shri Morarji Desai and Shri V.P. Singh took over, the crisis reached the peak. I can say authoritatively today that the actual modernisation of jute mill — I am talking of actual modernisation of plant and machinery and also infrastructure — in Bengal was available only in 3-4 jute mills. One of them is that of Shri Arun Bajoria, who has tried for Bombay Dyeing, and also that of 2-3 other individuals. No other jute mill was brought into purview of modernisation. They changed the ownership in *benami* names, they sold the property to the promoters to construct buildings, they retrenched labour, sometimes they declared closure and they also took away the PF. I am sorry to say that Bengal stood first in India in cheating the employees regarding PF in the jute sector alone. Till today, it remained first in this. The managements changed the property in *benami* names, sold out the property and took away their PF also. Both the Union Government and the State Government remained silent.

The Government is talking about development! Does the Government know who were the employees working in the Bengal Jute industries? They were not *Bengalis* belonging to State of Bengal. Right from the days of the foreign rule to the days of national struggle and till today, the jute industry of Bengal caters to the needs of one out of every five men residing either in the villages of north India, entire eastern U.P., North Bihar or parts of Rajasthan. The poor people go to the village post office thinking that the money orders for their wages or salaries as the jute mill workers will come. Nobody took care of the plight of these people. Shri Sharad Yadav hails from Bihar. He knows what is happening in Bihar. Krishanganj Mill is closed and NJMC mills are at the verge of closure. The Government gave a directive to wind them off. The workers may form a cooperative body and sell it. I am not blaming the Minister. He has sympathy for them but what is the scenario?

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

When the Government is talking about the development, now for the last five years, the whole world is slowly switching over to jute because the environment specialists have given a verdict in the courts of their respective lands that use of plastic bags or plastic materials leads to health hazards and, therefore, they should go back to the use of jute. Has the Government made a comprehensive study as to what will be the impact of this decision of the environmentalists and how best the Indian Government will exploit the advantage of this decision to further reform the jute industry to respond to the challenge of the world? By this way we could also save the economy of our country.

It seems to me that the Government has not attempted itself towards this goal. It has no perspective planning or thinking in this regard. During the national days there was a movement to oppose the Indigo cultivation. It was considered as the national pride of our movement. A famous drama '*Neel Darpan*' was written by Dinabandhu Mitra. Today, the constituency which I represent, is the largest quality jute grower, after Assam, in India but the farmers are totally disgusted. They think there is no point in going for jute cultivation as they do not get right price. No jute mill is functioning properly even for a year at stretch. Maybe it works only for five, six or nine months in a year. When I used to represent the Howrah constituency, every alternate day the law and order problem was created in the city only because of the unrest in the jute industry. If you go to Howrah today, you will find on either sides of the GT road, on the three-fourth of the jute mill land, big mansions, big family quarters, big buildings and big shopping arcades. I wonder where the poor labourers have gone without getting either their wages or provident fund! The same management shifted the industry to Bangalore, Mumbai or elsewhere by sucking the blood of the jute mill growers and workers.

I am not blaming you, Shri Rana. Irrespective of the colour of any Government, every time there is a lack of concern for the jute growers and jute workers. Today, the Government may feel pride in boosting of our civilisation if it takes care of jute industry. The Government has proposed to increase the cess on jute industry to support the Cess Act per tonnage Ad Valorem two percent and one per cent with the declared intentions of various measures for development of jute manufacturers and modernisation of the jute sector including the jute industry. Can the Government spell out various measures? What will the Government do with the money that it will get out of the Consolidated Fund of India? Will the Government take a decision that by talking to the

concerned State Governments it will take care to see that every provident fund due being claimed by the jute workers will be taken care of? If the government cannot say it now, I am sorry to say that the people outside suspect that there is a hand in glove arrangement between the Government and the jute management.

Can you spell out how many jute mills have been modernised or are going to be modernised during the Tenth Five Year Plan? How many workers are there? Do you know the number of jute mills which have reached the optimum level of modernisation? Modernisation does not mean taking away the workers. I know your officer will give you some report that this mill had 10,000 workers and now it has 2000 workers, so, it has been modernised. It is not modernisation. It is bad management. So, why are you applying this cess? You are asking Parliament to double the cess. The Parliament will approve this. But how do you take Parliament into confidence and say that with this money you will ensure the interest of the jute growers and workers by way of modernisation. How do you respond to the world market scenario? The United States have stopped using plastic bags. A few days ago, I was in Europe. There was a seminar by the common people. They were asking people not to touch plastic bags. They are now shifting to jute. Did your Ministry plan to respond to this challenge and to convey the message to the jute manufactures? No Perspective Plan is drawn. You are going to double the cess because your officers have told you have to get some more money for modernisation. The Singhanias, the Birlas, and others are looting the workers and now they are ploughing back their money in software industry at places like Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkata, etc. Whosoever has left, in the name of their development, you are taking more money. You are asking Parliament to increase the cess. We are supporting you. But you explain and convince Parliament that with this amount what kind of modernisation and development you are ensuring to the jute industry.

Sir, I may tell you one thing. If the jute industry of West Bengal collapses, which is on the verge of collapse, and if NJMC is closed, it will create law and order problem. It will not confine to West Bengal alone but it will spread its flames to Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh also. I am telling this because I know the agony of the workers. You do not know what is happening. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to decisively think to revive NJMC and also decisively tell Parliament what action he proposes to take for the real modernisation. He should also tell us how is he going to respond to the challenge of the world environment scenario to further

increase the jute cultivation and production with remunerative price to the growers. He should also ensure the protection of the workers.

With these words, I support the proposal of the Government in this Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, I rise to support the Bill because the intention of the Government is to modernise the jute industry through the money which it would generate by way of cess. But as Shri Dasmunsi mentioned, I feel it is our moral duty to say that it is a fact that jute industry is our traditional industry. The tea industry, the jute industry, and the textile industry are part of our national heritage. It is a fact that now the situation is deteriorating day-by-day. The jute farmers are not getting remunerative price. The Central Government is sending money but this money does not reach the poor jute growers. Even the money which is given by the Jute Corporation does not reach the jute growers. There are some middlemen. Due to these people, the money is not reaching the real people. This money is being diverted for other purposes.

I would like to request the Minister to please see in how many cases this is being done. If the inquiries into the matter, he would see that it is a matter of fact. Earlier also I raised the issue and the Government has got the information that the money is not reaching the people. That is why, there must be some monitoring system to see that the money you are sending is being utilised for the same purpose for which it has been sent. There has to be accountability on the part of those who receive this money. Some vigilance has to be kept on this count.

Secondly, you have to see that with the support price that you are offering the farmers, they are not going to die. There are so many starvation deaths. I may request the hon. Minister to take this matter very seriously, so that this traditional industry is saved.

Thirdly, we have many NJMC units not only in West Bengal, but all over the country. So, I may request you to see that the workers of NJMC get their salaries and wages. Even their PF amount is being misused. I would request you to kindly take care of this.

In the name of modernisation what we have seen is that some people are coming and purchasing the jute industry. Within six months they close down the industry and thereafter take money from the bank for same *benami* industry. They are getting this money because the banks do not know whose money is related to which company.

I have raised this issue on an earlier occasion also. I am reiterating that whoever are doing this to the jute industry have to be blacklisted by the Government. After taking money from the bank and the Government, they divert the money for other purposes. If they misuse the money like this, the Government and the financial institutions have to blacklist them and not give them money for opening any other industry. Government has to take care of this aspect also.

Of course, you may go for modernisation, but you will appreciate that now-a-days the trend of economic reforms does not mean that only common people have to be touched. I feel the economic reforms would really be successful if you involve the people. If you hit them and hurt them, the economic reforms would not be successful; if you involve them and take them along, the economic reforms would be successful.

With these words, I thank you very much for bringing forward this Bill. At the same time, I would like that protection is given to the jute growers and workers of the jute industry.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I would just like to make a request to the hon. Minister from the entire Opposition that if he can spare some time after this part of the Session to come to Kolkata, he can spend one day with all the political parties, the State Government, trade unionists and the bankers to understand the grassroots situation and to respond to them later, so that there will be a comprehensive plan for the improvement of the jute industry as a whole. We are all here to help the Government to see in what manner this should be done.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am indebted to both the Members of Parliament for their support to the Bill and I am happy also. The Government would consider their suggestions seriously.

The Bill has been introduced with a view to impose *advalorem* one percent cess. The money generated from it will be exclusively used for modernisation as per condition put forth by us because as Hon. Member of Parliament Shri Dasmunshi has said there has been no modernisation of jute industry. It is true that like textiles and other sectors, modernisation has not been done in jute sector.

[Shri Kashiram Rana]

The Government has tried much for it, but it has not been done. I feel that with this cess we would move towards modernisation, we have also pressurised the industries for it and said that if modernisation is not done, it will not yield good results. They also realise it and have sent the proposal that they would accept it and modernize it.

So far as NJMC is concerned, it has been said that these mills would not be closed. The Government also does not want that these mills be closed. We are considering how they could be run and modernized. We would try our level best to revive it.

So far as middlemen is concerned, for example, whatever money is given for assistance to external marketing, it must not be misused. The Government would ensure that this money is not diverted or misused. It has been rightly suggested in the perspective plan that whatever money will be generated how that is going to be used by the government. We would think over perspective plan. I also agree for talk with the people concerned with them from the West Bengal as has been suggested by the hon. Member. I hope that the House would unanimously pass this bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Jute Manufactures Cess Act, 1983, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

**Clause 2 — Substitution of a new Schedule for
Schedule to Act 28 of 1983**

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

[English]

Clause 1 — Short Title and Commencement

Amendment made:

"Page 1, line 4,—

for "2001"

substitute "2002" (2) (Shri Kashiram Rana)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

[English]

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

"Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fifty-second"

substitute "Fifty-third" (1) (Shri Kashiram Rana)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

15.30 hrs.

**MOTION RE: TWENTY-FIRST AND
TWENTY-SECOND REPORTS OF
COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry): I beg to move:

"That the House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and

Resolutions presented to the House on 5 December, 2001 and also agree with the Twenty-second Report of the Committee presented to the House on 12 December, 2001, subject to modification that para 4 and sub-para (ii) of recommendations relating to allocation of time to Resolutions, be omitted."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on 5 December, 2001 and also agree with the Twenty-second Report of the Committee presented to the House on 12 December, 2001, subject to modification that para 4 and sub-para (ii) of recommendations relating to allocation of time to Resolutions, be omitted."

The motion was adopted.

