Thirteenth Series, Vol. XXIII, No. 11

Friday, March 15, 2002
Phalguna 24, 1923 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Gazettes & Debates Unit
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(Vol. XXIII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 50.00

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LOK SABHA

Friday, March 15, 2002/Phalguna 24, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, let us take up Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want the Adjournment Motion. Discussion should be immediately held on the statement given by the hon. Prime Minister yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will get the chance to raise your point during 'Zero Hour'. Please take your seat now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You raise it in 'Zero Hour'. You will get the chance after the Question Hour. Don't interrupt during the Question Hour. I will listen to you after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have said that I will listen to you after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, right now I should be listened. We have moved the Adjournment Motion. Yesterday, a clarification was to be sought on the statement given by the Prime Minister. You are aware of the circumstances. Hence discussion should be held on it without delay. It is a serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice under the rule 193 has been received to hold discussion in the statement given by the Prime Minister. The meeting of the Business Advisory Committee is scheduled to take place at 4 O'clock. It will be decided in the meeting as to which day and what time will be suitable for it? You don't raise this issue right now.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh, when I am talking, you are intercepting everything, and telling that I am interrupting you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have to follow the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want that you should always smile...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How can I be cool in such a situation.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: If you become angry, everybody becomes angry, for it affects everyone...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You people waste 15 minutes of Question Hour in this manner daily. You speak on it after the Question Hour is over.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: I know the rules but we are compelled to behave like this. The prevailing circumstances in the country require that a discussion should be held on the statement given by the Prime Minister. We have moved an Adjournment Motion. We want that the discussion should be held on the statement given by the Prime Minister by adjourning all the business of the House. There should be no compromise in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have moved an Adjournment Motion. The circumstances prevailing in the country demand that discussion should be held on the statement given by the Prime Minister in the House yesterday. There is no issue more serious than it...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramjilal Suman, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether we are residing in India or somewhere else...*(Interruptions)* We are being prevented from worshipping at the place where Lord Rama was born....*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 23 young men have been killed in Lucknow...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have moved the Adjournment Motion. I have just taken decision about it in the meeting of the leaders. Notice Under Rule 193 has been received to hold discussion on the statement given by the Prime Minister. It will be decided today in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee at 4 O'clock as to when the discussion will be held on it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, discussion should be held on it right now...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us start the Question Hour now.

Q. No. 181, Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Indora, do you want to put your question or not? Please put your question now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Indora please put your Supplementary Question now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora says. Please do not interrupt now. I would request the hon. Members not to disturb the Question Hour.

[Translation]

Everyday you are wasting fifteen minutes of Question Hour.

...(Interruptions) *

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not good. This is not the way to do it. I am requesting the hon. Members not to disturb the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the question of Dr. Indora.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please do not disturb the House now. Let the Question Hour be conducted properly.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am on my legs. Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please resume your seat; I am on my legs. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Every day he is wasting 15 minutes of the House; and there is a limit for this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Indora, please put your Supplementary Question. Nothing will go on record except Dr. Indora's question.

...(Interruptions) *

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir,...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mulayam Singhji, I told you about the statement that a Notice has been received on it and you decide on it. It is not my House alone. You were also a Member in the leader's meeting. I had said that Notice about the Motion has already been received and it has been decided that we will decide at 4 O'clock as to what date and time should be fixed for it. Who am I to decide about it?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you should accept the proposal some times.

---

* Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Which one?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you accept this proposal and make a history. You please accept this Adjournment Motion. Nobody else except you can do it. I expect you to accept the Adjournment Motion. You hold the discussion by adjourning all the proceedings. It is such a serious matter. If the Prime Minister makes wrong statements then what message it will convey to the country? I cannot ask the question but on 12th on the month of Prime Minister and the Home Minister...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Dr. Indora's question. Dr. Indora, you may put your question now.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, I am not in a position to accept it. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions) *

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: 15-20 minutes are wasted similarly each day during the Question Hour...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already stated here that notices for Discussion Under Rule 193 have been received. In the Leaders' Meeting, it was decided that we will meet in the Business Advisory Committee at 4 o'clock and fix the time for discussion. Now, I am not inclined to accept your request for Adjournment Motion. Now, let the Question Hour continue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Except Shri Indora, nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) *

* Not recorded.

11.12 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Adoption of New Technology in Handloom Industries

+

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

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have explored the possibilities of raising the production as well as quality of products of the handloom industries by improving their existing production technology;

(b) if so, the details of new technology developed;

(c) the financial and other incentives announced by the Government in favour of handloom industries for adoption of this new technology;

(d) whether the cost of production of various products in this sector is likely to come down as a result of adoption of this new technology; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The objectives of the various schemes implemented for the development of the handloom sector, include, among others, modernization/modification/ improvisation in the existing looms, with a view to increasing the production as well as the quality of handloom cloth.

(b) The effort has been towards increasing the production and the quality of handloom products by bringing about modernization/modification/improvisation/ replacement of the existing looms and accessories, the weaving techniques and practices, product diversification, design development and skill upgradation.

(c) Out of the various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes currently under implementation for the development of the handloom industry and welfare of handloom weavers, the following schemes have

components aimed a modernization/technology upgradation:

1. Under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana introduced with effect from 01.04.2000, assistance is provided for acquisition of looms and accessories, Design input and infrastructure support;
2. Under the Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme, assistance is provided to National and State level Handloom Development Corporations, Primary and Apex Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies to build up production capabilities of the handloom industry for export;
3. Under the Research and Development Scheme, assistance is provided to National Handloom Development Corporation, institutions engaged in Research & Development work including professional and voluntary organizations for undertaking Research & Development projects for the development of the handloom sector; and
4. The National Centre for Textile Design launched in March, 2001 promotes traditional and contemporary designs so as to enable the Handloom Sector to be responsive to the rapidly changing market demand.

(d) and (e) The cost of production of handloom products depends on the cost of various inputs like yarn, dyes, chemicals, wages, intricacy of the design and the weave.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, textiles is a very old industry. Crores of people are engaged in it and majority of them are working in handloom industry....*(Interruptions)* Hon. Minister has himself recognized the importance of handloom industry and quality of its production. Even foriegn countries have reorganized this fact....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will speak, you, please allow us to move adjournment motion...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your conduct is inappropriate. 15 minutes of Question Hour have already been wasted, Please ask the Members of your party.

...(Interruptions)

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: In the present era of competition, new techniques are being developed, new researches are being conducted. In this scenario, how many Private Sector undertakings are engaged in technical field of textile industry and the places where these undertakings have been set up along with their annual budget...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please accept our request...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh you were also present in the leaders' meeting.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, please control your Members. I have told you that I am not inclined to accept your discussion under Rule 193. It was decided in the Leaders' Meeting. It is not my decision. I am no one to allow the discussion here. Your nominee was also there in the meeting.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Whether the Government have made any arrangement to adopt the technology developed in research institutes? If so, the details thereof...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Indora, please ask your supplementary.

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Whether the Government have assigned the responsibility to the research institutes in textile industry especially in handloom industry to develop technology for increasing the production, improving it's quality, reducing the cost of production and giving priority to generate employment opportunity for the maximum people. If so, the details thereof?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, Central Government have taken some important steps through the Ministry of Textiles to improve the quality and increase the production of the textiles in handloom sector. We are imparting training to the weavers regarding new technology especially through "Deendayal Upadhyay Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana."...*(Interruptions)* Sir, several welfare programmes are also being launched for the weavers. These Programmes have technical provision also for promoting weaving industry. A provision has also been made to provide requisite information and training to the weavers for manufacturing new design cloth. For this purpose, Central Government and State Governments are collectively making efforts in the interest of the weavers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Indora, please ask your second supplementary.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Sir, my first supplementary has not been replied. I had asked about the number of undertakings working in Public and Private Sectors and the places where these are situated. How these undertakings are contributing in textile industry? Hon. Minister has not replied in this regard. I would like to get the answer of this question first. Thereafter, I will ask the second supplementary.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, special programmes are being organized in various States of the country in handloom sector. Weavers working in handloom sector are designing different type of cloth. Government have made special efforts for the proper implementation of these programmes. 24 Weaver Service Centre (Bunkar Seva Kendras) are working all over the country. We are also providing them latest weaving techniques. Several works are also bring done in the processing sector. We are also taking the assistance of some private institutions for making further progress in this regard.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: I did not get the reply of the question I asked. I had asked about the number of private and public sector undertakings and the places where they are situated.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: I would send in writing to the hon. Member in respect of Haryana particularly.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: I had asked about the number of private and public sector undertakings...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do the Minister has any information in this regard?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Just now I am not having the information in this regard. But later on I will send the requisite information to the hon. Member...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Sir, textile industry can generate employment opportunities for the common man and can help in development of the country? I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the schemes of the Government in the interest of the poor weavers working in textile and handloom industries for the next 10th Five Year Plan along with the budgetary provision made in this regard.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, as I have just stated that under 'Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana', we are providing looms, yarn and technique for new designs to the weavers. We have also formulated a separate scheme called DEP to promote the exports of the textiles. Under this scheme we are developing new fashion textile for export purposes. Various other efforts are also being made in this regard. Assistance is also being provided for the export of this textile An integrated handloom village is also being developed for the weavers to promote the handloom sector.

Sir, the Government propose to provide an assistance of Rs. 650 crores during 10th Five Year Plan. A new scheme 'Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana' has been started from 01.04.2000.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in our country after agriculture, handloom sector generate most of the employment opportunities for our people. It is estimated that 3 crore people are engaged in this industry. Last year export worth Rs. 2150 crore was made. Two years have been passed since technology upgradation fund was set up to upgrade the handloom technology. Hon'ble Minister has also stated this in a meeting held in Mumbai during the month of December, however, the fund failed to achieve its mission. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the funds spent in setting up of this fund and the reasons for its failure. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to know the amount spent so far on the ongoing 'Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana' started since 1.4.2000 and the results achieved there from. How many weavers got benefit through this scheme? Whether or not it has been kept in mind that India is an agriculture country while developing the new technology?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, under technology upgradation mission, funds were made available mainly for the development of powrloom sector and its mills. However, it is our endeavour to provide

assistance to handloom sector also under this mission. Suggestion has been given to financial institutions to incorporate some changes in technology upgradation fund scheme. It is our endeavour to provide maximum benefit to textile industry through the changes in technology upgradation fund scheme.

Sir, a benefit worth about Rs. 50 crores has been given to weavers under 'Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana' during the last two years. Under this scheme 50% assistance is being provided by Central Government and 50% by State Governments. In north-eastern areas 90% assistance is provided by Central Government and State Governments contribute 10% of the assistance. In this way till now we have provided the assistance of Rs. 50 crores under this scheme.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the handloom industry of the North-Eastern Region. The fabrics of the North-Eastern Region are only popular nationally due to their variety and colour but they are also exported to other countries...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the Supplementaries and replies should go on record and not other things.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: But there are problems being faced in the North-Eastern Region as the yarn price has gone up...*(Interruptions)* What is required is, assistance by way of infrastructural support. I would suggest the hon. Minister to provide transport subsidy to the North-Eastern Region to keep up the variety and beauty of the fabrics...*(Interruptions)* I would request the hon. Minister to focus his attention to the North-Eastern Region...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, apart from the assistance given under the *Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana*, especially for the North-Eastern States, we also provide transport subsidy, that is we bear the full cost. There are two kinds of costs of transportation of clothes produced in the handloom sector of North-Eastern areas. One is to be taken elsewhere in the country and second is to be taken outside the country...*(Interruptions)* We bear the full cost. We give full transport subsidy, especially for the North-Eastern States.

SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much financial and technical assistance was provided for the development of handloom industries in Tamil Nadu under *Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana* since April, 2000. I would also like to know the steps taken by the Government to solve the problems of hundreds and thousands of handloom weavers of Dharmapuri, Chengalpattu, Salem, Tirupattur and Coimbatore districts...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, so far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we have given all assistance as proposed by the State Government. Sir. under this scheme, the projects will have to be proposed by the State Governments....*(Interruptions)* The State Governments will have to indicate the contribution of their portion of the assistance that would be given under the scheme. So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we have given a lot of money under various schemes. I will give the details of the funds that were provided under the *Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana,* especially for Tamil Nadu, in writing to my friend.

[Translation]

SHRI A. NARENDRA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the reply given by the hon'ble Minister it has been stated that Rs. 50 crores have been sanctioned under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that out of this Rs. 50 crore how much funds have been given particularly to Andhra Pradesh and whether the State Government is ready to implement the scheme?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a State level handloom cooperative organisation in Andhra Pradesh for its restructuring a scheme worth Rs. 40 crore has been approved. The Union Government have given Rs. 20 crore for this purpose. Andhra Pradesh Government has made its own contribution and started implementation of this scheme for benefit of all the handloom weavers of the State.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that for protecting the interests of handloom weavers and promotion of handloom industry, how much amount has been given to Maharashtra by the Union Government?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would send the detailed written information in this regard to the hon. Member.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you not have the information?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, collect the information and pass it on to the hon. Member.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Sir, the hon. Minister must admit that India has the highest concentration of lumage population in the world. As much as 64 per cent of the lumage of the world is situated in India. However, they are suffering from technological obsolescence and structural anomalies. Commercial intelligence is not properly available to this sector...*(Interruptions)*

Weavers are the mainstay of the handloom sector...*(Interruptions)* You also know that in the year 2004, all the quantitative restrictions and barriers will be withdrawn. Then, the entire handloom sector will face the onslaught of technologically sophisticated MNCs...*(Interruptions)* Have you conceived any perspective plan to face the situation so as to save the handloom weavers from this onslaught?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: I have already answered this question. But I would like to repeat that all efforts are being made by the Textiles Ministry to provide training and information about the technology; to improve the loom efficiency; to increase production and to reduce the strain and fatigue on the weavers. We have been taking several steps under the *Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana* and under the DEPM Scheme...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Mr. Minister, you are repeating the *Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana* only. Have you conceived any perspective plan to face the onslaught of the MNCs?...*(Interruptions)* In the year 2004, what will be the situation in India?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: The *Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana* is a comprehensive scheme covering all aspects of the handloom sector...*(Interruptions)* It is a comprehensive scheme which will provide provision for capital availability; financial assistance for making effective modifications in the looms; for procuring all the raw-materials. After producing cloths and fabric, we are also providing for marketing of those products...*(Interruptions)* Then weaving facilities are also given.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, handloom industry and loom industry of small weavers are continuously running in losses and are on verge of closure. Sir, through you I would like to know from the Government whether there is any proposal to provide any special assistance to handloom industry and small weavers? If so, the details thereof...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: We are ready to provide assistance whenever a demand is raised by any State. I would like to make a submission to my friend from Maharashtra that he should send his proposal or scheme through the State Government to us. We will help them after reviewing the scheme.

[English]

Private Banks

\+

*182. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has approved the proposal for setting up new banks in the private sector;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals approved;

(c) the total number of banks in the private sector in each State as on date; and

(d) the reasons for granting liberal licences for the setting up of banks in private sector?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted 'in-principle' approval for establishing two new banks in the private sector to the following applicants:-

(i) Shri Ashok Kapur, Shri Harkirat Singh and Shri Rana Kapoor (banking professionals) with Rabobank, Netherland; and

(ii) M/s. Kotak Mahindra Finance Ltd., a non-banking finance company.

(c) The total number of banks in the private sector having their registered offices in different States is given in the Annexure.

(d) The Committee on Financial System (Narasimham Committee-I) set up in November, 1991 had, inter-alia, recommended freedom of entry to new banks in private sector to introduce greater competition leading to higher productivity and efficiency in the banking sector. Further, Working Group set up by RBI in January, 1998 also recommended that in view of the low bank credit to GDP ratio, increase in saving potential of the society and

improvement in banking habits etc., new banks in private sector may be set up and guidelines in this regard were issued by RBI in January 2001.

Annexure

S. No.	State	Number of Banks Having Registered Office
1.	Maharashtra	8
2.	Kerala	6
3.	Tamil Nadu	5
4.	Uttar Pradesh	2*
5.	Karnataka	2
6.	Gujarat	2
7.	Andhra Pradesh	1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1
9.	Goa	1
10.	Rajasthan	1
11.	Punjab	1
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
	Total	31

* Benaras State Bank Ltd., Varanasi under moratorium.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Narasimham Committee has recommended for the free entry of new banks in the private sector. How many applications were received by the RBI for starting new private banks in our country? First, I would like to know about it from the hon. Minister. Next, as per the reply given by the hon. Minister, two banks were given approval, in principle, for starting new private banks. What are the norms established or laid down by the Government for starting a new private bank in our country? I would like to know the details from the hon. Finance Minister.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Ten applications were received and only two were, in principle, accepted. In January, 2001 the guidelines were issued for establishing the new private banks. Normally Rs. 200 crore is the capital. Within three years, it may go up to Rs. 300 crore. Then, 10 per cent capital adequacy is needed. That is all about the new norms. But initially we take into account the capability and other things while giving in-principal approval. After the compliance of norms as per the guidelines, naturally it will be issued licence later...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, Shri P. Chidambaram, the former Finance Minister in his Budget speech had announced a proposal for Local Area Development Banks. So many applications were received for starting new Local Area Development Banks. I do not know the fate of those applications. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to whether any Local Area Development Banks were sanctioned in our country. Could the Minister give the details of the Local Area Development Banks sanctioned in our country? If not, what are the reasons for not starting the Local Area Development Banks in the country?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, initially applications for starting Local Area Development Banks were received. As of now, some applications are pending. We have no details about as to how many licences were issued. We would supply the information in this regard to my hon. friend.

SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Sir, would the public sector banks not get adversely affected by the move of liberal issuance of licences for setting up of banks in the private sector? How the Reserve Bank of India would keep a watch about the money being siphoned off by the Overseas Corporate Bodies through such private global banks?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, I think that the hon. Minister has already announced in regard to the joint venture but the private sector banks are governed by the guidelines of the RBI. We do not allow them to deviate from the guidelines. Naturally, the RBI is monitoring all the private banks.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of setting up a private bank is being raised. At present scams are occurring in our cooperative as well as nationalised banks. Do the hon. Minister would like to tell that what arrangements are being made by the Government for safety of the money deposited by public in these banks and how the Government would like to guarantee that scam would not take place in these banks.

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that we have some problems as far as some private banks are concerned. For example, Benaras Private Bank. The proposal of Benaras Bank to amalgamate with the nationalised banks is under the

consideration of the Government. Near about 99 per cent of the money of the depositors is safe. They have submitted the proposal for amalgamation with the nationalised bank to the RBI. In the case of Nedungudi bank, the Chairman was removed. The RBI is monitoring very closely all these banks and the Small Investors Insurance Guarantee Corporation is there. If the insurance guarantee is there, naturally all the deposits up to Rs. 1 lakh is covered under the insurance Scheme. This is as far as the small investors are concerned. In the case of cooperative banks also, the same rule is applicable to them.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of setting up new banks and banks in private sector is being raised here but the system of working of some private sector banks is not good, whether there is any proposal to amalgamate these with other banks or what action is being taken against those banks which are not following the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, running in losses and their capital is declining?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Just now, I have mentioned about the Bank of Benaras and Nedungudi Bank, RBI is intervening in cases where banks are running in losses or for which proposal is submitted. RBI issues notice for their closure and it is monitored from time to time. I feel that the objection raised by hon. Member that private banks are not working properly.

[English]

RBI is monitoring all the schemes and the Government is concerned about all these things.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: In the answer given by the hon. Minister, it has been stated that privatisation of banks is done to bring in greater competition, higher productivity and also to improve banking habit, saving habit and efficiency in the banks the country. There are several issues involved in this. I fail to understand the logic behind the answer given by the hon. Finance Minister. On the one hand the Government is closing down all the rural branches of the existing banks and on the other hand interest rates on deposits have been cut. So, by brining in more private sector banks, there will be more competition. I would like to know how these aims are going to be achieved

I would like to know from the minister whether the Government reconsider the policy of closing down rural branches and cutting down of interest rates?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to the first part of his question, the RBI is monitoring the interest policy from time to time and RBI is the authority to decide the interest rate on the higher side or on the lower side and according to the international environment, I think, the RBI is doing its job. The Government never intervene the RBI's entire system.

Secondly, so far as the rural branches are concerned, the public sector banks have a network of the rural branches and so far as private sector banks are concerned, there is some scope to improve the rural branches. The Government as well as the RBI is keeping a watch on it. As per the licensing policy, 25 per cent should go to the rural and semi-urban areas. According to the figures, all the private sector banks have 30 per cent of their branches in the rural and semi-urban areas.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, how many applications of setting up of local area banks have they received from Gujarat. How many of them have been approved and if three has been delay in approving those applications what were the reasons?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, I have already replied that State-wise details are not available with me. However, I will supply the information to the hon. Member with regard to the State of Gujarat.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with setting up of new banks in private sector, the case of bank failure and fraud have increased. In view of the accountability and responsibility of Reserve Bank of India what new norms and guidelines will be formulated for banks like Bank of Benaras, Bank of Madura, Global Trust Bank etc. What penalty clause will be made for private sector banks which are not lending to the priority Sector?

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, norms are already there for this and there is no need for establishment of new norms by the RBI. The RBI is monitoring all these things as it has been done in the case of Benaras Bank. I have already replied about the Nedumgadi Bank.

So far as priority sector is concerned, I agree with the hon. Member that it is 38.2 per cent, normally it should be more than 40 per cent of the total banks. But sometimes it is 48 per cent or 47 cent per cent and sometimes, it is much below 40 per cent. So, we are

enforcing them to increase it. Secondly, those who are not giving it to the priority sector, more particularly in the agricultural sector, RIDF Fund is available for them and NABARD is extending that facility.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in reply to this question it has been stated that working group of the Reserve Bank of India promotes competition among the banks and competition between private and public sector banks on the basis of Narsimham Committee report. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the ratio of total capital of public sector banks and private sector banks at the time of nationalisation of banks and at present and working of banks of both the sectors and whether a decision has been taken to make the banks competitive on the basis of it. Has this decision been taken on the basis of Narsimham Committee report and report of the working group of RBI or the Ministry of Finance has done any review in this regard? I would like to know that whether or not this decision has been taken on the basis of the ratio of capital of nationalised banks and private banks?

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Sir, I have already mentioned that RBI has issued guidelines in January, 2001. There is no proposal before the Government with regard to that so far as capital is concerned.

[Translation]

There is no difference in working of all banks. It has been stated in the Narsimham Committee that our GDP ratio is quite less and comes to 26 per cent whereas it is 111 per cent in Japan, 84 per cent in USA...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Sir, this is not a reply to my question. My question relates to the working of banks in private sector and public sector...*(Interruptions)*. The hon. Minister does not know this and it seems that he is not prepared...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: In our country, there are 31 banks with registered offices, out of which 23 are old and (eight) 8 are new banks...*(Interruptions)*. He has raised the point regarding capital of public sector and private banks, the guarantee of public sector banks remains with the Government and the Government do not provide any guarantee for private banks. Their capital formation is more than Rs. 300 crore and there is no proposal under consideration to change it.

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after the nationalisation of 14 banks, Shrimati Indira Gandhi has started Regional Rural Banks for the upliftment of marginal, small farmers and poor people of this country. Today, the branches of the RRBs are being shifted to the cities thus depriving the poor farmers of its benefits. So, while starting new banks, why do they not encourage the RRB to protect the farmers and poor people of this country? The main dream of Shrimati Indira Gandhi was to protect the poor and, small farmers, so with idea these RRBs were started.

They are going to be closed and shifted to the cities. May I know from the hon. Minister whether they are taking any measures to protect the farmers and the poor people and to retain the banks in the rural parts of the country?

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this question does not relate to the original but I would like to give information in this regard. It is true that Regional Rural banks are meant for providing loan to common man and rural people. Regional rural banks were running in losses, hence minor changes have been made but their objectives are same even today. The Government is alert and working as per the information received, but if there is any complaint that can be sent to us and that will be considered. If people are not getting loan or suffering loss, the complaint can be sent to the Government in that regard and that will be considered. But there is no change in the policy of the Government.

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: He has not answered about the shifting of the banks.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: It is correct that when Regional Rural Banks suffered losses and then for the first time, it was decided that...*(Interruptions)*. No branch of Regional Rural Bank will be closed down in unbankable area and that should not be closed down. The places where two or three branches of Regional Rural Banks are existing will be merged in one Branch. It will be considered if this Branch is in unbankable areas...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: There are other sections. No, you are not protecting the farmer.

[Translation]

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know about the number of banks in liquidation at present and whether there is any scheme with the Government to improve their condition.

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: This is the question of private bank. I have already mentioned about Benaras Bank. Already there was a Sikkim Bank. That was liquidated. That was merged in the Union Bank.

He made a point about the co-operative banks. I do not have, right now, the information about the co-operative banks. I will supply the information.

[Translation]

Closure of NTC Mills

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*183. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the NTC mills are lying closed and the workers are being paid wages without work as a result of the New Textiles Policy;

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

(c) the production in each of these mills vis-a-vis expenditure incurred, during each of the last three years, when they were operating; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to reopen these mills?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) There is no production activity in 42 mills of the NTC (even prior to New Textiles Policy) as the operations in these mills are sustaining heavy losses. The workers of these mills are however being paid wages.

(b) and (c) The list of mills with no production activity along with the contribution generated and expenditure incurred during the last three years is given in Annexure.

(d) Efforts were made to run these mills on job work basis but there was no demand. TRAs conducted Techno Economic Viability Studies for these mills and established that 39 of these mills are not viable. Based on these reports, Operating Agencies of BIFR (IDBI/IFCI) proposed that these 39 mills should be closed as a part of the Rehabilitation Scheme under finalisation with BIFR.

Annexure

Status of production and expenditure in the 42 non-functioning unviable mills

Rs. in lacs

NTC		Name of the Mill	1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-2001	
			Annual Gross Wages & Salary	Contribution Generated during the year	Annual Gross Wages & Salary	Contribution Generated during the year	Annual Gross Wages & Salary	Contribution Generated during the year
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
APKKM	1.	Adoni Mills	55.70	16.19	46.45	-2.34	47.54	-7.95
Gujarat	2.	Ahmedabad Jupiter	507.40	-14.92	553.05	-14.90	531.54	-15.29
APKKM	3.	Anantpur Mills	118.00	35.82	87.63	-15.65	20.60	-6.91
UP	4.	Atherton	485.71	-9.98	529.31	-17.71	494.11	-12.60
APKKM	5.	Azamjahi	200.66	-33.03	192.72	-47.85	208.17	-36.15

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
WBABO	6.	Bangasri	110.59	-14.61	123.46	-20.70	133.42	-7.03
WBABO	7.	Bengal Fine-2	75.63	-11.59	87.28	-13.74	87.29	-12.49
MP	8.	Bengal Nagpur Mills	627.00	-25.00	625.00	-29.00	603.00	-7.00
WBABO	9.	Bihar Cooperative	133.37	-59.52	132.24	-14.63	30.92	-19.26
UP	10.	Bijli Cotton Mills	136.93	12.60	101.23	10.38	70.89	-5.44
WBABO	11.	Central Cotton	378.36	-34.49	361.08	-28.95	346.79	-36.16
DPR	12.	Edward Mills	170.00	-12.00	123.00	-9.00	100.00	-5.00
WBABO	13.	Gaya Cotton Mills	257.37	-36.19	290.22	-26.90	309.69	-32.15
MP	14.	Hira Mills	277.00	-22.00	290.00	-9.00	289.00	1.00
MP	15.	Indore Malwa	590.00	-22.00	604.00	-4.00	611.00	-4.00
Gujarat	16.	Jehangir Mills	640.10	-14.51	696.03	1.30	654.16	-13.00
WBABO	17.	Jyoti Weaving	141.70	-19.30	154.07	-21.76	168.60	-9.92
MP	18.	Kalyanmal	536.00	-18.00	554.00	0.00	569.00	-6.00
UP	19.	Laxmi Rattan Mills	668.32	-3.36	676.34	-3.78	591.06	-10.80
UP	20.	Lord Krishna	236.70	-2.39	238.33	-3.73	234.62	-6.00
Gujarat	21.	Mahalaxmi	367.39	-3.80	383.16	-3.23	379.46	-5.64
WBABO	22.	Manidra Bengal Textiles	165.64	-21.91	160.68	-19.98	156.63	-21.37
APKKM	23.	MSK Mills	343.57	-46.35	318.20	-17.54	296.06	-15.42
UP	24.	Muir Mills	684.37	-4.02	688.89	-3.36	647.04	-10.31
APKKM	25.	Mysore Mills	343.11	0.35	350.28	12.70	346.75	-5.05
APKKM	26.	Nataraj	52.90	17.04	49.26	23.14	46.03	-10.50
APKKM	27.	Netha Mills	64.00	17.14	65.60	3.58	64.77	-6.83
Gujarat	28.	New Maneckchowk	472.95	-7.37	498.84	-5.13	466.08	-10.46
UP	29.	New Victoria	712.18	-11.45	726.48	-11.91	676.39	-15.61
Gujarat	30.	Petlad	165.58	-4.36	183.24	-2.57	173.21	-5.89
UP	31.	Raebareli Mills	126.45	-4.23	121.83	-4.97	88.45	-9.00
Gujarat	32.	Rajkot	158.02	-3.60	163.52	-3.25	157.69	-2.76
UP	33.	Shri Vikram Mills	211.75	-5.86	182.60	-7.72	184.21	-8.49
WBABO	34.	Sri Mahalaxmi	318.69	-32.28	346.49	-25.18	325.38	-34.40
MP	35.	Swadeshi Indore	305.00	-17.00	293.00	-8.00	295.00	-9.00

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
UP	36.	Swadeshi Kanpur	760.22	-27.49	733.14	-32.46	677.18	-33.29
APKKM	37.	Tirupathi Mills	60.56	25.07	54.04	4.70	14.70	-9.13
Gujarat	38.	Viramgam	373.80	-3.24	390.72	-1.75	382.80	-3.07
Gujarat	39.	Rajnagar-2		Merged with other functioning mills				
MN	40.	Indo No 4		Merged with other functioning mills				
MN	41.	Kohinoor 2		Merged with other functioning mills				
MN	42.	Kohinoor 3		Merged with other functioning mills				
		Total	12032.72	-421.64	12175.41	-374.89	12175.41	-468.37

Contribution = Value of production minns variable costs and fixed costs, but does not include the cost of salaries and wages

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Sir, in 1968, the then Government has taken over 19 mills with an objective to restructure and modernise these mills. But now even after 35 years the condition of these mills have deteriorated further. On the one hand production in these mills has declined and some of these mills are lying closed and on the other hand without paying attention towards the interests of labourers, the Government money is being wasted. In September, 2001, around 84 thousand employees were engaged in NTC group. Previous Governments also gave assurance to revive the closed down mills but number of sick mills has increased continuously. The Government have decided to revive 44 mills. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that what steps have been taken to make these mills viable.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: The Government have submitted a proposal to BIFR for revival of NTC mills and BIFR has finalised this after hearing the case again. I hope that BIFR will give judgement on the proposal of NTC mills in few days.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our mills are in working condition and 40-50 mills are not in fully working condition. The Government have prepared a proposal to run more number of mills. Now out of 119 mills 53 more mills will be revived and 66 mills will be unviable. Earlier also revival package was prepared thrice but that could not be implemented. In the history of NTC, for the first time such a revival plan has been sent to BIFR. BIFR has completed its hearing and perhaps its implementation will be started next month.

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether the Government accept that the main reason for closure of NTC mill is mismanagement. What is the reaction of the Government thereto?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the proposal of the Government is lying with BIFR which has all these provisions. We will make arrangements after receiving the complete report of BIFR.

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, there are seven NTC mills in Kerala. All those mills in Kerala are working profitably and working very well but their money is taken away by the Bangalore office. That is the reason I have been requesting the hon. Minister to shift the Bangalore office to Kerala so that the Kerala mills could work more profitably.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has rightly said that all mills in Kerala are working properly. When the proposal for revival of NTC was submitted to the BIFR, the Government had decided to run all the mills in Kerala with modernised and upgraded technology. So far as the headquarters of the subsidiaries is concerned, the entire NTC revival proposal is now under the consideration of the BIFR and so after finalisation of the proposal, as suggested by the hon. Member, we can consider that.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, I know something about the NTC mills.

Unfortunately, whatever is being said by the Government, I am sure that we have to close these mills,

except a few of them. There is no utility of reviving these mills. So, the Government should give them a golden handshake, give them more money and send the labourers back home. It would only then be all right. I have tried my best when I was the Minister with this portfolio. I went to the States and requested the State Governments to take over these mills. We have asked them but they did not take them up. So, it is not possible to revive these mills. Before you close them down, you have to give a golden handshake and send the labourers back home.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has just decided on a modified VRS.

So far as the VRS for the unviable employees is concerned, a modified VRS will be offered. We have the VRS of the 5th May, 2000 but just now the Government has introduced a modified VRS since 6th November, 2000. According to this modified VRS, the employees of NTC would get, I think, Rs. 60,000 to more than Rs. 1 lakh.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of the NTC mills are lying closed. Why raw material and working capital was not given for them. Today workers of 23 mills of Mumbai city are not getting their salary. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that what measures are being taken by the Government for providing salaries to these workers.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please give one sentence reply.

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, not only in Maharashtra but all the workers of NTC mills will be paid salaries after the budget is passed.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Losses Suffered by FCI

*184. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is suffering heavy losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to improve the performance of FCI; and

(d) the action taken against persons responsible for the said losses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Some losses in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) do occur on account of storage, transportation, pilferage, etc. Storage losses occur, inter-alia, due to loss of moisture, multiple handling, prolonged storage and spillage. Transit losses take place due to moisture loss, different modes of weighment, transhipment, spillage, etc.

(c) The steps taken to minimise the losses and to improve the performance of the FCI include the following:

(i) installation of weight bridges;

(ii) tightening of security at depots; intensifying surprise checks; ensuring regular stock verification;

(iii) encouraging double-line machine stitching of bags;

(iv) induction of Central Industrial Security Force at vulnerable depots to curb theft and pilferage;

(v) streamlining procedures and documentation for transparency and accountability in operations;

(vi) regular and surprise inspection of depots by senior officers;

(vii) improvement in size and quality of gunnies;

(viii) augmentation of covered storage capacity; and

(ix) introduction of bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains.

(d) Departmental action, including recover of losses, is taken against the FCI officials found responsible for losses. Criminal action is also taken, where warranted.

[English]

Trade Treaty With Russia

*185. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

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

(a) whether the Government had signed a trade treaty with Russia on February 6, 2002 for increasing bilateral trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such treaty would help to promote export of tea, tobacco, wheat, rice etc. to Russia; and

(d) if so, upto what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) No trade treaty was signed on February 6, 2002 between the Government of India and the Russian Federation. Instead, Protocol of the Eighth Session of the Indo – Russian Working Group on Trade & Economic Cooperation held on February 5-6, 2002 was signed on the aforesaid date. This Protocol reflects the discussions held on various issues of bilateral interest for promoting trade between the two countries. Discussions were also held on measures required to be taken for promoting export of tea, tobacco, wheat, rice etc. to Russia. However, it is not possible to quantify the extent to which these measures would help to increase the export of these commodities, which will be largely determined by market forces.

Allocation of Additional Foodgrains

*186. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

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

(a) whether some State Governments have sought additional allocation of foodgrains from Union Government to supply to all the ration card holders identified as BPL families by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have supplied the additional foodgrains to these States;

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

(e) whether the Union Government are considering to cover all the BPL ration card holders under the TPDS; and

(f) if so, the time by which the left out BPL families would be included under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The States of Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu and the Union territory of Pondicherry have sought additional allocation of foodgrains for distribution to all the ration card holders identified by them as BPL.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Statewise number of BPL families was initially based on the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1993-1994 adopting the methodology of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor applied to the population projections of 1995. With effect from 1.12.2000, the base was shifted to the population projections of the Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000, thereby increasing the total number of BPL families from 596.23 lakh to 652.03 lakh at the National level. There is no proposal to change this basis.

Agreement Between India and WTO on Import of Edible Oil

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

(a) whether WTO has stipulated that India should import a given quantity of edible oil this year;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement between India and the WTO on import of edible oil;

(c) the provision of law or agreement under which WTO is insisting that India should import a huge quantum of edible oil;

(d) the details of such compulsions and insistence by WTO;

(e) whether this will have a negative impact on domestic growers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of remedial measures initiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) There are no provisions or stipulations under WTO Agreements requiring us to import a given quantity of any product. It may however be mentioned that India entered into Article XXVIII negotiations 1996, which were also concluded 1999, with a view to revise

upwards the bound tariffs in respect of certain sensitive agricultural products which were historically bound at low levels of duty. One such item was rape, colza/mustard oil which was earlier bound at 45% but the bindings for which, following the negotiations has been raised to 75%. As part of the compensation involved in the negotiation we have also agreed to allow upto 1,50,000 MT of this item at 45% duty as also a similar quantity of sunflower/ safflower oil at 50% duty, which is otherwise, bound at 300%.

(e) and (f) Imports of edible oils have witnessed an increase in the recent past due to a gap between demand and supply as well as on account of depressed international prices. However, imports under tariff rate quota at lower level of duty of 45%/50% are not likely to have an adverse effect on the growers as these imports would be for limited quantities. Adequate protection is also being given to domestic producers through calibration of applied tariffs within bound levels.

Spending on Social Sector

*188. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME:
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of GDP on social sector expenditure during he period 1990-1991 and 2000-2001 separately;

(b) a comparative report of the same with the East Asian countries for the above period;

(c) whether the public spending on social sector has declined;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether our social sector expenditure is much low compared to the ratios recommended by the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP);

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The Central Government expenditure (Plan and Non-Plan) on education, health, family welfare, nutrition, water supply, sanitation, rural development, housing, social welfare etc. increased from Rs. 8058 crore in 1990-1991 to Rs. 34,524 crore(RE) in 2000-2001. As a percentage of Gross Domestic Product at market prices it increased from 1.4 per cent in 1990-1991 to 1.7 per cent in 2000-2001 (RE)

(b) As per the available data from the latest Human Development Report 2001, the share of public expenditure on education and health for some of the East Asian countries are:

		Public expenditure on education (as % of GNP)		Public expenditure on on health (as % of GDP)	
		1985-1987	1995-1997	1990	1998
1.	India	3.2	3.2	0.9	–
2.	Singapore	3.9	3.0	1.0	1.2
3.	Hong Kong	2.5	2.9	1.6	–
4.	Malaysia	6.9	4.9	1.5	1.4
5.	Thailand	3.4	4.8	1.0	1.9
6.	Korea Rep. of	3.8	3.7*	2.1	2.3
7.	Indonesia	0.9^	1.4**	0.6	0.7

* Data are not strictly comparable to those for earlier years as a result of methodological changes in surveys.

^ Data refer to a year of period other than that specified. Data refer to the ministry of education only.

** Data refer to the Central govt. only.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) UNDP has not made any specific recommendations for India with regard to social sector expenditure. The Executive Board of the UNDP has not laid down any norms for social sector expenditure.

[Translation]

Distribution of Foodgrains Through PDS

*189. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether the foodgrains being distributed under the Public Distribution System do not reach the intended beneficiaries;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of the irregularities in distribution of essential provisions under public distribution system;

(d) if so, the steps taken to remove these irregularities;

(e) the States from which the Government have received complaints of shortcomings in the public distribution system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is an operation of vast magnitude under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments involving multiple agencies including 4.63 lakh Fair Price Shops (FPSs). The possibility of some leakages in such a system cannot be altogether ruled out. As per a survey conducted by M/s Tata Economic Consultancy Services (TECS) in 1997, the extent of diversion at the national level was 36% for wheat, 31% for rice and 23% for sugar. Many State Governments, while recognizing that some leakages do take place, have disagreed with the estimates of diversion brought out in the TECS Report.

(c) and (d) In order to make the PDS more effective, efficient and accountable, the following measures have been taken:

(i) The State Governments have been requested to closely monitor the PDS at the FPS and other levels and make arrangements for distribution of PDS commodities in a transparent and accountable manner by active involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the rural areas and local bodies in the urban areas;

(ii) A Model Citizens' Charter has been circulated for adoption by all the States in the country as a measure of social audit;

(iii) The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been issued on 31.8.2001 under section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The Order prohibits any authority or person engaged in the distribution and handling of essential commodities under the PDS to indulge in substitution or adulteration or diversion of stocks. Any contravention of the provisions of clause 3 (identification of BPL families), clause 4 (ration cards), clause 6 (distribution) and clause 7 (licensing) of the Order is liable to punishment under section 7 of the said Act;

(iv) Senior Officers of the Department of Food and Public Distribution have been designated as "Area Officers" for various States. These officers periodically visit and monitor the functioning of the PDS in the States allotted to them.

(e) and (f) Since January 2001, 207 complaints have been received from various States/UTs regarding the functioning of the PDS as per details given in the enclosed statement. The complaints, inter alia, relate to non-availability and irregular supply of PDS items at FPSs, overcharging by FPS owners black-marketing of PDS commodities. Since the responsibility of distribution of Essential Commodities to the consumers under the PDS rests with the State Governments, the complaints received are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for appropriate action. Area Officers are deputed to visit the States and personally investigate specific complaints of a serious nature.

Statement

The State-wise Number of Complaints Received in Respect of Shortcomings in the PDS Since January 2001.

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of complaints received
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	A & N Islands	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2

1	2	3
4.	Assam	3
5.	Bihar	22
6.	Chhattisgarh	2
7.	D & N Haveli	2
8.	Delhi	16
9.	Gujarat	6
10.	Haryana	12
11.	Himachal Pradesh	20
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
13.	Jharkhand	2
14.	Karnataka	1
15.	Madhya Pradesh	20
16.	Maharashtra	12
17.	Orissa	2
18.	Punjab	18
19.	Rajasthan	25
20.	Uttar Pradesh	26
21.	Uttaranchal	3
22.	West Bengal	8
	Total	207

[English]

Import of Wheat by Iraq

*190. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq which earlier refused to accept Indian wheat, has now agreed to import wheat from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity, price and other terms on which wheat is proposed to be exported to Iraq;

(d) whether India will get crude oil from Iraq on soft terms in lieu of wheat exports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) There is no firm commitment from Iraq as yet to import Indian wheat.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Exclusive Export Zones for Oranges and Apples

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

(a) whether there is any proposal for creating exclusive 'Export Zones' for oranges and apples in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Nagpur for orange and certain apple growing areas like J & K etc., are to be included in these Export Zones; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Proposal for Agri Export Zone (AEZ) for apples received from State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, has been approved by the Government. Proposal for AEZ for oranges in Maharashtra was received, and the State Government of Maharashtra has been advised to evaluate the market potential and price competitiveness of oranges from Maharashtra and submit a revised proposal.

(d) and (e) Proposal for AEZ for oranges in Maharashtra includes the district of Nagpur. In case of AEZ for apples, the proposal from Jammu & Kashmir includes the apple growing areas of the State.

Examination of Patent Applications

*192. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending patent applications with the various patent offices of the Government;

(b) whether the system of examining the patent applications has not been upgraded;

(c) the details of patent offices functioning in the country, location-wise;

(d) the administrative structure of the patent administration in the country; and

(e) the steps proposed to institute a transparent system for examining patent applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) The number of patent applications pending with various Patent Offices is as under:

Patent Office, Kolkata	8,541
Patent Office, Chennai	13,793
Patent Office, Delhi	15,891
Patent Office, Mumbai	5,739

(b) The Government has taken up comprehensive upgradation and modernisation of the patent administration at a cost of Rs. 75.59 crore. This is inclusive of initiatives for the simplification and re-engineering of work procedures and development of databases to facilitate on-line search as also to create user-friendly systems. These initiatives have so far enabled initial computerization, establishment of on-line search facilities, development of work manuals, launch of website, preparation of information brochures, installation of front office software to generate computerised information about status of patent applications and issue of receipts.

Two modernised patent offices in Delhi and Chennai were operationalised in July and August 2001 respectively. The modernisation of the Patent office in Kolkata is nearing completion while the work is going on in Mumbai.

The modernization initiatives have started showing initial results. Patent Offices, which have been examining around 28000 applications per year, examined over 4264 applications in 2000-2001. The average output of Patent Examiners has improved by 50%. 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. These gains, which are with existing manpower, will be further consolidated with the appointment of 132 Examiners, 81 of whom are being issued appointment orders.

From October 2000, the practice of Preliminary Examination Reports (PERs) for patents was commenced. This has resulted in starting early the process of patent processing. Over 26,000 PERs have been issued by various offices.

(c) The Patent Offices are presently functioning in Kolkata (head office also), Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai. The territorial jurisdiction of these offices is as below:

Office	Territorial Jurisdiction
Patent Offices, Mumbai	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Daman & Diu and Dadar & Nagar Haveli
Patent Office, Chennai,	Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Pondicherry and Lakshadweep
Patent Office, Delhi	Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Chandigarh and Delhi.
Patent Office, Kolkata	The rest of India

(d) The Patent Office is a subordinate office under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and is headed by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks. The other senior functionaries are Senior Joint Controller of Patents and Designs, Joint Controller of Patents and Designs, Deputy Controller of Patents and Designs, Assistant Controller of Patents and Designs and Examiner of Patents and Designs.

(e) The operationalisation of a work procedures manual (available on website) ensures uniformity in procedure. Installation of front office software to enable generation of computerised information about status of patent applications and issue of receipts also provides user friendly services. All categories of patent applications are dealt in strict chronological order of receipt. The proposed up-gradation of the website to an integrated and interactive intellectual property portal will further contribute to transparency in the functioning of patent offices.

Urban Haats

*193. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched a new scheme of 'Urban Haats' for providing direct marketing facilities to artisans and weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of urban haats set up alongwith the benefits given to weavers and artisans;

(d) whether any financial assistance is being given to States under the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof State-wise during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Yes, Sir. A new scheme of 'Urban Haat' for providing direct market facilities to artisans and weavers was launched during the year 1998-1999.

(b) The scheme envisages setting up of Haats at prime urban locations of the country where tourism, tradition, culture and craft creation flourish together. The prime objective of the scheme is to provide direct marketing avenues to craftspersons/weavers by eliminating middle agencies. The scheme entails capital cost upto Rs. 200.00 lakhs, out of which 70% is provided by the Government of India and the balance 30% by the respective State Governments. The responsibility of providing developed land measuring not less than 18,000 sq.m. rest with the concerned State Government. The scheme is being implemented through State Handicrafts/ Handloom Development Corporations/Tourism Development Corporations in consultations with the respective State Government.

(c) Till date approval has been accorded for setting up of thirteen (13) Urban Haats at Ahmedabad, Agra, Bhubaneshwar, Kolkata, Ranchi, Karnal, Bhopal, Jammu, Tirupati, Agartala, Jodhpur, Jaipur and Raipur. Once completed each Urban Haat shall provide direct marketing opportuntiy to nearly 2200 artisans/weavers per annuam. At present, only one Urban Haat at Tirupathi has become functional with w.e.f. 24.9.2001. So far 269 artisans had been benefited by way of their participation in craft bazars organised at Tirupati Urban Haat.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The financial assistance provided to various States for setting up of Urban Haats during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the States	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	29.00	20.00	49.00
2.	Jharkhand	-	31.67	20.00	51.67
3.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-
4.	Gujarat	34.75	-	15.00	49.75
5.	Haryana	-	20.70	20.00	40.70
6.	J & K	-	23.00	15.00	38.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-
8.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-
9.	Orissa	34.40	5.00	10.00	49.40
10.	Tripura	-	-	-	-
11.	Uttar Pradesh	33.80	-	-	33.80
12.	West Bengal	-	35.62	15.00	50.62

Revamping of FIPB and FIIA

*194. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to revamp the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and Foreign Investment Implementing Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also planning to bring a separate legislation to attract investments in infrastructure sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remove red tapism, hassles and to attract investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Simplification of the approval mechanism and the strengthening of the investment facilitation mechanism is a continuous process and several steps have been taken in that direction, which inter alia include placing most activities on the automatic route, announcement of transparent guidelines for consideration of foreign direct investment proposals by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), 30 days time frame for communicating Government decision on FIPB proposals, and regular meetings of the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority (FIIA) to resolve implementation related issues by closer and more sustained interaction with foreign investors on the one hand and relevant agencies of Central Government/State Governments on the other.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) With a view to simplifying foreign direct investment procedures, Government already put in place a transparent and investor friendly FDI policy. Under this dispensation, in most sectors FDI is permitted up to 100% on the automatic route and foreign investors only have to notify RBI within 30 days of bringing in funds and again within 30 days of issuing shares.

Trade Relations Between India and China

*195. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:
SHRI A. NARENDRA:

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

(a) the areas in which trade relations have been established between India and China so far;

(b) whether the Government have held or propose to hold any talks with Chinese Government for the expansion of trade relations;

(c) if so, the new areas identified to expand Indo-China trade during 2002-2003 and the coming years;

(d) whether the Chinese Premier has visited India during January, 2002 to explore the possibilities of bilateral synergies and cooperation;

(e) if so, whether any agreements have been reached between the two countries during this visit to establish manufacturing bases in India;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the extent to which Indian industries are likely to be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) India and China have trade relations in various areas such as iron ore, plastic and linoleum products, marine products, electronic goods, coal, chemicals, etc.

(b) Governments of India and China hold regular talks for promoting trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

(c) New areas identified to expand India-China trade include IT, software, plastic, agro foods, leather, etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) to (g) No specific agreement was reached to establish manufacturing bases in India.

Committee to Monitor Medium Term Export Strategy

*196. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) whether an Action Committee has been created by the Government recently to monitor the implementation of the medium-term export strategy;

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

(c) the extent to which the creation of Action Committee will help in achieving the target in world exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The Medium Term Export Strategy 2002-2007 has recommended the setting up of an Action Committee to monitor the implementation of the Medium

Term Export Strategy. This Committee will be headed by the Commerce Secretary. The Economic Adviser who is the nodal officer along with a core group of senior officers within the Department and representatives of major export promotion bodies and some other experts will be members of this Committee. Action towards this end has already been initiated.

(c) The Committee will monitor the implementation of the strategy and also take note of any changes so that policy formulations are attended in a dynamic manner and the export targets are achieved.

[Translation]

World Bank Aid to Projects

*197. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the projects for which loan has been provided by the World Bank, State-wise;

(b) whether the World Bank has provided loans to some States for the projects for brining improvement in the power sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rules and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of the ongoing projects for brining improvement in power sector are as under:-

State	Amount of loan (US$ million)	Rules and conditions
Andhra Pradesh	210.00	All these loans are IBRD loans and have been provided in single currency variable spread basis for a period of 20 years, with an initial moratorium of five years.
Orissa	272.670	
Uttar Pradesh	150.000	
Rajasthan	180.000	

Statement

World Bank Ongoing projects as on 28.02.2002

(data provisional)

(Amount in US $ millions)

S. No.	Project Name	IBRD + IDA Commitment	State
1	2	3	4
1.	Nathpa Jhakri Power Project	485.00	Central
2.	National Highway Project (02)	306.00	Multistate
3.	Family Welfare (Urban Slums) Project	79.00	Central
4.	National Highways Project (03)	516.00	Multistate
5.	Integrated Child Development Services Project (02)	194.00	Multistate
6.	Andhra Pradesh State Highway Project	350.00	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Cataract Blindness Control Porject	117.80	Multistate
8.	Madras Water Supply Project (02)	275.80	Tamil Nadu
9.	Industrial Pollution Prevention Project	168.00	Central
10.	District Primary Education Project	260.30	Multistate

1	2	3	4
11.	Tuberculosis Control Project	142.40	Multistate
12.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	282.90	Tamil Nadu
13.	Bombay Sewage Disposal Project	192.00	Maharashtra
14.	Uttar Pradesh Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	59.60	Uttar Pradesh
15.	Hydrology Project	142.00	Multistate
16.	Andhra Pradesh First Referral Health System Project	133.00	Andhra Pradesh
17.	Orissa Health Systems Development Project	76.40	Orissa
18.	District Poverty Initiatives Project — Rajasthan	100.48	Rajasthan
19.	Malaria Control Project	164.80	Multistate
20.	Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services Project	126.00	Assam
21.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	290.90	Orissa
22.	Reproductive and Child Health Project	248.30	Multistate
23.	National Agricultural Technology Project	196.80	Multistate
24.	Gujarat State Highway Project	381.00	Gujarat
25.	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Project (03)	325.00	Andhra Pradesh
26.	Uttar Pradesh Forestry Project	52.94	Uttar Pradesh
27.	Orissa Power Sector Restructuring Project	350.00	Orissa
28.	Uttar Pradesh Power Sector Restructuring Project	150.00	Uttar Pradesh
29.	Powergrid System Development Project (02)	450.00	Central
30.	District Primary Education Project (02)	425.20	Multistate
31.	District Pradesh Diversified Agriculture Support Project	129.90	Uttar Pradesh
32.	State Health Systems Development Project (02)	350.00	Multistate
33.	Woman and Child Development Project	300.00	Multistate
34.	Eco development Project	28.00	Multistate
35.	District Primary Education Project (03)	152.00	Multistate
36.	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring Project	180.00	Rajasthan
37.	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring Project	140.00	Rajasthan
38.	Integrated Watershed Development - Hills (02) Project	135.00	Multistate
39.	Coal Sector Environmental and Social Mitigation Project	63.00	Central

1	2	3	4
40.	Environmental Management Capacity Building Technical Assistance Project	50.00	Central
41.	Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project	19.50	Multistate
42.	Andhra Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project	111.00	Andhra Pradesh
43.	Rajasthan District Primary Education Project (01)	85.70	Rajasthan
44.	National HIV/AIDS Control Project (02)	191.00	Central
45.	Andhra Pradesh Hazard Mitigation and Emergency Cyclone Recovery Project	150.00	Andhra Pradesh
46.	Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project	543.20	Andhra Pradesh
47.	Kerala Forestry Project	39.00	Kerala
48.	Andhra Pradesh Power Sector Rstructuring Project	210.00	Andhra Pradesh
49.	Renewable Energy (02) Project	130.0	Central
50.	Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project (02)	105.00	Tamil Nadu
51.	Uttar Pradesh Sodie Lands Reclamation Project (02)	194.10	Uttar Pradesh
52.	Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	149.20	Uttar Pradesh
53.	Maharashtra Health Systems Development Project	13400	Maharashtra
54.	Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (02)	151.60	Karnataka
55.	Uttar Pradesh Health Systems Development Project	110.00	Uttar Pradesh
56.	Technician Education Project (03)	64.90	Multistate
57.	Uttar Pradesh District Primary Eduction Project (03)	182.40	Uttar Pradesh
58.	Kerala Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	65.50	Kerala
59.	Rajasthan District Primary Education Project (02)	74.40	Rajasthan
60.	Telecommunications Sector Reform Technical Assistance Project	62.00	Central
61.	Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project	110.10	Madhya Pradesh
62.	Economic Reform Technical Assistance Project	45.00	Central
63.	Karnataka Watershed Development Project	100.40	Karnataka
64.	Immunization Strengthening Project	142.60	Central
65.	National Leprosy Elimination Project (02)	30.00	Central
66.	Karnataka State Highways Improvement Project	360.00	Karnataka
67.	Grand Trunk Road Improvement Project	589.00	Central

[English]

Working Group on Customs Tariff Structure

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

(a) whether the working group on customs tariff structure and anomalies had submitted its report to the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made therein;

(c) whether the Government have considered these suggestions; and

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

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

(b) The Working Group has submitted its report. The Working Group has, inter alia, suggested a road map for achieving the peak rate of 20% by 2004-2005, starting with the budget for 2002-2003.

(c) and (d) The observations of the Working Group were considered during the budget exercise. After careful consideration of the Group's report, it has been decided that, by the year 2004-2005, there would be only two basic rates of customs duties, namely, 10% covering generally raw materials, intermediates and components and 20% covering generally final products. The existing rates would be adjusted and subsumed in these two basic rates with some exceptions on account of WTO bindings or higher tariff for agricultural products. In accordance with the road map, the peak rate has been reduced from 35% to 30% this year.

National Family Assistance Scheme

*199. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the National Family Assistance Scheme;

(b) whether separate objectives have been set for each State by the Government under the National Family Assistance Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of financial assistance earmarked by the Government for the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, State-wise; and

(e) the number of families provided assistance during the current year, till date under the scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) is a 100 per cent Centrally sponsored scheme to provide Central Capital Assistance to the States/Union Territories implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development. It is understood from the Ministry of Rural Development that Rs. 10,000/- is provided as Central assistance to the households below poverty line on the death of the primary bread earner at any age between 18-65 years.

(d) and (e) State-wise details of funds allocated and the number of beneficiaries during the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 upto 11-3-2002 under the Scheme are given in Statement-I and Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

National Social Assistance Programme - National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)

Physical and Financial Progress During 2000-2001

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total Avail. of funds	Exp. Reported	Beneficiaries Reported
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3242.08	3108.97	31477
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18.92	10.19	105

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	1271.03	853.81	7357
4.	Bihar	1511.95	1475.83	13725
5.	Chhattisgarh**	1165.77	1091.77	9448
6.	Goa	17.37	17.28	193
7.	Gujarat	1161.16	149.24	2315
8.	Haryana	54.21	44.85	568
9.	Himachal Pradesh	35.74	33.27	307
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	55.47	49.28	389
11.	Jharkhand**	514.62	367.19	2664
12.	Karnataka	698.63	631.62	5643
13.	Kerala	389.13	336.04	3389
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3186.78	3099.19	31465
15.	Maharashtra	1095.2	788.2	11073
16.	Manipur	57.43	40.39	307
17.	Meghalaya	71.08	53.8	527
18.	Mizoram	20.16	20.16	194
19.	Nagaland	33.92	24.67	310
20.	Orissa	1712.69	1460.89	16073
21.	Punjab	143.06	136.81	1451
22.	Rajasthan	378.48	459.11	3698
23.	Sikkim	6.59	6.52	125
24.	Tamil Nadu	2235.86	1828.44	16876
25.	Tripura	114.62	97.14	916
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3055.21	2737.56	25640
27.	Uttaranchal**	257.07	250.57	6932
28.	West Bengal	1027.79	971.36	9756
29.	A & N Islands	1.43	1.2	0
30.	Chandigarh	2.92	3.22	29
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.01	1.95	20

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Daman & Diu	1.32	0.7	7
33.	NCT Delhi	5.9	2.9	40
34.	Lakshadweep	1.4	0.1	0
35.	Pondicherry	1.69	0	0
	Total	23549.69	20154.22	203019

** New State

Statement-II

National Social Assistance Programme - National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)

Physical and Financial Progress During 2001-2002

(As on 11-3-2002)

Rs in lakhs

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total Avail. of funds	Exp. Reported	Beneficiaries Reported
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2545.58	2053.47	20395
2.	Bihar	1093.29	448.65	3748
3.	Chhattisgarh	863.51	484.35	4792
4.	Goa	7.17	2.23	22
5.	Gujarat	307.82	215.61	2007
6.	Haryana	39.38	17.3	664
7.	Himachal Pradesh	56.42	53.5	500
8.	J & K	70.37	6.8	114
9.	Jharkhand	413.93	191.25	1917
10.	Karnataka	538.18	176.83	1449
11.	Kerala	306.38	116.52	994
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2425.07	1180.292	11246
13.	Maharashtra	667.73	226.09	2116
14.	Orissa	1248.18	616.7	7565
15.	Punjab	104.23	27.1	254
16.	Rajasthan	262.43	229.77	2358

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Tamilnadu	1701.67	653.51	4388
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2467.06	982.75	12628
19.	Uttaranchal	198.55	83.73	746
20.	West Bengal	767.8	339.4	4387
21.	A & N Islands	1	0	0
22.	Chandigarh	2.3	1.4	32
23.	D & N Haveli	2.39	0.8	9
24.	Daman & Diu	0.85	0.1	1
25.	NCT Delhi	0	0	0
26.	Lakshadweep	2.49	0.9	8
27.	Pondicherry	2.87	1.45	28
	Sub Total	16096.65	8110.502	82368
	North Eastern States			
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	18.88	4.59	45
29.	Assam	1392.17	536.75	6602
30.	Manipur	58.33	17.3	7619
31.	Meghalaya	72.75	39.95	335
32.	Mizoram	17.69	7.18	70
33.	Nagaland	30.35	7.23	109
34.	Sikkim	5.87	0	0
35.	Tripura	114.05	32.75	317
	Sub Total	1710.09	645.75	15097
	Grand Total	17806.74	8756.25	97465

[Translation]

Trade Between India and Saudi Arabia

*200. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:

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

(a) the commodities which are being exported to Saudi Arabia;

(b) the total export made to that country during the last three years;

(c) whether the trade between India and Saudi Arabia has increased;

(d) if so, the percentage increase registered in trade during the above period;

(e) whether there is any possibility of further increase in the trade between the two countries;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the specific steps being taken by the Government to boost trade volume with Saudi Arabia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Major items of export from India to Saudi Arabia include rice, textiles, engineering goods, plastic and linoleum products, tea, coffee, spices, cashew, tobacco, drugs and pharmaceuticals, leather products, electronics goods etc.

(b) India's total exports to Saudi Arabia during the last three years are given below:-

Rs. Crores

Year	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Value	3257.44	3228.01	3694.73

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta.

(c) and (d) The bilateral trade between India and Saudi Arabia during the last three years is given below:

Year	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Total trade	10962.54	16303.92	18399.00
% growth	(-7.77%)	(48.72%)	(12.85%)

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. There is very possibility of further increase in the trade volume between the two countries, specially in view of the transition in the Saudi economy from state monopoly to privatization resulting in opening up of more sectors encouraging competition and foreign investment.

(g) Steps to boost exports to Saudi Arabia include exchange of trade delegations, regular meetings of Joint Commissions, participation in trade fairs/exhibitions, market surveys, organization of buyer-seller meets etc.

[English]

Inclusion of Muslims in OBC List

1926. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation to include Muslims in OBC list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No, Sir. However, the National Commission for Backward Classes has received representations for inclusion of Muslims in the Central Lists of OBCs for the States of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tripura and Union Territory of Pondicherry.

(b) and (c) On examination of the representations received referred to in answer to part (a) above, the National Commission for Backward Classes has recommended that the request of inclusion of Muslims in Goa, Pondicherry and Tripura in the Central List of OBCs may be rejected and the representations for inclusion of Muslims in the States of Karnataka and Kerala in the Central List of OBCs may be accepted by the Government. On due consideration these recommendations of the Commission have been accepted by the Government.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Reforms

1927. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Cabinet Committee on Economic Reforms to accelerate second generation measures to consider ways and means to pump prime the economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the headway made, if any, till-date in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) A Cabinet Committee on Economic Reforms has been constituted by the Government in November, 2001 and a meeting of the said Committee has been held in December, 2001.

Rejection of Marine Products by European Countries

1928. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the marine products being exported from the country found to contain antibiotics which are banned in Western countries;

(b) whether the Government are aware that European countries returned the marine products exported by India for the above reasons; and

(c) if so, whether the Government are considering to impose ban on the production and sale of these antibiotics in the country?

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

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The use of any antibiotic is prohibited if administration of such antibiotic is found to be health hazard or irrational. However, Government had already taken preventive action by specifying Maximum Residual Limits for antibiotics, pesticides and heavy metals in fish and fishery products through statutory order S.O. 792 (E) dated 17th August, 2001.

Amendment to Banking Regulation Act, 1949

1929 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a final view on the proposal submitted by the Reserve Bank of India to have more powers by amending Banning Regulation Act, 1949 to regulate the functioning of the financial institutions;

(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) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has submitted a proposal for amendment to Banking Regulation Act, 1949, which interalia include provisions to enable RBI to exercise Regulatory and Supervisory powers in regard to financial institutions. The proposal of RBI is still under examination of the Government.

Auction of Confiscated Diamonds

1930. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the confiscated diamonds and other precious stones are being auctioned in big cities;

(b) if so, the procedure being following in this regard; and

(c) the value of such goods which have been disposed off during last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Confiscated diamonds and other precious stones are disposed of by public auction through Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Mumbai.

(b) The salient features of the procedure being followed in this regard are as follows:

(i) Wide-spread publicity both in India & abroad are given to get the best possible price.

(ii) The services of reputed auctioneering firm is taken to conduct the auction.

(iii) An entry fee/participation fee of Rs. 1 lakh is charged from each prospective bidder.

(iv) The 'lots' of diamonds are allowed to be examined by the prospective bidders.

(v) Reserve price is fixed by a Pricing Committee, made with the approval of Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai taking into consideration the value of seizure, escalation of value over the years, present market demand and existing restrictions in free import of these goods.

(vi) The highest bidder is required to deposit 25% of the value of the bid as earnest money on the spot. He is required to pay the balance amount and take delivery of the goods normally within 3 days of the receipt of the communication regarding acceptance of the bid.

(c) The value of confiscated diamonds and precious stones disposed of during last three years, year-wise is as follows:

Year	Disposal value (Rs. in crores)
1999-2000	NIL
2000-2001	1.34
2001-2002 (upto Feb., 2002)	1.70

[Translation]

Outstanding Taxes

1931. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of income tax, property tax and other commercial tax due on first 120 industrial/commercial units of the country for the period of year 2000-2001, till date;

(b) the outstanding dues collected during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for non-collection of balance amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Income tax dues against top 120 companies as on 30.6.2001, is Rs. 15588.19 crore. Property tax and commercial taxes are State subjects. Central Government does not maintain information in respect of these State taxes.

(b) The outstanding income tax dues collected in respect of top 120 companies during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
311.66	1332.54	1624.10

(c) Taxes remain outstanding on account of several reasons, such as tax demands being in dispute appeals pending before appellate authorities and stays granted by such authorities.

Procurement of Millet in Rajasthan

1932. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of millet procured in Rajasthan during the last year;

(b) whether the State Government of Rajasthan could not procure the required millet despite availability of funds by the Union Government in time;

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

(d) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) A quantity of 33982 MTs of Bajra and 2181 MTs of Maize has been procured under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) during the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2001-2002.

(b) to (d) During Kharif Season 2001, as reported by Government of Rajasthan, due to drought conditions for the second year, the production of Bajra was low. Besides, the stocks of Bajra were below the uniform specifications prescribed for procurement. As regards Maize, the market prices were reportedly ruling above the Minimum Support Prices. On the request of the State Government, procurement of Bajra and Maize was done by the Food Corporation of India during Kharif Marketing Season 2001-2002.

[English]

Retrenchment of Officers of GIC

1933. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have started the process of relocation/retrenchment of development officers in insurance companies keeping in view of liberalised insurance scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the criteria for appointment of agents and brokers is being changed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether old agents are being given any preference at the time of selection; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(c) and (d) Appointment of agents is being made as per the provisions of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Licensing of Insurance Agents) Regulations, 2000. At present no change is being contemplated in these Regulations. As regards Brokers, the criteria for their appointment is yet to be notified by IRDA.

(e) and (f) The IRDA (Licensing of Insurance Agents) Regulations, 2000 notified by IRDA prescribe certain

minimum educational qualifications, requirement of training etc. for the insurance agents. These requirements however are not applicable for old agents and their agency is renewable without complying to these requirements.

Vacant Posts in the Ministry

1934. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES 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 31.12.2001/31.3.2002, alongwith the date since when these are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the reasons for keeping these posts as vacant; and

(c) by when these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) The details are given below:

S. No.	Category wise name of posts	Post laying vacant	Vacant since
	Group 'A'		
1.	Deputy Director (Cost)	01	05.05.2001
	Group 'B'		
2.	Assistant	03	01.01.2001 10.09.2001
3.	Personal Assistant	02	31.01.2001 01.05.2001
4.	Senior Investigator	01	25.09.2001
	Group 'C'		
5.	Junior Hindi Translator	01	14.01.2002
6.	Upper Division Clerk	01	05.05.2001
7.	Steonographer	04	01.09.2000 16.10.2000 08.03.2002 08.03.2002
8.	Lower Division Clerk	03	06.01.2000 01.05.2001 01.02.2002
9.	Library Attendant	01	16.10.2001
	Group 'D'		
10.	Farash	01	01.12.2001

(b) and (c):

1. The post of Sr. No.1, is encadred with the Department of Expenditure who have been requested to fill the post.
2. In respect of posts at Sr. No. 2, 3, 6, 7 & 8, Ministry of Commerce and Industry is the cadre controlling authority. The Ministry is considering the filling up the posts as per the Government policy.
3. The post at Sr. No. 4 is reserved for Physically Handicapped persons and the proposal to fill up the post is pending with Staff Selection Commission.

4. In respect of post at Sr. No. 5, Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Official Languages) are the cadre controlling authority. The Department of Official Languages has been requested to fill up the post.

5. Vacancy at Sr. No. 9 is a short-term vacancy and is caused by the incumbent proceeding on deputation.

6. Filling up of the vacant post of Farash at Sr. No. 10 is likely to be processed shortly.

Measures to Boost Primary Market

1935. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI panel has proposed some measures to boost primary market recently;

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

(c) the extent to which these recommendations are likely to protect the interests of small investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Primary Market Advisory Committee of the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) met on 21st January 2002 and recommended inter alia, a common listing committee for listing of securities of any company in any exchange; permission for simultaneous offerings in domestic and overseas market; higher disclosures in the case of mergers, de-mergers etc.; draft and final prospectus to be made available on the websites of issuers and lead managers; and reduction in the time period for allotment in public issues.

(c) The Committee's recommendations were made with a view to inter-alia, bringing about uniformity in the standards and approach to listing.

[Translation]

Assistance for Development of Handicrafts in Gujarat

1936. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Handloom Development Corporation has requested the Central Government for assistance for the implementation of schemes relating to the development of handicrafts items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Geographical Indications Act, 1999

1937. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geographical Indications Act, 1999 has been notified;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to notify the Act, immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 was notified on 30th December, 1999. The operationalisation of the Act is contingent upon the finalization of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Rules and also upon the establishment of the Intellectual Property Appellate Board (IPAB). Steps are underway to expedite operationalisation and these include notification of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Rules, 2002 and establishment of the IPAB. The formalities relating to IPAB are nearing completion.

Gaya Jute and Cotton Mill

1938. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gaya Jute and Cotton Mill has been lying closed for quite sometime;

(b) if so, the reasons for closing down the Gaya Textile and Jute Mill; and

(c) the measures taken to revive the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The mill is lying closed since July 1997.

(b) The mill is lying closed due to uneconomic operations and is not able to generate even job work.

(c) Since the mill has been found unviable as per the Techno Economic Study, the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme circulated by BIFR, proposes the closure of the mill. Final decision in this regard is to be taken by BIFR.

Bifurcation of National Commission for SC/ST

1939. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bifurcate National Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which a bill seeking amendment in the Constitution of this effect is likely to be brought before the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A proposal for bifurcation of the Commission is under consideration. The problems of SCs and STs are quite different from each other. To give focused attention for the Welfare & Development of Tribals a separate Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also been set up.

World Bank Assistance to Maharashtra

1940. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have in a recently conducted study come to the conclusion that Maharashtra has the best investment climate among all the Indian States;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank have agreed to extend financial assistance to the Government of Maharashtra for further development of infrastructure for setting up new industrial units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes Sir. The World Bank in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) surveyed 1099 manufacturing companies in 4 major sector across 10 Indian States and concluded that Maharashtra alongwith Gujarat have the best investment climate among all Indian States.

(b) and (c) The World Bank has not committed to extend any financial assistance to Government of Maharashtra for further development of infrastructure for setting up of new industrial units based on this report.

[Translation]

"Small Saving Schemes in Rajasthan"

1941. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the small saving schemes being run in the rural areas of the country at present; and

(b) the effective steps taken by the Government to promote small saving schemes in the rural areas of the country especially in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The small savings schemes run by Government of India in the country as a whole including rural areas, are: Post Office Savings Accounts, Recurring Deposit Accounts, Time Deposits (1 year, 2 yr., 3 yr. and 5 years), Monthly Income Accounts, National Savings Scheme, 1992, Kisan Vikas Patra, National Savings Certificate (VIII Issue), Public Provident Fund and Deposit schemes for retiring Government employees and retiring employees of public sector companies.

(b) Steps are taken by the Union and State Governments for continued and enhanced mobilisation of resources by promoting small savings schemes throughout the country through advertisements in electronic as well as print media and carrying out publicity campaigns. Over 5 lakh small savings agents make these schemes available at the doorsteps of the investors. Investments of the small investors are safeguarded by offering implicit guarantee, attractive returns, tax benefits, liquidity and accessibility in regard to the small savings schemes.

[English]

System For Levy Excise/Customs Duty

1942. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court in the case of M/s Bombay Tyre International and MRF held in October 1983 and [1995 (77) ELT 433] respectively that after sale service, being part of selling expenses etc. should be included in the assessable value as these expenses promote marketability of the product and thus enter into its value;

(b) if so, whether some of the Commissionerate of Central Excise and Customs have not been including such charges in the assessable value resulting into short levy of duty of crores of rupees;

(c) if so, how much loss has thus been caused to the State by the Commissionerates of Customs and Central Excise, Commissionerate-wise in each of the last three years; and

(d) the measures taken to tone up the working of those Commissionerates and to realise the loss of revenue so suffered by the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir, based on these two Supreme Court decisions the Central Board of Excise & Customs have issued Circular No. 355/71/97-CX. Dated 19.11.97 and No. 435/1/99-CX. dated 12.1.99 clarifying that cost of after sales service, being incurred on behalf of the manufacturer would form part of the assessable value of the goods. This interpretation has however been challenged by a number of assesses, subsequently, before the Supreme Court and in the 13 cases where the decision of Supreme Court have been received, it has inter-alia been held that if the dealings between the manufacturer and the dealer are on principal to principal basis and no amounts are received by the manufacturer from the dealer in connection with the after sales service, the expanses incurred by the dealer towards after sales service, would not form a part of the assessable value.

(b) to (d) Under Central Excise Law and procedure, assessees themselves determine the assessable value and pay the duty.

However, the details of the cases detected in audit of such units or through anti evasion action of the department, in respect of this issue, are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank Aid to Bihar for Primary Education

1943. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sought financial assistance from the World Bank for development of primary education in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have forwarded this proposal to the World Bank;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) Government of Bihar recently has not sought financial assistance from World Bank for development of primary education in the State.

However, under the ongoing District Primary Education Phase III, signed on 23.2.1998 for an amount of US$ 152 million, World Bank assistance is being received for 11 districts of Bihar and 6 districts of Jharkhand. This project is scheduled to close on 30.9.2003. An extension of the project upto 2005 has been sought from the World Bank.

[Translation]

Small Denomination Currency Notes

1944. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the bank customers are finding it difficult to deposit the small denomination currency notes in the general branches of the nationalised banks and the currency notes of 5 and 10 rupee denominations are reluctantly received even in lesser number;

(b) whether there are no arrangements for exchange of small denomination currency notes into big denomination currency notes; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to bring about improvement in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Some complaints have been received against banks for refusal to accept small denomination currency notes including those of Rs. 5 and Rs. 10/- denominations.

(b) Arrangements for exchange of small denomination currency notes into big denomination notes are in place. These notes can be conveniently exchanged at the offices of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and at bank branches having currency chest facility.

(c) The Public sector banks have been requested by the RBI to open more currency chests and to improve customer service. Further, when any specific complaint is received, immediate instructions are issued to the concerned bank to redress the grievance.

[English]

Probationary Officers in Nationalised Banks

1945. SHRI RAMESH C. JIGAJINAGI:
SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4210 on December 14, 2001 regarding probationery officers in nationalised banks and state:

(a) whether the information has been collected by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information in respect of Unstarred Question No. 4210 is being collected from all the public sector banks/financial institutions. As the information, called for, is voluminous, the same would be furnished as soon as it is received.

Welfare Schemes for SCs/STs

1946. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the Government sponsored schemes/programmes being implemented by his Ministry 'to promote with special care' the economic interests of the SCs and STs so as to enable them to overcome historical economic handicaps and to join mainstream of our national life by participating in the activities of trade, commerce and industry of our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sea Food Export Industry

1947. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have engaged the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata for giving suggestion with regard to revive and promote the Indian sea food exports industry;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by IIM, Kolkata in this regard;

(c) whether some State Government including Andhra Pradesh have also given some suggestions in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government on the suggestions given by various States to promote sea food exports industry with the action taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) With the approval of the Ministry of Commerce, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and the Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI) had appointed the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata to formulate a Plan on restructuring the financing pattern of seafood processing and export industry and its infrastructural requirement. The study inter-alia recommended the creation of a Reconstruction Fund to meet these objectives.

(c) and (d) State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala have recommended and supported the creation of the Reconstruction Fund.

(e) Government have examined the suggestion for the creation of the Reconstruction Fund for the seafood industry. However it has not been found possible to support/accept the proposal.

Modernisation of Handloom Units

1948. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise the handloom units of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for modernisation of handloom units during the last two years, State-wise; and

(d) the number of handloom units likely to modernised with the allocated amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The objectives of the various schemes implemented for the development of the handloom sector, include, among others, modernization/modification/improvisation in the existing looms, with a view to increasing the production as well as the quality of handloom cloth;

(b) Out of the various Central sector and Centrally sponsored schemes currently under implementation for the development of the handloom industry and welfare of handloom weavers, the following schemes have components aimed at modernization/technology upgradation;

1. Under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY) introduced with effect from 1.4.2000, assistance is provided for acquisition of looms and accessories, design input and infrastructure support.

2. Under the Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing (DEPM) scheme, assistance is provided to National and Level Handloom Development Corporations, Primary and Apex Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Societies to build up production capabilities of the handloom industry for export.

3. Under the Research and Development scheme, assistance is provided to National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC), institutions engaged in R&D work including professional and voluntary organizations for undertaking R&D projects for the development of handloom sector.

4. The National Centre for Textile Design (NCTD) launched in March, 2001 promotes traditional and contemporary designs so as to enable the handloom sector to be responsive to the rapidly changing market demand.

(c) No State wise allocations are made under the above schemes. The Government of India considers the proposals received in conformity with the guidelines under above schemes for sanction of Central assistance.

(d) The details of the number of handloom units likely to be modernized, beneficiaries and looms likely to be covered with the amounts sanctioned by the Government of India under DDHPY and DEPM, State-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement. Under the Research and Development Scheme, 51 Research Projects have been sanctioned for 36 Organisations involving a total outlay of Rs. 234.129 lakh during the years from 1997-1998 to 2001-2002 (upto 11th March, 2002). Further a sum of Rs. 130.27 lakh has been released to NCTD to promote traditional and contemporary designs during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto 11th March, 2002).

Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

S.	Name of the State	Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana				Development of Exportable Products and Their Marketing Scheme							
		2000-2001				1999-2000				2000-2001			
		No. of projects	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of Units	Amt. Sanctioned	No. of projects	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of Units	Amt. Sanctioned	No. of projects	No. of Beneficiaries	No. of Units	Amt. Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	3	350	350	3.75000	-	-	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
3.	Assam	45	4400	4400	79.20000	1	100	100	1.50000	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	50	50	2.00000
6.	Delhi	-	-	-	-	1	10	10	0.75000	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat **	1	2500	2500	175.00000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8.	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	30	30	1.50000
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7	250	187	2.12500	6	1054	1054	6.50000	2	350	350	3.00000
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	600	600	5.40000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4	185	30	0.42500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Manipur	74	3627	3627	156.45500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
17.	Meghalaya	1	100	100	1.80000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	1	100	100	1.50000	-	-	-	-
19.	Nagaland	10	1000	300	5.40000	-	-	-	-	2	450	450	2.00000
20.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	1	200	200	1.50000	-	-	-	-
21.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	2	250	250	3.00000	1	150	150	1.00000
22.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	200	200	1.50000
25.	Tripura	16	1015	465	4.18500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26.	Uttar Pradesh	21	2075	2050	10.50000	4	810	810	6.00000	1	500	500	1.50000
27.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28.	West Bengal	12	890	442	6.13800	1	100	100	1.50000	3	336	336	3.20000
29.	National Handloom Development Corporation (to cover U.P. & Orissa)	-	-	-	-	1	100	100	2.00000	1	35	35	3.50000
30.	All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society (to cover U.P. Haryana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	100	3.00000
31.	Handloom Export Promotion Council (to cover Tamil Nadu & Kerala)	-	-	-	-	2	200	200	8.00000	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
32.	North Eastern Handloom & Handicraft Development Corporations (to cover Mizoram)	-	-	-	-	1	300	300	1.50000	-	-	-	-
	Total	197	16642	14701	446.62800	24	3574	3574	37.50000	14	2201	2201	22.20000

* Scheme introduced in 2000-2001.