15.13 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirty-Second Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

15.32 hrs

[English]

RESOLUTION RE: LEGISLATIVE ON MEASURES TO CONTROL POPULATION — *Cont.*

DR. RANJIT KUMAR PANJA (Barasat): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for allowing me to speak on the Bill. As a Doctor, I am interested in anything that controls the population of our vast country with a vast population exceeding 100 crores. The Government had set up a Population Commission which is yet to give its opinion. There should be a time limit so that it gives its opinion as soon as possible. Our population is a peculiar mixture of different religions, castes, creeds etc. Apart from that, there is insurgency and infiltration of people from other countries making the situation very complex. In West

Bengal itself there are 66 lakhs of fake ration cards. The recent remuneration showed that there were 67 lakhs of fake voters. So, the population, as such, may be more than 100 crores. So, any means that controls population should be welcomed.

I, as a doctor, would like to say a few words on this Bill moved by Shrimati Meena. *Chota parivar sukhi parivar* is being advocated for so many years. But it is not successful in controlling the population, especially that of the poor people who should limit their population by having small families. This is due to lack of education. I remember a story told by a famous author that the only recreation that the poor people have is to be with their wives since they cannot afford to have any other recreation. That is why they get more children. But now-a-days living is so costly that one has to think about education of these people. Lack of education gives rise to poverty, illiteracy and more dropouts. It becomes a vicious circle. To get out of this vicious circle, we have to follow the example set by other countries. China and Bangladesh are two neighbouring countries which have been successful in controlling the population. China started with very drastic methods. It started with one child norm and that has become a failure. Later on they modified it. So, we have to be careful that any means that we adopt should not be drastic. It should not be drastic. It should be gradual and it should be based on awareness of the people.

In Bangladesh, they have set a very good example and we should take that into account because we have a huge minority population which is allowed to marry several times. These people can have more children and that increases the population. There is a religious stigma. So, one has to be very careful. In Bangladesh, what they have done is that they have integrated the family welfare measures in the general health care system. In the general health care system, they advise all the patients who come to the hospitals about family planning as a method of keeping good health. That way, they have controlled it and they have got rid of this stigma that is there. Many of these people do not marry more than once. Of course, in the educated Muslim community or any other community which has allowed more than one marriage, those people do not do it now. But the poor people do it and suffer more.

Charity begins at home. That is why, Shrimati Meena suggested about restrictions or disqualification or the criteria for becoming Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies. But in the case of those who have already come with multiple children as Members of Parliament and Members of the Legislative Assemblies, we cannot have the restrictions on them now. So, there has to be a dateline for that. Whether it will start from the Fourteenth Lok Sabha or the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, one has to decide about it.

[Dr. Ramjit Kumar Panja]

About other restrictions in appointments and things like that, they have to be gradual also. But they are most welcome if they control the population. The main thing that I would like to stress is about the education of the general public and awareness of the general public so that they can understand the value of this legislation. Otherwise, due to human nature, they will try to disobey this obligation. I do not know how many people will be punished for this if this measures is adopted. But ultimately some chaos might come in. Some one has to be careful and one has to be more practical about creating the awareness that restrictions are being given for the good of the country and good of its people. Then, I think it will succeed.

Generally, I agree, in principle, to this measure. But how it has to be formulated should be done by the Population Commission taking into consideration all the points that are being raised by the hon. Members.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I rise to basically support the Resolution moved by the hon. Member Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena. First, I would just give a brief history of this population aspect. It is very interested to hear this point. It is said that at the time of the birth of Jesus Christ, the population of the world was hardly five crore. It took about 1800 years to reach the population of 100 crore, one billion people. Then, it took another 160 years — that means, by 1960 — to reach the figure of four billion. When it took 1800 years to reach 100 crore mark, it took hardly 160 years to reach the figure of four billion. Then, by 1984, it became five billion, that is, 500 crore. In the year 2000, within a span of only 16 years, we again reached the figure of six billion, that is, 600 crore. When in the beginning we took 1800 years to reach one hundred crore, another 100 crore we added only within 16 years. So, this population growth is basically destroying the resources needed for the future.

I will give you four or five examples to show how the resources are being destroyed. First, take the example of public health. Take the example of the unclean water. Because of the increase in the population, water is now being unclean and the unclean water, along with poor sanitation, kills about 12 million people each year in most of the developing countries.

Take air pollution for example. It also kills about three million people every year in the developing countries.

I come to food supply. In 64 out of 105 developing countries, population has been growing faster than the food supply. Moreover, this rise in population has almost degraded two billion hectares of arable land all over the world, which is equivalent to the size of the USA and Canada. This is so because of the commercial and construction activities.

Take the example of fresh water. The supply of fresh water is not infinite because water has got its limitation. We cannot produce water but the demand is soaring as the population is increasing. More and more people mean we require more and more fresh and potable water. By 2025 when the world population is projected to be eight billion, 48 countries, consisting of three billion people, would feel the shortage of fresh water. This would happen after 20 years. Many of us may also see such a situation.

Take for example coastline and ocean. High population densities and urban development pressure destroy half of the coastal eco-system. Fishing in ocean is also being over-exploited. Trawlers are now going to the sea and most of them are coming with empty hands.

Then let me come to forests. Forests provide livelihood to the population. Population living in forests mostly survives on forests and forest produce but nearly half of the world's original forest cover has been lost. Each year, another 16 million hectares are being cut, bulldozed or being burnt. Forests provide over 40 billion dollars to the world's economy annually and are vital to maintaining a healthy eco-system. But we are just destroying it everywhere.

Take for example bio-diversity. It is crucial to the continued vitality of agriculture and medicine and perhaps even to the life of the earth itself. Yet human activities are pushing many thousands of plants, animal species into extinction.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are an aged person. What you saw — plants and animal species - in your childhood, you would not be seeing now. The same is the case with me. I am not seeing now what I have seen in my childhood.

Finally, I come to the question of global warming. The earth's surface is warming mostly due to greenhouse emissions, largely from the fossil fuels. If the global temperature rises as projected, sea level would gradually increase and you would see that after some years it would cause widespread floods and most of the villages

which are situated nearer to the sea coast would be totally extinct from the face of the world. You would see that this would happen within a span of eight to ten years. An hon. Member spoke about Balasore. I also come from a coastal area. This would happen to my coastal area also.

While population growth has slowed down, but in absolute term, it has continued to increase every year. In every 13 years, we are adding just one billion people to the population.

Now, I would give some suggestions as to how we are going to do away with the problem of increasing population. In order to have comfort level of the individual, we would have to check the population. There is no doubt about that. More and more people are trying to share the available comfort or whatever resources are available in this world.

So, to decrease the rate of growth of population, we have to educate our people, particularly our women. As you are aware, we can see that our population is increasing very rapidly in those regions where women are not literate. Dr. Ranjit Panja was telling that China has been able to control population growth by enforcing some strict laws. India is a democratic country and I do not think we can enforce such draconian laws here in our country. But we can at least educate our women and if we educate them we will succeed in controlling our population growth.

Sir, Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena, in her Resolution, has included a provision to bar persons having more than three living children from holding positions and appointments in Government services and to disentitle such persons from availing of benefits under any welfare scheme of the Government. But due to religious and other considerations we cannot force the people of our country not to have more than two or three children. But we can at least bring a law saying that we would not give any incentive to any person who is exceeding that limit.

Secondly, if we have a rule at Gram Panchayat level that anybody having more than two children, born after 1995, would be disqualified, why can we not apply the same rule to our State Legislatures and also Parliament? If that can be the rule at the grassroot level for Panchayats, that can be applied for MPs and MLAs also. So, I fully agree with Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena that the

Government should come forward with such a law for MPs and MLAs.

Sir, in our country, there is a belief among our people that only a son can take somebody to paradise or that he can bring back economic prosperity to a household and a daughter cannot do that. We should do away with such very old and out-dated outlook and we can do this only through educating our people.

Then, the Government should also provide facilities for safe abortion. If somebody is coming forward for abortion, then the Government should provide scope for that. I would also like to suggest that there should be strict enforcement of law to prevent child marriages. If the Government is having a law which says that a boy under the age of 21 years and a girl under the age of 18 years should not get married, then law should be strictly enforced.

Finally, I would suggest that the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique Act, 1996 should also be strictly enforced so that people do not go for abortion when they come to know that they are going to have a girl child.

With these words, I support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena and I appeal to the hon. Minister that the Government should be very strict in enforcing the relevant laws if they want our country to prosper and the people to have a reasonable levels of comfort.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the one side, I support the principles of this Resolution, but on the other side, as regards the amendment of the Constitution which the hon. Member has proposed, I do not think it will be implemented with retrospective effect, because we cannot change the existing law.

But we have to think about tomorrow. The politics is not for today. It is also for tomorrow. That is why we have to think about it very seriously. Our colleague, Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja is not only a Member of Parliament but he is also number one Skin Specialist in Asia. He has already spoken. I think he has covered the real points. But as a political and social worker, I feel today that if you cannot control the population, the development of this country will lag behind. It depends on how the Government would control the population.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

If I remember correctly, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, Shri Sanjay Gandhi tried out some formula. The information had been spread out that it was 'nasbandi'. That is why because of such propaganda, Shrimati Gandhi lost her election. So, this is not an easy matter. The matter is very difficult. But the matter is tough, we have also to see the interests of the country. We have also to see the interests of our future generations.

Why has China developed so much? I did not prepare my speech with all the facts and figures. But it is a common sense that China has developed because, on the one side, that is not a democratic country. They have dictatorship there. So, they can apply their formulate. But the problem is that we are a democratic country. There are so many political parties, so many ideas, and so much thinking and vision. It is just a hotchpotch. So, you have to satisfy each and everybody. Then, you can formulate a policy. I appeal to all the political parties in this country that we should not touch the religious sentiments of the people. The Hindus have their code. The Muslims have their own code. The Sikhs have their code. The Christians have their Code. The Buddhists have their code. I do not want to touch this aspects. But can we not think about this matter in a broad sense?

Today, the priority must be to control the population. If we cannot control our population, I am sorry to say that this country will sometimes have communal riots and sometimes violence. There will sometimes also be a disaster after disaster. That is why what we cannot enforce on the people, we can appeal to them. Of course, it is a draconian law. The people may not like if you enforce it. But if you appeal to the people and involve them, and create an awareness among them, the matter might be sorted out. All the people may not agree. Of course, I believe, 50 per cent of them will accept it. We have seen how the people in south India control the population. This time, we should have gone for delimitation. But they have appealed to the Supreme Court through a Writ Petition. They have said correctly that they could control their population. But you cannot control the people in northern India. What their harm? Why would they take the responsibility? When the people in southern parts of India can control the population in our country, why can we not control the people in northern and eastern parts of India? That is our headache.

I think, the politicians are more responsible for this type of situation. I am not leaving myself also. Charity begins at home. That is why, I say that we, the politicians,

are responsible for it. Only for vote politics, we are losing our credibility everyday. In our country, we have to see that if we do not control the population, the future of our country will go from bad to worse. Even the Census Report says that the people in south India have controlled the population. But it is not so in the northern and eastern parts of India.

The Government has already set up the Population Commission for this. But we want to see that there must be some time frame for this so that within that time frame, they can give the idea and thought, so that you can involve the State Government, you can involve NGOs, and you can even involve the children and students also. What students can do, we cannot do because now their IQ is so sharp. At the school level, we can convince the children.

I would like to tell you one thing today about the infiltration problem in our country. If you ask me, whether you have been able to control the infiltration situation, I would say, no. India is a country, which is represented by all communities, all castes, and all creeds. But it is not a fact that India is surrounded by Pakistan, Sri Lanka and others. India has borders with Nepal, with Bhutan, with Bangladesh and in the North-Eastern Region, we have borders with China, and in Arunachal Pradesh we have borders with Myanmar.

I would like to tell you something about my own State. Last time, we lost the elections there. I thought this is the proper forum but here we do not get the opportunity because the House does not run properly. Everyday one or the other issue comes and the House has to adjourn. But people ask us what issues we are raising in the House. If the House does not run, what to do. Some times we feel bad also.

Today, I thought that on this Private Members Resolution, at least, I should speak. What happened to our election? I want an investigation into it from the Government. Even a Commission of Inquiry can be appointed. Why I am saying so is because three impartial organisations have also brought out this fact. One of them is CAG. My Opposition friends are also raising the Defence Ministry scam because of the CAG report. After the CAG report is given, it goes to the Public Accounts Committee and the Committee gets reply from the Ministry.

But in my State, it is not that only this year they have submitted this report. The CAG report says that in

my State 66 lakh fake ration cards are there. These people came from outside. I am quoting from the CAG report and it has been mentioned there. Now, the new voter list has been prepared in my State only and the name of 69 lakh voters have been deleted from the voters list. In my constituency, I won by 2,25,000 genuine votes. They curtailed the number of votes to 2,72,000. Sir, you will be surprised to know if I compare it, one CAG report says that 66 lakh fake ration cards are there, the other impartial organisation, the Election Commission, says that names of 69 lakh voters have been deleted because of so many reasons, and the Census Report says the same thing. We lost. What is the number of votes we have received?

Trinamool Congress has got 1,12,00,000 votes and without allies we got 1,42,00,000 votes. The CPM alone has got 1,39,00,00 votes and along with Left Front they got 1,79,00,000. Out of that 57 constituencies are being captured by the PWG, MCC and such organisations. We complained about it so many times that villagers are not allowed to vote and even the candidates are not allowed to cast their vote, though it is an old chapter. But we do not get any justice.

But what was the percentage of their voting. They won; and at that time their percentage was 49.5 per cent and our percentage was 39.88 per cent of the total votes.

16.00 hrs.

If you see the CAG Report and tally it with the voters' list now — the doctored voters' list that has been published — then you will see the voter formation and the tally will be totally different. They got 49.5 per cent whereas we got 39.5 per cent. If you tally the CAG Report and the Election Commission Report, the ours will go up from 39.5 per cent to 53.5 per cent whereas their figure will come down from 49.5 per cent to 35.5 per cent. This is the fate of democracy. That is why, we have to control our population. That will be our urge. At the same time, it is the duty of the Government to see why these fake ration cards are there. After the Reports came from three impartial organisations, why can the Government ask the Commission of Inquiry to conduct an inquiry and to take a correct decision? It is a matter of unfortunate part that nobody thinks about Bengal and we are the worst sufferers. Bengal border is not less important than any other border. Gujarat is a sensitive area because Gujarat borders Pakistan. Jammu and Kashmir is a sensitive area because it borders Pakistan. Bengal is also a sensitive area because it borders

Bangladesh. ISI agents from Pakistan are coming through Bangladesh to Bengal. It is a free zone now for the terrorists. Bengal is a gateway of North-Eastern Region and gateway of Bhutan and Nepal. It is surrounded by so many States. That is why these mischievous things are going on. I do not want to say about the infiltrators who came before 1971 according to Mujibur-Indira Pact and we agree to that. Everyday, in the daytime they are murdering people in my State. Then they take lunch and travel just a kilometre to go to Bangladesh and take dinner there. How do we control this situation? The situation is so serious and that is why, I am making this appeal. I do not know whether this Bill will be passed or not. It talks about the politicians. It is okay. The politicians should not pollute the situation. We do not want to create nuisance. Charity begins at home. Yes, this is an appeal that the politicians must start from their family. Whatever happened has happened. We should not unnecessarily go on criticising it because literacy is also a matter.

I feel proud about the South India where hundred per cent literacy is there and I congratulate them. At the same time, I feel that the girl child drop-out rate is so high in the Northern India and in the Eastern India. We have to take care of that also. We have to see that we create an atmosphere with all the religious groups through the politicians. You should convene a meeting of all the political parties — not the religious groups and we respect all the religious groups — and they should decide about the fate of this country. Otherwise, unemployment will go up. Now it is more than three crores in my State, it is more than 62 lakhs. Now, the young people do not take interest even to register their names because they know that there is no future for them. Now, you are going in for disinvestment and new industries are not coming up. Where will the people go? That is why, we have to be self-sufficient, we have to be determined and we have to help each other. That is why, our first priority is to address the key issue of this country and I feel that population control is the key issue. Changing the political system is the key issue.

Electoral reform is the key issue. Judicial reform is the key issue. Administrative reform is also the key issue.

With these words, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI (Kurukshetra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, uncontrolled population explosion is a

[Shrimati Kailasho Devi]

serious problem for any country. Especially it is all the more serious for a developing country like India.

India is poorest in prosperity but population wise it has billion as a result of which problems relating to education, health care, housing and employment are gallore in 21st Century. These problems are aggravating day by day. Today 40 crore Indians are living below poverty line. 40 crores do not get potable water and 25 crores are unemployed, today a new born has debt over rupees 10,000. There are many other problems also.

Poor and helpless girls of India are sold in Arab countries. India is the biggest supplier of human organs. I would not give more data because speakers before me have provided enough data. To sum up, I would like to say that root out these problems we will have to spend greater part of our budget on education because without education one cannot bring consciousness in society and without consciousness only passing of laws will not help to solve problems. When people will become aware through education only then they can realise the problem and we will be able to face grave challenges. I support the resolution put forward by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena and also want to say that law should be enacted for it. Without enacting law only consciousness would not do. If we balance both of these only then we could help solve the problem of uncontrolled population and march forward along with prosperous countries in 21 century.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Honourable Chairman Sir, I strongly support the resolution moved by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena regarding measures to check population explosion.

China is the most populous country in the world—that is it consists more than one billion people, but now it has checked population explosion by opting certain measures. Though we have also crossed the limit of one billion yet we have not been able to check the population explosion in the country till date. This is a very unfortunate situation. I say with regret that today we are watering the leaves of the plant instead of reaching down to the root of the problem. Developmental activities are going on everywhere in the country. Crores & billions of rupees are also being spent in the name of development. Although many plans at national level are being prepared and implemented yet they have not been able to benefit the common people's day to day life in sufficient manner, because of the population explosion in the country.

Honourable Sir, the production of the country is increasing in the arithmetical progression but the population is increasing in the geometrical progression, that is the reason why there is such a vast gap between

demand and supply. As a result of it there is always dearth of the tube-well, pipelines, accommodation, schools, hospitals and thus is the problem remains unsolved.

I am reminded of a couplet from "Ramacharitmanas", when "Hanuman" was going to "Lanka" to inquire about "Sita". On the way "Sursa" wished to test his capabilities. "Tulsi Ji" explains it as follows—"Jas—Jas Surba Badhu Bodhawa, Tasu Doon Kapi Roop Dikhawa"

Sursa kept on expanding her mouth, but Hanuman doubled himself and did not let her gobble him. Although we have adopted so many measure regarding family planning yet we have not been able to check population because population of India is increasing in leaps and bounds. Nobody paid attention to this aspect of the problem. However, the civilized and educated section of society have started trusting measures of birth control and are adopting them to plan their family.

Chairman Sir, people who are illiterate or superstitions or followers of certain religions which do not guide them clearly in this regard. They are opposing family planning methods. I request all such persons and religious preachers of the country and representatives of all political parties of the country to think about the interest of the country by rising above party lines. There should be detailed discussion in regard to population explosion and also the methods to curb it, in this August House of the Country.

Honourable Sir, I would like to give one more example. Right now, honourable Mamta ji has drawn attention towards infiltration. People from Bangladesh are crossing border illegally. I would like to tell you that Bangladesh is also facing the same problem. Because of increased population and less production of food grains in Bangladesh, the situation has become worst. People from Bangladesh are coming to India illegally in search of livelihood.

Honourable Sir, in our country also, there is a migration from rural areas to cities and people are still illiterate in villages. Therefore they believe that children are blessed to them by the grace of God only and therefore population growth should not be checked. I think it is not correct. If it is true why God does not bless issueless with children? That is why I would like to submit that though people are blessed with the children by the grace of God only, yet they should not keep on having more children as this is not justified and therefore exercise restraint. If they do not exercise restraint, their life span is shortened and they die soon.

Honourable Sir, since time immorial, people of India has been protected to have lesser number of children. It

has been said in our holy books—"Varam Aikko Guni Putro, Na Cha Murkh Shatanyabi, Aiksh Chandramo Haranti, Na Cha Murkhviyafrih" i.e. one worthy son is more than enough and if one has hundred unworthy sons, it does not do any good to oneself. Although there, is one moon and thousands of stars yet thousands of stars seems to fade before moon as moon makes night bright.

Honourable Sir, our ancient culture preaches us that "Aarogya Paramdharma. Sanyama Khalu Jivanem" i.e. Ideal life is living while exercising restraint. We had from Ashram according to four phases i.e. Brahmcharya, Grihsthashram, Vanprasth and lastly Sanyas ashram. A person till 25 years by living in the ashram of Guru studies by following Brahmcharya and live while exercising restraint. After that he enters into Grihsthashram and have children after marriage. Later on at the age 50 years he enters into Vanprasthashram and becomes Sanyasi, after 75. But those days we see that people do not renunciate worldly life. Till 80 years in Rajasthan and other places in the country. Therefore, society is on the verge of disintegration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rasa Singh ji, please have your seat for one minute.

The time fixed for this motion has already been finished. If House permits, its duration can be extended. If the House permits, how much time i.e. one hour or one and a half hour is to be expended for the purpose?