** Project sanctioned for coverage of weavers of earthquake affected areas.

US Funding to Developmental Programmes/Projects

1949. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an adverse effect on the US funding to Government's various developmental programmes/projects due to the terrorist strikes in America on September 11, 2001 and war with Taliban;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up this matter with US Agency for International Development (USAID); and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of talks held so far?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Implementation of UNDP

1950. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are finding procedural problems in the implementation of United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with UNDP to eliminate such hurdles in order to ensure more effective implementation of UNDP projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

World Bank Aided Project

1951. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of World Bank aided developmental projects under construction in the country;

(b) the names of these projects and the funds allocated for each of these projects by the World Bank;

(c) the total estimated cost for the completion of each project; and

(d) the amount arranged from other sources besides World Bank for this purpose and name of those sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) A Statement is attached.

Statement

(data provisional)

(in US $ million except where specifically indicated)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amount of loan to be advanced by World Bank	Project cost	Amount of funding from other sources, if any, alongwith the name of the source.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ecodevelopment Project	28.00	67.00	20.0 (GEF)

1	2	3	4	5
2.	UP and Uttaranchal Forestry	52.80	65.01	–
3.	Kerala Forestry Project	39.00	47.00	–
4.	Env. Management Cap. Bldg. T.A. Project	29.64	34.70	–
5.	Kerala Rural Water Supply Project	65.50	89.80	–
6.	UP Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	52.40	71.00	–
7.	Agriculture and Human Resources Development Project	59.50	74.20	–
8.	AP District Poverty Initiative Project	111.00	134.80	–
9.	Assam Rural Infr. Agri. Support Project	126.00	146.60	–
10.	Integrated Watershed Dev. Project (Hills II)	135.00	193.00	–
11.	Karnataka Watershed Dev. Project	100.40	127.60	–
12.	MP District Poverty Initiatives Project	110.10	134.70	–
13.	National Agriculture Tech. Project	196.80	239.70	–
14.	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives Project	100.50	124.80	–
15.	Rural Women Dev. & Empowerment Project	19.50	53.80	–
16.	UP Diversified Ag. Support Project	129.90	160.50	–
17.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation II	194.10	286.60	–
18.	UP Health System Dev. Project	110.00	127.58	–
19.	Maharashtra Health System Dev. Project	134.00	158.10	–
20.	Orissa Health Sy. Dev. Project	76.40	90.70	–
21.	AP Health Sy. Dev. Project	123.00	159.00	–
22.	II State Health Sy. Dev. Project	350.00	416.70	–
23.	National Leprosy El. Project.II	30.00	42.20	–
24.	Cataract Blindness Control Project	87.80	135.70	–
25.	TB Control Project	142.40	176.40	–
26.	Malaria Control Prog.	164.80	203.80	–
27.	II National HIV/AIDS Project	194.75	229.80	–
28.	District Primary Education Project-I	260.30	310.50	–
29.	District Primary Education Project-II	425.20	534.40	25.8 (Govt. of Netherlands)

1	2	3	4	5
30.	District Primary Education Project-III Bihar	152.00	199.70	10 (UNICEF)
31.	Rajasthan District Primary Education Project	81.90	87.50	-
32.	Rajasthan District Primary Education Project II	74.40	101.30	-
33.	UP District Primary Education Project	182.40	214.70	-
34.	Tech. Education III	64.90	80.10	-
35.	Immunization Strengthening Project	142.60	158.80	-
36.	India Population Project VIII	79.00	96.60	-
37.	India Population Project IX	78.60	103.80	-
38.	Reproductive & Child Health Project	218.30	248.30	-
39.	Integrated Child Development Services I	194.00	248.80	-
40.	Integrated Child Development Services III	300.00	422.30	-
41.	II National Highway Project	306.00	385.30	-
42.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Cyclone Reconstruction Project	131.00	220.00	-
43.	AP State Highway	350.00	485.00	AUD 1.8 million (Govt. of Australia)
44.	TN Urban Dev. Project	105.00	205.00	-
45.	III National Highway Project	516.00	650.00	-
46.	Telecom Sec. Rec. TA Project	62.00	72.00	-
47.	Gujarat Highway Project	381.00	533.00	-
48.	Karnataka Highway Imp. Project	369.00	447.00	-
49.	Grand Trunk Road Imp. Project	589.00	756.00	-
50.	Bombay Sewage Disposal Project	157.00	295.00	103.60 (Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay)
51.	II Madras Water Supply Project	80.50	421.00	72.6 (Govt. of Tamil Nadu), 72.6 (Madras Metro Water Supply and Sewage Board)
52.	Haryana Water Resources Cons. Project	209.70	483.40	225.4 (Govt. of Haryana)

1	2	3	4	5
53.	Orissa Water Res. Cons. Project	290.90	345.50	48.2 (Govt. of Orissa), 6.4(Commuunity's Contribution)
54.	TN Water Res. Cons. Project	282.90	315.60	32.7 (Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
55.	AP Irrigation III Project	325.00	477.43	152.43(Govt. of AP)
56.	Hydrology Project	122.40	162.40	20.4 (Multi-states)
57.	UP Water Sector Res. Project	149.20	173.70	24.50 (Govt. of UP)
58.	Nathpa Jhakri Power Project	485.00	1836.60	300.6 (Co-financers), 1051 (Government of India/GoHP/HPSEB)
59.	Orissa Power Sec. Res. Project	290.00	997.20	56.8 (ADB), 110 (Official Development Agency), 25.6 (Govt. of Orissa), Internal Cash: General 221.8, Other 273
60.	UP Power Sec. Rest. Project	159.00	236.00	0.2 , (ODA) 85.8 (Govt. of UP)
61.	AP Power Project	210.00	576.00	70 (Dept. for International Development), 3 (Canadian International Development Agency), 28 (Power Finance Corpo.), 70 (Rec) 67 (others), 128 Govt. of AP
62.	Rajasthan Power Project	180.00	266.80	2 (others EAPs) 60 (Govt. of Raj.) 24.8 (others)
63.	Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency II	135.00	300.00	3.8 (EAPs/IFs), 179 (others)
64.	Power Sector Development Programme II	450.00	1300.00	Rs. 1145 crores (EAP/ IF/KfW)
65.	Gujarat Earthquake Rec. Program	400.00	473.90	-—
66.	Coal Sec. Env. & Soc. Mitigation Project	63.00	84.00	21 (Coal India)
67.	AP Eco. Res. Project	542.90	830.00	190.8 (GoAP), 96 (beneficiaries)
	Total	12558.39	19926.02	

Production of Bio-Tea

1952. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have agreed to develop the cultivation of bio-tea jointly which is free from the adverse effects of chemicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations has given its approval to this proposal; and

(d) if so, the export potential of such kind of tea alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A pilot project proposal has been submitted to the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) through Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Inter Government Group on Tea. The project is basically aimed at development of technology and systems of organic tea production by setting up model organic farms.

(c) Yes, Sir. The FAO has in principle approved the project.

(d) The organic commodity market, including tea, represents a growing and premium priced niche market. Organic tea production in India is gaining momentum and has already increased twenty fold from 0.15 million kgs in 1990 to 3.5 million kgs currently. The entire organic tea produced in India is exported and the price difference between organic and non-organic tea is around 50-100%. The growing production of organic tea in the country has immense export potential with higher value realization as natural food is attracting high demand in the developed countries.

[English]

Disability Act, 1995

1953. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

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

(a) the number of meetings held by the Central Coordination Committee (CCC) till date, the policy making body, under the Disability Act, 1995 which was notified in February, 1996;

(b) the number of meetings held by the Central Executive Committee (CEC), the decision making body from 1996 till date;

(c) whether these meetings of CCC and CEC are contrary to the directions given in the Disability Act, 1995; and

(d) if so, the various measures taken by the Government to mitigate the miseries of disabled persons in our country?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The Central Coordination Committee (CCC) has met four times.

(b) The Central Executive Committee (CEC) constituted on 15-9-97 has met eight times so far.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Arrears of Electricity and Coal Against PSUs

1954. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) an apex body of the public undertakings has requested to the Government to give the adequate powers to the electricity and coal undertakings for the recovery of arrears;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the arrears of electricity and coal related public undertakings outstanding against States and others as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has submitted a Memorandum on Economic Policy Issues for Union Budget 2002 to the Finance Minister wherein it was, inter-alia, emphasized that the hands of the PSUs should be strengthened to augment the country's energy programme. One of the suggestions made was that the PSUs may be helped to recover their dues from the State entities, which are, of the order of Rs. 25,000 crores or more as estimated by SCOPE.

As mentioned in Finance Minister's Budget Speech, restoration of financial viability in the Power Sector remains crucial. The high level empowered group of Chief Ministers and Union Ministers has agreed to a one time settlement scheme in regard to State Electricity Boards' (SEB) over dues to the Central Public Sector utilities through securitisation and issue of tax free bonds by the respective State Governments subject to the achievement of specified performance milestones and full payment of current dues in the future.

Human Resource Management Committee for Banks

1955. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any Human Resource Management Committee for the public sector banks;

(b) whether this Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the main recommendation made by this Committee; and

(d) the reaction of the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) A Committee comprising representatives of Indian Banks' Association (IBA), Public Sector Banks and Ministry of Finance was set up in June, 2000 for making recommendations on all aspects of Human Resource Management in Public Sector Banks. The Committee submitted its report on 9.10.2000. A Statement indicating the gist of the recommendations made by the Committee is enclosed.

(d) Government of India/Indian Banks' Association have taken action on major recommendations by way of issuing appropriate guidelines such as:-

1. Introduction of Voluntary Retirement Scheme/ Sabbatical Leave Scheme.
2. To increase the percentage of direct recruits in Junior Management Grade Scale-I to 50% in a phased manner.
3. To frame their own recruitment strategy/policy which in turn might take care of the aspirations of the local people in the banks' service.
4. To organize training programmes for providing proper training and acquiring required level of specialized qualifications/skills of banks' officers/ staff.
5. To enhance the incentives payable to offices posted from other parts of the country in North-Eastern Region.
6. To enhance the ceiling for house building advance.

The Committee's recommendation with regard to rolling back the age of retirement from 60 years to 58 years has not been accepted. Other recommendations of the Committee will provide useful input in the Government's decision making process on these issues.

Statement

Gist of Recommendations made by the Committee on Human Resource Management in Public Sector Banks

1. With a view to right-size the manpower, Public Sector Banks may introduce a scheme for Voluntary Retirement, Sabbatical and Government should take steps to roll-back the age of retirement for officers from 60 to 58 years.
2. Disciplinary action should be taken against functionaries engaging casual/temporary employees against recruitment rules.
3. Support services like maintenance/cleanliness may be out-sourced.
4. Norms for allocation of work and productivity of staff be reviewed.
5. The age for direct recruitment of officers be reduced from 30 years to 28 years and candidates with higher academic qualifications be recruited in Middle Management Grade.
6. 50% of the vacancies in JMG Scale I and 25% in Scale II be filled up by direct recruitment instead of only 25% in Scale I as at present.
7. Test of local language (qualifying) be introduced for clerical cadre.
8. The maximum qualification for recruitment to subordinate staff be raised from non-matric to matric/SSC or its equivalent.
9. Reducing the time-span for career progression from Junior Management Grade Scale I to Top Executive Grade Scale VII from 25 years to 20 years and curtailing the number of scales in officers' grade from seven to five.

10. Introduction of Fast Track Channel for promotion and making rural service as incentive oriented.

11. Providing additional services/facilities to customers for achieving optimum use of manpower.

12. Reviewing the training needs and strategy to make it attuned with modern technology and requirement.

13. Formulating a transfer policy for performance linked rewards/incentives and deterrent for non-performance.

14. Providing suitable monetary benefit/ex gratia to the family members of a deceased employee instead of compassionate appointment.

15. Making policies concerning transfers and placement more broad-based.

16. Reviewing performance appraisal system and forms.

17. Quick disposal of disciplinary cases.

18. Linking allowances and perquisites to bank's profitability and capacity to pay.

19. Payment of a lump sum amount instead of reimbursement based on bills for perquisites like LTC, medical aid, etc.

20. Allowing banks to have more than one Executive Director.

21. Making changes in the service conditions of Chairmen/Executive Directors so as to ensure that each appointee should have sufficiently long tenure for the sake of continuity in the policies and programmes.

22. Enhancement of special ad hoc incentives payable to officers posted in N.E. Region and ceiling for House Building Advance.

[English]

Funds to States on Export Performance

1956. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have created a Corpus of fund which will devolve to the States on the basis of their export performance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have also urged to State Government to announce their fiscal policies on SEZs; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the creation of fund will encourage various States to promote exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Commerce has recently notified a new scheme called 'ASIDE' (Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development and Exports). The scheme proposes to provide funds to the State Governments/Union Territories for export promotion. Under the scheme 20% of the total fund will remain with the Union Government and 80% of the funds will be given to State Governments/Union Territories. Out of this 80% of fund, 50% will be given to State Governments/Union Territories on the basis of their export performance and 50% for their export growth.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The ASIDE Scheme will encourage the State Governments/Union Territories to promote exports by creating appropriate export infrastructure and by providing facilitation for export promotion.

Distribution of Iodised Salt Through PDS

1957. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Iodine Deficiency disorders are prevalent in some districts in Karnataka;

(b) whether there is any proposal to supply idodised salt at subsidised rates through public distribution system for the people under below poverty line in the country particularly in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) A suggestion to introduce iodised salt in the Public Distribution System (PDS) has been received. However, no final proposal in this regard has been formulated.

Trade Deficit

1958. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's export witnessed a negative growth during the current year;

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

(c) the reasons for such negative export growth;

(d) whether as a result of negative export growth India's trade deficit has also increased during the above period;

(e) if so, the details of India's trade deficit during April—December, 2001 in terms of Dollar and Rupee; and

(f) the specific plan of the Government to avoid such trend in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (e) No, Sir. As per the latest available data from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistic (DGCI&S), Calcutta, India's exports of merchandise goods during April-January, 2001-2002 are valued at US $ 36.526 billion which is 1.56% higher than the level of US $ 35.963 billion during the April-January, 2000-2001. Exports, during the month of January 2002, recorded a rise of 18.18% in dollar terms as compared to the exports of January, 2001. The trade deficit during April-December, 2001 in dollar terms was US $ (-) 5790 million and in rupee term was Rs. (-) 27308 crores.

(f) Export promotion continues to be a major thrust area. Several measures to boost exports have been undertaken in order to provide competitive edge to the Indian goods in the International market. Some of the recent measures taken to promote exports include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacturer exporters with an export contract of Rs. 100 crore or above for a period of one year, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports for a period of one year and upward revision of duty draw back rates on a number of product groups. All this and other factors have helped to arrest the declining trend in exports experienced during the early part of the current financial year. Further, taking Stock of the developments in the recent past and considering the current global economic environment, the Medium Term Export Strategy for the period 2002-2007 has been announced.

[Translation]

Gold Prices

1959. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gold prices have registered a steep increase recently;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure stability in gold prices;

(d) whether the smuggling of gold has increased during the last one year and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to check smuggling of gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The price of gold (Delhi Standard) increased from Rs. 426 per gram since end March 2001 to Rs 500 per gram in the beginning of March 2002, mainly due to an increase in the international price of gold.

(d) Seizures of gold and intelligence available do not suggest that smuggling of gold has increased during the last one year.

(e) All field formations of the Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to detect and prevent smuggling of contraband goods including gold.

[English]

Closure of Super Bazars

1960. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

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

(a) whether the Government have received any requests from those suppliers, employees and their

associations whose payments are pending owing to proposed decision to close the Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which and the manner in which the outstanding payments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Super Bazar is a Cooperative Society registered under Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984. The requests of Suppliers, employees and their associations whenever received, have been forwarded to Super Bazar for necessary action. Super Bazar have informed that at present Super Bazar is facing acute financial crisis and the payment to Suppliers will be made as and when its financial position improves.

[Translation]

Procurement of Sugarcane by Sugar Mills

1961. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether there is no uniform price fixed for procurement of sugarcane by mills;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Central Government does not fix price for procurement of sugarcane by mills. However, in pursuance of the provisions of clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order — 1996, the Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane payable by the vacuum pan process sugar factories for each sugar season. The SMP so fixed is uniform but linked to recovery level. Since the recovery level differs from factory to factory, the SMP varies from factory to factory.

Smuggling of Foreign Currency

1962. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons against whom cases have been registered on the charges of smuggling of foreign currency into India and the number of arrests made in this regard during the last three years till date;

(b) whether the Government have failed to file enquiry report in the court even after sixty days against persons arrested on the charge of smuggling of foreign currency; and

(c) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of foreign currency and to ensure early action against the accused persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) 3240 cases of smuggling (both inward and outward) of foreign exchange were detected during the last three years (upto February 2002). 161 persons were arrested in this regard.

(b) No Sir. Enquiry report was filed against 132 persons during this period before the jurisdictional Court. Enquiry Report could not be filed in respect of 23 arrested persons even after sixty days mainly due to non-completion of adjudication proceedings.

(c) All the field formations of the Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to check the smuggling of contraband goods including foreign currency. Early action is taken against the guilty persons by way of imposition of penalties through departmental adjudication, and also launching of prosecution in deserving cases.

[English]

Reserves with PSES

1963. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the reserves with each of the Public Enterprises during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and

(b) the details of the dividend paid to the Government during each of these years by such Public Enterprise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) The details of reserves & surplus held and dividend declared by each of the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) during the year 2000-2001, the period till which information is available, is given in Volume-III of Public Enterprises Survey 2000-2001 which was laid in the Parliament on 7.3.2002 and is a published document.

Credit deposit Ratio of Banks

1964. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the credit deposit ratio of banks in the North Eastern States and Sikkim, State-wise during the two years vis-a-vis India;

(b) the steps Government have taken on the need for greater utilization of deposits collected in the region for its economic development in line with the All India Policy; and

(c) the amount of NPAs of banks in the region and Sikkim, State-wise for the last two years vis-a-vis India as well as sector-wise distribution of such NPAs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The credit deposit ratio of all scheduled commercial banks, regional rural banks and State Co-operative Banks in the North Eastern States, Sikkim and also for country as a whole for the last two years are given below:

	Name of the State	Credit Deposit Ratio (in per cent)	
		March 31, 2000	March 31, 2001
1.	Assam	33.00	31.71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21.00	21.00
3.	Manipur	38.40	40.77
4.	Meghalaya	17.80	20.21
5.	Mizoram	24.90	37.84
6.	Nagaland	17.75	25.76
7.	Tripura	30.41	27.82
8.	Sikkim	13.79	15.59
	All India	58.08	58.53

(b) With a view to increase the flow of credit, Annual Credit Plan are prepared for district every year and implementation thereof is monitored by various fora created under the lead bank scheme viz, Block Level Bankers' Committee at Block level, District Consulative Committee at District Level and State Level Bankers' Committee at State level. The Annual Credit Plan is prepared taking into consideration availability of bankable proposals/schemes and the potential for lending in the area. Matters relating to CD ratio are also regularly reviewed in the DCC and SLBC meetings.

(c) The amount of Non Performing Asset (NPA) of Public Sector banks in North Eastern States and also for the country as a whole for the last two years are given below:

	Name of the State	Position of Non-Performing Assets	
		March 31, 2000 Amount (Rs. crore)	March 31,2001 Amount (Rs. crore)
1.	Assam	898	1262
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19	25
3.	Manipur	134	124
4.	Meghalaya	113	129
5.	Mizoram	48	53
6.	Nagaland	66	64
7.	Tripura	166	162
8.	Sikkim	12	16
	All India	53,294	54,773

Sector-wise break-up of the above NPAs is not available.

[Translation]

World Bank Aid to U.P.

1965. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the projects undertaken in Uttar Pradesh with the World Bank assistance alongwith the details of pending projects;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to accord sanction to these projects; and

(c) the details of the assistance received for various ongoing projects in India from the World Bank during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) A *statement-I* of projects being implemented in Uttar Pradesh with the assistance of World Bank is annexed. However, there are no projects pending for Government of India approval.

(c) A *statement-II* is annexed.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of Project	Date of signing	Loan/Credit amount committed by the World Bank	Cumulative utilisation (as on January 2002)
1.	UP Health System Development Project	19.5.2000	110.00	3.12
2.	UP District Primary Education Project	23.2.2000	182.40	56.40
3.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation Project	4.2.1999	194.18	36.19
4.	UP & Uttaranchal Forestry Project	30.12.1997	52.80	25.27
5.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support Project	30.7.1998	129.90	32.50
6.	UP Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	22.7.1996	52.40	24.17
7.	UP Power Sector Restructuring Project	19.5.2000	150.00	44.41
8.	UP Water Restructuring Project	8.3.2002	149.20	0.00

Statement-II

World Bank Assistance Projects

Sl.	Name of the Project	Source	Date of Approval	Currency	Loan (DC in Million)	Disbursement during the year (Rupees in Crore)		
						1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh								
1.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency Cyclone	IDA	9.7.97	US $	100.00	83.56	99.68	122.39
2.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency	IBRD	3.6.97	US $	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	AP Forestry	IDA	9.3.94	US $	77.40	55.75	70.69	38.55
4.	Andhra Pradesh Power Sector	IBRD	5.3.99	US $	210.00	43.05	196.67	188.62
5.	AP State Highway	IBRD	30.7.97	US $	350.00	44.02	174.47	278.11
6.	Hyderabad Water Supply & Sanitation	IDA	25.5.90	US $	79.90	29.04	–	–
7.	AP Irrigation-III	IDA	3.6.97	US $	150.00	37.00	59.64	125.19
8.	AP Irrigation	IBRD	3.6.97	US $	175.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	AP Referral Health System	IDA	22.12.94	US $	133.00	130.90	78.11	70.45
10.	3103-IN AP Economic Restructuring	IDA	4.2.99	US $	241.90	123.21	118.44	118.62
11.	4360-IN AP Economic Restructuring	IBRD	4.2.99	US $	301.30	137.09	174.49	204.04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12.	A.P. District Pover Initiative Project	IDA	12.5.2000	US $	111.00	–	–	19.01
Assam								
1.	Assam Rural Infrastructure	IDA	6.6.95	US $	126.00	29.31	44.71	109.45
Bihar								
1.	Bihar Plateau Development	IDA	7.12.92	US $	117.00	100.35	88.87	58.11
2.	DPEP-III	IDA	3.2.98	US $	152.00	33.45	37.14	35.11
Gujarat								
1.	Environmental Management Capacity Bldg.	IDA	14.3.97	US $	50.00	3.63	7.71	0.00
2.	Gujarat State Highway Project	IBRD	18.10.2000	US $	381.00	–	–	153.4
Haryana								
1.	Haryana Power Restructuring	IBRD	16.1.98	US $	60.00	78.29	57.38	89.14
2.	Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	6.4.94	US $	258.00	81.33	142.35	190.86
Karnataka								
1.	Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	IDA	4.6.1993	US $	92.00	123.47	130.56	0.00
2.	Upper Krishna Ph.III	IBRD	16.6.89	US $	6.82	–	–	–
3.	Karnataka Water Supply Mgnt.	IBRD	23.12.99	US $	1.50	–	–	–
Kerala								
1.	Kerala Forestry	IDA	13.8.98	US $	39.00	16.60	20.63	25.29
Madhya Pradesh								
1.	Madhya Pradesh Forestry	IDA	11.4.95	US $	58.00	61.20	79.58	0.00
2.	M.P. District Poverty Initiative Project	IDA	5.12.2000	US $	110.10	–	–	16.3
Maharashtra								
1.	Maharashtra Forestry	IDA	29.1.92	US $	107.82	82.53	34.39	0.00
2.	Maharashtra Power	IBRD	11.9.89	US $	337.00	180.35	–	–
3.	Second Maharashtra Power	IBRD	8.7.92	US $	112.25	0.00	–	–
4.	Private Infrastructure (ILOFS)	IDA	10.7.96	US $	5.00	1.74	1.11	0.00
5.	Mah. Rural Water Supply	IDA	5.6.91	US $	109.90	83.62	–	–
6.	Maharashtra Health System Dev.	IDA	14.1.99	US $	134.00	13.08	0.00	5.63
7.	Bombay Sewage Disposal	IBRD	28.12.95	US $	167.00	65.29	66.55	79.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Orissa								
1.	Orissa Power Sector Restructuring	IBRD	10.7.96	US $	350.00	31.48	236.54	228.52
2.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	5.1.96	US $	290.90	127.57	124.52	88.32
3.	Orissa Health Systems Dev.	IDA	13.8.98	US $	76.40	15.26	2.79	12.03
Punjab								
1.	Punjab Irrigation	IDA	9.2.90	US $	145.29	91.22	-	0.00
Rajasthan								
1.	A.D.P. Rajasthan Agriculture Dev.	IDA	17.12.92	US $	106.00	55.66	36.76	30.95
2.	Rajasthan District Primary Education	IDA	6.7.99	US $	81.90	-	15.07	16.66
3.	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiative Project	IDA	19.5.2000	US $	100.50	-	-	17.02
4.	Rajasthan Power Restructuring Project	IBRD	27.2.2001	US $	180.00	-	-	85.26
Tamil Nadu								
1.	Tamilnadu Agricultural Dev.	IDA		US $	92.00	24.46		
2.	Tamilnadu Agricultural Dev.	IBRD		US $	20.00	39.26		
3.	TN Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	22.9.95	US $	282.90	81.52	249.52	148.94
4.	Second Madras Water Supply	IBRD	20.11.95	US $	86.50	55.83	86.32	72.39
5.	Second Tamilnadu Urban Dev.	IBRD	14.7.99	US $	105.00	-	63.01	224.5
6.	Tamilnadu Urban Dev.	IDA	16.9.88	US $	254.73			
Uttar Pradesh				-	-	-		
1.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation	IDA	24.6.93	US $	54.70	51.40	45.20	10.75
2.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support	IDA	30.7.98	US $	50.00	23.14	24.53	51.61
3.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation-II	IDA	4.2.99	US $	194.10	-	32.76	83.57
4.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support	IBRD	30.7.98	US $	79.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	UP Forestry	IDA	30.12.97	US $	52.94	30.81	29.11	33.84
6.	UP Rural Water Supply & Env. San.	IBRD	22.7.96	US $	52.40	25.99	23.66	42.79
7.	UP Primary Education	IDA	7.7.93	US $	165.00	85.33	51.54	41.44
8.	UP Basic Education-II	IDA	3.3.98	US $	59.40	87.07	70.53	66.53
9.	UP Power Restructuring Project	IBRD	19.5.2000	US $	150.00	-	-	63.16
10.	UP Health System Development Project	IDA	19.5.2000	US $	110.00	-	-	13.31
West Bengal								
1.	West Bengal Forestry	IDA	25.3.92	US $	34.00	4.30	-	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Calcutta Water Supply. Sewarage and Drainage	IBRD	23.7.99	US $	2.50	–	0.00	2.67
Delhi								
1.	Delhi Water Supply & Sanitation	IBRD	20.4.99	US $	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00

[English]

Import of Gold And Platinum

1966. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the import of gold and platinum made by the various nationalized banks during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government have given permission to these banks for sale of gold and platinum to the consumers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the import of gold and platinum of foreign banks is much higher than the Indian nationalised banks; and

(e) if so, the comparative figures thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The import of gold made by the twelve nationalised banks authorized to import gold and platinum during the last two calendar years (January to December) is given below:-

Gold

Year	Quantity (Kgs)	Value (Rs. in Crores)
2000	270,581.13	10,934.21
2001	260,256.09	10,596.09
Total	530,837.22	21,530.30

There was no import of platinum by the nationalised banks during the last two calendar years.

(b) and (c) Scheduled commercial banks authorized by RBI to import gold and platinum under the EXIM Policy 1997-2002 are allowed to sell the same to jewellery manufacturer-exporters and also for domestic consumption.

(d) and (e) The quantity of gold imported by nationalized banks is more than that imported by foreign banks. However, platinum was imported by foreign banks only and there was no import of platinum by the nationalized banks. The comparative figures of gold and platinum imports by twelve nationalised banks vis-a-vis five foreign banks authorized to import gold and platinum for the last two calendar years (January-December) are given below:-

Gold

Year	Quantity (Kgs)	Value (Rs. in Crores)
2000		
Nationalised Banks	270,581.13	10,934.21
Foreign Banks	185,903.13	7,516.73
2001		
Nationalised Banks	260,256.09	10,596.09
Foreign Banks	225,914.97	9,119.58

Platinum

Year	Quantity (Kgs)	Value (Rs. in Crores)
2000		
Nationalised Banks	0.00	0.00
Foreign Banks	4.00	0.22
2001		
Nationalised Banks	0.00	0.00
Foreign Banks	5.50	0.36

Allocation of Foodgrains to States

1967. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU:
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

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

(a) whether the quantum of foodgrains being supplied under Public Distribution System has increased in those States which have been affected by natural calamities;

(b) if so, the names of the States which were hit by natural calamities during the last year alongwith the increase in quantum of foodgrains, item-wise; and

(c) the criteria laid down regarding the increase in foodgrains to the States hit by natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India has decided to give additional allocation of foodgrains at below poverty line (BPL) rates to the drought affected States for distribution to all the drought affected families (BPL & APL) @ 20 kg per family per month for a period of three months during current financial year 2001-2002. This allocation is in addition to the normal monthly entitlement of foodgrains of BPL families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The total additional allocation for calamity relief made to various States during 2001-2002 at BPL rates is 8.85 lakh tonnes of rice and 12.47 lakh tonnes of wheat till date. The State-wise allocation is as follows:-

(Fig. in tonnes)

S. No.	State	Rice	Wheat	Total	Purpose
1.	Andhra Pradesh	490560	-	490560	Drought relief
2.	Bihar	-	1800000	180000	Drought relief
3.	Gujarat	81765	245292	327057	Drought relief
4.	Himachal Pradesh	119250	3000	149250	Drought relief
5.	Madhya Pradesh	29437	91844	121281	Drought relief
6.	Maharashtra	164456	328912	493368	Drought relief
7.	Rajasthan	-	370665	370665	Drought relief
	Total	885468	1246713	2132581	

Performance of EPZs/SEZs

1968. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the working of the Export Processing Zones/Special Economic Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the period covered under the review;

(c) the outcome of review; and

(d) the items and the total value of exports/ imports made through each EPZ/SEZ during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The performance of the Export Processing Zones (EPZs)/Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are under constant review. Review of the Zones has revealed that the exports from the Zones have been steadily on the increase and the exports have risen from Rs. 5252.48 crores during 1998-99 to Rs. 8552.30 crores in 2000-2001.

(d) *Statement-I* showing item-wise exports made from EPZs/SEZs during the last three years is annexed. Statement-II showing imports made by EPZs/SEZs during the last three years is also annexed.

Statement-I

(Rs. in Crores)

Zone	Year	Electro-nics Hardware	Electro-nics Software	Enginee-ring Goods	Gem & Jewellery	Leather	Texti-les & garments	Pharma-ceutical & Che-micals	Plastic & Rubber goods	Food & Agro Products	Others	Total
Kandla	1998-1999	-	-	30.19	-	-	84.88	219.72	34.33	-	22.69	391.81
SEZ*	1999-2000	-	-	35.77	-	-	81.85	339.06	66.33	-	20.65	543.66
	2000-2001	-	-	54.34	-	-	83.18	311.49	48.10	-	30.78	527.89
SEEPZ	1998-1999	324.59	876.48	-	2080.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	3281.84
SEZ*	1999-2000	678.39	1041.71	-	2426.47	-	-	-	-	-	-	4146.57
	2000-2001	1209.51	1349.94	-	2634.29	-	-	-	-	-	-	5193.74
Noida	1998-1999	108.76	150.35	118.48	120.67	16.95	111.74	40.78	23.81	-	60.53	752.07
EPZ*	1999-2000	165.98	139.31	120.12	129.45	12.70	134.13	46.22	29.50	-	68.22	845.63
	2000-2001	269.66	178.60	101.42	192.79	8.79	138.74	32.94	26.92	-	84.34	1034.20
Madras	1998-1999	34.74	109.79	72.77	7.79	41.23	180.45	45.33	20.48	1.54	21.82	535.94
EPZ*	1999-2000	21.97	118.00	92.34	14.63	47.45	160.70	58.61	18.95	1.50	11.27	545.42
	2000-2001	33.09	162.98	151.55	13.64	59.98	169.13	64.72	13.74	1.03	20.98	690.84
Cochin	1998-1999	87.87	0.35	5.39	-	-	23.40	-	27.00	42.71	13.33	200.05
	1999-2000	120.81	1.63	5.87	-	-	29.35	-	19.60	24.31	39.43	241.00
	2000-2001	157.84	5.38	8.56	-	-	26.08	-	20.08	17.71	68.65	304.30
Falta	1998-1999	-	0.10	11.80	-	2.57	23.31	7.93	11.24	9.74	6.08	72.77
EPZ*	1999-2000	2.70	-	42.70	-	10.98	165.92	4.69	25.41	11.05	3.15	266.60
	2000-2001	13.54	-	86.32	-	32.90	272.50	19.66	28.68	7.93	58.44	519.97
Visaka	1998-1999	-	-	8.71	9.11	-	-	-	-	-	0.18	18.00
Patnam	1999-2000	-	2.86	51.14	63.40	-	0.70	-	0.03	0.23	0.68	119.04
EPZ	2000-2001	-	16.15	74.61	116.07	-	09.49	-	0.42	0.14	2.20	219.08
Surat	1998-1999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SEZ**	1999-2000	-	-	-	0.46	-	-	-	0.24	-	-	0.70
	2000-2001	-	-	-	51.35	-	-	-	0.23	10.70	-	62.28

* EPZ converted into SEZ w.e.f. 1.11.2000. ** Pvt. Sector

Statement-II

(Rs. in Crores)

Zone	Year	Imports*
1	2	3
Kandla	1998-1999	119.68
SEZ*	1999-2000	133.45
	2000-2001	154.87
SEEPZ SEZ*	1998-1999	1262.61
	1999-2000	1925.21
	2000-2001	2206.13
Noida	1998-1999	323.90
EPZ	1999-2000	404.88
	2000-2001	450.73
Madras	1998-1999	305.28
EPZ	1999-2000	281.65
	2000-2001	329.16
Cochin	1998-1999	117.01
SEZ*	1999-2000	132.68
	2000-2001	221.07
Falta	1998-1999	65.42
EPZ	1999-2000	64.07
	2000-2001	92.60
Visakha-	1998-1999	39.83
Patnam	1999-2000	137.78
EPZ	2000-2001	169.70
Surat SEZ**	1998-1999	-
	1999-2000	0.24
	2000-2001	45.29

* Includes capital goods and raw materials

** Private Sector SEZ

Income Tax Dues From Film Personalities

1969. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply to the Unstarred Question No. 3018 given on December 7, 2001 regarding Income Tax dues from film personalities/TV personalities and state:

(a) the progress made so far for recovering of Income Tax dues as shown in annexure to reply in each case;

(b) whether there is any increase or decrease in the Income Tax dues from these personalities between the period from June 30, 2001 and December 31, 2001; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The progress made so far in recovering Income Tax dues in list of cases furnished as per statement annexed to reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3018 is given in enclosed statement.

(b) There has been decrease in the Income Tax dues in 53 cases. In 4 cases, Income Tax dues have increased, whereas, in 75 cases there has been no change in Income Tax dues as on 31.12.2001.

(c) Details are furnished as per *statement* enclosed.

Statement

S. No.	Name	Demand as on 30-6-01 in Rs. Lac	Demand as on 31-12-01 in Rs. Lac	Increase/ Decrease
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kailashnath Malhotra	10	10	Nil
2.	T.N. Venkatesh	10.27	9.9	-

1	2	3	4	5
3.	S.T. Selvam	10.43	10.43	Nil
4.	A. Ramki	10.56	6.86	(-)
5.	Hotel Transit P. Ltd.	10.68	13.14	(+)
6.	Vinayaga Distributors	10.7	1.1	(-)
7.	Mahamaya Co. Pvt. Ltd.	10.97	10.97	Nil
8.	Tulsi Ramsay	11.05	11.05	Nil
9.	Nagoor Babu	11.08	9.74	(-)
10.	Dev Verma Alias (Smt.) Moon Moon Sen (Smt.)	11.11	0	(-)
11.	Megha Property Pvt. Ltd.	11.11	5.12	(-)
12.	Kunika Sadanand	11.16	11.16	Nil
13.	V. Verghese Gulkarga	11.24	9.36	(-)
14.	Kartick Chandra Samanta	11.66	11.66	Nil
15.	P.M. Production	11.88	11.88	Nil
16.	G.V. Films Ltd.	12	2.4	(-)
17.	S. Prabhudeva	12.26	0	(-)
18.	Amit Kumar Ganguly	12.51	9.01	(-)
19.	Screen Finance (P) Ltd.	12.6	12.6	Nil
20.	Chitra Samuha	12.62	12.59	(-)
21.	Janata Cinema Properties & Finance Ltd.	12.76	12.76	Nil
22.	N.C. Cine Services	12.97	12.97	Nil
23.	Zafo Films P. Ltd.	12.98	12.98	Nil
24.	Lata Mangeshkar	13.25	0	(-)
25.	A.S. Ibrahim Rowther	13.28	13.28	Nil
26.	Bappi Lahiri	13.35	13.35	Nil
27.	R. Raj Babu	13.84	13.84	Nil
28.	Farooq Ahmed A. Farooqui	13.88	13.88	Nil
29.	Dhake Dyes & Chemical P. Ltd.	13.99	13.68	(-)
30.	Sujatha Productions P. Ltd.	14	14	Nil
31.	B.N. Suresh Reddy	14.8	14.8	Nil
32.	P. Soundrya (Ms.)	14.93	14.93	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
33.	P. Guru Vittal W.T.	15.53	15.53	Nil
34.	Eagle Films	15.68	15.68	Nil
35.	K. Goundamani	16.29	16.29	Nil
36.	V. Adinarayana Reddy	16.86	16.86	Nil
37.	Sapna Arts	17.01	17.01	Nil
38.	Jhony Bakshi	17.39	17.39	Nil
39.	Shri Jyotiprakash Gupta	17.62	1.7	(-)
40.	R.B. Chowdhury	17.76	8.9	(-)
41.	Fascination Network	18.61	18.61	Nil
42.	K.J. Yesudoss Audio & Visuals Corpn. Ltd.	18.77	18.77	Nil
43.	Murali Vittal W.T.	19.13	19.13	Nil
44.	P. Mohan Vittal W.T.	19.28	19.28	Nil
45.	P. Loganathan Vittal W.T.	19.28	19.28	Nil
46.	Ashok Ghai	19.34	18.83	(-)
47.	Misrilal Pictures (P) Ltd.	19.73	0.34	(-)
48.	Veeru Devgun	19.97	19.97	Nil
49.	A.M. Ratnam	20.42	20.42	Nil
50.	Mukesh Duggal	20.92	20.92	Nil
51.	Arjun	20.93	3.38	(-)
52.	Muralikanthan	21.32	21.32	Nil
53.	A. Kothandaramiah	21.36	21.36	Nil
54.	Akbar Ali Khan	21.76	21.76	Nil
55.	Bhagwan S.C.	22.15	22.15	Nil
56.	B.R.T.V.	22.15	22.15	Nil
57.	K. Balaji	22.77	22.77	Nil
58.	Brinks Arya India P. Ltd.	23.94	23.94	Nil
59.	Naresh Chandra Verma W.T.	24.27	24.27	Nil
60.	P.P. Kanniah W.T.	24.92	24.92	Nil
61.	Karishma Kapoor	25.15	8.76	(-)
62.	A. Viayakanth	25.42	25.42	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
63.	Eastern India Motion Picutres Asson.	25.8	0	(–)
64.	Krishna Kumar	26	19	(–)
65.	Mat Production International	26.26	20.26	(–)
66.	Dharmanand J. Joshi	26.62	26.62	Nil
67.	K. Balasubramanian	26.8	24.76	(–)
68.	Shri Afzal Khan	27.13	27.13	Nil
69.	G. Hanumantha Rao	27.8	27.8	Nil
70.	Alyam Cinema P. Ltd.	28.24	28.24	Nil
71.	Intally Talkies (P) Ltd.	28.32	12.06	(–)
72.	In House Production P. Ltd.	29.12	14.45	(–)
73.	Gautam Berry	29.91	29.91	Nil
74.	Shri Yash Raj Chopra	30	20	(–)
75.	Savitri & Co.	30.23	30.23	Nil
76.	Kishore Kumar Ganguli	31.68	28.68	(–)
77.	Kumar Sanu Bhatacharjee	31.83	31.83	Nil
78.	R. Vijaychandran	33.29	33.29	Nil
79.	Jenny Pinto Production	37	20	(–)
80.	Satram Rohra	40.09	40.09	Nil
81.	G. Subramanim @ Maniratham	42.23	1.3	(–)
82.	G. Venkateshwaran	42.63	42.63	Nil
83.	Rajesh Khanna	42.69	42.69	Nil
84.	Gulab M. Gulbani	43.07	43.07	Nil
85.	D. S. Mittle & Sons	44.72	39.54	(–)
86.	G. Gopal Rao	46.06	46.06	Nil
87.	Albright & Wilson Chemical Ltd.	46.22	38.35	(–)
88.	S. Kamal Hassan	48.99	0	(–)
89.	A. Sreedevi (Smt.)	49.97	0.25	(–)
90.	Rajan R. Sippy	51.14	51.14	Nil
91.	Gaurav Gupta	53.22	49.22	(–)
92.	Francis Joseph	53.59	53.59	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
93.	M.G. Pictures (Madras) Ltd.	54.29	54.29	Nil
94.	P.D. Abraham Alias	55.57	48.57	(-)
95.	Gopal Reddy	55.78	55.78	Nil
96.	Motion Picutres Distributors	57.64	57.64	Nil
97.	Tips Film P. Ltd.	57.92	441.77	(+)
98.	KLN Finance Ltd.	58.02	58.02	Nil
99.	P. Sundararajan	58.09	58.09	Nil
100.	B.S. Ranga	58.68	18.18	(-)
101.	Ajay Singh Deol	59.63	15.72	(-)
102.	CMS Computers P Ltd.	62.79	57.29	(-)
103.	Asian Food Products Ltd.	66.7	66.7	Nil
104.	Gulshan Kumar	69	56	(-)
105.	A. Sarath Kumar	74.24	74.24	Nil
106.	Bradma India Ltd.	74.45	74.66	(+)
107.	V.C. Ganesan	77.54	52.54	(-)
108.	M.C. Bokadia	81.13	81.13	Nil
109.	Subhash Ghai	86.83	76.71	(-)
110.	Yash Raj Films	95.04	31.33	(-)
111.	Shanthi Theatres P. Ltd.	96.13	61.13	(-)
112.	M.V. Shrinivasa Prasad	98.9	0.9	(-)
113.	Nandkumar Tolani	106.32	106.32	Nil
114.	O.P. Ralhan	138.82	138.82	Nil
115.	Pyramid Films International	155.49	155.49	Nil
116.	Shri Sushil Gupta	155.73	155.73	Nil
117.	Yash Johar	160.61	55.36	(-)
118.	Maharashtra Film State & Cultural Dev. Corpn.	166.96	0	(-)
119.	Mukta Arts P. Ltd.	175.57	73.26	(-)
120.	Shri S. Manivannan	185.52	185.52	Nil
121.	Jaya Bachchan (Smt.)	199.52	184.22	(-)
122.	Murali Mohan M.	212	212	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
123.	Adlabas Films P. Ltd.	216.19	0	(-)
124.	Sippy Films	246.37	246.37	Nil
125.	Basant Kumar Patil	258.03	258.13	(+)
126.	Sharukh Khan	275.26	244.63	(-)
127.	P. Ramgopal Verma	300.79	38.1	(-)
128.	Ramnord Research Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.	321.74	0	(-)
129.	Jayapradha (Ms.)	331.2	331.2	Nil
130.	Sujatha Films P. Ltd.	624.92	624.92	Nil
131.	Amitabh Bachchan	1067.16	997.36	(-)
132.	Amitabh Bachchan Corpn. Ltd.	1776.93	1776.93	Nil

[Translation]

Procurement of Wheat

1970. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

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

(a) the quantity of wheat procured by the Union Government during the last year and in the current year alongwith the rate at which procured, State-wise;

(b) the total expenditure incurred by the Union Government on the procurement till date;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains permitted to be sold through PDS and in the open market out of the existing stock of foodgrains;

(d) whether the Government will make available the wheat and rice at cheaper rates in the public through the Fair Price Shops in view of the huge foodgrains reserves and the lack of their adequate storage facilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The quantity of wheat procured by the Government during the last year as well as current year is as under:-

(Fig. in lakh tonnes)

State	Marketing Year	
	2000-2001	2001-2002
Punjab	94.24	105.60
Haryana	44.97	64.07
Uttar Pradesh	15.45	24.46
Rajasthan	5.39	6.76
Madhya Pradesh	3.51	2.94
Delhi	-	0.50
Chandigarh	-	0.12
Himachal Pradesh	-	0.02
Bihar	-	0.43
Uttaranchal	-	1.40
Total	163.56	206.30

The Minimum Support Price (MSP) at which wheat was procured during the aforesaid period is as under:-

2000-2001	Rs. 580.00 per quintal
2001-2002	Rs. 610.00 per quintal

(b) The total expenditure incurred by the Government on procurement of wheat is as follows:-

Year	Qty. of Wheat Procurement (in lakh tonnes)	MSP Rs./Qtl	Amount	Procurement incidents Rs. Qtl.	Amount	Total Amount Estimated
2000-2001	163.56	580	Rs. 9486.48 Crore	135.94	Rs. 2223.43 Crore	Rs. 11710 Crore
2001-2002	206.30	610	Rs. 1258.43 Crore	167.20	Rs. 3449.33 Crore	Rs. 16034 Crore

(c) The allotment and offtake of wheat and rice under Public Distribution System by the States/UTs is as under:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	Allotment		Offtake	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
2000-2001 (April, 2000 to March 2001)	113.67	160.91	38.43	76.33
2001-2002 (April, 2001 to January, 2002)	109.27	142.11	41.86	65.65

During the year 2000-2001, a quantity of 50 lakh tonnes of wheat was earmarked for disposal through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) against which a quantity of 8.86 lakh MTs (Prov.) was sold. From April 2001 to February 2002, a quantity of 41.69 lakh MT (Prov.) has been sold, upto 5.3.2002.

FCI was authorized on 4.9.2000 to dispose of 30 lakh MTs of rice under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic). Due to negligible lifting of rice under the scheme, the same was discontinued w.e.f. 21.8.2001.

(d) and (e) In order to increase the offtake and to liquidate surplus stocks in the Central Pool, Government have reduced the Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice for APL population from Rs. 830/- per quintal and Rs. 1130/- per quintal to Rs. 610/- per quintal and Rs. 830/- per quintal respectively with effect from 12.7.2001.

[English]

Privatisation of EPF

1971. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IRDA and OASIS Committee has recommended to privatise EPF and pension fund on the lines of Chile;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main recommendations made by the Committee in this regard alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government have adopted all conditions existing in Chile in this direction;

(e) if not, the justification behind accepting the recommendations of the Committee;

(f) whether the Government are considering to invest a part of the EPF corpus in the share market to get higher returns; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (g) The Old Age Social and Income Security (OASIS) Committee and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) Committee have based their

recommendations on a variety of considerations including the experiences of many countries who have recently undertaken reforms in their pension sector. IRDA has, inter-alia, recommended a regulatory framework for setting up pension funds to enable individuals to subscribe on a defined contribution basis to obtain the benefits of pensions on their retirement. Action has been initiated by the Government on the recommendations of IRDA. The investments of funds are carried out as per the "Investment Pattern" notified from time to time. A copy of the Investment Pattern, notified by the Government of India, to be followed by the non-Government Provident Funds, Superannuation Funds and Gratuity Funds is attached as statement.

Statement

Regd. No. D.L.-33004/99

The Gazette of India

Extraordinary

Part-I-Section 1

Published by Authority

No. 66] New Delhi, Wednesday, March 31, 1999/ Chaitra 10, 1921

Ministry of Finance

(Department of Economic Affairs)

Notification

New Delhi, the 31st March, 1999

Subject:— Pattern of investment to be followed by the non-Government Provident Funds, Superannuation Funds and Gratuity Funds.

No. F. 11(3)-PD/98. In partial modification of this Ministry's Notification of even number dated 12th June, 1998, pattern of investment for incremental accretions by the non-Government Provident funds, Superannuation Funds and Gratuity Funds shall be as follows effective from 1st April, 1999:—

INVESTMENT PATTERN

	Percentage amount be invested
(i) Central Government Securities as defined in Sec, 2 of the Public Debt Act, 1944 (18 of 1944); and/ or units of such Mutual Funds which have been set up as dedicated Funds for investment in Government securities and which have been approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India;	Twenty Five percent
(ii) (a) Government Securities as defined in Section 2 of the Public Deb Act, 1944 (18 of 1944) created and issued by any State Government; and/or units of such as Mutual Funds which have been set up as dedicated Funds for investment in Government Securities and which have been approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India; and/or	Fifteen percent
(b) Any other negotiable securities the principal whereof and interest whereon is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Central Government or any State Government except those covered under iii (a) below.	
(iii) (a) Boards/Securities of 'Public Financial institutions' as specified under Section 4 (1) of the Companies Act; public sector companies" as defined in Section 2 (36-A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 including public sector banks and the Infrastructure Development Finance Company Limited (IDFC); and/ or	Forty percent
(b) Certificate of deposits issued by public sector banks to be invested in any of the above three categories as decided by the Trustees.	Twenty percent
The Trusts, subject to their assessment of the risk-return prospects, may invest upto 10% out of (iv) above, in private sector bonds/securities which have an investment grade rating from at least two credit rating agencies.	

Any moneys received on the maturity of earlier investments reduced by obligatory outgoings, shall be invested in accordance with the investment pattern prescribed in this Notification.

Interest received on the Special Deposit Scheme itself. Similarly, interest received under other categories may be invested in the same category.

The investment pattern as envisaged in the above paragraphs may be achieved by the end of a financial year.

S.C. Pandey, Director (Budget)

Rehabilitation of Mentally Challenged Persons

1972. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from the Kerala and Tamil Nadu State Government during the last two years till December 31, 2001 for commencement of new projects for the welfare and rehabilitation of mentally challenged persons;

(b) if so, the number of projects sanctioned so far and the financial assistance provided for these projects;

(c) the number of applications are pending for approval; and

(d) the time by which all the projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) 94 applications of Voluntary Organisations have been recommended by the State Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu for the new projects for welfare and rehabilitation of the mentally challenged persons.

(b) 11 projects have been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 30.81 lacs so far.

(c) Sixteen.

(d) The remaining proposals, being incomplete for want of documents, clarifications and compliance of extant instructions, guidelines, etc. will be processed on receipt of requisite information and documents.

Welfare Schemes for SCs/STs in Orissa

1973. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being implemented for the welfare of the people belonging to SCs/STs in Orissa;

(b) the names of the schemes implemented for the welfare and upliftment of the people of these categories during last three years; and

(c) the total amount spent under these schemes, item-wise?

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 Orissa is implementing schemes for welfare of Scheduled Tribes (ST) 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/Central Ministries for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. List of such schemes is enclosed as Statement-I. A Statement-II showing funds released for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Orissa under these schemes during last three years 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 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

(Amount in Lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	Funds provided in		
	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4
Schemes run by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment			
Special Central Assistance	2281.57	1907.72	1884.00
Scheme for Post Matric Scholarship	57.35	342.24	196.98
Scheme of Pre-matric Scholarship	0.00	7.73	0.00
Scheme of Construction of Girls and Boys hostels	0.00	32.81	12.75 (Girls) 12.75 (Boys)
Scheme of Book Bank	0.00	8.00	9.00
Coaching and allied scheme	0.00	4.99	0.00

1	2	3	4
National Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers	589.73	0.00	0.00
National SC/ST Finance & Development Corporation	954.69	754.08	689.20
National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation	0.00	0.00	100.33
PCR and Atrocities	3.60	4.00	0.57
Schemes run by Ministry of Tribal Affairs			
Speical Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan	5911.86	5698.28	5188.40
Grant under Article 275(1) on the Constitution	514.00	1027.93	2957.1
Girls Hostel	17.50	13.15	8.5
Boys Hostel	17.31	0	12.75
Educational Complex	74.77	44.28	70.43
Vocational Training Centre	0	0	64.61
Ashram Schools	40.00	0	0
Research and Training (TRIs)	38.47	5.28	40.72
Grant-in-aid to TDCCs	200.00	200.00	192.00
Grain Bank	0	100.00	184.96
Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	0	25.72	200.00
Post Matric Scholarship	0	0	113.83

Proposal from Kerala for Procurement of Rubber

1974. SHRI A.C. JOS:
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from rubber growers and Kerala Government for re-introduction of scheme of procurement of natural rubber through State Trading Corporation, continuance of ban on import of natural rubber etc.;

(b) if so, whether State Government has also submitted a proposal regarding diversifications in use of natural rubber as modified bitumen for road constructions;

(c) if so, the details of above mentioned representations/proposals; and

(d) the reaction of the Government on those proposals alongwith justifications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Representations/proposals have been received from the Government of Kerala and rubber growers for re-introduction of the scheme of procurement of Natural Rubber through State Trading Corporation, continuance of ban on import of Natural Rubber and diversification in use of Natural Rubber as modified bitumen for road construction.

(d) To ensure a remunerative price to the rubber growers for their produce, the Government of India, under

the provisions of the Rubber Act, 1947 has fixed and notified the minimum price for trading in the two most commonly used classes of the Natural Rubber viz. Ribbed Smoked Sheet (RSS) 4 and 5. With the fixation and notification of minimum price which is based on an import parity price, procurement of Natural Rubber through STC is no longer considered necessary. Further, ban on import of Natural Rubber under the advance licences scheme which was imposed w.e.f. 20.2.1999 is still continuing. To increase the usage of indigenous rubber, Govt. of India is already promoting a number of value added rubber items such as Natural Rubber modified bitumen for rubberisation of roads.

Export of Handicrafts

1975. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for export of handicrafts during the three financial years and current year, year-wise;

(b) the percentage of increase registered in the export of handicrafts during the above mentioned period;

(c) the amount of foreign exchanges earned from the export of handicrafts during the last three years;

(d) whether the benefits of earning from export of handicrafts is being given to the craftsmen;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the government to ensure that benefits of export earning shall reach the craftsmen and also to ensure adequate supply of inputs to artisans in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The target fixed for export of handicrafts including hand-knotted carpets during the last three financial year and current year, year-wise, is as under:-

S. No.	Year	Targets (Rs. in Crores)
1.	1998-1999	7776.00
2.	1999-2000	8280.00
3.	2000-2001	9480.00
4.	2001-2002	10610.00

(b) The percentage of increase registered in the export of handicrafts during the above mentioned period is as under:-

S. No.	Year	% increase
1.	1998-1999	(+) 21.18
2.	1999-2000	(+) 13.96
3.	2000-2001	(+) 15.02
4.	2001-2002	(-) 9.85 (upto April-January, 2002)

(c) The amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of handicrafts during the last three years and current year is as under:-

S. No.	Year	Foreign Exchange earned	
		(Rs. in Crores)	US Million $
1.	1998-1999	7072.34	1680.98
2.	1999-2000	8059.63	1859.95
3.	2000-2001	9270.50	2050.34
4.	2001-2002	7106.84 (upto April-January, 2002)	1512.43

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Higher export means more work for the Craftpersons and better earnings from export normally lead to more wages. However no specific study has been made conducted on this issue.

(f) Does not arise.

Set of Codes to Curb Money Laundering

1976. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India is considering to lay a set of codes to curb money laundering;

(b) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India has submitted any report in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Government has any plans to set up a separate agency to curb money laundering; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Reserve Bank of India is in the process of issuing guidelines to banks setting out the policy and procedures required to be introduced by banks, including renewed emphasis on the importance of "Know Your Customer" procedures to prevent misuse of the banking system for money laundering.

(b) RBI is examining the status of India's compliance with international standards on anti money laundering and a report on the same is being finalized in consultation with Government.

(c) and (d) There is no plan to set up such agency unless the Prevention of Money Laundering Bill, 1999 is enacted. The Bill is presently pending in the Rajya Sabha.

Complaints Received By Investors Grievances Cell

1977. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by Investors Grievances Cell during the last one year;

(b) the number of complaints out of them pending before the Cell for final disposal;

(c) the companies against whom the complaints have been received and are yet to be finalized;

(d) the action taken against those companies along with nature of complaint;

(e) whether there is any proposal to revamp the cell; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Investors Grievance Redressal Cell (IGRC) has received about 6000 complaints since its creation in February, 2001.

(b) and (c) Complaints have been received against a large number of companies. The complaints pending before the Cell for final disposal are around 3300.

(d) All the complaints received at IGRC are forwarded to regulatory agencies, viz. SEBI, RBI, Department of Company Affairs etc. for redressal. IGRC monitors the redressal of these complaints by regular follow up with the regulatory agencies. Most of the complaints received at IGRC are against Non-Banking Finance Companies and companies offering Collective Investment Schemes for non-repayment of fixed deposits and scheme deposits, respectively, on maturity. RBI and SEBI, which are the regulatory agencies in such cases have initiated action against the companies concerned.

(e) and (f) There is no such proposal.

Diversion of Rice By Exporters

1978. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice exporters have been found diverting large quantities of rice procured from FCI for exports at below-the-poverty line prices, to domestic markets;

(b) whether Food Corporation of India has stopped entertaining bogus freight subsidy claims from rice exporters to the extent of 6,00,000 lakh tonnes rice procured by them for export;

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

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) On receipt of allegations about malpractices in export of rice from the Central Pool, the reimbursement of transport subsidy was temporarily suspended. The matter was examined and thereafter the transport subsidy was restored with additional safeguards.

Funds to Fictitious NGO's

1979. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government have received representations that the funds from the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trust functioning under his Ministry had been granted to non-existence NGOs in the country;

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

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed on such granting of funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts In Consumer Forums

1980. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Consumer Grievances Redressal Forums in which the posts of members are lying vacant, Forum-wise and State-wise till date; and

(b) the steps being taken for the appointment of members at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) According to the information made available by the National Commission, the State-wise information regarding vacancy position in the State Commissions and district Forums in respect of President/Members is given in the enclosed statement. The Forum-wise details are not maintained.

(b) State/UTs are impressed upon from time to time to fill up the vacant posts for smooth functioning of the Consumer Courts.

Statement

Vacancy Position in the State Commissions and District Forums

State/UT	State Commission	District Forums	As on	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1 Member	13 Presidents & 5 Members	31.12.2001	
A & N Island	No Vacancy	No Vacancy	31.12.2001	
Arunachal Pradesh				Information not received
Assam	No Vacancy	3 Members	31.12.2001	
Bihar	No Vacancy	9 Presidents & 44 Members	31.12.2001	
Chandigarh				Information not received
Chhattisgarh	Not constituted	3 Members	31.12.2001	
D & N Haveli				Information not received
Daman & Diu				Information not received
Delhi	No Vacancy	No Vacancy	31.12.2001	
Goa				Information not received
Gujarat	No Vacancy	6 Members	31.12.2001	
Haryana	No Vacancy	2 Presidents & 2 Members		
Himachal Pradesh	No Vacancy	No Vacancy		
Jammu & Kashmir				Information not received
Jharkhand				Information not received
Karnataka	No Vacancy	No Vacancy	31.12.2001	
Kerala	No Vacancy	3 Presidents & 9 Members	31.12.2001	

1	2	3	4	5
Lakshadweep	No Vacancy			
Madhya Pradesh	1 Lady Member	3 Presidents & 12 Members		
Maharashtra	No Vacancy	2 Presidents & 4 Members	31.12.2001	
Manipur				Information not received
Meghalaya	No Vacancy	No Vacancy	31.12.2001	
Mizoram				Information not received
Nagaland	No Vacancy			
Orissa	No Vacancy	1 President & 5 Members	31.12.2001	
Pondicherry				Information not received
Punjab	No Vacancy	2 Presidents & 1 Member	31.12.2001	
Rajasthan	No Vacancy	4 Members		
Sikkim	No Vacancy			
Tamil Nadu	1 Lady Member	6 Presidents & 6 Members	31.12.2001	
Tripura	1 President	No Vacancy	31.12.2001	
Uttar Pradesh				
Uttaranchal	Not constituted			Information not received
West Bengal				Information not received

[English]

Commission Agents of LIC/Small Saving Schemes

1981. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation from the small savings/LIC agents seeking upward revision in their commission;

(b) if so, the details of the present commission structure for small savings/LIC agents and extent of the revision effected last and increase in the commission sought;

(c) the total State-wise amount of commission disbursed to LIC/small saving agents during the last three years; and

(d) the details of other steps taken/proposed to upgrade the training of agents to serve the customers effectively and efficiently?

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

Export of Wheat and Rice

1982. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have exported wheat and rice out of their surplus stock during the last year and also in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rate at which exported;

(c) whether the exports have helped in the liquidation of surplus stock;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) the details of export orders pending and the time by which they are likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) The Government decided to offer 50 lakh MTs of wheat each for the year 2000-2001 and the year 2001-2002 from the Central Pool for export. The export price of wheat (per MT) fixed by the Government of India from time to time is as under:-

@ Rs. 4150/- from 20.10.2000 to 31.3.2001

@ Rs. 4300/- from 1.4.2001 to 16.08.2001

@ Rs. 4200/- from 17.8.2001 to 31.11.2001

@ Rs. 4250/- from 1.12.2001 to 31.3.2002

The Government also decided to offer 20 lakh MTs and 30 lakh MTs of rice for the year 2000-2001 and the year 2001-2002 respectively. Rice has been offered for export @ Rs. 6750/- per MT in 2000-2001 and @ Rs. 5650/- (raw rice) and Rs. 6000/- (parboiled rice) per MT in 2001-2002.

Till the 28.02.2002, 50.26 lakh MTs of wheat and 16.46 MTs of rice have been lifted from the Central Pool for exports.

(e) As reported by the PSUs engaged in export of foodgrains, orders for 6.91 lakh MTs of wheat and 0.81 lakh MTs of rice were in hand as on 21.01.2002. After lifting of stocks from the Central Pool, exporters are required to furnish documents in token of actual exports within 90 days in case of rice and 30 days in case of wheat.

Panel to Study Problems of Tea and Coffee Industry

1983. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the associations of planters of tea and coffee to set up an export panel to study their problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether due to import of tea in large quantities from Sri Lanka and other countries, the domestic tea industry has been badly affected; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect domestic tea industry?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) The import of tea into India has mainly been for the purpose of re-export and therefore there has not been any major adverse impact of import of tea into India on the domestic tea industry. However, in order to protect the interests of the tea industry under the current quantitative restrictions-free regime, the basic customs duty on import of tea has been increased from 70% to 100% as announced in the Budget of 2002-2003.

Export Fraud

1984. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4059 on December 14, 2001 regarding Export Fraud and state:

(a) whether above information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by when it is likely to be laid on the Table of the House?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Investigations are under progress.

Double Taxation Treaties

1985. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the double taxation treaties signed by India during the last decade alongwith the objectives being signing such treaties; and

(b) the objectives which have been achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) During the last decade, India has signed/revised comprehensive Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) with 41 countries and DTAAs limited to income from Air & Shipping enterprises with one country as per enclosed statement. The objectives behind signing of such Agreements are avoidance of double taxation of income with a view to provide impetus to the mutual flow of investment, technology, trade and services between the two treaty partners. The desired objectives have largely been achieved.

Statement

A:

List of the Countries with Whom India is Maintaining Comprehensive Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties (DTAAs) w.e.f. 01.01.1992 onwards (As Notified in the Gazette of India)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country
1.	Australia
2.	Austria
3.	Bangladesh
4.	Belgium
5.	Belarus
6.	Brazil
7.	Bulgaria
8.	Canada
9.	China
10.	Cyprus
11.	Czech Republic
12.	France
13.	Federal Republic of Germany
14.	Ireland
15.	Israel
16.	Italy
17.	Jordan
18.	Kazakstan
19.	Kyrgyz Republic
20.	Malta
21.	Mongolia
22.	Morocco
23.	Namibia
24.	Oman
25.	Philippines
26.	Portugal
27.	Qatar
28.	Russian Federation
29.	Singapore
30.	South Africa
31.	Spain
32.	Sweden
33.	Swiss Confederation
34.	Trinidad & Tobago
35.	Turkey
36.	Turkmenistan
37.	Ukraine
38.	U.A.E.
39.	United Kingdom
40.	Uzbekistan
41.	Vietnam

B.

List of the Countries with Whom India has DTAAs Limited to Income from Air and Shipping Enterprises w.e.f. 01.01.1992 Onwards (As Notified in the Gazette of India)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country
1.	Saudi Arabia

Bank of Punjab

1986. SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether news of poor financial health of Bank of Punjab spread panic in Punjab and Rajasthan and forced the customers to withdraw their deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether though the rumour about the closure of the Bank of Punjab started in the morning and people started withdrawing deposits, the bank Management failed to take any remedial measures;

(d) if so, the reasons for not acting promptly; and

(e) the action taken by RBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), media report on 7th and 8th February, 2002 that Bank of Punjab Ltd. was facing financial strain resulted in an immediate rush for premature withdrawals of deposits from some of its branches in the Abohar belt of Punjab and Sriganganagar district in Rajasthan. The net withdrawals in the bank on 7th February, 2002 was Rs. 10.26 crore and on 8th February, 2002 was Rs. 100.18 crore.

(c) to (e) No Sir, Bank of Punjab Ltd. made immediate arrangements to provide cash to the affected branches to instill confidence among the depositors. As a result the situation was brought under control on 8th and 9th February, 2002 and deposits withdrawn by the people started flowing back into the same branches gradually.

Trade Agreement Between India and Afghanistan

1987. SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed any specific business agreements between India and Afghanistan recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Bonds of Gujarat State Organisations

1988. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the LIC's refusal to subscribe to bond issues of Gujarat State Organisations have adversely affected the State's resources;

(b) whether the State Government have requested to the Union Government to intervene to break the impediments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Life Insurance Corporation of India has informed that defaults by State Governments and state public sector enterprises in servicing of loan assistance given to them for various socially oriented schemes, has resulted in increasing the Corporation's Non Performing Assets. Therefore, the Corporation has decided that fresh release of Plan loan assistance and subscription to bond issues etc. would be subject to clearance of the past overdues. This procedure is being applied to all State Governments and their public sector enterprises uniformly, including the State of Gujarat.

LIC has informed that as on 31st March, 2001 an amount of Rs. 184.79 crore is outstanding as repayment of loans from State Government Agencies in Gujarat. LIC have discussed the matter with the Gujarat State Government Officials and have expressed their intention to continue the financial assistance to the State as soon as a scheme for the settlement of dues is worked out in a forum involving LIC, State Government and Gujarat State-Co-operative Housing Finance Corporation.

[Translation]

Collection of Taxes

1989. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the share of direct taxes collected from individuals and Hindu undivided families (H.U.F.) during the year 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the income tax collected against the total estimated collection during this period;

(b) the total amount of taxes collected during this period and amount spent on payment of salaries and its percentage to the total revenue collection;

(c) the amount of wealth tax collected during the last three years and its percentage of the total direct taxes collected during this period; and

(d) the administrative expenditure incurred for running the Income Tax Department during this period and its percentage to the total revenue collection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Separate statistics are not maintained in respect of individuals and Hindu Undivided Families. The collection and budget estimates of income tax during 1998-1999, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

	Income Tax Collection	Budget Estimate
1998-99	20240	20930
1999-2000	25655	26910
2000-2001	31794	31590

(b) The total collection of direct tax during this period, the amount spent on salaries, and its percentage to total direct tax collection, are as follows:-

(Rs. in crore)

	Direct Tax Collection	Amount Spent On Salaries	% to Direct Tax Collection
1998-99	46600	582	1.25
1999-2000	57959	623	1.07
2000-2001	68305	648	0.95

(c) The amount of wealth tax collected during the last three years and its percentage to total direct tax collection is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

	Wealth Tax Collection	% to Direct Tax Collection
1998-1999	Rs. 162 crore	0.35
1999-2000	Rs. 133 crore	0.23
2000-2001	Rs. 132 crore	0.19

(d) The cost of collection of direct taxes and its percentage to total direct tax collection is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

	Cost of Collection	% to Direct Tax Collection
1998-1999	Rs. 813 crore	1.75
1999-2000	Rs. 865 crore	1.49
2000-2001	Rs. 870 crore	1.27

[English]

Subsidiary of Indian Bank

1990. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Bank is searching for a buyer for its subsidiary; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Indian Bank has reported that as part of its restructuring plan, it has been scouting for suitable buyers for taking over its merchant banking subsidiary viz. Ind bank Merchant Banking Services Ltd.

Rehabilitation of Mentally Ill Patients

1991. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any national policy for the rehabilitation of the mentally ill patients;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) "Mental illness" has been recognized as a disability under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The Mental Health Act, 1987 containing provisions for treatment of mentally ill persons is administered by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Under the scheme to promote voluntary action for persons with disabilities, non governmental organizations can be supported by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to undertake programmes for the rehabilitation of the cured mentally ill.

New Projects For the Welfare of Mentally Handicapped

1992. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received applications from the State Governments for setting up of

new projects for the welfare of mentally handicapped during the last three years;

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

(c) the number of projects cleared so far, State-wise;

(d) the financial assistance provided to each State for the purpose during the above period; and

(e) the time by which remaining applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes Sir. Applications of Voluntary Organisations are forwarded/recommended by the State Governments for setting up new projects for welfare of the mentally handicapped.

(b) to (d) A *statement* is annexed.

(e) The remaining proposals, being incomplete for want of documents, clarifications and compliance of extant instructions and guidelines, etc., will be processed when the complete information and documents are received.

Statement

State	Details of number of applications, number sanctioned, number pending and amount of Assistance			
	No. of Applications	Number Sanctioned	Number Pending	Amount (Rs in lacs)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	37	25	12	34.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	3	3	0	5.01
Bihar	5	3	2	2.27
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	1	1	0	3.31
Delhi	4	2	2	7.62
Goa	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	5	2	3	4.24
Haryana	6	4	2	5.97
Himachal Pradesh	2	1	1	0.65
Jammu & Kashmir	1	1	0	6.11
Jharkhand	1	1	0	4.25
Karnataka	10	8	2	8.08
Kerala	7	4	3	5.06
Madhya Pradesh	10	8	2	14.04
Maharashtra	10	6	4	6.25
Manipur	2	1	1	0.84

1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	1	1	0	6.17
Nagaland	0	0	0	0
Orissa	7	2	5	8.26
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0
Punjab	3	3	0	1.12
Rajasthan	9	9	0	29.67
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	21	8	13	25.75
Tripura	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	4	2	2	3.87
Uttaranchal	2	2	0	2.53
West Bengal	15	10	5	13.79

Funds to A.P. for Welfare Schemes

1993. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Social Welfare Board is diverting the funds allocated that has been released to Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount released so far during the current financial year to the Andhra Pradesh under various welfare schemes;

(d) whether due to sufficient funds various programmes of social welfare have been stopped in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) According to the information furnished by the Central Social Welfare Board, under the Department of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, it is not diverting the funds allocated/ released to Andhra Pradesh for welfare schemes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the current financial year, the Central Social Welfare Board has released Rs. 5.00 lakhs, Rs. 64.53 lakhs, Rs. 73.70 lakhs and Rs. 12.34 lakhs to Andhra Pradesh under the programmes for establishment of State Board, Short Stay Homes, Creches and Family Counseling Centres respectively.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Bail Out Package for IFCI

1994. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The amount given by the Government to bail out the ailing IFCI during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed the report of the Water Price Coopers on liquidity and solvency assessment of IFCI;

(c) if so, the main findings of the report; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to revamp the functioning of the IFCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Government of India released Rs 400 crore during the current financial year by way of 20 years Convertible Debentures.

(b) to (d) In August, 2001 Price water house Coopers' (PWC) was commissioned by IFCI to carry out a quick limited review of the existing assets portfolio of IFCI, focused on an independent liquidity and solvency assessment. PWC in its report submitted to IFCI on 28th January, 2002 inter alia made assessment of estimated recoverable value of IFCI assets portfolio as on 30th June, 2001, as a going concern basis. PWC also assessed the capital infusion required for IFCI and also the liquidity gap. The report was presented to the Board of IFCI on 30th January, 2002. The Board decided to have the second phase of the study completed quickly. Accordingly, M/s. Mckinsey and Company was engaged on 28th February, 2002 to conduct a study, in about ten weeks time, to formulate future strategy and business plan for IFCI including developing a detailed strategic blue print and implementation plan. IFCI will await the findings of the Mckinsey study to evolve a long-term strategy.

[Translation]

Foreign Exchange Reserve

1995. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange reserve of the country as on March 31, 2001;

(b) whether the foreign exchange reserve has recorded a new high record recently;

(c) if so, the comparative figure for the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain adequate quantity of foreign exchange in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) India's foreign exchange reserves (including gold and SDRs) held by the Reserve Bank of India amounted to US $ 42,281 million as on March 31, 2001.

(b) and (c) As per the latest information available for the period upto the week ended March 1, 2002, the foreign exchange reserves reached a new high level of US $ 50,777 million at the end of February, 2002. This compares with $ 35,903 million at the end of February, 2000 and US $41,608 million at the end of February, 2001.

(d) The level of foreign exchange reserves at present is comfortable, considering the requirements for essential imports, short-time liabilities including debt service payments, and other unforeseen contingencies. The Government and the Reserve Bank of India monitor closely the developments in the balance of payments and take such measures, as are considered necessary, from time to time, to increase exports, invisible receipts, including remittances and to enhance inflows of capital, particularly foreign direct investments, so as to help maintain adequate level of foreign exchange reserves.

[English]

Procurement of Parboiled Rice in Andhra Pradesh

1996. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have directed the Food Corporation of India to procure 7.5 tonne parboiled rice in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in the matter till date?

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

(b) As on 2.3.2002, a quantity of 4.51 lakh MTs of Boiled rice has been procured by FCI in Andhra Pradesh.

Meeting with Mauritius Ministers

1997. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Mauritius has decided to work closely with the Indian Financial watchdogs to clamp down on firms misusing the island nation's liberal tax regime to manipulate share prices in the Indian Market;

(b) if so, whether the Mauritius Minister for economic development, financial services and corporate affairs in his recent visit to India held discussions with the RBI and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); and

(c) if so, the details of discussions held with outcome thereof?

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.

Facilities to Old Age Persons

1998. DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the population of 60 plus during the years 1951 and 1991;

(b) whether there is a sharp increase in population of this particular group and on that basis how much population is expected to be by the years 2011 and 2021;

(c) whether there is any National Policy for this group of population;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the number of old age homes and mobile medical units are functionary under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Number of persons 60 plus were about 20 million in 1951 and 57 million in 1991.

(b) Technical Group on Population Projects has projected 60 plus population to be 100 million by 2013. United Nations has projected 60 plus population to be 198 million in 2030.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, a National Policy on Old Persons was announced in January, 1999 which inter-alia, visualizes support for health care, shelter and welfare of old persons, protection against 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.

(e) 391 Old Age Homes, 469 Day Care Centres & 83 Mobile Medicare Units are functional under this programme.

Pay Scale of Inspectors

1999. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the time scale of pay of Inspectors of Income Tax, Central Excise and Customs Department, in the Central Bureau of Investigation and Intelligence Bureau prior to the 4th Pay Commission;

(b) whether the Government revised the pay scale of any of the categories of Inspectors mentioned above prior to the 5th Pay Commission;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) the time scale of pay recommended by the 5th Pay Commission in respect of Inspectors of Income Tax, Central Excise, Customs, Inspectors in the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Intelligence Bureau;

(e) whether the Government implemented the recommendations of the 5th Pay Commission in respect of pay scales of the above categories of employees; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Prior to acceptance of the recommendations of the 4th Central Pay Commission (CPC) by the Central Government, the pay scale of Inspectors of Income Tax, Central Excise and Customs, and Inspectors in Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was Rs. 425-800, which was upgraded to Rs. 500-900 with effect from 1st January 1980 in respect of Inspectors of Income Tax, Central Excise and Customs. Prior to acceptance of the recommendations of the 4th Central Pay Commission (CPC) by the Central Government, the pay scale of the post of ACIO-I (Inspector) in Intelligence Bureau (IB) was Rs. 550-900.

(b) and (c) The pay scale of Inspectors of Income Tax, Central Excise & Customs was revised to Rs. 1640-2900, and the pay scale of ACIO-I in IB was revised to Rs. 2000-3200, as per the accepted recommendations of the 4th CPC. The pay scale of Inspectors in CBI was also revised to Rs. 2000-3200.

(d) The 5th CPC recommended the scale of pay of Rs. 1640-2900 (Revised: Rs. 5500-9000) for the Inspectors of Income Tax, Central Excise and Customs. For IB, the 5th CPC recommended that posts of Inspector be placed in two grades in the pay scales of Rs. 1640-2900 (Revised Rs. 5500-9000) and Rs. 2000-3500 (Revised: Rs. 6500-10500. For Inspectors in CBI, the Commission recommended that parity of pay scale may be maintained with that of Inspectors in IB and the Central Police Organisations (CPOs).

(e) and (f) The recommendations of the 5th CPC relating to Inspectors in Income Tax, Central Excise and Customs have been implemented. In respect of Inspectors in CBI and IB, only one scale of Rs. 6500-10500 (revised) was implemented, with a view to rationalising the rank and pay structure of all the CPOs.

Price of Wheat and Rice in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2000. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of wheat and rice for Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line card holders in Andaman and Nicobar Islands is higher than their prices prevailing in rest of India;

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

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

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

(e) whether there is any proposal to supply rice of super fine quality through Fair Price Shops in the Islands; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) No, Sir. As per the report received, the retail issue price of foodgrains under TPDS in Andaman and Nicobar Islands for BPL and APL families is comparable to other parts of the country. The details are as follows:

(Rs. Per Kg.)

Items	Retail Price	
	APL	BPL
Rice	8.80	6.05
Wheat	6.50	4.45

(e) and (f) Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been directed to issue Grade 'A' or Common variety of rice conforming to FAQ specifications from the FCI depots on the basis of First In - First Out (FIFO) for all schemes including TPDS. As reported by the UT Administration only Grade 'A' of rice is being supplied under the PDS through Fair Price Shops to the consumers.

[Translation]

Drug Addiction

2001. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug addicts identified by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether majority of them are youths; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to de-addict the youths?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) There has been no survey to determine the number of addicts State-wise. However the different studies and reports indicate incidence of drug abuse in age group of 16-35 years. The Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse is being implemented by the Ministry, wherein financial assistance of about Rs. 20 crores is being provided, every year, to about 450 Non Government Organizations for preventive education, awareness generation, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts or those abusing drugs.

[English]

Allocation of Funds Under SCP & TSP

2002. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various schemes and programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) & TSP since 1978 for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the schemes/programmes formulated/being implemented by his Ministry under SCP and TSP since their commencement specifying nature, scope and target groups thereof as stipulated in letter No. 280-PMO/80 dated 12.3.1980 from the Prime Minister's Office addressed to his Ministry amongst other Ministries/ Organizations while commencing SCP/TSP;

(c) the amount of funds requisitioned and procured by his Ministry during Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans for such schemes/programmes;

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

(e) the other Scheme/Programme being implemented by this Ministry for economic empowerment of SCs and STs and to generate more employment opportunities for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (e) This Ministry which was formed in October, 1999 is mainly concerned with administering Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the consumer goods, engineering and the engineering consultancy sectors. The work of these PSUs is commercial in nature and they are not engaged in area or individual welfare projects Under the circumstances, it has not been possible for this Ministry to allocate funds for SCP/TSP programmes.

Loans to Unemployed Youths

2003. SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether private banks are refusing to give loans to those unemployed graduates as envisaged in Prime Minister's Programme, even though it is being scrutinized and recognized by the State Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Private Sector Banks have been advised to provide loans to unemployed graduates as envisaged in the self-employment scheme of Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY). According to the information furnished by RBI that they have not received any complaint either from the beneficiaries or from any other Agency involved in PMRY about non-entertainment of loan applications under the scheme by Private Sector Banks.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Grain Banks

2004. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open grain banks where there are internal flows in the expansion of the public distribution system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these grain banks are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Government has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Grain Banks in Tribal Villages since 1996-1997 in 13 States. On the recommendation of the Standing Committee of Union Ministers and Chief Ministers on Food Management and Agriculture Export a revised Grain Bank Scheme has been prepared.