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua): Mr. Chairman Sir, this is an important motion, I therefore request that the time should be extended upto one hour.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Chairman Sir, this is a very important subject. So my request is that the duration of time for this issue must be extended upto one and a half hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, 45 minutes more for this motion has been allotted with the permission of the House. If there is a need, the duration of time will be extended with the permission of the House again.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Honourable Sir, as I have earlier said that we should mobilise all preachers and saints of all religion to have discussion and we all should be unanimous on this issue. Increasing population is the root cause of all problems. Now-a-days yet not the reasons for not having sufficient houses and essential items. When one man is earning and ten people are dependent, providing sufficient food and proper education is very difficult. I feel that they will be careful if they are made to realise about the root cause of their problem.

Honourable Sir, there is much propaganda for population control and family planning and many programmes have been launched at large scale but they have failed. We should also find out, what is the reason of such failure. I would like to suggest that all the sections of society should be taken into confidence and should be detailed discussion on this issue, it will certainly enable us to be successful. We should not be apprehensive and think that such discussion on family planning will instigate people to oppose us. Top priority should be given to this problem by keeping in view the greater interest of the Country by endeavouring to implement schemes etc. for curbing the rapid growth of population. In this regard, we should follow China. We should also issue Green Card to those people who have only two children. Our ancient scriptures also preach about the equality of girl child and male child. Government jobs, Government facilities privilege and preference should be given to those persons who have not more than two children. Those persons who have more than two children, should not get any Government job, any such facility and they should not be benefited by Government scheme.

As a result, they will feel responsibility. Though we, tried to beget a feeling earlier in the name of family planning, yet excesses had been committed. It was during the emergency people are still scared remembering those days. But I feel that the slogan — Hum do hamare do — was in the interest of the nation and the intention behind it was positive to check the population of the country. So, through you, I would urge upon the Government to call the representatives of all the political parties, religious and communal heads and place the filthy picture of rising population before them and take an appropriate decision thereof.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, under the leadership of Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat in the State of Rajasthan, a decision was taken, that the representatives of the people of the Panchayats, Ward Panch, Surpanch, member of Panchayat Samiti, member of district board or municipal council would be declared disqualified if they have one more child after having two or more children already before their being elected. The law is still being enforced there. As a result of this only those persons can be eligible to be elected the representative of people who shall not reproduce more children. This is a kind of attraction. I think that the same criteria should be adopted in providing government jobs or in registered institutes.

I would like to thank Madam Jas Kaur Meenaji. She has given three reasons for it. She has said that all efforts of the government has been proved a failure. Millions of rupees have been spent. Ninth Five Year Plan is going to end and the outline of the Tenth Five Year

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

Plan has been drawn. We have commemorated the golden jubilee of our independence as well as of our republic. But the situation is the same even today. The problem has given birth to poverty, unemployment and illiteracy. It should, therefore, be our effort to solve the problem as national issue cutting across the political lines and without giving any thought to communalism. She has also given a solution through the provision of 89th amendment Bill and 92nd amendment Bill that the person will not be eligible for the membership of either House of Parliament or Legislature of the State and he will cease to be the same if he violates small family norms and that Bill should be passed at the earliest. I think that charity begins at home. This House is the supreme institution. The supreme Panchayat of the country. We have implemented it in the lower panchayats. But such constitutional amendment should be passed to present an example before the people of the country to check the continuous growth of population. No family should increase number of his or her progeny whether they are two, three or more. Besides, she has brought out a way to deal with situation that a suitable legislation should be brought about to the persons having more than three children from entering government jobs and appointments and they should be deprived from the benefits to be accrued by way of any welfare scheme of the Government. I strongly support this Bill. At the same time, I would like to thank the State of Kerala in South. The State of Kerala has achieved its target of family planning. The States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka etc. are also at a much advanced stage. But in North India, be it Uttar Pradesh, or Rajasthan, or Madhya Pradesh or Bihar known as Bimar States, are facing the problem of uncontrolled rising population. Population is increasing like that of insects. A new Australia is being added in India every year in the matter of population. How they will be fed? This is one reason for increase in crime rate.

So, there should be propagation of education. But that should also be kept in mind what I have said. It is our Indian tradition. In olden days, Maryada Purushottam Ram has two sons-Lava and Kusha, Yogeshwar Shri Krishna has one son-Pradyumana, after following 12 years of Brahmcharya...(Interruptions) It is said that if a man wish for long, and healthy life based on Brahmcharya or restrained life...

"Jeevan sharadah shatam

Shranuyaam sharadeh shatam

Prarakameh sharadeh shatam

Pradeemasyam sharadeh shatam"

Wish to hear for hundred years, wish to see by hundred years, wish to live freely fully by hundred years,

then he should reproduce less number of children for living restrained life. This sentiment should be publicized. One has to raise rise above all the political lines and all other things.

Ek hi saadhe sub sadhe,

Sub saadhe sub jaaye,

Jo tu seve mool ko,

Foole fale aghaye.

This is a horrible problem. Growing population is dangerous and alarming. We have to contemplate now how it should be controlled. It should be given top priority.

With these words, I strongly support this Bill.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Hon. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to place my views on this very important Resolution moved by my dear sister Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena. This Resolution is a very important one and it is time-bound as well as need-based. The need of the nation today is population control. Even 53 years after Independence we have failed to understand as to what the problem is and why we are not taking effective steps to control the population unlike the South India.

Sir, will the Governments of the States, especially Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Orissa come forward to evolve a separate family planning policy which will suit the local people? The literacy rate and particularly female literacy rate is directly proportional to the awareness of the programme and also the understanding of the importance of the population control.

In that way I am proud to say that next to Kerala, Tamil Nadu is the torchbearer for population control, not today but about ten years back. Will the Government come forward with a broad mind and will it come forward to adopt the methodology adopted by the Government of Tamil Nadu? It is not family planning programme but it is a family welfare programme. It involves all the Departments of the Government towards one goal and that is family welfare programme.

As the Father of the Nation said if a man is educated, the family is educated; but if a woman is educated then not only the family is educated but the State is educated and the nation is educated. In that way my great leader Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi has been a tower of strength not only for the people of Tamil Nadu but also to the nation in that way. As a lady, in spite of all the hazards that

she has been facing all these days, she has emerged as one of the leaders committed for women literacy and help for poor and downtrodden.

In this context, I would like to point out that Madam has evolved a scheme and she has distributed one lakh cycles for the Dalit girl students, for those who are studying Eleventh and Twelfth standards to create awareness of importance of literacy among the Dalit girls and thereby to bring about the social and economic empowerment of women.

In that way, she is the torchbearer of all other Chief Ministers to give importance to the female literacy. Sir, there is a regional imbalance not only in respect of population control but also in respect of the achievements in every Ministry. Will the Government come forward to evolve a mechanism? And especially in the States where the performance is poor, instead of decentralising the rules, regulations and policies, it should be individualised. Will the Government come forward to call the Chief Ministers of those States where population is not under control, along with Health Secretaries, Chief Secretaries and also the Health Ministers? The Government of India should come forward with an open mind to understand the problem of the individual States and see what solution we can adopt to control the population and the achievement in all those States.

Sir, the Government of India has come out with the Population Policy and also the Population Commission, but I am very sorry to say that it has not addressed the issue of individual States and also the methodology it is going to adopt for the control of population.

Sir, the year 2001, which was the Empowerment of Women Year, has come to an end. Will the Government come forward with a White Paper in this House on the achievements made in respect of empowerment of women? I am asking for it because the empowerment of women, female literacy, family planning programme population control have got a sequence and continuity. We can create awareness about female literacy through the *panchayats*' elected representatives. There can also be fixed responsibility, and they should be able to create awareness through public participation. Unless we institute a mechanism which is one hundred per cent with the involvement of *Panchayati Raj*, it is very difficult for either the Central Government or the State Governments to find a positive solution as far as population control is concerned.

Sir, there is no political will on the part of both the Central Government and the State Government on this national issue. Politics is different from the national issues.

Cutting across the party lines, cutting across the States, all the Members of Parliament should help in this regard. I would urge upon the Government and also the Members of Parliament sitting here to see that we are committed to our national goal. At least, we will evolve a system; we will look after and adopt our own constituency; we will sit with the State Government; we will sit with the District Collector to find out the problems; and we will co-ordinate and co-operate with the District Administration. We will evolve a mechanism so that the population control comes under one roof. It is national goal and achievement of population control be a national achievement.

Sir, as far as sensitisation in respect of family planning programme is concerned, the Government of Tamil Nadu has evolved self-help groups in this matter. Will the Government of India come forward to encourage more self-help groups? Will it see through the self-help groups, through the *Panchayati Raj* Institutions, through the elected representatives to have a common forum to discuss about this matter? Will the individual States also come out with their specific policies and will the Government of India discuss it to see that we come under one roof to find solution to this problem?

With these few words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the resolution brought in the House by Meena Behanji. I would like to say a few words in this regard. There are three main reasons of growing Population. One is poverty, the other is insecurity and the third one is illiteracy. People of rural India, even today, perceive that by whom he would be survived if his only child dies. Who will look after him in his sickness and who will take care of him in old age. It is a common phenomena that most of the children get separated from the family as soon as they become mature. Earlier, the saying was true in our country — 'Might is right'. The person who is in majority gets the throne. The scene has not changed much even today. Ours is now a democratic country and the party in majority forms its government in the Centre, Sarpanch, member of Legislative Assembly or member of Parliament, they all are elected on the basis of majority behind them.

There is much increase in population due to illiteracy also. Quest for livelihood turned them from education to work. If there is a girl in the family, she was not sent to school because if she goes to school who will cook the food for the working members of the family. As a result,

[Shri Punnu Lal Mohale]

population rose. All the ways to development have been blocked due to this reason. People feel insecure. Some educated but unemployed youths followed the path of terrorism, opted for labour while other unemployed youths started gambling and quarreling for this reason, the population of our country has crossed 1 billion mark.

Now, I come to myself. I myself have 12 children. It was the pressure of the circumstances. As there were disputes in the village in regular course, I, being, only child in the family, was made to run away by people, we got beaten by the police, we were trapped under section 107. Then I felt that if we were large in number, we had not suffered. Because in a democracy people get leadership on the basis of majority. I was elected surpanch first, then an M.L.A. and thereafter an M.P. Democracy demands majority. You can't be a leader without majority. But in today's circumstances, I would like to convey the message of family planning to our offsprings to the society. Larger family cannot afford to feed its children properly. They cannot be suitably taken care of. In case of illness, it is not easy to get them treated. There will be difficulty to get them a job.

Therefore, I would like to say that Government have to adopt some measures for family planning. As we have developed vaccination to cure diseases like T.B., Malaria etc. similarly we should develop some type of capsules or vaccination to check population. I have talked to doctors in this regard. They have said that it is possible that if a person having two children is given capsules or is vaccinated, then he would be unable to produce more children. I think it should be made compulsory. Similarly, such arrangement should also be made that if any person having more than two children, applies for a job, he should not be given the job and his name should be put at the end of the end of waiting list. The same criteria should be adopted in providing loans. In this regard, preference should be given to those persons who have two or less than two children. Such provision should also be made for industry, trade etc. permission for business should only be given after receiving an affidavit in this regard from that person. Today there is a need to change the mentality of the people in our country. If somebody have two children, they could be given better education and better medical facilities can be provided to them. If somebody have more than two children, all of them could not be educated properly. In hospitals also, third class bed should be given to persons having more than two children. This will change the mentality of people, transform and awaken the society and help in the development of the country. Government should provide basic facilities to people who have small family. These steps will encourage the common people to think that it is good to have a small family.

I would also like to tell you that it should also be made mandatory that if somebody get married before attaining the age of 25 years, he should be deprived of all facilities like social, political and religious facilities. Government of Chhattisgarh has made a law that if any Panch or Sarpanch begets a third child he should be immediately removed from the office without expiry of its tenure. There is a need to educate the people to create such conditions and accelerate the economic development of the country. There is a need to spend more funds on education and health and there would be no need for all this until we bring practicability in law. There are various fundamentalists belonging to different religions. Who believe that family planning is against their religion, some persons believe in God, some political parties believe in majority to bring this change. So there is a need to bring awareness to these people. Our Resolution will fail until these people are awakened.

In view of these circumstances, I support this resolution moved by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena and request to frame a new law for future. Now, we should think about future.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I would like to thank Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena for bringing this legislation on measures to control population. I should also mention here that the total population of our country today is around Rs. 102 crore.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, if this Resolution is passed, then it should have an retrospective effect so that quite a few Members in this House would have to resign!

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, it is estimated that the rate at which the population is growing now it could stabilise only in 2040. A.D. There is a great divide between the South and the North, as has been discussed in the House, as far as growth of population is concerned. Names of some States have also been mentioned in this regard. There is also another divide between the East and the West in regard to economic and financial prosperity.

Sir, Shri Gurucharan Das, an eminent writer and thinker of our country, in his book, 'The Great Divide' has discussed about this economic and financial divide.

The rate of progress that the Western parts of our country are likely to make in another 15 years and the way the Eastern parts of the country are trailing vis-a-vis their progress, they may be able to catch up to the Western parts only in 2040-45. But when we are discussing about the problems of population explosion, we should also deliberate about this divide and we should pay our attention to this chasm that is making country weak.

Sir, around 30 per cent of our population is below the age of 25 years. Kumari Mamata Banerjee was mentioning that we should pay more attention towards the school and college going children. Why is it so? It is because it is they who are going to control the population of this country in another 10 to 15 years.

They are not educating the people who are about to enter the age of reproduction. They should be educated first. In another ten or fifteen years, they will come into the reproductive age group. They have to check the growth of population themselves. They have to implement the two-child norm, or one-child norms as is being practised in China. Thirty per cent of the population today is below the age of 45 years. Another 40 per cent of the population today is above the age of 46 years. Within ten years, as has been estimated, large sections of our population will become senior citizens. So, the Government has to adequately look after the health of these senior citizens because that is a commitment of the Government under the provisions of the Constitution.

Now we should put more stress on children who are going to schools today, who are going to colleges today, who should be more knowledgeable about the problem of population explosion. Hon. Member Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena has brought a timely Resolution. I should thank for drawing the attention of this House and of the Government to this issue. A number of Panchayati Raj institutions in different States have already implemented such legislations, making the two-child norm compulsory. Orissa has also implemented this. But there is a rider in it. It says, any person who can be elected to a ward, or as a Surpanch, or as a Zilla Parishad member, should have two children. Any person having more than two children after 1995 will be disqualified. As Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi was saying, with retrospective effect, we too can take it back to 1995 because that is the standard practised in most of the Panchayati Raj elections. Elected members are debarred if they have more than two children after 1995. After that they are not allowed to contest elections. Similarly, we should prove our sincerity. We should make a similar provision in legislative

assemblies and the two Houses of Parliament stipulating 1995 as the cutoff year.

I would like to make a humble correction here. The small-family norm have been mentioned for elected representatives. Similarly "suitable legislation be made to debar persons having more than two living children from holding any position, for appointments in Government services. In this Resolution the norm mentioned is three children. I would like to suggest that it should be brought down to two. It should be level headed for all. It should be made equally applicable for all. The limitation of number of children should be equal to both public representatives and for people holding appointments in Government services.

There is another important part, though it does not come under separate clause, and that is disentitlement. This matter should be debated thoroughly. Other than confining it to two-child family norm there is another rider which is incorporated in the second clause. That is the provision of disentitlement to the benefit of welfare schemes. I am not talking about JRY or other welfare schemes. This principle should be applied in respect of all social benefits. A number of private medical practitioners in my State have been insisting on this. They are identifying those families who have two-children to get priority. They should get priority in different Government hospitals. They should get priority in getting different benefits from the Government. It is high time we make such a provision to discourage and disentitle the people who go in for large families. They can be made to make certain payments in different hospitals for getting health services. The people who practise the two-child norm should get priority in health services.

This reminds me of a question which my science teacher asked me, during my primary school days some 35 years back. In our village, we had a brinjal plant. He asked me to do an experiment. So, he asked me to pluck the brinjal every season. I started doing it and that plant started giving me brinjals every season.

But the day I allowed one brinjal to be preserved and allowed that brinjal to ripen, that plant died. I was surprised. So, I went to my science teacher and asked him that 'from the day I went on plucking the brinjal, the brinjal plant was quite bushy and healthy, it was giving me brinjals every season. But the day I preserved one brinjal of that plant, that plant died.' I asked him as to why that brinjal plant died after I preserved one brinjal. He replied that the plant, by its nature, became aware

[Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab]

that its seed was preserved. That is why it died. So, also is the human nature. When a human being is aware that his seed is preserved and his children are there to keep his progen, he will adopt two-child norm.

I think, the Health Ministry has been making a number of surveys in this regard. As was stated just now, which are the families having more number of children? It is the poor class, the down-trodden. The persons who do not get proper health care have the tendency to have more children. In an affluent society medical health care is assured; health security of one child is assured by the Government, by the Establishment and by the society. So, the total responsibility is of the State, of the society, and of the Government. If that responsibility is sincerely followed, then the poor man will not have a tendency to have more children. That is why, I say, the Health Ministry as also the society have a greater role to play in this regard.

With these few words, I welcome and support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad): Sir, I rise to support what Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena has said in regard to population. You all might be recollecting that the only important step in regard to population was taken in the time of late Sanjay Gandhi. At that time it was felt that a law would be framed to check the population of our country but unfortunately Congress Government was ousted from power due to their policies of family planning and they were defeated so badly that no other Government wanted to raise this issue because it was a matter of power. But population of country can not be controlled if our leaders only think about remaining in power.

Sir, I know that I and my father have been elected as an M.P. and M.L.A. from the time of independence till now. There was a time when member of Parliament was elected from a population of two and a half lakh voters. Now there are various parliamentary constituencies having 42-45 lakh voters. Sir, what can be expected from a representative? What justice he can do, what sort of development he can plan? As a result whenever there are parliamentary or assembly elections, two-third people are ousted from power what are the reasons for this? Why they do not think about it?

Whether it is our Government or your Government there would be no development until we take proper

decision in regard to family planning. In present circumstances, the number of educated people is decreasing and the number of illiterate people is increasing as per the existing system of our country.

I remember that in 1970 when I got married that was the time of three children. A family of two daughters and one son considered an ideal family. Then time changed, and Government started talking about one son and one daughter. But today five to ten percent educated people prefer only one child. We are increasing the population of whom. The population of those people is increasing who would become a burden on our country. Even today our mentality is that of subjugation. We have not been able to achieve much in this regard after independence. As a result if we want to frame any law, arguments are given in the name of religion that population control is against our religion. Even if my party is against this but still nobody can stop me from saying this...(Interruptions) Strict laws should be frame to check growing population and these should be implemented strictly and courage would be needed for observance of law. Even though you may loose power still you have to frame strict laws.

Till now we have only talked about family planning but what steps have you taken to provide special facilities to the people adopting small family norms you will have consider it. Earlier poor people of villages adopting family planning measures used to get land on lease but today this facility has been withdrawn. Earlier ladies used to get Dhoti in villages but today it is also not given. Today people who have done vasectomy-tubectomy sometimes children are also born to them. In the real sense it is done on papers only. Some people show these details only to save their job. Government should make arrangements that vasectomy is done properly at every level. I appreciate the Government for progress made in health sector resulting in lower child mortality rate and as such population of senior citizens have been increased. It is a good indication for democracy. But is it not unfortunate for the country that number of elderly persons is increasing. I do not say that you should develop such medicine which could kill more and more people and you can not to do this.

In developed countries like America, people are given five to six years military training in their earlier age.

Now what happen? In that five years period, I am not talking about war if you listen, to me you will realise what I am talking about? They are taught their

responsibility towards country. They are trained to become a disciplined citizens. A Country can not progress, until people are explained these things under that training. Today if all this could not be done then at least arrangement of training should be made. People should be morally prepared to understand their responsibility? I beg your pardon for saying such things. Moral education as a subject has been done away with. As a result of it population is increasing.

I strongly support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena. Government should take stringent steps in this regard. Only harsh measures can do good for the country. If you will be able to take harsh measures only then you can save the future of our country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before Shri Kantilal Bhuria starts his speech, I want to draw the attention of the House that we had extended the time 45 minutes for the Resolution, as Shri Kantilal Bhuria has to speak, hon'ble Minister has to reply and the mover of the Resolution has also to conclude, we therefore, extend the time by 15 minutes or till the discussion ends the Resolution, only then we can take up other Resolution.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am standing to speak on the resolution of Jas Kaur Meena. Increasing population of the country is a matter of concern. Keeping in view of the increase in the population a law must be framed by the Government. A number of Hon'ble members gave many valuable suggestions in this regard, in this against House but the Government's will power is very much necessary. Laws are framed but they remain unimplemented the Government should have will power to implement them. The Government is interested in passing them and not in their implementation. The leader of the country Late Smt. Indira Gandhi and Shri Sanjay Gandhi today are no more among us. They were far sighted. They knew that there would be a alarming explosion of population in the country time to come and this will lead the country towards poverty. During emergency period the programmes of family planning were started but the opposition created such an atmosphere in the country that it appeared like a forced vasectomy operation. A number of allegations came against the Government in this regard. The politics for votes forced to come back from the important programmes. If we do politics for votes and see sweet dream like Mungerial, how can we go ahead with such a serious matter and can control population increase; it is very important to

see this point. Laws must be framed but there must be will power to implement. The Government should have courage to ensure their compliance. The present Government is very much interested on passing Bills like POTO but hesitate in their implementation. The situation of Gujarat is the result of their policies. There are many laws which should be implemented but this Government is not able to muster courage to implement punitive action.