The revised scheme is aimed at covering 1.14 lakh tribal villages throughout the country in the first phase with an estimated cost of Rs. 1066.00 crore. The cash component under the scheme is Rs. 66.00 crore to be disbursed to the States for storage bins, expenditure on lifting of foodgrains etc. under the scheme. The foodgrains are to be supplied to the States on their demand through the FCI. The revised scheme is yet to be approved by the Government.

[English]

Provision of Funds for Construction of Godowns

2005. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received requests from various State Governments particularly from Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand for allocation of funds for construction of godowns in their respective States;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have released any funds to the States so far;

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

(e) if so, the reasons thereto and the time by which funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Proposals have been received from various State Governments/UT Administrations for financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Construction of Godowns' for strengthening of Public Distribution System. No request has been received from Government of Jharkhand under the scheme. The sanction of Rs. 50 lakh given to State Government of Tamil Nadu during the financial year 1996-1997 for construction of 18 godowns has been revalidated for construction of 6 godowns during the current financial year.

The State-wise details of proposals received, funds sanctioned/approved for sanction and reasons for rejection during the current financial year may be seen in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise Details of Proposals Received, Funds Sanctioned/Approved for Sanction and Reasons Thereof.

S. No.	States/ UTs	Proposal			Amount released				Remarks
		Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Godowns	Capacity (in MT)	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Godowns	Capacity (in MT)	Date of sanction	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	360.00	36	18000	Nil	—	—	—	Detailed proposal not submitted as per guidelines of the scheme
2.	Assam	202.62	6	12000	Nil	—	—	—	Financial assistance sanctioned during 1996-1997 has not been utilized till date.
3.	Bihar	2060.35	229	53500	Nil	—	—	—	Utilisation certificate in respect of financial assistance sanctioned during the years 1992-1993 to 1994-1995 pending from State Government.
4.	Chhattisgarh	(a) 214.20	7	12600	169.946	6	10800	2.11.2001	Land not available at one location
		(b) 261.74	10	1800	Nil	—	—	—	State Govt. has already been sanctioned financial assistance during the current financial year.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Gujarat	221.26	15	7500	43.09	5	3000	By end of current financial year	Due to budgetary constraints financial assistance granted for earthquake affected locations only.
6.	Himachal Pradesh	85.28	3	1500	70.78	3	1500	By end of current financial year	Amount restricted due to budgetary constraints.
7.	Karnataka	2237.35	45	65000	Nil	—	—	—	Refund of unutilized amount from financial assistance sanctioned in 1992-1993 due from State Govt.
8.	Kerala	(a) 179.75	4	800	179.75	4	800	20.8.2001	Due to budgetary constraints the second proposal was not approved.
		(b) 374.40	10	14700	Nil	—	—	—	State Govt. has already been sanctioned financial assistance during the current financial year.
9.	Madhya Pradesh	355.75	16	21900	321.37	16	21900	—	Financial assistance restricted to amount required for construction of godowns and chowkidar quarter.
10.	Manipur	(a) 91.61	1	2000	57.78	1	1250	By end of current financial year	Amount restricted due to budgetary constraints.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		(b) 850.00	9	8500	Nil	—	—	—	Proposals not as per guidelines.
11.	Mizoram	276.422	4	8000	Nil	—	—	—	Not approved due to budgetary constraints.
12.	Pondicherry	135.508	3	3500	15.06	1	500	By end of current financial year	Only one godown of 500 MT capacity approve as per approved area norms due to budgetary constraints.
13.	Punjab	150.00	17	—	Nil	—	—	—	Proposal was not as per guidelines.
14.	Rajasthan	433.03	19	32250	Nil	—	—	—	Refund of unutilized amount from financial assistance sanctioned in previous years due from State Govt.
15.	Sikkim	28.50	1	300	8.05	1	300	By end of current financial year	Financial assistance restricted to amount required for construction of godowns and chowkidar quarter.
16.	Tamil Nadu	132.00	4	6000	Nil	—	—	—	Financial assistance sanctioned during 1996-97 has not been utilized till date and same has been

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
									revalidated for utilization in the current financial year.
17.	Tripura	(a) 121.58	7	500	35.069	7	500	2.11.2001	Financial assistance restricted to amount required for construction of godown building and chowkidar quarter.
		(b) 498.45	8	8250	Nil	—	—	—	Detailed proposal not submitted as per guidelines of the scheme.
18.	Uttar Pradesh	715.41	21	42000	Nil	—	—	—	The State Govt. has not released the amount sanctioned during the period 1997-1998 to 1999-2000 for construction of godowns in Uttaranchal.

Loans Disbursed Under PMRY

2006. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans distributed by the banks under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana during the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, till date year-wise, bank-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether any complaints regarding bribes in disbursement of loan had been received; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with the action taken by the Government against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) According to the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) The *bank-wise* and *State-wise details* of number of accounts and loan disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) to unemployed youths under Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are indicated in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

(b) and (c) The complaints received from the borrowers of PMRY loans against the banks (including a very few cases of bribes) have been looked into by the Reserve Bank of India. The few complaints about bribe were found to be not correct and the applications were not entertained due to other reasons. In most of the cases the complaints themselves were false.

Statement-I

The Bank-wise loan disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks to unemployed youths under PMRY during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto 31.12.2001 Provisional)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Banks	Total loan disbursed					
		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		No. of Account	Amount	No. of Account	Amount	No. of A/C	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	State Bank of India	46701	29765.00	31626	20503.00	8124	4723.00
2.	State Bank of B & J	3759	2030.59	3590	2032.85	1287	667.04
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	5872	2912.18	5800	3294.68	1202	645.07
4.	State Bank of Indore	3456	2712.55	3270	2553.64	633	383.18
5.	State Bank of Mysore	2451	1590.56	133	90.56	0	0.00
6.	State Bank of Patiala	2937	1942.74	3190	2182.77	1306	886.59
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	1207	541.04	782	410.39	0	0.00
8.	State Bank of Travancore	2892	1576.60	2848	1619.76	0	0.00
9.	Allahabad Bank	6165	4435.22	1822	1390.03	1147	792.56
10.	Andhra Bank	0	0.00	374	228.46	0	0.00
11.	Bank of Baroda	14425	8668.90	10100	5899.76	386	198.31
12.	Bank of India	11986	7854.07	8188	4912.15	2864	1653.52
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	4793	2781.23	4411	2561.56	1416	730.81
14.	Canara Bank	10036	5436.83	6490	3625.72	2898	1466.42
15.	Central Bank of India	14355	9506.91	9213	5926.16	0	0.00
16.	Corporation Bank	2207	1370.76	1798	1134.35	0	0.00
17.	Dena Bank	3411	1948.90	2908	1641.01	1011	565.70
18.	Indian Bank	4626	2605.32	4686	2468.50	1496	796.40
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	4295	2376.31	486	260.17	2232	1160.30
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	4195	2746.21	3956	2557.89	1340	901.70
21.	Punjab National Bank	16490	10502.29	14692	9563.81	4376	2678.91
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1816	1188.00	1291	857.44	799	536.55
23.	Syndicate Bank	6701	4023.59	5586	3120.90	1799	1007.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	Union Bank of India	9350	6082.63	8388	5442.29	3094	1887.00
25.	United Bank of India	1496	995.64	966	660.71	665	398.86
26.	UCO Bank	5288	3660.34	5105	3322.29	215	147.97
27.	Vijaya Bank	3379	2190.39	3028	1907.32	656	454.49
	Total of Public Sector Banks	194289	121445.30	144727	90168.17	38946	22682.29
Private Sector Banks							
28.	Bank of Madura Ltd.	363	165.14	124	59.68	0	0.00
29.	Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	1119	644.04	636	352.57	298	162.55
30.	Bharat Overs. Bank Ltd.	45	27.39	73	38.25	37	19.51
31.	Banaras St. Bk. Ltd.	2	1.70	0	0.00	0	0.00
32.	Catholic Syr. Bk. Ltd.	0	0.00	455	241.29	329	169.83
33.	Dhanalaxmi Bk. Ltd.	408	226.42	217	139.24	0	0.00
34.	Federal Bk. Ltd.	1061	760.84	1134	702.61	344	204.42
35.	J & K Bank Ltd.	0	0.00	0	0.00	409	373.78
36.	Karnataka Bk. Ltd.	679	423.17	388	238.51	0	0.00
37.	Karur Vysya Bk. Ltd.	505	255.57	373	185.44	253	124.83
38.	Lakshmi Vilas Bk. Ltd.	321	181.02	343	180.70	106	54.08
39.	Nedungadi Bk. Ltd.	664	351.23	508	263.17	175	88.15
40.	Ratnakar Bk. Ltd.	302	199.34	251	159.71	55	35.99
41.	Sangli Bk. Ltd.	0	0.00	205	99.00	0	0.00
42.	South Indian Bk. Ltd.	678	354.05	647	325.19	0	0.00
43.	Tamilnadu Mar. Bk. Ltd.	474	316.46	447	301.32	289	187.69
44.	United West Bk. Ltd.	858	541.04	812	488.62	299	169.60
45.	Vysya Bk. Ltd.	1212	731.52	920	584.95	90	62.41
46.	Bareilly Corp. Bk. Ltd.	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
47.	Nainital Bk. Ltd.	0	0.00	324	199.36	0	0.00
48.	City Union Bk. Ltd.	307	180.20	281	152.97	229	118.14
49.	Lord Krishna Bk. Ltd.	167	111.79	142	85.11	47	28.59
	Total of Private Sector Banks	9165	5470.92	8280	4797.69	2960	1799.57
	Total of All Banks	203454	126916.22	153007	94965.86	41906	24481.86

Statement-II

The State-wise loan disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks to unemployed youths under PMRY during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto 31.12.2001 Provisional)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/Union Territories	Total loan disbursed					
		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		No. of Account	Amount	No. of Account	Amount	No. of Account	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Haryana	5856	3466.39	5704	3455.21	1983	1272.45
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2011	1361.89	1977	1320.44	852	539.23
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	871	734.06	685	518.50	365	311.31
4.	Punjab	8519	5507.67	7580	4838.00	2734	1679.34
5.	Rajasthan	11089	6003.06	10521	5830.02	2668	1385.55
6.	Chandigarh	51	39.87	48	36.61	36	26.30
7.	Delhi	614	389.57	680	467.83	231	177.97
8.	Assam	5850	4570.46	1792	1336.30	342	210.00
9.	Manipur	310	238.01	336	231.00	0	0.00
10.	Meghalaya	356	263.63	411	270.51	26	18.79
11.	Nagaland	73	76.52	19	24.25	6	9.08
12.	Tripura	244	133.82	31	21.02	299	149.65
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	215	248.89	124	109.67	0	0
14.	Mizoram	84	59.88	245	274.00	3	2.82
15.	Sikkim	43	24.88	40	19.55	6	4.39
16.	Bihar	9159	7598.12	7715	6411.29	1216	887.89
17.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	581	465.38
18.	Orissa	6731	4680.62	1682	1036.45	246	146.60
19.	West Bengal	2910	1852.21	1787	1212.29	343	261.57
20.	Andaman & Nicobar	128	94.60	112	89.99	16	13.44
21.	Madhya Pradesh	21207	14865.66	13498	8844.80	1700	1029.23
22.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	442	247.50
23.	Uttar Pradesh	36919	23924.00	29835	19071.10	8680	5295.25
24.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	1813	1037.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Gujarat	10085	4720.54	7927	4145.22	2343	1189.72
26.	Maharashtra	26202	14892.43	19067	11144.54	4652	2483.16
27.	Daman & Diu	17	9.41	19	1337	1	0.70
28.	Goa	382	359.43	254	203.22	58	44.02
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	25	19.12	22	17.60	4	3.95
30.	Andhra Pradesh	13309	7862.76	8978	5662.00	2050	1191.45
31.	Karnataka	15255	9434.29	8414	5362.85	1496	920.56
32.	Kerala	12500	7064.14	10164	5772.72	2541	1383.41
33.	Tamil Nadu	12154	6301.40	8822	4262.72	3706	1690.60
34.	Lakshadweep	33	22.89	14	11.31	11	7.38
35.	Pondicherry	252	96.00	152	64.79	47	22.20
36.	Not Specified	-	-	77	40.23	409	373.78
	All India	203454	126916.22	148732	92119.40	41906	24481.86

Black Money

2007. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the parallel economy of the country the share of black money in the total Gross Domestic Product is at least one third i.e. two lakh crore rupees as per the assessment made by RBI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Hawala transaction is one of the main source of black money; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check this business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has not made any assessment regarding share of Black Money in the Gross Domestic Product of the country.

(c) and (d) There are many sources of generation of black money. Hawala Transactions is one such source. The Government have been taking necessary legislative, fiscal and administrative measures from time to time to prevent generation of black money. Rates of taxation have been progressively rationalized. Besides, the Income Tax Act, 1961 contains a number of provisions aimed at preventing generation of black money. These include, inter alia, provisions regarding compulsory maintenance and audit of accounts in appropriate cases under section 44AA and 44AB, restrictions on cash transactions under section 40A(3), 269SS and 269T, and provisions regarding penalties and prosecutions for punishing tax defaulters. Searches and Surveys are also conducted in appropriate cases to detect tax evasion.

National Institute for Physically Handicapped, Secunderabad

2008. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint the faculties at the level of Associate Professors and Professors at the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped at Secunderabad to suit the growing academic, Research and training needs of the mentally handicapped sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), with a set of qualified academic faculty, runs various degree/diploma courses/training programmes. The Institute has proposed to introduce new long term training programmes which will require strengthening of its academic faculty.

World Bank Loan to Maharashtra

2009. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra seeking World Bank assistance regarding Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the extent of assistance sought;

(c) whether the Government have examined the proposal and forwarded the same to the World Bank;

(d) if so, whether the World Bank Mission visited Maharashtra in January-February this year and held discussions in various aspects relating to the project; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the visit?

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

(b) and (c) The 2nd Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project has been framed on the basis of the sector reforms concept formulated by the Government of India, in which 10% community contribution towards capital cost of the scheme and 100% maintenance cost by beneficiaries and community participation in identifying, planning, designing and implementing the scheme is envisaged. The cost of the project as submitted by the State Govt. is Rs. 1656.20 crore for 16 districts. The project has been forwarded to the World Bank and is under appraisal of the World Bank. It has not yet been sanctioned.

(d) and (e) A World Bank Identification Mission visited Maharashtra during January 21-Feb 1, 2002 to discuss the objectives and scope of the proposed 2nd Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation project. Agreements have been reached with Water Supply and Sanitation Department that Govt. of Maharashtra will complete the following priority actions before launching the first preparation mission: (i) setup a full-time project preparation team and provide it with adequate funds to initiate preparation of the project; (ii) achieve substantive progress in launching project studies and analyses as well as pilot schemes in a few districts; (iii) prepare a road map with a plan of action for the required institutional restructuring of Maharashtra Jeewan Pradhikaran (MJP) and Ground Survey Development Agency (GSDA); and (iv) prepare Government of Maharashtra strategy and plan of action for completion or otherwise of on-going Rural Water Supply Schemes under the Master Plan.

National Commission for SC/ST

2010. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for SC/ST has been empowered to deal with cases of harassment and oppressive treatment in respect of service matters of the officials of Government Departments;

(b) if so the powers given to the Commission in this regard; and

(c) the number of cases of harassment/oppressive treatment received by the Commission during the last three years ministry and its department-wise and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The National Commission for SC & ST has been constituted under Article 338 of the Constitution with the duty to investigate and monitor all matters relating to safeguards provided to SCs/STs, to inquire into specific complaints of the SCs & STs and to participate and advise on planning process for socio economic development of SCs & STs. The Commission has the powers of Civil Court for enforcing attendance of any person, production of any document requisitioning any public record etc.

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

Nagaland Paper and Pulp Mills

2011. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nagaland Paper and Pulp Mills at Tuli a subsidiary of Hindustan Paper Corporation was referred to BIFR two times;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any action has been initiated by the Government to clear the huge liabilities of this mill;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the manner in which the Government plans to sort out the issue, compensate the affected parties and revive the ailing mills for the welfare of workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (e) Nagaland Pulp and Paper Company Ltd. (NPPC), a subsidiary of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. (HPC) was referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in April, 1992. Since the BIFR was taking time to finalise the revival plan, the Government approved a package in 1995 which helped NPPC to come out of BIFR since its net worth became positive. However, it could not improve its performance and hence was again referred to BIFR in August, 1998. In its hearing on 4.3.2002, BIFR ordered winding up of NPPC.

Government has been providing non plan budgetary support from time to time to HPC toward part cash losses/ liability of salary and wages of NPPC. HPC has been clearing liabilities toward salary, wages and statutory dues of NPCC. Government has also approved budgetary support of Rs. 18 crores for offering Voluntary Separation Scheme to all existing employees.

Amendments in FDI Conditions

2012. SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Investment Promotion Board has recommended amendments/deletions of FDI conditions of entry of foreign investors into India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether FIPB has considered all the pros and cons of past precedents before recommending said amendments;

(d) if so, whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of FIPB;

(e) if so, the details of existing conditions and new guidelines for permitting the foreign investors into India; and

(f) the extent to which new guidelines would be helpful in attracting the foreign investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Entry level conditions imposed on the basis of FIPB guidelines/sectoral FDI policies are not considered by FIPB for deletion/amendment on a case to case basis.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Progressive liberalisation is normally with prospective effect and past obligation (s), if any, on the basis of previous policy, have to be fulfilled by foreign collaboration approval holders. The progressive liberalisation is aimed at making FDI procedures simpler by placing them on the automatic route to the extent possible. Similarly, FDI caps are imposed in a few sectors based on strategic considerations and FDI upto 100% is permitted in the remaining sectors open to FDI. The liberal FDI policy framework has helped in attracting more FDI.

[Translation]

Handloom Village Development Scheme in Maharashtra

2013. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages covered under Handloom Village Development Scheme in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the total number of employment opportunities generated under the above said scheme;

(c) the number of schemes approved by the Government on the basis of the proposals received from the State Governments; and

(d) the year-wise amount allocated to the State Governments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme (IHVD) was introduced in the year 1991-1992 and was discontinued with effect from 1997-1998. No villages were, therefore, covered under the scheme during the last three years. However, releases of balance amounts committed for projects sanctioned during the currency of the scheme have been made during the last three years.

(b) and (c) During the currency of the scheme, two projects were sanctioned to the Government of Maharashtra. One project was sanctioned during the financial year 1991-1992 with an outlay of Rs. 17.40 lakh to cover 100 weavers in Village Andhal Gaon of Bhandara

District. Another project was sanctioned during the financial year 1994-1995 with an outlay of Rs. 25.25 lakh to cover 100 weavers in village Nandurghat of Beed District.

(d) No State wise allocations are made under the schemes. The Government of India considers the proposals drawn in conformity with the guidelines of the schemes and duly forwarded by the State Government for sanction of Central assistance. The year-wise amounts released to the State Governments under various schemes during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakh)

S. No.	Name of State	Deen Dayal Harthkargha Protsahan Yojana			Development of Exportable Products and their marketing			Workshed cum Housing			Project Package Scheme		
		98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72.08	129.23	28.90	39.90	55.55
2.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	14.72	5.00	280.38	340.20	119.59	782.68	420.09	307.01
3.	Assam	-	-	424.10	27.00	4.40	12.85	38.39	59.18	-	1052.40	546.72	513.43
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.50	8.85	3.25
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	4.25	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	-	-	212.50	-	-	-	-	-	230.00	10.99	18.65	7.35
8.	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	15.50	-	-	-	1.08	4.00	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	6.89	25.00	56.25	53.97	22.93	22.93	-	35.26	34.16	10.47
10.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	44.54	2.64	-	-	-	-	54.18	28.55	47.83	-
12.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	-	-	116.47	-	57.07	16.85	20.95	18.16
13.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	8.90	90.00	-	-	233.68	68.80	283.45
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	32.71	-	7.50	-	-	-	-	37.76	29.50	16.02
15.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-	124.04	0.95	8.42	14.78	5.03	89.87
16.	Manipur	-	-	143.51	-	-	-	66.00	127.50	188.75	111.40	180.80	236.24
17.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	7.48	-	13.60	-	10.25	10.00	7.50	-
18.	Meghalaya	-	-	6.00	-	-	-	5.53	-	20.76	-	-	-
19.	Nagaland	-	-	33.10	-	-	12.25	44.00	150.00	136.96	214.19	189.14	127.08
20.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	7.50	-	88.54	180.00	45.00	103.55	154.53	1.38
21.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
22.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	13.25	4.25	-	-	-	5.10	8.90	3.40
23.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92.24	-	34.05	92.99	-
24.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	677.05	21.25	13.13	5.25	248.72	199.92	181.46	252.53	121.38	141.76
26.	Tripura	-	-	33.14	5.00	-	-	-	-	14.05	11.25	24.00	4.54
27.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	54.15	9.00	37.75	14.25	20.00	-	-	610.96	644.51	314.84
28.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29.	West Bengal	-	-	28.15	8.35	36.00	16.25	-	-	358.45	56.74	144.52	73.85
30.	Delhi	-	-	-	8.75	8.25	5.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	1695.84	104.35	208.87	157.72	1258.60	1245.00	1499.99	3686.83	2793.47	2255.48

S. No.	Name of State	HDC/QDU Scheme			Health Package Scheme			Thrift Funds Scheme		
		98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	50.35	-	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	-	13.69	27.89	52.75	86.99	96.25	34.38	41.04	-
3.	Assam	-	-	-	32.00	24.40	112.25	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.60	-	-
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-	55.11	3.78	8.00	-
8.	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	2.84	5.10	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.79
12.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	22.00	-	-	29.00	30.00
13.	Kerala	-	15.99	-	43.65	6.43	37.22	2.49	-	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.56	2.96	1.03
15.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	6.21	-	-	-	25.83	4.78
16.	Manipur	-	-	-	12.88	-	32.53	-	-	-
17.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
18.	Meghalaya	–	–	–	3.03	1.96	2.34	–	–	–
19.	Nagaland	–	61.39	78.84	19.46	19.46	74.77		–	–
20.	Orissa	–	–	–	–	–	–	54.00	–	–
21.	Pondicherry	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
22.	Punjab	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
23.	Rajasthan	–	–	–	–	5.00	–	–	1.00	–
24.	Sikkim	–	–	–	–	18.80	2.50	–	–	–
25.	Tamil Nadu	–	290.09	–	71.96	83.06	37.79	244.34	241.15	262.16
26.	Tripura	–	–	–	40.40	–	29.83	–	–	0.29
27.	Uttar Pradesh	–	12.19	–	50.00	–	–	–	–	–
28.	Uttaranchal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
29.	West Bengal	–	–	–	–	5.00	7.35	–	–	–
30.	Delhi	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Total	0.00	396.19	111.83	332.34	273.10	539.89	352.55	348.98	299.05

S. No.	Name of State	Group Insurance Scheme			New Insurance Scheme			MDA Scheme			Janata Cloth Scheme		
		98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.	Andhra Pradesh	16.80	16.00	24.00	12.28	15.19	–	66.27	451.31	295.95	–	–	–
3.	Assam	1.50	1.50	–	–	0.25	–	33.04	50.22	40.04	247.84	14.60	–
4.	Bihar	–	–	–	2.34	3.59	0.37	14.29	5.76	–	5.53	9.00	–
5.	Chhattisgarh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
6.	Goa	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
7.	Gujarat	–	0.97	1.57	2.79	2.63	2.73	103.27	21.04	117.60	6.54	–	–
8.	Haryana	–	–	–	–	–	–	43.47	116.59	16.46	0.88	–	–
9.	Himachal Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	58.01	42.14	32.24	–	–	–
10.	Jharkhand	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	–	–	–	–	–	–	47.96	34.94	12.00	4.27	–	–
12.	Karnataka	–	20.00	–	–	–	–	40.00	102.52	193.12	150.55	–	–

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13.	Kerala	–	–	–	–	–	–	761.06	308.49	110.77	–	–	–
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.50	–	1.13	2.55	1.83	0.74	81.30	99.59	21.85	45.64	–	–
15.	Maharashtra	–	–	–	–	–	–	50.45	–	46.97	65.44	–	–
16.	Manipur	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.74	–	–	–	–
17.	Mizoram	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
18.	Meghalaya	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
19.	Nagaland	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.77	–	–	–	–	–
20.	Orissa	–	–	–	18.00	–	18.00	78.93	223.47	107.59	73.44	–	–
21.	Pondicherry	–	–	–	–	–	–	28.53	57.80	28.37	–	5.90	–
22.	Punjab	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	130.98	142.79	–	–
23.	Rajasthan	–	–	–	1.68	1.36	2.56	8.02	11.99	37.63	2.27	6.93	0.05
24.	Sikkim	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25.	Tamil Nadu	37.44	36.67	36.75	–	–	1294.20	700.00	921.62	200.63	–	–	–
26.	Tripura	–	–	–	0.36	0.15	0.60	5.94	18.02	6.06	1.91	–	–
27.	Uttar Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	107.29	125.66	233.40	0.16	1.63	–
28.	Uttaranchal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7.38	–	–	–
29.	West Bengal	2.63	2.77	2.47	–	–	–	411.73	400.00	110.08	47.70	97.29	–
30.	Delhi	–	–	–	–	–	–	71.47	135.09	220.63	–	–	–
	Total	58.87	77.91	65.92	40.00	25.00	25.00	3306.00	2905.37	2690.74	995.59	135.35	0.05

S. No.	Name of State	Publicity & Exhibitions			Margin Money for Destite Weavers			Integrated Handloom Village Development		
		98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	–	1.00	2.31	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.	Andhra Pradesh	–	15.50	66.25	–	26.50	–	–	33.00	129.00
3.	Assam	26.34	27.80	67.48	–	–	–	–	44.75	–
4.	Bihar	–	5.82	21.94	–	–	–	–	–	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
6.	Goa	–	–	34.27	–	–	–	–	–	–

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Gujarat	7.76	9.50	–	–	0.70	–	–	–	–
8.	Haryana	12.00	12.61	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
9.	Himachal Pradesh	–	1.00	12.39	–	–	–	–	–	–
10.	Jharkhand	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.00	13.98	25.89	–	–	–	–	–	–
12.	Karnataka	–	6.51	1.00	2.50	–	4.50	–	–	–
13.	Kerala	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
14	Madhya Pradesh	16.41	29.13	25.30	–	–	–	12.50	48.90	10.00
15.	Maharashtra	43.00	59.96	38.93	–	–	–	–	–	–
16.	Manipur	–	8.58	9.34	–	–	–	–	57.15	–
17.	Mizoram	–	–	1.00	–	–	–	–	–	–
18.	Meghalaya	–	1.00	1.08	–	–	–	–	–	–
19.	Nagaland	9.00	1.00	7.84	–	–	–	–	–	–
20.	Orissa	8.06	5.00	16.90	72.50	–	–	23.00	44.00	–
21.	Pondicherry	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
22.	Punjab	–	1.00	2.00	–	0.50	–	–	–	–
23.	Rajasthan	21.75	2.77	22.00	–	–	–	–	–	–
24.	Sikkim	7.89	1.99	4.97	–	–	–	–	–	–
25.	Tamil Nadu	4.51	29.15	–	–	–	–	–	–	63.00
26.	Tripura	12.78	4.63	4.19	2.50	–	–	–	42.75	–
27.	Uttar Pradesh	34.73	6.89	30.72	–	–	0.86	–	–	–
28.	Uttaranchal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
29.	West Bengal	2.00	28.63	23.15	9.00	–	0.50	–	6.00	–
30.	Delhi	–	4.00	19.73	–	–	–	–	–	–
	Total	206.72	252.81	467.83	86.50	27.70	5.86	35.50	276.55	202.00

[English]

Production of Salt

2014. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of salt in the country during the last three years and share of Gujarat thereupon; and

(b) the details of facilities and assistance provided by the Government to increase the production of natural salt in these coastal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Production of salt in the country during the last three years and the share of Gujarat thereon is as under:

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

Year	Total Production	Share of Gujarat	Percentage
1999	14452.7	10048.3	69.5
2000	15651.3	11588.4	74.00
2001	14284.00	9647.8	67.5

(b) Government is taking the following steps to boost the production of salt in the country including the coastal areas.

(i) Site inspection is undertaken to judge the suitability of the land for salt manufacture and appropriate recommendations made for allotment of land by the State Governments for the purpose.

(ii) Technical guidance is provided for the construction of salt works on scientific lines.

(iii) Setting up of Salt Refineries in the salt producing areas is encouraged to meet the increasing demand of quality salt for edible, industrial and export purposes which help in boosting up the production of common salt.

(iv) Financial assistance in the form of ex-gratia and loan is provided to the salt works which suffer damages due to natural calamities like floods/ cyclones etc. to enable them to recommence their production. Financial assistance is also extended for undertaking development and labour welfare schemes in the salt works.

(v) Departmental salt land suitable for salt manufacture is leased out to private parties for salt manufacture.

(vi) The Government vide Notification No. GSR 639(E) dated 4.9.2001, has replaced consignment-wise permit system for removal of salt from salt factories with the Self Removal Procedure (SRP) which will minimize hassles and thereby help in the increase of salt production.

Participation in Exhibition

2015. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL has participated in an exhibition "ELECREMA" during 21-26 January, 2002 held in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total expenditure incurred in this regard;

(d) whether the machinery which was supposed to be exhibited was actually not exhibited and in place of machinery their photos were exhibited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) BHEL had set up a stall in 'ELECRAMA' in a space of 87sq. mtrs., and exhibited its products and projects executed. The total expenditure incurred was approximately Rs. 13 lakh including Rs. 4.02 lakh as space rent. Since the machinery manufactured by BHEL is generally of very large size, smaller products were only exhibited while models of prototypes and large equipment were displayed.

[Translation]

Sambher Salts Ltd.

2016. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the profits and losses incurred by Sambher Salts Limited during the last three years;

(b) whether the decision to the effect of privatizing Sambher Salts Limited have been taken;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the officers and staff have opposed the disinvestment in this undertaking and given suggestions for its proper functioning;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken for providing the job security of the workers in case of disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) The company has incurred losses during the last three years as under:

Rs. in lakhs

1998-99	18.09
1999-2000	203.17
2000-2001	327.30

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The matter is with the Ministry of Disinvestment.

(d) and (e) The Officers and Staff have been opposing the disinvestment of Sambhar Salts Limited and have made suggestions like removal of restriction imposed by the State Government/local bodies for free flow of water into the Lake, removal of encroachment from the Company's land and installation of a Refinery.

(f) With disinvestment, a company remains subject to the labour laws of the country and its Standing Orders. Further, the model Shareholders Agreement carries a provision for no retrenchment for one year and then rightsizing through VRS no inferior than Government Scheme.

[English]

Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

2017. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various textile industries have not evinced sufficient interest in availing the facilities under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount of fund allocated to textiles industry under the scheme so far;

(d) whether there is any proposal to modify the scheme to make it more effective; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Government has launched the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for modernization of the textile and jute industries in the country w.e.f. April 1, 1999, for a period of five years. This Scheme provides for reimbursement of five percent interest charged by the financial institutions/banks for technology upgradation projects in conformity with the Scheme. As on 31st January, 2002, a total of 1465 applications with investment proposals of Rs. 13747 crores were received, 1232 applications with the total loan amount of Rs. 5057 were sanctioned and Rs. 3282 crore has been disbursed against 968 applications.

(d) and (e) For monitoring and review the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, an Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (IMSC) under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (Textiles) has been constituted. A Technical Advisory and Monitoring Committee (TAMC) under the chairmanship of the Textile Commissioner has also been constituted to interpret, or clarify any technical issues raised by any of the nodal agencies regarding the eligibility of any unit or machinery under the scheme.

Taking in to account suggestions received from various organizations, government has been amending the Scheme to make it more user friendly. Some of these are as follows:

(i) Providing an option to the Small Sector Textile and jute industries for availing of either 12% Upfront Credit Linked Capital Subsidy or the existing 5% interest reimbursement.

(ii) Restoring coverage of Cotton Ginning and Pressing Sector under TUFS with an option for G&P units to avail of benefits either under TUFS or Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC).

[Translation]

Misuse of Wakf Board Property

2018. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of misuse of the Wakf Board's properties have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have prescribed any policy in regard to such properties; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Sharjah Free Trade Zone

2019. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sharjah Free Trade Zone have invited the Indian Automobile Component Manufacturing companies to set up their units at Sharjah;

(b) whether a number of Indian companies have expressed their desire to establish their units at Sharjah;

(c) if so, whether the Government have considered the proposal received from the Indian companies; and

(d) if so, the names of the companies whose proposals have been approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Automotive Component Manufacturers' Association of India (ACMA) has confirmed the receipt of such an invitation.

(b) to (d) According to the Available information, only Ashok Leyland has so far taken permission from RBI and has set up an office in Sharjah.

[Translation]

Exchange of Soiled Notes

2020. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of mutilated and soiled currency notes exchanged in the country during each of the last three years, denomination-wise and State-wise?

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

[English]

Schemes for Old Age Persons

2021. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are giving financial assistance to voluntary organizations for establishing and maintaining Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units and for supporting and strengthening non-institutional services for the aged persons;

(b) whether the Planning Commission had allocated Rs. 54.62 crore to the schemes for Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2001);

(c) if so, whether Ministry utilized the entire amount for the purpose;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Ministry has not yet identified the organizations through which they would implement the scheme for the Old Age Persons; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The total fund allocated for the scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) is Rs. 56.34 crores.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has so far (upto 11-3-2002) utilized about 87 percent of the allocation.

(e) and (f) The scheme is being implemented by 609 non-governmental organizations, running 391 Old Age Homes, 469 Day Care Centres, 83 Mobile Medicare Units and 2 Non-Institutional Service Centres.

[Translation]

Diversification of Handloom Sector

2022. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the several State Governments have submitted the proposals for diversification of product of handloom sector in order to protect the handloom weavers;

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

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Several State Governments have submitted proposals under "Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana" and "Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme" which have components beneficial to the Handloom Sector including the component of diversification of Handloom products.

(b) to (d) State-wise details of proposals received and the proposals for which Central Assistance provided

during the current financial year 2001-2002 (as on 11.3.2002) are given in the Statement enclosed. Under Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, 1179 proposals have been received from various State Governments. Out of those proposals 258 proposals found in conformity with the guidelines have been sanctioned and Central assistance in the form of grant for Rs. 704.70 lakh has been provided to various States. 333 proposals have been returned to the respective States as those were not in conformity with the guidelines of the Scheme. No time-frame for the disposal of the remaining 588 proposals can be indicated. Under the Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme, 21 proposals have been received from various State Governments. Out of these proposals, 12 proposals found in conformity with the guidelines have been sanctioned and Central Assistance in the form of grant of Rs. 74.10 lakh has been provided to various States. In respect of 9 proposals, clarifications and necessary documents have been solicited from the concerned State governments.

Statement

S.N.	State	Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana			Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme		
		No. of proposals received	No. of proposals for which Central Assistance Provided	Central Assistance provided (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of proposals received	No. of proposals for which Central Assistance provided	Central Assistance provided (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99	64	43.77	4	1	6.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27	22	122.27	-	-	-
3.	Assam	354	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	19	-	-	2	1	6.50
5.	Chhattisgarh	15	1	0.48	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	2	1	125.00	-	-	-
7.	Haryana	-	-	-	2	2	8.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	23	5	8.74	-	-	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	-	-	-	-	
10.	Karnataka	-	-	-	1	1	4.10
11.	Madhya Pradesh	6	-	-	1	1	7.50
12.	Nagaland	202	-	-	3	3	18.00
13.	Punjab	-	-	-	5	-	-
14.	Rajasthan	1	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Tamil Nadu	146	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Uttar Pradesh	249	151	364.19	3	3	23.50
17.	Uttaranchal	14	14	40.25	-	-	-
18.	West Bengal	21	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1179	258	704.70	21	12	74.10

[English]

Minimum Maturity Period

2023. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has reduced the minimum maturity period for Commercial Papers (CP) and Certificates of Deposits (CD) to 7 days from the earlier 15 days;

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

(c) whether the RBI has also received some suggestions from companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details with the response of RBI on the suggestions?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), a representation had been received in regard to Commercial Paper (CP). RBI felt that it may not be operationally viable to reduce the minimum maturity of CP to seven days.

Export of Oilmeal

2024. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether oilmeal exports are up by sixty seven per cent in January, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to encourage such exports;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to ensure that oilmeal exports maintain a steady rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The total quantity and value of exports of oilmeals during the period April-Nov., 2001 (latest available) over the corresponding period last year is as under:—

Period	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. crores)
Apr.-Nov., 2001 (P)	9,46,767	783.98
Apr.-Nov. 2000 (P)	12,74,913	1011.49

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(b) and (c) Some of the steps taken to increase the export of oilmeals, include conducting publicity campaigns, sending delegations abroad, participating in International trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products and for conducting market surveys.

[Translation]

Production in Handloom Sector

2025. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile production in the handloom sector has increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, actual production in this sector alongwith its value during the years 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the number of persons given employment under this sector during each of the above mentioned years; and

(d) the average income of a worker at present in this sector?

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

(b) The actual production of handloom cloth during the years 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 as estimated, has been as below:

Year	Production (in Million sq. Mtrs.)
1998-1999	6792.00
1999-2000	7352.00
2000-2001	7506.00

Because of the decentralised nature of the handloom sector and the wide variation in the prices of the fabrics produced in that sector depending on the various fibres a their combinations, the value of production cannot be worked out.

(c) As per available information, about 124 lakh persons have been engaged in handloom weaving and allied activities.

(d) There is no authentic information on the prevailing average monthly income of the handloom weaver in the country as it varies from place to place; variety of fabric woven and the number of days of employment.

[English]

Vocational Rehabilitation Centres

2026. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRS) for the physically challenged;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith number of VRCS to be set up in Maharashtra during the current year; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to utilize the capabilities of disabled through training and skill upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) There are 17 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRCs) including one in Maharashtra functioning in the country. There is no proposal to set up more VRCs in Maharashtra in the current year. The VRCs evaluate the residual capacity of the persons with disabilities, provide them training in marketable skills and assist in their rehabilitation.

Reduction in Employment

2027. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of workers have become jobless due to the policy of the Government to down size its present massive strength;

(b) if so, the number of workers reduced during the last three years in the entire public sector units of the country; and

(c) the measures taken to protect the interests of workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Policy of the Government is to right size the staff strength. The Central public sector enterprises which are following the policy of right sizing the strength the process of voluntary retirement scheme have reduced the staff strength by 29,628, 43760 and 45,625 number of employees during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively. The scheme is voluntary in nature. On 6.11.2001, Government have further liberalized the scheme of voluntary retirement by allowing increased ex-gratia by 100% and 50% to employees of those enterprises wherein pay revision from 1.1.92 and from 1.1.97 respectively has not been effected. For the employees of Central PSUs released under VRS, a scheme for Counselling, Retraining and Redeployment is in operation which *inter alia* provides for re-orientation of the rationalised employees to acquaint them with skills and re-orient them to engage themselves in self-employment activities.

Export of Sports Goods

2028. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports of sports goods particularly cricket goods has declined during the past few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have given attention to the problems of the sports manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the details of incentives given to sports manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Despite global accession, Indian sports goods could able to achieve a growth of 7.25% in Rupee terms during 2000-2001. The details of cricket goods are given as follows:

(Value in Crores)

Sl. No.	Item of Export	Export during 1999-2000	Export during 2000-2001	%age increase & Decrease
1.	Cricket Bats	13.22	14.66	5.25%
2.	Cricket & Hockey Balls	06.81	06.20	-13.38%
3.	Protective Equipment for Cricket	24.35	29.16	13.52%

(c) and (d) in order to facilitate the Sports Good exporters the Government has taken the following measures:—

(i) fixation of duty drawback and DEPB rates;

(ii) assistance to individual exporters for participation in international fairs etc

(iii) assistance for market promotion through Sports Goods Export Promotion Council

(iv) ensuring availability of raw material

ADB Loan to Gujarat

2029. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has provided/propose to provide financial aid for the development of earthquake affected towns/districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the aid is likely to be released to the Government of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Asian Development Bank has approved a loan assistance of US$ 500 million for Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Project on 26th March, 2001. The loan is from ADB's ordinary capital resources with a term of 30 years including a grace period of 7 years. The loan funds will support housing support program, restoration of urban and rural water supply and electricity, rebuilding of the four towns of Bhuj, Anjar, Bachao and Rapar, livelihood restoration and capacity building for disaster management.

(c) The loan closing date for the Project is 30th June, 2004. The assistance under the project is received on reimbursement basis.

[Translation]

PDS in Orissa

2030. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have implemented the scheme meant for distribution of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System to the people living below the poverty line by treating all the persons of eight districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput areas of Orissa as living below the poverty line;

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

(c) whether the Government would conduct any survey in regard to the districts of other States of the country to ascertain the number of people living below the poverty line;

(d) whether there is any proposal to provide cheaper foodgrains on the same lines to all the States particularly to Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereto?

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

(b) Keeping in view the special problems of the eight districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) region of Orissa, allocation of foodgrains @ 25 kg. per family per month is being made for 13.93 lakh households estimated to be the total number of households in the KBK region of Orissa at BPL rates w.e.f. January, 2002.

(c) The identification of BPL families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is carried out by the States/UTs themselves. In the guidelines for implementation of TPDS they have been advised that the thrust should be to include only the poor and vulnerable sections of the society. All the States/UTs have identified BPL families and TPDS has been implemented throughout the country.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. However, other complementary schemes such as Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY), Annapoorna and Food for Work Programme are under implementation in all States of the country, including Maharashtra and Karnataka, for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society.

[English]

Coaching of SC/ST Students

2031. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to release funds under the centrally sponsored coaching (SC and ST students) and allied schemes for the year 2001-2002; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. An amount of Rs. 2.15 lacs has been released to the Government of Karnataka for ST students under the Coaching & Allied Scheme for ST students. In respect of SC students an incomplete proposal has been received. The State Government has been requested to submit the proposal in the prescribed proforma alongwith the requisite documents and utilization certificate for pervious grant. Release of Central Assistance will be considered on receipt of complete proposal from the State Government.

[Translation]

NSFDC Assistance to SC/ST Students

2032. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes benefited by the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation during the last two years;

(b) the amount provided to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes by the NSFDC; and

(c) the number of persons benefited in Maharashtra therefrom and the amount provided to them during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Details on number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes persons assisted and amount disbursed by National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation during last two years are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	No. of SC/ST Persons benefited	Amount disbursed
1999-2000	12,236	10006.14
2000-2001	51,001	13251.46

(c) Details pertaining to Maharashtra for above period are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	No. of SC/ST Persons benefited	Amount disbursed
1999-2000	42	152.43
2000-2001	621	368.87

Issuance of OBC Certificate

2033. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether no time limit has been mentioned in the guidelines laid down for issuance of OBC certificate; and

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to prescribe the time limit in the guidelines laid down for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the Government of India has advised all the State Governments/UT Administrations to appropriately brief the certifying Authorities and to provide them with sufficient number of copies of the Gazette Notifications and the Department of Personnel & Training OM No. 36012/22/1993-Estt. (SCT) dated 08-09-1993 in order to ensure prompt and correct certification.

[English]

Cooperative Banks in Karnataka

2034. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the co-operative banks in Karnataka which have been conferred scheduled bank status so far;

(b) the criteria for according scheduled bank status to cooperative banks;

(c) the number of applications/proposals pending with the Government for according scheduled bank status in Karnataka; and

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

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 Karnataka State Bank Ltd. and Amanath Cooperative Bank Ltd., Bangalore are the cooperative banks in Karnataka which have been conferred the Scheduled status so far.

(b) As reported by RBI, a cooperative bank would get scheduled status when it gets included in the second schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. For inclusion in the schedule, the bank should comply with Section 42 (6) (a) of the RBI Act vide which it should have a paid-up share capital and reserves of an aggregate value of not less than Rupees 5 lakhs and its affairs should not be conducted in a manner detrimental to the interest of depositors.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that there are six proposals pending for according scheduled bank status to cooperative banks from Karnataka. These proposals will be considered after carrying out statutory inspections after March 31, 2002.

Phyto-Sanitary Certificates for Agricultural Products

2035. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Phyto-sanitary certificates are compulsory for agricultural products to be exported;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the agricultural products rejected for non-compliance of phyto-sanitary requirements during the last three years, export processing zone-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Data on such rejections is not maintained by Export Processing zones.

Sale of Subsidised Wheat in Open Market

2036. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to scrap the policy of dividing the country into four zones for selling subsidised wheat in the open market;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have decided to treat each State as a separate zone and charge the actual freight cost incurred by the food Corporation of India; and

(c) if so, the reasons for scraping the decades old system and the benefit that will accrue as a result thereof?

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), which has been authorized to fix the open sale rates of wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic), has fixed these rates State-wise for the months of February and March, 2002 after taking into account the acquisition costs, and the average freight to the States. Under the earlier zone-wise pricing system, the States falling in a zone neighbouring another zone often complained that one issue price for the whole zone was discriminatory, as some States were required to pay more in comparison to the others. The new state-wise pricing systems redresses the grievances of the States.

Increase in Top Level Posts in Government.

2037. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been continuous increase in number of posts of Director, Joint Secretary, Additional Secretary and Secretary level officers leaving some period in between from 1.3.1994 to 1.3.2000 despite instructions of applying 10 percent reduction in those posts with reference to strength obtaining as on January 1, 1992 as has been pointed out by the Standing Committee on Finance in their Sixth report 1999-2000 on page No. 59;

(b) if so, the reasons for not reducing the strength of officers in the above posts and the action taken to reduce the strength in those posts without further delay;

(c) whether officers in the posts of Director, Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary apply on deputation posts in Delhi to come to Delhi than to serve and States and the areas for which they are recruited; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to discourage such practice and ensure that the such officers serve the States/areas for which they have been recruited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) As per data on page 59 of the Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance 1999-2000, which had been collected from the Department of Personnel &

Training, the number of posts of Director, Jt. Secretary, Addl. Secretary and Secretary level officers had increased between 1.3.94 and 1.3.2000 (except for certain periods). However, this by itself cannot be taken as contrary to instructions on 10% cut since the 10% reduction was to be applied on the overall strength of the Department & not at each level in the hierarchy.

(c) and (d) As regards All India Service Officers, the cadre strength is fixed taking into account 40% of the posts as Central Deputation Reserve (CDR), with a view to infuse Central Government with expertise obtained at the state level. Organised Central Service Group 'A' officers are also appointed to such posts in accordance with the provisions of Central Staffing Scheme.

Integrated Education for Disabled Children

2038. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) scheme was launched ten years ago;

(b) whether it is a fact that the total children covered under this programme is 1,20,000 whereas only 93,449 are actually receiving help;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government exhorting the States to utilize this fully funded scheme;

(e) if so, whether most of the States have given accounts till 1998-1999 as reported in the Times of India dated the January 19, 2002 under caption "States go limp on scheme for disabled"; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government to mobilize States to use the full funds in time?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The Centrally sponsored Scheme for Integrated Education for Disabled Children was launched in 1974 and is presently being implemented by the Department of Secondary & Higher Education in the Ministry Human Resource Development.

(b) and (c) As against the projected coverage of 90,000 disabled children in the regular schools during the 9th Five Year Plan period, more than 1.33 lakh disabled children have been covered till date.

(d) to (f) The Government of India has been impressing upon the States and U.Ts. to fully utilize the funds released to them so that they can obtain addition funds.

[Translation]

Investors Education and Protection Fund

2039. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up an Investors Education and Protection Fund;

(b) if so, the initial amount earmarked for this fund;

(c) the other sources from which capital is being mobilized for the above said fund;

(d) the details of the administrative authority of the fund;

(e) whether the Government propose to involve the consumer associations, non-Governmental organisations, pubic workers and Association of bank depositors in this process; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

[English]

Base Depots of FCI

2040. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of base depots of the Food Corporation of India in Orissa, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh for supply of foodgrains under the public distribution system;

(b) whether the said base depots are adequate to cater to the needs of above States for the purpose;

(c) if not, whether the Government are contemplating to set up more FCI depots in the above States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereto?

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 the States of Orissa, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh for supply of foodgrains under Public Distribution System are as follows:—

State	Number of Base Depots
Orissa	24
West Bengal	*
Jharkhand	12
Chhattisgarh	11
Andhra Pradesh	43

(*) State Government is distributing foodgrains from their own godowns, as the Government of West Bengal has adjusted Decentralised Power Scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) In view of reply to (b) above, question does not arise.

S.S. Tarapore Committee on UTI

2041. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the Committee headed by the former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, S.S. Tarapore regarding functioning of the Unit Trust of India;

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

(c) when the report of the Tarapore Committee is likely to be made public; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for implementing the recommendations of the Tarapore Committee?

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

(b) The recommendations in the report provide an input for undertaking reforms in the UTI.

(c) The Report is an internal document of the Government.

(d) Government announced a financial package for the US-64 scheme on 28.12.2001. As a part of the financial package, UTI has been asked on implement time-bound reforms based on the recommendations various expert committees including the Tarapore Committee.

[Translation]

Sugar Mills

2042. SHRI NAGMANI:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) the sugar mills presently functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of sick sugar mills in the country, State-wise, till date, particularly in Bihar; and

(c) the steps taken by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to revive the sick sugar mills, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) A statement showing the State-wise number of sugar mills functioning is enclosed.

(b) The sick sugar companies belonging to Private and Public sectors are covered under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA). According to BIFR, 47 sick sugar companies in Public and Private sectors have been registered with them as on 31.12.2001. Out of 47 sugar companies 3 companies were registered twice and 1 company registered thrice at different point of time. In view of this only 42 sugar companies having 75 sugar mills are registered with BIFR. State-wise details are as follows:—

	No. of sick sugar mills
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	3
Bihar	4
Karnataka	5
Madhya Pradesh	3

1	2
Maharashtra	3
Punjab	3
Tamil Nadu	8
Uttar Pradesh	42
West Bengal	1
Kerala	1
Orissa	1
Rajasthan	1
Total	75

The cooperative sugar mills (CSMS) are not covered under SICA. They fall under the Cooperative Societies Acts of the respective States. As per information provided by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), 114 cooperative sugar mills were having negative net worth as on 31.03.2001. The state-wise position is as follows:—

	No. of sick sugar mills
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	9
Karnataka	11
Maharashtra	40
Punjab	10
Tamil Nadu	13
Uttar Pradesh	19
Gujarat	5
Haryana	6
Uttaranchal	1
Total	114

(c) The BIFR has taken the following steps in respect of the above stated 42 sick sugar companies registered with them:—

1	2
Revival Scheme Sanctioned	5
Dismissed as Non-maintainable	9
Draft Scheme Circulated	1
Winding up Recommended	6
Winding up Notice Issued	5
Under enquiry	8
Declared no longer sick	8
Total	42

Statement

State-wise No. of Sugar Mills Worked for the Season 2001-2002 Till 20.02.2002.

State	No. of sick sugar mills
1	2
Punjab	22
Haryana	14
Rajasthan	1
Uttar Pradesh	
West U.P.	30
Central U.P.	42
East U.P.	39
Total U.P.	111
Madhya Pradesh	8
S. Gujarat	15
Saurashtra	–
Total Gujarat	15
S. Maharashtra	34
N. Maharashtra	50
C. Maharashtra	43
Total Maharashtra	127
N. Bihar	10
S. Bihar	–
Total Bihar	10

1	2
Assam	1
Orissa	4
West Bengal	2
Nagaland	-
Andhra Pradesh	35
Karnataka	35
Tamil Nadu	35
Pondicherry	2
Kerala	1
Goa	1
All India	424

[English]

Working Group on Wilful Defaulters

2043. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the RBI has received the working group report from the Chairman, S.S. Kohli on wilful deafulters;

(b) if so, the saleint features thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which a suitable Legislation based on the recommendation of S.S. Kohli working Group is proposed to be introduced in Parliament?

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

(b) The major recommendations of the Working Group relate to the definition of wilful default and siphoning, diversion of funds, procedure to ensure 'end use of funds', penal measures against wilful defaulters, liabilities of the auditors and necessary statutory amendments.

(c) and (d) The recommendations are being examined by the Reserve Bank of India.

Off Loading of Foodgrains

2044. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to offload foodgrains through aid programmes for developing countries;

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

(c) the countries to which the foodgrains would be exported under the said aid programme?

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

(b) In addition to supplies of foodgrains, as necessary, under Ministry of External Affairs' humanitarian assistance to developing countries, it is also proposed to supply foodgrains to selected developing countries on grant/credit terms both as a long term export promotion strategy and to address the prevailing situation of surplus stocks of wheat and rice with the Government.

(c) The following countries have expressed an interest in obtaining foodgrains from India under grant/credit terms:—

Bangladesh	-	200,000 MT of wheat
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	-	200,000 MT of white rice
Ethiopia	-	10,000 MT of wheat
Eritrea	-	2,500 MT of wheat
Ghana	-	10,000 MT of wheat/rice
Madagascar	-	10,000 MT of wheat
Sana'a	-	50,000 MT of wheat
Zambia	-	5,000 MT of wheat

[Translation]

Production of Cotton Yarn

2045. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of mills under the Government and private sectors which produce cotton yarn in the country at present;

(b) the total quantity of cotton yarn produced during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the above production is sufficient to meet the requirements of the weavers in the country; and

(d) if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The State-wise, management wise details of number of cotton/ man-made fibre textile mills (Non-SSI) in the country as 31st December, 2001 are given below:

State/Union Territories	Public				
	Central	State	Co-op.	Pvt.	Total
Andhra Pradesh	6	0	11	81	98
Assam	1	4	2	1	8
Bihar	2	1	3	2	8
Chhattisgarh	1	0	0	1	2
Delhi	1	0	0	0	1
Goa	0	0	0	1	1
Gujarat	12	16	5	119	152
Haryana	0	1	0	79	80
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	15	15
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	2	2
Jharkhand	0	0	0	1	1
Karnataka	4	1	12	42	59
Kerala	4	9	5	20	38
Madhya Pradesh	6	4	2	46	58
Maharashtra	31	9	67	101	208
Manipur	0	1	0	0	1
Orissa	1	4	6	6	17
Punjab	4	0	7	63	74
Rajasthan	4	1	4	44	53
Tamil Nadu	15	2	18	813	848
Uttar Pradesh	15	11	11	35	72
Uttaranchal	0	2	0	3	5
West Bengal	12	3	2	22	39
Dadra Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	5	5
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	1	1
Pondicherry	3	1	2	5	11
Total	122	70	157	1508	1857

(b) The State-wise, year-wise details of quantity of cotton yarn produced by these mills during the last three years are given below:

(Thousand kg.)

State/Union Territories	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Andhra Pradesh	88526	91874	94370
Assam	1558	1015	1154
Bihar	3451	3826	2771
Delhi	7	0	0
Gujarat	159382	183066	169527
Haryana	105501	124917	137744
Himachal Pradesh	25070	35564	35917
Jammu & Kashmir	4245	3897	3033
Jharkhand	0	0	872
Karnataka	64814	65492	66586
Kerala	30211	29935	33687
Madhya Pradesh	104316	124025	116040
Maharashtra	268386	272069	271961
Manipur	0	0	199
Orissa	11395	8179	7104
Punjab	152914	189339	196145
Rajasthan	69056	77146	80948
Tamil Nadu	838504	904947	956718
Uttaranchal	0	0	258
Uttar Pradesh	59396	52666	51009
West Bengal	16744	14153	16137
Dadra Nagar Haveli	0	3825	8044
Daman & Diu	5198	5660	3909
Pondicherry	13428	12106	12733
Total	2022102	2203701	2266866

(c) and (d) The above production is sufficient to meet the requirements of the weavers in the country.

[English]

Price Stabilisation Corporation

2046. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that tobacco and other commercial crops are subjected to fluctuation in the market prices causing loss to the growers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up price stabilization corporation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The market prices of tobacco and other commercial crops vary from time to time because of numerous factors such as production, varieties traded, domestic and international demand and supply etc.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal to set up a price stabilisation corporation. Government endeavours to safeguard the interests of the growers through various measures, including the mechanism of Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Request of Maharashtra for Diverting Levy Sugar

2047. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government to allow the sugar producers to divert a huge unused stock of levy sugar produced in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to give necessary permission to the sugar growers of Maharashtra to do so;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Maharashtra Government have requested to allow the sugar mills of the State to liquidate their unlifted levy stocks within three months.

(c) to (e) In order to reduce levy sugar stocks, the Government has reduced the levy sugar obligation of the factories from 15% to 10% w.e.f. 01.03.2002. Besides, to reduce the sugar stocks held by the factories, the following steps have been taken by the Central Government:—

(i) Levy exemption has been given on the quantity of sugar exported.

(ii) The quantity of sugar exported is treated as advance free sale release and is adjusted after a period of 18 months from the date of release.

(iii) Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) @ 5% value of F.O.B. price of sugar has been allowed.

(iv) Quantitative ceiling on export of sugar has been removed.

(v) Advance releases of freesale sugar are made under the prescribed guidelines subject to adjustment and 5% levy obligations to needy sugar mills to enable them to clear cane price dues of the farmers and to reduce their stocks. Besides, the factories have been allowed to sell upto 10% of their quarterly quota over and above their normal quota to clear their cane price dues.

(vi) A quantity of 87,610.4 MTs was permitted to be sold as freesale sugar from some of the mills of Maharashtra in lieu of their unlifted levy sugar as a measure of temporary relief.

Reconstitution of FCI

2048. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India is being reconstituted in view of removal of restrictions on food-grains movement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this process will be completed?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

UNDP Aid

2049. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken by the United Nations Development Programme to increase the financial assistance during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount provided by UNDP to India during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the works on which the said amount has been spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The Government of India with the financial assistance from UNDP started the Country Co-operation Framework-I (CCF-I) in 1997 for a period of five years. The CCF-I was concurrent with the Ninth Five Year Plan. The period of CCF-I has now been extended upto December, 2002. Apart from assistance under CCF-I, UNDP has been providing assistance under earlier on-going CP-IV programmes also. The UNDP's total assistance during the Ninth Five Year Plan is US $ 83.6 million. This assistance has been provided for programmes in the sector given in the statement enclosed. The CCF-II which a likely to be concurrent with Tenth Five Year Plan is yet to be formulated.

Statement

Name of the Programme	Nodal Ministry/Department in Government of India
1	2
Food and Nutrition Security Programme	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
Primary Education Support Programme	Ministry of Human Resource Development
Economic Reforms Support Programme	Department of Economic Affairs

1	2
Capacity Building Programme	Department of Personnel & Training
Community Based Pro Poor Initiatives	Ministry of Rural Development
Technology Management Programme	Department of Science & Technology
Rural Energy Programme	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources
Environment Programme	Ministry of Environment & Forests
Leather Programme	Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
Fibre and Handicrafts Programme	Ministry of Textiles
Village and Small Industries Programme	Ministry of Small Scale Industries
Stand Alone Programmes: Health	M/o Health & Family Welfare
HDR	Planning Commission,
SPICES	D/o Commerce

[English]

Provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961

2050. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assessee engaged in business of export of any goods is entered to deduction of profits from such business under the Income-Tax Act, 1961;

(b) if so, the reasons that the assesses firms not engaged in the business of eligible goods export are also availing same facility;

(c) whether firms which had earned foreign exchange by transfer of rights only have also been allowed deductions of profits under the said Act;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof and the action Government propose to take in the matter; and

(e) the number of such cases have come to the notice of the Government in the last three years, the quantum of revenue lost thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. Assessees engaged in the business of export of any goods or merchandise other than those specifically excluded in the Act, are entitled to deduction of profits from such business under the Income-tax Act, 1961.

(b) Corrective action is taken by the field formations wherever wrongful claims are detected.

(c) and (d) Section 80HHC of the Income-tax Act, 1961 provides that where the assessee being a holder of Export House or Trading House certificate transfers its claim in favour of supporting manufacturer by issuance of disclaimer certificate, then the supporting manufacturer will get deduction in respect of the relevant amount as per the provisions of the IT Act, 1961. No action by Government may be necessary in such cases.

(e) The deductions under the IT Act in respect of export income are allowed by the field formations throughout the country on the basis of documentary evidence, including certificate from the Chartered Accountant regarding correctness of the claim, required to be filed by the assessee along with the Return of income. No centralised information is maintained by the CBDT in this behalf.

[Translation]

Non-Payment of Salaries to the Employees of Super Bazar

2051. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether salaries for the last five months have not been paid to the employees of the Super Bazar in Delhi and the Management of the Super Bazar is not withdrawing the funds sanctioned to it by the Ministry of Finance for making payment of salaries for three months to the employees;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in it; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Government to ensure early payment of outstanding salaries of the staff for the last five months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Super Bazar has reported that the salaries of the employees of Super Bazar from September, 2001 onwards have not been disbursed. The Government of India (Department of Consumer Affairs) have made available a sum of Rs. 4.50 Crores to Super Bazar as loan for bridging its resource gap. Super Bazar has further reported that there was a strike by a section of Super Bazar employees from 29.8.2001 to 20.11.2001. Keeping in view, the Board of Directors in their meeting on 15.2.2002 decided to utilize this amount for payment of salaries for December 2001, January 2002 and February 2002. Accordingly, necessary orders were issued by Super Bazar. It is reported by Super Bazar that a section of employees have forcibly prevented the preparation of salaries for the period decided by the Board of Directors on the Plea that salaries for September to November 2001 should be disbursed first.

(c) It is the internal matter of Super Bazar. Government of India does not interfere in their day to day affairs. However, the Super Bazar has reported that the forcible tactics/actions by a section of employees have been brought to the notice of police authorities.

[English]

Welfare of Handicapped

2052. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated, disbursed and utilized for the welfare of orthopaedically handicapped, deaf and dumb, blind and mentally retarded persons in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to start more training and educational institutes, research centres to provide training, education and employment for these deprived people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The assistance released to different voluntary organizations in different states under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for persons with disabilities and Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ fitting of Aids and Appliances during 3 years is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) National Institutes have been set up as apex level institutions to promote manpower development through training courses, both term and long term, in their respective specialized areas. These institutes are also engaged in research activities in different areas of disability and as a part of socio economic rehabilitation programme provide vocational training, rehabilitative and therapeutic services and help to reach the unreached. The process of consolidation and expansion of these services is continuous and need based.

Statement

	Details of Assistance Given during 3 years under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities.			Details of Assistance Given during 3 years under the Scheme Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances		
State	1999-2000 Rs in lacs	2000-2001 Rs in lacs	2001-2002 Rs in lacs	1999-2000 Rs in lacs	2000-2001 Rs in lacs	2001-2002 Rs in lacs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	1208.35	1283.57	1001.82	134.25	211.09	313.37
Arunachal Pradesh	13	6.32	18.98	-	-	1.95
Assam	30.56	40.11	14.3	4.47	-	2.25
Bihar	57.68	162.47	221.6	31.76	22.16	58.37

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chandigarh	1.42	6.57	5.22	–	–	0
Chhattisgarh	–	9.08	12.49	–	–	7.53
Delhi	679.04	649.54	484.43	376.17	117.65	384.67
Goa	17.68	12.64	24.07	0.98	1.04	1.95
Gujarat	75.36	114.52	94.73	101.25	119.37	155.92
Haryana	59.51	95.44	54.84	19.04	121.37	16.86
Himachal Pradesh	32.42	15.85	24.49	19.8	98.29	6.25
Jammu & Kashmir	7.24	12.23	4.36	–	–	0
Jharkhand	–	–	7.01	–	–	1
Karnataka	571.99	640.58	600.19	28.51	5	72.77
Kerala	442.04	483.72	496.63	28	19	54.45
Madhya Pradesh	17.43	39.32	47.21	110.87	76.3	55.68
Maharashtra	263.72	197.99	200.94	149.85	159.98	144.33
Manipur	57.06	56.63	53.45	25	10.5	–
Meghalaya	17.41	46.38	38.05	–	–	0
Mizoram	25.31	29.52	30.06	–	–	0
Nagaland	–	2.83	0	–	–	0
Orissa	193.96	252.26	260.27	135.61	120.87	231.3
Pondicherry	1.44	6.59	5.85	–	–	0
Punjab	64.94	91.39	79.85	55.19	96.98	46.45
Rajasthan	88.13	93.99	149.86	348.78	360	382.92
Sikkim	–	–	1.94	–	–	–
Tamil Nadu	325.69	396.07	370.29	86.01	61.27	101.7
Tripura	6.83	6.02	6.5	1.45	0.72	4.15
Uttar Pradesh	772.39	873.19	681.52	1015.3	1052.94	176.2
Uttaranchal	–	96.85	35.18	–	–	94.51
West Bengal	365.53	492.52	372.54	169.48	256.21	374.65

Programmes for Disabled Persons

2053. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government on the number of disabled people in the country;

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

(c) whether any programme has been prepared by the Government to serve the interest of the disabled population during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the salient features of the agenda prepared by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the specific steps taken to implement these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Based on the sample survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1991, approximately 1.91% of the total estimated population is suffering from some kind of physical or sensory disability. The State-wise estimates as prepared by NSSO are given below:—

S. No.	Name of the State	Estimated number of persons with disabilities (in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.72
2.	Assam	2.71
3.	Bihar	13.61
4.	Gujarat	6.95
5.	Haryana	3.04
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1.40
7.	Karnataka	8.76
8.	Kerala	5.56
9.	Madhya Pradesh	12.87
10.	Maharashtra	18.19
11.	Orissa	7.20
12.	Punjab	5.31
13.	Rajasthan	7.23
14.	Tamil Nadu	12.36
15.	Uttar Pradesh	25.50
16.	West Bengal	11.79
	All India	161.54

The NSSO survey conducted on children with delayed development in the age group of 0-14 years shows that 3% of the general population suffers from delayed mental development.

(c) to (e) The Tenth Five Year Plan has not been finalised. The Government of India is already supporting a number of programmes for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

Excise Duty Outstanding Against Petroleum Companies

2054. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some petroleum oil companies who imported oils did not pay a sum of Rs. 4036.75 crore during April, 1994 to December, 1998 towards Central Excise to the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government enquired into the matter; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Sir, Comptroller and Auditor General of India vide Report No. 11 of 2000 pointed out non payment of duty of excise amounting to Rs. 4036.75 crores during April 1994 to December, 1998. The Ministry did not admit the audit objection, inter alia, on the ground that petroleum oil companies who imported petroleum oils were liable to pay only custom duty (inclusive of countervailing duty). Such duty was paid as and when imports were effected. Since the imported goods are not manufactured indigenously, they are not subject to any duty of excise and no excise duty was payable on them for storage and clearance from an installation in the country.

Allocation of Funds to States for Construction of Godowns

2055. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under Rural Public Distribution System (RPDS), construction of godowns for facilitating storage and availability of good quality foodgrains were contemplated and the Government released Rs. 58.73 crore during 1983-1999 to State Governments for construction of 551 godowns;

(b) if so, whether the State Government have failed to construction the godowns despite the availability of funds to them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; Statewise;

(d) whether Union Government have initiated any steps in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereto?

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

(b) and (c) Some of the State Governments have failed to construct the godowns within the stipulated period of two years from the date of sanction of the financial assistance under the scheme. Statewise details of financial assistance sanctioned and the amount for which utilization certificates are pending may be seen in the Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) State Governments/UTs are regularly reminded to furnish the pending utilisation certificates and refund the unutilized amount along with penal interest from the date of sanction of financial assistance. No fresh financial assistance is sanctioned in case any Utilisation Certificate or refund of unutilized amount is pending from the State Government/UT Administration.

Statement

Statewise details of Financial Assistance for Construction of Godowns Sanctioned from 1983-1984 to 1998-1999 for which Utilisation Certificate is Pending

S. No.	State/U.T.	Year of sanction	Amount (in Lakh)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1992-93	4.00	
2.	Assam	1996-97	95.04	
3.	Assam	1997-98	168.66	
4.	Assam	1998-99	258.88	
5.	Bihar	1993-94	48.00	
6.	Bihar	1994-95	58.40	
7.	Gujarat	1997-98	183.30	
8.	Haryana	1998-99	165.29	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1997-98	77.76	
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1993-98	555.54	
11.	Karnataka	1992-93	132.00	Five godowns have been partially constructed. The State Govt. has confirmed that they shall refund the unutilized amount of Rs. 103.69 lakhs.
12.	Maharashtra	1992-93	78.86	
13.	Maharashtra	1993-94	19.98	
14.	Maharashtra	1994-95	66.22	
15.	Maharashtra	1995-96	41.10	
16.	Meghalaya	1988-89	6.00	

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Meghalaya	1994-95	40.00	
18.	Nagaland	1996-97	60.00	
19.	Rajasthan	1998-99	79.47	Godowns constructed. Unutilised amount to be refunded.
20.	Tamil Nadu	1996-97	50.00	
21.	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	1996-97	162.00	
22.	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	1997-98	460.50	
23.	Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	1998-99	111.92	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1998-99	27.015	Godowns constructed Unutilised amount to be refunded.
25.	West Bengal	1992-93	96.46	
26.	A & N Island	1991-92	46.00	
27.	Lakshadweep	1991-92	07.50	

Production Target

2056. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector heavy industris have achieved the production target during first nine months of 2001-2002;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have provided any kind of assistance to achieve the target; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Statement showing actual production achieved against the target during the period Apri.-Dec. 2001 by the Public Sector Enterprises under the Department of Heavy Industry

S. No.	Name of the PSU	Target	Actual	% Age
1	2	3	4	5
(a)	**Engineering Units**			
1.	Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd. (AYCL)	196.66	109.54	55.70
2.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL)	4424.00	3937.00	88.99
3.	Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. (BBUNL) (Holding Co.)			
	Burn Standard Co. Ltd. (BSCL)	180.71	76.57	42.37
	Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd. (BBVL)	4.96	0.30	6.05
	Jessop & co. Ltd. (Jessop)	32.66	44.58	136.50

1	2	3	4	5
	Braithwaite & Co. Ltd. (BCL)	133.49	44.62	33.43
	Bharat Wagon & Engg. Ltd. (BWEL)	108.62	68.35	62.93
4.	Bharat Yantra Nigam Ld. (BYNL) (Holding Co.)			
	Bharat Heavy Plates & vessles Ltd. (BHPP)	175.00	146.34	83.62
	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd. (BPCL)	42.50	50.74	119.39
	Richardson & Cruddas Ltd. (R&C)	47.00	28.24	60.09
	Triveni Structurals Ltd. (TSL)	13.50	20.78	153.93
	Tunghbhadra Steel Products Ltd. (TSPL)	30.75	10.98	35.71
5.	Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL)	523.76	451.64	86.23
6.	Heavy Engg. Corp. (HEC)	162.37	118.48	72.97
7.	HMT Ltd. (HMT)	285.37	131.00	45.91
	Praga Tools Ltd. (PTL)	8.77	2.17	24.74
	HMT Bearings Ltd. (HMT) (B)	38.84	30.49	78.50
	HMT Machine Tools Ltd. (HMT) (MT)	231.35	155.14	67.06
	HMT Watches Ltd. (HMT (W)	172.92	61.84	35.76
	Chinar Watches Ltd. (HMT) (CW)	5.50	2.16	39.27
8.	Instrumentation Limited (ILK)	79.00	60.95	77.15
	Rajasthan Electr. & Instur. Ltd. (REIL)	17.69	16.18	91.46
9.	National instruments Ltd. (NIL)	8.84	2.49	28.17
10.	Scooters India Ltd. (SIL)	110.07	96.89	88.03
	Total (A)	7034.33	5667.47	80.57
(b)	**Non-Engineering Units:**			
11.	Bharat Opthalamic Glass Ltd. (BOGL)	3.34	2.03	60.78
12.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI)	4.62	4.08	88.31
13.	Hindustan Paper Corp. (HPC)	355.54	377.84	106.27
	Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. (HNL)	218.23	186.95	85.67
14.	Hindustan Photo Mfg. Ltd. (HPF)	19.66	19.14	97.36
15.	Hindustan Salts Ltd. (HSL)	4.79	3.37	70.35
	Sambhar Salts Ltd. (SSL)	3.72	3.30	88.71
16.	Nepa Ltd. (NEPA)	86.74	83.35	96.09

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL)	97.65	42.67	43.70
	Total (B)	794.29	722.73	90.99
(c) Consultancy/contracting units				
18.	Bharat Leather Corporation (BLC)	4.50	1.66	36.89
19.	Engineering Projects (I) Ltd. (EPI)	223.17	272.70	122.19
20.	National Industrial Development Corp. (NIDC)	3.71	0.44	11.86
	Others:			
	Burn, Braithwaite & Jessop (BBJ)	22.45	22.02	98.08
	Bridge & Roof (B&R)	254.00	216.49	85.23
	Hooghly Printing Ltd. (HPC)	2.90	3.55	122.41
	(Subs. of AYCL) HMT (International) Ltd. (HMT) (I)	47.24	32.99	69.83
	Total (C)	557.97	549.85	98.54
	Total (A+B+C)	8386.59	6940.05	82.75

(c) The reasons for shortfall in achievement of the target *inter-alia* include acute shortage of working capital, shortage of orders, and sluggish demand.

(d) and (e) The Department assists the PSEs in formulating restructuring plans, securing orders and provides financial support for capital investments and operational needs on merits of each case.

National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad

2057. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped at Secunderabad has developed any 'MODELS' in the past for various needs specific to the regions;

(b) if so, the details of such studies and models; and

(c) the present ongoing efforts for providing services for the mentally retarded?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped has developed models for home-based services, community based services, group parent training and early intervention services. The Institute also runs training programmes for human resource development, provides consultancy services to voluntary organizations and undretakes extension and outreach programmes for persons with mental retardation.

Loans to Unemployed Professionals

2058. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER:
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks have been providing loans to unemployed professionals like doctors, engineers, chartered accountants, architects to set up their establishment;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such loan applications received by various public sector banks during the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise amount of loan provided by each public sector banks to these professionals during the above period?

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

(b) The existing information system of RBI does not generate the data on applications received.

(c) According to the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India, the details of State-wise loans outstanding in the books of Public Sector Banks to the professionals & self employed persons during the March ended 1998, 1999 and 2000 are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

The State-wise Loans Outstanding in the Book of Public Sector Banks (Priority Sector Advances) Towards the Professional & Self Employed Persons during March Ended 1998, 1999 & 2000.

(Amount in Rs. 000's)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/Union Territories	Professionals & Self Employed Persons					
		1998		1999		2000	
		No. of Account	Amount O/s	No. of Account	Amount O/s	No. of Account	Amount O/s
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Haryana	19208	424921	17825	523965	16082	632754
2.	Himachal Pradesh	8468	146481	7270	162885	4677	167064
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	2439	75543	5153	207793	3150	176626
4.	Punjab	26031	598779	22262	657150	22676	895663
5.	Rajasthan	43159	666674	40451	867486	30337	736119
6.	Chandigarh	1414	58128	1347	79569	1259	84826
7.	Delhi	14347	438463	15369	494730	6381	579780
8.	Assam	28914	606365	29045	786965	22167	911784
9.	Manipur	2633	59650	2422	63030	731	43180
10.	Meghalaya	818	33851	765	33180	520	46918
11.	Nagaland	451	6601	282	14993	447	43012
12.	Tripura	3468	50238	3639	61061	2943	73941
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	41	2773	24	2329	95	6291
14.	Mizoram	43	1289	46	1584	54	8337
15.	Sikkim	515	11278	453	11317	588	13812
16.	Bihar	126050	1366446	114843	1298943	92904	1458059
17.	Orissa	72792	895222	75931	1020906	75797	1012695

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	West Bengal	116171	1126011	100743	1113485	82293	1023154
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	527	11838	568	16631	470	15541
20.	Madhya Pradesh	100269	1539222	85267	1957250	74764	2493941
21.	Uttar Pradesh	138556	1986390	131495	2220091	103480	2945988
22.	Gujarat	61432	1274630	60520	1685182	59287	1791393
23.	Maharashtra	140335	2787941	171964	4184390	110357	4783371
24.	Daman & Diu	243	3613	116	3500	96	3402
25.	Goa	4640	130342	4243	143706	4129	164024
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	93	2903	144	4700	199	10000
27.	Andhra Pradesh	144236	2012260	135447	2198359	111309	2109121
28.	Karnataka	114100	2237481	105220	2506540	96951	2847347
29.	Kerala	88973	1433841	84709	1322478	74714	1470611
30.	Tamil Nadu	192725	2138657	176538	2610586	171547	2660997
31.	Pondicherry	4845	44658	4800	44209	4435	46454
32.	Lakshadweep	63	686	48	632	46	588
	All India	1457999	22173165	1398949	26299625	1174885	29256833

Externally Aided Projects

2059. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the externally aided projects under implementation in the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the details of physical progress made so far, project-wise;

(c) whether any such project has been withdrawn or left incomplete; and

(d) if so, steps taken by the Government to complete these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The names of the externally aided projects under implementation in the country are given in the annexed Statement. These projects are at various stages of implementation. The details including Loan/Grant amount, Agreement Date, Terminal Date and utilization till 31.12.2001 are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir. A project entitled 'Watershed Development Programme, Karnataka' assisted by KfW (Germany) was short closed.

(d) Government of Karnataka have released funds for the incomplete works of the project in order to bring the project to a safer level. Efforts are also under way to pose the project in the revised form for securing KfW assistance again.