17.00 hrs.

There is a hurry to pass the Bill but nobody shows courage to implement them. The real situation existing today must come to light.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the Central Government should encourage people the laws should be implemented in the urban areas as they are being implemented in the rural areas. This will prevent the growth of population in urban areas also. It has been found that laws are manipulated for Dalits, minorities, scheduled castes and other backward classes to achieve the target but those poor people having nothing to eat and do labour lag behind in getting being vasectomised. The law should be applied strongly to all in similar way. The Government should call on Chief Ministers of all States to discuss this matter and should give responsibilities to those to implement them to all States in uniformly. Only then the picture will be clear.

Today in the field of education the Government should encourage the youths and specially they should tell them about the benefits and losses this programme. Taking the people in confidence Government should make schemes to implement these programmes and take responsibility only then there would be improvement in the situation.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, this law should be applied to the Government officials sternly that those having more than two children should not get promotions or there should be law to revert them. A law should be made to give preference in service to those having less than two children. In Madhya Pradesh the Chief Minister has taken a very laudable step and I give him thanks for that. Panchayati Raj laws have been implemented first in Madhya Pradesh. With this step they have got hundred percent success in realising Mahatma Gandhi's dream. This law is in effect from 26 January, 2001 that the candidates for Panch and Sarpanch having more than two children at the time of nomination should be leaned and many have been banned also. This law has been implemented sternly that those having more than two

[Shri Kantilal Bhuria]

children cannot contest in elections. In the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh, Panch and Sarpanch are fearing that in case they have more than two children they will loose their chair and they will not get a chance to fight in coming elections. So they are aware of their responsibility. Same laws should be appealed to legislative assemblies and Lok Sabha election. We here enact laws to save ourselves but impose those laws on subordinates. Let us first deserve, be obedient to laws so that those who are on the lower rung get this message that if we can understand this, why not they.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, an hon'ble member has said that he has 12 children. He must have his own compulsion. They can feel difficulties faced by him in their upbringing, their education, health and marriages. We, also leave to understand these things that this should be started first from Parliament and if the Government have a will power they should introduce a Bill and that bill should be passed unanimously and there should be no dissension on this matter. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi implemented family planning. Late Sanjay Gandhi also took responsibility to implement this under Five Point programme. Family planning must be implemented but our opposition due to politics of vote.*.

Lastly, Smt. Indira Gandhi had to loose election and since then this situation exists. Therefore, had they not played for vote-bank politics and if we had accepted this truth and adopted Five Point Programme launched by late Shri Sanjay Gandhi, then our country's population should have not reached one billion...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (Bulandshahar): You were forcing people for vasectomy operations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please expunge unparliamentary words.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Today we may have been below this mark. But some politicians thought how could they get chair and how could they provoke people. Even today people are uneducated they came in their deception and thought them right. But they could not anticipate the future problems. But today they can understand all these things. Actually, they have done all these by provoking them. Today they have understanding of all these.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I have two sons. If, we all politician follow all these things are can be able to do a

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

lot good for the country. We, the politicians, should encourage youths. Department of Health should be made responsible in the matter of death. Department of Health should be made responsible for controlling birth rate and mortality rate. How a poor man can get justice and be properly treated. This arrangement should be done by the Department of Health. There should also be such a provision that in case a man who have two children and if he losses his children in accident after operation he may be devasectomized so that he may get chance to become father again. There should be such a law in the country also. If some-body undergoes vasectomy operation first but in case he may fall a victim of an accident what can he do then. For this there should be a proper law in this regard. The Government should take note of this thing also.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, as one hon'ble Member has stated that in Madras Miss Jaylalitha has controlled it totally because she herself is unmarried. The Prime Minister of our country is also bachelor. But why he is silent on this issue. He should implement laws in this regard in the whole country and efforts should be made by the Government to prevent the pressure of population growth in the country. The Government is passive and pushing the country in troubles...(Interruptions) Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, people are tired of family planning but there is no restrictions on marriages of youths. Minimum age for girl's 18 years and for boys 25 years should be fixed and there should be a legislation in this regard. The Government should take notice of these things also.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the proposal introduced by our Sister is a very good proposal. Today population growth is a major problem. The whole House should think over this issue unanimously for a firm stand of the country in future and for this decrease in population growth rate is much essential.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Mr. Chairman, I appreciate hon. Member Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena for her great concern over the population growth in the country, which she expressed by bringing this Resolution for consideration by this august House. Many other hon. Members have also expressed their views and given valuable suggestions on this important issue.

I fully agree that the population growth is making adverse impact on the quality of life of the people. But I have some reservations on the measures suggested in the Resolution. The Government has placed population

stabilisation at the top of its agenda and has already adopted the National Population Policy, 2000.

A long process of consultation and national debate preceded the formulation of this Policy.

The Policy affirms the commitment of the Government towards voluntary and informed choice and consent of citizens while availing reproductive health care services and continuation of the target free approach in administering family planning services. This Policy enumerates certain socio-demographic goals to be achieved by 2010 which will lead to achieve population stabilization by 2045.

Population stabilisation is basically a social development programme. The status of woman and her education, distribution of income and opportunities, urbanisation, migration and potentialities of development have a significant impact on population growth. Poverty, lack of access to food, means of livelihood and resources and unemployment are determinants which influence the decisions which people take about their family size. Lack of infrastructure and health services, long distances, bad roads, poor state of public hygiene, poverty and deprivation are also determinants influencing decisions of the people. Any policy for sustainable development should, therefore, go into the root causes of poverty and deprivation and aim at reducing fertility and mortality, improving reproductive health and achieving family well being. It is in this integrated and holistic perspective that the National Population Policy, 2000 has been formulated.

Hon. Members must be aware that there has been a paradigm shift in the implementation of the family welfare programme. The shift is towards community participation. The emphasis is now more on education, counselling, IEC and providing adequate health and family welfare services of good quality. This is the just and equitable way to stabilise population.

Sir, the growth of population is no doubt a serious problem concerning the socio-economic condition of this country. It is against economic growth, it is against public health, it is against sanitation and it is against even literacy rate of the country. But we are not in a position to call it a social crime. For a social crime, we can have an exclusive legislation and the culprits can be booked under law. Since this cannot be termed as a social crime and not committed by antisocial elements, we cannot have an exclusive legislation as suggested by hon. Members.

However, the hon. Member has advocated passing of the 79th Constitution Amendment Bill, 1992 which provides for disqualification for elections to the Parliament or Legislature for violation of small family norm. This Bill has remained pending in Rajya Sabha since 1992. I would like to inform this august House that the delay in passage of this Bill has been due to absence of a consensus among major political parties, as stipulated by the Parliamentary Standing Committee and the Cabinet. Leaders of political parties have expressed divergent views in the meetings concerned exclusively for this purpose. As per the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and the Cabinet, we are continuing our efforts to arrive at a consensus on the issue. The hon. Member will appreciate that it is important to come up to the House for passage of the Bill only after a consensus among political parties has been arrived. I would however like to add that many women activists have voiced their concern about placing women at a disadvantageous position through this Bill since women do not always have the decision making power about the number of children in the family. They consider such a law as detrimental to the rights of women for being elected to the Parliament or Legislatures. Similarly, they feel that any legislation for debarring persons having more than three children from holding positions and appointments in Government services will work against women who are not in a position to determine the size of their family.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I seek the permission of the House to extend the time of this Resolution by 10 to 15 minutes to dispose it of.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI A. RAJA: Apart from these, we are having other hurdles also. Internationally, the Programme of Action (PoA) of the International Conference on Population (ICP) held in 1994 has come out unequivocally against coercion in family planning programme to which India is also a party.

We are confined to make it clear in the Population Policy which was adopted by Parliament in 1999 that compulsion in the area of Family Welfare Programme is ruled out for all times to come. In spite of the hurdles in passing legislation, let me inform this House that the growth in population has slowed down as revealed in Census 2001. The average exponential growth, which was 2.22 per cent in decade ending in 1981, declined to 2.14 per cent by 1991 and came down more sharply to 1.93 per cent by 2001. National Family Health Survey

[Shri A. Raja]

conducted in 1998-99 showed that the average number of children per couple has come down from six in 1951 to 2.9 in 1999. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Nagaland, Mizoram, Delhi, Pondicherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands have already achieved replacement level of fertility, that is, a Total Fertility Rate of 2.1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Punjab, Manipur, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep are making steady progress in terms of outreach and coverage of basic and essential reproductive health care. Many of these States have begun to register good management practices.

However, there are five States, that is, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, which currently constitute nearly 44 per cent of the total population need significant improvement with regard to their socio-demographic indices. Demographic outcomes in these States would determine the timing and the size of the population, at which the country population would be stabilised. In order to give focussed attention to the problems of these States, an Empowered Action Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare at the direction of hon. Prime Minister in the first meeting of the National Commission on Population Chaired by him. It may be noted that the States like Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, which have performed well, have not enacted any legislation which prescribes any prohibitive or coercive measures.

It is now well established that population stabilises only when child survival issues, material health issues and contraception issues are addressed simultaneously and effectively. Therefore, the Family Welfare Programme seeks to address these three issues simultaneously.

The Government has taken many initiatives in the last two years in this direction. Some of the important initiatives are: promoting 24 hour delivery service at the PHCs and CHCs; contractual appointment of health staff; RCH Camps; Training of Traditional Birth Attendants (*Dais*); Immunisation strengthening activities; RCH Outreach services for remote and weaker districts and slums; developing cadre of community based midwives; strengthening primary health care services; revising norms for maintenance of health infrastructure; ensuring availability of quality contraceptives; enhanced compensation for sterilisation; convergence and provision of services through health *melas* and intensified publicity and advocacy through a revised strategy.

It may be noted that children and women in the reproductive age group constitute a very large segment of our population. Providing for their health and well being is not only human rights issue but is also an important factor which impacts upon issues related to population stabilisation. It is well known fact that high infant mortality is directly related to high fertility rate. Issues related to the reproductive health of couples in general and of women in particular have a direct impact on the fertility rate. Factors like age of marriage, spacing of birth and meeting the unmet needs for reproductive health services, especially contraceptive services are of vital importance for achieving population stabilisation at an early date.

In view of the initiatives taken by the Government for achieving population stabilisation with the implementation of the Population Policy and also by adopting an approach which has proved to be successful in some of our own States, I request the hon. Member to withdraw the Resolution and endorse the Government's implementation strategy so that we can achieve the goal of family well being and population stabilisation at the earliest.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar): Sir, I would like to submit that irrespective of the party affiliations, all the hon. Members are very much interested in controlling the population problem in this country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will bring forward a comprehensive legislation proposing one-family one-child policy...(*Interruptions*) In the interest of the country will the Government bring forward a formal and comprehensive legislation to solve this problem in order to bring the nation to the international level in this regard? Mr. Minister, will you bring forward a legislation to see that this country is brought to the level of some veto-power countries like Germany, Japan, France and America? This is the only problem why our plans are going down and everything goes down. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is actually interested in bringing forward a legislation in this regard...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I have a question to put.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. You have already made your speech.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I have only one question to put. What is the fertility rate of Orissa? Is it more than Uttar Pradesh only?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, are you responding to his question?

SHRI A. RAJA: No Coming to Shri Muniappa's question, I would like to state that as I put it earlier, the family welfare programme in our country is implemented through the voluntary and informed choice and consent of the citizens. As per the National Population Policy, 2000, we are taking many measures to control the population growth. As I put it, it cannot be termed as a social crime. So, we cannot bring forward a prohibitive legislation. That is the only problem. Apart from that, to my knowledge, nowhere in the world is there a prohibitive legislation to punish such people. So, we are acting in an affirmative sense. We cannot act in the negative sense by bringing forward such a legislation...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: There is such a legislation in China. That is why they are in the first place in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has replied to your question.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Swai Madhopur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many of the experienced and able colleagues have expressed their views on this every important resolution moved by me. I am grateful to them for this. Associating myself with them. I would like to submit that the need of the hour is to think not in the interest of an individual or a community but for the welfare of the entire country. The country is greater than our religious affinities. Hence we consider to devise the ways to come out of the problem of increasing population and the decreasing resources which are having adverse impact on our development. I would like to seek an assurance from you that you will enact a law in this regard. Simultaneously, I would also like to stress that firstly we should discipline ourselves then only we should expect discipline from others. We will have to inculcate discipline first when we have been dealing with such an important issue. I would also like to say that many of the experienced M.Ps have tried to justify as to why 12 children were fathered by them. They might have tried to justify it on the grounds of social security and strength through it. But there are many MP's in the august House who have only one child. They belong to a community against which many fingers have been raised.

Secondly, I would also like to submit that the politics is playing a great part in its. Under the 73rd Constitution

Amendment related to the Panchayat Raj institutions, the number of Children for the Candidates Contesting the election of Panchayat Raj Institutions was prescribed. I would like to submit that if the same provision is also made applicable for the candidates contesting the elections of legislative assemblies and Parliament, it will go a long way because all of them would comply with this law considering the country above all.

I would like to say one more thing. It has been said in context of suggestions that during the last fifty years we did not bother for the welfare of the villages and the poors. Instead we have increased one population. The workers are forced to migrate to cities from villages in search of employment and do intense physical labour to earn livelihood. They don't get space even to sit in the second class compartment of railways. Besides, if we don't enact a law to check the increasing birth rate, our population which has already crossed the figure of 100 crore during the fifty years and when 40 crore people are in the bracket of potential reproducers then it is not difficult to imagine as to how much our population will increase in the next ten years. As such, the funds which should be spent on the development of the country will have to be Siphonned for feeding the hungry persons and I think all of you will agree with me on this point.

Secondly I would like to conclude after saying a few more things in response to what the other Members have said...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Meenaji, don't start a new speech. The hon. Minister has submitted as well as given some assurance to you, in this view are you withdrawing your resolution or not?

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: I would like to add this much only that if you don't want to enact a stern law in this regard, you should ensure to make a provision in regard to the unmarried ladies and those who are infertile who are forced to lead a undignified social life so that they may be able to live a life full of dignity and respect.

The parents having one or two children should be given some incentive through law so that they may further contribute for the development of the country. I will withdraw my Resolution only if you give an assurance that some welfare measures will be adopted by the Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has stated many points. Mr. Minister, do you want to respond?

SHRI A. RAJA: We are pursuing the matter among the political parties to arrive at a total consensus. We would consider it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Thank you, Sir, I withdraw my Resolution on the basis of your assurance. I belong to Scheduled Tribe. I had undergone operation after the birth of my two daughters thirty years ago. I was not at all happy, undoubtedly I have made progress. Hence the people should follow me because after the birth of male child only people opt for family planning and not before. I withdraw my Resolution with the hope that a law will be enacted in near future.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena be withdrawn?

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn

17.29 hrs.

[English]

RESOLUTION RE: CONVERSION OF STATE HIGHWAYS TO NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House would now take up item No. 36.

Before we take up the Resolution for discussion, we have to fix the time for this Resolution. Shall we fix two hours?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two hours has been allotted.

[Translation]

DR. M. P. JAISWAL (Betia): I move the Resolution:

"That this House urges upon the Government to extend National Highway-28 A from Chhapwa to

Kushinagar via Betia, Leusia, Bajaha, Chhittoni, Rail cum Road Bridge in the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and also to convert important State Highways to National Highways in all the States on priority basis.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to this House. Today the issue raised by me is very important from the national point of view. The length of the National Highways in the country has increased from 2500 kilometers to 57,000 kilometres since independence. Sir, in this context I would like to express my gratitude to the hon. Minister especially hon. Prime Minister because since the reign of Sher Shah Suri, except the hon. Prime Minister nobody has paid so much attention to the development of the National Highways.

This resolution is especially related to my Constituency fringed with Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. I have put forth the demand for developing roads in many important places in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. My constituency is on Nepal border and it has been neglected lot for years. There was no means of transport and we could not come to Delhi because there was no bridge on the river Gandak. We neither had the rail connectivity nor the roads. The Bagha-Chhitoni bridge constructed in the British period in 1928 was also collapsed in the floods and we were not left with even the facility of road transport.

Today I want to express my gratitude to Our Hon. Minister of Defence because when he was the Minister of Railways in 1989 he announced that the Bagha-Chhittauni bridge which had collapsed way back in 1928 will be reconstructed and there a road bridge will also be constructed along with rail bridge. The announcement was followed up and construction work started. The broad gauge railway line has been made operational on it since long and Bagaha-Chhitauni road bridge will also be ready by 31 March this year. The State highway number 64 of Bihar ends at Balmikinagar via Chhapra. One part of N.H. 28-A goes to Chhapra while another goes to Raxaul which is a route to Kathmandu in Nepal. A road from Chhapra reaches Bettiah a district headquarter. Second place is Lauria, a place of historical importance associated with Nanda dynasty. Our national emblem Ashoka pillar is still there. Nandangarh fort is also in Lauria. That road further goes to Bagaha which is the headquarters of Bagaha Police district. Thereafter is Bagaha-Chhittauni bridge, where bridge has already been constructed. Road from there goes to Kushinagar. Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh is an important place associated with Lord Buddha. My concern is not limited just to Bihar. I am concerned about Uttar Pradesh also because the "Purvachal" area of Uttar Pradesh is extremely backward and transport is a big problem there. It will provide facility

to the people not only of my area but the people coming from Delhi will also be benefited. If they use this national highway to go Kathmandu in Nepal, they will be able to save 150 kms. And people of Bagaha, who have to go via Bettiah, Motihari to reach N.H. 28, will be able to save 250 kms. If the facility of national highway is provided to the people living on that side, it will be very convenient to them, that is why I have demanded this road. I am not demanding for any new N.H. There is already N.H. 28-A, from Pipara Kothi to Raxaul on the border of Nepal. There is another point. Chhapra from N.H. 28-A, the total length of which does not exceed 140 kms. I am demanding for this N.H. 28-B. This is so very important for the local inhabitants.

I was talking about the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister. Shershah Suri constructed a road between Peshawar and Calcutta, but nobody in the country thinks about the development of National highways. Our first Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru was of the opinion that the country would develop with the construction of large dams, large steel plants, heavy industries, establishing I.I.Ts and technology colleges.

It was his opinion and he acted on it. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister. During her reign we became self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains. Earlier we used to import grains from the USA under P.L.44, but during her reign we became self reliant and are now exporting grains. Then Shri Rajiv Gandhi became the Prime Minister. He started in the country, the age of new cars, now technology, computers and information technology. New cars started running on the roads.

A relative of mine lives in the USA, she is a 10 year old girl. When she came here, I asked her, what she found was the most striking thing about the USA. She said that the most striking thing is that she lives with her parents. On my saying that what is surprising about it as all the children are supposed to live with their parents, she said, no. Children there live either with their mother or father or with their grand parents or adopted mother. They don't live with their parents. I again asked her, what she found most striking about India. She replied that on roads, pedestrians, vehicles, rickshaw, bullock carts, tanga cycle etc. ply together, yet there is no accident. It is surprising that slow moving vehicles move with fast vehicles on roads. It is not that accidents do not occur in this country. About 8000 persons die annually due to accidents. If an estimate is made of the losses to life and property on roads, it comes to about Rs. 12000 crore annually.

I want to congratulate hon. Prime Minister and hon. Minister because of their idea to connect Kolkata to Delhi, Delhi to Mumbai, Mumbai to Chennai and Chennai to Kolkata through 'Golden Quadrilateral'. It is a major road

development exercise that Government has taken up it. I believe that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee would be remembered only after Shershah Suri in respect of road construction. I congratulate him for this initiative. Not only this, he has also announced the widening of roads from Srinagar to Kanya-Kumari and from Gujarat to Assam. This is a matter of great pleasure. But inspite of all this, there are many areas where such roads have also been taken up which were neither State highways nor National Highways but they were rural roads, though I do not want to blame any Minister.

Besides, this some important roads were excluded. S.H. 64 is one such example. Balmiki Nagar is located on this road where Lav and Kush lived. I had requested the then Minister to connect this road, connect Ayodhya with Sitamarhi. Thus the birth place of Lord Ram will be connected to the place of his in-laws. He had assured me he will do so as it was in this prospective plan. I told that the way to Sitamarhi has become National Highway. However my area and the area of Purvanchal have been excluded. Presently the length of the National Highway in the country is 57,000 km however the length of the National Highway in Bihar is only three thousand k.m. The present length of National highway in the State is not sufficient as the total area and the population of the State is ten percent of the entire nation. If the population of the country is hundred crore we are ten crore. Hence ten percent share should have been given to us. According to that a total length of 5700 k.m. of national highways should have been passing through Bihar but it is not so. Presently it will be probably 3000 k.m. 3300 km. or 3030 k.m. The hon'ble Minister is present here. I know that he must be having demand for the construction of roads from different parts of the country and provision for many of the areas has been made. Approximately Rs. 8000 crore have been made available in Ninth Plan. The World Bank had also provided fund. Nearly 11000 k.m. long national highway was made only in Andhra Pradesh. World Bank also provided assistance there.