Statement

As on 31-12-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Loan/Grant amount in millions			
		Amount of Loan/Grant Currency	Amount	Terminal Date of Disb.	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh					
	Loans				
France					
1.	AP Dairy Dev. Co-op. Federation Ltd. (151M dt. 19.12.96) dt. 05-06-1997	FRF	19.95	31/12/02	18.97
Japan					
2.	DP-094 Sriraliam Left Bank PSP. II dt. 28-02-1995	JPY	22471.41	12/04/01	22471.41
3.	IDP-095 Srisailam Left Bank TPS dt. 28-2-1995	JPY	9546.00	31/03/02	7253.25
4.	Kothagudem 'A' TPS dt 28-2-1995	JPY	5092.00	12/04/02	4686.02
5.	Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal Modernisation dt 25-01-1996	JPY	16049.00	26/03/03	4522.31
6.	Simhadri and Vizag Transmission System dt 12-12-1997	JPY	10629.00	19/02/03	8418.81
7.	Srisailem Left Bank Power dt 25-2-1997	JPY	14499.00	16/02/03	11742.09
IBRD					
8.	Andhra Pradesh Hazard Mitigation dt 03-06-1997	USD	40.00	31/07/02	0.00
9.	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation dt 03-06-1997	USD	175.00	31/01/03	0.00
10.	Andhra Pradesh State highway dt 30-07-1997	USD	350.00	31/01/03	162.98
11.	AP Economic Restructuring dt 04-02-1999	USD	301.30	31/03/04	150.27
12.	A P Power Restructuring dt 05-03-1999	USD	210.00	31/08/03	114.23
IFAD					
13.	AP Participatory Tribal Development dt 13-5-1994	SDR	18.95	31/03/02	11.54
IDA					
14.	AP Health System dt 22-12-1994	SDR	90.70	31/03/02	75.20
15.	A.P. Hazard Mitigation & E.C.R. dt 03-06-1997	SDR	64.93	31/07/02	64.83
16.	Third A. P. Irrigation dt 03-06-1997	SDR	108.10	31/01/03	92.14
17.	AP Economic Restructuring dt 4-02-1999	SDR	179.40	31/03/04	71.11
18.	AP District Poverty Initiatives dt 12.05-2000	SDR	82.90	31/12/05	3.60

1	2	3	4	5	6
Grants					
United Kingdom					
1.	AP Energy Efficiency dt 15-11-1993	GBP	42.70	31/12/02	15.35
2.	AP Dist. Primary Education dt 29-08-1996	GBP	42.50	31/03/03	17.90
3.	AP Urban Services Improvement for Poor dt. 03-06-99	GBP	94.41	31/05/06	1.46
4.	AP Rural Livelihood dt 23-07-1999	GBP	40.18	31/07/06	0.00
5.	AP Urban Services for the poor dt. 3-6-99	GBP	66.09	31/05/06	0.00
6.	Governance Reform Programme dt 17-08-2001	GBP	5.87	30/09/04	0.21
Netherlands					
7.	Training of Women in Agriculture dt 24-08-1993	NLG	2.96	31/08/99	2.66
8.	Hyderabad Green Belt dt 28-03-1994	NLG	5.49	30/09/00	5.17
9.	APWELL Project dt 14-11-1994	NLG	26.85	31/03/02	12.28
10.	Grant India 2000.03- Green Hyderabad dt 12-04-2001	NLG	6.48	30/06/02	3.67
IFAD					
11.	AP Tribal Development dt 15-05-1991	USD	7.20	31/03/99	1.51
IBRD					
12.	Integrated Agr. Demand Bide Mgnt. dt. 23-06 1999	USD	4.30	31/12/00	0.00
U.N.D.P.					
13.	Sustainable Dryland Agriculture dt 01-11-1999	USD	3.10.	30/11/02	0.55
Assam					
1.	Assam Rural Infrastructure dt 06-06-1995	SDR	81.00	31/12/03	44.75
Bihar					
Loans					
1.	Bihar Plateau Development dt 17-12-1992	SDR	67.90	30/06/00	67.90
Grants					
1.	Energy Services for Rural Industries, Angara 13-10-99	USD	0.60	30/09/02	0.03
Central					
Loans					
Germany					
1.	Fertilizer Sector Programme VII dt 29-10-2001	DEM	40.00	30/12/02	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	113219 NLC III dt 27-01-1987	DEM	12.00	31/12/97	11.91
3.	1303 (107 dt 27-01-1987	DEM	19.28	31/12/97	19.28
4.	1303 (B-103) dt 27-01-1987	DEM	3.45	31/12/97	3.45
5.	Railway Coil Spinning Factory Dt 17-04-1989	DEM	11.25	31/12/00	11.25
6.	Modernisation of Signalling System-Kanpur-Delhi 01-08-97	DEM	185.00	30/12/01	0.00
France					
7	FF 1130 Million Protocol dt 24.6.88-Bank Portion	FRF	450.85	31/03/98	441.29
8.	GSI-Regional Geochemical Inventory (223.3 M dt 1.12.94) dt 28-03-1995	FRF	11.00	31/03/01	10.59
9.	Delhi Wtr Sply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking 30-04-96	FRF	46.59	31/03/01	41.75
10.	Installation of Fuse Gates in GU (376M 30.1.96) 14-05-97	FRF	18.33	31/12/03	18.33
11.	Exploration of PGM in Orissa (376 M dt. 30.1.96) 26-05-97	FRF	4.20	31/12/03	3.89
12.	Setting up of Geo-Scientific Data Centre at GSI (376 M dt 09-06-1997)	FRF	41.63	31/12/03	41.63
13.	Environmental Mgnt of Mines & Waste Recoveries (376 M dt 10-6-1997	FRF	16.00	31/12/02	15.65
14.	Micro-units for Quality Water Distribution (376M 13-08-97)	FRF	7.30	31/12/03	7.30
15.	Development of Cost Models for Mining (125 M 19-06-98)	FRF	1.53	30/06/01	1.53
16.	Setting up of Information Tech. Mgnt. Sys (125 22-06-98)	FRF	23.90	30/06/01	23.90
17.	Supply of Drilling Equipment to GSI Calcutta (125 M 1-2-99)	FRF	15.94	30/06/01	15.94
Japan					
18.	IDP-042 Assam Gasturbine Dt. 18-3-87	JPY	30000.00	08/09/00	29607.20
19.	IDP-066 Power System & Small Hydro dt 23-1-1991	JPY	24379.00	05/02/02	13086.60
20.	IDP-078 NTPC dt 09-01-1992	JPY	40191.41	31/03/00	40191.41
21.	Ajanta Ellore Conservation dt 09-01-1992	JPY	3745.00	30/03/02	2773.67
22.	Yamuna Action Plan Dt. 21.12.92	JPY	17773.00	19/04/02	8727.27
23.	Faridabad G.B.P.S&ATSP Dt. 24.01.94	JPY	19936.79	11/03/01	19936.79
24.	Yamuna Bridge at Naini Dt. 24.01.94	JPY	10037.00	11/03/05	2190.15
25.	NH 5 Improvement Dt. 24-1-94	JPY	11360.00	11/03/03	3863.58
26.	IDP-096 Assam Gas TPS & Transmission dt 28-02-1995	JPY	10551.72	12/04/01	10551.72
27.	DP-100 National Highway Improvement-II dt. 28-2-95	JPY	5836.00	12/04/02	861.46

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	National Highway-24 Improvement dt 28-02-1995	JPY	4827.00	12/04/02	861.46
29.	IDP-121 Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System dt 25-02-97	JPY	14760.00	21/10/07	12079.35
30.	IDP-139 Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System-II 30-03-01	JPY	6732.00	30/03/08	4719.81
Saudi Arabia					
31.	Koraput Rayagadh Railway dt 11-08-1983	SAR	103.20	31/12/00	73.38
Asian Development Bank					
32.	Railways Freight Haulage Capacity dt 16-12-1987	USD	181.40	31/03/04	177.84
33.	Second Railway dt 06-04-1992	USD	104.83	08/12/99	104.83
34.	Coal Ports dt 12-02-1993	USD	241.90	31/12/01	233.43
35.	National Highways dt 22-03-1995	USD	245.00	31/12/02	216.02
36.	MP Power Sector Development dt 10-12-2001	USD	150.00	30/06/03	0.00
IBRD					
37.	Second National Highway dt 18-6-1992	USD	153.00	30/12/02	133.69
38.	National Agriculture Technology dt 22-06-1998	USD	96.80	31/12/03	0.00
39.	Third National Highways dt 11-08-2000	USD	516.00	31/12/05	56.21
40.	GT Road Improvement dt 27-07-2001	USD	589.00	31/12/06	0.00
41.	Second Bombay Urban Transport Infrastructure dt 15-11-94	USD	3.00	31/07/02	2.42
Russian Federation					
42.	Kundamkulam Nuclear Power dt 21-06-1998	USD	2600.00	24/03/08	42.23
IFAD					
43.	Rural Women's Development & Empowerment dt. 27-3-97	SDR	13.30	30/06/02	1.14
44.	NE Region Community Resource Mgnt dt 20-05-1997	SDR	16.55	31/12/04	1.09
IDA					
45.	Second National Highways dt 18-06-1992	SDR	116.20	30/06/01	114.06
46.	Family Welfare (Urban Slum) dt 04-02-1994	SDR	57.70	30/06/02	43.33
47.	Renewable Resources Development dt 05-3-1993	SDR	81.60	31/12/01	63.57
48.	Second Integrated Child Development Dt 23-03-1993	SDR	141.60	30/09/02	125.03
49.	National Leprosy Elimination dt 04-02-1994	SDR	53.59	31/03/00	53.59
50.	Cataract blindness control dt 19-05-1994	SDR	77.97	30/06/02	57.11
51.	Family Welfare dt 24-06-1994	SDR	62.70	31/12/01	49.97

1	2	3	4	5	6
52.	Industrial Pollution Prevention dt 21-11-1994	SDR	16.48	21/03/02	4.70
53.	District Primary Education Proj dt 22-12-1994	SDR	180.00	31/03/02	129.63
54.	Private Infrastructure (IL&FS) dt 10-07-1996	SDR	3.40	30/09/01	0.57
55.	Coal Sector Env. & Social Mitigation dt 05-06-1996	SDR	31.26	30/06/02	19.29
56.	Second District Primary Education dt 15-7-1997	SDR	291.70	30/06/03	216.24
57.	Eco-development dt 30-09-1996	SDR	19.50	30/06/02	8.18
58.	Tuberculosis Control dt 14-03-1997	SDR	98.40	31/12/02	22.61
59.	Rural Women's Dev. & Empowerment dt 14-09-1998	SDR	13.50	31/12/01	1.21
60.	Malaria Control dt 30-07-1997	SDR	119.20	31/03/03	30.05
61.	Coal Sector Rehabilitation dt 19-03-1998	SDR	1.05	30/06/03	1.05
62.	Third District Primary Education dt 23-02-1998	SDR	111.80	31/09/03	32.06
63.	National Agricultural Technology dt 22-06-1998	SDR	73.80	31/12/03	32.61
64.	Second National HIV/AIDS Control dt 14-09-1999	SDR	140.82	31/07/04	40.42
65.	UP Third district Primary Education dt 23-02-2000	SDR	132.30	26/03/05	44.17
66.	Immunization Strengthening dt 19-05-2000	SDR	106.50	30/06/04	41.17
67.	Second Renewable Energy Project dt 11-08-2000	SDR	37.20	31/03/06	3.81
68.	Second National Leprosy Elimination dt 19-07-2001	SDR	23.30	31/12/04	3.14
69.	Reproductive & Child Health dt 30-07-1997	SDR	179.50	31/03/03	86.52
70.	Woman and Child Development dt 06-07-1999	SDR	222.50	30/09/04	31.75
71.	Rajasthan District Primary Education dt 06-07-1999	SDR	63.00	31/12/04	10.31
Germany					
72.	Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant dt 20-10-1992	DEM	158.13	31/03/01	150.10
73.	PFC Energy Investment prog dt 19-06-1995	DEM	23.25	31/03/01	11.85
74.	AL 9565680 NLC Rejuv. Min. Equipm. Minel dt 26-04-1996	DEM	65.00	30/12/98	45.77
75.	AL 9566985 NLC Expan. Lignite Mine & Power dt 13-03-97	DEM	375.20	31/12/02	337.35
76.	AL 9665944 HUDCO Housing for Eco. Weaker dt 31-10-97	DEM	20.00	30/12/00	0.00
77.	Indian Renewable Energy Dev. Agency dt 15-7-1999	DEM	70.00	31/03/04	34.66
78.	Indian Renewable Energy Dev. Agency-II dt 15.07-1999	DEM	50.00	31/03/04	12.17
France					
79.	Reheating Furnaces for RSP (SAIL) (CN)-(66 M dt 25.3.93) dt 25-05-1993	FRF	35.64	30/09/02	34.33

1	2	3	4	5	6
80.	Reheating Furnaces for RSP (SAIL) (SG)-(66 M dt 25.6.93 dt 25-06-1993	FRF	32.68	30/09/02	29.87
Japan					
81.	IDP-106 Industrial Pollution Control Program dt 28-2-1995	JPY	3000.00	02/10/00	3000.00
82.	IDP-107 Dhaulganga Hydro Power Plant at 25-01-1998	JPY	5665.00	23/05/00	4334.44
83.	IDP-116 PGCL Northern India Transmission dt 25-02-1997	JPY	8497.00	03/06/06	570.54
84.	IDP-119 NEEP Tuirial Hydro-Electric Power dt 25-02-1997	JPY	11695.00	18/06/09	572.33
85.	IDP-120 NTPC Simhadri Thermal Power Stn. dt 25-02-1997	JPY	19817.00	24/06/07	18725.79
86.	IDP-129 NHPC Dhauliganga Hydro Power Pj. dt. 12-12-97	JPY	16316.00	09/02/03	5678.30
87.	IDP-131 Tuticorinn Port Dredging Project dt 12-12-1997	JPY	7003.00	20/12/07	5961.04
88.	IDP-138 Simhadri Thermal Power Sation-II dt 30-03-2001	JPY	12194.00	30/03/08	11592.53
Asian Development Bank					
89.	NTPC Unchhahar Thermal Power dt 01-12-1988	USD	126.68	30/03/00	126.68
90	PGCL Power Transmission Sector dt 18-07-1996	USD	275.00	31/03/03	223.04
91.	Renewable Energy Development dt 23-04-1997	USD	100.00	16/07/02	56.91
92.	ICICI Private Sector Infrastructure Facility dt 14-08-1997	USD	150.00	26/09/02	150.00
93.	IFCI Private Sector Infrastructure dt 14-08-1997	USD	100.00	27/09/02	62.50
94.	Mumbai Port Trust dt 25-09-1998	USD	43.42	30/09/03	43.42
95.	Chennai Port Trust dt 25-09-1998	USD	8.50	31/03/03	4.35
96.	LPG pipeline project dt 11-12-1998	USD	109.50	31/08/04	97.57
97	1719-IND HUDCO Urban & Environmental Infrastructure Facility dt 19-05-2000	USD	90.00	31/12/06	0.00
98.	1720-IND ICICI Urban & Environmental Infrastructure Facility dt 19-5-2000	USD	80.00	31/12/06	0.47
99.	1721-IND IDFC-Urban Environmental Infrastructure Facility dt 19-05-2000	USD	30.00	31/12/06	0.00
100.	Surat-Manor Tollway dt 05-10-2000	USD	180.00	30/09/04	17.08
101.	Power Transmission (Sector) Improvement dt 4-12-2000	USD	250.00	31/03/06	14.30
IBRD					
102.	PGCL Powergrid System Development dt 23-03-1993	USD	275.00	31/12/00	227.44
103.	CONCOR Container Transport Logistics dt 29-08-1994	USD	67.42	31/12/01	33.49
104.	IDBI Industrial Pollution Prevention dt 21-11-1994	USD	28.83	31/03/01	26.33

1	2	3	4	5	6
105.	ICICI industrial Pollution Prevention dt 21-11-1994	USD	50.00	31/03/02	3.53
106.	IDBI Modernisation & Industrial Development 24-03-95	USD	77.70	31/10/01	77.70
107	IL & FS Private Infrastructure Finance dt 10-07-1996	USD	31.13	30/09/01	25.13
108.	Coal Sector Rehabilitation dt 19-03-1998	USD	261.30	30/06/03	232.28
109.	IREDA Second Renewable Energy dt 11-08-2000	USD	80.00	31/03/06	0.00
110.	Second Powergrid System Development dt 13-06-2001	USD	450.00	30/06/06	0.00
Norway					
111.	ICICI US $10 M from Eksporfinans ASA dt 06-11-1997	USD	10.00		0.34
Grants					
Canada					
1.	Chamera Project dt 05-05-1987	CAD	69.76	30/09/00	69.60
2.	National Aids Control Project II dt 07-02-2001	CAD	6.76	31/05/06	0.00
IDA					
3.	Renewable Resources dt 30-09-1993	CHF	6.00	31/12/99	0.56
4.	Renewable Resources Development dt 30-09-1993	CHF	6.00	31/12/01	1.13
Germany					
5.	Pulse Polio Immunization-III dt 29-10-2001	DEM	20.00	30/12/02	0.00
Denmark					
6.	National Leprosy Eradication II. dt 17-09 1991	DKK	70.00	31/12/99	13.10
7.	Revised National T.B. Control (Orissa) Phase-I 02-12-96	DKK	54.80	31/12/01	2.12
8.	Health Care-III (Tamil Nadu) dt 24-12-1996	DKK	102.50	31/12/01	58.39
9.	National Programme for Control of Blindness-III 07-11-97	DKK	55.00	06/11/02	17.24
10.	Leprosy Eradication-III dt 16-11-1998	DKK	76.40		5.50
11.	M.P. Basic Health Services dt 15-11-1999	DKK	79.30	14/11/04	3.12
European Economic Community					
12.	Cooperative Rural Storage Centres in Bihar dt 24-02-1998	EUR	21.20	31/03/00	7.62
13.	Strengthening of Veternary Services for Live Stock 30-10-89	EUR	40.30	31/07/98	5.81
14.	Supply of Fertilizer-Alkaline Land Recl. dt. 22-5-1990	EUR	35.50	26/09/01	8.06
15.	Support of Primary Education dt 22-12-1993	EUR	150.00	30/12/02	143.50
16.	Health & Family Welfare Sector Development 02-09-1997	EUR	200.00	31/12/04	62.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Support Programme for "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" 12-10-01	EUR	200.00	31/12/10	0.00
France					
18.	Delhi Water Supply–Grant for Ozone Treatment Plant dt 30-12-1992	FRF	2.23	28/12/98	2.23
19.	Mapping & Control of Water Distribution System in Delhi dt 07-12-1992	FRF	2.95.	29/06/98	2.65
20.	Pilot Project Solar Energy Based Minor Irrigation 21-05-93	FRF	1.10	14/12/93	0.28
21.	Deptt. of Telecom. Pilot Project Training & Supply 01-06-95	FRF	2.00	31/12/98	2.00
22.	Calcutta Port Trust–Supply of Equipment for Hydrograp dt 12-06-1996	FRF	2.40	31/03/99	2.04
23.	Feasibility Study of Multimedia Distance Training 19-09-96	FRF	1.00	31/12/98	1.00
24.	Pilot Plant for Fish Processing Technology (Vizag) 18-03-97	FRF	1.65	31/12/02	1.49
25.	Feasibility Study of Pumping Storage Station WB 01-02-96	FRF	2.00	31/12/02	1.40
United Kingdom					
26.	Energy Efficiency Grant dt 21-11-1990	GBP	81.10	31/03/01	75.10
27.	Kribhco Rainfed Farng dt 07-01-1993	GBP	2.51	31/03/02	1.72
28.	Kribhco Eastern India Rainfed Farming dt 01-04-1995	GBP	6.63	31/03/02	3.01
29.	Polio Eradiction Programme dt 22-10-1996	GBP	47.50	30/06/00	44.78
30.	Jhangra Project–Jhangra Coal dt 28-10-1996	GBP	4.56	31/03/99	4.46
31.	West Bengal Primary Education dt 16-05-1997	GBP	37.71	31/03/04	12.56
32.	West Bengal Distt. Primary Education Expansion 16-05-00	GBP	30.00	30/09/06	1.92
33.	Forest Training dt 11-04-2000	GBP	0.94	31/03/03	0.00
34.	AP Revised TB Control Programme 1998 dt 21-07-2000	GBP	8.12	30/10/05	0.09
35.	Lok Jumbish-III L.C.G. dt 04-08-2000	GBP	31.43	31/03/04	6.74
36.	Western Orissa Rural Development dt 23-07-1999	GBP	23.00	31/01/10	0.00
37.	Partnership for Sexual Health in AP, Guj. Ker. and ORR 05-10-99	GBP	28.10	31/12/04	0.94
38.	Polio Eradication – 1999 dt 03-02-2000	GBP	38.81	31/03/01	35.25
IBRD					
39.	Urban Environmental Management dt 04-09-1996	JPY	103.15	31/03/01	103.15
Japan					
40.	Construction of Dredger for Fishing Ports dt 19-12-1997	JPY	2420.58	30/04/99	2420.58
Netherlands					

1	2	3	4	5	6
41.	Hooghly Fairway Development dt 17-12-1990	NLG	24.00	31/12/99	19.64
42.	Mahila Samkhya Project dt 31-01-1994	NLG	30.30	31/12/02	25.19
43.	Network Operational Research on Drainage dt 04-10-1995	NLG	7.09	31/12/00	4.76
44.	Upgrading Hydrographic Survey dt 14-08-1997	NLG	9.28	31/07/01	9.26
45.	Supply of Bank Note Shredding System To RBI 23-02-2000	NLG	8.51	31/12/02	0.99
46.	Supply of Bank Note Shredding System To RBI 29-11-2000	NLG	3.56	31/12/02	0.00
Norway					
47.	National Databuoys Programme dt 18-02-1997	NOK	27.00	30/06/01	26.96
48.	Women's Economic Programme dt 13-11-1997	NOK	38.00	13/11/02	36.06
IDA					
49.	Second District Primary Education dt 21-08-1997	USD	25.80	30/06/03	11.26
IDF (WB)					
50.	Eco Development–Global Environment Facility 30-09-1996	USD	20.00	30/06/02	10.29
IBRD					
United States of America					
51.	Advancement of Communication Technology dt 30-08-1985	USD	40.07	30/04/03	33.79
52.	Private Voluntary Organisation for Health-II dt 31-08-1987	USD	10.00	31/01/01	2.54
53.	Plant Genetic Resources dt 31-08-1988	USD	18.70	30/09/97	14.84
54.	AIDS Prevention & Control dt. 30.09.1992	USD	10.00	31/03/02	5.98
55.	Innovations in Family Planning Services dt 30-09-1992	USD	77.82	30/09/02	79.01
56.	Energy Conservation & Commercialisation dt 18-04-2001	USD	25.00	30/06/05	0.02
57.	AVERT Project dt 15-09-1999	USD	41.50	30/07/07	0.27
58.	Greenhouse Gas Pollution Prevention dt 10-04-1995	USD	18.92	31/03/02	18.95
Ford Foundation					
59.	Citizens Charter & Post Forums in Delhi & Pune 20-12-2000	USD	0.05	12/11/01	0.05
UNFPA					
60	Media Advocacy dt 02-06-2000	USD	0.10	30/06/02	0.03
61.	Gender Sensitizing Census of India 2001 dt 13-10-2000	USD	0.15	31/10/01	0.11
62.	Population Eduction in Vocational Training dt 31-05-1995	USD	0.41	31/03/01	0.07
U.N.D.P.					

1	2	3	4	5	6
63.	IT for Agriculture in Punjab (ITSAPSP) dt 30-03-2000	USD	1.25	30/06/02	0.09
64.	Vocational Training for Employment Generation 30-03-2000	USD	0.60	31/12/02	0.00
65.	UN System Support for Community-based Primary Education dt 07-08-2000	USD	8.70	31/12/02	1.04
66.	Community Based Pro-Poor Initiatives dt 05-09-1997	USD	13.50	31/03/01	2.16
67.	Green Rating of Indian Industry dt 13-02-1998	USD	0.41	30/11/01	0.27
68.	Capacity Building in Environmental Program dt 31-12-1998	USD	0.45	31/12/01	0.05
69.	Environment Management in Semiconductor & Printed Circuit Board dt 11.1.98	USD	0.35	31/12/00	0.16
70.	Agro Forestry for Poverty Alleviation & Environmental Restructuirng dt 13-10-1999	USD	0.33	30/09/01	0.20
71.	Upgrading Environment Quality of Delhi dt 30-09-1999	USD	0.30	30/09/01	0.15
72.	Medicinal Plants–Conservation & Sustainability 30-10-1999	USD	0.50	31/12/01	0.23
73.	Inland Wetland of India dt 10-11-1999	USD	0.50	31/12/01	0.21
74.	Sub Programme on Small Grants dt 15-11-1999	USD	0.70	31/12/01	0.18
75.	Center for Conservation Education–Goa dt 24-11-1999	USD	028	31/10/01	0.18
76.	Wildlife Protected Area Mgnt in West Bnegal DT 01-09-99	USD	0.20	30/09/01	0.14
77.	Urban Services Environmental Rating System dt 18-10-1999	USD	0.35	31/12/01	0.17
78.	Community Adoption & Monitoring Programme for Schools dt 08-10-99	USD	0.10	31/01/01	0.10
79.	Olive Ridley Turtles Conservation dt 11-11-1999	USD	0.30	30/11/01	0.22
UNFPA					
80.	Extension of Non-Scalpel Vasectomy dt 15-05-1997	USD	1.35	31/03/01	0.72
81.	Integrated Population & Development in Rajasthan 14-07-98	USD	12.06	30/09/02	1.65
82.	IPD Gujarat dt 10-09-1998	USD	8.11	31/05/02	1.23
83.	Dist. Reproductive Health Project–Bundi dt 09-08-1997	USD	0.62	31/03/01	0.20
84.	Dist. Reproductive Health Project–Wardha dt 19-08-1997	USD	0.50.	31/03/01	0.39
85.	Dist. Reproductive Health Project–Sirmour dt 09-08-1997	USD	0.75	31/03/01	0.28
86.	Dist. Reproductive Health Project–Malappuram dt 09-08-1997	USD	0.75	31/03/01	0.31
87.	Improving the Status of Reproductive Health dt 03-08-1998	USD	0.41	31/12/02	0.13

1	2	3	4	5	6
88.	Integrated Population & Development in Kerala dt 07-08-1998	USD	4.22	31/08/02	0.11
89.	Population & Development Education in Schools (NCERT) dt 07-09-98	USD	3.66	30/12/01	1.44
90.	Population & Development Education in Post Literacy & Conitnuing Education dt 23-09-1998	USD	1.94	31/12/01	1.04
91.	Distt. Reprodutive Health Project–Patna dt 09-08-1997	USD	0.66	31/03/01	0.17
92.	Training for Women's Empowerment–Maharashtra 03-10-1997	USD	0.72	31/03/01	0.13
U.N.D.P.					
93.	Development of Hybrid Rice Technology for Large Scale Adoption dt 31-12-98	USD	2.55	31/12/01	0.21
94.	Maize-based Cropping System for Food Security 30-12-98	USD	0.81	31/12/02	0.17
95.	Empowerment of Women Farmers for Food Security UP	USD	1.63	30/11/02	0.76
96.	Economic Reforms dt 01-11-1999	USD	1.84	31/10/02	0.44
97.	Capacity Building for Preparation of State HDRs 8-07-1999	USD	0.50	30/06/02	0.16
98.	Demo. of Community-based Solar Energy (SWRC) 03-11-99	USD	1.20	31/10/02	0.71
99.	Jute Programme dt 02-08-1999	USD	1.00	30/06/02	0.73
100.	Non-Mulberry Silktasar Production & Processing 02-08-99	USD	1.90	30/06/02	1.80
101.	Integrated Angora Wool Programme dt 02-08-1999	USD	1.40	30/06/02	0.18
102.	Hand-knitted Carpets dt 02-08-1999	USD	1.20	30/06/01	0.80
103.	Cane & Bamboo Sector Development dt 19-09-1999	USD	1.09	30/06/02	0.63
104.	Integrated Development of Spice Industry dt 31-12-1998	USD	1.12	31/12/01	0.21
UNFPA					
105.	Integrated Population & Development-MP dt 16-08-1999	USD	7.14	27/03/03	0.35
106.	Our Boides our Lives dt 21-05-1999	USD	0.92	30/06/02	0.16
107.	Integrated Population & Development-Orissa dt 08-07-1999	USD	5.96	31/07/02	0.11
U.N.D.P.					
108.	Support to Chldren with Disabilities dt 22-02-2000	USD	1.00	31/12/02	0.12
109.	Capacity Development for Urban Governance dt 2-12-2000	USD	0.50	31/12/02	0.15
UNFPA					
110	Support to Gender Issues dt 15-09-1999	USD	0.32	28/03/03	0.32
111.	Advocacy on Population, Reproductive Health dt 08-11-99	USD	0.14	30/11/01	0.03

1	2	3	4	5	6
112.	Making Safe Motherhood a Reality dt 01-04-2000	USD	0.09	31/03/03	0.09
	United Nations Dev. Fund for Women				
113.	Gender Sensitizing Census of India 2001 dt 25-10-2000	USD	0.06	31/05/01	0.05
	Asian Development Bank				
114.	Institutional Strengthening of CAA&A, MOF dt 27-12-2000	USD	0.60	31/12/02	0.00
	IBRD				
115.	Information Development Programme dt 18-08-1999	USD	0.35	31/08/00	0.33
116.	DSM Planning in State Power Sector dt 18-09-1998	USD	0.40	30/09/00	0.00
117.	Power Sector Reform Programme dt 07-12-1997	USD	0.50	31/12/99	0.10
118.	Third National Highway dt 09-05-1997	USD	1.72	30/09/00	1.68
	UNICEF				
119.	Advocacy Workshop on Nutrition dt 04-06-1999	USD	0.05	31/03/01	0.05
120.	AWWs training courses under ICDS Scheme dt 01-04-99	USD	0.21	31/03/01	0.21
121.	Gender Sensitizing Census of India 2001 dt 01-11-2000	USD	0.10	31/03/01	0.07
	United States of America				
122.	Joint Licit Poppy Study (JLOPS) dt 09-06-2000	USD	0.17	30/09/02	0.05
	Germany				
123.	HUDCO Promotion of Building Technology (Hudco-III)	DEM	10.00	30/06/99	7.80
124.	HDFC-II dt 14-02-1994	DEM	30.00	30/12/05	26.28
125.	Social Marketing by PSS & PSI dt 20-12-1996	DEM	15.00	30/12/98	12.67
126.	HUDCO V dt 29-11-1995	DEM	35.00	30/12/98	35.00
127.	NSIC National Renewal Fund 23-05-1996	DEM	2.40	31/12/01	0.40
128.	NSIC-XII dt 22-11-1995	DEM	0.15	30/06/97	0.15
129.	Watershed Development Maharashtra II dt 20-06-1997	DEM	25.00	30/12/05	13.78
130.	HUDCO-VI dt 31-10-1997	DEM	30.00	30/12/00	26.08
131.	HDFC-III (Low Cost Housing) dt 25-09-1998	DEM	30.00	30/12/03	7.40
132.	Adivasi Development Programme (NABARD) dt 24-11-1998	DEM	28.00	30/12/10	1.00
	IBRD				
133.	IREDA Second Renewable Energy Project dt 11-08-2000	SDR	3.80	31/03/06	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat					
Loans					
France					
1.	Fusegates System on Dams in Gujarat 17-05-1999	FRF	34.74	31/12/03	33.99
Japan					
2.	Gujarat Afforestation & Development dt 20.01.1999	JPY	10700.00	26/03/04	14639.47
3.	Pipavav Port Ship Breaking dt 25-01-1996	JPY	7046.00	26/03/03	6967.20
Asian Development Bank					
4.	Gujart Power Sector Development Program dt 14-12-2000	USD	150.00	31/12/02	51.50
5.	Gujarat Power Sector Development Project dt 14-12-2000	USD	200.00	30/06/05	2.14
6.	Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation & Reconstruction dt 26-04-2001	USD	500.00	30/06/04	80.00
IBRD					
7.	Gujarat State Highway Project dt 18-10-2000	USD	381.00	31/12/05	49.11
Grants					
Netherlands					
1.	Water Resources Development & Management-I 17-02-95	NLG	1.45	01/06/99	0.47
2.	Grant India 1996-06 Gogha Regional Water Supply 04-08-97	NLG	19.37	03/08/02	0.78
3.	1996–02 ORET Project for Gujarat Health Care dt 27-11-97	NLG	39.83	30/06/02	30.60
4.	1997–05 Training Women in Agriculture-Gujarat-II 09-12-97	NLG	6.61	30/06/02	2.88
5.	Reconstruction, & Repair of Prim. Schools-Gujarat 24-07-01	NLG	94.49	30/09/03	44.51
Germany					
6.	NABARD V Adivasi Prog. Gujarat dt 23-12-1994	DEM	26.00	12/04/06	12.82
Haryana					
Loans					
1.	Haryana Power Sector Restructuring dt 16-01-1998	USD	52.35	31/12/00	52.35
IFAD					
2.	Mewat Area Development dt 29-05-1995	SDR	9.65	31/12/03	4.58
IDA					
3.	Haryana Water Resources consolidation dt 06-04-1994	SDR	187.30	31/12/01	174.09

1	2	3	4	5	6
Grants					
European Economic Community					
1.	Rehabilitation of common lands in Aravali Hills 07-03-1990	EUR	23.20	31/10/99	19.82
2.	Haryana Community Forestry dt 19-02-1997	EUR	23.30	31/12/04	0.00
Netherlands					
3.	Reclamation of Waterlogged & Saline Lands-Har. 23-08-94	NLG	4.41	31/03/02	3.20
UNFPA					
4.	Haryana Integrated Women's Empowerment & Development dt 31-12-1998	USD	3.70	31/01/02	2.90
Himachal Pradesh					
Loans					12.91
OPEC					
1.	Shimla Sewerage dt 21-08-1997	USD	10.00	31/12/01	5.63
Grants					
United Kingdom					
1.	HP Forestry dt 08-09-1994	GBP	3.83	31/03/01	3.31
Norway					
2.	Environment Programme dt 13-11-1997	NOK	24.00	13/11/02	20.57
Karnataka					
Loans					
France					
1.	Improvement of Watersupply & Sewarage Sys. 26-04-1996	FRF	47.94	31/12/03	12.27
2.	(FF-105 Million Pt. Dt. 23.11.98) LA-2 dt 23-11-1998	FRF	13.74	21/06/02	10.95
Japan					
3.	Bangalore Water Supply & Sewarage dt 25-01-1996	JPY	28452.00	26/03/04	10209.29
4.	Eastern Karnataka Afforestation dt 25-02-1997	JPY	15968.00	29/05/05	8981.65
OPEC					
5.	Raichur District Hospital dt 06-06-1991	USD	9.00	30/04/01	7.00
Asian Development Bank					
6.	Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development dt 10-05-1998	USD	85.00	30/06/02	52.91

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Karnataka Urban Development & Coastal Environment Management dt 19-05-2000	USD	175.00	30/06/05	1.02
IBRD					
8.	Karnataka State Highways Improvement dt 26-07-2001	USD	360.00	31/12/06	16.60
9.	Karnataka Economic Restructuring dt 26-07-2001	USD	75.00	31/12/01	75.00
10.	Karnataka Water Suply Management & MS Project dt 23-12-1999	USD	1.50	02/06/02	0.00
IDA					
11.	Karnataka Economic Restructuring dt 26-07-2001	SDR	58.90	31/12/01	58.90
12.	Karnataka Watershed Development dt 26-07-2001	SDR	79.00	31/03/07	2.37
Grants					
Germany					
1.	Karnataka Watershed Developoment dt 17-06-1994	DEM	20.00	30/12/02	58.90
2.	Karnataka Sec. Level Hospital Development dt 16-01-1997	DEM	23.00	30/12/02	8.42
Denmark					
3.	Women & Youth Training Extension-II (Karnataka) dt 01-07-1989	DKK	48.50	29/12/00	27.31
4.	Integrated Rural Water & Sanitation, Karnataka-I 28-12-89	DKK	50.00	30/09/96	22.42
5.	Rural Water & Sanitation Phase II Karnataka dt 01-10-1996	DKK	65.50	31/03/02	49.54
6.	Karnataka Watershed Development Ph-II dt 02-06-1997	DKK	46.70	02/06/04	15.71
7.	Women & Youth Training Phase III dt 26-06-2000	DKK	28.30	30/06/05	0.00
France					
8.	Eval. of Re-charge of Arkavathy & Polor Basin-I dt 07-06-93	FRF	2.65	30/04/96	2.65
9.	Setting up of Ground Water Data base Mgnt-II dt 07-06-93	FRF	2.65	26/03/96	2.65
United Kingdom					
10.	Karnataka Watershed Development dt 23-05-1997	GBP	4.49	31/03/02	0.00
Switzerland					
11.	Indo-Swiss Participative Watershed Development Karnataka dt 19-06-95	INR	88.82	30/09/01	88.82
Netherlands					
12.	Rural Water Supply & Sanitation-Karnataka dt 14-03-1989	NLG	33.15	31/03/01	31.82
13.	Trungbhadra Irrigation Pilot Project Ph-II dt 31-08-1995	NLG	0.80	31/07/98	0.70

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Mysore Paper Mills Ph-III dt 03-02-1998	NLG	5.07	31/12/02	2.43
IDA					
15.	Karnataka Community Based Tank Improvement 14-02-01	USD	0.40	01/11/01	0.16
16.	Karnataka Watershed Development dt 14-02-2001	USD	0.36	31/07/01	0.18
Kerala					
Loans					
Japan					
1.	Atappady Wasteland Comprehensive Environment 25-01-96	JPY	5112.00	26/03/05	312.71
2.	Kerala Water Supply dt 2-02-1997	JPY	1997.00	30/06/06	0.00
OPEC					
3.	Kerala Rainfed Farming Development dt 27-06-1991	USD	10.00	30/06/00	2.97
IDA					
4.	Kerala Forestry dt 13-08-1998	SDR	28.80	31/12/02	12.35
5.	Kerala Rural Water Supply & Environmental Sanitation dt 04-01-4-2001	SDR	50.10	31/12/06	1.98
Grants					
European Economic Community					
1.	Agriculture Markets in Kerala (supply of fertilizer) 3-03-89	EUR	18.65	31/12/97	18.00
2.	Kerala Horticulture Development dt 17-01-1992	EUR	28.70	31/12/00	16.85
3.	Kerala Mill Irrigation dt 21-05-1992	EUR	11.80	31/12/00	3.39
United Kingdom					
4.	Cochin Urban Poverty Reduction dt 01-05-1997	GBP	11.47	30/09/01	3.76
Netherlands					
5.	Kerala Community Irrigation dt 17-12-1993	NLG	4.85	30/06/00	2.15
6.	Kerala Water Supply, Pavartty dt 29-08-1986	NLG	44.50	31/03/02	27.60
Madhya Pradesh					
Loans					
Japan					
1.	Lake Bhopal Conservation & Management dt 28-02-1995	JPY	7055.00	12/04/02	3309.11
2.	Rajghat Canal Irrigation dt 25-02-1997	JPY	13222.00	29/05/06	3963.72

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPEC					
3.	Rewa Hospital dt 08-02-1989	USD	10.00	30/06/01	10.00
Asian Development Bank					
4.	MP Public Resources Management dt 14-12-1999	USD	250.00	30/09/02	100.00
IDA					
5.	MP District Poverty Initiatives dt 05-12-2000	SDR	84.20	30/06/06	2.95
Grants					
Denmark					
1.	M.P. Women in Agriculture dt 19-11-1993	DKK	12.61	18/11/00	9.67
2.	Comprehensive Watershed Development-Tirunelveli Ph.II dt 05-08-94	DKK	68.47	31/01/02	43.91
3.	Live Stock Development-Bastar dt 05-12-1996	DKK	28.30	04/12/01	04.12
4.	Watershed Development in Western MP dt 12-03-1997	DKK	29.20	11/03/02	12.06
Maharashtra					
Loans					
Germany					
1.	Rehabilitation Uran II dt 11-12-1995	DEM	1.98	30/12/99	1.98
2.	Rehabilitation Uran Gas Plant dt 11-12-1995	DEM	14.87	30/12/99	11.40
3.	Minor Irrigation Programme, Maharashtra dt 01.06.2000	DEM	45.00	30/12/06	0.99
France					
4.	Creation of Freshwater Prawan Hatchery-(MH-376M) 02-12-97	FRF	4.43	31/12/02	3.42
Japan					
5.	Ghatghar T.P. Project dt-15-12-1988	JPY	11414.00	20/01/03	6214.22
IBRD					
6.	Bombay Sewarage Disposal dt 28-12-1995	USD	124.78	31/12/02	58.92
IFAD					
7.	Maharashtra Rural Credit dt 28-05-1995	SDR	21.25	30/09/02	17.05
Grants					
Germany					
1.	Basic Health Maharashtra dt 23-07-1996	DEM	20.00	30/12/01	3.17

1	2	3	4	5	6
	European Economic Community				
2.	Water control system for Development of Crops, Maharashtra dt 25-10-1988	EUR	15.00	31/10/98	13.80
3.	Saline Lands Reclamation in Maharashtra dt 03-07-1995	EUR	15.50	31/12/01	0.35
	France				
4.	Dynamic Regulation of Majalgaon Irrigation dt 30-11-1992	FRF	3.05	24/04/97	2.59
	United Kingdom				
5.	Maharashtra Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation dt 10-09-1991	GBP	16.46	31/12/00	8.61
	IBRD				
6.	Mumbai Resettlement & Rehabilitation dt 01-9-1996	JPY	44.76	31/07/00	44.76
7.	Mumbai Metropolitan Region Dev. Authority dt 01-06-2000	JPY	16.76	31/07/00	0.00
	UNFPA				
8.	Integrated Population & Development in MH dt 04-02-1999	USD	4.60	31/03/02	0.82
	Germany				
9.	Watershed Maharashtra-II (NABARD) dt 26-06-1997	DEM	25.00	30/12/05	0.00
	Manipur				
	Loans				
	France				
1.	Upgradation/Augmentation of Kangchup Water Supply dt 26-02-1997	FRF	31.65	31/12/01	32.05
2.	Detailed Study for Rehabilitation of Rd-MN-(125M) 14-10-1997	FRF	7.62	30/06/01	7.62
3.	Ground Water Exploration-Imphal (125M) dt 27-05-1997	FRF	4.63	30/06/01	4.63
	Japan				
4.	Manipur Sericulture dt 12-12-1997	JPY	3962.00	28/07/05	460.82
	Meghalaya				
	Loans				
1.	Umiam Hydro Power Station renovation dt 25-02-1997	JPY	1700.00	10/06/04	870.80
	Multi State Projects				
	Loans				
	France				
1.	Creation of Freshwater Prawn Hatchery-GU-(376M) 02-12-97	FRF	4.57	31/12/02	3.67

1	2	3	4	5	6
IBRD					
2.	Nathpa Jhakri Power dt 18-05-1989	USD	154.40	31/03/02	94.58
3.	Integrated Watershed Dev, (Hills II) dt 14-07-1999	USD	85.00	31/03/05	0.85
IFAD					
4.	Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh Tribal Development dt 25-06-1999	SDR	16.95	31/12/09	0.78
IDA					
5.	Shrimp and Fish Culture dt 29-01-1992	SDR	19.25	31/12/00	19.25
6.	Forestry Research Education & Extension dt 09-03-1994	SDR	33.80	31/12/01	29.14
7.	Agricultural Human Resource Development dt 11-04-1995	SDR	40.50	31/12/01	37.73
8.	Hydrology Project dt 22-09-1995	SDR	75.10	31/03/03	49.14
9.	Second State Health Systems Development dt 18-04-1996	SDR	235.50	30/03/04	142.06
10.	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills II) dt 14-07-1999	SDR	36.90	31/03/05	24.08
11.	Third Technician Education Project dt 18-10-2000	SDR	48.90	30/06/06	2.56
Grants					
Switzerland					
1.	Sericulture - 2000 (Sericulture Project) dt 05-11-1997	CHF	12.50	31/03/04	1.78
Netherlands					
2.	NLGG001 Grant India 1994-01 dt 03-02-1994	NLG	210.00	31/12/03	90.99
IDA					
3.	Rural Water Supply & Sanitation, Kerala/Karnataka 12-07-00	USD	0.41	31/05/02	0.20
Orissa					
Loans					
Germany					
1.	Orissa Lift Irrigation dt 19-02-1993	DEM	55.00	30/12/00	40.60
Japan					
2.	Rengali Irrigation dt 12-12-1997	JPY	7760.00	05/02/03	3334.91
IBRD					
3.	Orissa Power Sector Restructuring dt 10-071998	USD	332.67	31/12/02	117.51
IDA					
4.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation dt 18-12-2000	SDR	35.00	30/09/02	9.28

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation dt 5-01-1996	SDR	194.80	30/09/02	119.90
6.	Orissa Health Systems Development dt 13-08-1998	SDR	56.80	31/03/04	7.78
Grants					
Denmark					
1.	Composite Watershed Development, Koraput dt 05-10-1992	DKK	46.30	05/10/99	19.85
2.	Integrated Livestock Development, Koraput Distt dt 22-12-92	DKK	19.90	31/12/00	12.12
3.	TEWA, Ph. II, Orissa dt 01-07-1995	DKK	23.69	30/06/02	19.67
European Economic Community					
4.	Minor Irrigation in Orissa dt 03-07-1995	EUR	10.70	31/12/04	1.11
France					
5.	Bhubaneshwar Development Authority Waste Mgnt Development dt 05-02-97	FRF	1.90	31/12/00	0.00
United Kingdom					
6.	Cuttack Slum Improvement dt 23-05-1991	GBP	16.94	31/03/02	9.59
7.	Orissa Power Sector Reforms dt 29-08-1996	GBP	42.00	31/03/01	25.06
8.	Orissa Health & Family Welfare Phase-III dt 21-08-1997	GBP	1.75	31/12/02	0.88
9.	Cuttack Urban Services Improvement dt 20-10-1997	GBP	11.49	31/03/02	2.22
10.	Rehabilitation of Cyclone-Damaged LIP's 29-08-2001	GBP	5.35	31/07/02	0.00
11.	Orissa District Primary Education dt 18-09-2001	GBP	41.21	30/11/08	0.00
Norway					
12.	Orissa Environmental Programme dt 16-04-1992	NOK	40.00	31/12/99	27.56
Sweden					
13.	Orissa Forestry/Capacity Builidng dt 01-12-1997	SEK	13.50	30/11/99	1.75
U.N.D.P.					
14.	Natural Resource Mgnt. & Sus. Livelihood for Women dt 03-11-1999	USD	1.98	30/11/02	1.40
15.	Decentralised Engineering Systems, Komna Block, dt 26-11-1999	USD	1.00	30/09/02	0.74
Punjab					
Loans					
Japan					
1.	Punjab Afforestation Project dt 12-12-1997	JPY	6193.00	16/02/03	4372.56

1	2	3	4	5	6
Grants					
U.N.D.P.					
1.	Development & Use of Natural Dyes in Textiles dt 31-12-1998	USD	0.45	31/12/00	0.39
Rajasthan					
Loans					
Germany					
1.	Integrated Solar Thermal Power Plant, Mathania 29-10-2001	DEM	116.80	30/06/07	0.00
2.	Rajasthan Rural & Water Supply dt 17-06-1994	DEM	40.00	03/01/02	40.00
France					
3.	Water Mgnt. Project for Jaipur (223.3 M dt 1.12.94) 18-12-95	FRF	5.30	31/03/01	2.69
4.	Public Health Engineering Deptt. Jaipur dt 03-09-1996	FRF	13.69.	31/03/01	7.92
Japan					
5.	Afforestation Development (IG Nahar) dt 23-01-1991	JPY	7869.00	05/02/02	4521.39
6.	Rajasthan Forestry Development dt 28-02-1995	JPY	4219.00	12/04/02	4112.46
Asian Development Bank					
7.	Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development dt 01-02-1999	USD	250.00	30/06/05	1.20
IBRD					
8.	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring dt 27-02-2001	USD	180.00	30/06/05	18.54
9.	Rajasthan Power Sector Restructuring dt 10-02-1994	USD	2.00	31/12/00	0.00
IDA					
10.	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives dt 12-05-2000	SDR	75.00	31/12/05	3.12
11.	Rajasthan Second District Primary Education dt 27-07-2001	SDR	58.50	31/12/06	2.74
Grants					
Canada					
1.	Rajasthan Agricultural Drainage dt 13-03-1990	CAD	14.99	31/12/00	9.41
Switzerland					
2.	PAWDI Project Rajasthan dt 23.07.1999	CHF	77.84	30/06/99	18.06
Germany					
3.	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Ph. I dt 29-04-1987	DEM	2.70	31/12/00	2.15
4.	Residential Schools Project dt 05-06-1997	DEM	18.00	31/12/03	5.30

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Rajasthan Rural Water Supply Phase I dt 17-06-1994	DEM	55.00	03/01/02	55.00
6.	Rural Water Supply Rajasthan dt 17-06-1995	DEM	40.00	03/01/02	14.50
7.	Rural Water Supply Rajasthan dt 29-10-2001	DEM	10.00	30/12/02	0.00
European Economic Community					
8.	Sidhmukh & Nohar Irrigation dt 10-05-1993	EUR	45.00	31/12/01	38.46
France					
9.	Pulbic Health & Engineering Deptt. Jaipur dt 18-12-1995	FRF	6.50	31/03/01	6.50
United Kingdom					
10.	Shiksha Karmi project phase III Dt 16-03-2000	GBP	17.14	08/03/03	3.08
Sweden					
11.	Dungarpur Integrated Waterland Development dt 04-03-1992	SEK	80.00	30/09/99	46.15
Germany					
12.	Solar Thermal Power Porject, Mathania dt 23-08-2001	USD	0.75	30/06/02	0.00
Tamil Nadu					
Loans					
Japan					
1.	Madras Sewarage R&F improvement dt 28-02-1995	JPY	17098.00	12/04/02	1211.19
2.	Tamil Nadu Affforestation Program dt 25-02-1997	JPY	13324.00	17/05/05	8003.91
IBRD					
3.	Second Madaras Water Supply dt 20-11-1995	USD	80.50	30/06/02	63.44
4.	Second Tamil Nadu Urban Development dt 14-07-1999	USD	105.00	30/11/04	70.38
IDA					
5.	T.N. Water Resources Consolidation dt 22-09-1995	SDR	181.90	31/03/02	99.89
Grants					
Denmark					
1.	Tamil Nadu Women in Agriculture (TANWA)-ph. II 30-09-1993	DKK	58.05	30/09/01	46.34
2.	Comprehensive Watershed Development, Ramanathapuram dt 19-11-1993	DKK	26.42	31/03/02	19.63
3.	Rural Water & Sanitation, Ph. II Tamil Nadu dt 01-10-1996	DKK	60.00	28/03/04	21.17
4.	Pudukottai Livestock Development Ph. II dt 31-01-1997	DKK	51.48	31/01/04	9.88

1	2	3	4	5	6
European Economic Community					
5.	Tank Irrigation System (Ph. II) in Tamilnadu dt 27-04-1989	EUR	24.50	31/12/99	21.96
Sweden					
6.	I.C.D.S. Ph. III dt 06-12-1995	SEK	60.00	31/12/99	54.53
Germany					
7.	NLC Study Expert Grant dt 01-01-1901	DEM	1.50	31/12/99	1.14
8.	NDDB Studies & Experts Fund IV dt 05-08-1991	DEM	2.00	31/12/99	2.00
Uttar Pradesh					
Loans					
France					
1.	Equipments of SGPGIMS, UP (376M dt 30.1.96) dt 13-08-97	FRF	3.56	26/03/01	3.56
2.	SGPGIMS Supply & Insallation of Medical Equipment dt 25-01-1998	FRF	29.52	30/06/01	26.97
Japan					
3.	Anpara B Thermal Power dt 24-01-1994	JPY	17638.00	11/09/02	14907.47
4.	Anpara Power Transmission System II dt 25-01-1996	JPY	8054.56	26/03/01	8054.56
OPEC					
5.	Basti Distt. Hospital dt 04-05-1990	USD	6.50	30/06/00	5.90
IBRD					
6.	UP Rural Water Supply & Environment Sanitation 22-07-98	USD	47.31	31/05/02	24.17
7.	UP Diversified Agricultural Suport dt 30-7-1998	USD	79.90	31/03/04	0.00
8.	UP Power Sector Restructuring dt 19-05-2000	USD	150.00	31/12/04	41.68
IDA					
9.	UP Sodic Lands Reclamation dt 24-06-1993	SDR	39.50	31/03/01	39.50
10.	UP Forestry dt 30-12-1997	SDR	39.00	31/07/02	19.08
11.	UP Diversified Agricultural Support dt 30-07-1998	SDR	37.20	31/03/04	23.39
12.	Maharashtra Health Sytems Development dt 14-01-1999	SDR	97.90	31/03/05	8.37
13.	Uttar Pradesh Sodic land Reclamation Project-II 04-02-1999	SDR	141.70	30/09/05	24.73
14.	UP Health Systems Development dt 19-05-2000	SDR	82.10	30/12/05	2.42

1	2	3	4	5	6
Grants					
European Economic Communtiy					
1.	Ravine Stabilization in UP dt 17-04-1997	EUR	7.90	16/04/02	0.00
France					
2.	UP Irrigation Deptt. Feasibility Study-Lakhwar Dam 23-04-96	FRF	3.50	31/12/98	3.50
United Kingdom					
3.	Western India Rainfied Farming-II dt 21-04-1999	GBP	15.09	31/03/06	0.94
Netherlands					
4.	UP Sub Project VI dt 16-10-1990	NLG	25.00	31/12/00	17.76
5.	Rural Water Supply UP Sub Project-VIII dt 24-08-1994	NLG	25.48	31/12/01	17.67
6.	Bundel Khand Integrated Water dt 12-06-1996	NLG	2.80	31/05/01	1.35
7.	Ganga Action Plan Support dt 23-07-1997	NLG	51.24	01/10/01	9.34
8.	Usar Reclamation in UP dt 07-07-1998	NLG	5.64	30/09/02	0.00
West Bengal					
Loans					
France					
1.	CMC-WB, LA-1 dt 23-11-1998	FRF	36.00	21/06/02	16.59
2.	(FF 105 Million) Protocol dt 23.11.98	FRF	18.60	30/06/02	10.60
Japan					
3.	Purulia Pumped Storage dt 28-02-1995	JPY	20520.00	12/04/03	5565.03
4.	Industrial pollution control (WB) dt 28-02-1995	JPY	1525.00	02/10/02	381.72
5.	West Bengal Transmission System dt 25-02-1997	JPY	11087.00	29/05/04	5045.07
6.	Calcutta Transport Infrastructure Development dt 25-02-1997	JPY	10679.00	29/05/04	2396.67
7.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station-II dt 12-12-1997	JPY	34151.00	19/02/03	27747.34
8.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station-III dt 24-03-1999	JPY	11537.00	28/04/04	7042.35
IBRD					
9.	Calcutta Water Supply Sewerage & Drainage dt 23-07-1999	USD	2.50	30.11.01	0.84
Grants					
Germany					
1.	Rural Water Supply, West Bengal dt 05-07-1996	DEM	50.00	30/12/02	30.94

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Basic Health Programme, WB dt 22-06-1999	DEM	60.00	30/12/06	1.76
France					
3.	Feasibility Study for Solid Waste Mgnt, CMC, dt 13-11-1997	FRF	1.40	31/12/00	0.00
United Kingdom					
4.	Calcutta Environmental Improvement dt 1.1.1991	GBP	16.94	30/09/01	10.79
5.	Calcutta Environmental Improvement dt 08-11-2001	GBP	28.30	31/03/09	0.00
Netherlands					
6.	North Bengal Terai Development Phase III dt 30-11-1994	NLG	13.12	31/03/01	10.00
IBRD					
7.	West Bengal Municipal Development dt 17-09-1998	USD	0.47	31/12/99	0.00

Functioning of Cooperative Banks

2060. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Monetary and Credit Policy for 2001-2002 announced by the Reserve Bank of India have created some obstacles in the smooth functioning of the cooperative banks in Maharashtra and the State Government have also requested the Union Government to review the policy; 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) The measures announced by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the Monetary & Credit Policy are aimed at strengthening of Cooperative Banks all over the country. No request from Maharashtra Government has been received to review this policy.

(b) Does not arise.

Restructuring of EPCs

2061. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to restructure the Export Promotion Councils;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Committee has been set up for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning of Export Promotion Councils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) In view of the significant changes that have taken place in the international trading environment in recent years, it was felt necessary to restructure the Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) in order to improve their functioning and make them more effective. Moreover, with emergence of new sectors of export importance, criteria need to be laid down regarding establishment of new EPCs. The Committee constituted within the Department of Commerce to look into the aspects of rationalization of election procedures of the EPCs and the criteria to be adopted for their restructuring so that they retain their relevance to the national export effort in the context of globalisation and economic liberalization, has made recommendations to streamline and strengthen the functioning of the EPCs. EPCs are being restructured to make them more response to the needs of their members by rationalizing of their election and administrative procedures thereby ensuring that real exporters have a more effective role in their management and bring about greater efficiency and transparency in their functioning.

(e) The above steps are expected to improve the functioning of the existing EPCs.

Establishment of WTO Cells

2062. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several State Governments have established WTO cells on the advice of Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main function of these cells;

(c) whether these cells would consist of officers, experts from the agriculture, trade, industry sectors and farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which these cells have been helpful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government had advised all the State Governments/Union Territories to set up WTO Cells and appoint nodal officers to effectively coordinate various WTO related matters. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Tripura, Nagaland and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli have established the WTO Cells. As the basic purpose for setting up of these cells was coordination between States and the Union Government on WTO matters, by and large these cells consist of Government officers. Some States like Karnataka have also involved academicians and other experts in the working of these cells. The inputs provided by some of the State Governments have been useful in formulating Government's views on the issues involved in the negotiations on WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

Supply of Raw Materials to Powerloom/Handloom Weavers

2063. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received by the Government from the powerloom/handloom weavers from Southern States for supply of raw materials at reasonable prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Southern Indian Mills Associations have been representing to the Government to give them incentives to scrap obsolete and unviable spindle-age as has been done in many other countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (f) The Government has been receiving representation from time to time from various industry associations, including Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA) and associations of powerloom/handloom weavers, manufacturers, exporters, etc. regarding their problems including such problems as over capacity, mismatch of demand and supply and high input costs faced by the textile industry.

Government has been examining all these suggestions and addressing problems to take remedial measures, keeping in mind the need for a harmonious balance between different segments and sectors of the industry need for preparing the industry for global competitiveness. Measures include revision of duties and tariffs, rationalization of procedures revision of duty drawback rates, introduction of programmes and schemes to strengthen the production base, improve competitiveness and modernize the industry.

Special Central Assistance and Special Component Plan

2064. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Special Component Plan (SCP) and Special Central Assistance (SCA) provided to various State Governments/Union Territories during the last three years;

(b) the details of utilization of these funds made available to the State Governments and the Union Territories;

(c) whether the Government have obtained details regarding reduction in the BPL families on account of the utilization of the above funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Under the strategy of Special component Plan (SCP) evolved by Planning Commission funds are

earmarked out of the Plan fund with the States/UTs in proportion to the percentage of SC population in the State/UTs. Special Central Assistance (SCA) is provided to the States/UTs as an additive to their SCP. The amount of SCA provided by this Ministry and utilization as reported by the States/UTs is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) According to the latest available (1993-1994) estimates 48% in rural areas and 49.5% in Urban areas of SC population was living below the poverty line. Estimates of percentage of SC population living below the poverty line in the last three years are not yet available.

Statement

Special Central Assistance

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UT	1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3388.78	3388.78	4134.94	4134.94	3720.00	3720.00
2.	Assam	596.66	362.00	695.31	515.00	1810.69	914.75
3.	Bihar	3620.07	1820.93	3471.49	0.00	0.00	1261.41
4.	Chhattisgarh					500.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	371.40	1136.79	682.27	682.27	1521.88	639.30
6.	Goa	2.72	1.90	5.49	1.80	8.00	1.50
7.	Haryana	741.77	741.53	840.36	238.02	930.63	635.39
8.	Himachal Pradesh	259.56	229.60	298.18	316.08	440.00	431.22
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	132.80	66.69	183.44	137.85	218.00	238.10
10.	Jharkhand					500.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	1820.07	1820.07	2097.36	2097.36	2643.64	2643.64
12.	Kerala	724.54	561.23	813.24	753.88	1251.07	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2237.08	2443.04	3303.27	1936.10	1720.00	1448.64
14.	Maharashtra	1673.92	1367.91	2067.30	1450.62	2722.00	1792.67
15.	Manipur	10.62	8.43	12.54	13.00	38.96	0.00
16.	Orissa	2281.57	2281.57	1907.72	1686.47	1884.00	2022.03
17.	Punjab	1119.74	486.47	1280.29	313.13	1784.00	184.29
18.	Rajasthan	2575.48	2357.68	2792.68	2275.37	3738.96	2137.83
19.	Sikkim	4.03	4.03	22.37	22.26	23.87	23.98
20.	Tamil Nadu	3236.93	2122.06	4036.92	2841.39	3558.00	2652.39
21.	Tripura	108.72	102.99	159.14	164.87	476.48	476.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Uttar Pradesh	7518.15	7158.95	9728.65	5682.35	9398.00	6820.62
23.	Uttaranchal					500.00	54.17
24.	West Bengal	3378.39	3378.39	4962.00	4962.00	5450.63	5322.33
25.	Chandigarh	22.00	22.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
26.	Delhi	201.71	82.87	149.91	82.87	149.91	36.71
27.	Pondicherry	73.29	73.29	30.13	30.13	25.18	12.59
	Total	36100.00	32019.20	43700.00	30362.76	45038.90	33495.04

Audit of Plantation Companies

2065. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI has conducted a special audit of various plantation companies;

(b) if so, the details of gross irregularities in fund mobilisation and deployment and extent of financial fraud/ irregularities detected, Company-wise in general and companies in Uttaranchal in particular;

(c) the action taken/proposed against defaulting companies to protect the interests of investors; and

(d) the present status of action taken against plantation firms, firm-wise alongwith the steps proposed to introduce mechanism to check and monitor fraudulent dealings of plantation and other non-banking financial companies in Uttaranchal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) ordered a special audit of 53 collective investment schemes (CIS), which include plantation companies in 1998, in addition to the audit of 3 entities pursuant to court orders.

The major findings of the audit reports include large scale diversion of funds to activities unrelated to the schemes' objectives; the lands/properties of the schemes are often not registered in the names of the entities/ investors; a large portion of the funds raised has been spent towards the cost of mobilisation of funds; existing investors are paid out of the money received from the subsequent investors and not from the profits/income from legitimate business activities; funds have been mobilised without obtaining credit rating.

Out of the 56 entities audited by SEBI, the registered offices of 2 entities were in cities of Uttar Pradesh which are now part of Uttaranchal.

(c) and (d) The SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999 were notified on October 15, 1999. No entity other than a Collective Investment Management Company which has obtained a certificate of registration under the SEBI regulations can carry on or sponsor or launch a Collective Investment Scheme. Also no existing Collective Investment Scheme is allowed to launch any new scheme or raise money from investors unless a certificate of registration is granted to it.

513 entities/their promoters/directors/managers/persons in charge of business of their schemes have been debarred from operating in the capital market for a period of 5 years. In a Civil Writ Petition No. 3352/98 the Delhi High Court, 22nd January, 2002 has ordered the freezing of bank accounts of 513 erring and their directors/ promoters till they comply with the SEBI Regulations/ directions regarding repayment to their investors. Names and details of those 513 entities were published in 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 web site (www.sebi.gov.in)

Priority Sector Lending Obligations

2066. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks are using the NABARD channel to fulfil their priority sector lending obligations;

(b) if so, the funds placed at the disposal of NABARD by nationalised banks for priority sector lending during the last three years;

(c) to what extent is RBI satisfied with this kind of obligation fulfilled by nationalised banks;

(d) whether nationalised banks avoid assisting individual farmers and artisans through the NABARD route; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed by RBI to consider alternate methods for banks to fulfil their priority sector lending obligations?

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 all domestic commercial banks, including nationalized banks, which have not reached the agriculture/priority sector lending targets are required to make contribution to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), with NABARD for on-lending to the State Governments towards creation of rural infrastructure.

(b) A total of Rs. 13000 crore have been allocated to domestic scheduled commercial banks in the last three years for making contribution to RIDF.

(c) to (e) RBI has been reviewing the performance of banks under priority sector as well as agricultural sector on an ongoing basis to ensure timely and adequate flow of credit to this sector. RBI has also set a deadline of two years for defaulting private as well as public sector banks for achieving the priority sector targets including agricultural lending. With a view to dissuade banks from using the RIDF route, RBI has linked the rate of interest of payable on RIDF deposits inversely to the banks' performance in lending to agriculture. RBI has also expanded the scope of priority sector lending by including lending of food and agro-processing sector, financing of agriculture and tiny sector through Non-Banking Finance Companies, purchase of land by small and marginal farmers, setting up of agri-clinics by agricultural graduates, housing finance, etc.

SEZs for Computer Hardware Export

2067. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided plans to increase computer hardware exports by setting up social SEZ, exclusively for this item;

(b) if so, the details of such plan;

(c) the States where such Special SEZs likely to be set up;

(d) whether Andhra Pradesh has been selected for such a Special SEZ for computer hardware export; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the interest likely to be involved therein?

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

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Consumer Courts

2068. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

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

(a) the number of consumer courts in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases registered in these courts during last year and the number of cases disposed-off alongwith the number of such cases which were decided against the consumers out of them, during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to start new consumer forums in various States in the near futures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The number of Consumer Disputes Redressal Agencies (Consumer Forums) set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 in the States and UTs is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The State-wise position regarding number of cases filed in and disposed of by the Consumer Forums,

as furnished by the National Commission, is given in the Statement-II enclosed. Information regarding the number of cases decided by the Consumer Forums against the consumers is not maintained.

(c) and (d) According to the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, it is the responsibility of every State/UT to set up at least one District Forum in each district and a State Commission.

Statement-I

The statement showing the number of the State Commissions and District Forums set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986

State/UT	State Commissions set up	District Forums set up
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1	25
Arunachal Pradesh	1	13
Assam	1	23
Bihar	1	37
Chhattisgarh	0	16
Goa	1	2
Gujarat	1	19
Haryana	1	19
Himachal Pradesh	1	12
Jammu & Kashmir	1	2
Jharkhand	1	18
Karnataka	1	23
Kerala	1	14
Madhya Pradesh	1	45
Maharashtra	1	34
Manipur	1	8
Meghalaya	1	7
Mizoram	1	3
Nagaland	1	8
Orissa	1	31
Punjab	1	17
Rajasthan	1	33
Sikkim	1	4
Tamil Nadu	1	30
Tripura	1	3
Uttar Pradesh	1	74
Uttaranchal	0	13
West Bengal	1	19
A & N Islands	1	2
Chandigarh Admn.	1	2
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1
Daman & Diu	1	2
Delhi	1	9
Lakshadweep	1	1
Pondicherry	1	1

Statement-II

Statement of cases filed and disposed of by the State Commissions and District Forums

State/UT	Cases filed in since inception with the State Commission	Cases disposed of since inception by the State Commission	Cases filed in since inception with the District Forums	Cases disposed of since inception by the District Forums
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	11903	9545	128197	113426
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	34	27	248	237

1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh	20	15	207	179
Assam	1398	685	6567	7502
Bihar	7726	3004	48145	36408
Chandigarh	2946	2628	20663	17178
Chhattisgarh	0	0	13818	11944
D & N Haveli	0	0	33	23
Daman & Diu	5	0	62	37
Delhi	17932	12984	114208	100271
Goa	1293	1094	4047	3311
Gujarat	10450	6566	70002	52608
Haryana	15873	11903	98679	75860
Himachal Pradesh	6067	4324	29320	24123
Jammu & Kashmir	3991	3444	10436	8247
Jharkhand	47	0	15028	11179
Karnataka	10845	8511	65057	58520
Kerala	15649	13655	120074	114029
Lakshadweep	9	9	39	37
Madhya Pradesh	13190	10200	79458	71437
Maharashtra	22345	12172	108722	88426
Manipur	62	41	803	774
Meghalaya	107	66	275	234
Mizoram	69	24	1099	911
Nagaland	40	15	60	21
Orissa	47091	41561	47091	41561
Pondicherry	604	565	1868	1826
Punjab	9674	7104	55211	49330
Rajasthan	23117	10881	160610	144915
Sikkim	20	18	127	119
Tamil Nadu	13366	9948	62426	56020
Tripura	545	216	1124	949
Uttar Pradesh	32800	7898	267565	200227
Uttaranchal	0	0		
West Bengal	7487	5185	42806	39117

[Translation]

Loans and Grants to Rajasthan

2069. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to Rajasthan Government for the implementation of specific schemes and programmes relating to irrigation, drinking water, transport, forests and environment, natural calamities etc. under the statutory provisions from the Consolidated Fund of India in pursuance of the recommendations of the Finance Commission during the last three years alongwith the year-wise and item-wise details thereof;

(b) the amount of loans and grants provided to Rajasthan Government by the international and domestic financial institutions for brining about improvement and ensuring progress in various sectors of the country during each of the last three years, item-wise details thereof; and

(c) the funds sought by Rajasthan Government and actual allocation made to it for various schemes during the last three years alongwith details of utilisation of the funds provided to the State Government under these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (c) The Tenth and Eleventh Finance Commissions have, inter-alia, recommended grants for implementation of specific schemes under upgradation, special problems, local bodies and natural calamities for their award periods 1995-2000 and 2000-2005 respectively.

Tenth Finance Commission (TFC):

The TFC had recommended total grant of Rs. 149.87 crore under upgradation of standards of administration/ special problems, Rs. 225.40 crore for local bodies and Rs. 706.89 crore as Centre share of State's CRF for Rajasthan for the period 1995-2000.

Scheme-wise and year-wise details of allocations and releases in respect of the above schemes are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC):

The EFC has recommended grants of Rs. 299.85 crore for upgradation/special problems, Rs. 590.37 crore for local bodies and Rs. 857.85 crore as Centre's share of CRF for Rajasthan for the period 2000-2005. Scheme-wise details are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(b) A Statement-III enclosed including loans availed by the Government of Rajasthan from International and Domestic Financial Institutions for various sectors.

Statement

Grants for Specific schemes recommended by Tenth Finance Commission to Rajasthan

(Rs. in Crore)

Scheme	Recommended by TFC 1995-2000	Released during 1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Upgradation/Spl. Problems:									
Record Rooms	7.94	-	1.18	0.00	2.66	3.26	0.00	0.00	7.11
Computerisation of Treasures	3.40	-	0.51	0.81	0.98	0.77	0.00	0.34	3.40
Pr. School-Drinking Water	22.84	-	3.43	0.00	0.00	13.71	3.43	0.00	20.56
UPS-Drinking Water	0.50	-	0.08	0.00	0.19	0.11	0.00	0.12	0.50
UPS-Toilets	3.87	-	0.58	0.00	1.45	0.87	0.58	0.39	3.87
Girls Education	23.00	-	1.86	1.11	8.71	5.57	3.45	2.29	22.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Police Station Bldgs.	1.24	-	0.18	0.00	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.13	1.03
Police Training	2.89	-	0.43	0.00	1.73	0.00	0.00	0.62	2.79
Police Tele. Communication	5.81	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Services	5.00	-	0.00	0.56	2.88	1.06	0.00	0.10	4.60
Jails–Repairs and Renovation	2.12	-	0.00	0.24	0.72	0.95	0.11	0.10	2.12
Jails Medical Facilities	1.27	-	-	0.14	0.00	0.49	0.64	0.00	1.27
Special Problem	70.00	-	10.50	7.88	20.00	14.13	9.17	0.00	61.67
Total-1	149.87	0.00	18.75	10.74	39.68	41.27	17.37	4.10	131.91
2. Local Bodies:									
(i) Rural	212.22	-	53.05	39.78	53.27	66.12	-	-	212.22
(ii) Urban	43.18	-	10.80	8.10	13.49	10.79	-	-	43.18
Total-2	255.40	0.00	63.85	47.88	66.76	76.91	0.00	0.00	255.40
3. Centre's share of CRF	706.89	126.74	134.28	141.70	148.92	155.25	-	-	706.89

Statement-II

Grants for specific schemes recommended by Eleventh Finance Commission to Rajasthan

(Rs. in Crore)

Scheme		Recommended by EFC (2000-2005)	Release during 2000-2001 so far	2001-02	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
I.	Upgradation/Spl. Problems				
1.	Police	42.00	4.22	12.67	16.89
(a)	PS Blds.	12.00	1.21	3.62	4.83
(b)	F. Sc. Lab.	4.13	0.42	1.25	1.66
(i)	Mobile FSLs	3.60	0.36	1.09	1.45
(ii)	State FSL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(iii)	Equipments SFSCL	0.53	0.05	0.16	0.21
(c)	Equip. & weapons	22.72	2.28	6.85	9.14
(d)	Women personnel	3.15	0.32	0.95	1.27
2.	Prisons Administration	6.00	0.60	1.81	2.41
3.	Fire Services	22.00	4.42	4.42	8.85

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Judicial Administration	24.07	4.84	4.84	9.68
5.	Fiscal Administration	9.00	1.81	7.19	9.00
6.	Health Services	24.00	4.83	4.83	9.65
7.	Elementary Education	28.00	2.82	8.45	11.26
8.	Computer training	13.76	2.77	2.77	5.53
9.	Public Libraries	7.40	1.49	1.49	2.98
10.	Heritage Protection	10.00	2.01	2.01	4.02
11.	Aug. of T.W. Sources	53.62	10.78	21.57	32.35
12.	Special Problems	60.00	8.04	16.09	24.13
(a)	Slum improvement	40.00	4.02	12.07	16.09
(b)	Women hostels	4.16	0.84	0.84	1.67
(c)	Mahila Sadan	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
(d)	Nari Niketan	11.14	2.39	2.39	4.78
(e)	Stay home for women	2.60	0.52	0.52	1.05
(f)	Home for juvenile girls	1.35	0.27	0.27	0.54
	Total-I	299.85	48.64	88.13	136.76
II.	Local Bodies				
a.	Rural	490.95	49.10	147.28	196.38
b.	Urban	99.42	9.94	29.83	39.77
	Total-II	590.37	59.04	177.11	236.15
III.	Centre share of CRF	857.85	196.00	122.26	318.26

Statement-III

Statement referred to in reply to Part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2069 for 15.03.2002

Loans and grants to Rajasthan by International and Domestic Financial Institutions. (Rs. in Crore)

	Name of Projects/Agency	1998-1999				1999-2000				2000-2001				
		Loan	Grant	Total	Expen-diture	Loan	Grant	Total	Expen-diture	Loan	Grant	Total	Expen-diture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
(A)	Assistance Provided by International Institutions:													
1.	Integrated Watershed Project	5.58	2.39	7.97	12.42	2.28	0.98	3.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2.	Agriculture Development Project	32.80	14.06	46.86	71.99	34.56	14.81	49.37	49.98	41.64	17.85	59.49	22.90	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3.	Arawali Afforestation Projects	21.35	9.15	30.50	43.61	16.52	7.08	23.60	28.45	6.97	2.99	9.95	0.00
4.	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Project	0.22	0.09	0.31	0.28	0.23	0.10	0.33	0.19	0.33	0.14	0.47	0.15
5.	Dam Safety, Dam Rehabilitation Project	11.90	5.10	17.00	25.34	26.43	11.33	37.76	27.35	1.04	0.45	1.49	0.00
6.	Afforestation & Posture Dev. in IGNP-II	10.42	4.47	14.88	18.28	6.68	2.86	9.54	20.85	13.23	5.67	18.91	15.57
7.	Rajasthan Agriculture Drainage Research Project.	3.88	1.66	5.54	6.39	0.92	0.39	1.31	1.68	2.27	0.97	3.25	0.24
8.	Improvement of Technical Education	5.14	2.20	7.34	8.39	1.09	0.47	1.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
9.	Dungarpur Integrated Wasteland Dev. Project	3.96	1.70	5.66	2.59	0.65	0.28	0.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Rural Water Supply Scheme Phase-I	37.62	16.12	53.74	60.21	19.49	8.36	27.85	45.24	39.44	16.90	56.35	53.08
11.	Rajasthan Forestry Development Project	14.63	6.27	20.90	34.95	20.17	8.64	28.81	31.62	14.42	6.18	20.60	21.19
12.	Raj. State Highway Pjt. Study under T.A. Loan	5.70	2.44	8.14	9.14	0.94	0.40	1.34	0.85	0.14	0.06	0.20	0.02
13.	Rajasthan Power Sector Reforms study	0.00	0.00	0.00	*	0.44	0.19	0.63	*	1.88	0.81	2.69	*
14.	People's Action for wastershed Dev. Initiative	0.46	2.20	0.66	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	
15.	Water Supply & Sanitation Study	0.59	0.25	0.85	*	0.77	0.33	1.10	*	0.00	0.00	0.00	*
16.	Eva & Reduction of leakage water distn System	3.37	1.45	4.82	*	0.00	0.00	0.00	*	0.17	0.07	0.24	*
17.	Residential School for Disadvantage Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.21	0.71	0.62	2.41	1.03	3.44	2.65
18.	Urban Infrastructure Dev. in Six Principal Towns	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.19	0.08	0.27	1.71
19.	District Poverty Initiative Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.74	0.32	1.06	5.30
20.	Rajasthan Power Restructuring Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.00	21.00	70.00	0.00
21.	Int. Watershed Mgmt. & Water storage in Pushkar Lake	0.79	0.34	1.13	1.22	0.45	0.19	0.64	0.97	0.41	0.18	0.58	0.82
	Total (A)	158.41	67.89	226.30	295.91	132.12	56.62	188.73	209.01	174.28	74.70	248.99	123.63
(b) Assistance Provided by Domestic financial institutions:													
1.	Life Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai.	15.39		15.39	15.39	15.39		15.39	15.39	0.00		0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2.	General Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai	14.69		14.69	14.69	14.69		14.69	14.69	17.63		17.63	17.63
3.	Nation Bank for Agriculture & Rural Dev. Mumbai.	108.65		108.65	108.65	110.12		110.12	110.12	201.92	201.92	201.92	201.92
4.	N.C.D.C., New Delhi	5.32	0.61	5.93	5.93	11.61		11.61	11.61	8.44	0.68	9.12	9.12
5.	H.D.F.C.	30.00		30.00	30.00	30.00		30.00	30.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	10.00
6.	HUDCO	0.00		0.00	0.00	100.00		100.00	100.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
	Total (B)	174.05	0.61	174.66	174.66	281.81	0.00	281.81	281.81	327.99	0.68	328.67	328.67
	Total (A+B)	332.46	68.50	400.96	470.57	413.93	56.62	470.54	490.82	502.27	75.38	577.66	452.30

* Expenditure through AG

Welfare Schemes for the OBCs

2070. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes formulated by the Union Government to provide assistance to the Non-Governmental Organizations engaged in development of the Other Backward Classes;

(b) the amount being provided for development of OBCs during each year and the amount allocated for this purpose during the current year;

(c) the number of proposals received from various Non-Governmental Organizations during the current year and the details of those cleared so far by the Government; and

(d) the number of Non-Governmental Organizations operating for development of OBCs in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The Government of India has been implementing the following Schemes to provide assistance to the Non-Governmental Organizations engaged in development of the OBCs since 1998-99:—

(i) Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations working for the Other Backward Classes.

(ii) Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for the Other Backward Classes.

(b) The year-wise details of amount provided since 1998-1999 for development of OBCs are given below:—

(i) Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations working for the Other Backward Classes.

Year	Amount provided in crores	No. of NGOs assisted
1998-99	0.64	32
1999-2000	1.09	119
2000-01	1.58	77
2001-02	3.35	219

The total allocation for the current year is Rs. 3.45 crores.

(ii) Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for the Other Backward Classes.

Year	Amount provided in crores	No. of NGOs assisted
1998-99	0.20	07
1999-2000	0.03	02
2000-01	0.01	01
2001-02	0.58	29

The total allocation for the current year is Rs. 105 crores.

(c) and (d) 373 proposals have been received from NGOs during the current year and 277 proposals have been cleared upto 13-3-2002. The number of NGOs operating for development of OBCs in Maharashtra in 59.

[English]

Ban on LTC

2071. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Tourism has requested the Centre to lift the ban on LTC in order to promote tourism;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the request;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the Government will take decision on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A letter was received from Secretary, Tourism requesting revocation of the ban on LTC to help the tourism trade. This was considered in this Ministry and it was decided to continue with the ban on LTC, in view of the need for economy in government expenditure.

Export of Rice

2072. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of Basmati and non-Basmati rice exported by India during past two years and to which countries;

(b) the net earnings made from said exports;

(c) the EU tariff concession given for superior quality Indian Basmati rice during the said period;

(d) the efforts being made to boost the export drive and to avail better EU tariff; and

(e) the quantum of rice proposed to be exported during 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) The total quantity and value of Basmati and Non-basmati rice exported during the last two years is as under:—

Qty: in MT

Value: Rs. Crores

Year	Basmati rice		Non-Basmati rice	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1999-2000	638382	1780.34	1247793	1345.58
2000-01 (P)	848919	2141.94	683194	784.16

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

The major countries for export of basmati rice are Saudi Arab, U.K., Kuwait, U.S.A., U.A.E., France etc. The major countries for export of non-basmati rice are Bangladesh, Saudi Arab, South Africa, U.A.E.., Nepal etc.

The data on net earnings is not maintained.

(c) A duty derogation of 250 ECU per MT is being provided by the European Union on import of husked (brown) basmati rice falling under CN Code Nos. 10062017 and 10062098.

(d) Some steps taken to boost the export of rice include publicity campaigns, sending delegations abroad, participating in International trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging brand promotion of products and for conducting market surveys. Under the extent EU regime, Indian Basmati rice attracts the least tariff.

(e) It is not possible to estimate the likely quantum of rice exports 2002-2003, as the exports of rice would depend upon international demand and supply position, domestic demand and supply position, international and domestic prices, consumers preference and varieties traded.

Tarapore Committee on UTI

2073. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the S.S. Tarapore Committee appointed to investigate the functioning of UTI has favoured only limited privatisation of Rs. 58,000 crore mutual fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this recommendation of the committee is contrary to the Y.H. Malegam Committee suggestion to disinvest 60% of the share capital of the sponsoring company; and

(d) if so, the decision taken or being taken by the Government on the recommendation of the Tarapore Committee so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Tarapore committee has recommended inter-alia, that the UTI Bank could hold 49 per cent of the capital of the three Asset Management Companies.

(c) The Malagam Committee has recommended, inter-alia, that the UTI Act should be repealed. Further, it should be ensured that Government is distanced from UTI.

(d) Government announced a financial package for US-64 on 28.12.2001. As a part of the financial package, UTI has been asked to implement time-bound reforms based on the recommendations of the various expert committees including the Tarapore Committee.

[Translation]

World Bank Aided Projects

2074. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise details of the World Bank sponsored projects being implemented in the country especially in tribal and backward areas;

(b) whether any proposals have been received from the State Government of Gujarat to implement more World Bank sponsored projects in the State during the last two years, till date;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of projects pending with the Union Government for its clearance; and

(e) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The World Bank projects are under implementation in all States of the country including tribal and backward areas, except Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim.