While I was MLA in Bihar I had submitted that the main road from Patna to Muzaffarpur should be widened. Now it has become NH-77. I extend my thanks for this. The road connecting Patna the Capital city of Bihar and Muzaffarpur the next important city of Bihar was proposed to be made four lane like the road linking Kanpur and Lucknow. However not a single paisa was given by the World Bank for the said project. Presently the grants are being provided by the Central Government. No construction work has been started there under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana. Roads are not being constructed in our State. Not even one k.m. of road has been constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana. I do not know what has happened to the funds that have been given to the State. Regarding the funds allocated under MRP I had requested to you about the Ganga

[Dr. M.P. Jaiswal]

bridge. The Ganga bridge was constructed by the Bihar Government. It connects NH-77, NH-19 and NH-42. I am pleased to know that Rs. 3 crore for one lane and Rs. 4 crore for the other lane are proposed to be allocated. I am thankful to you for this however today I would not like to talk about Bihar alone.

Hon'ble Minister, Tenth Five Year Plan is being prepared. I would like to request you that keeping in view the economic condition of Bihar where the Government have no sufficient financial resources to give salaries to its government officials, proper attention should be paid to the national highways of the States along with the entire nation. The financial situation in Bihar is such that the salaries to many of the teachers belonging to minority community have not been paid for 9 months. The condition of the roads in Bihar is very poor and the roads have not been repaired for many years. Since the roads of the State are damaged so I would like to request you to make certain provision for these roads in the Tenth Five Year Plan as per the policy of the Government. I had requested earlier Ministers also and the then Minister of State Shri Sukhdeo Babu had assured me to take care of the concerned plans for highways. I am requesting you to include all the State highways for conversion into the national highways and particularly NR 28 B should be built connecting NH 28 A to Kushi Nagar of Uttar Pradesh. It will be beneficial in the sense that since it is along the Indo-Nepal border and any bridge on NH28 collapses and anything unexpected happens in Nepal in that case we will be able to send our army there. So this road has become very important. There is only one cantonment in the entire region that is in Gorakhpur and if army is to be moved from the base, there are no other way. So I hope that keeping in view the strategic importance of this road you would like to include it in Tenth Five Year Plan. I would like to extend my thanks to you for the construction of golden quadrilateral Highways connecting South to North and East to West. I am grateful to you for this. I am unhappy about the state of affairs in Bihar. Mafias are active in highways construction activities in Bihar. The main contractor has taken contract in Rs. 2 hundred crore while petty contractors are being threatened, that if they take petty contract they will be kidnapped.

I would like that the hon'ble Minister will pay attention to my submission and will give his consent to meet the target of National Highways in Bihar. With these words I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution moved:

"This House urges upon the Government to extend National Highway 28A from Chhapwa to Kushinagar

via Betia, Lauria, Bagaha, Chhitoni Rail cum Road Bridge in the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and also to convert important State Highways to National Highways in all the States on priority basis."

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry): Sir, let me be brief because other Members have to speak on the subject. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister about the situation of the East Coast road. As far as I know, the East Coast road from Chennai to Pondicherry is absolutely very good. I must congratulate for the action taken at that level. But beyond Pondicherry to Nagapattinam, the position is very bad. It has been considered to be as the National Highway. I must tell you that after Sirgazhi to Porayar, it has become horrible. It means we cannot even go. That is the state of affairs of the National Highway which is there. Therefore, I would like to bring to your notice two things. First, this Sirgazhi to Porayar road has to be repaired on a war footing. Otherwise, no vehicle will be able to go over there. Just two days back, I had been to that place. Therefore, I was able to see that. This is has to be taken up.

Then your national policy on East Coast road should be given priority. Beyond Pondicherry to Nagapattinam, nothing has been taken up in that direction. So, I would like to urge our hon. Minister to give priority on that line. You send people to that section to see what I said is correct. You will be satisfied that what I just now said is correct. This is my first point.

Secondly, the road from Pondicherry to Bangalore should have to be taken up. I think my friend wants to take the credit. So, I will give the credit to him. He will speak on the subject. I think it has also to be taken up in the national interest. This is all I just wanted to say.

SHRI ADHI SANKAR (Cuddalore): Sir, I support the Resolution which is moved by Dr. Madan Prasad Jaiswal for the conversion of State Highways into National Highways.

In my State, Tamil Nadu, most of the roads are under the control of the State Highways Road Authority, particularly, Pondicherry to Chittoor road in my Cuddalore constituency. Also, otherwise, it is named as Cuddalore-Chittoor road or CC road. It is a very, very important road in Tamil Nadu. This road starts from Pondicherry and ends in Bangalore. It is connected by two States and a Union Territory. They are Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Pondicherry. Nearly 10,000 vehicles are plying on this road daily. Now the road is in a pitiable condition. It is damaged also.

The breadth of the road is also very small. The length of the road is only about 200 kilometers. Due to the smaller breadth and the pitiable conditions, the road is in

a damaged condition, as result of which a number of accidents have occurred.

This road connects many towns. Cuddalore is one of the major towns; it is a district headquarters. Tiruvannamalai is also one of the major towns; it is also a district headquarters. Nellikkuppam is another major town, serving the very famous Parry's sugar mills. Another major town is Panruti, which is a cashew nut producing area. A lot of cashew nut is cultivated here. A lot of agricultural products are exported from Panruti. My town, Tirukkivilur is one of the famous temple towns; Tiruvannamalai is also a very famous temple town. These towns are linked in this route. So, I would request the hon. Minister and urge upon the Government to include this road for conversion from State highways to national highways.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Resolution regarding the conversion of State Highway into National Highways moved by Dr. M.P. Jaiswal. Due to the limited financial resources with the State Governments they are not in a position to construct new roads, conduct widening and repair work of existing roads and their proper maintenance. Therefore, they have to remain dependent on the Centre and unless State Highways are not declared as National Highways, Union Government is not in a position to pay attention towards those. Though the Centre provides the financial assistance to the State Government out of the amount collected through the imposition of cess on diesel and petrol and front of the CRF (Central Road Fund). However, the State Highways are in a very deplorable condition in the States. Unless these are declared National Highways, these cannot be developed.

You have cited a few examples from Bihar but you have added in this Resolution that the important State highways in all the States should be converted into National Highways on priority basis. I would like to know from the Government as to whether it has conducted a survey to identify those State Highways in various States which can be converted into the National Highways in the future and also whether it has formulated any scheme in this regard? I would further like to know from the hon. Minister in detail as to how much funds are required for it and from where these funds will be mobilised.

Area-wise, Rajasthan is the largest State in the country. It is a border State and it has become the largest State area-wise in the country after the bifurcation of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh becoming a new State

out of that. However from the point of view of the existing length of National Highways through the length and breadth of the country, Rajasthan is the most backward State in percentage terms though many of the National Highways pass through Rajasthan. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the fact that so far no decision has been taken in regard to the stretch from Jaipur to Kishangraha near Ajmer of the proposed Quadrangle Golden Express Highway. You took the decision about the Naseerabad stretch and work is already in process there at a very fast pace. The work is also in progress towards Bhilwara next to Naseerabad but no decision has yet been taken in regard to the stretch between the Capital Jaipur to Kishangraha under my constituency Ajmer where from the Quadrangle Golden Highway will pass further to Srinagar Bananwara. Only one party has given its bid for the tender. No contract has been awarded for it so far and no decision has been taken. This stretch between Ajmer and Jaipur is the most accident prone Zone on this highway which can be corroborated from the newspapers.

In area nearby Doodhoo on this stretch between Ajmer and Jaipur, a lot of accidents take place frequently and the untimely deaths occur in these accidents. Similarly what about the development of the National Highway No. 8 from Kishangraha bypass to Udaipur which has been proposed to be covered under the Golden Quadrangle National Highway. This Road passing through Ajmer via Baawar to the Quadrangle Golden Highway should also be developed. You are aware that lakhs of pilgrims visit the holy shrine of Khawja Saheb in Ajmer and to seek blessings of Mohammad Saheb. There is the major industrial town like Baawar and the Bhima area from where I hail. Further on this track is the National Highway No. 8 passing through Gomati, Nathdwara, Kakroli, Kailashpur and Udaipur. It is said that being in the hilly area this Highway cannot be made four laned. I submit that you should also take care of the roads passing through Kishangraha to Naseerabad in my constituency and further via Bananwara Vijaynagar-Bheelwara. I would like to submit that you should not neglect the already existing national highway and also pave the way for constructing a new one.

Sir, the people have developed hundreds of shops on Kishangraha bypass. I have heard that an over bridge is proposed to be constructed there due to which all these shops are likely to be thrown apart. The affected people put up their case before me and express their resentment over this decision. I have tried hard to make them understand that we will have to sacrifice our personal interests against the national interests. However they don't listen and gherao me. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want your protection. A big overbridge has already been constructed BOT basis and with the construction of

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

the proposed over bridge there will be two over bridges. Hence, a provision should be made to widen and develop the path and the parks etc. no accidents have so far taken place on this crossing. Therefore, if a road is developed without an over bridge then the hundreds of shops which are the source of earning for the many people will remain intact.

The road from Ajmer to Punjab via Kishangarh and Rupengarh is the shortest and one and it also passes through Hanumangarh and Bhilwara. This will reduce rush in Delhi. This is State Highway at present and survey for its declaration as National Highway has already been conducted, therefore attention should be paid towards this also.

From viewpoint of area Rajasthan is the biggest State but its roads are in dilapidated condition. Therefore efforts should be made to improve the condition of these roads by providing special assistance for this purpose.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I congratulate the hon'ble Minister Shri Bhuvan Chandra Khanduri for his efforts to extend the National Highway number-57 from Muzaffarpur to Gulabagh via Darbhanga, Fardisian and Oriya. Funds have also been allocated for this purpose. The work of National Highway number-57 should be completed at the earliest.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to say that the house of Shri Shahnawaj Hussain, the only Minister from North-East situated at Saupor.

18.00 hrs.

With Shri Sharad he has gone to Behpur Police Station via National Highway no. 106. There was an old project for linking the National Highway number-31 to Pipra via Triveniganj, Raniganj, Araria, Bahadurganj, Thakurganj and Galgaliyaganj. Bihar government has also written a letter for N.H. 31...*(Interruptions)* This area is mainly inhabited by people belonging to minority community. It is a backward area, our Cabinet Minister comes from this area. We have met hon'ble Prime Minister for this project and letter from Bihar Government has also been received in this regard. This project be cleared and work should be started on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Paswanji, you can continue your speech tomorrow.

[English]

The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday 11th March, 2002 at 11.00 a.m.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Monday, March 11, 2002/Phalgun 20, 1923 (Saka)

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