(b) and (c) The following proposals have been received from Gujarat:—

1. Integrated Watershed Development Project
2. Gujarat Water Resources Consolidation Project
3. Salinity Prevention Project for Saurashtra Coastal Area
4. Gujarat Earthquake Recovery Project (Phase II)

(d) and (e) Integrated Watershed Development Project is under consideration of the World Bank. Gujarat Water Resources Consolidation Project and Salinity Prevention Project for Saurashtra Coastal Area have not been accepted by the World Bank. Gujarat Earthquake (Phase II) Project is being negotiated shortly.

[English]

Foodgrain Stocks Financed by Public Sector Banks

2075. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire foodgrain stocks held by the Food Corporation of India have been financed by public sector banks;

(b) if so, the total amount of each bank's loan involved in it;

(c) the total value of foodgrains in stock with the Food Corporation of India;

(d) whether the value of this foodgrain could go down dramatically with the Government distributing it at very low prices to the country's poor;

(e) if so, whether this would add to already rising NPAs in the banking sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) authorises credit limits to Food Corporation of India (FCI) based on their cash flow statements and food procurement operations. The foodgrains stocks held by FCI is financed by Food Credit

consortium of 52 Banks. State Bank of India (SBI) is the lead Bank and consortium includes 27 Public Sector Banks, 7 Private Sector Banks and 18 Co-operative Banks.

(b) According to SBI the total food credit advances as on 1st March, 2002 stood at Rs. 55997.92 crores, comprising of Rs. 28450.88 crores to FCI and Rs. 27547.04 crore to 15 State Governments and one Union Territory. The bank-wise details of Food Credit outstanding is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Total value of food grains stock with stood at Rs. 29069.74 crores as on 31st January, 2002.

(d) According to FCI it sells the stocks at cost.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

1	2
State Bank of India	13367.87
Associate Banks of SBI	
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	676.72
State Bank of Hyderabad	881.37
State Bank of Indore	416.44
State Bank of Mysore	520.55
State Bank of Patiala	728.77
State Bank of Saurashtra	414.76
State Bank of Travancore	728.77
Sub Total (7 Banks)	4367.38
Public Sector Banks	
Allahabad Bank	1249.32
Andhra Bank	1093.16
Bank of Baroda	3175.36
Bank of India	2758.92
Canara Bank	3487.69
Central Bank of India	2550.70
Corporation Bank	1041.10
Dena Bank	933.21
Indian Bank	1878.43
Indian Overseas Bank	1717.82
Bank of Maharashtra	1041.10
Oriental Bank of Commerce	1613.71
Punjab National Bank	3591.80
Punjab & Sind Bank	726.39
Syndicate Bank	1405.49
Union Bank of India	2238.37
UCO Bank	1647.26
United Bank of India	1497.26
Vijaya Bank	832.88
Sub Total (19 Banks)	34479.97
Private Sector Banks	
Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	208.22
Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.	496.61
Bank of Punjab	155.54
South Indian Bank	312.33
Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd.	75.00
Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.	75.00
Karnataka Bank Ltd.	100.00
Sub Total (7 Banks)	1422.70
State Co-op. Banks	
Andhra Pradesh	60.00
Bihar	25.00
Delhi	35.00
Goa	25.00
Gujarat	260.00
Haryana	90.00
Himachal Pradesh	5.00

1	2
Karnataka	125.00
Kerala	20.00
Maharashtra	110.00
Madhya Pradesh	150.00
Meghalaya	40.00
Punjab	475.00
Rajasthan	135.00
Tamil Nadu	220.00
Uttar Pradesh	355.00
West Bengal	225.00
Pondicherry	5.00
Sub Total (18 Banks)	2360.00
Grand Total	55997.92

Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988

2076. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 has not been implemented;

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

(c) the specific time fixed for its implementation?

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

(b) The rules for implementation of the Benami Transaction (Prohibition) Act 1988 could not be notified since its inception. The Ministry of Law pointed out serious legal informities in the enactment causing difficulties in the framing of the Rules.

(c) As the difficulties in implementation are of a legal and constitutional nature, no specific time frame can be fixed for its implementation.

[Translation]

Transactions by PSUs Through Foreign Banks

2077. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India, Public Undertakings can make transaction through any bank;

(b) if so, the number of names of public undertakings which make transaction through foreign banks;

(c) whether due to this shortage of deposits has been felt in Government banks;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to issue orders for public undertakings to make transaction through Governmental banks only; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

[English]

Separate Board for Chillies

2078. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Board for chillies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The development, research and marketing/export promotion of spices including chilies is adequately taken care of by the existing institutions of the Government of India such as the Spices Board and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

World Bank Loan to States

2079. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank's assistance is being provided to the States whose economic performance is upto the mark as assessed by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the main criteria laid down by the World Bank to avail its assistance by a State;

(c) the details of the States which stands eligible to avail the World Bank assistance without any hindrance;

(d) whether the Maharashtra State Government has recently approached the World Bank for financial assistance;

(e) if so, the details thereof and whether the same has been agreed by the World Bank; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not accordingly, arise.

(c) There is no such eligibility condition. Hence, does not arise.

(d) to (f) The following proposals of the Government of Maharashtra are under consideration;

S. No.	Name of the Proposal	Estimated Cost (in Rs. crores)	Status
1.	Second Rural Water Supply and Sanitation	1656.20	Under examination/preparation by the World Bank.
2.	Water Services Improvement	2041.50	Under examination/preparation by the World Bank.
3.	Mumbai Urban Transport II	6871.00	Appraised in February 2002. To be negotiated now.

Service Tax on Sim Cards

2080. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the companies providing cellular telephone facilities are to pay service tax on the cost of SIM Cards;

(b) if so, whether the number of these companies have neither collected the service tax from their subscribers nor paid the same to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the rate of service tax to be paid on cost of the SIM cards; and

(d) the number of such assessees in Central Excise Commissionerates that have also not collected the service tax on cost of the SIMS nor paid the same to Government indicating the amount so involved therein?

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

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

Export of Granite

2081. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the agencies which are exporting granite from the country;

(b) the States from which granite is being procured by the agencies for export purpose;

(c) the total quantum of granite exported from the country during each of the last three years, agency-wise;

(d) whether the Government have a proposal to increase the export of granite during the coming years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Central Government maintains export data for the country as a whole and not State-wise, agency-wise. Total export of granite and products thereof from the country during the last three years is as follows:

(Value in Rs. Crore)

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1013.11	1671.20	1954.00

(Source: CAPEXIL)

(d) and (e) Granite has been identified and declared as 'thrust area' and necessary steps have been initiated for hassle-free export of granite in consultation with the Ministries of Mines and Finance and the State Governments. To further increase the export of granite in the coming period, Ministry of Finance has abolished physical controls over production, storage, clearance and movement of goods, materials and components, to and from EOUs and subsequently allowed Granite EOUs to import duty-free machinery, tools and consumables under the EOU Scheme. Further, CAPEXIL, the nodal official Export Promotion Council under Department of Commerce, is organising and participating in various international trade fairs/road shows with the objective to boost exports of granite, marble and the stones.

Targeted Public Distribution System

2082. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government to increase the number of TPDS beneficiaries in the State on the basis of increased population as per 2001 census;

(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 ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra has requested for increasing the number of BPL beneficiaries under TPDS from 65.34 lakhs to 69.34 lakhs on the basis of the increased population as per the 2001 census.

The allocation of foodgrains at subsidized Central Issue Prices (CIPs) 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 and number of poor" constituted by the Planning Commission. At the time of introduction of TPDS the BPL families were estimated on the population projections of 1995. From December, 2000 onwards, the BPL families are being estimated as per the population projections as on 1.3.2000, thereby increasing the total number of BPL families from 596.23 lakh to 652.03 lakh at the National level.

As per the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission and projected population as on 1.3.2000, the number of BPL households in the State of Maharashtra estimated to be 65.34 lakhs. This basis of estimation of BPL families for allocation of foodgrains under TPDS in uniform for all the States and cannot be altered for one State in isolation.

Housing Loans to NRIs

2083. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) are not entitled to get loans for housing activities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is great demand for housing loans from NRIs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Institutions which are Authorised Dealers in Foreign Exchange are permitted to grant housing loans to NRIs.

(c) and (d) Government is not aware of any such demand.

Production of Tussar Silk

2084. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of Tussar silk has declined over the years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by the Government to boost the production of Tussar silk in the country;

(d) whether the country has failed in the field of production of best quality of silk; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

No Sir. As against the achievement of 235 MT in the VIII Plan period, during IX plan period anticipated achievement is 335 MT and the target for the X plan period is 440 MT in respect of tussar silk.

(c) to (e) The strategy for Sericulture sector for the Xth five year Plan drawn up by the Central Silk Board in consultation with the State Government aims to substantially expand mulberry silk and non-mulberry silk production including Tassar, by assisting and supporting quality and productivity of silk. Measures include the adoption of new technologies in rearing & reeling, improved seed supply systems, expansion of and better access to tasar plantations and diversification and development of products etc. Programmes for Research & Development, transfer of technology and provision of critical inputs to states have been emphasized.

[Translation]

Irradiation Technology

2085. SHRI RAJO SINGH:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

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

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the fact that Irradiation Technology has been gainfully employed in various developed countries to protect the harvest during storage to enhance the shelf life of the harvested produce;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have any scheme to set up a net work of Irradiation Centres on these lines throughout the country to prevent wastage of foodgrain and other harvest during storage;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in pursuance thereof;

(d) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre's assistance has been sought for development of Irradiation Technology; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (e) At present, the Government has no scheme to set up a network of irradiation centers throughout the country. However, based on the technologies developed at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), one demonstration plant for irradiation of spices is working at Vashi, Navi Mumbai and another demonstration plant for irradiation of onions is being set up at Lasalgaon, Nasik, Maharashtra. The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with quite a few private entrepreneurs for establishing facilities for irradiation of onions.

[English]

Release of Surplus Stocks for Malnourished People

2086. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government have been drawn to the news item captioned "why not privatise hunger" published in *Hindustan Times*, dated 14th February, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) 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) to (d) the thrust of the news item is that the surplus foodgrains available should be used to help the poor through food for work and relief programmes and PDS.

The steps taken by the Government of India to ensure availability of foodgrains for the poor have been mentioned in the enclosed.

Statement

The Government has taken the following measures to make available the surplus stocks of foodgrains for the poor sections of the population:—

1.4.2000

(i) The entitlement for BPL families was raised from 10kg. per family per month to 20 kg. per family per month from April 2000.

2.11.2000

(ii) It was decided to make foodgrains available at CIPs for BPL families for all welfare schemes, including SC/ST/OBC hostels scheme, implemented by the various Ministries of the Government of India.

(iii) It was decided to make foodgrains available at BPL rates for allotment to State Governments @ 5 kg. per head per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions, such as beggar homes, orphanages/ Nari Niketans, etc. sponsored by the State Governments and the concerned administrative Ministry of the Government of India.

(iv) A decision was taken make foodgrains available at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category) implemented by Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by international organizations like the World Food Programme.

1.12.2000

(v) The allocation of foodgrains for Below the Poverty Line (BPL) families was revised w.e.f. 1.12.2000 on the basis of population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000. As a result, the number of BPL families eligible for subsidised foodgrains has increased from 5.96 crores families to 6.52 crore families.

25.12.2000

(vi) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana was announced for the one crore poorest of the poor BPL families. The scheme is now under implementation in all States/UTs. Each of the Antyodaya families is given 25 kg. of foodgrains @ Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg. for rice.

1.1.2001

(vii) The Food for Work Programme was introduced in eight drought affected States in January, 2001 by the Ministry of Rural Development. Under FFW the foodgrains are allocated to State Governments free of cost. The programme has been subsequently extended to cover floods and other national calamities. From January, 2001 till 7.3.2002 39.33 lakh tonnes of foodgrains under FFW have been allotted to 11 States.

29.1.2001

(viii) The Government of India allocated one lakh MTs of foodgrains for distribution in the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat on 29 January 2001.

1.5.2001

(ix) It was decided to make additional allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates to drought affected States for distribution to all the drought affected families (BPL & APL) @ 20 kg per family per month for a period of three months in the current financial year. The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have already been allocated additional foodgrains aggregating 19.53 lakh tonnes. The Govt. of Bihar has been given additional allocation of 1.80 lakh MTs of wheat at BPL rate for flood relief.

12.7.2001

(x) The entitlement for BPL families was raised from 20 kg. per family per month to 25 kg. per family per month.

(xi) The Central Issue Price (CIP) of wheat and rice for APL families was reduced and BPL CIPs retained as under which will be valid till 31.3.2002.

(Rs. per quintal)

	BPL	APL
Wheat	415	610
Rice	565	830

15.8.2001

(xii) The Prime Minister announced the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) on 15th August 2001. The Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development on 25.9.2001. Under the programme, it is envisaged to utilize 50 lakh MTs of foodgrains every year. The allocation of foodgrains under SGRY upto 6.3.2002 has been 30.83 lakh MTs.

2. Besides the above measures, the Government is distributing foodgrains free of cost/at subsidized BPL rates under a number of welfare schemes like Annapurna, Mid-day-Meal Scheme and supply of foodgrains to SC/ST/ OBC. hostels.

3. The Government is also implementing a number of programmes for alleviation of malnutrition among the

people. These include the Integrated Child Development Services, Nutrition Education Programmes and Reproductive and Child Health Programme. The National nutrition Policy adopted by the Government in 1993 also lays emphasis on addressing problem of malnutrition in vulnerable groups through a multi-sectoral strategy.

Increase in total offtake of foodgrains

4. The offtake of wheat and rice from the Central Pool during the first 10 months of the current financial year, 2001-2002, was 230.25 lakh tonnes as against 136.83 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of the last financial year, i.e., 2000-2001 thus registering an increase of 68.27%. The total increase in the offtake foodgrains under TPDS during this period has been 10.98 lakh tonnes. The increase in the open market sales (domestic) has been 32.82 lakh tonnes, while the increase under welfare schemes has been 22.09 lakh tonnes.

It may also be pointed out that there has a significant increase in offtake in respect of BPL as may be seen below:—

(figures in lakh tonnes)

	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (upto 31.1.2002)
BPL	61.70	69.94	95.35	91.64

Benefits to the Disabled Persons

2087. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to give more benefits to the disabled persons;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken to help the mentally retarded and the institutions which work for their welfare; and

(c) the amount spent by way of grants/aid to physically handicapped and mentally handicapped in each State, institution-wise during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 details the measures to be taken for ensuring access to education, vocational training, employment etc. for the disabled persons. The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped runs man power development programmes in the area of mental retardation; develops models of care and rehabilitation of the mentally challenged; undertakes extension and outreach programmes, conducts research and services as a medium for information dissemination. The National Trust for welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has been set up as a statutory body for addressing issues relating to guardianship and care protection of the affected persons. Under the scheme to promote Voluntary Action for Persons with disabilities assistance is given for setting up special schools, vocational training centers and projects for provision of rehabilitative and therapeutic services.

(c) A statement giving details of assistance given under the scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities state-wise Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Assistance Given during 3 years under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities

Name of the State — Rs in lacs

1	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1208.35	1283.57	1001.82
Arunachal Pradesh	13	6.32	18.98
Assam	30.56	40.11	14.3

1 2	3	4	
Bihar	57.68	162.47	221.6
Chandigarh	1.42	6.57	5.22
Chhattisgarh		9.08	12.49
Delhi	679.04	649.54	484.43
Goa	17.68	12.64	24.07
Gujarat	75.36	114.52	94.73
Haryana	59.51	95.44	54.84
Himachal Pradesh	32.42	15.85	24.49
Jammu & Kashmir	7.24	12.23	4.36
Jharkhand			7.01
Karnataka	571.99	640.58	600.19
Kerala	442.04	483.72	496.63
Madhya Pradesh	17.43	39.32	47.21
Maharashtra	263.72	197.99	200.94
Manipur	57.06	56.63	53.45
Meghalaya	17.41	46.38	38.05
Mizoram	25.31	29.52	30.06
Nagaland		2.83	0
Orissa	193.96	252.26	260.27
Pondicherry	1.44	6.59	5.85
Punjab	64.94	91.39	79.85
Rajasthan	88.13	93.99	149.86
Sikkim			1.94
Tamil Nadu	325.69	396.07	370.29
Tripura	6.83	6.02	6.5
Uttar Pradesh	772.39	873.19	681.52
Uttaranchal		95.85	35.18
West Bengal	365.53	492.52	372.54

Welfare Schemes

2088. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some welfare schemes are pending with the Union Government for approval at present;

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

(c) the number of proposals pending due to non-submission of assessment reported by the State Governments, State-wise;

(d) the extent of financial assistance sought by the Non-Governmental Organisations operating in different States;

(e) the time by which approvals are likely to be accorded to these schemes; and

(f) the amount provided for welfare activities to the Non-Governmental Organisations, State-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The financial assistance is sought by the NGOs as per their own requirements. The assistance however, is sanctioned in accordance with the sanctioned norms for different schemes. As on 13th March, 2002, 184 proposals relating to the approved schemes were pending due to non-submission of the reports by the State Governments. The State-wise details are enclosed as statement. Their approval is dependent upon the receipt of the information from the State Government alongwith the Inspection Reports.

(f) The State-wise details are enclosed in the Annual Reports of Ministry of tabled in the House.

Statement

State-wise information of pending proposals of Non-Governmental Organisations due to non-submission of reports by the State Governments

S. No.	State/UT	No. of proposals
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45
2.	Assam	3
3.	Bihar	6
4.	Chhattisgarh	5
5.	Delhi	1
6.	Gujarat	2
7.	Haryana	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1
9.	Karnataka	11
10.	Kerala	14
11.	Madhya Pradesh	13
12.	Maharashtra	16
13.	Manipur	3
14.	Orissa	12
15.	Tamil Nadu	1
16.	Uttar Pradesh	26
17.	Uttaranchal	4
18.	West Bengal	14
	Total	184

Domestic Savings

2089. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic savings have recorded a shortfall during the last two years;

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

(c) the steps taken to increase domestic savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) No Sir. As per data released by the Central Statistical organisation (CSO), the gross domestic savings as per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased 21.7 per cent in 1998-1999 to 23.2 per cent in 1999-2000 (Provisional) and 23.4 per cent of GDP in 2000-2001 (Quick estimates).

Revival of Sick Units Through BIFR

2090. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of industrial units recommended for closure by the BIFR during the last three years;

(b) the State-wise number of the units for which recommendations of revival have been made during the said period;

(c) the State-wise number of proposals for the revival of sick industrial units pending with the BIFR;

(d) the time by which approval is likely to be given to these proposals;

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate a comprehensive policy for the revival of sick industrial units; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) State-wise number of industrial units recommended for closure and revival as well as pending with BIFR are indicated in the statement enclosed.

(d) to (f) Sick Industrial companies registered with BIFR are dealt with under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies Act (SICA), 1985. Wherever feasible, rehabilitation schemes are sanctioned for the revival of these companies by various measures provided under Section 18 of the Act, which include restructuring of the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters including Government for public sector units, merger with other companies, change of management, reliefs and concessions by Financial Institutions and Banks, relief and concessions by the State and Central Governments in the form of reschedulement of dues, grants, etc. Companies can go in appeal against the order of BIFR before AAIFR under Section 25 of SICA and further approach the High Court/Supreme Court by invoking constitutional writ jurisdiction. Though efforts are made to expedite the decision, it would not be practicable to indicate the time by which the final decision will be arrived at.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Units recommended for closure by BIFR	No. of Units for which recommendations for revival have been made	No. of proposals pending with BIFR for revival
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	5	114
2.	Bihar	5	1	13
3.	Chandigarh	—	—	6
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—	6
5.	Goa	1	1	6
6.	Gujarat	36	11	120
7.	Haryana	18	2	44
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	—	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	2

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Jharkhand	—	—	2
11.	Kerala	5	1	29
12.	Karnataka	18	4	64
13.	Madhya Pradesh	24	4	59
14.	Maharashtra	56	10	316
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	4
16.	NCT of Delhi	9	4	99
17.	Nagaland	—	1	2
18.	Orissa	10	1	16
19.	Pondicherry	1	2	3
20.	Punjab	16	6	79
21.	Rajasthan	20	6	46
22.	Tamil Nadu	36	16	168
23.	Uttar Pradesh	28	6	95
24.	Uttaranchal	—	—	1
25.	West Bengal	27	9	104
26.	Assam	1	—	10
	Total	362	90	1412

Wealth Tax Return of Film Personalities

2091. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wealth tax collected from the film personalities during each of the last three years;

(b) whether most of the film personalities are not filing their wealth tax returns;

(c) if so, the names of film personalities who have not filed their wealth tax returns; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be initiated to recover the wealth tax from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Separate data regarding wealth tax as asked for is not maintained for film personalities since they are not a separate class of assessees. However, most of the film personalities who are liable to wealth tax have been filing their wealth tax returns. At the same time, it is also a fact that the number of people filing their wealth tax returns has shown a decline over the years, including film personalities. This is because of the fact that with effect from assessment year 1993-1994, the exemption limit for filing of wealth tax returns has been raised to Rs. 15 lakhs, and only non-productive assets are being charged to wealth tax, and also the fact that the investment productive assets such as bonds, shares, securities, fixed deposits, etc. are exempt from wealth tax. Consequently, a number of wealth tax assessees (including film personalities) have gone out of the tax net.

However, the total wealth tax collections during the last three years are as follows:—

Financial Year	Wealth-tax Collections (Rs. in crores)
1998-1999	162.04
1999-2000	132.91
2000-2001	131.73

(d) Assessing officers do take appropriate action against any person, including film personalities, who do not file their return of wealth even though their wealth is above the taxable limit.

Reduction of Tea Plantation

2092. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of tea planters are reducing their acreage of tea plantations due to uncertainty to the export market;

(b) if so, whether the Tea Board has watched this development;

(c) whether the Government are considering to take effective steps to ensure that tea plantations are not converted to other crops; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) While it is the market forces that determine the choice of the crops by the growers, the Government has taken various measures to assist the tea growers which include:

- Increase in the allowance under the Section 33 AB of Income Tax Act from 20% to 40%, specifically with a view to encourage replantation and rejuvenation of tea plantation;
- Reduction of Excise duty on tea from Rs. 2 per Kg. to Rs. 1 per Kg in the Budget 2002-2003.
- Introduction of a factory up gradation Scheme by the Tea Board to encourage production of good quality orthodox and non-reconditioned CTC teas in the country.
- Introduction of a Scheme for providing financial incentive to the exporters for meeting part of cost of handling, packaging, transport/freight charges by the Government.
- Modification the Tea Marketing (Control) Order 1984 to remove the condition of obligatory sale of 75% of tea production through public tea auctions. The producers of tea are now free to sell any quantity of tea through public tea auctions.
- Launching of a Generic promotion campaign for improving the consumption of tea within the country.
- Increase in the basic customs duty on import of tea from 70% to 100% as announced in the Budget of 2002-2003.
- Preparation of a medium term export strategy for tea by Tea Board for the next five years by engaging a consultant, M/s Accenture.
- Banning of the sale of tea in the Domestic Tariff Area by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in Export Processing Zones (EPZs).

Separate Bank for Fishery Sector

2093. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fishermen are not getting adequate credit from banks and financial institutions;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch a separate and exclusive bank for the fishery sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As per the standing guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to scheduled commercial banks on lending to priority sector, short term finances to farmers for allied activities including fishery and medium and long term loans for development of fisheries in all its aspects are treated as direct finance to Agriculture under Priority Sector. Banks are required to provide adequate credit to farmers undertaking fishery activities. As reported by RBI, scheduled commercial banks have disbursed Rs. 292.16 crores to "Fisheries" under priority sector as on June, 2000.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

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

Steps to Create Consumer Awareness

2094. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken steps to create consumer awareness among people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NGO's are being involved in spreading consumer awareness;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Continuous efforts are being made by the Government to make people aware of their rights as consumers. Publicity programmes through audio, video and print media have been undertaken by the Government to spread consumer awareness throughout the country. Consumer awareness programmes are also undertaken by Voluntary Consumer Organizations for which financial assistance is available from the Consumer Welfare Fund.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Financial assistance is provided to eligible voluntary consumer organizations from the Consumer Welfare Fund for undertaking activities aimed at spreading consumer awareness and promoting consumer welfare. 481 grants have been made to such organizations. The quarterly magazine "Upabhokta Jagaran" brought out by the Department of Consumer Affairs is distributed free of cost to voluntary consumer organizations on regular basis. Representatives of the Voluntary Consumer Organizations are also nominated to Central Consumer Protection Council and to Advisory Committees of various other Ministries/Departments.

(e) Does not arise.

Ban on Import of Grapes by Japan

2095. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation representing the Department of Quarantine of Ministry of Agriculture and APEDA visited Japan during October, 2000 to discuss with the Japanese Quarantine authorities the issues including lifting ban on import of grapes from India;

(b) if so, whether Japanese Government assured the delegation to send a team of Quarantine inspectors for the survey of grape areas in India;

(c) if so, whether the export of grapes has since been started to Japan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to pursue the matter with the Japanese Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The delegation representing the Department of Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture and APEDA (3-6 October, 2000) visited Japan with a specific agenda of lifting ban on exports of mangoes.

(b) to (d): Do not arise.

[Translation]

India's Share in Agricultural Export

2096. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) the India's share in the export of agricultural products in the international market;

(b) the agricultural products being exported from the country;

(c) whether India still lags behind in the export of agricultural products when compared to other developing countries;

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

(e) the steps taken/likely to be taken to promote the export of agricultural products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Currently India's share in the export of agricultural products in the international market is around one percent.

(b) Agricultural commodities exported include cereals, poultry & dairy products, floriculture products, tobacco unmanufactured & manufactured, spices, sugar, mollasses, cashew, oilmeals & oilseeds, shellac, fruits & vegetables, meat & its preparations, cotton, tea and coffee etc.

(c) to (e) Broad cross country comparisons of export performance is difficult. The Government provides a variety of incentives in the form of financial and other assistance for promotion of export of agricultural products through its agencies such as Commodity Boards, Authorities etc.

[English]

Unit-64

2097. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India had declared and disbursed the dividend under Unit Scheme 1964 (US-64) for the year ending June 30, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of small unit-holders had opted for re-investing the dividend in the scheme itself;

(d) if so, whether these unit-holders have been issued units for the re-invested amount as per practice;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the unit-holders are likely to be allotted units, for which they are entitled?

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

Setting up of Spinning Mills

2098. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spinning mills in the cooperative sector in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these mills have the capacity to meet the requirements of handloom and powerloom industries;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to set up new mills in the country; and

(d) if so, the number of such mills likely to be set up during the Tenth Five Year Plan, location-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The State-wise details of number of cotton/man-made fibre spinning mills (Non-SSI) in the Co-operative sector in the country as on 31-12-2001 are given below:

State/Union Territories	No. of Co-op. Spinning Mills
Andhra Pradesh	11
Assam	1
Bihar	3
Gujarat	4
Karnataka	12
Kerala	5
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	67
Orissa	6
Punjab	7
Rajasthan	4
Tamil Nadu	18
Uttar Pradesh	11
West Bengal	2
Pondicherry	2
Total	155

(b) These mills alongwith Spinning Mills of Public and private sector are able to meet the yarn requirements of handloom and powerloom industries.

(c) and (d) The Government does not set up mills in the country. The role of the Government in this regard is that of a facilitator. The Government through various schemes and policies create conducive environment for the growth of the textile mills including spinning mills.

Service Tax Defaulters

2099. SHRI ANAND RAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce stringent provisions to penalise the service tax defaulters;

(b) if so, the provisions made thereof; and

(c) the names and the number of such services being brought under the purview of these provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No new provisions to penalise the service tax defaulters have been proposed by the Government in the Finance Bill, 2002.

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

Loans to Sugar Mills

2100. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government sanctions loan from Sugar Development fund to the sugar factories for Research development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large number of proposals of sugar factories from Maharashtra seeking loans have been received by the Union Government during the last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which sanctions are likely to be accorded by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Central Government does not sanction loans from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) to sugar factories for research development. The Central Government authorises payment of grant from the SDF to establish institutions connected with the sugar industry for carrying out research aimed at the promotion and development of any aspect of sugar industry.

The Central Government also authorises payment of loans from the SDF to sugar factories (i) in connection with the development of sugarcane in its area, and (ii) for modernisation/rehabilitation of its plant and machinery.

(c) to (e) In the period commencing 1.4.2000 till date, applications from 9 sugar factories were received seeking loans for modernisation, out of which loan has been sanctioned in respect of 7 applications and 2 applications are under process. In the same period, applications from 26 sugar factories seeking loan for sugarcane development have been received out of which in respect of 20 applications further information/details have been called for from the applicant sugar undertakings, in the case of 2 applications loan has been sanctioned and in the case of 4 applications order for sanctioning of loan are under process.

Remittances Received by Banks from Abroad

2101. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total remittances from Gulf countries viz. Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait etc. received by various banks in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the total remittances from Canada and USA received by various banks in Andhra Pradesh during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that total remittances (non-export) for years 1998, 1999 and 2000 from (i) Gulf countries and (ii) Canada and USA received by various banks in Andhra Pradesh are as follows:—

Total Non-Export receipt at Hyderabad

ECD RO (Value in Rs. crores)

Year	From Gulf Countries	From USA & Canada
1998	44.9660	1030.3789
1999	31.1616	1204.0804
2000	35.6793	1709.8097

Report Insurance Panel

2102. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Insurance Panel has submitted its report to Tariff Advisory Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

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.

Import of Low Quality Sugar

2103. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the countries like China, Brazil, Thailand and Pakistan are providing subsidy to their sugar industry despite restrictions imposed on it by WTO;

(b) if so, whether cheap and low quality sugar is being imported from these countries;

(c) if so, whether domestic sugar industry is facing hardships as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the domestic sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (d) China has become member of WTO very recently. As per information available, China does not provide any product specific support for sugar and has also undertaken not to maintain or introduce export subsidies on agricultural products. Out of Brazil, Thailand and Pakistan, only Brazil has reduction commitments in respect of export subsidies in terms of WTO Agreement on Agriculture. However, Brazil's usage of export subsidies during export subsidies during the period 1995-1998 (the latest period for which information is available) was zero. During the same period, as per WTO documents Pakistan and Thailand have not provided export subsidies for sugar. As per the EXIM Policy of Government of India, import of sugar is on Open General License (OGL). Being an OGL item of import, the individual traders, firms, private or public sector companies are free to import sugar based on their best commercial judgements. However, they are required to register their contracts for import of sugar with Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) of Ministry of Commerce. In order to restrict import of sugar, the Government has raised import duty on import of sugar to 60% w.e.f. 9.2.2000 along with continuance of countervailing duty of Rs. 850 per tonne. Consequently, import of sugar have reduced considerably.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Weaker Section

2104. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national programme has been introduced in various districts of Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya for rehabilitation of the weaker sections of society;

(b) if so, the number of districts selected for the purpose and the funds released for the above programme during the last two years;

(c) the time by which the remaining districts of above States are proposed to be covered under the said programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities is a State Sector Scheme launched in 1999-2000 covering all States including Bihar, Assam and Meghalaya.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Concerned State Governments have the flexibility to select the district under the Scheme. Coverage of additional districts under the scheme will depend on the financial resources provided.

Statement

S. No.	State/UTs	District Covered	Amount Released during (Rs. in lakhs)	
			2000-2001	2001-2002
1.	Bihar	Bhagtalpur Gaya Muzzafarpur Darbhanga West Champaran	322.25	251.75
2.	Assam	—	260.30	203.90
3.	Meghalaya	East Khasi Hills West Garo Hills	136.4	108.02

[English]

Over Invoicing of Import/Export

2105. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:
SHRI M.V.V.S MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has unearthed a multicrore fraud involving money laundering by hundred percent export oriented units in the form of over invoicing of import and export recently;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with total export done by these units;

(c) the modus operandi so adopted by these units;

(d) whether any investigations have been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount of loss suffered by the Government;

(f) the action taken by the Government against the accused persons/companies; and

(g) the corrective steps taken to see that such incidents do not occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has not booked any case of multicrore fraud involving money laundering by Hundred Percent Export Oriented Units in the form of over invoicing of import and export recently.

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

Funds to Coffee Growers

2106. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coffee Board has finalized plans to extend financial assistance to tribal farmers in Andhra Pradesh to grow coffee on small plots;

(b) whether the Coffee Board Identified certain areas in Andhra Pradesh in the Eastern Ghats for coffee cultivation;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance likely to be given to tribal farmers to grow coffee;

d) whether any banks have also been involved in this exercise; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Coffee Board has identified the agency tracks of Vishakhapatnam, Maredumilli Mandal of East Godavari and Pachipenta Mandal in Vizianagaram as suitable for development of coffee in the Eastern Ghats.

(c) As per the project proposal of Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu, for the 10th Plan, an extent of 24,000 ha. is proposed to be brought under coffee expansion with the technical support provided by Coffee Board. The proposed outlay of the project proposal of ITDA is Rs. 144 crores. In addition, the Coffee Board also proposes to cover 6000 ha. under intensive cultivation by providing subsidy @ Rs. 5000/ha. to improve the production and productivity of coffee and also provide subsidy under the quality upgradation component of the scheme.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The loan component of the IDTA project is proposed to be met by National Scheduled Tribes Finance Development Corporation (NSTFDC). The NSTFDC proposes to provide loan assistance to an extent of Rs. 24 crores to the tribal beneficiaries @ Rs. 10,000/ ha.

State Bank of India

2107. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has asked the RBI to exclude GDR holding from the 20% limit on foreign holding;

(b) if so, the reaction of the RBI to this proposal;

(c) whether the Government propose to relax such rules affecting all nationalised banks;

(d) to what extent the Government's hold on nationalised banks is likely to be reduced by this proposal; and

(e) the benefits likely to be achieved by the banks through it?

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

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have forwarded this proposal to Government.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of Government at present.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Micro Credit Scheme

2108. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Micro Credit Scheme;

(b) the number of beneficiaries under the scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the quantum of financial assistance extended by the Government during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Micro-Credit Schemes are implemented by national Finance Development Corporations for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, Safai Karamcharis, Handicapped, Minorities and backward Classes under the Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment for the benefit of persons belonging to these categories for their self employment and sustainable economic development.

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 2932.41 Lakhs was released to the 47,663 beneficiaries during the last two years i.e. 1999-2000 and 2000-2001. State-wise statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

No. of beneficiaries and quantum of financial assistance extended by the Govt. during last two years i.e. 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of Beneficiaries covered	Funds Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13947	837.34
2.	Assam	349	35.60
3.	Delhi	160	13.00
4.	Goa	10	1.00
5.	Gujarat	3538	238.63
6.	Karnataka	4889	413.90
7.	Kerala	191	19.05
8.	Lakshadweep	1000	100.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2605	205.50
10.	Maharashtra	980	75.00
11.	Manipur	250	17.05
12.	Meghalaya	2075	207.50
13.	Mizoram	50	5.00
14.	Orissa	906	45.95
15.	Rajasthan	313	23.80
16.	Sikkim	200	5.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	3863	268.50
18.	Uttar Pradesh	12647	457.58
19.	West Bengal	475	17.25
	Total	47663	2932.41

[Translation]

Visit to Foreign Countries

2109. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries visited by him during the last two years;

(b) the purpose of these visits country-wise; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon on each of these visits and the achievements made as a result of these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) During the last two years, The Minister of Textiles undertook visits to Brazil and USA from 9th to 15th February, 2000 and to Australia from 5th to 11th November, 2000.

(b) The visits to Brazil, USA and Australia were undertaken to discuss the anti dumping duty imposed by Brazilian Government on Jute Products, discuss with USA authorities the issue of inclusion of Indian Food Grade Jute Packaging in the agenda of International Coffee and Coco Associations and enhancement and promotion of wool trade between India and Australia and to promote bilateral ties in the transfer of technology for wool development respectively.

(c) The total expenditure incurred for the visit to Brazil and USA was Rs. 4,22,446/- and the expenditure incurred for the visit to Australia was Rs. 1,81,821/-. The achievements of these visit were respectively the following:-

(i) The Brazilian Authorities agreed to reconsider the issue of imposition of anti-dumping duty on the Jute Products.

(ii) The discussion with USA authorities helped inclusion of the item regarding Indian food Grade Jute Packing in the agenda of the two Associations.

(iii) The visit to Australia helped to enhance Woolen trade and improved bilateral ties in the field of transfer of technology for development of woolen products between the two countries.

[English]

Documents of Insurance Policy

2110. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the common man is finding it difficult to know the real meaning of the clauses of the Insurance policies of various insurance companies;

(b) whether some private insurance companies, recently set up in our country, are planning to introduce simple English explanations on its all retail policies;

(c) if so, whether the Government are also considering to implement the same in Government run insurance companies to make their insurance documents in simple language;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that the clauses of the Insurance policies of various insurance companies are of international standards and convey the meanings, which are accepted world wide. Insurance policies do not contain any hidden meaning or something, which cannot be understood by a common man. Insurance companies in Public and Private Sectors have simplified policies/language etc. without tampering with scope of coverage of Tariff Products.

(b) The insurance companies while launching new products in the market in non-tariff area are using simpler terminology in the insurance polices. In the tariff area to insurance company can change the wordings of the standards policies without prior permission of Tariff Advisory Committee (TAC)/IRDA.

(c) and (d) The State owned insurance companies have also simplified documents and clear language in personal lines and rural insurance products. Some of the policies which are simplified are Householders' Insurance Policy; Shopkeepers' Insurance Policy, Janata Personal Accidents Policy; and Cattle Insurance Policies, etc.

(e) Does not arise.

Consumption of TEA

2111. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline of 6 percent in the consumption of tea in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase its domestic consumption?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Risk Based Capital for Insurance Companies

2112. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA)(propose to introduce risk based capital for insurance companies; and

(b) if so, to what extent it will improve the performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority has informed that they propose to introduce the concept of Risk Based Capital for insurance companies which will minimizing the risk of insolvency by addressing asset risk, underwriting risk and business risk of insurance companies.

Duty not Paid by Spinning Mills

2113. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI AMBAREESHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of spinning mills have been selling cotton yarn without paying duty over and above their exemption limit;

(b) if so, the number of such units which have been found to have sold cotton yarn without paying duty over and above their exemption limit during the last three years State-wise, mills-wise and year-wise;

(c) the total loss suffered by the Government on this account; and

(d) the action taken against such companies/mills?

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

(b) The State-wise, Mill-wise and Year-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The total duty involved in the last three years [1999-2000 to 2001-2002 (upto December 2001)] is Rs. 551.55 lakhs.

(d) On detection of duty evasion action is taken to recover the duty by following due process of law.

Statement

Part (b)

Year	State	Mills	Duty involved (in Rs. Lakh)
1	2	3	4
1999-2000	Andhra Pradesh	Prudential Spinners Ltd.	6.00
	Punjab	Subash Inds	0.58
		Karan Cotspin	0.14
		Jindal Spg & General Mills	2.11
		Surya Cotspin	13.5
	Tamil Nadu	Nallam Textiles	2.32
		Renugadevi Textiles	1.04
		Sri Madhava Lakshmi Mills	5.72
		Sri Venkateswara Textiles	0.97
		Velavan Spinners	0.59
		Sri Rachna Vinayaka Spinners	1.49
		Ventex Ltd	1.00
		Selvaganapathy Textiles	72.00

1	2	3	4
		Ganga Sree Textiles	0.47
		RVM Textiles Ltd	0.05
		RVM Textiles (P) Ltd	0.15
		Pulikar Mills Ltd.	35.12
		Lawn Textiles	9.45
		Guru Vijaya Lakshmi Spinners	3.55
		Selvapathi Spinning Mills	2.59
		Singaravelar Spinning Mills	12.13
		Ramani Textile Mills (P) Ltd.	2.82
		Parameswaran Spinning Mills	1.01
		Sabita Spinning Mills	0.07
		Guruvayurappan Textiles	1.49
		Gangashree Textiles	5.50
		Sarolex Spinners	0.11
		Sriganapathymurugan Spg Mills	3.09
		Sangamitra Cotton Mills	2.05
		Selvapathy Mills	2.58
		Kalaimani Spg Mills	0.58
		Guru Vijaya Lakshmi	3.15
		Velavan Spg Mills	0.59
		Anangoor Textiles Mills	1.02
		Thambi Modern Spg Mills U I	0.58
		Thambi Modern Spg Mills U II	3.00
		NRU Spg mills	2.68
		Selvaganapthy Textiles	30.00
		Mookambikai Textiles	2.08
		VVS Textiles	1.48
		Sri Ratna Vinayaga Roto Spinners	1.50
		Ramani Tex Mills	2.82
		Sri Parameswari Spg Mills	0.93

1	2	3	4
		Marudhamalai Sri Dhandapani Spg Mills	1.78
		VNK Textiles	0.19
	Uttar Pradesh	Bindal Texfab	15.09
	Uttaranchal	Bindal Texfab	3.48
		Total	260.64
2000-2001	Andhra Pradesh	Kakatiya Textiles	109.51
		Krishna Ganga Spinning Mills Ltd.	40.26
		Anathalakshmi Spinning Mills	34.94
		Vankataraya Textiles	15.88
	Punjab	Surya Cotspin	8.68
	Karnataka	Sri Ganesar Textile Mills	63.21
	Tamil Nadu	Sri Dhanalakshmi Textiles	0.06
		T.M. Textiles (P) Ltd.	0.07
		Sri Paliniandawar Textiles	0.12
		Sri Amman Conversions	0.22
		Vijay Spinners	3.16
		Neo Intex Textiles Mills	11.22
		Rajkumar Corporation	1.58
		Gangashree Textiles	0.47
		Sri Dahanalakshmi Textiles	1.08
		V.N.K. Textiles	0.45
		Total	290.91
2001-2002 (upto Dec.)		Nil	

[Translation]

Proposals Received by NCDC

2114. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received by the Government/NCDC from Maharashtra Government for obtaining financial assistance for setting up of new powerlooms in the State specially in Ichalkaranji and Kolhapur;

(b) the proposals cleared so far and the number of proposals still pending;

(c) whether any irregularities have been detected in regard to approval of the proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government for granting early approval to the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) According to the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi which is under the administrative control of Ministry of Agriculture, during the current financial year 2001-2002, the Government of Maharashtra recommended eight proposals of new powerloom cooperative societies for financial assistance from NCDC. Out of the above eight proposals, 2 including one towards establishment of workshed with Plain Powerloom and another for pre-loom processing unit were from Kolhapur District (including 1 from Ichalkaranji). In March, 2001, the State Government had recommended 31 proposals which included 19 from Kolhapur District, (including 12 from Ichalkaranji) of new powerloom cooperative societies.

During 2001-2002 the NCDC sanction assistance to three new powerloom cooperative societies towards establishment of workshed with shuttleless looms (1) and Circular knitting unit (2). One proposal relating to Hand Stenter Process was not considered by NCDC due to its low productivity. The remaining proposals are in the process of examination and in their appraisal in consultation with the State Government. Of the remaining 35 proposals, NCDC has returned 22 proposals either for want of additional information or for not meeting the benchmarked technology. Remaining 13 proposals are at advance stages of decision making with NCDC.

(c) and (d) NCDC has further stated that no irregularity in sanction of the proposal has come to light. This Ministry is also unaware of any irregularity.

(e) The proposal are being followed up by NCDC with the State Government. The proposals will be processed by NCDC on merit subject to availability of funds and as soon as the information/clarifications are received from the Government of Maharashtra.

[English]

Uniform Sugarcane Price Policy

2115. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have yet to finalise uniform sugarcane price policy;

(b) whether farmers from Haryana receive higher minimum support price of sugarcane in comparison to farmers from Western U.P;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial measures the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for each season playable by the sugar factories to the sugarcane growers. The SMP, which is linked to recovery level of 8.5%, is uniform. A premium, as fixed by the Central Government, is payable for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 8.5%.

(b) to (d) The Central Government has notified the Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane payable by sugar factories for 2001-2002 sugar season at a uniform level of Rs. 62.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5%. The premium fixed is 73 paise for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above that level. On this basis, the range of Statutory Minimum Price notified for sugar factories in Haryana is Rs. 64.24 per quintal to Rs. 75.92 per quintal while that for sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh, including West U.P., is from Rs. 62.05 quintal to Rs. 81.76 per quintal. the variance in the SMP is due to variance in the recovery percentage.

Procurement of Cotton

2116. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cotton Corporation of India proposed to procure cotton ensuring minimum support price for the growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Cotton Corporation of India to construct more godowns to procure more cottons lying unsold with the growers particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has already started purchasing Kapas, without any quantitative restrictions, in all cotton growing States (except Maharashtra) under support price operation to ensure minimum support price to the growers. It does not purchase in Maharashtra because of the Raw Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme of the State Government of Maharashtra. As on March 7, 2002, the CCI has purchased 39,48,239 quintals of kapas (equivalent to lint cotton of 7,58,904 bales of 170 kgs. each). State-wise purchases are as under:—

	(in quintals)
Andhra Pradesh	22,76,369
Karnataka	82,479
Gujarat	10,23,201
Madhya Pradesh	2,99,764
Rajasthan	1,88,292
Haryana	2,497
Orissa	75,197
West Bengal	440
Total	39,48,239

(c) The CCI hires godowns and is presently purchasing at 59 centres in cotton growing areas of Andhra Pradesh.

Dues of Employees in PSUs

2117. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the Public Sector Undertakings which have not paid statutory dues to its employees so far;

(b) whether the Government are taking any step towards early payments of this huge amount;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per available information, 65 Central PSUs as per the Statement enclosed have arrears of statutory dues.

(b) to (d) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to safeguard the interest of the workers involved and Government have been providing need based non plan assistance. The CPSUs have also been advised to raise resources through disposal of their non-performing assets. In case of disinvestment/closure, the Government undertakes to settle all employees related liabilities.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Central PSUs having statutory dues
1.	Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.
2.	Bengal Chemicals & Pharm. Ltd.
3.	Bengal Immunity Ltd.
4.	Bharat Wagon & Engg. Co. Ltd.
5.	Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd.
6.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.
7.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
8.	Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels Ltd.
9.	Bharat Leather Corpn. Ltd.
10.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.
11.	Bharat Process & Mech. Enggrs. Ltd.
12.	Bharat Pump & Compressors Ltd.
13.	Bharat Refractories Ltd.
14.	Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.
15.	British India Corpon. Ltd.
16.	Burn Standard Co. Ltd.
17.	Cawnpore Textiles Ltd.
18.	Cement Corpn. of India
19.	Central Coalfields Ltd.
20.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd.
21.	Cycle Corpn. of India Ltd.
22.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.
23.	Elgin Mills Co. Ltd.
24.	Heavy Engg. Corpn. Ltd.
25.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.
26.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.
27.	Hindustan Copper Ltd.
28.	Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd.
29.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.
30.	Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

31. Hindustan Steel Works Cons. Ltd.
32. Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corpn.
33. HMT Ltd.
34. HMT Watches Ltd.
35. Indian Drugs & Pharma, Ltd.
36. Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.
37. Instrumentation Ltd.
38. Jessop & Co. Ltd.
39. Mazagon Dock Ltd.
40. Mining & Allied Machinery Corp. Ltd.
41. National Bicycle Corpn. of India Ltd.
42. National Aluminium Company Limited
43. National Building Construction Corpn. Ltd.
44. National Industrial Dev. Corporation Ltd.
45. National Instruments Ltd.
46. National Jute Manufacturers Corpn. Ltd.
47. National Projects Construction Corpn. Ltd.
48. National Seeds Corpn.
49. National Textiles Corpn. Ltd.
50. Nepa Ltd.
51. Praga Tools Ltd.
52. Projects & Dev. India Ltd.
53. RBL Ltd.
54. Rehabilitation Industries Corpn. Ltd.
55. Richardson & Cruddas (1972) Ltd.
56. Sambhar Salts Ltd.
57. Scooters India Ltd.
58. Smith Stainstreet & Phar. Ltd.
59. State Farms Corpn.
60. Tannery & Footwear Corp. Ltd.
61. Tea Trading Corpn.
62. Triveni Structurals Ltd.
63. Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.
64. Tyre Corpn. of India Ltd.
65. Weighbird (India) Ltd.

Restriction of Lifting of Foodgrains

2118. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India has decided to reduce the minimum quantity of wheat and rice which should be lifted by exporters at any time;

(b) if so the details in this regard;

(c) the details regarding the impact of the decision of the Union Government on export of foodgrains;

(d) whether the Union Government are also considering to set up a Committee to resolve the problems of exporters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The minimum quantity of wheat and rice to be lifted by exporters from the Central Pool have been reduced from 25,000 MTs to 10,000 MTs and 5,000 MTs to 2,000 MTs respectively. This would enable small exporters also, to participate in export of foodgrains and is likely to boost exports.

(d) and (e) The Government has set up an empowered Standing Committee on Exports under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (Food & Public Distribution). The Committee would meet regularly, interact with exporters and their representative bodies, and take expeditious decisions to resolve their problems related to exports.

Foodgrains Stock

2119. SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

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

(a) the total stock of wheat, rice and sugar stored in FCI godowns till date, godowns-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether there has been a decline in the quantity stored;

(c) whether a huge quantity of wheat, rice and sugar is lying in godowns of the country, which are more than three or four years old; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, godowns-wise and State-wise alongwith the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Castes of Rajasthan in OBC List

2120. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the castes in Rajasthan being proposed to be included in Other Backward Castes category; and

(b) if so, the time by which these castes are likely to be included in the OBC list of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) There is no such proposal pending with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Rupee Cooperative Bank

2121. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Board of Directors of Rupee Co-operative Bank of Pune (Maharashtra) is superseded and administrator was appointed by the State Cooperative Department;

(b) if so, the irregularities found committed by board of directors against the bank and its depositors and share-holders; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken to protect the interest of depositors and shareholders in cooperative bank sectors?

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

Growth Rate of Capital Goods

2122. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the growth rate of capital goods, consumer durables and Coconut and Coir Industry are declining sharply;

(b) If so, the details or growth rate of these items during each of the last two years; and

(c) the reasons for this slow growth rate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) There is a declining trend in the growth rates of capital goods and coir industry while consumer durable goods have witnessed a stagnating trend during the last two years. The details of the growth rates (%) during last two years are as below:

Item	1999-2000	2000-2001
Capital goods	6.2	1.8
Consumer durables	14.2	14.5
Coconut	-17.9	3.8
Coir fibre	6.6	2.3
Coir yarn	5.4	5.0
Coir products	10.9	10.2

(c) The reasons for the slow growth rate in general are as follows:

- Structural and cyclical factors such as investment and business cycles, Inherent adjustments 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 the requisite comfort level for private participation in some key sectors, and 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.
- Poor monsoon during last two years.

- Problem of pests and diseases and competition from cheap refined oils have affected coconut production and the coir industry, especially in Kerala.

(d) The Government has taken several policy initiatives to boost production in all the segments of the industry viz, capital goods, intermediate goods, basic goods and consumer goods sector. 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 initiative taken recently are briefly mentioned below:

- 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.
- 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, textiles, gems & jewellery, chemicals & allied sector have also been announced.
- One of the thrust areas of the Coconut Development Board is on integrated management of major pests and diseases.

Measures announced in the Union Budget 2002-2003

- To deepen reforms in stock exchanges and to provide protection to the investors, Union Budget 2002-2003 proposes amendments in SEBI Act 1992.
- To reduce infrastructure bottlenecks several incentives have been announced for improvement in power, roads, civil aviation and ports.
- 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.
- Abolition of 16% special excise duty on all, except eight items.
- Additional 15% depreciation on new plant and machinery.
- Reduction of peak rate of custom duty to 30% w.e.f. 1.3.2002 and rationalisation of custom duty rates to two duty rates by 2004-2005.
- The reduction in diesel and petrol prices is expected to boost demand for commercial vehicles and automobiles. Besides, the advancement in the completion of the Golden Quadrilateral will help improve commercial vehicles volume.

FIs Money in Enron

2123. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Enron which promoted Dabhol Power Corporation has collapsed;

(b) if so, whether Enron owes a huge amount to Indian public sector financial institutions;

(c) if so, the total public money involved in Enron, institutions-wise;

(d) the safeguards available to public sectors FIs to recover their money;

(e) whether the Government have directed the public sector FIs to take all necessary action available under the law to get back the money;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not the reasons for not taking effective steps to recover the public money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Enron Corporation and certain of its affiliates (not including Dabhol Power Company till date) have filed a petition under Chapter 11 of the United States Code (Bankruptcy Code).

(b) and (c) The financial institutions have no exposure in Enron, as such. However, the financial institutions have granted financial assistance to Dabhol Power Company, which is an Indian company in which Enron Corporation of USA has an indirect interest by way of investment in equity through its various investment companies.

(d) With regard to filing of cases by Enron Corporation under the US Bankruptcy laws, IDBI is advised that the reported bankruptcy proceedings against Enron Corp. USA under the US law, have no impact on DPC or DPC's assets and as such the same do not affect the security interest of DPC lenders. The security available to the lenders of DPC include:

(i) a first mortgage and charge on all movable and immovable assets of the company;

(ii) assignment of all rights, titles and interests of the company, into and under all asses of the project and all project documents (all project contracts including PPA), insurance policies, permits/approvals etc. to which the company is a part and all other contracts relating to the project;

(iii) first charge on all the company's account including but not limited to Trust and Retention Account and the Debt Service Reserve Account; and

(iv) pledge of entire share holding in DPC of Enron affiliates and Maharashtra Power Development Corporation Limited (MPDCL), (Maharashtra State Electricity Board Subsidiary) (aggregating 80% of the paid-up capital) and negative pledge (non-disposal of shares of 20% of the shares held by GE (10%) & Bechtel (10%).

(e) to (g) FIs/Banks are themselves competent to take action to protect their interest. In view of the intension of off-shore sponsors to exit from the project, the lenders are facilitating the bid process for sale of interest of off-shore sponsors in the project. IDBI issued an advertisement inviting expressions of interest from domestic and overseas corporations for acquiring the interest of the off-shore sponsors in the company.

Import of Rubber

2124. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI GEORGE EDEN:

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

(a) the agencies/companies who have imported rubber during the last three years;

(b) the volume of rubber imported by each agency during the above period, year-wise and agency-wise;

(c) whether due to huge import, the domestic rubber industry has affected adversely;

(d) if so, whether the Government have made any study in this regard;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof;

(f) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of domestic rubber farmers;

(g) whether the Government are considering to announce a fresh package as a relief for the rubber farmers being affected due to import;

(h) if so, the details of proposed package; and

(i) the time by which proposed package likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) There are around 5100 rubber goods manufacturers in India, some of which import Natural Rubber. A list of major importers of Natural Rubber along with quantity imported by them during the last three years given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (i) The import of natural rubber has affected the domestic rubber industry to some extent. The Government, however, has been monitoring the import and price situation of rubber and has taken a series of steps which include market intervention operation through STC during August 1997 to April 2001, continuing the ban on import of Natural Rubber against advance licences even in the QR free regime, fixing and notifying the minimum price of the two most commonly used classes of rubber viz. RSS-4 and RSS-5 under the provisions of Rubber Act, 1947, restricting surge in imports of Natural Rubber by allowing imports only through two designated ports i.e. Kolkata and Visakhapatnam and enforcing BIS quality standards on imported rubber. The Govt. of India has also recently approved a proposal of the Rubber Board for export of 20,000 MT of Natural by Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Mark Federation Ltd. (Rubbermark) as this will help the primary growers significantly in the QR free regime.

Statement

S.	Name of the Manufacturers	Qty. imported (tonnes)		
		1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Goodyear India Ltd., Faridabad	585	0	0
2.	Appollo Tyres Ltd. Kochi	4173	570	0
3.	CEAT Ltd. Bombay	4113	3574	665
4.	Vikrant Tyres Ltd., Mysore	1776	1805	1649
5.	Birla Tyres, Balasore (Orissa)	310	233	480
6.	J.K. Industries Ltd., Kankroll, Rajasthan	5314	4939	1068
7.	MRF Ltd., Chennai	1088	210	0
8.	Modi Rubber Ltd., New Delhi	2272	988	0
9.	Balakrishna Ind. Ltd., Aurangabad	1479	863	0
10.	EMKAY India Rubber Co. P. Ltd. Gurgaon	219	142	113
11.	Kemwell International Ltd., Bangalore	882	1037	630
12.	Garware Elastomerics Ltd., Satara, Maharashtra	788	1571	1115
13.	Ralson India Ltd., Ludhiana, Punjab	1113	1490	932
14.	Govind Rubber Ltd., Jugiana, Punjab	2676	1739	0
15.	TTK-LIG Ltd., Chennai	315	315	236
16.	Shri Anusham Rubber Inds. (P) Ltd. KK District. Tamilnadu	260	404	98
17.	Arooshi Enterpriss Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon	0	99	1050
18.	Plaat Bodra Ltd., Bangalore	465	16	158
19.	Taba Gloves, P. Ltd. Kochi	157	98	69
20.	Hindustan Rubbers, Dadra & Nagar Haveli.	198	76	0

12.00 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Physically Handicapped, New 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 Institute for Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

3. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI to lay on the Table a copy of the Corrigendum (Hindi and English versions) to the Auto Policy*.

4. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Posts for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5160/2002]

12.01 hrs.

(At this Stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some others hon. members came and stood near the Table)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Corrigendum (Hindi and English versions) to the Auto Policy.*

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5161/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries, Research Association, Kolkata, 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 Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Kolkata, 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 5163/2002]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Textiles Committee, 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 Textiles Committee, Mumbai, 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 5164/2002]

(5) A copy of the Textiles Undertakings (Nationalisation) Claims Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 865(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 2001 under sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Textiles Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5165/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:—

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Civil) (No. 2 of 2002)—Transaction Audit Observations for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5166/2002]

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Scientific Departments) (No 5 of 2002) for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5167/2002]

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Indirect Taxes—Customs) (No. 10 of 2002) for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5168/2002]

(iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Indirect Taxes—Central Excise and Service Tax) (No. 11 of 2002) for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5169/2002]

(v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Civil) (No. 1 of 2002) Accounts of the Union Government for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5170/2002]

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* The Auto policy was laid on the Table on 7.03.2002

(vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Direct Taxes) (No. 12 of 2002)—for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5171/2002]

(vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Direct Taxes) (No. 12A of 2002)—System Appraisals, for the year ended the March, 2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5172/2002]

(2) A copy of the Union Government Finance Accounts for the year 2000-2001 (Hindi and English versions)

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5173/2002]

(3) A copy of the Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil) for the year 2000-2001 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5174/2002]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:—

(i) The Corporation Bank Officer Employees (Discipline and Appeal (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. PAD: IR:OSR: Amend: 291:2001-2002 in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 2001.

(ii) The Bank of Baroda Officer Employees (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. HO: OSR & IR/27/108F/1307 Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001.

(iii) The Punjab National Bank (Officers) Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. F.WIE:II: MISC: 91 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001.

(iv) The Bank of India (Officer) Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. P:IR:SAH: 667 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001.

(v) The Indian Overseas Bank (Officers) Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. PAD: SUP/177 in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 2001.

(vi) The United Bank of India Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 1/2001 in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 2001.

(vii) The Vijaya Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. F. PEF:IRD: 4410:2001 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2001.

(viii) The Oriental Bank of Commerce Officers Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 3935 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001.

(ix) The Bank of India Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. IL: 2001-2002 in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2001.

(x) The Andhra Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 666/3/IR/399 in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 2001.

(xi) The Andhra Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 666/3/IR/320 in Gazette of India dated the 7th April, 2001.

(xii) The Bank of India Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. IL:2000—04 in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2001.

(xiii) The Indian Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 223/SRC in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2001.

(xiv) The Allahabad Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. H.O. Legal/0598 in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. H.O./Legal/1257 dated the 10th March, 2001.

(xv) The Andhra Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 666/3/IR/144 in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 2000.

(xvi) The Bank of Baroda Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. H.O.: OSR & IR: A5/6/1196 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001.

(xvii) The Bank of India Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. IL: 2000-07 in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. IL: 2000-09 dated the 23rd June, 2001.

(xviii) The Canara Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. IRS: 124(B): 7441: NAK in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 2001.

(xix) The Central Bank of India Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. CO: PRS:IRP: 2000-2001:2686 in Gazette of India dated the 7th April, 2001.

(xx) The Indian Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. SRC/223/50 in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2001.

(xxi) The Indian Overseas Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. IRD/184/232 in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 2000.

(xxii) The Oriental Bank Commerce Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 3928 in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 2000 together with corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 3933 dated the 9th June, 2001.

(xxiii) The Syndicate Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 430/S/0089/PDIRD(O) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2000 together with corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 5381/2000 and 5380/SWD/HO/ 2000 dated the 7th October, 2000.

(xxiv) The Union Bank of India Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 Published in Notification No. 3(b)/31-10-2001 in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto dated the 16th June, 2001.

(xxv) The United Bank of India Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 in Notification No. 3/2000 in Gazette of India dated the 9th September, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 52 dated the 23rd December, 2000.

(xxvi) The UCO Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 Published in Notification No. OAJ/1/2000 in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2001 together with a corrigendum thereto dated the 2nd June, 2001.

(xxvii) The Vijaya Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. PER:IRD:2463:2000 in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 2000.

(xxviii) The Allahabad Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. HO/Legal/1241 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 2001.

(xxix) The Andhra Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 666/3/IR/281 in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2001.

(xxx) The Bank of Baroda Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. HO/OSR&IR/27/107/ 5/486 in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 2001.

(xxxi) The Bank of Maharashtra Employees' (Conduct) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No.

AXI/ST/OSR/926/2001 in Gazette of India dated the 10th March, 2001.

(xxxii) The Canara Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct)Amendment Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. IRS:124A:6996:NAK in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001.

(xxxiii) The Corporation Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. PAD:IR:OSR:Amend:846:2000-2001 in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2001.

(xxxiv) The Dena Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. IR/Amend/02/2000 in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 2001.

(xxxv) The Indian Overseas Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. IRD/184/19 in Gazette of India dated the 19th May, 2001.

(xxxvi) The Oriental Bank of Commerce Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 3931 in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2001.

(xxxvii) The Punjab National Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. PNB/DAC/P/1/2001 in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2001, together with a corrigendum thereto dated the 18th August, 2001.

(xxxviii) The Syndicate Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 20/0089/PD:IRD(O)/ Reg.3(1) in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 2000.

(xxxix) The Union Bank of India Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 3(a)/11.11.2000 in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2001.

(xl) The United Bank of India Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. 3/2001 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2001.

(xli) The UCO Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. OCR/1/2001 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd June, 2001.

(xlii) The Vijaya Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. PER:IRD:503:2001 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 2001.

(5) Forty-two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5175/2002]

(6) A copy of the Notification No. SBD No. 4/2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2001 making certain amendments to the Regulation No. 50(3), 50(4), 51(1) and 51(4) of State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur/ Hyderabad/Indore/Mysore Patiala/Saurashtra/ Travancore Officers Service Regulations, 1979, under sub-section (4) of section 63 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Bank) Act, 1959.

(7) Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5176/2002]

(8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) of the section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

(i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buy Bank of Securities) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O.1181 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2001.

(ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Collective Investment Schemes) (Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. S.O. 75(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th January, 2002.

(iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2002 published in Notification No. S.O. 127(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th January, 2002.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5177/2002]

(9) A copy each of the Notifications from G.S.R. No. 118(E) to G.S.R. 126(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption and imposition of additional duties of in the context of Budget proposals pertaining to Central Excise and Customs duties as

announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2002 under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5178/2002]

(10) 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. No. 127 (E) to G.S.R. 152(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption and levy of additional duties in the extent of Budget proposals pertaining to Customs and Central Excise Duties as announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2002 under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944.

(ii) Ad-hoc Exemption Order No. 81/1/2002-CX published in Gazette of India the 18th January, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum exempting cowl and chassis, to be purchased from M/s Eicher Motors Limited and subsequently used to fabricate and ambulance body, from all the duties of Central Excise livable thereon. The ambulance is to be donated to the Civil Hospital at Bhuj, Gujarat, where victims of the Gujarat earthquake are being treated.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5179/2002]

(11) A copy of the Notification G.S.R. No. 153(E) and G.S.R. 154(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt and levy of service tax on other economic zones in the context of budget proposals relating to service tax as announced by the Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2002 under sub-section (4) of section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5180/2002]

(12) A copy of the Notifications G.S.R. No. 155 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt air travel from and to North Eastern States from inland air travel tax in the context of budget proposals relating to inland air travel tax as announced by the Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 2002, under section 49 of the Finance Act, 1989.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5181/2002]

(13) 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 United India Insurance Company Limited, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001

(ii) Annual Report of the United India Insurance Company Limited, Chennai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5182/2002]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Insurance Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Insurance Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5183/2002]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5184/2002]

(d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Oriental Insurance Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Oriental Insurance Company 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 5185/2002]

(e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the General Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the General Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts

and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(14) Five statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5186/2002]

(15) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956:—

(i) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (Special Allowance for In-House Development of Actuarial Capability) Rules, 2002 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 55(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd January, 2002.

(ii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III Employees (Special Allowance for passing Examination) Amendment Rules, 2002 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 56(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd January, 2002.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5187/2002]

(16) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Housing Bank, New Delhi for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (5) of section 40 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5188/2002]

(17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Investment Centre, 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 Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5189/2002]

(18) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 106(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose, provisional anti-dumping duty on Isopropyl Alcohol (Bulk and Packed), originating in or exported from the United States of America, China, the European Union and Singapore under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5190/2002]

(19) A copy of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Third Party Administrators-Health Services) Regulations, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 891(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 2001 under section 27 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5191/2002]

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 Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of Section 33 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975:—

(i) The Tobacco Board (General) Regulations, 1984 published in Notifications No. F.8/8/80-EP (Agri. VI) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 1985.

(ii) The Tobacco Board (Recruitment) Regulations, 1989 published in Notification No. F.8(2)/88-EP (Agri. VI) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd September, 1989.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5192/2002]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, 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 Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, 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 5193/2002]

(5) 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 MMTC Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the MMTC 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 5194/2002]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(6) Two statements (Hindi and English versions showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5195/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri Pramod Mahajan, I beg to lay on the Table:— a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Posts for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5196/2002]

12.02 hrs.

[English]

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SAHBA AND BILLS AS PASSED/AS RETURNED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

(i) 'in accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2002 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th March, 2002.'

(ii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2001, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd August, 2001, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th March, 2002, with the following amendments:-

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, for the word "fifty-second" the word "fifty-third" be *substituted.*

CLAUSE — 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure "2001" the figure "2002" be *substituted.*

CLAUSE — 3

3. That at page 2, line 13, *for* the figure "2001" the figure "2002" be substituted.

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendment be communicated to this House.

(iii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th March, 2002 has passed the following motion:-

MOTION

"That the Rajya Sabha recommends to the Lok Sabha that the Lok Sabha do agree to leave being granted by the Rajya Sabha to withdraw the Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill, 1986, which was passed by the Houses of Parliament and returned by the President for reconsideration under the proviso to article 111 of the Constitution of India."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2002, as passed by Rajya Sabha and the Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2002, as returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

12.03 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Incident occurred at the Army Recruitment Rally at Lucknow

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a recruitment rally had been scheduled in Lucknow Cantonment Area from 13th March, 2002 to 31st March, 2002. On 14th March, 2002, about 5,000 young men had assembled at the Cantonment Area for the recruitment rally. At approximately 0600 hours, over 100 of these young boys who had also come to participate in the recruitment rally, were sitting on the concrete roof of a sewage tank, waiting for the rally activities to begin.

Probably due to the overload, the sewage tank roof collapsed and several young men fell into the tank. Prompt rescue and relief operations were launched to save the victims. 21 dead bodies have been recovered. Three injured young men are under treatment in Command hospital.

The tragic incident triggered off mob violence by the large crowds which had gathered for the recruitment rally. Police reinforcements had to be rushed to the site to control the situation. A number of civil and army vehicles have been damaged by the mob. The situation had been controlled by the police and the mob had been dispersed from cantonment area by afternoon. The mob had also damaged some civil vehicles in the civil area adjoining the cantonment.

Hon. Prime Minister has announced an *ex gratia* relief of Rs. 1 lakh each to the families of those who have died in this tragic incident. In addition, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has also announced an *ex gratia* relief of Rs. 1 lakh each to the families of those who have died, Rs. 25,000 each to those who are severally injured and Rs. 5000 each to those who have received minor injuries.

A Court of Inquiry has been ordered by the Central Command into this unfortunate incident.

As per the latest information received the death toll of the tragic incident which occurred at the recruitment rally site in Lucknow Cantonment Area on 14th March, 2002, has reached 23. Three more casualties which had been taken out from the tank and taken away to some local civil hospital were later reported by the civil administration. Two persons out of these three casualties succumbled to injuries in the hospital, one person still remain in the civil hospital and is under medical treatment. Therefore, the total death toll has come to 23.

As per the information received the tragic incident had occurred at about 0555 hours on 14th March, 2002. Within about five to ten minutes ambulances from Command and Base Hospitals had arrived on the scene of accident. One QRT Vehicle (Quick Recovery Transport) was also available on the rally site. Because of the immediate assistance which became available the casualties from the tank were removed expeditiously and by about 0630 to 0640 hours, these casualties had been sent to the Command Hospital for treatment.

His Excellency, a Governor of Uttar Pradesh had visited the site of incident around 1730 hours on 14th March, 2002 and later also visited the Command Hospital and met the patients under treatment.

[Also Placed in Library *See* No. LT 5196/2002]

12.06 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirty-third 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, on behalf of Shri Pramod Mahajan, I beg to present the thirty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

12.06½ hrs.

MOTION RE: THIRTY-THIRD REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri Pramod Mahajan, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 15th March, 2002."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 15th March, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day are treated as laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

...(Interruptions)

12.08 hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon'ble Members came and sat on the floor near the Table

12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

(i) Need to run a passenger train between Banspani and Tatanagar

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (Keonjhar): Sir, the Banspani sector of Keonjhar District is well known for iron ore and other mineral ore deposits in Orissa. A large number of mineral based industries liked the Ferro Alloy Plant of TISCO, TISCO iron ore mines, TISCO manganese mines, Banspani Iron Ore Ltd. Tata Sponge Iron Ltd. etc. already exist in this area. Tatanagar is the nearest industrial/ domestic requirement of this Part of Orissa. Hence a large number of people are required to commute from this area to Jamshedpur (Jharkhand) regularly for various official/commercial purposes. Inhabitants of more than 150 villages (fall in between Banspani and Deojhar besides Joda Town) find great difficulty to commute from one place to other on daily basis.

Since already an electrified track is in existence between Banspani and Tatanagar for haulage of minerals and much of the time it remains idle, it is requested that a passenger train can be provided to operate to and for Banspani and Tatanagar, via-MMVR (IPITATA), Deojhar, Padapahar, Chaibasa and Rajkharswan daily with limited stops.

(ii) Need for adequate compensation to the residents of Ranchi Cantonment area whose land has been acquired by Army authorities.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the problems of Adivasi people of cantonment area of my parliamentary constituency, Ranchi. The land of many villages like Kumhar Toli, Guddu Toli, Pohan Toli, Shugnu, Gaadi and Khatanga etc. in this area has been acquired for defence purposes and very nominal compensation for the same has been given to the people of this area, many people have neither got any compensation nor employment. Despite this, Army is not allowing the people of this area to carry out repair or construction work. As roads are blocked they cannot works in their fields, due to which Adivasi people of the area are distressed. If the acquired land is not being used, it should be returned, and the wasteland near the cantonment could be used.

Through the House, I would like to urge the Government to take necessary steps to solve the problems of the people of Ranchi Cantonment area.

(iii) Need to ensure procurement of paddy by Government agencies in Chhattisgarh

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Sir, the farmers of Chhattisgarh were happy on bumper crop of paddy this year. The Government of India have announced support price of coarse and fine quality of paddy at Rs. 550 to Rs. 620 per quintal. On the demand of MPs, the Union Government has given loan of Rs. 1500 crore to the State Government for the procurement of paddy from the farmers, with the help of which FCI, mandi and cooperative societies are procuring the rice. It was decided, that the interest on the above mentioned loan, sack charges and transportation charges will be borne by the Union Government. Suddenly, the Chhattisgarh Government has decided to stop procurement by giving the excuse that it has suffered loss of Rs. 300 crore due to the procurement from above sources, due to which farmers are compelled to sell their paddy at the rate of Rs. 400 to 420 per quintal to the middlemen and traders. Due to this, farmers have suffered the loss of Rs. 500 crores. Farmers are frustrated and dismayed.

I urge upon the Government of India to hold an inquiry into the matter in order to resolve the problems of farmers at the earliest.

(iv) Need to declare Jalgaon Railway Station as a Model Railway Station in Maharashtra and provide adequate facilities there.

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): Sir, my parliamentary constituency, Jalgaon is among the main industrial cities of Maharashtra. There is a direct rail line from Jalgaon station situated on Mumbai-Nagpur division of Central Railway to Surat.

The world famous Ajanta caves are just 50 kilometre away from Jalgaon where large number of domestic and foreign tourists come. But there is a lack of facilities for passengers at Jalgaon railway station.

There is a need of providing more facilities at Jalgaon railway station for the development of this area.

Therefore, I would request the Government to renovate Jalgaon railway station and to declare Jalgaon Railway Station as Model Railway Station.

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* Treated as laid on the Table.

(v) Need to accord clearance to the proposal for reopening of KRIBHCO fertilizer unit at Gorakhpur, U.P.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Sir, the Gorakhpur unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. was closed due to a minor accident on 10 June 1990. The two former Prime Minister and the present Prime Minister had visited Gorakhpur and assured the people over there either to revive old fertilizer plant or to setup a new plant over there, but despite hon. Prime Minister's assurance the proposal for setting up new fertilizer plant in place of above mentioned closed fertilizer plant by KRIBHCO has been under consideration for the last two years. KRIBHCO has completed the survey and even allocated a sum of Rs. 1500 crore for it. Public Investment Board has approved the above mentioned project in the year 1999. The management of KRIBHCO fully agrees to the proposal of setting up a fertilizer plant in Gorakhpur. Now, Cabinet is to give final approval.

Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to get the proposed fertilizer unit at Gorakhpur by KRIBHCO finally clear so that the matter of wide public interest could be resolved.

[English]

(vi) Need to provide more railway facilities at Angul Railway Station, Orissa

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): The Importance of Angul has increased manifold with the opening of Talchar-Sambalpur line and declaration of Angul as a separate district. Angul with NALCO and its ancillaries and Talcher containing MCL, Fertilizer Plant, NTPC and other industries are important towns from where a large number of people go to Calcutta daily. As there is no direct train service from Angul to Howrah they have to go all the way to Cuttack for boarding and changing for Howrah bound trains. This would be possible if coaching terminal facility is provided at Angul for maintenance of coaching rakes in and around Angul area. Railway has already set up a locoshed and wagon repairing unit at Angul.

In view of this, I demand that a Comprehensive Integrated pit line and coaching maintenance facility including computerised Railway reservation is provided at Angul. I also demand that a direct train is introduced between Angul and Howrah without any further delay.

(vii) Need for creation of a post of Divisional Manager (Sales) — Indian Oil Company at Dimapur in Nagaland

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland): The Indian Oil Company Ltd. (Assam Oil Division) had opened an office of the Divisional Manager (Sales) at Dimapur in Nagaland to supervise and administer the state affairs of various Petroleum Products and distribution system in the State. But, about a decade ago, this office had been shifted to Tinsukia in Assam, for reasons best known to them and now only the Deputy Manager (Sales) of the IOC (AOD) is functioning in Dimapur.

In view of the fast growing traffic and a tremendous demand for petroleum products in the State of Nagaland, the is an urgent need for the post of the Divisional Manager (Sales) to be located in the State of Nagaland. The situation demands this, as Nagaland is a full-fledged State with a sizeable population. The office of the Divisional Manager is operating outside the State of Nagaland, and it is over 400 k.m. from the actual hub of the commercial centre of Nagaland.

I, therefore request the Government of India to create the post of the Divisional Manager (Sales) Indian Oil Company (Assam Oil Division) at Dimapur in Nagaland at the earliest.

(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Tamil Nadu for providing relief to the farmers whose crops have been affected by heavy rain in Cauvery delta area of the State

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): The Samba paddy crop, harvested and awaiting procurement as well as ripe for harvesting in the field, has been severally damaged by heavy unseasonable rains in the Cauvery delta in the first week of February 2002. Other crops have also been severaly damaged. The Farmers' Federation of the three Districts of the Cauvery delta have estimated the income loss at Rs. 1,000 crore affecting 8 lakh hectares of crop and 3 lakh farmer families besides many more lakh of farm labour. On the pattern of the Central Assistance extended to the State Government of Punjab in similar circumstances last year. the Union Government is urged to assist the State Government of Tamil Nadu in augmenting the compensation given to affected farmers and farm labour whose income loss averages Rs. 25,000 per hectare as against compensation given so far of Rs. 2,500 per

[Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar]

hectare, and that too only to a restricted number of farmer families.

(ix) Need to formulate a national Plan for electrification of every village in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the Government claim electrification has been done in 85 per cent of the rural areas of the country. 99 percent of the total villages in Karnataka have been electrified and this is maximum in any State. On the other side, only 46 percent villages of Meghalaya have been electrified. Electricity is the first requirement for development. The all round development of the country cannot take place and Government cannot achieve their target in the absence of electricity. At the national level only 30 percent of the houses in rural areas have electricity. In Bihar, it is only six percent, whereas in Uttar Pradesh, from where I hail electricity is being used in 11 percent of the total houses. Similarly Assam, Bengal, Rajasthan are the States where electricity is being used in less than 30 percent of the houses. Along with other reasons like higher electricity rates, low power supply, heavy inconvenience faced by consumers in getting electricity connections is also the reason for restricted use of power in households.

Therefore, I request the Government to make provision at national level for electrification of every villages in the country, so that the villages could properly run their traditional industries in the modern scenario and uplift their living standards.

(x) Need to start air service from Nanded in Maharashtra

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE (Hingoli): Sir, through Rule 377 I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the adverse affects on development of my parliamentary constituency, Nanded due to unavailability of airport in Nanded. This air-strip is current being used for VIPs only. If the air-strip over there is upgraded, it could serve the purposes for pilgrimage and tourism. This area has good quality of agricultural production and the industrial production is also good over here, but this area is not properly developing due to non-existence of airport over here, because Mumbai airport is at the distance of 600 kilometer and Hyderabad airport is at the distance of 400 kilometre. This is the second airport in Marathwada region after Aurangabad. The Maharashtra Government has also acquired land for this purpose, but the above mentioned airport has not been constructed so far.

Through the House, I would like to request the Union Government to construct the airstrip in Nanded, so that the airport could be used for passengers and cargo service at the earliest.

(xi) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of U.P. for implementing Free Bore Well Scheme in Bundelkhand region

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda): Sir, the Southern region of Uttar Pradesh is known as Bundelkhand. This covers districts Chitrakut, Banda, Mahoba and Hamirpur of Chitrakut Dhaam Division and districts Jhansi, Lalitpur and Jalaun of the Jhansi Division. Most of the land of this region, is rocky, stony and uneven. Most of the time this area remains dry in the absence of rainfall as also untimely rainfall. Agriculture is the main occupation of this area. Irrigation facilities are almost negligible. Therefore, the tube wells installed by the Government in the entire area are not successful. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have provided free bore facility for tube wells for farmers at places where tube wells cannot be installed by Government successfully. The State Government through its Department of Minor Irrigation gives a subsidy of Rs. one lakh per bore for boring small tube wells in the fields of the farmers. But most of the farmers remain deprived of this free bore facility because of the limited resources at the disposal of the State Government.

Therefore, in order to save the farmers from the on slaughts of famine occurring every year, the Central Government should also provide like the Government of U.P., free bore facility in Bundelkhand and allocate sufficient money for this purpose.

(xii) Need for stoppage of all Express trains at Thiruvellure railway station in Sriperumbudur Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Thiruvellure in Sriperumbudur Parliamentary constituency is well known for Temple and is the headquarters of Thiruvellure district. Railway users of this area are facing lot of inconvenience due to lack of stoppage facility of any of the express train passsing through this line. Most of the trains going to South are to pass through Thiruvellure, Thiruthani and Avadi stations. Thiruvellure is a suburban terminal. HVF Tank factory is also situated in this area increasing its importance. Thiruthani is the nearest big station to Thiruvellure and Avadi. Many people of this area daily go to Madras Central Station on their

way for employment and business. As there is no stoppage for express trains it has become a big problem to the railway users of this area.

I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister for Railways to provide stoppage of all Express Trains at Thiruvellure stations to alleviate the problems of the railway users of these areas at the earliest.

(xlii) Need to protect the interests of workers engaged in Tea Plantation in Tamil Nadu

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi): The wage agreement ended on 31.12.2002 for the workers of the tea plantation in Tamil Nadu. The owners of tea plantation have taken a unilateral decision of reducing the daily wages from Rs. 75 to Rs. 64. The poor workers in Valparai in my Pollachi constituency have not agreed to receive the pay from 1.1.2002.

Sir, they are starving with their family. I request the Government to intervene and help the wage to be increased as above Rs. 75 and beyond that in view of reduction in Excise duty to 1% and imposition of import duty from 75% to 100% on tea.

(xiv) Need for expeditious clearance of setting up of Joint Venture Committee for Implementation of Purulia Pumped Storage Project, West Bengal

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO (Purulia): The Government of West Bengal and HHPC duly signed the Memorandum of Understanding in the month of May, 2001 for implementation of Purulia Pumped Storage Project. This project is being implemented with financial assistance from Japan Bank. The completion of this project as a Joint Venture was thought of for expeditious commission of its 4X225 MV units which is essential as it will provide the peaking support and lead supply of quality power besides stabilizing the grid. Recently the Hon'ble Minister of Power has assured that Public Investment Board will clear the formation of Joint Venture Committee within a week but the clearance has not yet been made. Besides, there are thirteen casual labourers in this project who should be regularized.

I request the Central Government to accord clearance for setting up the JVC without further delay and regularize the thirteen casual labourers of this project early.

(xv) Need to lift ban on Export of Onion

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Sir, Maharashtra alone produces half of the total onion produced in the country. And Nasik district produces half of the total onion produced in Maharashtra. Onion starts arriving in the Mandi from the month of October. The farmer sells onion upto 30th of June in the Mandis. For the last two years, the farmer is selling onion at the rate of Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 per quintal. Whereas the production cost of onion is about Rs. 400 to Rs. 500. The farmers are in distress and financial loss.

Sir, through you, I therefore request the Government especials the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Commerce to immediately lift the ban on export of onion.

12.09 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:-

'That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:-

"That the Members of Lok Sabha Assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for which he has been please to deliver to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 25th of February, 2002."

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Yesterday clarifications supposed to be sought on the hon. Prime Minister's statement could not be sought due to the situation that created there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have raised this point of clarification in the morning itself before the Question Hour. You were in the B.A.C. and you had also given consent for this.

Please put up your point where there will be a discussion under Rule 193. The date and time of this discussion will be fixed today at O'clock in the meeting of the B.A.C. Then what is the use of raising this point here? Please sit down. Let us take up this matter now. You have decided to hold a discussion on the Motion of Thanks today. You had decided this in the B.A.C. today to 10.30 O'clock. Now please tell what is to be done.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, such a deliberate attitude of the treasury benches on important questions, is not proper. They had the same attitude yesterday also...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yesterday an indication was given to hold a discussion on the statement of the Prime Minister, but the discussion could not take place. Even it was decided in today's meeting at 10.30 O'clock.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You do not want me also to speak.

[Translation]

Shri Ramji Lal Suman, please see what your Members are doing. We had decided today at 10.30 O'clock to hold a discussion under Rule 193, the time will be decided in the B.A.C. meeting at four O'clock. So, kindly ask your Members to leave the well and let us take discussion on the Motion of Thanks, which has started. Then later on we would hold a discussion on this after we decide in the B.A.C. meeting at four O'clock. All the things would be discussed in the House. How can we say that there should be no discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): Sir, they are convinced, but their leader is not here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request you, Shri Ramji Lal Suman, to please take back your Members to their seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, you have started the speech, please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have received a threat letter from Indore...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will look into that please send that letter to me. I will look into that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, please resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Please let me speak on this point for two minutes...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take it up. I will look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, It is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there be silence in the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record, except the speech of Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

...*(Interruptions)* *

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we stage walkout from the House.

12.13 hrs.

Thereafter, Shri Ramji Lal Suman, Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, beginning with the Motion of Thanks on the Address of the hon. President, I would like to say that almost half of the tenure of this Government has passed i.e. two and a half years have passed in its tenure of five years and the hon. President has mentioned seventy five achievements of this Government in his Address.

Sir, I do not want to go into the details, nor do I intend to present figures but there are certain things that have been raised by this august House and the people of the country as well. During the last 20-30 years there has never been a price-hike of only one percent in the country. Even in other countries of the world it has never happened in last 15-20 years that, prices were up by one per cent only. Even if there was a fall in prices, it rested at 4, 5 or 8 percent in our country also there

* Not recorded.

was a time when prices went up by 15, 16 and 20 percent on an average. During the tenure of the Congress party, the prices were up by 15-20 percent. Due to that it had become difficult for the middle class and poor people to run their family. I feel that it is a major achievement of the Government that here has been only percent price-hike during their time.

12.16 hrs.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this period of economic recession, price-hike of one percent and a foreign currency reserve of 50 billion dollars is a record. There was a time when the country had to mortgage its gold in the other countries and seek financial help by borrowing money from them. Situation had deteriorated to such an extent that there was no foreign exchange for a week even and there were apprehensions that the entire economy as also the foreign currency reserves of India would collapse.

Today, we have buffer stock of foodgrains in the country. Our country used to import foodgrains from abroad, viz from America and we had to depend on them mortgaging our Self-respect with them, but today we have so much of foodgrains that we have started exporting and earned a niche of ourselves in seven major foodgrains exporters of the world.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the last 40-50 years we have been observing large queues in front of ration shops still people did not get sufficient ration. It used to take more than 10 years in getting telephone connection and similar was the case of LPG. But today, it is not so and we do not find queues anywhere. Plenty of foodgrains are available in open market. Telephone connection is available on demand. It hardly takes time in getting LPG also. There is no shortage of anything in the country.

Sir, the Government have taken up the task of constructing 9000 kms long National Highway corridor connecting four metros. It is likely to be completed one year ahead of schedule. The work on road project connecting North-South, East-West is going on war footing. It would be a 13 thousand kms. Long super expressway. The work on Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and Balmiki Ambedkar Aawas Yojana is going on with full speed and construction of houses is in progress and especially poor people would be allotted houses expeditiously. Under a Constitutional Amendment free and compulsory education for children of 6-14 years of age has been made a fundamental right. Making provision for employment to all has also been committed. After successful launching of space programme our country has attained sixth position in this field.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not like to mention everything since these have been included in the Presidential Address...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): All sort of humour is going on...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir there is no use of mentioning misdeeds of West Bengal Government in the House. I would like to draw attention of the House towards the fact that we are the largest democracy in the world. This Parliament is our greatest achievement and power also. But, we have made a mockery of this House, the greatest source of power. I would like the entire House to take it seriously.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know that neither the Congress nor the Communists have posed any obstruction in passing the important business in the House. Budget and other important items have been allowed to be passed. Though somehow business of the House is going on, the condition of Government Business is very bad whereas the session is called only for Government Business. The House should ponder over it.

Late Shri G.M.C. Balayogi had convened a conference. That time 11 States were under Congress rule in comparison to 14 States at present. It was attended by Speaker of Assemblies, Chief Ministers, Members and the Chief Whips. Community party is also ruling some States. That time it decided to extend time of the this House and Legislative Assemblies also. What difference it would make if we extend the time of Parliament and assemblies and make it 6-7 months in place of 5 months? Since, we have no time for Government Business and if we discuss everything except the Government Business, then the House would be reduced to just fun.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, though Budget Session is going on but we have not taken up even a single item relating to Budget. Will the Budget be passed like this? Budget should be discussed for 4-5 days and every Member should speak on Budget. Then the Demand for Grants are to be taken up for discussion whereas, under present circumstances it is doubtful whether the discussion on Budget would be able tc be taken up even for a day.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel that the comment of the Supreme Court on Parliament is not just and becoming. We cannot pass a derogatory remarks against the Supreme Court or any other court in the House but the Supreme Court...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): Sir, the Treasury Benches are vacant! Nobody is there on the Treasury Benches! ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are three-four Ministers sitting there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Minister is sitting there, and I am happy that he is enjoying the speech. All this humour is quite enjoyed by the hon. Minister....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The achievement of the Government pinches them. They know nothing except humour. They should realise that the comment of the Supreme court is not alright. But even if Supreme Court does not say so, the message is not good whether we go to school or college, we hear that it has become a mockery. They feel that there is more hue and cry in the House than the actual work.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have observed that they have held House to the ransom and whenever they desire they permit the House to run and whenever they desire they put obstructions. Several important things are pending. The House is to discuss the Budget and Presidential Address as well. In addition, there are several Bills. 40 Bills of previous session are to be taken up. We are not able to discuss many important Bills except every other thing. My submission is that each Member should ponder over it and devote more time for relevant discussion so that more Members are able to speak and the Parliament can function effectively so that the House can build its image and the people realise importance of the House and democracy occupies an important place in the minds of the people which is not prevalent today.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a mention of elections held in four States in the Presidential Address. I feel no hitch in accepting that the verdict of the people went against us in these States. The results were not as we expected them, these were against us. But we have accepted them and we have decided to analyse it. I would like to ask in whose favour these results have been? If we compare results of 1999, when this Government was formed, the Congress has no where faired so successfully except Uttaranchal.

It won 10 seats for Parliament in Punjab. Since each constituency comprises of 9 Vidhan Sabha seats at an average they should have won 90 seats whereas Congress won only 64 seats...*(Interruptions)*. Our colleagues, Shri Somnath Chatterjee...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): The Government would come to know when elections to Municipal Corporation of Delhi are held...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Somnathji is making tall claims whereas only one Member from his party has won. They have not won in Punjab and won only one seat in Uttar Pradesh. Members from Congress say that they would see it next time. During, 1999 election, they won 10 Lok Sabha seats in U.P. and now they could win only 25 Vidhan Sabha seats and many people lost their deposits. 25 per cent Congress candidates in U.P. lost their security deposits. Even in such scenario, they claim big victory for opposition, whereas it is nothing in comparison to 1999.

At this stage Members of Samajwadi Party left the House

...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Sir, I am on a point of order. Kindly see Rule 17 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. It says:

> "On such day or days or part of any day, the House shall be at liberty to discuss the matters referred to in such Address on a Motion of Thanks moved by a member and seconded by another member."

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and it will be seconded by Shri Gangaram Geete.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Who has seconded it? How discussion has started? None has seconded it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, and it will be seconded by Shri Gangaram Geete.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: No one seconded it.

[English]

It was moved and the discussion started....*(Interruptions)* Sir, please see the rule. Nobody has seconded it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Malhotra has already moved it.

Moving and seconding of the Motion may not be at the same time. The Rule is there.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Even the seconder does not support this Address...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the discussion start after it is moved and seconded?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is very clear at page 207 of Practice and Procedure of Parliament by Kaul and Shakdher. It says:

> "Discussion on the Motion is initiated by the proposer of the Motion who is followed by the seconder."

Now, when to second it? Shri Anant Gangaram Geete will second it after Dr. Malhotra finishes his speech. His name is there in the Order Paper to second it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Malhotra is moving it. After that, Shri Anant Gangaram Geete will second it.

Dr. Raghunvash Prasad, there is a set procedure. He is moving the Motion. Next Member will second it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, I rule that Dr. Malhotra is moving it, and after his speech is over, Shri Geete will second it.

So, there is no point of order. Kindly take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Mr. Chairman, I have pointed out to the Chair at the time when he moved, that the usual practice is that after the Mover moves it, there will be another Member to second it; then only, it can be discussed here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not the question of usual practice. It is the question of following the 'Practice and Procedure of Parliament'. It is clearly mentioned in page 207. It says:

> "Discussion on the Motion is initiated by the proposer of the Motion who is followed by the seconder. The members who have tabled amendments are then asked to indicate their intention to move the amendments."

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is moving the motion and he will be followed by the seconder. So, I rule that the motion is being moved by Dr. Malhotra and also taking part in the discussion. After that, it will be seconded by the seconder. This is my ruling. It is in the List of Business.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Without being seconded by another Member, how can it be discussed?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is given in the List of Business and it has been circulated to all the Members. So, there is no point of order.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: How will I speak once the motion is seconded?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I have already given my ruling.

SHRI E. AHAMED. I am not questioning your ruling. I only want to know one information. May I know whether the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address is seized by this House, without being seconded by anybody else?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the President's Address is tabled on the floor of the House, it is seized by this House since then. So, the House is now seized of the President's Address.

Dr. Malhotra can continue now.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): May I know whether that Motion has been seconded by another Member?

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the turn comes, Shri Geete will second it. It need not be done together. That is my ruling — the proposer and the seconder need not move and second the motion, together.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given my ruling that Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is moving the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and Shri Geete will second it after him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is moving the motion now.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards second important point concerning the ways adopted by various parties in this election. The Congress party has time and again repeated that two of its Prime Ministers have been killed be terrorists and they have been severely affected by terrorism. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the leader of the country, was the leader of the Congress party and was the Prime Minister. She got 'Bharat Ratna' and once the Congress party went to the existence to claim that.

[English]

"Indira is India and India is Indira"

[Translation]

and was respected as a family member. She was called mother India. However, I would humbly like to ask as to why her name was not mentioned even once by the Congress Party during the election in Punjab? Why her name was not used even once in any of the cut outs or any poster?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY (Phillaur): All the election campaign was launched with the name of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Your claim is wrong...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt him now. Your party will get the time and you can reply to the points being made by him. You can reply to this points when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot ask him to speak in a way which I want.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I would like to humbly submit that the party which can forget its great leader for winning the election what will it do for the country....*(Interruptions)* This is why it did not put any cutout of Shrimati Indira Gandhi...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we would like to know from the Government what is the situation in Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It will be known at fifteen minutes past two.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are discussing Motion of Thanks.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is very important.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: They thought that using her name in Punjab might affect the vote prospect. So the name of any prominent leader was not taken or the cutouts put there. If they stuck any posters or put cutouts it was of Govinda. His name was used in canvassing of election. I had no reservation regarding his election canvassing and his speech. But his vulgar stage performance were not decent...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Did the President mention this in his speech?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He must be allowed to speak. There should be free and frank discussion. There should be freedom of speech. When you get your turn, you

answer that. You cannot put words into his mouth. When you get your turn, you answer. Now, let him have freedom of speech in Parliament.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Such statements must not be given...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, one may say that such things are common on the stages. But it was telecasts on TV for several days. What was that song — Khatia Sarkai lo what type of speech is being delivered from the stage? Such type of vulgar speech and performance is the onslaught on election system and democracy. We should ponder over it.

I had serious reservation against the four lines of the speech delivered by Govindaji. I am raising my objection to it. Hon. Soniaji is the leader of our Opposition. I respect her. She is the prominent citizen of our country. However, it is not proper that Govinda be invited and he issue a Certificate. Govinda did not utter these two three lines only or the stage but crores of people viewed it on television. He said that once a bride comes in the home, she becomes a part of the country. Should we need certificate from Govindaji and will he decide this? We have already said that she is prominent citizen of our country. The country has accepted her. However, what was the need to call Govindaji for that. It should be pondered.

At that time, Shri Prakash Singh Badal was the Chief Minister of Punjab. He alleged that a big house of the country has spent crores of rupees to influence the election in Punjab. He adopted pre-poll assessment and other such things. He made this allegation publically. One charge was levelled against Samajwadi Party by the leader of RLD. I have proof of it that he had openly said that it is crore of rupees and Mulayam Singhji should tell about his relation with Dawood. Allegation was also levelled against Mulayam Singhji for taking Rs. 200 crore from Musharraf.

My submission is that the Congress party and Samajwadi Party should have given reply to allegations levelled against them. However, I would like to submit that inquiry should be held regarding the funding of the election like which political party got how much funding for election and how much money was spent by it for election. The Election Commission has prescribed the limit of expenditure in election and if the expenditure exceeds the prescribed limit...*(Interruptions)* How so much amount was spent...*(Interruptions)*. So we are also demanding for the inquiry in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

I am asking for an inquiry into everything.

[Translation]

The elections become meaningless if any domestic or foreign powers try to influence the election of the country by money power. So inquiry should be held by the Government regarding the way of election funding and all the allegation levelled in this regard should be inquired.

Besides this issue of election reforms, election funding and State funding of elections are being discussed for a long time. The Inderjeet Gupta Committee was setup in which we all were Member. Shri Manmohan Singhji was also a Member of that Committee, I was also a Member and the Committee had unanimously submitted the report. Several times the Government tried to arrive at consensus in this regard but it is lying pending for a long time and the discussion in this regard could not be held in the House till today as we discuss other things and leave the important issues like the election reforms and State funding in election. We leave such issues in the middle that I feel it not appropriate.

I would certainly like to draw your attention to one thing that in U.P. election it was constantly and openly said that Muslim voters should cast their votes strategically and efforts were made for this. Muslim voters will be told to vote those party candidates who could defeat the BJP. It will be decided after issuing 'fatwa' that Muslim voters should be united for strategic voting. At one place they should vote for Congress Party and at other place they should vote for Samajwadi party. If such tendencies are not checked and if all are not brought to the main stream by all political parties then there will be reaction...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: He is making on unfounded allegation. There was nothing like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak. When you get your turn you answer him. You cannot suddenly get up and give answer. Let us follow some procedure. There should be no...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am only accusing some Muslim leaders of these parties.

[Translation]

Who are telling them for strategic voting and efforts are made unitedly for strategic voting. There is reaction to it which is strengthening the theory of two nation and it will not be proper for us to go on the line of two nation theory. So we should think on it. I do not want that there should be a rift between Hindu and Muslim and Muslim of this country should be alienated. We do not want to make it theocratic State, however this thing is in the country that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Of the 403 candidates, they had put up only one Muslim candidate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot answer for every line. When you get your turn you answer him.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): How can he insult an entire community by quoting Muslims? Let him talk about the BJP voters or the voters of other Parties. He has no right to brand a particular community and identify them in this manner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why I said there shall be freedom of speech in Parliament. Let him speak. You answer him later. You have got a right to answer he has got a right to speak.

SHRI VAIKO: He is misleading. He did not say Muslim voters. He said some of the leaders.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, those leaders not only...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: If you want Hindu-Muslim unity then we appreciate your views...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale, you cannot get up suddenly and speak. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)* *

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the procedure. Let him finish his speech. When you get your turn, you answer him.

* Not recorded.

Shri Ramdas Athawale, you have given your name. Your name is in the list. When you get your turn, you may answer to these points.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am saying that not only Muslim leaders but many Hindu leaders also spread the venom of communalism and try to polarise votes. I am saying that it will have reaction. Our party will not form the Government, but they will cause a division of the country.

Sir, this discussion is going on for the last so many days. The sort of language used in the House today is definitely not proper. We have heard the views of opposition. They are continuously pressing for resignation. Sometimes they ask some Chief Minister to tender resignation and sometimes they ask Advaniji to tender resignation. It is not that they are asking for the resignation for the first time, it is happening from the very beginning. Sometimes they say that Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, Shri L.K. Advani and Kumari Uma Bharati should tender their resignations. They are continuously insisting on resignation. So long as this Government is enjoying majority, hon. Prime Minister can appoint anyone as Minister. Now they are asking hon. Prime Minister also to tender resignation. The opposition is saying that this Government will not continue. It seems as if the opposition have become professional beggar. They will always ask for resignation. I fail to understand the reasons for this resignation...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, a Secular Brigade was formed and whichever issue it may be whether it is Saffronisation or Saraswati Vandana, the names of Members opposing the issue remains the same and a statement is published in the newspaper along with the signatures of these 100-50 Members. Such an atmosphere is being created in the country that secular parties are making hue and cry. You can see in various issues that the names and signatures of Members opposing the issue are same. In this way by merely asking resignation, this situation is being created...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA (Mahasamund): Sir, I am on a point of order. The first speaker on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address cannot anticipate what is going to be told by other Members later on in the discussion. He should confine himself to the President's Address and speak to the point. He cannot raise other issues.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a point of order. If there is violation of any rule or procedure, then you can raise a point of order. There is no point of order now. He can address in a way which he likes. So, this is not a point of order. No Member can teach the other Member...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have not said that Members have said, I am saying that in the last $2^1/_2$ years resignations were asked continuously. Only one Secular Brigade continuously tried to spread venom in the entire country against the Government for any matter even remotely connected to the Hindus. The issues changed — sometimes it is saffronisation, Saraswati Vandana, POTO and sometimes it is terrorism — they were ready to put the Government in the dock. Issues were same and the name and signatures were also same. It happened regularly.

Sir, I fail to understand the reasons for following this dual policy. When the issue of disinvestment was raised, the Member of Communist Party spoke a lot. During last election even the leader of opposition said this thing in various places that Government undertakings are being sold, disinvestment is being made and the Union Government is selling public undertakings. On the other hand in Delhi the Congress Government are going in for total privatisation of power sector, DVB and buses. In all the States, where Congress is in power, the process of total disinvestment is almost in completion stage. The hotels and Public Undertakings are being sold. Perhaps no State witnessed disinvestment and privatisation to the extent it took place in West Bengal.

I fail to understand the reasons for this double talk. If the Congress Government adopt disinvestment policy and privatise water and power sector in States then it is considered appropriate but if this Government does the same thing then it said that undertakings are being sold.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, POTO is in force in Maharashtra where Congress is in power and it is also in force in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and hon. Shri Buddhadev Bhattacharya was contemplating to enact a more stringent law but was dissuaded on the ground that in Parliament a similar law is going to be opposed. When such laws are enacted in the States ruled by them, then it is not opposed. But if this Government tries to enact similar law here then it is opposed. Now since the elections are over, it would be better if we do not talk such things. Laws like POTO are being advocated all over the world in 178 countries including America. They have passed the proposal to enact laws like POTO and have requested all countries for this. The Members of ruling party as well as opposition party visited many countries and now its report has been presented which I would like to mention here. Even Muslim nations have enacted Anti-Terrorism laws like POTO. But when we try to enact such laws, it is opposed in the House and it is said that they will not allow to pass POTO at any cost. These kind of things are being said. At present our country is facing terrorism and therefore, we should only think of combating terrorism.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, again and again it is said that this Government is anti-labour, it is against Government employees and processions are organised to protest against labour laws.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh is organising the procession.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Yes, even that organisation is also saying this. All economic reforms were made during Congress regime. Today in Madhya Pradesh all daily wage workers are being removed from their job. About them, it is not said that they are anti-labour. In Kerala, labourers were on strike for 34 days and people organised processions, committed suicide but even then the Chief Minister of that State said that he is not ready to give relaxation. His statement is that he want to bring down retirement age from 58 years to 55 years. Whatever they do in their States are appropriate but if our Government want to do something here they hold it anti-labour. If I am asked whether those mills, where at least 1000 labourers are working should be closed or not, then I would like to tell that neither myself nor my party is in favour of closing those mills. Therefore, the Government should reconsider it. However, if any kind of discrimination is made then it is not right and this dual policy cannot work. If we see the statements of hon. Buddhdev Bhattacharya regarding SIMI and Madrasas and statement of Chief Ministers of those States, where Congress is in power, we will find that in some Madrasas where illegal activities are going on, the State Governments are taking steps against them. The State Government of Delhi have also started the registration work of all Madrasas. The Government have stated that modern education should be imparted in Madarsas and for that they have started investigation.

Pakistan is also facing problems from Madarsas and that is why they are adopting similar policy. So such activity should be allowed in Madarsas which may develop Jehadi mentality. I can tell the names of 15-20 Muslim countries...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, I want to raise a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA (Mahasamund): Sir, there is no mention of *Madarsas* in the President's Address. I call your attention to Rule 356 which says:

> "The Speaker, after having called the attention of the House to the conduct of a member who persists in irrelevance or in tedious repletion either of this own arguments or of the arguments used by other members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech."

I want your ruling now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to the Chair to direct the Members that they must speak in this way or that way? This is not the practice followed in the House. I have been here for the last two-and-a-half years.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have been watching the proceedings for the last two-and-a-half years. The Chair cannot direct a Member to speak in this way or that way. This is not the procedure followed in the House.

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA: I am trying to anticipate what the other parties might say in future...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. The procedure being followed in this House is that a Member is given the freedom of expression here to speak in a way he likes.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): But it is not in contradiction to Rule 356. Please read Rule 356. It clearly lays upon the Speaker a duty to ensure that anybody, speaking on any Motion, must be within the bounds of relevance. When a Member, while moving the Motion, takes up issues that are not covered by the Motion of Thanks, and certainly what happens in the *Madrasas* in Pakistan, and is not within the bounds of what the President's Address has said, then, it is the duty of the Chair to ensure that either the Member who is speaking remains within relevance or he directs the Member to discontinue his speech. That is the rule.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, there is mention of cross-border terrorism in the President's Address. He is expressing in a way he likes. We cannot say about it. The President has expressed it. You cannot strictly enforce the rule. If the rules are strictly enforced, then the House will be different.

SHRI VAIKO: He can never speak if the rule is strictly applied...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Sometimes, the rules are in your favour. Sometimes, the rules are in their favour. So we have to exercise the discretion to defuse the situation.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir I am not taking more than half a minute on any subject nor I am repeating myself. I raised this question only because it mentions terrorism. The Address of the President has mentioned that the fight against terrorism should be fought by India and the world united. I was only referring to that. Efforts are being made in all the countries to prevent the creation of jehad type of mentality. Even Pakistan is taking action against such Madrasas but if our Government tries to take such action, allegations are levelled against it and efforts are made to obstruct it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I mention other things, there are some issues on which the House needs to consider unitedly. The President's Address has mentioned increasing population in the country. It has been said that our population is increasing rapidly, all sides including Government should consider this issue.

House can also consider the issue of foeticide and gender discrimination unitedly. Besides, there are several other issues relating to foreign policy which can be considered. As I have already said several delegations were sent to different countries by the hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs. Many Members of the Congress party were also included in the delegations. The report submitted by the delegations shows the advantages of these visits and also how could we put our view points there. The misconception among those countries vis-a-vis India were removed. Now the Government would take action on the basis of these reports. There is a dire need that such delegation should again be sent to various countries. We can evolve consensus on foreign policy.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a lot of discussion on Ayodhya has taken place in the House. A lot of things have been said. It is again scheduled to be discussed tomorrow.

13.00 hrs.

Ayodhya issue is discussed in each session and on every third day. But I want to mention only few things.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, an impression is being created that puja is being performed on the disputed land and no one is trying to stop that even though there is a temple on the disputed land. The whole Mandir issue cropped up during 1949-50 when Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru was the Prime Minister and Pandit Govind Vallabh

Pant was the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. At that time the Statues of Ram Lala appeared and the puja began. Thereafter its door was opened and then Shilayanyas was formed by Shri Buta Singh and Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi started his election campaign from there only. Today, objection is being raised on asking for permission to perform worship there. The issue is not of objection but of assertion that the Shiladan cannot take place even outside the disputed land. Whether Hindus will be prohibited from offering puja anywhere even outside the 67 acre of disputed land.

The present scenario is that Ayodhya has become a religious place, a place of worship and a pilgrim's place. People will continue to go there for puja and for the darshan of Ram Lala. Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are 14 temples where puja is taking place for 700-800 years. Today charges are being levelled against the Prime Minister and they are saying that he succeeded in doing what Babar and Aurangzeb could not do. They are pointing out that the Sangh and the BJP are stopping puja at even those places where it had not stopped even during the reign of Babar and Aurangzeb. My submission is that such a situation should not be allowed to arise in the country that being a Hindu and Hindu way of puja is a sin. Such spirit should not be allowed to evolve. If it happens, then a reaction is very much likely.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, here it is being said that we are under the pressure of Saadhus and I do not know why it is being done with the BJP. For the first time, I have seen that the Chief Minister of a State has invited everybody. The invitation letter has been issued by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in his own name. The leader of opposition was right in going there. But the Chief Minister invited everybody that such and such Shankaracharya would perform 'Sthapana' and all should come. They were provided free transportation either on trains or on planes. People who were unable to go on plane were also brought there which caused a lot of difficulties. It is good that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi went there. A picture of Soniaji seeking blessings has been published. It is good but whether it is proper that such an invitation would be made by a Chief Minister and is it proper that all arrangements were made by the Government on public money? Is it secularism? If Saadhus want to do something, it is opposed and is painted as communalism. This picture is published in the Indian Express:

[English]

Shankaracharya Krupanand Maharaj blesses Sonia Gandhi in Davengiri Temple.

[Translation]

and also that Shri Guru Ratneshwar Mahadeva Pranpratishtha and Ati Raudra Mahayajna — and below is written:

Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh Shaasan Adhyaksha.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): What is the problem then?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, whether a secular Chief Minister should organise such religious functions and arrange cars? Whether he should have done that?

[English]

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, he has done it in his individual capacity.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to submit that such a dual policy cannot be allowed to continue. Today, when we in this country...*(Interruptions)*. I am not against Shankaracharyaji but against the invitation sent to the Shankaracharyaji on behalf of the Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: What are you saying,

[English]

Shankaracharya is a State guest in some of the States.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, secularism cannot run as per one's convenience. I was telling you that do not use secularism as per convenience and it is not an issue of opposing any Shankaracharya. If anyone among us visit 'Kumbha' then we are branded as communal and if their leaders do the same they are designated secular. It is not right to define secularism differently for different persons. It is the point I certainly want to raise before you.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: They have a monopoly over taking both in Kumbha...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, under the prevailing circumstances, full efforts are being made on the Ayodhya issue and with the grace of God peace will be maintained there. However no stone has

been left unturned in thwarting the peace and order and to promote the agitation and it is carrying a lot of problem. I think that it will be far better if a conducive atmosphere is created by the co-operation of the people of Muslim Personnel Law Board and other leaders along with the opposition leaders and some solution is found by holding mutual talks. However constant hostility is not good. However, I want to make this allegation that efforts were made to ensure that no compromise shall take place and several impediments were created in the way of arriving at any settlement by applying pressure tactics also...It was done because the Hindu–Muslim Unity can threaten the business i.e. the interests of some political parties. Hence, they want the matter to remain unresolved and the hostilities to continue. The conspiracies are hatched to achieve this purpose. The court had tried to find a solution to it. However, today when the armies of India and Pakistan are infront of each other on the border and the danger of terrorism has started to fully threaten the country, the need of the hour is to maintain the unity, integrity and the communal harmony in the country to combat there dangers. Our hon. Prime Minister and other close associates have been trying hard to do so by confronting the criticism and various pulls and pressures. However, instead of helping them in the cause, it will not be proper to push the country into communal fire by criticizing and passing the buck to them. I hope that the entire House will consider the burning issues of economy, unemployment, poverty and education to make the country a great one and co-operate to quell the communal hatred. With these words I move the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anant Gangaram Geete.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, he can speak after Lunch Break and we also have to go for our Friday prayers. We have to listen to his speech also. Kindly adjourn the House for lunch now.

Sir, it can be taken up after the Lunch.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned.

Shri Geete, you can continue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Ten Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[Translation]

14.12 hrs.

Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at Twelve Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr Chairman, Sir, today the worship of Lord Rama is to take place on quarter past two. Hence, I would like to seek your permission to visit the temple and to adjourn the House for at least one hour...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You sit down. Your leader is speaking...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am seeking your permission. Today is our special workshop. The worship is scheduled to take place throughout the country at quarter past two. We have to go to worship. We should be given permission for one hour and the House may be adjourned for one hour....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: First, you resume your seat.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, today gave the permission for 'Namaj' and adjourned the House for an hour. Hence, the House should be adjourned for one hour and we should be given an opportunity to do worship...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except Shri Geete's speech.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your leader will be speaking.

...(Interruptions)

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* Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, when they sought the permission it was granted to them. Today 'Shiladan' at Ramjanambhoomi in Ayodhya is taking place and we are also to perform Puja. Sir, this is an issue related to crores of Hindus. Sir, what is it? Is it the secularism? You adjourned the House for an hour to allow Banatwallaji to offer Namaj...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your leader will speak now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except Shri Geete's speech.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please take your seat first. Shri Geete you please start your speech.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Geete, please control your Member. You are the leader of the party and you cannot control your Member. He is disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please take your seat first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow you. You please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please take your seat. Whatever you want to say, Shri Geete will refer to that.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not disturb the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Anant Gangaram Geete's speech.

...(Interruptions) *

* Not recorded.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You take your seat first.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you disturbing the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now it is enough, hence you sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already called Shri Anant Gangaram Geete.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Anant Gangaram Geete's speech.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, you control your Member.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Chairman, Sir, the House is under some impression. I want to remove that....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your leader is on his leg and you are disturbing your leader.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your leader is on his leg.

...(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, you start your speech now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when this House was adjourned for the lunch, then just prior to it, Banatwallaji had said that right now is the time for me to offer Namaj. At that time Shri Pandiyan was in the Chair. He had adjourned the House for lunch but the House was mislead to believe that it has been adjourned for Namaj. All these things have been highlighted here and these should be clarified...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You resume your speech.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I walkout against it.

14.17 hrs.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE *then left the House*

14.18 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS–*Contd.*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on President's Address moved by Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra. I support the Motion. The policies of the Government are highlighted in the President's Address. The NDA Government, since its arrival in power under the leadership of Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee has been making efforts to protect the interests of the farmers and the people living below the poverty line.

Our's is a agriculture based country and more than 60 percent of our population comprise of farmers who live in rural areas. Hence, the hon. President has lauded the efforts of the biggest section, i.e. farmers of the country. It was also done because more produce was expected then the last year. An estimated produce of 210 million tonnes of foodgrains is expected in 2001-2002 which is more than the 196 million tonnes produced last year.

In his Address, President clearly spelt out the agriculture policy of the Government before both the Houses. The foodgrains production in the country is increasing every year along with the increasing production of the vegetables and fruits. For many years we have been demanding and my party Shiv Sena has been demanding in every budget that the ban on selling the agriculture produce of one State into another should be lifted. Hon. President while explicitly making a mention of agriculture policy in this Address has said that now this ban will be removed. I welcome this policy. The farmer can get the appropriate remunerative price of his produce which he gets after putting into a lot of hard work.

Every State produces different crops like Maharashtra produces a lot of sugarcane. The Alfanso mango which is the largely exported variety of mango is produced in the region from where I hail. Gujarat which is our neighbouring State produces more groundnuts. Despite the large scale production of groundnut these we could not get the groundnut oil cheaply owing to the State ban. Removing this ban will not only benefit the farmers but the consumer also.

So, I welcome the agriculture policy that has been adopted by the NDA Government for the farmers...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Is the condition of the farmers good that you are welcoming the policy?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: This time there is good yield of onion in Maharashtra. Over production of onion has become a problem for onion growing farmers...*(Interruptions)*. This year there is maximum production of onion. The farmers are worried about the selling of onion. The way restrictions have been lifted on the transportation in the States, time and again it is demanded by the Maharashtra Government and we have also demanded repeatedly on behalf of Shiv Sena that this year, there is need to give permission for the export of onion as the permission is given for the export of sugar. If this year permission is not given for the export of onion, the condition of onion growing farmers in Maharashtra would worsen. This time there is high yield of onion there. Today like the onion growers, the condition of sugarcane grower in Maharashtra and cotton growers in Vidarbha is not good. The permission should be given to the States for export of onion directly. There is also need to give permission to the States for exporting cotton and sugar directly. If the permission is given to the State for exporting these things directly, then it certainly...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): So far as the cotton is concerned, the total export of cotton is free...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): I would like to inform the House that the permission has also been given for the direct export of sugar.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: The hon. Minister is submitting that the permission has been given to the States for direct export of cotton and for this I would like to thank the Government that you have lifted restriction on the export of cotton and sugar and you have given permission for its direct export. Therefore, I am demanding this because there is good yield of onion this year so there is need to take such step by the Government for the export of onion. As the farmers have been welcomed in the President's Address in the same way there is a mention in President's Address about the crores of poor people of the country especially those living below poverty line. He has brought to the notice of both the Houses that 10 kg food grain that was earlier given every month to each of the families living below poverty line was increased to 20 kg. Now the Government have decided to further increase 20 kg of food grains to 25 kg of food grain per month to the family living below the poverty line. Thus efforts are certainly being made by the Government to provide two square of meals to the poor people of the country. The nation is progressing towards the development and roads play a vital role in the development of the nation. It is said that the countries which have good road network connecting each of the villages can make more development. So the hon. President in his Address has mentioned about the roads in this context. In coming two years, our Government have decided to spend nearly ten thousand crore rupees per year on National Highways. We are thinking about the national development and the present decision that has been taken by the Government will certainly help us in achieving the goal of development.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, one other important scheme, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is being implemented in the country. Hon. President has also mentioned about it. Presently it is most popular scheme all over the country. The Government have sanctioned nearly seven crore rupees for the said scheme. Our country is a country of villages. There are many villages, basti and mohalla in rural areas in the country which are still not connected by roads. In these areas road connectivity is being provided through the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. President has mentioned about the farmers and also about the poor people. The farmers and poor people in rural areas are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood or are agriculture labourers. However, the farmers comprises 60 percent population of our country. Out of that 80 per cent are peasants. The small peasants cannot survive solely on agriculture. That is why these peasants irrespective of the States are compelled to leave their village and come to the towns and cities. They work as labourers in the industries and factories located in bigger cities of the country. The poor people of the rural areas of our country also work here as labourers. It is the responsibility of the Government to protect the interest of the poor labourer of the country. We are ally in the NDA Government. Even as ally of the Government, when the Minister of Finance in his budget speech last year had mentioned about labour reform and said that the factory having 100 or less that labourers could be closed down without the permission of the Government. We opposed it. Thereafter the number of labourers was increased to 1000. Thus the Government permission was not required for closing the factories, where 1000 labourers are working.

14.34 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Even today we are opposing it and Vijay Kumar Malhotra ji also said.

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur): You are supporting the motion but you are opposing him...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I support the motion of the Government and Government. If the Government take any step that is against the interest of the poor people of the country, I will oppose it. It is our responsibility. Our responsibility is towards the poor people and the labourers of the country and we are discharging our responsibility here. Vijay Kumar Malhotraji has also mentioned about it and at that every moment I opposed it. Consequently the Minister of Finance has not mentioned about it in his Budget speech this time. However, I have firm belief that no anti-labourer step will be taken by the Government. The hon. Prime Minister is present here. I am still firm on my previous view.

I have said that I oppose this and on account of this Maharashtra 'band' was announced. All the Unions are united on this issue irrespective of their parties and they

[Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

are one on this issue. So the Government is thinking about the interests of the farmers and following the policy which has been prepared for the protection of their interest. I hope that the Government which is following such policy will not take any step against the interest of the labourers. I am presenting such optimism before the House. When the Minister of Finance delivered his budget speech the opposition party expressed their dissent on two issues and the component parties of NDA have also expressed their disagreement in this regard in the House and outside of it, BJP may also be a part of it. The discussion is yet to be held on the Budget. The discussion on the budget has not been started yet in the House but I would like that the issue that is related to the interest of the poor people like the proposal of price hike of kerosene oil and LPG that may lead to hardship to the poor people must be reconsidered by the Government. For this I would like to request the Government and the hon. Prime Minister. I would like that the proposal which are anti-poor must be reconsidered by the Government. The issue of Ayodhya dispute is being discussed in the House for the last two weeks or rather the starting of the session. In fact the House has remained adjourned more and functioned less. We respect the verdict of the Supreme Court in this regard. However, I would like to oppose the stand of the opposition that it has taken on the statement of our Attorney General, Soli Sorabji in the House and outside of it. I not only oppose it rather I would like to condemn it...*(Interruptions)*. Our Attorney General has put his view before the nation through the media. If the courts asks him some questions and thereafter seeks his opinion, then I feel that his opinion may be wrong but I totally disagree that expressing own view is wrong. The court has given its verdict that puja will not be allowed at undisputed site also though Allahabad High Court has not banned puja at undisputed site. The Government and the House have welcomed the decision and honour the decision of the Supreme Court. Regarding the Court decision, I read in newspaper that the court verdict regarding the banning of puja on undisputed site is on account of the fact that whether it is disputed site or undisputed site but it is Government land hence the Supreme Court has banned puja at Government land.

Sir, I would like to bring this fact to your notice and to the notice of the House. Since it is Government's land so the Supreme Court has given verdict regarding banning the religious activity on the site. I am surprised to note that it is a secular country and we talk about secularism here. Every year Haj pilgrims go for Haj, crores of rupees are given as subsidy for this. I am not able to understand it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What is objectionable in it?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I do not object to it, it is given to any one...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Geete, please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Rs. 2 crore are allocated to M.P. under the MPLADS...*(Interruptions)*. If we want we cannot spend that money of MPLADS for any temple or Masjid. My question is that why can we not spend that money for that purpose. If we can spend on Haj then why cannot we not spend MPLADS funds for the construction or beautification of temple or Masjid or any other religious work. Since it is a secular State and when it is a secular State then the Government found cannot be spent on any such work, then why subsidy is given for Haj? We can construct temple from MPLADS fund...

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur): This is one sided.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This should be expunged.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am thankful to you.

[Translation]

I extend my thanks to you that you have spent on Kumbh fair, Gurudwara and Amarnath pilgrims, why are you speaking like this?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: No subsidy is given for Kumbh fair...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not interrupt the Member, please.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no subsidy and railway facility is given for

Kumbh fair and whatever is spent is spent on infrastructures...*(Interruptions)*. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am presenting the fact about the Kumbh fair before the House otherwise I am not telling anything wrong.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I do not want to raise a controversy. I just want to explain how this Haj subsidy had come into being. As a matter of fact, earlier Hajis used to go to Jeddah in a ship. When ships have been stopped, the Government said that since only the aircraft could be used, the difference between the air fare and fare by ship will be borne by the Government. That is how it has come into effect. It is not done on the request of the Muslim community. Earlier it was only performed by the ship. The Government was not able to send the ship. It was come into being because of the inability of the Government to send the ship there. It is up to the Government. Even the Committee on External Affairs headed by no less a person than the Prime Minister had said that this is a progressive measure. Even the hon. Prime Minister was constrained to give more subsidy. Are we responsible for that?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ahamed, all of you would be participating in the debate. You may note down whatever you want to say against this, and it when your turn comes. If any objectionable comment is there, I will expunge it. Let him continue now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, neither subsidy nor railway concession or ticket facility is provided for any Kumbh fair. Lakhs of people travel by train but no subsidy or facility is provided to them. As far as my knowledge is concerned, no subsidy is given to Haj pilgrims even in Pakistan. The subsidy is not given because use of Government fund for religious purpose is considered against the religion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. President in his Address has also drawn the attention of both the Houses to the danger of terrorism in the country. The danger of terrorism is still looming over the country. They have become bold after attacking the Parliament....*(Interruptions)*. They are interrupting me, then they say that I am taking too much time....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, it was decided in the BAC that each party will stick to the time allotted to it. If the NDA parties speak for three to four hours, what will be the time left for the Opposition parties?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Each party has been allotted its time period. I have got the list with me. That is why I am asking him to conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, your order will be obeyed in toto. But I am being constantly interrupted. When I speak against the Government, no body bothers about the time. Nobody raised the question of time. But when I try to convey the realities of the country and sentiments of the people then the issue of time constraint is raised.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir at the time of the discussion on Gujarat, I had mentioned that the threat to the country is more from the traitors who live within our country rather than from those who are outside our country. How could Pakistani terrorists reach here. Be the incident of Red Fort or of Parliament attack—who helps them?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Ask the Government. What else could be expected from a worth less Government.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Government would inquire into that...*(Interruptions)* Government are doing that and would take follow-up action.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now please conclude.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: But when POTO was moved in the House with a view to take action against the terrorists and to uproot terrorism, why it was opposed. Who are opposing POTO and why? Why it is not being passed in the House. The POTO was mentioned even by the hon. President in his Address, that is...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: The Parliament was attacked even while POTO was in force.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: POTO proved ineffective. What can we do...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jadhav, please do not disturb him now. Let him speak.

[Translation]

You are not allowing even your colleagues to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, POTO is needed to uproot terrorism. Opposing POTO is similar to support terrorism. A stringent law is needed to uproot terrorism and the law should be implemented, too.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, you have to conclude. Twenty minutes are allotted for you and you have taken 45 minutes. You have to conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I obey you and conclude by supporting the Motion of Thanks on President's Address moved by Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members present in the House whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks of the President's Address have been circulated may, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes, indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move. Those amendments will only be treated as moved. A list showing the serial numbers of amendments treated as moved will be put up on the notice board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the officer at the Table immediately.

Motion moved:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:-

'That the members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on February 25, 2002'."

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on the hon. President's Address.

But before I proceed to respond to the issues raised in the Address, I cannot but refer to the tragic accident which took the life of our esteemed Speaker, Shri Balayogi, who during his four-year short stint endeared himself to each one of us with his gentle manners and fair minded rulings; we will, for long, continue to miss him.

I also join the hon. President in paying homage to the martyrs who gave their lives to defend our Parliament, the symbol, the supreme symbol of our democracy.

The President's Address says:

"Maintenance of communal harmony and adherence to the secular ideals of our Constitution are the bedrock of our national ethos."

I rise in anguish and pain at the carnage at Godhra first and the subsequent genocide in Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Rajkot, Surat and other places in the land of Gujarat, the land of Mahatma, the embodiment of *ahimsa*.

Gujarat, I believe, is only a symptom. It is a symptom of a deeper malaise afflicting our country. This disease is called the politics of hate. The proponents of such politics, some of them at least, sit right in front of us; some of them are charge-sheeted.

The traumatic events in Gujarat have demanded us as civilised human beings, as citizens of a modern progressive liberal society with a cherished heritage of living together in a spirit of amity and friendship. The guilty must not be spared the punishment they deserve. We must all unite to ensure that peace returns to Gujarat and that such tragedies do not take place elsewhere in the country at any time.

I visited, with some colleagues here, the affected areas in Gujarat. I went to Godhra first and Ahmedabad. Words are too inadequate to express our horror at what we saw and what we heard.

15.00 hrs.

We had seen the remains of the charred bogies in Godhra; two surviving members of a family — a mother and the child who managed to escape the burning bogies; in Ahmedabad, the killings and the suffering of the people for no fault of theirs, frightened survivors; gutted property, and looted shops. Again in Ahmedabad at the Civil Hospital and at the municipal hospital, a wounded young child — the only survivor of a large family; a large number of young boys who were hospitalised with bullet wounds in their stomach. In Darya Gumbaz camp, we saw a father holding his young daughter in his arms who had been raped in front of his eyes and the eyes of his wife. In the guest house where we stopped for a brief moment, we heard the harrowing tales of the grieving widow of our ex-Member of Parliament, Shri Ehsan Jaffri. These

are the images that have shattered us and that will continue to haunt us. These brutalities were committed under the very eyes of the State Government whose complicity has been thoroughly exposed. I know that this word 'complicity' is not liked by the Government and is not liked by the Home Minister, in particular, but I shall repeat it. Complicity was what it was.

I listened to the Home Minister's reply the other day when we were discussing the Gujarat killings and I can say that much of what he said was at complete variance with what we saw in Ahmedabad and in Gujarat. It was at complete variance not only with what we saw but also with what we heard from the people directly affected and also with what we heard from the officers who were there to brief us. The Home Minister, of course, gave a clean chit to the Government of Gujarat and to the Chief Minister. Not only that, the Home Minister congratulated himself for bringing the situation under control so speedily. That was not the first time that he congratulated himself. He congratulated himself also on the 1st of March at 5.30 p.m. at the PM's resident when some of us were called because they wished to brief us on Gujarat. At that stage, Gujarat was still burning and at that very stage, the Home Minister congratulated himself for bringing the situation under control so quickly. Now, how it could be so in the face of clear evidence to the contrary is beyond my understanding.

The other day, when the Home Minister spoke here, he also came up with an incredulous explanation for the delay in deploying the Army saying that the deployment of the Army had to be delayed because it could have affected the security on our borders. Now we all appreciate the sentiment. But I would like to ask the question: is it not shocking that a Government that makes so much of security did not see it fit to make contingency plans to deal with precisely such a situation?

The State Government has been guilty of dereliction of its constitutional duties and obligations. We have stated earlier and I repeat it here that the continuance of such an irresponsible and callous Government is an at front to our democratic system. Its refusal to institute a probe headed by a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court mocks the feelings of all caring people.

Therefore, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I once again put to the Government the request that a judicial inquiry, has to be set up under a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court Judge.

The other question which is before all of us, and at least also before some of our colleagues from the Treasury Benches, from the NDA partners, is that no relief action had at all taken place till the day of our visit to Gujarat. I had the opportunity of meeting some NGOs after we met with the officials. They reiterated this and said that no relief, no coordination committee, no peace committee had been set up till that day. Therefore, I would through you, request the Government to look into this and if till today such an exercise has not been undertaken, I would like the Government and the Prime Minister to take a special interest in this.

The acts of omission and commission on the part of the Central Government in handling the situation in Ayodhya caused by the actions of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, I believe, are shameful, to say the least. Despite all our warnings on the build up of tension in Ayodhya, these were allowed to grow. At an all Party meeting convened by the Prime Minister on the 26th February, we were extremely concerned and therefore on the 22nd we had sent a letter to the Prime Minister asking him to call an all Party meeting and he very kindly called us on 26th February to discuss the situation developing in Ayodhya. But I must say with regret that at that point of time the reaction of the Prime Minister and the Home Minister both was shockingly casual. Both of them, wondered and were surprised to see us express such concern because at that stage, according to them there had been no violation of law and order in Ayodhya. We were told that yes, certain *yagnas* were taking place, but they were not taking place in the disputed area and therefore there was no reason whatsoever for us to be so concerned. I believe, at least we felt in our Party, that this was an outrageous distortion of the facts on the ground because we were receiving different reports from our workers and from our friends in Uttar Pradesh at that time.

Sir, the President spoke with reassurance on his Government's determination to protect the *status quo* in Ayodhya. But, the other day the country and well learned with shock and dismay of the duplicity of the Government's agenda in the Supreme Court. It now transpires that while the people of our country were made to believe that the Prime Minister and his government were neutral in regard to the proposed VHP plan, the Prime Minister was instructing his Attorney-General to plead for that very plan in he court. Indeed, the Prime Minister's statements have been ambiguous throughout.

The Prime Minister, as we all know, initiated a dialogue with religious and community leaders. This, I am afraid, was no substitute for firm and resolute action by the Government. The Prime Minister and his senior Party colleagues exhibited neither the will nor the capacity to deal with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad's blackmail, and blackmail it was.

[Shrimati Sonia Gandhi]

As a matter of fact, the Central Government tacitly connived with the VHP and, as has now been exposed, apply collaborated with them.

On 27th February, the Home Minister wrote to the State Governments saying that in view of the volatile situation, all volunteers and prominent leaders of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad must be prevented from proceeding to Ayodhya. A few days later, on 11th March, the State Governments were asked to provide police protection to *kar sewaks* travelling by train to Ayodhya. Now, why this 'U' turn? We would like to know as to why this 'U' turn has been taken. Perhaps, the explanation lies in a letter written to the Prime Minister on the 7th March by several BJP Members of Parliament threatening him and his Government with dire consequences if the Prime Minister did not fall in line with their demands. I have both the documents here with me — the letters that the Home Minister sent to all the States on two occasions. Now, could this perhaps be the reason which made the Prime Minister change his mind and cause the Government to instruct the Attorney-General to intervene in the manner he did in the Supreme Court? What are we to make of a such a Government? What are we to make of a Government that does not know its mind, a Government which is full of contradictions, which puts factional pressures above national interest and caves in to communal forces?

I now turn to national security. After the terrible events of 13th December, the Government received broad support to deal with the situation in a manner that best protected the national interest. We were all one on this issue. Thereafter, we saw an unprecedented build-up of troops on our borders. Today, three months later, I believe the nation seeks answers to some basic questions.

The first question is, what progress has been made in extraditing the 20 most-wanted persons identified by us who are till today in Pakistan? The second question is, to what degree has cross border terrorism sponsored by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir declined? The third question is, in what way has Pakistan's approach to and policy on Jammu and Kashmir changed? And the fourth question is, in what way has the international community responded to our concerns after Gen. Musharraf's speech at 12th January?

The Government claims that it has a clear strategy on Jammu and Kashmir. I am afraid that , on this side, see no evidence whatsoever of such a strategy. The misery and suffering of our brothers and sisters in Jammu and Kashmir continue unabated. The lives of our valiant security personnel continue to be at grave risk. The support that the Government has been receiving from us and indeed from the whole country in its search for a durable peace in Jammu and Kashmir has, I believe, been frittered away.

On security still, I regret to point out that even after two years and more, this House is still in the dark about the action taken on the Subrahmanyam Report on Kargil. As a matter of fact, we have not been allowed to discuss it. We have not ever been given the opportunity to discuss this Report in the House, leave alone the implementation of that Report. Instead, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, what do we get from the Defence Ministry? Scams, scandals, skeletons tumbling out of every cupboard.

An Inquiry Commission has been set up. Shockingly, long before the Commission has completed its inquiry, the Prime Minister rehabilitates the subject of the inquiry and gives him a clean chit. I wonder what kind of a message the judge received on this issue. He is in the process of going through with the inquiry and the Prime Minister gives a clean chit to the subject of the inquiry. I believe, we all know what kind of a message must have gone to the commission.

Now, the CVC Report on Defence deals is being hushed up. Journalists who have exposed corruption high places are being harassed. A member of the Union Cabinet has mounted a scathing attack on the CAG and defined the authority of the PAC. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I ask the Prime Minister through you what are we to make of all this? I can only say that this is farce, a plain and simple farce. This is a theatre of the absurd.

On the situation in the North-East, the President has said:

> "Peace, security and development in North-East continue to receive my Government's focussed attention."

How ironic? The *ad hoc* way in which the Government handled the talks with the insurgent groups led to turmoil and violence in Manipur not only in Manipur but in many other parts of the North-East. Some of the NDA partners even colluded to topple the Congress Government in Manipur. But their own Government quarrelled over the spoils of Office and very briefly after, fell. As a result, ethnic strife, and political anarchy followed.

Notwithstanding the deplorable collusion between the NDA partners and the underground, during the recent

elections the brave people of Manipur have spoken and the Congress is now leading a coalition Government in Manipur.

Sir, the recent Budget has made a mockery of all the sentiments expressed in the President's Address. It contains nothing but tokenisms. The Government claims that the economic fundamentals are sound. How can they be sound? For four long years, there has been deceleration in growth, slow down in industry and famine in investment. The employment scene has never been so grim before. As a matter of fact, the Government policies have struck fear in the heart of the working class. Where is the consultation that should have taken place with the trade unions and with the National Labour Commission? I am told that such consultations have simply not taken place. At a time when the country is facing sharp economic slow down, why is the Government talking of retrenchment? The Government had promised, I think, 10 million jobs a year. All we hear Government talk about is firing employees. Now this, I believe, is misplaced priority. Again the President's Address claims that the Government is committed to rural development. Yet, we find in the Budget that the allocation for the Department of Rural Development in 2002-2003 is lower than the anticipated expenditure in 2001-2002. Worse still, in terms of physical achievement, there is a shocking shortfall in attaining targets in every single programme of this Ministry. The failure in rural development, naturally aggravates the burden of our farmers who are already groaning under the burden of mounting debt, thanks to increase in the price of urea and other fertilisers.

Our house-wives have been hit hard by the increase in the prices of cooking gas and kerosene. Pensioners and senior citizens are seeing the value of their savings dwindle. We have yet to see a significant programme to utilise the huge stocks of foodgrains presently in the Government godowns to benefit the weaker sections of our society and the vulnerable regions of our country. The President's Address also claims credit for privatisation. There is one question that all of us are asking. We would like to ask the Government through you, why are profit-making companies are being sold off? Why are our strong public sector companies being weakened?

Another serious matter that has been agitating us is that of the communalisation of our educational and intellectual institutions. We have spoken about this on many occasions. But what we have said has been of no use at all because this exercise continues in the Government. It is not just a question of communalisation but the manner in which bigots are being placed in positions of prominence and responsibility. Academic excellence and integrity has been totally abandoned in favour of those who champion sectarian agendas with half-truth, lies and distortions. We, in the Congress Party, demand the immediate constitution and convening of the Central Advisory Board of Education without whose explicit approval there can be no changes authorised in the text-books.

Before closing, let me say, how gratified I was to listen to para 47 of the President's Address where he drew the attention to the fact that this year marks the first decade of the empowerment of *panchayats* and *nagarpalikas* through the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution. These amendments, I believe, are in some ways the most enduring legacy of the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. And the fact that we now have 34 lakh elected representatives at the grassroots, over 10 lakhs of whom are women, is a matter of great pride to us, at least to us in the Congress Party. There is, however, a long way to go to fully realise the dreams of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Therefore, I would like to completely associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. President and I would like to suggest that we have a special debate on how these institutions of local self-government can be strengthened and improved.

Now, in conclusion, I place on record our grave concern and dismay at the comprehensive collapse of governance at the Centre. With every passing day, the BJP-led Government's total inaptitude, shocking insensitivity and blatant support to bigoted forces stand exposed. The consequences are being borne in a most tragic manner by our people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, our people yearn for peace and harmony. Our people yearn for security. Our people yearn for a life of dignity, for a life of prosperity and well-being. This Government, I am afraid, has betrayed their hopes and expectations. This Government has failed the nation.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities thus making them beyond the reach of the common man." (321)

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing essential commodities to the poorer sections in remote areas through Public Distribution System." (322)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating a time-bound programme to provide employment opportunities in the rural areas to prevent exodus of educated youth to the urban areas seeking job opportunities." (323)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to check unabated brain-drain of doctors, scientists, technicians and experts from the country." (324)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing unemployment in the country and the need to provide unemployment allowance to the unemployed educated youths to mitigate their hardship." (325)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the closing down of 90 collieries of ECL, thus throwing one lakh workers out of job." (326)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reducing custom duties and increasing excise duties to benefit steel and other industries." (327)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about brining out a Bill for providing minimum wages to agricultural workers." (328)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to ensure implementation of 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendment bills by making it mandatory for the State Governments to conduct election after every five years." (329)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to monitor the effective implementation of land reform in the country." (330)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for all round development of under developed districts in various States." (331)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the repair of existing National Highways and construction of new National Highways in the country especially Eastern Zone." (332)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking necessary steps for implementing the programmes of safeguard the interests of the minorities in the country." (333)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about constructing more dwelling units for the economically weaker sections of society in the country. (334)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about introducing an integrated crop/insurance Scheme to save the poor farmer community from natural calamities." (335)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive Legislation to arrange pension

for the most neglected rural labourers who are neither in a position to make out livelihood nor their children are in a position to support their parents." (336)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effective measures to make primary education compulsory." (337)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures for providing cold storage facilities for vegetables, fruits, etc. in order to enable the farmers get remunerative price." (338)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the distribution of waste land to the local farmers." (339)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing vocational training to the rural unemployed youth and women to make them self-reliant." (340)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to encourage construction of Ports." (341)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the stabilising cost of electricity for the benefit of consumers." (342)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to curb atrocities on Dalits." (343)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a legislation for protection, welfare and all round development of minorities." (344)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive plan to provide basic needs of food, clothing and shelter to the poor people in the country." (345)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures to check the growing menace of the poverty, unemployment and disparities in the country." (346)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about businessmen and the multinational companies profiting at the expense of common man." (347)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the deteriorating economic situation in the country leading to closure of public sector undertakings." (348)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for improvement in cattle breeding and also checking the spread of diseases among them." (349)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the progress of various schemes to convert barren land into cultivable land through a time bound programme." (350)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking adequate steps to eradicate

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

communalism, casteism, linguistic chauvinism and regionalism from the country." (351)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rapidly declining ground water level and availability of water in the country." (352)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive action plan at national level for water conservation." (353)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up of small scale industries in every village so as to stop large scale migration from villages to cities." (354)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about introducing free and compulsory primary education to every child through the medium of his/her own mother tongue in order to eliminate illiteracy." (355)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a new labour policy with a view to provide round the year employment to the labourers working in organised and unorganised sectors." (356)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of the report of the Commission for Linguistic Minorities." (357)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive scheme to generate more employment opportunities in the rural areas." (358)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about appointing a Committee of Experts to suggest permanent measures to control the loss of lives, crops and property due to natural calamities." (359)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking effective measures to combat the growing atrocities against women and children in the country." (360)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking concrete steps to check the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities." (361)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating a time bound programme to abolish bonded labour exiting in certain parts of the country." (362)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking effective measures to check the problem of increasing pollution in the country." (363)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing malnutrition problem in the country." (364)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating an action plan at national level for soil conservation in the country." (365)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating a time bound comprehensive action plan to eliminate child labour in the country." (366)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about appointing a Committee to suggest reforms in judicial process to enable expeditious disposal of both criminal and civil cases." (367)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the spurt of the disease like Hepatitis-B, T.B., H.I.V., Kidney and heart ailments and various poverty related diseases in the country and providing timely medical facilities for them." (368)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the schemes for the time bound development of primary education, secondary education and higher education in the country." (369)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making arrangements for augmenting the production of foodgrains, pulses, oil in proportion to the increasing population of the country." (370)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about meeting the shortage of cold storage facilities for storing vegetables and other perishable food items in the country." (371)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to check price rise of potatoes, onions, oils, pulses and other essential commodities in the country." (372)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to pull the country out of deficit financing crisis, unearth black money and prevent tax evasion." (373)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effective measures to check hoarding, black marketing, profiteering and adulteration etc." (374)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the scheme to save various States from the fury of floods and loss incurred by the people and the State Governments." (375)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about linking all the villages by roads." (376)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the construction of pucca houses for the people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and weaker sections in the country." (377)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the installation of hand-pumps for providing potable water for the poor people in the States." (378)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about national loss due to recurrence of floods and droughts in the country and effective steps to be taken to control the menace." (379)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to check rampant corruption in the country." (380)

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to check child labour and women trafficking." (381)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the development schemes for farmers, labourers, youth and women." (382)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing number of sick people and general deterioration of the health of the people in the country." (383)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the miserable performance of India in international sports and games inspite of large population." (384)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the meagre investments in the field of science and technology in public and private sectors." (385)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing unemployment in the country." (386)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about unemployment allowance to the unemployed youth who are registered with Employment Exchanges." (387)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address for expeditious disposal of criminal and civil cases pending before the Courts." (388)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to rectify the failures of the Government to streamline the Public Distribution System in the country." (389)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address for providing sufficient incentives to the small scale industries in the face of stiff competition from the multinational companies." (390)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the spread of the AIDS in the country."(391)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about lack of transporting facilities in more than 50% rural areas of the country." (392)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the serious crisis of drinking water in rural areas in the country and to evolve a national policy on drinking water." (393)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about inclusion of 'Right of Shelter' to in the Constitution as a Fundamental Right." (394)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about evolving a time bound action plan to eradicate the growing poverty in the country." (395)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about review of the Private Sector Power Policy as it has failed to take off in a significant manner." (396)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing the latest equipment in the Government hospitals for the treatment of every growing number of cancer, heart and kidney patients in the country." (397)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reforms to the educational system so as to make it employment oriented as the present system is not relevant to the needs of the present day society." (398)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for comprehensive changes in the industrial policy to check the large scale migration from villages to cities as a result of uneven industrial growth in the country." (399)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the continuing incidents of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the need to take appropriate steps to stop them."(408)

That at the end of the Motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing incidents of attacks on the minority communities and the failure of the government to stop them." (409)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about growing incidents of attacks on the places of worship of the minority communities." (410)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the continuous rise in the prices of the essential commodities and the failure of the government to take necessary steps in the order to bring down the prices." (411)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures to check the ever increasing pollution in the country." (412)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating a national policy for de-silting of inter-state rivers of the country to increase their water carrying capacity." (413)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to formulate a comprehensive scheme for the educational and economic development of SC/ ST and other Backward Classes." (414)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the serious situation arising out of the continuous devaluation of the Indian currency and the need to take necessary corrective steps." (415)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to evolve a compressive plan to promote cottage industries particularly agro based industries for the development of rural and backward areas." (416)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementing a time bound policy for the overall development of the villages in the country with special emphasis on drinking water, primary education with mid-day meal and free health care in all the village panchayats in all the country." (417)

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Commission for reviewing the Constitution which was constituted by passing Parliament and violating all democratic norms." (418)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the effects of lifting quantitative restrictions on imports." (419)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a specific plan for providing employment to educated unemployed youth in the country." (420)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protection of the Constitutional rights of the Minorities." (421)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strict implementation of Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 so as to abolish dowry system from the country." (422)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rise in the price of essential commodities which has hit the common people in the country." (423)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about banning the entry of private sector, indigenous or foreign, in the Insurance Sector." (424)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the eradication of illiteracy from the country." (425)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to control wide-spread erosion of land taking place in various parts of country especially Murshidabad, Nadia, Hooghly and Bardhaman districts of West Bengal." (426)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to control wide-spread sea erosion which is taking place in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country." (427)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about equality of wages etc. for the women." (428)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for women health and child care." (429)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about land reforms." (430)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to formulate a policy of youth." (431)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing corruption in the administrative machinery at various levels and the effective measures to eradicate it." (432)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added* namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the formulation of a policy to remove regional imbalances and have uniform development of all the regions in the country." (433)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the revival of sick industrial units in the public sector and rehabilitation of the displaced workers." (434)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing remunerative prices to the farmers for the agricultural produce in consonance with the rising cost of the inputs." (435)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the decision to decontrol prices of sugar and other items." (503)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the large scale import of hazardous industrial waste from the developed countries leading to serious environmental degradation in the country." (504)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the country's falling into debt trap." (505)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increase in per capita foreign and internal debts." (506)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the move of the government to sell out pubic assets." (507)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's abandoning long established foreign policy of the country." (508)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the ongoing exploitation of workers and employees particularly the workers in unorganised sector." (509)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's decision to retrench employees in Government and Public Sector Undertakings in the name of voluntary retirement scheme and thereby aggravating the existing unemployment situation in the country." (510)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the move to saffronise the education system in the country." (511)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to provide proper rehabilitation to the peoples evacuated from sites of dams in the country." (512)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reported cases of suicides by the farmers due to fall in the prices of agricultural produces." (513)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reported cases of starvation deaths in various parts of the country." (514)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the mushroom growth of various engineering and technological colleges not maintaining the high standard of studies thereby spoiling the future of engineering and technological students." (515)

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about menace of capitation fees being charged by private run educational institutions." (516)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about curtailing the activities of the fundamentalist organisations openly defying the laws of the land." (517)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protecting wild life which is under serious threat by indiscriminate poaching." (518)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the sharp decline in forest cover the country." (519)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the attempts to privatise the Indian Railways." (520)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about depletion of area of agricultural land in the country." (521)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to contain corruption in the bureaucracy." (522)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the privatisation and commercialisation of education and government's move to adopt class based education system thereby widening the social divide by turning towards a more elitist system." (523)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing number of contract appointments being made in universities across the country." (524)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the attempt to erase Medieval India from the school history text books." (525)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about growing unemployment in the country." (559)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive plan to solve the problem of unemployment and to give 'unemployment allowance' to all unemployed youth registered with Employment Exchanges in the country till they gain employment." (560)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing poverty in the country and the government's strategies to evolve a time bound action plan to eradicate it." (561)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about appointment of a special commission/ committee to suggest reforms in judicial process to unable expeditious disposal of both criminal and civil matter." (562)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about efforts to streamline the public distribution system in the country." (563)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to help the small scale industries by providing sufficient incentives to face competition from multinational companies." (564)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to evolve a continuous mechanism and procedure to resolve long pending inter-state river water disputes in the country." (565)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the "right to shelter" to be included in the Constitution as a fundamental right." (566)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the "right to work" to be included in the Constitution as a fundamental right." (567)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to ensure strict implementation of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961." (568)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about evolving a new National Wage Policy." (569)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to evolve a time bound action plan to eradicate the growing poverty in the country." (570)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the uneven growth of industry in the country, resulting in large scale migration from villages to cities." (571)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective measures to increase industrial growth and industrial output." (572)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about continuous import of the crude oil at high cost and the need to augment the domestic production so as to attain self-sufficiency." (573)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growth of communal and obscurnatist forces in the country and appropriate measures to curb such activities." (574)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to constitute a high level committee of experts to survey and study India's coastline for the protection of ecology and environment." (575)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to formulate an action plan at national level to tackle the problem of rapidly declining ground water level and lack of availability of water in the country." (576)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to set up at least one small scale industry in every village in order to prevent the migration of the people to the urban areas in search of jobs." (577)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take steps to make khadi and village industries more result oriented and productive." (578)

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to formulate a comprehensive programme to completely eliminate illiteracy and to introduce free and compulsory primary education for every child through the medium of his/her mother tongue." (579)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to formulate a new labour policy to provide employment opportunities round the year to all sections of labourers." (580)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of reports of National Commission for Minorities." (581)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to formulate a comprehensive scheme to generate more employment opportunities in the rural areas." (582)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to initiate proper measures for the elimination of child labour in the country." (583)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about continuing incidents of atrocities on women and children and to take appropriate steps to stop such incidents." (584)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking immediate preventive action to deal effectively with the threat to take over the acquired area at Ayodhya and commence temple construction." (400)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the threats to commence temple building on the Babri Masjid complex at Ayodhya and to take cognizance of the serious and continuously developing situation at Ayodhya." (401)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the observations regarding 'madrassas' and centres of Islamic learning contained in the report of the Group of Ministers." (402)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about giving protection to minorities in the country and madrassas and also preventive various groups dubbing and referring to them as ISI agents or terrorists." (403)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Draft New Curriculum for school education and the need to remove its defects." (404)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any crash plan for alleviation of poverty." (405)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about efforts made by the Government to end the United Nations sanctions against Iraq." (406)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rehabilitation of the victims of disastrous

earthquake in Gujarat." (407)

SHRI E. AHMED (Manjeri): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about handing over the land where the Babri Masjid stood before it was demolished." (457)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any effort to prevent construction of a temple at the site where the Babri Masjid stood, in violation of the Apex Court's orders." (458)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any measures to ameliorate backward sections of the people particularly the Muslims." (459)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about solving the grievances of the Muslim community over their inadequate representation in Government and public sector undertakings." (460)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the marginalisation of largest minority community of this country i.e. muslims in social and public life." (461)

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the aspirations of the people of Vidarbha region regarding their genuine demand for creation of the Separate State of Vidarbha." (713)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the setting up of a Special Bench of the Supreme Court at Nagpur." (714)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the setting up of a Special Economic Zone at Nagpur which has potential for setting up of industries and scope for boosting the country's export." (715)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the setting up of a permanent International Exhibition Centre on the lines of Pragati Maidan of Delhi at Nagpur which is centrally located and an ideal hub site between South-East Asia, Australia, Japan, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Sharjah." (716)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the assistance being provided to the Government of Maharashtra for the development of Multi Modal Hub at Nagpur Airport." (717)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Saurasthra-Silcher linking road via Nagpur with a view to develop centers like Ahmedabad, Vadodra, Surat, Mumbai, Nasik, Nagpur, Raipur, Sambhalpur and Kolkata on way to Silcher." (718)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about development of Tourism in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra State which has 13 Wildlife Sanctuaries and several other places of tourist interests." (719)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the assistance being provided by the Government in establishing basic health centers at places vulnerable to the Sickle Cell disease effecting the tribal population of Vidarbha region and to eradicate it completely." (720)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be taken by the banks to recover the huge loans advanced to the industrial sector." (721)

[Shri Vilas Muttemwar]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about restructuring the loss making Public Sector Undertakings to get better value from disinvestment." (722)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the revival of sick units in the country." (723)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken by the Government to put a curb on the wasteful expenditure." (724)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be taken by the Government to conserve ancient heritage centers in the country." (725)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about streamlining the public Distribution System in the country." (726)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps taken to check the growing drug addiction among school an college students and the youth in the country." (727)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating a comprehensive plan for the educational and economic development of the minorities." (728)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about preparing a comprehensive plan by the Government to check the growing unemployment in the country." (729)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to check the increasing slum clusters in the urban areas of the country." (730)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I beg to move

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the check on the increasing threat of communal forces." (832)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about preventing the persons making announcement to violate the court orders on Ayodhya issue and gathering at the place." (833)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about preventing the date of public undertakings arbitrarily." (834)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the checking irregularities and corruption in various Government departments and high places." (835)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to form a strong public opinion throughout the world to end the terrorism." (836)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the programmes for natural calamity in the country and to provide relief to the affected persons." (837)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about plans for disaster management." (838)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing assistance and relief to those who had been affected by floods in West Bengal and Bihar." (839)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a uniform policy and programme for relief and rehabilitation to overcome natural disaster in Gujarat, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal and other States." (840)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the National Youth Policy to promote established democratic values in the Constitution and to make the youth able to the meet the challenges before the nation." (841)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a policy and programme to provide socio-economic justice to the poor backwards, dalits, adivasis, exploited and deprived people." (842)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing the benefits of reservation to the women belonging to the Dalit Adivasi, Minority Communities and Backward Castes, who are actually oppressed and deprived." (843)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about completing the Buddhist Tourism circuit by connecting Bodhgaya Rajgarh, Vaishali, Kasaria Sugail by Rail and Road to promote the tourism in Bihar." (844)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about developing an international tourism place in Vaishali the birth place of Bhagwan Mahavir on the occasion of twenty sixth hundredth century of Bhagwan Mahavir in Bihar." (845)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete bound programme to implement the National Population Policy" (846)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to provide highest priority to the internal and external security of the country." (847)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about Government plans for ensuring safety of common people in Jammu and Kashmir from terrorists." (848)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to ensure safety of non-Assamese in north-eastern States." (849)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any programme to provide employment to the unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir." (850)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing employment to the unemployed persons of the country." (851)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete programme for the benefit of the States which have recently been divided to form new State." (852)

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the creation of new States such as Gorakhaland, Telangana, Harit Pradesh, Poorvanchal, Bodoland, Vidarbh, Vindhya and Saurashtra." (853)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the constitution of a States Reorganisation Commission." (854)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about allocation adequate funds to Bihar, under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth plans." (855)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about waiving of outstanding loans to Bihar State." (856)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about completing Gandak Phase-II and Kosi Phase-II projects in Bihar." (857)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about giving special status to Bihar in view of its economic backwardness." (858)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the memorandum given to the Prime Minister by sixty members of Parliament from Bihar to solve the problems of Bihar and the action taken on it." (859)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reopening of closed sugar mills in Bihar." (860)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take action by the Union Government for the electrification of all the villages in Bihar." (861)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about not releasing Bihar its share of while giving electrification." (862)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing adequate fund, under M.N.P. to Bihar and to Jharkhand for rural electrification." (863)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing adequate funds, under Ninth Five Year Plan for centrally sponsored schemes for agricultural department in Bihar." (864)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about 10 lakh hectares of land in Bihar which is under water logging and any programme to make it free from water logging." (865)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address abcut protecting Bihar from floods through an agreement between India and Nepal and the action to be taken by the Union Government to compensate for the loss caused by floods every year." (866)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about giving an economic package of Rs. 1,79,000 crores to Bihar after its division into two States." (867)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about not releasing outstanding money to Bihar under Panchayati Raj held as per the recommendations of Tenth and Eleventh Finance Commission even after the Panchayat elections." (868)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the setting up of power transmission line in Bihar with economic package of Rs. 335 crores after division it." (869)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the problems being faced by lakhs to labourers due to the closure of factories in New Delhi."(870)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up of 2600 ideal villages near Vaishali the birth place of Bhagwan Mahavir, on the occasion of twenty sixth hundredth century celebrations." (871)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protecting the farmers from anti farmer's policy and W.T.O. and concrete action to provide them minimum support price for their produce." (872)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protecting the farmers from deteriorating economic condition which forcing them to commit suicide." (873)

[English]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Solapur): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive plan of action to effectively implement the reservation scheme for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so as to give them due representation not only in the services of the SState but also in the private sector and corporate sector enterprises which receive benefits from various schemes and programmes of the Central Government including nationalized banks." (941)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for providing special incentives to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of society for post-matric education including provision for free hostel accommodation." (942)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for providing special opportunities to the people of Backward and Dalit Classes in all the fields." (943)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for proper representation of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the judiciary." (944)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ensuring adequacy both on the part of the Central and State Governments and other agencies concerned in disaster management measures including construction of the houses for the victims of the earthquake that hit Gujarat especially Bhuj-Kutch and Ahmedabad on the Republic Day last year and the absence of an effective disaster management mechanism." (945)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the proposed closure of to over 69 textile mills throwing at least 37,000 workers out of job." (946)

[Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about pathetic conditions of weavers all over the country in general and Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka in particular, many of whom had to resort reported by to suicides in the recent years." (947)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme or programme for the socio-economic development of the weavers by offering them working capital through banks and promoting exports of the hand-loom products." (948)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken and being taken to turn around the loss making public sector National Textile Corporation and the non-viable units under the corporation." (949)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the appointment of a Commission to go into the problems being faced by the sugarcane growers and sugar industry in the country." (950)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the appointment of a National Commission for the Aged." (951)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any effective measure to be taken to eliminate the dominance of money and muscle power in the election process and to bring suitable legislation to prevent criminalisation of politics." (952)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for improving the sex-ratio of the population in different States and to stress the need for working out a comprehensive programme to discourage male preference and medical termination and other means adopted for female foeticide and discrimination against the female child." (953)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to abolish the Child-labour in the country, especially in the industries of fire-works, matches, carpets, textiles and beedi-works." (954)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive plan of action to effectively reduce the population which has already crossed one billion mark threatening to cross the population of China, the most populated country of the World." (955)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for providing monetary incentive to the children of BPL parents." (956)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for providing Employees Provident Fund benefits to the agricultural workers and domestic servants." (957)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for a comprehensive plan of action for providing protection of labour laws to the workers in the unorganised sector including provision for minimum wages for them." (958)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the continuing large scale imports of hazardous material and industrial wastes leading to serious environmental degradation." (959)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the endangered species and the need for augmentation of facilities for safety, security and promotion of wild life including the tigers, lions, elephants and rhinos in the sanctuaries and reserves in different States." (960)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for literacy campaigns and to train unemployed youth of the country, particularly in the rural areas to enable them to find suitable job opportunities in the present scenario of development of information technology and computerization in different fields of the industry and life in general." (961)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing trends in crime against women; for providing special courts and judicial procedures for giving them justice by providing for trial in camera keeping in view the dignity of women." (962)

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reckless disinvestment of profit-making public sector undertakings." (1008)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective measures to revive the loss making public sector undertakings." (1009)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the government's decision to amend the labour laws which curtails the hard earned rights of the working class." (1010)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the government's move to dismantle the public distribution system to the detriment of the poor people in the country." (1011)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing unemployment in the country leading the frustrated young people to join various militant and insurgent organisation." (1012)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) being vigorously implemented by various government departments including public sector undertakings adding to the ever growing Pool of unemployed in the country." (1013)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the plight of millions of farmers due to steep fall in prices of agricultural produce including cash crops like rubber, tea, coffee, cotton etc. resulting in severe losses and indebtedness all over the country." (1014)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the pathetic socio-economic status of women in the country-side and the need to take immediate steps for formulating special schemes aimed at improving their socio-economic conditions particularly those engaged in agriculture sector." (1015)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the closing down of 90 collieries of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. throwing about one lakh workers out of job." (1016)

[Shri Ajoy Chakraborty]

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about proposed closure of 60 NTC Mills throwing about a lakh workers out of job." (1017)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for enacting a central legislation providing for minimum wages and welfare of the agricultural workers through out the country."(1018)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps to combat the growing atrocities against women and girl child in the country." (1019)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps to abolish child labour in the country." (1020)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective measures to abolish bonded labour." (1021)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the availability of safe drinking water in rural areas in the country." (1022)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps for the revival of the sick public sector industries and rehabilitation of the affected/retrenched workers." (1023)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their agricultural produce in consonance with the rising cost of inputs." (1024)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the inadequate medical facilities in the rural areas of the country and need to provide specialized medical facilities by setting up well equipped public hospitals in rural areas." (1025)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about long pending inter-state river disputes in the country and need to evolve an effective mechanism and procedure to resolve them." (1026)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the dwindling budget allocation for social security measurs in the successive budgets."(1027)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to attain economic self-reliance and to review the adverse impact of the policy of globalisation, liberalization and privatisation in the Indian economy." (1028)

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the atrocities on women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Class people in the country and need to take effective administrative and legislative measures to prevent them." (1029)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the Motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to safeguard the interests of the consumer in the country." (1030)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to stop the exploitation of labour supplied by contractors in the government establishments." (1031)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to upgrade and modernise the airport at Chandigarh." (1032)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to reduce the gender in equality and rising incidence of female foeticide." (1033)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to fight the rising corruption in the country." (1034)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to check the increasing gap between the rich and the poor and rising unemployment." (1035)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the formulation of a National Youth Policy with emphasis on education, employment, character building and sports." (1036)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the acceptance of 'right to work' as a fundamental right." (1037)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making the higher education affordable for the students belonging to families of modest means." (1038)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reducing the shortage of junior officers in armed forces and steps taken to attract youngsters of the forces." (1039)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the adverse effect on the lives of retired persons by the cut in interest rates on small savings." (1040)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to check the indiscriminate use of polythene leading to environmental pollution and encourage recycling the use of polythene." (1041)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about inadequate compensation paid by the Government to the land owners on acquisition of their land and need to amend the law to this effect." (1042)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken, to accelerate power production in the country and to make it available to all on affordable rates under a time-bound programme." (1043)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to reform the pension schemes for the widows and other destitute women." (1044)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making policies favourable for the Small Scale

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

Industry and young entrepreneurs in the country." (1045)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Prime Minister's Government assurance to provide institutionalised system to help the road side workers and hawkers in cities." (1046)

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about early completion of the Sethu Samutharam Project in Tamilnadu." (1047)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the difficulties being faced by the small and medium manufacturing industries." (1048)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about adequate financial assistance to States to overcome the difficulties faced by them, particularly Tamilnadu." (1049)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the irrigation tanks in Sivaganga, Ramantha Puam, Pudukottai districts in Tamilnadu and for early release of funds for supply of water and renovation of tanks." (1050)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increase of funds for the MPLADS." (1051)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the performance of N.B.F.I.s and Co-operative Banks." (1052)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the unemployment problem in the country." (1053)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any proposal of Union Government's compensation to the farmers and farm labourers of the Cauvery delta where harvested and ripened crops have been severely damaged by heavy unseasonal rains in the first week of February, 2002." (1054)

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to speak in support of the Motion of Thanks on President's Address. Leader of the Opposition was speaking prior to me. It is true that the responsibility of opposition is to criticize the Government when it goes wrong, but it should also laud the Government on its good work.

As for the Ayodhya issue mentioned by her, it has been a clear policy of the hon. Prime Minister and the Government that the solution to the problem would be either by bilateral agreement, or by consensus or through acceptance of judicial verdict. At least they could have appreciated that the Government have succeeded in maintaining peace in Ayodhya. The issue raised by you would be answered by the Government and the Ministers.

They were expecting that once again riots would occur in Ayodhya and again the proceedings of the House would be disrupted. But perhaps the peaceful atmosphere there has disappointed you. Therefore whatever they said, reflects that they were not expecting this turn of events in Ayodhya.

Para 21 of the President's Address says that the Essential Commodities Act would be modified. I congratulate the Government for this. Today there is a restriction on the transportation of agro-produces from one State to another. Now the farmers could take their produce to other States and sell it at better prices. That should be lauded. But I want to draw the attention of the Government towards my State—which produces fruits. Himachal Pradesh is also known as a State of fruits or Apples. The policy of importing fruits has created problems

for fruit growers living in remote areas. The problem is of competing imported fruits as the transportation facilities in the remote areas are not adequate. Inspite of the efforts of the Government, Himachal Pradesh does not have enough roads and transportation cost of fruits to the market is very high. We had brought this to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister earlier also. I grateful that import duty on imported fruits has been raised to provide relief to fruit growers living in remote areas. I expect and trust that the import duty on fruits will be further hiked to provide relief to domestic fruit growers.

Para 22 of the Address mentions food security, so that the poorest among the poor, who used to get 10 Kgs. of grains earlier, then 20, would now get 25 Kgs. Per family. I congratulate the Government on this. Not only that, under the 'food for work' programme, various States are getting 30 metric tonnes of grain-especially those States which suffer from natural calamities such as droughts etc. They would also get more foodgrains under the programme. I welcome it. There cannot be two opinion that roads are our life lines. The problem of the farmers could not be solved unless the villages are linked to roads. I am not saying that the earlier Government did not make efforts for road construction, but we have to admit that the attention paid by this Government and the Prime Minister personally, has been unprecedented as far as linking of villages with roads in concerned.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you, towards two projects mentioned by the hon. President in his Address — the National Highway Development Project. For the first time, Government have resolved that 13,000 Kms of roads would be metalled, widened and would be converted into four or six lanes. The Golden Quadrilateral Project, which was targeted to be completed by 2003, is now going to be completed one year in advance. I congratulate the Government for this. It is not just on papers but has become a reality. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal is here, he and I use this highway to go to Chandigarh. You should look at the change...*(Interruptions)* you should see and accept the reality. Accidents were common on the highway. Now you would have to admit that the number of accidents has gone down and a standard highway has been constructed.

Sir, as far inaccessible areas are concerned, through you, I would like to bring one thing to Prime Minister's notice, which he is already aware of. The shortest route connecting Leh-Ladhakh, via Kullu-Rohtang Pass, Baralacha and then leads to Leh remains under snowfall for almost nine months in a year, whereby link to rest of the country remain cutoff. Security point of view this road has become more important and the area below Rohtang Pass was surveyed many years ago with a view to construct a tunnel there. I am happy that the Prime Minister had once said that a tunnel at this point would be constructed. This National Highway is not only very important from tourism point of view but strategically also it is very important. Complete survey of this area has been conducted. Rites company has submitted its feasibility report also. Earlier, it was estimated to cost Rs. 1500 crore but now with the availability of latest technology it would cost only Rs. 500-600 crore.

Sir, through you, I would urge the Government to consider its construction as soon as possible. Open tender should be involved for this purpose so that the Department of Surface Transport can undertake tunnel construction work expeditiously. It would reduce the travel distance by 49 kms.

The construction of this tunnel will facilitate Leh-Ladakh service and supply for armed forces for 9 months a year and it will be blocked only for 3 months because Baralacha experiences less snowfall than Rohtang Pass. I am sure, the Government would surely pay attention towards it.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): *There are three more passes including Lachangla and Baralach which are higher altitude. Construction of a tunnel at Rohtang only will not serve the purpose.*

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: *As far as Baralacha is* concerned, it is alright since snow melts early at this point. Rohtang remains closed for more time. Neither Baralacha has been surveyed nor there is a need to construct a tunnel there. But construction of a tunnel below Rohtang Pass would keep the road traffic worthy for nine months a year. A report to this effect is available with the Government and since I represent that very area so I am well aware of it. Construction of this tunnel is important for security of this area. I am sure that the Government would pay attention towards it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, para 34 provides for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. It is for the first time when issue relating to rural roads, especially the village which have no road connectivity, has been taken up. But there are several obstacles in it. I would like to thank hon. Prime Minister for resolving to provide road connectivity in the villages with population of 500-1000 in first phase by 2007 in plain areas and villages with

[Shri Maheswar Singh]

population of 250-500 in hills. Today, the Government are spending crores of rupees on just one road. I, myself and on behalf of the Government of Himachal Pradesh would like to convey thanks to the Prime Minister and the Government for having undertaken this Yojana.

But so far several villages have no connectivity, which are surrounded by forest or forest land. There are three types of forests — Class-I, Class-2 and Class-3 forest. The fourth class is forest worthy land. At the time of settlement during British era, as per Anderson Report uncovered land was classified as forest worthy land not forest land. But introduction of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 proved disastrous for us. Even today in case of road construction this Act creates major hurdle. Under the provision of this Act, forest department is to be compensated even if not a single tree existed on land acquired. But for road construction under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, land owner will have to donate his land free, if required for construction of rural road. on the other hand, if compensation for Government land is to be paid, the State Government would not be able to compensate it from their limited resources. Therefore, my submission is that this provision be relaxed. Hence, unless the relaxation is provided, no road would be able to be constructed under the provision of Act of 1980. I am sure that the Government would surely relax this provision of Act of 1980. I am sure that the Government would surely relax this provision so that approximately Rs. 7000 crore allotted under this scheme can be utilised properly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to add one thing. The Members are to recommend the roads desired to be constructed to the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development. But whenever, we write to the Ministry, they say that unless the proposal is forwarded from the State Government we would not entertain the proposal submitted by the Member. The States have their own priorities. Therefore, my submission is that at least one road in each block be taken up on the recommendation of Members of Parliament. The funds may directly be allotted to this Department. It would protect our position amongst the people otherwise it creates a difficult situation because our priorities do not match. We do not get detailed project report of proposal forwarded by us. Therefore, if we are given this much right and at least are road in each block is taken up, we would be greatly thankful to the Government.

Sir, as far payment of compensation of trees is concerned, I have already said that the economy of States is already in bad condition and they would not be able to pay it. Thus the villages surrounded by forests would not get road connectivity. Hence, I am sure that the Government would relax this proviso so that compensation is not required to be paid. So far as the issue of new connectivity, which is main object of this scheme is concerned, most of the unmetaled road are being taken up for metaling and tarring. My submission is that 50 per cent amount be spent on metaling and taring of old roads and 50 per cent on new connectivity. Other no new village will be able to be connected with roads. Therefore, there is a need for making such provision.

Sir, para 37 and 38 express concern on power shortage. Sir, you know that I hail from a State which has enormous laid power generation capacity. I am grateful to the Prime Minister for having laid foundation of Parvati Hydel Power Project in my constituency where the work is in progress. But the pace of the progress is slow. Forest Conservation Act, 1980 creates hurdle there also, because entire uncovered land is categorised as third class forest land. Therefore, it is a typical problem. It is our fortune that the present Minister of Power is the same person who was Minister of Environment and Forests earlier. Thus, he is well aware of impediment created by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in delaying the project. Unless, it is resolved, such problems would keep on arising. There is one more problem. The rule relating to wildlife sanctuary says that blasting during breeding or mating seasons for animals is forbidden for it disturbs their mating cycle. In some of the areas snow fall occurs for some months. Thereby three months are left for no work during breeding and mating season and snowfall stops work for six months. Thus, the work can be taken up only during 3 months and no work during nine months. In this way how the project work can be taken up expeditiously. This needs to be considered seriously. I feel there is a need for better coordination between our Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Power and clearance process should be made time bound, so that project can be commissioned expeditiously after obtaining environment clearance.

Sir, yesterday, there was a question relating to energy conservation which we call power theft or transmission loss. In reply to this question maximum transmission loss was stated to be in Manipur to the tune of 59.55 per cent. Jammu and Kashmir stood second at 47.64 per cent and Mizoram third at 43.79 per cent. Delhi's figures are not included in it. In Delhi it is 43.71 per cent. I do not know why power theft and transmission loss is so high in these States. In fact, in hilly States, it should be

comparatively less, because people in hilly areas are honest and transmission loss is more there. I would like to say one thing that if we want to reduce transmission loss, we will have to implement Energy Conservation Bill strictly.

Sir, APDP programme was launched by the Government and if inaccessible districts, where transmission losses are more, are not included in it and plain districts are included, the problem is not going to solved. Hon. Prime Minister knows that Kullu, Manali, Lahul, Spiti, Kinnor, Bharmor and Mandi come under my Parliamentary constituency. But I am said that not a single circle from my constituency has been included in APDP.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wrote to the Union Minister of Power, but it was of no use since no district was included in APDP. I do not say that not a single circular was included, four circles from Himachal Pradesh have included and I am thankful to the Government for it. But it would have better if inaccessible areas, where transmission loss is more, would have been included on its priority basis.

Sir, with regard to tourism policy, it has been stated that the Government are going to bring new tourism policy. I welcome it. Himachal Pradesh is gifted with natural beauty and not only domestic tourists but foreign tourists also come to have a glance of it. We are gifted with a stone whereby cement can be manufactured and water by which power can be generated. But our greatest problem is financial crunch. Connectivity is a problem in Himachal Pradesh. Road is the only mean of transportation. Air service of name sake only. Air service has been provided to Bhutan, Simla and Kangra.

Sir, when Kullu had unmetaled aerodrome Foker Friendship, Dakota and Avro used to land there. Now, since the aerodrome has been metaled, a 17 seater, Dornier, like "Urankhatola' lands at Kullu. One way fare is Rs. 4,900 which is too much. If a person spends Rs. 10,000 only on to and fro journey and returns back from airport, how can it lead to promotion of tourism?

I am grateful to the Prime Minister for having ordered for expansion of airstrip. He further announced that the Government are soon acquiring ATR which would facilitate landing of a 50 seater plane. I urge the Government to give it priority.

Sir, Himachal is a hilly State like North Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttaranchal. These States have helipad where hill–taxis can be operated. My submission is that Air Taxies should be promoted so that it can even become a case of revenue for the hilly States. Through you, I would urge the Government to accrue ATR planes at the earliest.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now I would like to submit about last issue as I know that the time allotted to me is over. Therefore I would finish up my speech but take my seat before you order me to conclude. So far as Panchayati Raj is concerned, I welcome reservation for women and dalits in Panchayats but the permission relating to rotation of seats each year should be changed because it does not create the sense of accountability among these Members. When I am aware that a particular seat, wherefrom I would be contesting election is going to be reserved next time, then how far I would be able to render social service. It is provided that all the candidates would be given training within three years in a phased manner. But when their rotation comes for training and by that time they complete the training, their period would be over. And when that seat is reserved he would not be able to contest election from that seat. Then what would be use of training imparted by the Government?

Sir, Panchayat does not means Pradhan only, it means entire panchayat. Thus the issue of direct elections of Pradhan should be considered. When Members of Block Samiti have a right to elect the Adhyaksha, the Members of Zila Parishad have similar right, Legislators have the right to elect their Chief Minister and MPs have a right to choose their Prime Minister then why 'Panch' (Members of Panchayats) are deprived this right. Today, the status of Panch is reduced to negligible and none wants to contest election of Panch. Pradhan is everything but Pradhan is not whole Panchayat. The Act provides for giving priority to whole Panchayat, whereas practically it is not so. Today, most of the Pradhans are all in all in the Panchayats and the 'Panches' have no say. Therefore, it is imperative that the Panch should not be deprived of their rights to choose their Pradhan. The issue of rotation should be considered so that if any Pradhan commits a mistake people should have a right to punish him. Today the situation is such that if any poor lady is elected a Pradhan, by the time she learns something her term expires. If we want to solve this problem we should ponder over it.

Sir, as far as allocation of funds is concerned, 30 per cent funds are allotted to Zila Parishad and 70 per cent to Block Samiti Shelf. But the reality is reverse. I have seen the reality at several places. The Member of Zila Parishad feel that it is their discretionary grant and they ignore Block Samiti Shelf. It is against the spirit of

[Shri Maheshwar Singh]

Panchayati Raj Act. The Government should ponder over it and should see that 70 per cent funds should be spent as per Block Samiti Shelf.

The Government should see that Zila Parishad Adhyaksha does not spend rest of funds the way he likes. Members of Parliament and Legislators should keep a watch on it. I am greatly thankful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak. I conclude with these words.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I join the hon. Leader of the Opposition in paying my homage to our former Speaker Shri G.M.C. Balayogi and to the martyrs who gave their lives here on 13th December and also to the victims of the communal carnage.

We have all the highest regard for the Rashtrapatiji. But, we cannot but sympathise with him that he had to read a most useless and stale parchment which has not the slightest relation to either reality or to reliability. According to me, if we go through it, all this rigmarole is nothing but a hoax perpetrated on the people of this country. It has an irritating length as we all have found that day, but not any depth and is nothing but a litany of benal platitudes.

The NDA, whatever maybe its pretensions, neither represents the nation nor has any democratic pretence any longer. It is a most opportunistic alliance surviving upon division of spoils without any programme acceptable to all the Parties and the only cementing factor appears to be the greed for power — some direct and some indirect. The NDA is like a railway platform. I have said it earlier. Anybody can come in and anybody can go out at any moment of time. Parties come and go with some sort of regularity. The Ministers are going out and coming in. Why are they going out and why are they coming in — nobody knows. But nothing is for the sake of this country, but to keep this motley combination together.

Even the hon. Prime Minister has taken over our 'C' team from us. He described a particular ally of his as our 'C' team, CPI (M)'s 'C' team. He has even taken away that to him. Of course, we have disowned them. Another Party, which left in anger has again been brought in. They are all waiting for the ministership and probably what has happened very recently yesterday and today may result in...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, this is the man, this is the Party which described Shrimati Indira Gandhi as the 'witch' and now they are speaking like this...*(Interruptions)* Yes, they described Shrimati Indira Gandhi as 'witch' when Emergency was there...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, one Minister had to go because of serious charges of corruption and because another ally demanded the acceptance of the resignation. They demanded and went out of the NDA because their demand for acceptance of resignation was not being complied with by you, Mr. Prime Minister.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): It is good if they come to you.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: And the same Minister has come back when the proceedings are pending and issuance of a notice under Section 8-B of that Act pre-supposes some sort of *prima facie* guilt, at least something to inquire into. Otherwise the Commission would not have issued that notice. Now he is ensconced back into his seat. Of course, the people of this country have no manner of doubt as to what is the real credibility of this Government.

Therefore we see, Sir, whenever the people are getting an opportunity to express their views on the performance of this Government or these parties, they have unceremoniously thrown this party and this combination into dustbin. They have lost every election, and the result of Punjab election is absolutely tell-tale. People's determination to defeat this Party, the B.J.P., the leading Party in this combination, compared to them, the Akalis have maintained almost their strength, and the people's anger against the B.J.P. has been made very clear by the result of this. Why are the people so angry? Within three years of this dispensation under the benign leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who promised a Government with a difference, why are the people so angry?

Well, the hon. Member who spoke just now restricted himself only to roads, I believe, so far as I could understand. Of course, the seconder of the Motion has done his uncomfortable duty of supporting this Government, but is nowhere to be seen here. Why are

the people angry today? It is because whatever this Government has done is either non-feasance or malfeasance, either they have not done anything or whatever they have done, they have made a mess of it. Today, people are shuddering to think whether this country's unity will survive because what the Constitution enshrines as a basic principle of our Constitution, namely, equality — it is a constitutional mandate, irrespective of caste, creed and religion — is almost in shatters. People are worried about that is very dear to all right-thinking members of the society in this country, namely, the secular character of this country. People are worried whether this will ever remain because it is under direct challenge. What is happening now is that almost the secularism is dead so long as this Government is there. It has brought about speedily, and our Prime Minister is sitting over the corpse of secularism as a *kapalik*.

Sir, I hope, you will find an opportunity for us to discuss the Prime Minister's Statement about Ayodhya. I hope that we shall get an opportunity to discuss the tantrums of the Attorney General in the Supreme Court and outside, and the Government's abject cowardice in taking shelter under the Attorney General.

But, Sir, one matter I cannot avoid referring to just now. We understand, it is not denied and I wrote to the hon. Prime Minister yesterday as soon as I got the information, that a Government official on behalf of the Statutory Receiver, which is the Government of India, is going to accept a *shila* from VHP or *Nyas*. What is happening to this country? The question of 'inside' and 'outside' is immaterial. What is the Government's role in it? The *shila*, I take it, will be purified, maybe, deified. A deified *shila* with all sorts of *puja* will be ceremoniously given to a Government official. What will he do with it? Where will he keep it — on his table or some religious place has to be found out? He cannot give it to the *pujaries* or *sadhu babas*. He has to arrange for the *puja*. He has to keep a *pujari* for that.

16.00 hrs.

He has to construct some sort of a protection. What is happening to this country? The hon. Prime Minister does not seem to at all take it seriously. Even today I heard this gentleman again on television, one Shri Gupta, saying that he would accept it so long as it is outside the disputed territory.

Sir, I would like to ask one thing. The State of Uttar Pradesh is under the President's Rule. Who has authorised this gentleman to accept this? Who has given the instruction and for what purpose? What will he do with that? Is it in consonance with the secular character of our Constitution?

16.01 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

Sir, where are the funds coming from for maintaining and for proper retention of the *shila*? This is nothing but a constitutional sacrilege that is going to happen unless it has not happened already. This is nothing but a constitutional sacrilege.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): The District Magistrates always bear this kind of a responsibility in the interest of law and order...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Dr. Sengupta, I know you are an Advisor whose advise is not taken. Nobody has asked for your advise...*(Interruptions)* This is the position of your new ally.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore, I hope although we would have an opportunity to discuss the other matter, yet this is an urgent and serious matter that requires immediate action. If no action is taken, then I charge this Government with complicity in trying to pander to the fundamentalist ideas, approaches and policies of the VHP, *Nyas* and everybody else...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, he is creating provocation on the floor of this House when the day has passed off peacefully...*(Interruptions)* Sir, he is using this House to create provocation...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: They want to create unrest in the country. They want to stage riots in the country. The peace is prevailing in the entire country, they want to create unrest in the country...*(Interruptions)*. Their purpose has not been solved. They are unable to bear political oblivion. They are responsible for creating disturbances...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bandyopadhyay, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, we also are a political Party...*(Interruptions)* The communist parties are always in mood to create disturbances in the country...*(Interruptions)* We cannot tolerate this...*(Interruptions)* Everybody should restrain themselves...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Sir, he is in the habit of disturbing the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: What are you doing?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bandyopadhyay, he is not yielding. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): The work is being done in a peaceful manner, as per the Supreme Court's verdict, why they are objecting...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: They are having problem, they do not want peace...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi): What problem they are having? If the work is being discharged in a peaceful manner...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: They are getting restless. They want to create unrest. They want to incite riots...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please sit down.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Are they telling the truth? This is their attitude...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

They are totally intolerant...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are obviously people who are more royal than the king! I do not wish tot take lessons on sense of responsibility, on patriotism on nationalism, from all and everybody in NDA.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL: Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to ask one thing from him.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you.

[Translation]

I am not giving you permission. You sit down.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Prime Minister, as also the Home Minister, expressed great concern over the situation in Gujarat. However, the sins have been washed away, or attempted to be washed away, of those who are, according to us, either directly responsible or connived at the incidents that have taken place. I demand that this Government take adequate steps to provide relief to the affected people. They have no faith in the State Government. Till today, not a single relief camp has been opened as I have been able to find out. Thousands and thousands of people are left to the mercy, I would say under the care of NGOs which have got very limited financial capacity. Their infrastructure facilities are very limited. These victims of communal carnage are being left to fend for themselves; this is unimaginable.

What is essential today is to bring back a sense of security in the minds of the people, of the minorities particularly. Exoneration of the people who are concerned, by the highest in this country, only deepens the sense of insecurity. It does not remove the sense of insecurity in this country. What steps have been taken? Even yesterday there have been incidents, incidents of arson, incidents of stabbing, incidents of killing. Of course, mass looting has become a fundamental right of rioters also. This is what we are told and this is the situation there. The methods to be followed for Government to immediately bring back a sense of security is not only protection but also providing the affected people with relief; giving them adequate compensation; and also holding an inquiry by a Supreme Court Judge which alone will instill confidence amongst the minorities and the affected people there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wrote to the hon. Home Minister because I got some SOS messages from the students who have to sit for examinations which is due to commence in a few days. For no fault of theirs their books are burnt. They cannot study; they cannot go to schools; they cannot prepare themselves for the examinations. What will happen to those young boys and girls for no fault of theirs? After the earthquake, very rightly and appropriately examinations for the boys and girls in the affected areas were postponed. Some decision has to be taken now also. Otherwise, they will lose a year without any fault on their part. If these things are not attended to, how can we expect the affected people

to have confidence in the measures that have been taken, or the Government's real intentions?

All of us have condemned these incidents, these inhuman incidents, either the Godhra incident or the subsequent ones. However, the degree of condemnation cannot decide the response to the situation, the Government's action towards meeting these problems.

Therefore, I demand that apart from compensation, relief work has to be done, protection has to be given; and the Inquiry has to be conduced by a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court, which we had also mentioned in the earlier debate and it was rejected by the Home Minister.

Sir, of course, since after the incident of 13th December, 2001, we are like in a fortress, and rightly so. I am not disputing that. Seriousness has to be there. We must protect the citadel of democracy of this country, the biggest institution of democracy of the country. But I will again ask the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister to explain to the people of this country. They had been talking about the possible attack on the Parliament building.

The Prime Minister referred to it, in his speech in Mumbai openly in the Birthday party a few days before that attack, that there was a serious threat of attack on Parliament. Similarly, the Home Minister had also been mentioning of the possibilities of the attack by terrorists. Obviously, they had some sort of information — I take it — through intelligence sources. They were utilising this for the purpose of berating the Opposition for not supporting POTO. They were utilising this for the purpose of political gains and not for taking any precautions around Parliament House building, as we find today. There is no strengthening of forces here. Even on the day this incident happened, there was not the slightest alertness shown by the Government or by whichever law enforcing agency, to protect this building.

Why? They owe an explanation to this country as to why no steps were taken in spite of the foreknowledge that there might be possible terrorist attacks. After the incident had happened, rightly steps have been, I am not objecting to that although sometimes creating difficulties.

Therefore, this is a very serious matter for which the Prime Minister and the Home Minister owe an explanation to this country.

Here, there is no mention of it. There is not a word of remorse, not a word of explanation as to why no steps were taken when they had pre-knowledge, foreknowledge of some sort of attack that might take place.

Sir, another very serious matter is relating to what is happening in the Ministry of Defence. *Tehelka* Inquiry is going on. But during the Inquiry, the Defence Minister has been brought back to the Cabinet. His resignation seems to have lost relevance. But Sir, the most important thing is that he threw a challenge saying, "I will send the records of all these contracts to the CVC and the CAG. Let them explain. Let them go into it." And, the CAG which is a constitutional authority went into it. It gave a adverse report. But what is the response of the Defence Minister? What is the response of this Government? Can any Cabinet Minister act whatever way he likes? Will the Prime Minister not take the responsibility for his Minister's action?

He calls some journalist of his choice, a friend of his and gives him papers and documents of the Defence Ministry saying they are not secret. Will he give it to everybody? Will he give it to anybody and everybody? Then, that gentleman journalist, a friend of his makes a report of quite a few pages, which the Defence Minister is circulating, free of cost, to all the Members of Parliament. What is happening? The way CAG has been abused, insulted and criticised under the guidance of the Defence Minister, I want to know is there a Government in this country, is there a Constitution functioning in this country?

Can you do that? Who has paid for that? We would like to know these things. You cannot run away, Mr. Prime Minister, from answering these things. Who arranged for this? Can a Minister, a sitting Minister, who has been brought back to the Cabinet abuse a constitutional body in this manner through his protege? Are we in some sort of a Alice in Wonderland? Is Humpty-Dumpty ruling us? Can anything be done in this country? Still it has not been withdrawn; that publication is still in circulation. CVC report is not being given to the PAC. The Defence Minister cannot trust his Members of Parliament, but he can trust this journalist-friend. This is the something amazing that is happening in this country.

What shall I say of the economic policy of this country? Even Dr. Sengupta with all his support to this Government is very unhappy! I cannot think of a total comprehensive failure of a Government as we are seeing in the economic front today. Where is your professed or proposed or promised rate of growth? Where are the jobs that you promised — one crore jobs every year? Where is the strengthening of the Indian industry? Total decimation of indigenous industry in the country is taking

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

place. They are gasping for breath. In the name of commitment to WTO, you finished everything. The most hated words so far as the industry is concerned have become the words 'Indian industry'. It is an amazing attitude! Everything is now passed on to world recession. This is the danger that we have been pointing out; if you tie yourself to the coat tails of a major economic power, without considering your own interests this happens. Whenever there is recession in the USA, you are bound to face the consequences of it. How do you tackle that? What is the respite for Indian industry? What is the respite for the small-scale industry? What is the respite for the cottage industry in this country? Has anything been provided for that in the Budget except some platitudes? Year after year, similar programmes are being announced and schemes are being announced. So far as performance is concerned, we find it be almost a zero.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the other thing is about disinvestment. I said earlier and probably, I am repeating it too often. Every country has a Minister of Investment; this is the only country in the world which has a Minister of Disinvestment. Which company are they choosing to disinvest? I sympathise with Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya. He has now to take recourse to only poems and nothing else. We have no jobs; we have no labour left in this country, except the bonded labour.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): Now, he is not the Labour Minister.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): He is no longer the Minister of Labour; he is the Minister of Social Welfare.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: In the case of social welfare also, it is the same thing. After finishing off the labour, he has been sent to social welfare.

Which are the companies which are being selected for disinvestment? Why profitable companies are being selected for disinvestment? What is the performance? They cannot be termed as badly-managed companies, VSNL is one such company, the whole country is proud of. If there is any difficulty in its functioning, it is under your control and so, you can change it and improve its functioning. This is a deliberate attempt to get rid of these companies only for the purpose of realising funds which could be added to the Consolidated Fund of India, to cover up the deficit as much as possible. They are not able to pay interests and they are in a debt-trap. Therefore, important companies are being sold.

Now, we find the jugglery of book-keeping. IOC is purchasing the IBP shares. What is being disinvested? Both are Indian Government companies. IBP was a Government company taken over by another Government company; where is disinvestment in this case? What sort of welfare is being taken care of? Whose welfare is taken care of, Dr. Jatiya?

You are the Welfare Minister, I understand. Whose welfare is it? This is deliberately being done to favour one or two big companies and the MNCs in this country. How Jessop has been dealt with, and how others are being sold for a song?

Now, the most difficult segment of this country — of course, they are now gasping — is the industrial workers. You almost made them surrender. They cannot fight even. Now, you are proposing changes because these big companies will come. Now-a-days, the modern companies with modern equipment do not need more than 500 to 600 workers. Therefore, every company should be permitted to hire and fire.

Mr. Chairman, I would very humbly make a request to the hon. Prime Minister. He gives sympathies to us when we go and meet him. I know he is in a very difficult seat. What can he do with all his companions and combinations he has chosen for himself? What can he do? When we went to meet him twice or thrice for saving Indian Iron and Steel Company which is one of the greatest symbols of Indian industry and embodiment of the very successful Indian venture and one of the biggest steel concerns, we wanted Rs. 1000 crore in two-three instalments. When we met the Prime Minister, he gave us sympathy but the money was taken away by others. All these monies are coming, thanks to the functioning or non-functioning of Shri Arun Shourie. He is like a bull in the China shop. He is breaking down everything. Mr. Prime Minister could Rs. 1000 crore not be given for Indian Iron and Steel Company out of the sale proceeds of so many companies? You could have saved 27,000 workers and their families and one of the greatest Indian industrial ventures. Could it not be saved even now? Why are you not utilising these funds for either modernisation or for setting up new industries? What has happened to your promise for jobs? I believe this is the only Government which is giving VRS.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: When there was a Japanese proposal and it was being done by the Rajiv Gandhi Government, you people stopped it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I do not know what he is saying. If he has retained his senses, he would have been elsewhere. I do not mean a personal reflection. I am talking about his political and economic perception. We never opposed it. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev criticised Shri Jyoti Basu on he floor of this House. Shri Dev was the Minister of Steel at that time. He said that look here what a communist Shri Jyoti Basu is! He is now, inviting the Japanese to come and run it. We were abused then. Now, Dr. Sengupta is referring to something else which is totally contradictory. But why do you not do it now? Who has stopped you? We are pleading with the Government of India. You cannot sell away everything and close down everything. NJMC is closed down and so many other units are closed down. This is a deliberate attempt to finish the Indian industry and you are presiding over the total decimation of the Indian industry. Nothing called indigenous is left. We have no sense of pride. We have only become seekers of charity from others. We are not on our own strength. That is why people are giving their verdict.

Now, Shri Sharad Yadav is the Minister of Labour. He is now a bonded labour himself.

We here and now give notice that we shall oppose every step in the attempt that is being made today.

Sir, I know you are looking at me with piercing eyes. I do not wish to take much further time. I would like to request the hon. Prime Minister to give his Government's views when he replies on the future of the public sector industry in this country. What does he think of public sector industry? Will it remain or not remain? What does he propose to do with regard to them? Even today the Armament Industry of the Defence is being opened. Nobody knows what will happen. Telecom has gone. ITI became a profit-making industry after the intervention of the Standing Committee on Information Technology. We have some minimum sense of satisfaction that after the Report of the Standing Committee, the Government did take some action and it become profitable. But, now you are looking for purchasers of a profitable unit. You are only happy if a sick industry becomes profitable because you can then get a better price. This is the attitude of the Government.

This is a Government which has failed on all fronts. That is why there is total unrest in the country. Secularism is under challenge. Equality of the people is under challenge. Its progress is under doubt. Whatever you are doing is total malfeasance. I do not know what is the future of the young people whom we are showing every day to the world that there is a pool of talent in this country. Look at the young boys and girls. They are of the highest intellectual standard. But they cannot get jobs here; they have to go elsewhere. There is no future for them in their own country.

Agriculture is in doldrums. *Kisans* are committing suicides even in the supposedly most efficiently run States.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): In West Bengal also.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Not as yet. If it continues longer, probably it will happen. Even your friend sitting next will not say that. The poor is under attack. PDS is almost dismantled. This is a country where Government storehouses are full of foodgrains; but the people are dying of starvation. What a wonderful achievement of this Government.

Therefore, I cannot but oppose this connection of the President's Address with all respect to the hon. *Rashtrapatiji*. I know his agony. I could understand his agony when he had to read through all this. Therefore, this is an Address which is taking the country for a ride. We shall never allow this Government to affect the country's interest, to affect secularism. Today I am happy that greater and greater resistance is coming not only inside the House together, but also outside the House. This resistance will secure the people their rights and with all its intentions, this Government will not be able to take away their fundamental rights. People will preserve them with all their might.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: We also support the IISCO modernisation proposal. The IISCO modernisation was proposed to be done through SAIL. But the then Chief Minister of West Bengal wrote a letter to the Steel Ministry to implement it through a private party. If I am challenged, I will produce the letter of the Chief Minister on the floor of the House.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is indeed a very enlightened Address given by the President of India to the Parliament on the 25th February. We can always speak against others but instead of finding the holes, we should try to evaluate the good things that the President has said. There is no

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

doubt that there are certain deficiencies but the steps that have been taken by our hon. Prime Minister, in creating infrastructure is one of the greatest things. Earlier, our villages were left without being attended resulting in migration from villages to the cities. But with infrastructure creation, the villages are being looked after. With the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, so many roads are being laid and village sanitation is also being looked after. There is compulsory education for children upto the age of 14. We have passed a Bill in this regard. But I also request the hon. Prime Minister to fix an effective date for its implementation at least for the coming academic year so that we not only pass the legislation but also see to it that the legislation comes into effect. Only then, we can reap the fruits of its. The construction of roads under Golden Quadrilateral connecting all metros will ease the situation in the country for speedy movement. We are also grateful that the policies of the Government of India has eased the telecommunication system and information technology. There is no wait list for gas connections and telephones. Formally, they used to be a privilege and it was a very bad situation. But today, that situation is not there any more. Is it not a good thing that this Government has done in its entirety?

Decentralisation of panchayati raj system of democracy has been established. A decade of panchayati raj system has been consolidated and elections were held peacefully and now the system is functioning all over the country. Is it not a great thing that has been done by this Government.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga): This Government did not do it. The Congress Government under Shri Rajiv Gandhi did it through the 74th constitutional amendment...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Sir, I am not yielding...*(Interruptions)* But in our State, the Congress Government did not hold elections for panchayats.

We talked about the recent incidents of violence in Gujarat. It was a very tragic and unfortunate incident but at the same time, this Government has brought the situation to normal within 74 hours which we should not forget. Normalcy has been restored at the earliest within 72 hours. But I plead with the Government to immediately rehabilitate the victims of these incidents of violence both in Godhra and other towns of Gujarat. Some learned speakers he expressed that the children are not able to attend their examinations. The future citizens of this country should not have any difficulty in their education.

We should see to it that normalcy is brought back and examinations are held according to the schedule so that the students do not lose one academic year. Two-thirds of the population of this country live in villages. They are all farmers. They contribute 40 per cent to the GDP even today. But when we see their plight, it is very tragic. Some of the farmers are committing suicide. They are not getting their due share. They are unable to sell their produce. We say that the farmers are producing in plenty and that they produce more foodgrains that what is required. We are not producing more than what is required. There is mal-nutrition. Foodgrains are not available in many parts of the country. The distribution system is not effective. There are restrictions on the movement of foodgrains from one place to the other. They are not getting remunerative price. We are not able to export their products and we are not able to save them. The food processing industry is the most neglected industry. We are not able to process the perishable products, like fruits and vegetables. We are not able to export them. This is an area which we should look into and help the farmers to get remunerative price. The most important thing is to give them remunerative price. We are also removing most of the incentives available to the farmers. We have increased the price of fertiliser. At the same time, the procurement price has not been increased. We have imposed several restrictions. How can farmers make a living if we put restrictions on the prices of foodgrains? We have to improve the marketing. The marketing has to be effective. An effective marketing system is the need of the hour. We are lagging behind in marketing system and in formulating an effective credit policy for the farmers. The banks are not extending proper credit to the farmers. When they are contributing forty per cent of the GDP, we are giving only about twenty per cent of the net available surplus of the bank finance. We are giving only twenty per cent to the farmers, that too with great difficulty. They are not able to get the credit. This is a very pathetic system. We should look into as to how to improve upon the credit policy. We many times say that we are issuing *kisan* credit cards to the farmers so that easy credit is available to them. But the system is such that it takes several years to get the credit cards. We have been doing it for the past three years. It does not move at the pace at which it should have to move. We must turn our attention immediately to the issue of *kisan* credit cards to the farmers so that credit is available to them. If we do this, they would not resort to taking loans from the third parties at an exorbitant rate. This is a very bad situation that prevails in our country. This hits the farmers most. Most of the villagers depend upon kerosene and cooking gas. On the one hand we are hitting them on the price front of their produce and on the other hand we are increasing the price of LPG and kerosene. Our country cannot be

compared with other developed countries. Though we boast that we are globally integrating our markets, though we are saying that we are integrating our financial and economic system, it is not that easy, especially when most of the people are living in poverty.

So, unless the Government eradicates poverty, we cannot have the same system, that is, the price dismantling system in regard to petroleum products. It may sound good. But we must give adequate protection to the poor people of this country in regard to LPG and kerosene. The Government must make them available at cheaper price to the poor people. These are very essential things for their cooking purpose. At least, these are to be excluded from the price dismantling system. This is an area where immediate attention is required.

We also talk about providing jobs. But we know how far we are providing jobs. Every year, we mention about it. Volumes of records are being created by mentioning every time that these are our objectives. We mention this in the President's Address and other Addresses. But, at the same time, are we reviewing them to find out what have we achieved and what have we not achieved? So, there has to be a White Paper every year in this regard. The Government should also issue a White Paper on the President's Address. It has made so many points. On each point, it must state how much it has achieved, how far it has travelled and how far it has been left behind till now. Unless that is being stated, every year, fresh set of mandates will be issued forgetting about the whole thing.

This year, again, we are talking about creating 10 million jobs. On the other side, we are talking about the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. I should say here how we have got this Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Earlier, we have increased the retirement age from 58 years to 60 years. Is it not a better system to again go back to 58 years instead of giving a blanket chit to everybody to continue up to 60 years and not allowing jobs to the youngsters? So, the Government must make the retirement age to Central Government employees 58 years. The Government is only asking the goods people to go. What will happen immediately when all the good people opt for the VRS? Those who cannot go anywhere, those who do not work, will remain in service and they will bring this Government's working to stalemate. So, it is not a wise thing. The Government is threatening that unless they agree to this on or before such and such a date, unless they apply for VRS, they will be dismissed and removed. It is not a good system. So, the learned Government should learn immediately one thing. Instead of declaring a cut-off date, the Government must make the retirement age 58 years so that youths will be accommodated and several lakh jobs will be created for the youngsters. Already, many of the State Governments are having only 58 years as the retirement age. Why is it 60 years again the centre. It is there for whom to accommodated? So, this policy has to be reviewed in the proper perspective and it must put an end to the VRS so that with one step, the Government can create jobs and avoid the fleeing away of good officers.

The important point is that VRS and other things are applicable only to the lower cadre employees. No managerial cadre is affected. No such people are going away. They are sitting tight. Jobs have not been identified to find how many have to remain, how many have to be cut. It is only done at the lower level so that those people will lose their meal. This is an erratic policy. This has to be corrected.

Sir, we are talking about the fiscal deficit. We are not able to contain it. At the same time, we are talking that we could control inflation. The Government can control it. When? When there is no economic growth, the inflation will automatically be controlled.

When we cannot sell the goods inflation will automatically come down. The real test is whether we have been able to control the fiscal deficit, but we have not been able to do that. Every year we have been saying that we would control the fiscal deficit within 4.5 per cent or 4.6 per cent, but we always cross 5.5 per cent and go even upto 6 per cent. This has led the country to borrow heavily from outside. Our industrial growth has also slowed down and it is only around 2.2 per cent. This has to be corrected.

Sir, in order to curb the menace of terrorism and to make the Government function well, we should provide them certain tools like POTO. When such a law is already in place in some of the States ruled by different parties, we should also pass the law here in the interest of the security of our country. We should not forget what happened on the 13th December, 2001 here in this Parliament House. Our brave soldiers have saved the dignity of this country. Though they lost their lives, they saved the highest institution of democracy. On that day, they proved that our country is always having the necessary strength to defend itself and that is one of the greatest achievements in the democratic rule of the past 55 years. No political system can disturb the unity of this country. Our country is united and we will fight the forces of terrorism with unity. This is what we have proved on that day also. At the same time, unless laws like POTO are passed we cannot really stop cross-border terrorism. Cross-border terrorism is a menace which we are facing for the last 10 years. With the intervention of the hon.

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

Prime Minister, today we are able to tell the major countries of the world that India is on the right side and India's borders have to be protected from the menace of cross-border terrorism. We have enlightened the major nations of the world about the menace of cross-border terrorism which we are facing and the stand taken by our Prime Minister in this regard has been appreciated by many countries.

Sir, we cannot afford to neglect economic reforms. So, speedy implementation of economic reforms is the need of the hour. Unless the country is prosperous we cannot achieve integration and unless the country is economically stronger we cant fight terrorism. Then, we should be able to bring more and more foreign direct investment into our country to make industrialisation a reality.

We have missed the industrialisation. Now, we are only looking at the service sector, information technology, and tourism sector. These are the service sectors. Even along with the service sector, we should also develop our industrial growth that really gives the strength for this country. That only comes with the speedy implementation of the economic reforms.

We are also boasting that we are having foreign reserves of about $ 50 billion. But these reserves have not been created by trade surplus. These are only deposits. These are refundable. There should not be trade deficit. There should be trade surplus. Then only, we can say that we are stronger so far as our foreign reserves are concerned. That angle has to be looked into in course of time.

Again coming to disinvestment, where we were two years back. No disinvestment has been done. Whatever we have done, we have done it only for making bread and some other things, and also BALCO. All these are not very important things. There is a criticism that disinvestment is being offered for the very healthy and money-making industries and we are not able to offer it to loss-making units. It is a question of loss-making units, and also it is not a question of money-making units. There is a price for everything. There should be greater transparency. The issue of every industry in the pubic sector, which the Government is not able to run, should be a transparent one. They should offer these industries on a time-bound programme so that they should be able to achieve the objectives. Otherwise, we are not able to pump in the money. We are making the money-making industries also sick because they are already on the notice board for sale. We are not able to put in the money that is required, that is for a running working capital or capital for modernisation. For example, you take the case of Indian Airlines, Air India or even Maruti Udyog which, at one time, were one of the good industries. Now, they are on the notice board for sale. We are not putting in the required money. We are not giving them any working capital and they are deteriorating. This deterioration will bring the Government further losses. So, there should be policy that till the date we sell, we should make them stronger. We should make them survive. Otherwise, a situation will arise where everything will become sick. This is a very tragic situation. This has to be corrected.

As far as Defence production is concerned, a Defence Procurement Board has been established for greater transparency. We cannot blame the hon. Prime Minister. There is a greater transparency now in procurement of the Defence materials through the Defence Procurement Board instead of leaving it to one or two persons for doing it. This is a very healthy sign.

The steps that have been taken regarding the Ayodhya are also very laudable. What was promised by our hon. Prime Minister yesterday has been implemented today. Instead of making it again a political issue, we should all play a positive role. India is a secular country. India's secular fabric has to be protected. We all should be united in fighting out the communal forces wherever they may be so that our country's sovereignty is not questioned by anybody. I congratulate him for making the statement to this Parliament and also the Government for the implicit policies enunciated by them. I fully support the Motion of Thanks. This has to be accepted unanimously.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, I on behalf of AIADMK Party express my views on the Motion of Thanks to the hon. President by this House.

Sir, paragraphs 3 to 13 of the President's Address deal with terrorism, cross border terrorism, Indo-Pakistan Conflict, battle for containing terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir. We have been stressing that the attitude of Pakistan towards India is not genuine for the last two years.

When Gen. Musharraf came to India to attend the Agra Summit, he came to that Summit without a piece of paper on hand, with a collarless shirt and casually he shook hand with our Prime Minister and got a seal of approval for his self-proclaimed Presidentship. Even at that time, at the all party-meeting, on behalf of AIADMK,

I had expressed this view point in and in this House also, I think, I have already expressed my view on it.

Sir, the attitude of Pakistan is like that. The cross border terrorism is still being continued, the forces are operating in India and to encourage terrorism in India and that is vividly demonstrated how these terrorist activities are being carried on even today.

It was reported in the *Times of India* that when Dawood Ibrahim's properties were to be auctioned, there was no taker for those properties in Mumbai, nobody had come forward. He may be in Dubai or Pakistan or elsewhere, but there is no taker for his property in Mumbai in India. So, still terrorist activity is being carried on with his remote control from outside India.

We have been following the policy of *Panchsheel* for the last so many years evolved by Tito, Nasser and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Non-aggression - we have not committed aggression against any country; non-alignment - we have been following that. Where is the mutual benefit? Where is the peaceful co-existence? Non-interference in each other's internal matters - all the countries have been interfering in our internal matters. So, I would say that just like CTO or NATO, we must lead a military alliance. India should lead a military alliance. We have SAARC Summit and we attend that to express our views. Our Prime Minister expresses his views there, but that is a different matter. Militarily, we do not have a direct alliance under the leadership of India. It is the biggest country in SAARC. Other countries are small. But India has not moved towards that direction. I would request, at this juncture, to the hon. Prime Minister to lead a military alliance under the leadership of India to save India's integrity, sovereignty and other things. So, the answer to paragraphs 3 to 13 is that we must, at any cost, contain cross border terrorism.

We have given so many amendments in the last two years touching some projects in Tamil Nadu, like Sethusamudaram project. Myself and my Deputy-leader, Dr. Mallaisamy have given amendments last year and year before last but we have not been able to press for those amendments. An investigation into that states that the money was sanctioned but not for completion of the project or to start the project. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to sanction and allocate money for the completion of Sethusamudram project.

Then, Sir, let me come to paragraph 45 regarding election to Rajya Sabha. It is quite astonishing. The Government is going to amend the law. The residence is not a qualification. It will not be a qualification. Why is it called the Council of States? Parliament is composed of President, Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha. It is a total composition. Residential qualification is prescribed under the present election law that a non-resident cannot be elected from some other State. Why should there be an amendment? How can the State's interest be protected in Parliament? It is a Council of States. I would say, on behalf of our Party, that the Government should withdraw this amendment. It is uncalled for. It will not project the State's interest in Parliament.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Even now they are doing.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Where is the law? Now, there is a law to get over the legal obstacle. The Government is thinking of bringing about an endowment to amend the election law.

Then, as far as the PDS is concerned, it is a welcome measure. The Government has increased the allocation of foodgrains from 20 kilos to 25 kilos and 10 kilos to 20 kilos. There is an increase. Whenever there is an increase, we welcome that. We have to welcome. Is it not? So, the Government has taken into consideration the people below the poverty line.

But as far as the fiscal deficit is concerned, India should have been progressing to a greater extent. We have natural resources. We have enough manpower. We have enough human resources but we are not able to prosper to the level of United States or Switzerland or some other advanced countries. I would say that there is no single metal in Japan but they are able to manufacture car. We have metals and we have natural resources.

Regarding disinvestment, we have been opposing disinvestment on the floor of the House. We reiterate our stand. Salem Steel Plant was functioning well. It was to be disinvested. It should not be disinvested. The Salem Steel Plant should not be disinvested. Hindustan Photo Films, Ooty, also should not be disinvested. We reiterate our stand. You pick and choose but do not pick and choose from Tamil Nadu. You pick and choose from your own State. This is a State where Indira Gandhi brought only this industry. Salem Steel Plant was brought by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. If this Plant and the Hindustan Photo Films are disinvested, where is the industry in Tamil Nadu?

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN (Nilgiris): Hindustan Photo Films was also brought by Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: He is also supporting me. So, it should not be disinvested. The disinvestment policy will cause recession on the financial front of the Government. You cannot sell and run the Government. You cannot sell your property. Suppose you do not work and sell your car, you can eat for three years. Then you sell the house and eat for the rest of your life. Where is the property? You must work. We have got the natural resources. We have manpower, human resources available in India. The Government should take into consideration to the resources and prosper the Indian people.

Then, Sir, *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* Project, I should say should be intended to benefit all the States. Here the condition is, there should not be connectivity between two villages.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we laid roads long ago, but there is no money for their maintenance. Every village is well connected, but we are not able to get more money because of the clause of connectivity. So, connectivity should not be taken into consideration as far as Tamil Nadu or some other States which have already laid roads are concerned. In Bihar, there may not be roads. That is a different thing. But we have laid roads. We have spent money for the welfare of the people. We should not be penalised for having laid the roads, for having connected the villages. So, I would appeal to the Government, regarding this paragraph 34, to amend that clause. Connectivity need not be the criteria for allocation. For upgradation or maintenance of roads, also, you allocate money.

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN: It is for both, connectivity as well as maintenance.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: So, you allocate money to our State, Tamil Nadu, so that we can maintain the roads and make them road worthy because communication system, transport system is the essence of human life. If there is no connectivity, there is no life in villages.

17.07 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

Coming to the Railway Safety Fund, when Rs. 17 crore were allocated last year, there was a proposition to that. Even with that, the Railway coaches are not well-equipped. They are not new; they are old. They are the British carriage. Replacement of railway assets is essential. It is mentioned in paragraph 35. I go only by this document. This document should be amended because we cannot do it by voting. So, I would say that the Government should give a serious consideration to this.

We are going to pass the State Electricity Regulatory Commission. All the State Governments have taken steps under the State Electricity Regulatory Commission's contemplation. So, the Bill should take the views of all the State Governments and pass that law.

We have not utilised our resources. Our foodgrains godowns are full. Our farmers have cultivated well. But even then there are starvation deaths. We must prevent starvation deaths and channelise the movement of foodgrains throughout India to reach the common man. The common man, the people below poverty line should not get themselves affected by the non-availability of foodgrains.

Coming to paragraph 46, I welcome the move for the establishment of Fast Track Courts and Lok Adalats because poor people cannot even approach the Supreme Court. We have been asking in this Parliament that from Tamil Nadu to Delhi, one cannot easily come and approach the Supreme Court. You cannot come here. Distance is also an injustice. Cost is another injustice. Reaching the Supreme Court from Kanyakumari is also an injustice to the people. We had given amendment in the first year itself to the Presidential Address that the establishment of a Bench of Supreme Court in South, at Chennai, is the need of the hour. I know how the Supreme Court is working. There are only 12,000 cases pending before the Supreme Court. Who will come from Kanyakumari to file a case? Who will get a lawyer on record and who will engage a senior lawyer? So, I would say that the establishment of a Bench of the Supreme Court at Chennai is the need of this year.

The hon. Chief Justice has said that in October this year we are going to open the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court. It should be inaugurated. I submit that the Madurai airport should be upgraded to the international standard.

The Trivandrum airport is upgraded but not the Madurai airport. Madurai is an important town. It is a Temple City. I received a letter from the then Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Sharad Yadav explaining about lack of

flow of traffic, difficulties in acquisition of land etc. There are large extents of land available at the present airport itself. So, the Government should take steps to acquire the land and communicate to the State Government and to fund the State Government for this purpose. You have to fund it. We cannot spend from the common man's money there. So, the Central Government should allocate money from Delhi to the State Government to upgrade the Madurai airport to international standard so that flights can go to Dubai, Sri Lanka, London and so many other places. Madurai has a Municipal Corporation and it is not a small city.

We have been told that they are going to privatise major airports including Chennai airport. I think the Government expressed this view in the Budget this year. If you are going to privatise the airports, the service will be totally affected. Now we have got the Indian Airlines which is operating well. The private airlines cross their way. The timings should be different. At 6.40 in the morning from Chennai there is an Indian Airlines flight to Delhi and there is another private airlines flight at 7 a.m. We studied in the law of torts in the law college that this is the way how the private operators compete with the Government corporations and cause loss to the Government. You must prevent that. The Government should take steps to prevent the loss to the Sate exchequer.

I was expecting one thing at least in this year. The hon. Prime Minister has been telling outside that he is going to pass an Act of Parliament reserving 33 per cent of seats for women. The All India Anna DMK has favoured the amendment reserving 33 per cent of seats to women. The Government should take steps to pass this legislation in this Session of Parliament.

Regarding services, whether it is VRS or compulsory retirement, it is all the result of unemployment. The unemployed youth are being exploited to enter into the communal arena, to enter into the acts of terrorism. The problem of unemployed youth has to be tackled. They have to be persuaded and they have to be given new life. The unemployed youth, the younger generation should be given a very good deal and not a raw deal. The unemployed youth should get a fair deal. I would request the Government to give a fair deal and not a raw deal to the unemployed youth and to preserve their resources and to promote their welfare and to build a future, good India.

Finally, I welcome the President's Address. We have to welcome it. These are all constitutional obligations. I know it. You can oppose the contents of the Budget. But you cannot vote against the Budget. You can oppose the President's Address. But you cannot vote against the President's Address. As a lawyer I know it. It is a constitutional obligation rested in the House. If you turn down that you will not pass the Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address, it will be odd.

You cannot say that we will not pass the Budget because the employees have to draw their salaries. We have to get every concession from the Government.

While welcoming the President's Address to the Members of both Houses of Parliament, though it is customary, I would like to say that he has made it categorically crystal clear as to what the policies of the Government are. Certain policies on the economic front, Sir, have to be revised; certain policies on the social front have to be revised, and certain policies have to be focussed on the rural front because the rural masses are expecting much from the Government. We get votes from the rural masses. Therefore, I would say that issues concerning rural electricity, rural unemployment preservation of law and order in the rural areas have to be taken care of at all costs.

SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam): Sir, on behalf of the DMK Party, I would like to take part in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

In the very opening sentence, the President stated that a heavy budgetary and legislative business is ahead of us. He also conveyed his best wishes for its successful completion.

In any democratic country, the ruling group is expected to provide a responsive Government and, at the same time, the non-ruling parties have a role to offer constructive criticism and to give positive suggestions to ensure good governance.

In this House, I find it very difficult to point out who is responsible for the disruptions. I feel that all of us, from all sides, have a responsibility. Here, I would like to say that we are not attending to the people's problems and, at the same time, we are spending or concentrating more time on such issues which are not concerned with the people's problems.

[Shri A.K.S. Vijayan]

The President stated in his speech about the attack on our Parliament on December 13th, and the attacks against the U.S. on September 11th. It is true that we must unitedly fight against terrorism. We must target not only those who sponsor, finance, support or shelter the terrorists, but also those who force people to resort to terrorism. They are also to be blamed equally. Drawing the people towards terrorism and driving the people towards terrorism are both condemnable.

His Excellency the President has said that terrorism and dialogue could not go together. It can also be said that communalism and negotiations cannot go together.

The President's Address is a balanced assessment of the ground realities. Decline in the rate of growth, slow down in global economy affecting India, losses in agricultural commodities to the tune of Rs. 70,000 every year, decline in industrial growth from six per cent of 2.2 per cent, inadequate administrative and financial powers to local bodies have all been pointed out honestly in the Address.

His Excellency the President has pointed out our ability to increase the investment rate in our economy. He also stated that foreign direct investment has risen. WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha held last year helped us to defend our national interest. Hence, I would like to say that this credit goes to our hon. Commerce Minister, Thiru Murasoli Maran. He has interacted efficiently and effectively with other countries' Ministers of Trade.

His Excellency has further stated that the food-grain production is to touch a new high of 210 million tonnes this year as against 196 million tonnes last year. India is the largest producer of milk in the world. The IT software and service industries contribute 14 per cent of our total exports.

Sir, regarding the National Highways I would like to submit that we propose to cover 13,000 kilometres and in the next years a sum of Rs. 20,000 crore would be spent for improving road infrastructure and transportation. Here, I would like to say that the condition of most of the State Highways and roads, particularly those in Tamil Nadu, are in a pitiable condition. Our State Government says that there is no fund for even the repair work of these roads.

Sir, His Excellency, the hon. President, in his address mentioned that a sum of Rs. 10,000 crore would be allocated annually for construction and maintenance of State Highways and major roads. Here I would like to stress that the Sethu-samudram project should be taken up as it would be an effective national asset and it would also help in reducing fuel consumption and transportation expenses. Hence, I would like to urge upon the Government to take up this Sethu samudram project and also set up a Bench of the Supreme Court at Chennai.

Sir, nearly 1.1 crore LPG connections have been provided last year. It has been proposed to provide 1500 distributorship of LPG in the rural areas but at the same time it has also been proposed to increase the cost of LPG cylinders and also withdrawal of subsidy on kerosene. It is not a good thing. How could we reach the rural people with such policies? Hence, I would like to urge, on behalf of the DMK Party, upon the Government to kindly re-consider the hike in the price of LPG cylinders and also the issue of withdrawal of subsidy on kerosene.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr Chairman, Sir, I join the other hon. Members to thank the hon. President for his address to Parliament on 25th February, 2002. However, I find it extremely difficult to persuade myself to subscribe to the views expressed by the hon. President on the performance of the NDA Government. Rather, the only conclusion that one could draw from the one hour long ritual was that this Government was basking in an illusive glory of non-existent achievements and had been overtaken by ignorant complacence.

Sir, hardly had the ink of the President's Address dried that our feeling about how unsafe this country was in the hands of this Government came true. On 27th February, the Sabarmati Express was set afire charring to death 58 persons in Godhra. Then followed a naked death dance in Gujarat claiming over 1000 lives. The VHP activist plunged the State into an inferno of communal violance. There were immumerable horror stories of innocent people being chased and done to death, of shops and houses being looted and burnt and yet statistics were doled out in a vain effort to prove that communal riots of greater magnitude had hit the State in the past.

Sir, the hon. Home Minister has given a clean chit to the Chief Minister of Gujarat despite his criminal failure to protect the lives of innocent citizens in this may them. Today there is a nation-wide revulsion and concern at the obliteration of the necessary distinction between the choreographers of the death dance, the perpetrators of

communal carnage, the Ruling Party and the Administration.

Sir, there have been communal riots in the past as well. But never before had the State been accused of acquiescence, of complicity in such reprehensible brutal acts.

In the President's Address we were assured of *status quo* being maintained in Ayodhya till the verdict of the Court or till an amicable settlement was reached between the parties to the dispute. The peace-loving people, who do not trade in religious bigotry and want India to move forward, do not know whether to believe this Government or not.

Sir, the Government and the Prime Minister have spoken in different voices at different times compounding the confusion on the issue. The Prime Minister, has repeatedly stated that the Government would abide by the court verdict. But, at the same time, towing the VHP line he has also asserted that the Ayodhya movement reflected the national sentiment. Through his repeated confabulations with the VHP, the Prime Minister has sought to lend legitimacy to their demands. He has tried to confer legitimacy to the antics of VHP by involving Hindu religious leaders, but keeping at bay the representatives of the Muslim Personal Law Board. The Prime Minister also betrayed this bias when he asked his Law Minister to see whether the law permitted the handing over of the site to the VHP.

The Attorney General's intervention in the Supreme Court the other day and the Prime Minister's statement thereafter is just another glaring example of this doublespeak, of running with the hare and hunting with the hound. It has been explained, or rather there was a vain effort to try and explain, that the Attorney General had only expressed an opinion in response to a query by the court, and that too was not the view of the Government of India. This sounds absurd! The Attorney General was not acting as an *amicus curiae* but for the respondent in the cases — that is the Union of India, the Government of India — What Attorney General has said on the 13th was not an interpretation of the order of 1994. He only solicited an order from the Supreme Court which would have enabled the VHP to have its own way, quite contrary to the Constitutional principles.

Sir, I presume that this Government has not lost faith in the Attorney General and continues to retain him on that important post. If that be so, the only conclusion one can draw from his arguments the other day is that he articulated the views of the Government; that it was a collusive arrangement which exposed this Government's partisan Hindutva bias. In the present volatile situation, the credibility of the Prime Minister is at stake. He can pass the litmus test only if he can assure the nation that no one will be permitted to precipitate and communalise the sensitive Ram Janmabhoomi issue, which is awaiting decision by the court, and that the Government will desist from hobnobbing with the sectarian leaders and instead encourage and involves liberal nationalist forces in finding a lasting solution.

This Government is in the dock today. It has to clarify its position. It is either with VHP or it is not. If the Constitutional and moral obligations have any meaning, the Government cannot be with the VHP. It is for the Prime Minister to answer this.

In a poem penned by the Prime Minister, he says:

[Translation]

Dharti ko Bono ki Nahin

Unche kad ke Insano ki Zarurat hai

Itne unche ki asman ko choo le

Nye Nakshtro ki pratibha ke beej bo le

[English]

A known diplomat and writer has translated it thus:

"Not dwarfs, the earth needs men who will stand tall,

So tall they touch the sky and see new galaxies with brilliance.

The Prime Minister concludes:

[Translation]

Mere Prabhu, mujhe itnee unchai mat dena

Garo Ko gale na laga saku itni rukhai mat dena

[English]

It is translated as:

My Lord! Never place me so high

That I cannot embrace those who are not my own.

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, is not present in the House at the moment. I, with all humility, only like to say to him that the entire populace is his own. Embrace them apply balm to the wounds, the lacerated wounds inflicted on them by some others and spare none, even if he happens to be the Chief Minister of his State, because the crime committed in Gujarat is more unpardonable than the worst of the war crimes we may have heard of.

Sir, a concern has been expressed in the President's Address and otherwise also about the liberal and secular values. The Prime Minister has even asserted the other day that if India is not secular, India is not India at all. However actions speak otherwise. An overzealous Minister of Human Resource Development is busy destroying the secular credentials of important academic bodies today. A mediocre engineer, for example, who has nothing to do with history is appointed a Member of the Indian Council of Historical Research to reward him for his *Sangh* ideology and for his scurrilous and mendacious trash that he wrote against the Leader of Opposition.

Sir, the National Education Policy of 1986 was formulated on the basis of consensus that emerged after a wide-ranging and comprehensive debate. It mandates periodic consultations with Central Advisory Board on Education comprising of Ministers of Education of different States. This Government has nothing but contempt for such consultations. Without constituting CABE, it goes about effecting wholesale changes in the textbooks, and the task is assigned to whom? The *Sangh* ideologues.

Sir, Governments come and go. But there are certain basic values on which a nation stands. Despite a vast diversity, we are one nation, one people. But unfortunately, those who are in the Government today equate unity with uniformity and emboldened, they go ahead unmindful of the opinion of the people at large, unmindful of the democratic aspirations and urges of the people of the country and that does not auger well for us.

Elections to four Assemblies are over. Playing the Hindutva card has paid no dividends to BJP. It received a severe drubbing all over. There is a lesson to learn from this. Now is the time to make amends and build a strong nation on the foundation of secularism and the true Indian ethos of tolerance, *Sarva Dharma Sambhava* and *Vasudeva Kutumbakam*. A vast majority of Hindus, of devout Hindus do not subscribe to the view that the Ayodhya movement is about the release and re-assertion of the strangulated Hindu psyche. This, our friends on the Government side must understand.

Sir, this Government is a disaster in every field of national activity. The hon. President spoke about the Government's resolve to combat cross-border terrorism. It does not know how, and leaves that to the United States of America. The Prime Minister wants Pakistan to hand over 20 terrorists taking shelter there but the Minister of Information and Broadcasting goes there and scales down the demand to 10. Is this the way the Governments function?

Sir, there is an obvious mismatch between the rhetoric and the leadership that this country has to suffer. Nothing that this Government does, inspires confidence in the minds of the people.

Our grannaries today have a surplus of about six crore tonnes foodgrains, thanks to the Green Revolution ushered in the Late Sixties and Seventies.

But this Government does not know how to handle it. Carrying costs have risen by Rs. 3588 crore this year for the FCI on account of large scale stocks that it has. Yet, it is a shame that a large segment of we, the people, go to sleep, if at all, on an empty stomach.

The crop, this year, we are told by the hon. President, is an all time high, but agriculture is unprofitable as we all see farmers have been driven to suicides; and I hope that the Government knows about it.

The small-scale industry which earlier fired entrepreneurial skills of our young engineers and professionals has been scarified at the altar of MNCs, and the Government could not care less for the resultant idle capacity and unemployment.

The hon. Prime Minister had assured the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort that one crore jobs would be created every year. This point was made by the Leader of the Opposition this morning. Now, the youths have been told to fend for themselves. When they try to eke out a living by hawking goods, they are hounded as if they are criminals by petty officials. So much for the Government's concern for the poor roadside workers!

There is a lot of self-adulatory hullabaloo about the economic reforms. In the process, the Government seems to have forsaken the interest of an ordinary Indian. The public sector which was created painstakingly is being

sold for a song. The beneficiaries of the Government's policies are those people who owe Rs. 1,50,000 crore to the banks in the form of what is euphemistically called NPAs. The various employment guarantee schemes are being paid only a lip service and questions in Parliament about the dismal performance are given evasive replies.

Sir, like the face of the Government, statistics doled out are also deceptive. Foreign Governments are today dictating our economic programmes. Quite contrary to the spirit of the Constitution, if not the letter, States are allowed or rather encouraged, to seek debts from international agencies. A direction-less Budget is presented, but it is proclaimed a Budget of consolidation. It is consolidation of what? Is it of people's misery and disappointment? This is what the Government has given to the people during the last four years.

Social security schemes are minimal in our country, but this Government seems to be determined to decimate even those. For decades people have been exhorted to take to postal savings, National Saving Certificate, *Kisan Vikas Patras*, Public Provident Funds, etc. In fact, small savings have been the only source of some regular income for the old and the retired persons. Household savings have, in the past, accounted for 80 per cent of our gross domestic savings. Now, this Government shares the view of its foreign advisers, that small savings need not be encouraged and it is consumerism, it is demand that has to be spurred. As a result, the interest on small savings is systematically reduced so that more funds could be made available to bank defaulters at still lower rates. If, in the process, countless retirees flounder and fall on the wayside, it is not the concern of this Government.

Another classical example of taking away fiscal incentives to save, is the various measures announced by the hon. Finance Minister the other day. I would not like to refer to those because there are other hon. Members who will be referring to them in the Budget discussions. But I would only like to say that when the Finance Minister announced some measures, the Government is not even bothered about honouring its own past commitments and applies these changes even to those who may have already entered into long-term commitments.

Subsidies in important areas like LPG, kerosene, food and fertilisers are an eyesore and must, therefore, come on the chopping board but not the Government expenditure which continues to rise. Every day we find double page advertisements in almost all the newspapers of the country staring at us proclaiming loudly the perceived achievements of this Government.

Sir, the telecom sector has certainly recorded impressive growth and attracted investment. It is poised to grow further by leaps and bounds. But while the Government pats its back for this, it fails to acknowledge that this quantum jump became possible only because of the vision and work of late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi who chartered the course for India of 21st century. He set up technology missions in vital areas. We owe our success in Space programmes to him. Non-access of villages to safe potable water did not escape his attention. He was ridiculed when he talked of telecommunications and information technology. Today we take pride in reaping the fruit of his labour. When he talked of colour TV, he was accused of pursuing distorted and kinky priorities. Today, the Government is a begging and looking around for providers of DTH, i.e., direct-to-home broadcasting service but it is finding no takers.

Sir, our IT software industry contributes significantly to our GDP and exports. This speaks volumes of the world class attainments of our IT engineers and professionals. But when it comes to Government, our performance in IT hardware is an example of what is totally neglected. The much touted facilitating and catalytic role of the Government is nowhere to be seen. We are just content with throwing our markets open to the MNCs.

Sir, I would say that look at any field of national activity, this Government is a disaster and what has been said through the President's Address impresses no one. The people of the country are fed up with the antics of the Government and are fed up with the diversionary tactics that this Government deploys from time to time to take away the people's focus from development to non-issues like the Ayodhya issue.

I would only urge this Government to see the writing on the wall and concentrate on nation building exercise taking all the people with it in that programme.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): I stand to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address to the Joint Session of Parliament on the 25th of February, 2002.

Before I go into the matters relating to the Motion itself, I wish Shrimati Gandhi were present here after hurling insinuations and aspersions on the institution of governance and individuals. She could as well have been

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

here to hear a couple of responses from us. She prepared to tailor-made speech and delivered it in whatever possible manner it was. I am reminded of an old English verse which says: there was a young lady of Riga who went for a ride on a tiger. They returned from the ride with the lady inside and a smile on the face of the tiger. Whosoever prepared the written speech must be having a wry smile when she was devoured by the speech itself. So much; no further.

Coming to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, I would like to tell you that out of the 76 paragraphs, 14 paragraphs have been devoted to terrorism, internal security and national security. This is only a reverberation of the President's Address to the nation on the eve of the Republic Day of this year. The last but one sentence of the President's Address reads like this:

"That will be our democratic answer to the evil phenomenon of terrorism that we in India and the world in general are facing today."

This has been reflected in the President's Address. The anguish of the President has been indicated in a very subtle manner.

Before I go into the terrorism aspect of it, I would like to remind the hon. Members of the 13th December incident here in this Parliament where a certain group of terrorists, with the help of people from our country, had tried to get into the Parliament and kill a large number of Members of Parliament. When I stand here, I pay my obeisance to the memory of the great sacrifices made by our people. Here I would like to quote from Macbeth, a Shakespearan Drama, which says:

"After life's fitful fever, he sleeps well; Treason has done its worst: Nor steel, nor poison, malaise, domestic, foreign levy, nothing can touch him further."

Those brave persons have died because of treason and because some of our people have facilitated the manner in which the terrorists could come in. The furrowed faces of the traitors have to be identified and they have to be taken to task. That is what is the requirement of the day.

You will kindly appreciate that in order to take stock of the situation and to ensure that terrorism does not have the hold over this peaceful country, it was thought necessary to go in for an enactment. But, because of opposition from the Members of Opposition Benches and some persons who have a little bit of vested interest, the POTO had to go from pillar to post and at last the Prevention of Terrorism Bill was introduced. I would remind you that when the Bill was being introduced, certain Members started objecting to the very introduction of the Bill. What was the objection? The objection was that it would go against the fundamental rights. Perhaps they have not gone into the constitutional provisions of the fundamental rights. Perhaps they have not gone into the amendments that have been brought in to the Indian Evidence Act, about presumptive evidence. Sections 110, 111, 112 and 113 of the Indian Evidence Act have been amended in order to ensure that the grim reality of the situation prevailing in the society is tackled in a proper manner.

When dowry deaths were taking place, when rapes were committed in a heinous manner, it was thought by this Parliament itself that the Indian Evidence Act had to be amended and presumptive evidence should be brought in. One of the reasons why presumptive evidence is required is that the evidence is not available when the persons who are perpetrating these crimes are organised in a manner which is not seen properly by the society which is peaceful by nature. That is why the Prevention of Terrorism Bill has been introduced to ensure that organised crime and crime which is committed by people with cross-border terrorism, with ramifications of other countries coming, in are tackled in a proper manner.

I would request you to see as to how fundamental educational policies are being pursued by a certain group of people in different States; whether it is Jammu and Kashmir; whether it is Uttar Pradesh or whether it is West Bengal. The crescent education is creating lots of fundamentalist ideologues.

And when those people grow up into adults, they create a lot of problems for the society. If there is liberal education and if education is done in a proper manner, then people would not go through a narrow mindset. In order to see that these institutions do not mushroom, proper enactment should be there.

Sir, you had been to Jammu and Kashmir and I was also there as part of the Committee. We have seen as to how, on the border itself, hundreds of madrasas are coming up with the sole aim of indoctrinating people into adopting Pan-Islamic culture. It is all right if religious institutions are there. But religious institutions with bigotry are not proper.

Take the case of SIMI and the manner in which SIMI has gone away from the peaceful atmosphere to create problems for the country itself. How do we tackle these people? Unless we have a short, precise and effective enactment to see that these people do not mushroom, these people will be disrupting the peaceful

atmosphere of this country. That is what has been indicated by the hon. President in his Address to the Joint Session of Parliament itself. He has indicated very clearly, without any ambiguity at all, as to what things have been done.

Today, cross border terrorism and organised crime pose as the most serious threat to internal security. That is mentioned in paragraph No. 13. And he has chided the Opposition in a very beautiful manner. He says:

> "Since Parliament could not pass the Bill to replace it, this ordinance had to be repromulgated. While doing so, the Government took care to seek suggestions from various political parties and made suitable modifications."

Is it not chiding the Opposition when you have not taken stock of the situation that is prevailing in the country and not taken into account the grim reality of 13th December, the attack on Red Fort and a number of attacks that have taken place in different parts of the country? The Opposition would do well to be cognigant of the situation which has been indicated in the President's Address.

I now come to the remarks made by the Leader of the Opposition regarding the situation prevailing in J&K. May I, with your permission, go into the details of the situation that has been prevailing in J&K in the year 2000-2001? I am not going into the details of this year itself because the Annual Report of the Home Ministry has not yet been prepared. So, I would quote from the Annual Report of the Home Ministry which was circulated to the hon. Members in March-April, 2001. It says that the total incidents of violence in Jammu and Kashmir as on July, 2000 was something like 400 and only in December, it was 112. Now, the number of civilians killed have come down as against 270 earlier. This year the figure is 207. Does it not indicate that the Governments in the State and the Centre have taken adequate steps to ensure that cross border terrorism is taken care of, that the infiltrators are taken to task and that necessary steps have been taken to ensure that this country is not blackmailed? As she was using the word 'blackmail', I also use the word 'blackmail' by people who do not want a peaceful atmosphere in the country because they belong to another political hue. That is what is most important. Whether people come from inside or outside, the only point which has to be taken into consideration is who is blackmailing whom. We have a multilingual society in our country. We have a pluralistic society. We have to think of many aspects of the society itself and while thinking of those aspects of this society, there should be statesman like qualities. And those statesmanlike qualities were displayed beautifully by Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee in the last four days, in the manner in which he has tackled the situation which was being created by the Opposition and things have been sorted out.

Members from the Opposition were trying to say that Ayodhya issue is not being solved. In the President's Address there is a reference to Ayodhya issue. May I, with your kind permission, refer to page 20 of the Annual Report of the Home Ministry wherein it has been very clearly indicated that till the title suits are adjudicated or till implementation of the final decision, the Central Government, as a statutory receiver, are committed to maintaining the status quo in the disputed area and no individual or organisation will be permitted to violate the sanctity of the court's order. Is it not a good intention of the Government? A year back it has indicated that *status quo* will be maintained. Why this hullabaloo and furore without thinking of the commitment of the Government of India? Sir, you are very much aware that terrorism has been spreading its tentacles throughout this country. There are about 122 districts in this country where most of the terrorist activities are taking place. This is the statistics given by the Bureau of Police Research and Development. In police parlance, it is called BPRD. What does it say? More States are coming under terrorist activities. Whether the terrorists are coming from outside or from inside, whether it is PWG or LTTE or in any other form, it is a matter of concern that 122 police districts — police districts are not always revenue districts of — of this country have more than 33 per cent of terrorist activity. To add to it, you will be astonished to find that various groups which have been outlawed in Pakistan about three or four months back, are being brought back into the mainstream again by the Pakistan Government. *Jaish-e-Mohammad, Hizbul Mujahideen*, in its new incarnation, and *Lashkar-e-Toiba* are all getting all sorts of financial help from Pakistan and other countries which are in a way want that disruptive and divisive forces should be active in India. These terrorist organisations are getting money from outside and support from people who are inside. As it happened in macbeth, the furrowed faces of traitors should be identified and should be silenced finally, whether it is by way of gun or by persuading them to come back to the mainstream. It is a matter which is engaging the attention of the Central Government in a beautiful manner. You will find that there are still some terrorist groups working in Jammu and Kashmir. The Government does not have a steno-plastic behaviour. It is not rigid in its attitude. It is inviting people to come, discuss within the constitutional framework and resolve the issue. The most important thing is the negotiations

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

with the North-Eastern groups which have gone away from the track. Dialogue is going on with the Isac-Muviah group, and the Nationalist Social Council of Nagaland. Others are coming in. ULFA is being brought in. The Bodoland groups are being brought in. This shows the amount of concern that this Government is having so far as terrorism and internal security is concerned. I will not go into the details much about the organisations which are indulging in terrorist activities.

I would again revert to POTO. Let met dispel the fear that POTO is a draconian law. After a period it would lapse. There is a necessity for short and precise action against terrorists and organised crime. Terrorism has to be condemned. It is necessary that it has to be condemned, be it political, ideological or religious. It is a sad reminder that certain people amongst us with a religious favour are encouraging terrorism.

18.00 hrs.

That is why, I said that it has to be unambiguously condemned without political, ideological or religious considerations. The inhuman acts of the terrorists should be condemned. We must separate them from the society of Homo sapiens, from the individual and from the human beings. When they are inhuman, it is but necessary that a certain stern process of action has to be taken against them and, in a way, the Fundamental Rights are to be curbed to a certain point.

In the POTO, there is mention about the confession to be made before a police officer of a certain rank, the rank of a Superintendent of Police. Well, it is not bad. I was a Superintendent of Police. I would say that the Superintendents of Police are a little liberal in their attitude. Shrimati Gandhi was mentioning about the Godhra incident and the consequent fall-out of reactions in different areas of Gujarat. She rather dwelt less on Godhra and more on other places of Gujarat. May I invite your attention to the expressions of two brilliant, serving police officers? One is Shri Kanth who is a Joint Commissioner in the Delhi Police and the other one is Shri Pandey, the Commissioner of Police of the rank of Additional DG in Ahmedabad city. What were their remarks? The remarks of these two brilliant officers have been that in a given situation of such a magnitude, where emotions burst out like crackers, where people in thousands come and the people who are supposed to control, them, they come from the same milieu, same society and the same group, nobody can control the situation. We have not provided them separate colonies. We have not insulated the police people from the society itself. We have allowed them to stay with these people. When it comes to the upsurge of a certain group of people and there is mad frenzy, nobody can control it...*(Interruptions)* I am only saying it as a politician. I am only quoting it.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hindi Translation is not being done.

[English]

SHRI ANADI SAHU: I am only quoting the expressions of two brilliant police officers. That is what has to be kept in mind when we criticise a Government. After the Godhra incident, within 72 hours, it was controlled. It is rather unfortunate that Shri Advani is being criticised in a very desperate manner. That is not at all proper. As I said, POTO is a sunset law and there is the necessity of dousing the fire of extremism or terrorism.

Being a person of literature, I like Shakespeare. So, I give one quotation from Shakespeare which is:

> "A little fire is quickly trodden out, which being suffered, rivers cannot quench."

This is found in Henry VI, a drama of Shakespeare. The point is that a little fire, when it come up, has to be doused. If you do not douse it, then the rivers cannot extinguish it. So, that is the necessity for the Prevention of Terrorism Act...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): If there is no arrangement for Translation, speech should be stopped.

[English]

SHRI ANADI SAHU: As has been said by the hon. President, internal security and national security are intertwined with economic reforms and progress. Unless both of them go together with internal security, then the nation cannot prosper. When he is talking of the economic growth, he has laid more stress on the core sector...*(Interruptions)* The crore sector that he has laid more stress on is he infrastructure sector where connectivity is an important part. It has been talked about *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* and the Golden Quadrilateral...*(Interruptions)* As I had said it earlier, it is the statesman-like qualities of Shri A.B Vajpayaee which

have been shown in a very beautiful manner. Take the case of Adi Shankara. He had set up four Shankaracharya Mutts. One of them is the Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt. The Shankaracharya of this Mutt came here to mediate between the two groups of people on Ayodhya. The first-Shankaracharya had set up four Mutts to ensure that there is emotional integration in this country.

That was done some 1300 years ago. Now, by setting up the Golden Quadrilateral, a Swarna Chatuskon, Shri Vajpayee is trying to bridge the gap between and among the people to bring them together. He has hit upon a brilliant idea of bringing the Golden Quadrilateral so that the physical barriers are removed and the distance between one group of people and the other is bridged. They sit together; they come together; and they work together. The work together for the common goal of India. After 1300 years, this has been done. That is one of the best things. One that Adi Shankara's did was emotional integration part of it and now, the physical integration by this Golden Quadrilateral by Shri A.B. Vajpyayee.

Regarding *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana*. I have a small request to make that there is the provision of connectivity, if there are one thousand people, and if there is Panchayat Headquarters. In my constituency and in many constituencies of my State, there are villages and hamlets where hardly one or two hundred people live and in an undulated terrain, after crossing three to four mountains, one can go to a small village where one hundred tribals might be staying. *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* would not be of any benefit to those hapless tribals unless it is changed to introduce a new provision that people who are living in far-flung areas would be provided connectivity. That is most important.

So far as the power sector is concerned, connectivity to the rural areas, especially to the tribal and dalit areas is absolutely necessary. The Government of India has been coming forward with lots of help but there is a rider, and the rider is that the State Government has to pay 20 or 25 per cent and the rest 75 or 80 per cent would be paid by the Central Government. My State is bankrupt, so also many other States. They are not able to pay 20 or 25 per cent of the share of the State; they are not able to take the loan because they have not repaid the earlier loan; they are not able to take the loan because the interest payment is also in default, as a result of that what happens is that the Central Government has been thinking in a very beautiful manner for progress in society, but that has not come to the doorsteps of the people who are in the far-flung areas. So, the core sector, the power sector has to be taken into account and all other sectors like Employment Assurance Scheme has to be merged with other sectors. Take for example, *Valmiki Awas Yojana* for the urban people. All these have to be given a little bit of a fillip for the States which have not come up to the standards of other States which are affluent in India.

With these words, I again support the Motion of Thanks.

18.08 hrs.

[Translation]

(SHRI SHRINIVAS PATIL *in the Chair*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for granting me permission to speak on President's Address...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is having soar throat, do not disturb him, listen quietly to him...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for granting me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on President's Address. After welcome, hon. President has made a mention in the first sentence of his speech about results of elections held for Legislative Assemblies in four States. He has said that most of the result of the elections to Legislative Assemblies of four States viz. Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Punjab and Uttaranchal have come before us. But I am very unhappy to say that when the hon. President was addressing Joint Session of both Houses at the same time conspiracy was being hatched for murder of democracy in the largest state of the country Uttar Pradesh by this Government. In this very House, when hon. Prime Minister said...*(Interruptions)*. I am not deviating from the subject. I am speaking on the subject only. Therefore, try to understand this. Shankar Prasad Jaiswal is my senior. I am speaking on the subject only.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when hon. Prime Minister argued in this House, that such situation had prevailed in Uttar Pradesh, they did not want to invite horse trading, I want to ask him through

[Kunwar Akhilesh Singh]

this House, when Vidhan Sabha's elections were held in Uttar Pradesh in 1996 and when the election results of 13th Vidhan Sabha came and Bhartiya Janata Party emerged as the largest single party in Uttar Pradesh on that time, then Governor, Romesh Bhandari had not invited the biggest party, but had made recommendation to impose President's rule in the Uttar Pradesh. Then being the leader of the opposition, hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee sat on hunger strike before the Prime Minister's residence. Whether the action taken by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was right or action taken by the Governor was right? At that time if Bharatiya Janata Party had been invited then horse trading would not been encouraged. Now, I would like to know, when the results of 14th Legislative Assembly election in Uttar Pradesh came and Samajwadi party emerged as the largest party in the Uttar Pradesh and after that the present Governor, Shri Vishnukant Shastri has recommended President's rule in Uttar Pradesh on the advice of Bharatiya Janata Party at the centre. The hon. Prime Minister has also signed on it for giving sanction to President's rule...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Chairman, he is talking of Governor's conduct. It cannot be discussed ever here...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I am coming to what the hon. President has said...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it should be expunged from the record.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I would like to say that whether the present action of the Prime Minister is right as he is the leader of the House or whether action taken by him in 1996 was right. If the action taken in 1996 was wrong, he should apologise to the country and if his present action is wrong, he should resign from the post of Prime Minister. The Prime Minister had said in this House that he do not want to encourage horse trading in Uttar Pradesh. He said that democracy is run on the basis of numerical strength. Whether he remembered numerical strength at that time when he became Prime Minister for 13 days. Whether he remembered numerical strength at that time, when he supported Chief Ministership of Bihar to Shri Nitish Kumar. I would like to know from the Prime Minister and other people who are running this Government that elections in Uttar Pradesh were fought between secular and communal forces, and secular forces won. Whether you have imposed President's Rule for horse trading? I would clearly like to say that in future, Mayawati is going to form the Government with their support. Is this not the hijacking of mandate, is this not the conspiracy to purchase the secular forces?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. Kumari Mayawati is not present in the House. The hon'ble Member cannot talk about a person who is not present in the House...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: The truth is always bitter please, try to listen...*(Interruptions)*

MR CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject. Please speak on President's Address only.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, I am speaking on the subject only but what can I do when he is not able to understand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kumari Mayawati is not present in the House, please do not speak about her.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, the hon'ble President has also made a mention of the attack on Parliament on the 13th December. He has mentioned in it that terrorist organisations which are operating from Pakistan with the support of their Government had a hand in this attack.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the attack on Parliament, I had said that the times has come to destroy the terrorist bases. However, the Government did not take any action and the country faced a very shameful situation. Terrorists from across the border attacked Red Fort which is the symbol of national glory and honour. However, the Government kept on sitting mum. The Government remained inactive at the time when terrorists from across the border attacked Legislative Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir — the crown of the country. Sir, even Parliament, the soul of our country was also attacked but the Government was a mute spectator at that time also. They are taking the pretext of POTO but the 13th December incident shows that no law can counter terrorism. Only the firm determination of the government, equipping the Army with modern and the state of the art weapons and active surveillance by the intelligence agencies can work to fight terrorism. However, the Government did not show any courage to teach a lesson to Pakistan because they are puppets in the hands of America. Their hands are tight. Shri Atalji work at the behest of American President George Bush.

"Na khanjar uthega na talwar insey,

Yeh baju mery ajmaey hue hain"

Sir, I would like to tell you that he talked about decisive war against Pakistan. He has stated that the entire nation is united in these circumstances. The people of the country and also the Members of Parliament have raised their voice to teach a lesson to the enemy, however, the Government did not pay any attention to their voice. The country is not safe in the hands of the present Government. They have mortgaged the country's prestige and self-respect in the hands of America.

Sir, the Government have mention that free and fair election would be held in Jammu & Kashmir. We have been advised to maintain distance from people who do not believe in democracy and can harm the people to any extent. I want to know as to on whose recommendations the Government released the imprisoned terrorists who did not have faith in democracy, and made them heroes. Had the dreaded terrorists who were released from jails prior to Pervez Musharraf's visit faith in democracy? Terrorism cannot be curbed till the government continue to maintain this double standard.

Sir, a mention has also been made for the speedy purchase of defence equipment. We want to know about the defence equipment which were made available to our soldiers after the purchase permission of Rs. 2075 crore was given in the name of operation Vijay during Kargil war. From CAG's report, I found that 75% of defence equipments were supplied after 6 months and 12 months of the end of the war. Is it not a betrayal to the country?

Sir, the hon'ble President in his Address has mentioned about Ayodhya dispute. Yesterday, Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, the Chief Whip of Bhartiya, Janata Party was mentioning that Members of Samajwadi Party often stormed into the well. I want to know why they are using Saints and seers as scapegoats. On their direction, first the Dharmacharya Opts for self-immolation but later he takes back his words. How long will they continue to take political mileage in the name of religion in this manner.

Sir, since independence no one else has insulted the name of lord Rama as they have. We live near Saryu river and we belong to the Surya Vansh of lord Rama. I have read Ramayanas written by Tulsi, Valmiki and Kamban. Our Ram who had accepted the hospitality of Shabri, a tribal woman is omnipresent. I would like to know whether Shri Advani and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will be able to help Lord Rama in any way. I would like to submit that they have tried to get political mileage in the name of Lord Rama, they have created unrest in the country. What they have done to create disharmony in the country is unprecedented. I strongly condemn it...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him. Let him have his say.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I want to ask them as to how the Ayodhya dispute will be resolved. Will it be done by these persons who had promised in the National Integration Council that they would protect the Babri Masjid? They had given an Affidavit in the Supreme Court that Babri Masjid would be protected. Inspite of that Babri Masjid was demolished. Now, they say that this issue will be resolved peacefully. They are maintaining double standards. They would never be able to resolve this dispute.

Sir, the President's Address mentions that this year the farmers have broken this record in production. I would like to state in clear terms that though it was a record production yet the farmers could not get any benefit out of it. This Government are insensitive to the plight of Paddy, wheat and sugarcane growers. Self immolation by the farmers have been reported from various parts of the country. However, the Government are not taking any steps in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the support Price Scheme launched by them has completely flopped. This scheme has only benefited the traders and middle-men. Farmers have been deprived of its real benefit. Today, the situation is so adverse that sugar mills which functioned during the British days in various parts of the country including Eastern Uttar Pradesh have been closed down. The Government do not have funds to revive these sugar mills. In investment is being made in unproductive items but they do not have funds for productive items. Today the farmer is on the verge death. Will the Government continue to make dialogues and not take any concrete steps in the interest of the farmers? What they have done in Doha conference of World Trade Organisation? I would say that they have mortgaged the prestige of the country under the banner of World Trade Organisation. Due to their policies, economic interests of the country have been jeopardized. They have allowed import of 782 items in the Indian market. It is adversely affecting the agriculture and industrial sector of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is also a mention of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojana in the Address. I want to say in very clear terms, if any of my colleagues from Uttar Pradesh is present in the House, he will say that not an

[Kunwar Akhilesh Singh]

inch of road has been constructed in Uttar Pradesh under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojana. My colleague from Bihar has also mentioned the same situation. For the last two years we have been hearing that beautiful roads would be constructed in villages but still no steps have been taken in this regard.

It has been stated in the President's Address that every village with a population of one thousand will be linked with roads by 2007. In the last President's Address, the Government had fixed the same target to be achieved by 2004 and also to link up the villages with a population of 500 by 2007. It is worth considering as to why the Government is back-tracking from the targets. The Minister of Rural Development has fixed some criteria for construction of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojana. I would like to say that he can never select a village in a proper way on the basis of that criteria. Members of Parliament who got elected by the people are present here. These Members got this highest mandate in their respective constituencies. The Government should trust them and receive proposals from them in respect of their constituencies. The Government should make in depth study of those proposals and if any proposal in inappropriate, they should not accept it. But free and fair selection of roads cannot be done on the basis of the criteria being adopted by the Government.

The hon'ble President has made a mention of Fast track courts. Through you, I would like to ask the Government as to what fast track courts do mean. Take the example of Uttar Pradesh where people who were arrested under TADA during Shri Kalyan Singh's regime have been given cabinet berths during the last few days just to run the Government. What will be the use of fast track courts for those who consider themselves above the law? The Government should try to improve style of working.

The hon'ble President has also mentioned in his Address that education is our birth right. The Mahabharat time is witness to the fact that Abhimanyu had learnt war tricks from his father when he was in his mother's womb. Making education as our birth right does not have any meaning if the Government fail to make arrangements for complete upbringing and give right to education to children till they are majors. At present the Government are providing free education to children upto the age of 14 years. What they will do after getting high school education. Certainly they will indulge in wrong deeds. Through this House, I would demand from the Government to make arrangements for complete upbringing and give right to education to children between 0-18 years. Only then a civilized society can be set up.

Regarding Nepal, it has been stated in the Address that Indo-Nepal relations are very good. The BJP and the RSS people are repeatedly giving statements that ISI activities are on the rise in Nepal. I would like to ask them that if such is the situation in Nepal, how our relation are cordial with Nepal. It is a matter of concern. Either the statements given by them are wrong or what is being published in newspapers about secessionism is wrong. The Government should clarify what is wrong and what is right.

I want to say that definitely India and Nepal are friendly nations. However, I would like to draw your attention towards police deployed on Indo-Nepal border especially on Uttar Pradesh side. They take bribe of a meager sum of just Rs. 10/- and allow people cross the borders with heavy luggage without any checking. We cannot do proper surveillance of Indo-Nepal border only with the help of border police. Indo-Nepal border is a sensitive border and we should deploy smart intelligence officer on this border and on the basis of their reports honest officials should be posted there. If some one belonging to a particular community or religion, misleads people, strict action should be taken against him and only then, the relations of India and Nepal will become stronger.

While mentioning about the Indo-Nepal relations, a mention was also made regarding the success of SAARC conference. The Hon'ble Prime Minister is a very capable and experienced person. I want to ask him as to why our Prime Minister representing 100 crore people continued to wait in Kathmandu the capital of Nepal for a full day to attend SAARC Conference when the dictator President of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf deliberately delayed his visit by 24 hrs. Why did not he come back from there in between? It is shameful for a country like us if SAARC Summit is postponed for 24 hours under China and America's pressure because a head of the State had not came there.

It has been mentioned here that our relations with America are coming cordial. I want to say that the present Government are dancing to the tune of America. Our relations with America are not getting strengthened. When an attack was made on New York on 11th September America was pained but when Pakistan attacks India

through cross border terrorism, America advises India to refrain from attacking Pakistan. This is the dual policy of America. We cannot safeguard our country's interest and self-respect till we continue to remain in the clutches of America to support their interests. Therefore, very humbly, I would like to say that if we have to boost the prestige of the country. We shall have to define India's role during the Non-Aligned Movement.

Humbly, I would like to say that all sections of our society are including farmers, young people and labourers are distressed in the regime of this Government. It would be in the interest of the country if this Government is dismissed as early as possible.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Hon. Members have expressed their own views in this House. Everyone is acquainted with the circumstances created by the Government of Shri Atalji in its rule of thirteen days, thirteen months and three and a half year. Hon. Members have expressed their apprehension and concerns on that. If they had cooperated with the Government then this situation would not have been created. It is true that NDA Government is continuing and we have joined this Government on the basis of NDA manifesto and are supporting the Government but opposition is not playing the positive role as it should play. This House is also aware about the apprehensions, concerns, problems and terrorist activities going on inside as well as from outside the country as mentioned by the hon. President in his Address. In very moving words he has portrayed that "this is the first session of the Parliament after the unprecedented attack on this temple of India democracy on December 13 last year. It was an assault, it was an audacious challenge to our national sovereignty. It was a diabolical plot to carry out large scale annihilation of the leaders of different political parties and people's representatives. Had the plot succeeded, it would have resulted in a catastrophe of unthinkable proportions. Nine brave souls sacrificed their lives to defend our Parliament and its Members. We pay our grateful homage to these martyrs.

In the second paragraph he further stated: "what happened on 13 was the nadir of a long list of reprehensible acts in a twenty year long campaign of cross border terrorism against India. It strengthened our resolve to deal decisively and conclusively with this challenge. The investigation into this conspiracy has clearly revealed the hand of terrorist organisations, which have for long operated from Pakistani soil with the support of the ruling establishment of that country. It is now also established that these terror outfits are closely aligned through ideology, inspiration, resources and logistics to those who carried out the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001."

What this means is that the planned attack by the terrorist organisation from across the borders for the last twenty years has not been a matter of concern for the regime of Atalji Government alone but the main opposition parties sitting here have also witnessed the same phenomenon during their regime and there is no need to tell as to how and what accountability they bear. Ultimately how to combat with this problem? Right now our friend Akhileshji was saying in his speech that the entire opposition and the country is with the Government but when the Government sought to introduce POTO to combat such elements then it was blocked several times. I would like to congratulate the hon. Members that today that ordinance has been introduced here but Congress which have been in the power for forty years and I would like to say them and their leader that when were in power, Preventive Defence Act which was even more stringent then POTO was implemented by them in 1950. Similarly they had also enacted the defence of India rule in 1954, Armed Force Special Power Act in 1962 whereby the police in Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern States was empowered to detain the persons without the prior permission of a magistrate. Then MESA was enacted and implemented in the country in 1974. It is known to all that all the prominent leaders of the country were arrested under this Act. The Janata party which came into power in 1977 repeated this Act. The Congress regained the power in 1980 under the leadership of Mr. Indira Gandhi and she replaced MESA with the National Security Act. Then the Terrorism Affected Area Act was enacted in 1984 whereby the provision of immediately punishing the guilty persons was made by conducting summary trial against them. Then the Prevention of Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act was enacted by the Rajiv Gandhi Government in 1985. All these laws were enacted during the Congress regime which were more stringent than the POTO. It is surprising that a party which lost two of the Prime Minister and one Chief Minister due to terrorist and in whose regime thousands of innocent people in the entire country including more than 60 thousand people in Jammu and Kashmir and North-Eastern States were killed do not want to favour this law. The Government is ready to discuss with entire

[Shri Raghunath Jha]

opportunity if they want to bring an amendment. I am of the opinion that by doing so you are not supporting the Government in this matter, rather you are supporting the terrorists in a way.

Sir, His Excellency the President has congratulated the farmers in his Address. Really our farmers deserve congratulations. The country has witnessed the record production of foodgrains and we have adequate foodgrains reserves but still our people are dying of hunger and are forced to commit suicide. I hail from an area in North Bihar. The farmers produce the foodgrain there that presently they are selling it in distress and there is no one to buy it. Neither the FCI is procuring it nor making any alternative arrangements like opening the shops, due to which the foodgrains produced at a great input cost is not being bought by anybody. As Shri Akhileshji has said that our area is a sugarcane growing area but even the sugarcane producers are facing a problem. Not even a single sugar Mill has been set up by the Centre in Bihar since the country has attained independence. Earlier, we were at number two or three spot and used to produce 25 per cent of the sugar but today all the work has come to standstill. All are aware that North Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and some part of Bengal is affected by the perennial floods caused by the rivers originating in Nepal and Tibet. All the infrastructure like roads and agriculture has been destroyed due to flood.

A discussion took place here on the National Highways. The Highway from Gorakhpur to Muzaffarpur in our area is proposed to be made four lanned. However, not even the repair of the part damaged in the flood six months back has taken place. Similarly the entire Highway passing through district headquarters, Piprakothi, Narharpakari-Madhuban, Sirhar-Sitamarhi and Beetha Maur and Chhapra-Seewan Gopalganj is closed. A lot of discussion on the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana has taken place. Even the third phase funds have also been released under it. However, not an inch of road has been constructed in our Bihar and in my constituency. The Government should hold a probe into it and resolve this problem.

Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar. All the industries and power plants went to the beggage of Jharkhand. Though only our 30 per cent population went to Jharkhand but 70 per cent of our sources of revenue generation went to Jharkhand and we were left with only 30 per cent means of revenue generation and 70 per cent population. Hon. Prime Minister and even the Home Minister has said that a dedicated cell will be opened under the auspices of the Planning Commission and we were to be given a package but till date Bihar has not received any package. The MPs from all the parties had met with the Prime Minister who had demanded that immediate action be taken to clear the proposal on power and irrigation project submitted by the Bihar Government to the Union Government. Our State has submitted a proposal for providing 330 crore for a power project but so far funds have not been released. Due to these reasons Bihar has become very backward. A large part of our sources of revenue generation have gone over to Jharkhand and we are not getting the assistance from the Centre either. Hence I demand that the Union Government should clear the pending power and irrigation projects submitted by the Bihar Government to benefit our State.

With these words I conclude.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address in which achievements and the forthcoming policies of the Government are highlighted. I would like to say that the effort of the effort of the Government to take the Members into the dreamland is nothing but an aggregation of hollow dreams because the country is passing through horrible phase as was mentioned by the hon. President in the initial part of his Address. Country is witnessing the problem of terrorism and various other problems like hunger, unemployment, poverty and the communal conflicts.

On one hand when the country is burning, how will we protect it from and combat with the terrorism? What strategy will we adopt. When terrorists attacked World Trade Centre in America on 11th September ours was the first country to lend support to America for its cause fighting terrorism. However, I would like to know as to what the America has done when we are continuously fighting the Pakistan sponsored terrorism for years? Through you I would like to say that though it has been mentioned in the President's Address that we have been passing through a phase of terrorism, nowhere it has been mentioned as to what strategy we are adopting to combat with the terrorism? They are thinking merely the implementation of POTO will get rid of the terrorism but through you I would like to know as to whether the POTO can enable the country to get rid of terrorism when the terrorists attack as suicide squads.

Today, the Ayodhya issue was discussed in and outside the House. We will implement the Court's order on the Ayodhya issue but what is happening? The Member of ruling party said that our Government have mentioned the law and order. I would like to know as to what law and order was mentioned by the Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on such an important subject i.e. Motion of Thanks on the President's Address is taking place and no Member from the Congress is present in the House. This is not a healthy convention...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: The Government is also not following its 'dharma'...*(Interruptions)*. The requisite presence of the Member from the ruling party is also lacking...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Hon. Prime Minister has said that we will maintain the status-quo i.e. law and order on Ayodhya issue. I would like to say that the kudos claimed by the ruling party for maintaining peace are hollow because had it been so, Soli Sorabjee, Attorney General of India would not have taken ridiculous stand of the Government in the Supreme Court. The stand taken by him in the court was also against the dignity. He took this place before the court that a permission to perform symbolic pooja on the undisputed laid should be given by the court. Then he further stated that only 50-55 persons will be allowed to perform pooja and the 1992 episode will not be repeated and he also said that 45 companies which consisting of 2000 para military personnels have been deployed and they are capable to counter any untoward incident and to maintain the law and order.

He stated that this pooja will continue only for three hours from 2.15 hrs to 5.15 hrs. Permitting such pooja will not harm the interests of other parties anyway. This kind of paradoxical debate not only put a scar on the secular ethics of our governance but also tarnish the image of the country and due to this irresponsible and childish act on the part of the Government a bad image of the country has been portrayed. When he said in the Press Conference that *he* did not receive any instructions from the Government to seek the permission to perform pooja then why did he take this irresponsible stand in the court? Hence, I demand that either he should be immediately removed from or forced to quit the post of the Attorney General of India because his act tantamount to tarnishing the secular image of the country. Such an Attorney General should be dismissed because he has put a scar on the image of the entire country. Godhara incident took place and similar acts took place at Ahmedabad and other places in Gujarat. I want to know whether any person Hindu or Muslim was not killed there and the humanity was not sacrificed? I would like to thank the court for passing an order due to which law and order Ayodhya could be maintained.

Sir, he has mentioned about congratulating the farmers in the President's Address. It was mentioned that foodgrains production to the of tune 196 million tonnes previous years and a production of 210 million tonnes is expected in the year 2001-2002. However, I would like as to what has been done by the Government? The farmers have increased the production on their own i.e. by hardwork. Whether any agriculture policy has been formulated? Whenever we visit our constituencies, people ask us as to what we have done for the farmers in lieu of we being elected by them. The farmers have been committing suicides and it is not hard to imagine as how they are brining up their families under such trying conditions. If you visit their homes it will revealed that each farmer is shedding tears of blood. The procurement of wheat and the paddy is negligible. Right now, Raghunathji said that the truth should be brought before the country. The farmers are in a paradoxical situation. Had the ruling party paid enough attention towards agriculture this sector would not have been in the situation as it is in today. Where have we lead our farmers? We have forced them to commit suicide Have we been able to educate properly and provide employment to this children, certainly it is not so. Bihar was bifurcated into two parts i.e. Jharkhand and Bihar. Though the financial package has continuously been talked of but has not been provided to us. Bihar was not assigned the status a special State though enough was done in appointing those MP's as Minister who were elected from Bihar. Neither they cut down on their expenditure nor assigned special status and gave special package to Bihar but only kept on increasing the Ministers. The expenditure of the Government are increasing. Will it result in our State's development? these people never pressurised the Government to give an adequate economic package and also the due share to Bihar. The Union Government owe approximately five hundred and seventy five crore rupees against us which is to be paid under the Panchayati Raj head through the Tenth and Eleventh Finance Commission but the State has not been provided even a single paisa

[Smt. Kanti Singh]

despite holding the Panchayati Raj Elections. Each Panchayat will get a sum of Rs. 75,000 only. You can easily imagine as to what sort of development one can undertake by a sum of Rs. 75,000 only to them.

How many dwelling units will be constructed under Indira Awas Yojana? The Government claim that poverty is being alleviated but since this Government came to power, the poor are becoming poorer and the rich are becoming richer. The gap between poor and rich is widening. It has been said in the Presidential Address that all will be created equally but is there anyone thinking about the welfare of the poor. I therefore, would like to say that some right measures should be taken to bridge this widening gap.

It has been said that quantity of food grains has been increased to 25 kg from 25 kg but what is the percentage of people who are buying this. All this foodgrains are being sold in the open market at higher rates. Selling of sugar through Public Distribution System has been stopped on the pretext that under PDs sugar will be given only to poor people. But how many people are there below poverty line, who have money to buy sugar. How the poor people can buy sugar when they do not have money. Problems of the poor are increasing day in and day out. The Government claim that they are working in the interest of the nation, the youth and the poor but actually nothing is being done for them. The Panchayati Raj System has been established and Union Government should make a commitment to give my state's share for this purpose because the Government do not represent only *a* political party but the whole country. The Prime Minister belongs to the whole country. My State should get its due share for this purpose.

In para 41 of his Address the hon. President made a point to promote tourism in this country. I demand that the birth place of Bhagwan Mahavir, the work place of Bhagwan Buddha, the centre of Lichhvi Republic, Vaishali should be linked to Kesaria and Kushinagar for completing the Buddhist circuit. And Vaishali should be accorded status of an international tourist spot.

The Government have expressed their views before this House and before the whole country through the President's Address. Now inspite of these hollow claims the Government should actually work for the welfare of the poor and this country so that people could be benefited. With this I conclude.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Raghunath Babu, Prabhunath Singhji and Ramjivan Singhji who were elected Members of this House were included in the Cabinet but Members of Rajya Sabha from Bihar have been included in the Cabinet.

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): Mr. Chairman, Sir, proceedings of the House will continue till late in night, therefore arrangements for dinner has been made after 8 p.m. for all the hon'ble Members, officers, employees and journalists.

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL (Tonk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this House a debate is going on the President's Address that he delivered on the 25th February in the Central Hall of the Parliament. I thank you for calling me to participate in this debate.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, several points have been raised here. I would like to draw your kind attention towards paragraph No. 14 at page 24 of the President's Address which says that maintaining communal harmony and adhering to the principles of secularism of the constitution of India, are the bedrock of our national ethos. Further the hon'ble President made an appeal to all the people, all political and non-political organizations to do everything they can to fortify peace and harmony in our multi-religious society and thereby further strengthen the bonds of national unity.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a debate is continuing since long on this issue and on Ayodhya issue.

But what are the main reasons and the root cause of that. Solution to this problem can be found only when proper attention is paid towards it. Several religions flourished in India and it was called as Aryavrata. This soil is known for its religious tolerance. Bitterness, malice and conflict in the name of religion had never been a characteristic of this country. Islam and arrived in this country much before Muslim rulers came here. People of this country accepted this system of worship. Rulers having faith in Christian religion also ruled this country, be they Portuguese, French or Britishers. Christianity came here and was adopted by the people of this country much before that. On the basis of the system of worship people introduced their religion. This is Aryavrata the land of several best religions. Several religions flourished here but malice on the basis of religion did never crop up here. Theists, atheists, people having faith in idol worship.

'Kapaliks' 'Aghoris' and several Gurus flourished here. Religions tolerance of this land came into notice in 1947. It was the greatest exodus in history. Violence broke out during partition of the country in 1947 and people from both the sides migrated to other side. It was greatness of this country that people took a decision to be secular. India declared itself a secular state and created a situation where all religions could stay together, whereas Pakistan became a Muslim nation. In this background can anyone think of disturbing this secular fabric.

I would like to give an example. Late Rajiv Gandhi was leader of the Congress party in this House in 1984 and the Congress Party got the largest majority in elections after independence. I would like to tell this because he was not influenced by those forces who were trying to influence politics to get political mileage and achieve their political objectives. This was the reason that there was no reaction anywhere in this country when lock of Ramjanamabhoomi temple was opened. In whose regime it was opened? I would like to know the reply to the question from the opposition. At that time Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister and by the decision of the Cabinet on 10th November 1989. Foundation of Ram Janamabhoomi was laid and a number of announcements were made. I remember 10th November because at that time Buta Singhji was the Minister of Home Affairs. He was contesting from Jalore and I was contesting against him. He had gone there leaving his election campaign. An announcement was made that its foundation has been laid by a dalit. The then Cabinet took this decision after due deliberation. I would like to know as to why on 11th it was denied? This problem cannot be solved without looking into main causes behind. What are the reasons of all bloodshed that took place on this issue after 1989. The temple could have been constructed at that time. No special reaction was noticed after the foundation stone was laid at that time. All religious leaders were satisfied. The atmosphere was peaceful in the country. But later on those forces came forward which were trying to get political mileage since 1952 through politics of hatred. This situation emerged since 1950 with starting of vote bank politics. Since then some forces played politics of hatred to fulfill their political aims and maintaining their vote banks. The politics of hatred continued in the country after the partition.

This is the result of politics of appeasement that today communal harmony is disturbed on petty matters. Humanity is weeping. Because of such a feeling bloodshed takes place in the country.

19.00 hrs.

We have to find out the reasons behind this. We have to decide whether this politics of hatred is to be continued by creating communal disturbance or it should be checked because in this country the system of worship ore religion has never been a reason of politics or violence earlier.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to prove this fact with an example. It is a historical fact that Akbar ascended the throne as the Emperor of India and Maharana Pratap was the ruler of Mewar. Akbar, in order to establish stability of his rule, to expand it and to strengthen it, tried to annex Mewar to his empire but Maharana Pratap did not accept his subjection to protect self respect and freedom. As a result, the battle of Haldighati took place. History provides that Akbar was a Muslim ruler and the Hindu ruler of Jaipur came to fight in his support.

19.01 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

Maharana Pratap was the ruler of Mewar and was considered as the shining sun of the Hindus, the Commander who fought the battle on his behalf was Hakim Khan Suri. So, one can get many such instances. When at that time no violence took place on the grounds of ruler's religion, then why such violence and bloodshed is taking place on the basis of religion. Through this august House, I appeal that we should uproot the basic cause, or the notorious people who are spreading the politics of hatred. We all are responsible for spreading this politics of hatred amongst people. Today hon. Vajpayee ji is governing the country. Since 1950 we have witnessed so many things–Whatever we say today, speeches relating to our Principles, ideals etc. but the reality is that today the country is at such a juncture from where despite the fact that this country, in great unity fought the freedom struggle with high ideals, the world is witnessing nothing but political manveuring and political ups and downs in the country which has caused the decline of the country. Today where do we stand? I extend my thanks to hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee for providing leadership to our country under such adverse circumstances, which is an achievement.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, whatever our colleagues from the opposition may say today but why has the great majority consisting of 410/415 MPs of Congress since 1984, decreased subsequently. Today, there is political instability

[Shri Kailash Meghwal]

in the country, which is very bad. This is not healthy politics because the basic feeling behind the freedom struggle was that of patriotism. We should introspect ourselves and ponder over as to why have we altered the Indian politics into regional politics. I wish to tell all the hon. Members that the seeds of terrorism have been sown on this regional politics. Today, there are two types of terrorism in the country—first is sponsored by the external powers causing violence in the country and declining its prestige all over the world and second is the terrorism in the form of internal violence. This interval was encouraged by the Congress Party for a long time during its tenure. Hon. Vajpayeeji is the Prime Minister for the last 3-4 years only but today the country is not like the one we had dreamt of during the freedom struggle. We hear different slogans in different states viz. Assames 'is Assam, Marathi in Maharashtra, Tamilian in Tamilnadu and Akali in Punjab. We raise our voice on the basis of this polluted politics, du to which today we witness our India standing disintegrated in the form of regional feeling, encouraging bigotry and fundamentalism. Today the domination of regionalism over nationalism is a danger for the country and a challenge to it. It is the responsibility of all of us to purify this politics, but actually we could not maintain or stabilise the national politics.

Secondly, we have not been able to run politics in the country on the basis of Principles, programmes and to manifesto. Be it Congress or any other party, even the BJP has become a victim of this. Can we assert that today our politics is that of manifesto or programmes or even our ideology and when we could not do so, we read out questions and answers like in examinations and in that Questions made easy. Today there is phenomenon of 'Politics made easy' which is very dangerous. This phenomenon involves casteism and this caste-based politics has given birth to terrorist, anarchy, violence and harassment.

Hon. Mr. Chairman Sir, today it is only Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Advani and their associates who are running the country on high principles and have the capability of curbing such an unhealthy trend. Who has done these small agreements? Who has been the progenitor of this caste-based politics. Today people talk of the Hindu card, Muslim card, Jatav card, Meghawat card, Yadav card or Jat card what has happened to our country. During the tirne of one freedom struggle we had dreamt of building a class-less and caste less society, but we have degraded ourselves. It is only Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji who is providing leadership to the country during this period of crisis. Had he not provided his leadership, what would have been the fate of the country. We are not ready to leave even our small interests today.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I cannot dare to make comments on one of our senior MP. Shri Somnath Chatterjee is an MP of CPM Party. He praised the hon. President. But he has criticised this speech in such a contemptuous manner which is not proper I would like to say that his criticism would have been logical if he would have told us that how the address was of no use. He should have expressed his views about the things it should have contained. These are our constitutional beliefs, constitutional formalities of our traditions and conventions and what are the points of running our democratic system that have not been included by the hon. President in his speech. It is right that the hon. President and the Governors of States have to read the speech prepared by the Cabinet to them. This is a formality of our system it would make no effect, if you criticise it so contemptuously. Hon. Somnath ji was the supporter of the V.P. Singh Government in 1989. He can read the speech of that time prepared by the then Government. What did he want to say, it was just jugglary of words, nothing else. Sir, here efforts are also made to degrade the Personalities. Today we are degrading our own political leaders...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that Meghwal ji please conclude.

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Mr. Chairman Sir, this is my Maiden Speech. I have come here after winning the by-election. Why are you showing such a rigid attitude towards me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am no showing any rigid attitude, I have just told you.

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: I was requesting you that we would have considered Shri Somnath ji right, had he mentioned the points not taken care of by the hon. President in his speech, while completing this formality. But it is very common to degrade the personalities of leaders here. This is a very dangerous phenomenon. No matter which party has evolved it in the country. We would not be able to face our leaders if we do not mend ourselves. We do not hesitate in using foul words or foul language. We speak freely without providing the facts. This situation is absolutely not right for our democratic set up. It is a very challenging task. Who would perform this challenging task. This work shall have to be done by the Parliament.

Unfortunately, our Parliament is functioning as a political forum and we are not using it as a National forum. Now the time has come that people of all parties may think honestly that the Parliament may be used as a political forum or a national forum. We still have time, I am not a pessimist. It is just a matter of time. We will complete this phase. There is no dearth of nationalist powers, patriotic powers in the country and the powers who would strengthened it. These powers would bring those people on the track, who indulge in political manipulations for acquiring minor positions or posts. This includes persons both from the treasury benches and the opposition. The Governments, Prime Ministers, Ministers, Member of Parliament would keep on changing. We would win or lose, but in this cycle, one thing should be sure and that is — the nation should remain strengthened and this is the dream of the hon. President, which he has expressed in his speech. Our nation has shown its strength, when after the incident of 13th December, the House passed a motion unanimously. But today we have dual character, we say one thing in the House, and the other thing outside...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: You are giving wrong statement. You have a dual character. You say one thing here and the other thing outside...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Akhilesh, ji we know you very well and also the way you play politics in the House. even I have the capabilities to do so...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: We have observed the dual character of Shri Vinay Katiyar and other hon. Members here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: This dual character is prevalent throughout the country. The hon. Member is a socialist son of socialist father, but likes to be addressed as 'Kunwar' which symbolises the feudal system.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Kunwar is not a little but my sub — caste.

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: I am saying this because this dual character is spoiling our politics. It is prevalent everywhere in the country. It is spreading like a virus in all the people. Here we pretend to put a point very honestly and in our own constituency, in practical terms, we say some other thing. When we go in the society, all our statements are merely to get votes. So everyone is having a dual character. Who is holding those high values and character and principles to guide the country? Which party can say with honesty that it is contesting elections on the basis of the country's agenda. The entire politics is based on manipulations–be it case, or communal and this politics which has grown up the last 50 years is the root cause of many evils. In order to whip this evil out, we shall have to make proper deliberations and make Parliament a national forum, only this nationalism would give right direction to the country. The country is looking at the hon. Prime Minister with hopeful eyes–be it Atal ji, or anyone else. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would finish my speech with one more point.

We are grateful to hon. Atal ji because it is the central Government which is running the State government of Rajasthan. Three years back the Congress come into power in Rajasthan with three/fourth of majority and even our Congress friends would agree that the Congress Chief Minister in Rajasthan is continuously saying one thing only that the State coffers one empty. But he has failed in financial management. We are facing famines continuously for the last three-four years. Unfortunately, we do not know the link between the Congress Party and famine occurring there. During the tenure of Bhairon Singh ji, famine occurred only once and since the tenure of the Congress, famine is occurring for the last three years and this fourth year also we are having famine. It is only the central government that have saved us from this famine in the form of various programmes *viz* the National calamity fund, or 'Food for Work' and various other programmes. I therefore congratulate hon. Atal ji, credit for all the developmental works in Rajasthan goes to the central government and not the Rajasthan Government. The Government of Rajasthan is not even in a position to give salaries and allowances to its employees. But all schemes including Road construction schemes, viz, Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana, Road Development Scheme, Valmiki Awas Yojana or construction of Houses for the poor or even self-employment schemes–all are being run by the central government in Rajasthan. All works in various authorities are being undertaken by the central government funds. I would request the Government and hon. Prime Minister to continue with the some co-operation to the Government of Rajasthan.

Mr. Chairman Sir, with this I finish my maiden speech and extend my thank to you.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move the amendment given notice of by me to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by my friend, Dr. Malhotra.

[Shri E. Ahamed]

At the outset, I my mention here that all the Members in the Opposition, irrespective of the party, would support the Government for all the actions that they have taken or proposed to be taken to contain terrorism. There are absolutely no two opinions about it. Internal security of the country is the most important one for the nation to maintain our national unity.

So far as my party, the Indian Union Muslim League, is concerned, we have already extended our support to the Government in curtail terrorist activities of any form, of any nature and of any faith. We would also like to tell the Government that extremism, terrorism and fascism are anathema to democracy and a danger to the nation. We cannot distinguish between terrorism and fascism because fascism is also equally a very dangerous one for our country. When the Government of India wanted the Members of Parliament to participate in delegations to go to Islamic countries to impress upon the rulers of those countries the stand that we are taking or we have taken, my party has associated with it. I myself went in one such delegation and met the leaders of the Islamic countries — whether it is the President Sheikh Zayed Al-Nahyan of the UAE or the Crown Prince of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed or whether it is the ruler of Qatar or of Oman, we presented the case of this country very well. We say that this is a country which is based on certain values like secularism and that we maintain this country's unity in diversity, and also India is maintaining its multicultural, multi-religious and multi-ethnic ethos in our country. It is true also.

When I go through the Address of the hon. President which he was made to speak, I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, Sir to say that whatever he spoke is not happening in actual practice. This is the impression that we get from it. When we go to foreign countries — Islamic countries — we say that India is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious country, but when we come back here and see the things that have happened recently in Gujarat and Ahmedabad in particular, to which I was a witness, I want to ask what is the meaning of the principles that we have advocated before other countries. We told them about the nefarious designs of our neighbour, maligning our country and that it has no basis, etc. We are proud of our country, India, that is, *Bharat*. When we came back here and saw the things, it is really a matter of shame to our nation.

The new Member who spoke just now had made some very good points. If what he said is the true sense of his party believes in, it will be good; but I am sorry to say that it is not.

The hon. President says:

> "I wish to record with much satisfaction that, in keeping with the trend in recent years, there have been relatively fewer incidents of communal violence in 2001. However, the Government will continue to maintain vigil against those who try to foment communal trouble."

Is it what happened in Ahmedabad? Of course, there was a carnage. A heinous crime was committed in Godhra and we condemn it. But where was your vigil after that incident happened? Mr. Chairman, Sir, I went to Ahmedabad when it was under curfew, thanks to the Home Minister. Of course, I have great differences of opinion with Shri Advani but in all fairness, I would say that it was he who made arrangements and asked me to go over there. But the Chief Minister of that State was not at all happy of my going there. I would say because of the encouragement by Shri Advani, I went there on March 4th night and with great difficulty I could get the security cover. On the same night I travelled various parts of Ahmedabad. Next day also, I visited not only the camps, but also I went to Bapu Nagar, Sunder Nagar, Anand Chowk, etc. I went to all the places. I saw there more than 25,000 victims. I was ashamed to see what happened. If I would say it was barbaric and brutal, the wild animals, the beasts would protest and if I would say it was monstrous or ghoulish what happened there, even the monsters will protest. That is what happened there. I cannot explain what happened. But even if such things are happening, the Government must be responsible. What Government we have got there? Sir, it was with a great difficulty that I could get an appointment with the Chief Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Sir, in my political career of almost 40 years, I have visited many places where communal riots were taking place. I went to Ahmedabad in 1998. I went to Sanjeli when there was a firing of thousands of round to disperse 10,000 people. I went to Nandanpeda, Randhikpur, Dang Districts and I went to all the places. When there were communal riots in Rajasthan. I went there. Shri Shekhawat was the Chief Minister. How nice and courteous he was! When there was trouble in Bhiwandi in 1984 after visited riot affected area, I met Shri Vasant Dada Patil. Of course, he was a man of few words. He gave me all the courtesies and he heard my case and done all reasonable things. When Coimbatore was burring, I was the first man to go there in the last days of 1997. At that time, Shri Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister. He deputed three Ministers and I discussed the matter with them. Later, when I went to meet Shri Karunanidhi, he was almost in the weeping mood. He at once passed orders to do all the reasonable things on my representation. Only last month I went to Karnataka when there was some trouble in Courg area. On seeing me, Shri Krishna said that he had given Rs. 1 crore as interim compensation. What happened when

Moradabad was burning? In 1980, I went to Moradabad. Next day, I meet the then Prime Minister, late lamented Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I asked her only one question that if this is the state of affairs in the country of the minorities when you are alive what would be their fate in India without you. She sent me to the then Home Minister, Shri Zail Singh and he spoke to then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri V.P. Singh. He also told me that whatever is reasonable, that will be done. But when I spoke to Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Narendra Modi and told him about pathetic conditions of victims. I found him very much insensitive and I told him they are not getting any materials. He said that they are getting "my rice, Atta and *ghee*". Who is he? Is he a monarch? He was telling in untruth. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry to say that was a blunt and white untruth. Sir, this is the only place where I can take the hon. Members into confidence. I told him that I went to Civil Line hospital where Dr. Chadha told me that there were 126 dead bodies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, please give me some more time. This is also another shade of opinion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a limitation also.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): E. Ahamed ji, all typs of facilities have been provided there.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Please listen to me. I told him that 126 dead bodies are there and only 24 dead bodies have been identified.

Then he asked me whether I thought they were all dead bodies of Muslims. I said, 'Mr. Chief Minister, I am not speaking about Muslims or Hindus. It is the dead body about which I am telling you.' He was not prepared to share my opinion by saying that he was taking action. When I asked him about the relief work, he said he would do it. But, I would say that I visited only four camps and in each camp about four to five thousand people were there. They did not even have a mattress to sleep over; they did not have anything given by the Government. Sanitation was very bad. I fear, there will be an outbreak of epidemic any time. Is it not the duty of the Government to give all these facilities? Even for representing the matter by an elected representative of this country, we ought to have the approval of no less a person than the Home Minister of this country. After all this, the Chief Minister should have had at least the basic courtesy to say that he would look into it. But that was not to be. He was behaving like a *Pracharak* of this Party and not as the Chief Minister. He has no moral right to continue in office. In the interest of democracy and in honour of the democratic traditions of this country, the Chief Minister of Gujarat should quit. I have nothing personal against him.

Mr. Chairman, Our President then appeals "to the people in all political and non-political organisations to do everything they can to fortify peace and amity in our multi-religous society and thereby further strengthen the bonds of national unity." I am sorry to say these are all very good words by the President of India. But, who has just ignored it? Who has neglected it? It is the Government of the day in Gujarat. They have done it.

All that you have done is that you have banned an organisation like SIMI. I am not against banning any anti-national organisation. I do not subscribe to their ideology also. But, then you do not have two yardsticks. Against SIMI Government have taken action; but what about Bajrang Dal? I would ask you about the very fundamental principle on which both Bajrang Dal and VHP are functioning. Is it any different from that on the of SIMI? SIMI is one side and Bajrang Dal is on the other side. But, you have only put the SIMI down and Bajrang Dal is all over the place. That is what is happening. Here I liked the remarks made by the hon. new Member. He mentioned that it is all because of the hate campaign. So, this hate campaign must be stopped...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are not discussing only the Ayodhya issue or the Gujarat issue. There are other issues also. You are repeating the same issues. I am very sorry. Please come to the thanks giving Motion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: I ask you that even if ISI is committing some crime here, do you have to kill your own fellow Indians...*(Interruptions)* You take action against ISI. We did not come in the way of your taking action against ISI, if ISI is found involved in creating trouble here. But how are you justified in killing our own fellow Indians? Why are these people killing innocent Muslims? Why are they killing their own fellow Indians? You take action against ISI. It is the duty of the Government. We do not oppose it; we support you in that action. If you are not taking any action against ISI, it is the dereliction of duty on your part and not on our part.

So, I would say that all these are double standards. What happened in Ayodhya? The hon. President has stated:

> "The Government is firmly of the view that this dispute can be resolved either through mutual agreement among all the parties concerned or through a verdict of the judiciary."

[Shri E. Ahamed]

I would submit here that mutual consent, as many national dailies have pointed out, is that the land where Babri Masjid was standing was belonging to the Muslim community. Hand it over to them. If not, let us wait for the verdict of the court. In a civilised country, everybody has to wait for the verdict of the court. But the hon. President has said:

> "To facilitate a resolution of this dispute, an Ayodhya Cell has been recently created in the Cabinet Secretariat. The Government of India being the statutory receiver is duty bound to maintain the status quo at the disputed site in Ayodhya."

It is mentioned by the hon. Prime Minister. We believe in our Prime Minister. He should act something like a door where everybody could go and knock at. We do believe that. But I would like to ask that if the Attorney-General has mentioned that pooja could be performed is it of his own, then how will you allow him to continue? When he speaks on behalf of the Government, it is the Government's view which he has been submitting before the court...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ahamed, we are going to discuss this issue in the House. Why are you wasting your time on this?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED: The Government says that India is a multi religious country. Without these 150 million Muslims in this country, this country cannot be taken as a multi religious nation. When we go to the international community and among the comity of nations, we say that this is a secular country and that this country is for Hindus, Muslims, Christians and everybody. We boast of ourselves saying that we are proud of the fact that we are a multireligious country...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You have taken more than 15 minutes.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Therefore, I would say that this Government should practice what they preach. We just cannot ignore the fact that the basis of this country's culture is unity in diversity. Therefore, at this hour, I would request the Prime Minister to direct the Chief Minister of Gujarat to do some relief work. Fifty thousand people are suffering. Fifty thousand people are starving and have nothing to eat except what is given by people. It is criminal negligence, callousness and carelessness. This is India! I am very sorry to say this.

With these few words, I hope that this Government will act to do justice to those suffering people, those 50,000 victims of violence in Ahmedabad. Hon. Members of Gujarat, please to justice do your own people.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman Sir, I stand here on behalf of my party to support the Motion of Thanks to President's Address moved by the NDA. I start from the last paragraph...*(Interruptions)* I have a habit.

You know that my name is a mixture of two languages. It is a Sanskrit name with Urdu or Parsi Sur name in it. Bhartruhari is a Sanskrit name and Mahtab is a Urdu sur name and as per the true sense of the term, I think Members will understand that my name signifies the true secular character of an Indian.

Hon. President has stated in the last paragraph of this speech that this Budget Session will be keenly watched by our people whose hopes and aspirations all of us represent.

I think, when we are discussing his speech after such a long time, after all adjournments and shoutings, we should put a question to ourselves. How are the people viewing us after a week or so? We would be going back to our constituencies and home States. How have we acted in this House during the last two or three weeks? How have we ventilated or articulated the hopes and aspirations of the people whom we represent? How much faith have we demonstrated in this Institution to which we belong and in which we represent our electorate? The hon. President, towards the end of his speech, mentions about the 'invaluable time' of India's Parliament. Is it put to best use? This question should also be discussed. Have we utilised the 'invaluable time' to its best use for completing all scheduled businesses? The Question Hour, as we have seen for the last so many days, is systematically being stalled. The House got repeatedly adjourned. Who will be held responsible for that? I ask that question to myself. I have been a silent spectator to all doings and happenings that have occurred in this august House towards the last two or three weeks. Who will be held responsible? Will the people who are outside this House be held responsible? We heard 76 paragraphs and we heard the hon. President for nearly one hour and odd. We heard his invaluable speech. Have we acted in the true sense of the term? That is why I start my speech from the last paragraph of hon. President's Address where he reminds us that let us utilise the time and our position for the purpose for which we have been elected. It is because when we go back after a week's time or after two months to our constituencies, people will not point a finger at us and ask what you have done during the Budget Session. I said two months because by that time the Budget Session will be over. Otherwise, I did not imply anything. Of course, I leave other things to your interpretation. It is an

old saying that when a finger is pointed at some one, the other three fingers are addressed to yourself. Let us understand our own position. Then only can we utilise the time and this House to the betterment of our countrymen. The new Member expressed an opinion here. Of course, he is not new to politics and he is not new to public life. During his maiden speech I should not have interjected.

But we are sitting here in this side of the House as the Members of the NDA. With all humility, I want to express this view. The regional parties are also as much nationalist as the national parties. The moment you say it is only the national parties which can protect the fabric of this nation and not the regional parties, you are casting aspirations on the regional parties. I am sorry to say this that you are casting aspersion. I would not name the CPM which is confirmed to three States only. Should we call it a regional party?...*(Interruptions)* I am just quoting an example. Should we call it a regional party? Should we call the All-India Trinamool Congress a regional party? Should we call the All-India Anna DMK a regional party? Or, should we call the Indian National Congress, which had at one point of time confined to three or four States, a regional party The definition is very clear according to the Election Commission which defines a regional party.

I am happy that since the last 12 years, the situation has changed. The Indian body-politic has changed. It has changed since the 1989 elections. People do not have faith in the so-called national parties. Had they faith in the national parties, then the national parties would have been in power. The BJP would not have sought the support of the Akalis and even the Trinamool Congress. I am just making a comparison. The Akali Party was the first ally of the BJP. In the true sense of the term, the Akali Party is a regional party. Last but not least is the All-Indian Trinamool Congress. In-between, the Samata Party, the Biju Janata Dal, the DMK, the AIADMK and a number of other parties also came in. It is the BJP which first recognised the potential of the regional parties. The Congress did not accept that at the early stage. But slowly the Congress party is turning around and is accepting the regional parties. It is also bringing in other regional parties into its fold. Now, the situation has changed. I think in 1999, in the President's Address, this has been amply demonstrated. I need not go into that in detail now.

Now, I come to the speech. Many hon. Members have spoken about terrorist activity and terrorism. I would give it a different angle though it is not a new angle. Throughout the world, terrorism has its root to poverty, deprivation and neglect. These are the three aspects why terrorism has growing in different parts of the world. Our Government, the NDA Government headed by Shri A.B. Vajpayee, is striving hard to meet that challenge starting from Jammu & Kashmir to the North East. It is this Government which has a specific programme. It has also been mentioned in the speech of the hon. President that we are prepared to discuss with any group which is willing to discuss with us, which eschews terrorist activity. So, in the last two decades, our nation has been bleeding in Jammu & Kashmir. It has not only reached the doors of the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly but also it reached the doors of the Temple of the Indian Democracy on 13th December, 2001.

The Commander in Chief of India, the first citizen of this country, the hon. President mentioned this incident in his speech amply demonstrates the determination of our Government to fight terrorism to its conclusion. As has been said by our hon. Prime Minister, enough is enough, and I am sure in the last so many weeks, our Government has been making attempts to fight terrorism. Earlier terrorism was being fought with the back to the wall. Now, it is not so.

A question was raised by an hon. Member sitting in the Opposition — why have you deployed the troops in the border? I think that in some other quarters it has been discussed already, though not in this House yet. Why has a large section of our Armed Forces been deployed on the Western border? What have we achieved by that? Is it not glaring what we have achieved? I think, Shri Anadi Sahu, an hon. Member of this House, have reports of the Ministry of Home Affairs which states as to what we have achieved in the Western front within the last two and a half months. We should not just jump to a conclusion. Let us be practical; let us find out as to what was happening before the deployment of Armed Forces on border. Why Pakistan withdrew its forces from Afghan border and deployed them in India's border when US was pounding Afghanistan and Talibans were fleeing into Pakistan? What have we achieved with the Army standing on the border? Because of the international community pressure, we could not cross the border. But we can deploy our Armed Forces and by deploying them what have we achieved? If anybody is actually serious to know about those statistics, one can find out.

Another point that has been raised is this. Why has Pakistan been sponsoring cross-border terrorism? The basic question that has been discussed throughout our country by our people and also outside is as to why Pakistan has been doing this. It has a long history. Though I am not a student of history, a little I know is that we have not accepted the two-nation theory. We have accepted partition. There is a difference between

[Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab]

the two. Please do not mix it up. The Members of the Congress Party are aware as to how that thing had taken place. Why have Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and others accepted partition? How 90 million people stayed back giving a fitting reply to the two-nation theory to enrich our secular fabric? Why Jammu and Kashmir stayed with us? Is it only because of Raja Hari Singh? or Sheikh Abdullah had a greater role to play? All these things should be remembered when I say as to why this country is secular. It is not because Pakistan has been created, India has become a country only for *Hindus*. It is not so. We have enriched our country by adopting secularism; the secular fabric of this country has been enriched and in the last 55 years all of us have strived to protect it. Our party believes individuals ought to be religious. The Constitution also provides that individual can also be agnostic.

But the State should always remain secular and should stay away from religious activities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, I will confine myself only to three aspects of the hon. President's Address.

The second last aspect is regarding food security about which the hon. President has dealt with in his Address. Paragraph 56 is regarding tribal affairs where a declaration has been made by the hon. President. I mention this not because the Minister of Tribal Affairs belongs to our State, Orissa — he serves the whole nation — but it has a connection with our State. As far as food security is concerned, in the 1980s, a number of Members had raised the issue in this House and whenever something was discussed about Orissa, it was about food, hunger, starvation deaths and Kalahandi. These were the four aspects which were discussed repeatedly in this House and the then Prime Minister, along with the present Leader of the Opposition, visited the area where children were sold for food, where people died of starvation and where large scale migration had taken place due to hunger. This was the situation in the 1980s. In the mid 1996s, there was a big famine in Kalahandi and large parts of Bolangir in Orissa. At that time, the then Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi also visited the affected areas. Shri Biju Pattnaik became the Chief Minister of Orissa in the early 1990s. He introduced a noval scheme. He introduced a policy by which the *Sarpanch* of every *Panchayat* was entitled to provide free food to the family which does not have adequate succour.

That was the policy till 1995, but after the Congress Party came to power in 1995, this policy was withdrawn and again we had starvation deaths, migration and sale of children. I am happy to mention here in this House that the present BJD-BJP Government headed by Shri Navin Pattnaik has reimplemented that policy now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, I am going to call the next Member now. Please cooperate with me and conclude.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, I will conclude soon.

I am happy that it has been very clearly mentioned in the hon. President's Address that 1,14,000 tribal villages in the country will have Grain Bank Scheme for storage of foodgrains and Orissa will tremendously benefit out of this scheme.

I have some other points to say on the *Panchayati Raj* system, but I would conclude by making a comment on the point made by Shri Pandian here. He said something about election to the Rajya Sabha, but I have a different opinion on it. I agree that after the Anti-Defection Act has come into force, all our activities inside the House are determined by our respective parties. So, I support the open voting system for election to the Rajya Sabha, but I oppose the other aspect which hampers the federal character of our Constitution. Any citizen can get elected from any State is only duplication of Lok Sabha. It is then unnecessary. It goes against the commitments made in the Constitution. I think, the Government would review that position and come to a conclusion relating to that aspect.

A mention has also been made about the cattle wealth in India. I am sorry to mention that the Government took a decision in the 90s.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mahtab, this is too much. You have taken more than 25 minutes.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I am making the last point. I would take only two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: The offer of incentives for the exports of meat to other countries should be discouraged. The export of meat should be discouraged. It should not get any priority.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar will speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called another Member. Please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) *

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: At the end, I extend my whole hearted support to the Motion moved by our hon. Member, Dr. Malhotra, in support of hon. President's Address.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ambedkar is not there. Now, Shri Ranen Barman would speak.

[Translation]

*SHRI RANEN BARMAN (Balurghat): I would like to speak in my mother tongue Bengali.

Mr. Chairman Sir, on behalf of my party RSP I stand here to oppose the Address of hon'ble President. The President's Address speaks about the policy of the Government. With due respect to our hon'ble President I oppose the policy of this Government reflected in his Address. The President has mentioned about the policy of achievement of the Government. But I am sorry to say that the Government has failed miserably in every field.

The unemployment problem in the country has assumed a staggering dimension. The Government has failed to provide employment to the large number of unemployed persons. Actually the Government has no well conceived plan to tackle the problem of unemployment. Due to liberalisation the problem of unemployment will further aggrevate. The number of unemployed youths is increasing day by day. Because of job scarcity the educated youths have been under tremendous mental pressure resulting in drug addiction, violence and other stress related problem. So I feel the Government must formulate some well conceived policy for employment generation.

As regards agriculture I am sorry to say that the Government has failed miserably here too. Our country is agrarian. Eighty percent of our population lives in villages. These people in rural India depend on agriculture. But it is a matter of regret that the Government has not well conceived plan to save agriculture. The Government should know that the farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce. That is why the farmers have been facing great difficulty for their livelihood. The Government has no well conceived agricultural policy and the poor farmers are always at the receiving end. They are losing interest in agriculture. If the country is to be saved, the people are to be saved, then the farmers must be saved because they are the food earners of the country. So formulation of agricultural policy is urgently needed. We know the farmers in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka have been committing suicide due to frustration. Even then the Government is not taking any effective step to remove the plight of the farmer. It is indeed shameful on the part of the Government. The farmer needs water for irrigation, fertilizer for crops. The price of fertilizer is increasing day by day. The farmers should get subsidy for fertilizer.

The Government also must focus its attention to the field of education. Free and compulsory education should be provided to the poor. The poor have no scope for higher education. Here also the Government must evolve a policy so that the common and the poor are not deprived off from higher education.

The Government has also failed to combat terrorism. That is why terrorism is raising its ugly head everywhere. The Government must take some effective measures to stop terrorism.

Sir, with these words, after thanking you, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

20.00 hrs.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Mr. Chairman Sir, decision in the B.A.C. was taken till 8.00 o'clock. Permission shall have to be taken from the House in order to continue with the speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If permission has not been taken, I wish that, so far as the speeches of members in the list does not get complete, the time of the House may be extended to 9.00 o'clock as the number of Members to speak is too much.

[English]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): I will not speak for more than 10-15 minutes. I would certainly speak for 40-50 minutes which I did when I formally seconded it two years ago and by coincidence you were in the Chair at that time too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your party's time is 12 minutes.

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* Not recorded.

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bangla.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: I will conclude it within 12 minutes.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I rise to support the Motion of Thanks proposed by my good friend Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and seconded by Shri Geethe. The President's Address is a kind of mid-term review of the Government's performance because we are literally at the mid-term of this House and also contains some broad indications, some signposts to the future; the direction that the Government Policy might take and the directions in which this present Government would like the nation to go.

It rightly starts with the declaration for an all out war against terrorism. We have paid a very heavy price. The latest price being the cross border terrorism incident which started in Godhra, which was out and out an encouragement by Pakistani agencies to create communal trouble in this country and they succeeded in that.

I agree there with the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, who said that why is it that the so-called secularists always raise their voice when anything happens to minorities but when anything happens against majority they just keep quiet. This created a lot of problem. Naturally, there were reactions, but I do not support what Gujarat Government did by acts of omission rather than commission. They created a very dangerous situation which cannot be supported under any circumstances.

The Leader of the Opposition, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, gave a harrowing account of what she saw or her companions saw of what happened in Gujarat. We cannot forget the gruesome incident where one of the former Members of this House was murdered by burning. From 8 o'clock till 2 o'clock he went on telephoning the police, the administrative authorities. One senior police officer came about 1030 hours but just withdrew.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was not so much that I shudder to think that the Commissioner of Police, Ahmedabad making a statement that you cannot expect the police force to be outside the social milieu. That Police Commissioner is still in his seat. It is a disgrace. I do not necessarily say that there are any acts of commission, but acts of omission are there. The Gujarat Government failed miserably in alerting the administration, the district magistrate, and the police force as soon as Godhra gruesome incident took place and thereby accelerated matters considerably. The whole thing was given to the hands of the anti-social elements. But it really created a lot of problems for which whatever we, as a nation, gained in the international field in the last one year has just been lost. The prestige that we gained, we have lost now, thanks to Gujarat that has happened.

But Pakistan has succeeded in her objectives and we must be very careful about all these things. On secularism, in general, I always tell my friends why it is that they only criticize the majority community for anything that they might be doing.

The word 'Hindu' does not occur in any of the *Hindu* scriptures anywhere. I can take a bet on it. But secularism is ingrained in *Hinduism*. In the *Gita* and *Upanishads*, there is an ingrained secularism. I can quote one of the many sayings from Gita. "In whichever way anybody worships me, I accept that."

[Translation]

Ye yatha Ma Prapddyante Taansthavia Bhajamyaham

Mam Vartamanuvartante Manushyah Parth Sarvashaya

[English]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): What about your support to casteism?

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: I do not support casteism at all. Casteism is not in the *Upanishads*. Incidentally Budha drew his philosophy entirely from *Upanishads*. True *Upnishads* say: "Just as when the rainwater falls on the peak, it goes into various directions. Similarly are Brahman takes different human forms". It does not support Casteism at all. Casteism was created by *Manu* which is an infamous name. Casteism is not a part of the true Upanishads...*(Interruptions)*

I oppose Manu totally for caste system and for taking away the freedom from women...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Nitish Sengupta, please address the Chair.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: I am sorry, Sir.

Now, the point is, "In whichever way anybody worships me, I accept that worship." Lord Krishna is telling people. "Whichever path people may follow, they all eventually come and converge into my body." You cannot have a greater instance of secularism than this.

I also can recall some of the sayings of Swami Vivekananda, the great prince of *Upanishad* philosophy when he says: "If anybody dreams about the survival of his own religion and the destruction of others, I pity him

from the bottom of my heart." If you are born a *Christian*, be a good *Christian*. If you are born a *Muslim*, be a good *Muslim*. If you are born a *Hindu*, be a good *Hindu*. There is no difference at all. They will all eventually go to the same goal. That, Sir, is the real principle behind secularism. So, when we see the way sometimes the so-called secularists tackle the *Hindus*, I think, a section of the *Hindu* has also put their back up among the extreme section. Now this should be avoided. Secularism is part of our ethos. That is part of our civilization. We all stand by it. We must also support it. To the extent that the President's Address has dwelt on that, I support it very strongly.

Then, there is the question of de-regulation of economic functions by the Government, the abolition of quantitative restrictions and accepting globalization as an overwhelming philosophy. I think it broadly does give an indication that Govt. goes in the direction of economic reforms and de-regulation of the functions. But it is essentially a continuing process. You will notice this from 1991. In fact, it started from Rajiv Gandhi. It was Rajiv Gandhi who started first the process of de-regulation. Just as this morning the Leader of the Opposition mentioned Rajiv Gandhi's name in connection with the introduction of *Panchayat* functions, which has really changed the image. Although my Left Front friends in West Bengal have made full advantage of it to retain their control, Panchayat system has given a lot of power to the people at the village level. So, similarly, Rajiv Gandhi de-regulated telecom sector and started the process. Which is why today in the field of telecom or in electronic technology or information technology or entertainment field, in each one of which as the President says, I think we have broken many new grounds.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Were you the Expenditure Secretary at that time?

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: I was Revenue Secretary. I was Planning Commission Member Secretary when Shri Narasimha Rao decided to privatize the telecom and not to defend only on the Indian telephone industry to the one Public Sector industry. It is because we came to the conclusion that there was a situation where it took eight years or 10 years for a person to get a telephone connection. Today, you can get a telephone connection as you like. You are no longer dependent on the tyranny of the lineman of the Telephone Department. You can go to the cell phone. So, all these are important changes. We feel that to the extent the President's message has conveyed all these things, I strongly support, it.

Now my friend Shri Somnath Chatterjee did mention that Dr. Sengupta, in spite of his support to the Government, feels upset about some of the economic policy. Sir, the latter part is not correct. I have some reservation about the recent Central Budget which I have made public. I have criticized the way, particularly, it would appear as if the Finance Minister pounced upon the middle class, the fixed income class, the salaried classes who are the only group to pay their taxes regularly.

They were pounced upon and I do not support that. I would come to that later on. For the present, about economic development, I think the direction is absolutely sound. The President's speech does indicate a lot of signposts in directions for the future — agriculture, policy towards farmers, deregulation of functions, etc.

A lot of people have mentioned about unemployment but the unemployment problem cannot be solved by creation of jobs. Creating jobs is a very short-sighted approach. In any case, we are moving into an area where the services sector is becoming much more important than the manufacturing sector. It is true that in the official organised sector jobs have not been created. It is because those types of jobs are no longer needed in an age when everything is being decentralised but many new opportunities are being created all over the country through the informal sector, in the services sector, through information technology and the like. I certainly feel that though the so-called jobs might not have been created employment opportunities have been created. Much larger number of people are today self-employed. This is really an indication of the direction in which things are moving. So, there is no cause for worry, no reason for worry.

When it comes to the GDP growth, it is true that last year we had fallen short in GDP growth but if you look at the world GDP figures, I think, India's growth rate has been higher than the growth rate of Europe, North America and the world. Again, it is not just a part of the policies of the present Government though it has certainly been carrying on that policy. In a way, it started about ten years to fifteen years ago and all successive Governments that have come to power have in a way been following the same drift. The direction is irreversible and inescapable. To the extent the present Government is following these policies, I support it. So, let me correct Shri Somnath Chatterjee's impression that I am not in favour of the present economic policy. I am totally and out and out in favour of the economic policy being followed.

The *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* and the rural development schemes are very important schemes that have created a lot of job opportunities all over the

[Dr. Nitish Sengupta]

countryside. I drove to my constituency last week. It is a five-hour drive from Kolkata. I was impressed to see the work that was going on. Six months ago, I took about five hours to go to my constituency. This time, I took three hours. This is a tribute to the way roads are being developed. The States can certainly claim some credit but on the whole it is the broad Central policy directives that are responsible for the development.

I also support the President's very apt remarks on the power sector. We need a lot of reforms there. I am afraid, so long as we cannot decentralise generation and distribution of power and give it to the private hands, where there would be competition, we cannot really improve the situation. Therefore, it is very good to hear all the talk about a new Electricity Bill.

The proposal for dismantling the administered price mechanism is also very good. It is also inevitable. I think, it was a mistake on the part of the then Government, in the 1970s, when LPG and kerosene were introduced on a large scale, to subsidise LPG and all that. The common people have an impression and do not realise that much of the cost of that LPG comes from Government subsidy, from subvention. Slowly, we have to get out of it. But to put a burden of increase of Rs. 40 on the housewife, in one stroke, is a bit too much. Heavens would not have fallen if the Minister of Finance had not reduced the price of petrol by Re. 1 a litre but certainly a hike of Rs. 40 on LPG is a bit too much. The hike on kerosene is also a bit too much. The LPG prices could have been increased by Rs. 20 now and maybe by another Rs. 20 after one or two years. I think, it must be a gradual process.

When the Minister of Finance says how much a person is saving through the reduction in petrol prices, that if he uses 40 liters a month he would save Rs. 40, it reminds me of what was said by Marie Antoine, the queen of Louis XVI. She said during the French Revolution, 'If people cannot have bread, let them eat cakes.' So, it is too much. How many people use cars? For the housewife and for the common people, the increase of Rs. 40 on LPG is a bit too much. I have some reservations about. Of course, I would come to it later at an appropriate time.

The President has spoken about democratic decentralisation through empowerment of *panchayati raj* institutions. He has spoken about the various programmes in social justice and empowerment. He has also spoken about the various programmes in social justice and empowerment. He has also spoken about the successful development of our space technology, where we have made very important strides.

He has mentioned about the *Valmiki-Ambedkar Awas Yojana*, which is also a very good thing.

There is a reference to the foreign policy aspect, especially with regard to some of our neighbouring countries. With regard to Afghanistan, the Indian Government also has scored a very major victory in this year. Afghanistan has always been very, very pro-India in relation to Pakistan since 1947, but after Taliban came into power, Afghanistan became very, very anti-India. But today, Afghanistan is pro-India and that is a very great gain. He has also spoken that we should go out to support Afghanistan in whatever way we can and we should offer to rebuilt the Bamiyan Buddhas, with our archaeological survey expertise that we have. We should make an offer to Afghanistan that we will rebuilt the Bamiyan Buddhas.

There is also a reference to Myanmar, a country, partly because of their own policy, partly because of other factors, which went out of control from India. At one time, Burma was so close to India. There used to be a daily sailing from Calcutta and a daily flight from Calcutta and so many Indians were making a living in Burma at that time. Now Myanmar has come back to the word mainstream. In fact, it is good that an Indian Consulate General is being opened in Mandalay and a Myanmar's Consulate General in Calcutta. In fact, I should make bold to suggest to our Prime Minister that we should try to invite Afghanistan and Myanmar both to join the SAARC Conference. That will be very helpful to India and that will also change the character of the SAARC to some extent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: So, when all is said, I am fully supporting the Motion of Thanks to the President and I am concluding.

Thank you very much.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Sir, first and foremost, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity. Secondly, I would like to thank His Excellency, the President of India for having exposed the people with double-talk and double-speak in his Address to both Houses of Parliament.

The Mover of the Motion of Thanks, the learned Professor, whom I was listening with rapt attention, suddenly I realised that probably I was listening to Dr. Goebbels, Hitler's Propaganda Minister. Many untruths told hundred times become truth was Dr. Goebble's entire approach to the Second World War. I have enumerated about 21 points which he made, starting from plenty of food, plenty of foreign exchange, plenty of telephones, plenty of gas, plenty of national highways, plenty of employment, very good foreign relations. But what about

the poor man, the common man? In fact, I was hearing another learned, Dr. Sengupta. There is another learned Professor from my own university who got the Nobel Prize, Amartya Sen. What did he say about growth? He said that unless it is affordable and accessible to the poor man, that growth means nothing to India. Therefore, the Goebbelian theory which we heard for about 45 minutes — there were certain interferences in between— leaves me a bit sick and anguished. It again reminds me of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. When Mark Antony was speaking at the conspirators funeral of Julius Caesar, he referred to Brutus being an honourable man, and so also they were all honourable men. So, in this 'National Disaster Alliance' they are all honourable men and they are rulling us today. It is only in words and not in deeds. Therefore, I want to thank the hon. President for exposing this double-speak.

His first point is on terrorism—terrorism on Parliament.

Now, while we are discussing the President's Address, we have terrorism of a different kind in Gujarat; we have a terrorism of a different type in Uttar Pradesh and we have a terrorism of a different type in Orissa. Whether it is the tribals of Orissa or others, they are all Indians whether in Godhra or in Sanjali or in Ahmedabad or in Lucknow or in Kashipur or in Kalahandi and Koraput. They are all Indians. They are part of India. They are not from Afghanistan or from Mr. Pervez Musharraf's country or some other foreigners or mercenaries. They are all Indians.

The President's Address also mentioned about some clear strategy this Government is supposed to have. What is this clear strategy about national security? The internal security is also part of that national security. Then, how is it that in the presence of such a clear strategy, we had five youths coming and attacking our Parliament to which the President, in his second point, made a reference where he laments over the fact that it could have created a catastrophe to our country if the political leadership had been wiped out, had one single terrorist entered inside the Parliament. And how have we responded to this great attack on Parliament, the temple of democracy, the national ethos, the national integrity, national unity and the highest legislative forum?

20.22 hrs.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*)

It is by a knee-jerk reaction. Today we have spent more than Rs. 300 crore and we have amassed the entire Indian Army in the borders of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan — so much so that when the anguished cry of help for people came from Godhra and Ahmedabad, where there is a corps headquarters in Ahmedabad and there is a divisional headquarters in Ahmedabad, you could not reach for 72 hours to those beleaguered people. They were butchered, they were murdered as you rightly said Dr. Sengupta. They were thrown into the fire and burnt.

Now, we have heard and read when we were children that Nero was fiddling when Rome was burning. I do not know what to call of this 'National Disaster Alliance'. What were they doing when Ahmedabad was burning, when Godhra was burning or when Lucknow was burning or the Adivasis of Kashipur were being burnt and shot? What was this Government doing? Who is going to answer us? This is supposed to be a smart Government – simple, moralistic, accountable and responsible and transparent. Where is that smart Government? Sir, through you we would like to have an answer to all this.

Today, in the President's Address they also talked about defence preparedness. Deployment of seven lakh soldiers in one concentrated area of India is not preparedness. Today there is only knee-jerk reaction because we do not have a credible and deterrent national defence policy, strategy or a doctrine. Otherwise, Bangladesh would not be shooting 18 of your BSF men and sending them like animals and you could not even protest. You did not feel violated. You felt violated when our chaps were killed, when major Sarvanand and ten others of the first Bihar Regiment were assassinated or killed or butchered and disfigured during Kargil operations. You felt violated then. Why was it so? It was because the 1999 Elections to the Parliament were around the corner.

When 18 of our BSF men were butchered and sent like animals by Bangladesh you did not feel violated. With what a sense of judgement and what a sense of propriety that the same Rajputana Rifles — who stormed Tololing Heights shouting *Raja Ramachandraji ki Jai*, those who had four *Maha Vir Chakras*, seven *Vir Chakras*, who lost four officers five JCOs and 27 of Other Ranks — the same Rajputana files was made to give a Guard of Honour to General Pervez Musharraf when he came to Agra and Delhi? Is this a sense of priority and propriety?

Sir, in all, His Excellency the President's Address is rather disappointing.

Sir, it is with anguish I want to say that three per cent of Indians live in an area south east of West Bengal.

[Shri K.P. Singh Deo]

You may call it by whatever name — you may call it Kalinga, you may call it Utkal, you may call it Orissa or anything. Three per cent of Indians is crying in the wilderness because for 35 years or more. As my good friend, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab had mention, the constant companion of that area is only natural disasters, be it drought, which means inadequate water, be it excessive water, which means floods, cyclones, hailstorms and, as he was saying, starvation deaths and sale of children. Has it stopped? It has not stopped. My good friend, Shri Bikram Keshari Deo is sitting there. He is from that area, Kalahandi. Kashipur is just adjoining his area. It used to be his father's old constituency. This year, three of us from Parliament visited that area. There is food in plenty, but 35 tribals died there of starvation because they did not have purchasing power. Where is all that money going? Take the programme 'Food for Work'. Where is your supply management? You are talking glibly. You are basking in the reflected glory of the policies that the Congress Government implemented for 50 years. Today, we are not living from 'ship to mouth'. We are exporting foodgrains. Kashipur is exporting *basmati*, thanks to Indravati Project. Who has done it? Has this Government done it? For 50 years, the successive Governments have done this. Now, you are basking in the reflected glory of information Technology, computerisation etc. Dr. Sengupta has rightly pointed out that he himself was he Secretary (Revenue) when they happened during Rajiv Gandhi's tune....*(Interruptions)* Sir, I am not yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are the next speaker. At that time, you can answer these things.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): I just want to say that the Upper Indravati Project started in 1978 when Shri Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister of the country and not during the Congress Government's rule.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The people of Orissa, those three per cent Indians, are crying in the wilderness, and 48.71 per cent are still living below the poverty line. What does the hon. finance Minister tell us in his Budget speech? Suddenly, in one year, the percentage of people living below the poverty line has come down from 58 to 26. Fifty-eight per cent is not a figure that I discovered. It was given in that document, which was given to all Members of Parliament by none other than the former hon. Speaker, of this House, Shri Purno Sangma. Now, in one year, they supposed to have radicated poverty to the extent of 33 per cent.

Now, let us come to the targeted public distribution system. It talks about people below the poverty line. The figures of the people who are below the poverty line are still on the basis of the 1991 Census. Even the people who were above the poverty line have now come under the below poverty line parameters because of the successive cyclones, floods and droughts. They have not been enumerated, and they are still being denied their PDS rice, kerosene, sugar or whatever it is and, yet we would like to pose a rosy picture that all is well in our country.

Sir, the people of that area are anguished. The Tenth Five-Year Plan is on the anvil, and that is what the hon. President says. The Budget has been presented. We were all present we all heard the Budget speech. It is also a fact that the Government of Orissa the MPs of Orissa, the people of Orissa have been crying in the wilderness for according 'special status' or a 'Special Category State status' to Orissa because of the inadequate infrastructure, the number of people who are below the poverty line 48.17%, 38 per cent of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 73 per cent of agricultural labourers, infant mortality rate 97 which is the highest in India and, yet, all this anguish and crying is falling on the deaf ears of this great National Disaster Alliance. It is supposed to be a composition of State parties. Even the B.J.P. is not supposed to be a national Party, which is what I just now heard.

So, at least people from the States are there. This was there in the manifesto of the NDA — I would call it the National Democratic Alliance this time — in 1998 as well as in 1999. Our hon. Prime Minister visited Orissa in August immediately after the floods. The Orissa Legislative Assembly in 1997, my friend Shri Bikram Kesari Deo was an MLA then, had passed an unanimous resolution that the State of Orissa should be accorded a Special Category State status that the State could get grant-in-aid rather than loans. Today, the financial position of the Orissa Government is absolutely precarious. The Government servants are not getting their regular pay. Now there is a suggestion that the Government servants take their remuneration half in rice and half in pay like the 'Food for work' programme. I do not know as to what is going to happen to the State. I would like to mention here that with all these lip sympathies both from the NDA as well as from the hon. Prime Minister, it is high time that the Special Category State status is accorded to the State of Orissa. If it is not mentioned in the recommendations of the Tenth or the Eleventh Finance Commission, or if it is not in the definition of the Planning Commission, then this "National Disaster Alliance" of 24 parties should think of some ways and means as to how they could accord this Special Category State status to Orissa. It is because we should not hide behind the fact this is not mentioned in the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, as it happened during the super cyclone of 1999.

Sir, why is this apathy towards the State of Orissa? Take for instance the issue of coal royalty. The State of Orissa possesses 33 per cent of coal of the whole of India. From the year 1994, coal royalty has not been revised. Why is it so? It is because the foreign buyers would be affected and therefore they may suffer. So, in the name of reforms, in the name of doing business, in the name of raising resources — we know the cost of everything but not the value of human being has become next to nothing.

Sir, then I come to NALCO. The Leader of the Opposition and my leader was mentioning as to how the profit making public sector concerns were being sold off and disinvested indiscriminately. The Flagship PSU of NALCO falls partly in my Parliamentary Constituency and partly in the Parliament Constituency of Smt. Hema Gamang. We have abundant bauxite reserve at the Panchpatmalli mines. It is about 310 million tones out of which NALCO till date has excavated only 40 million tonnes. We still have 50 to 70 years of bauxite reserve available for NALCO. The expansion of NALCO, both for the smaller as well as for alumina, has been approved by the Government. The bauxite at Panchpatmalli mine, which is just next door to Kashipur, has only four per cent silica which is one of the cheapest compared to other international bauxite reserves. The quality of alumina is such that it can be processed at atmospheric temperature by digestion technique and it has a low-cost processing for making alumina which is again the cheapest in the world. The average cost of production of bauxite at NALCO is about five US dollars per tonne while the international cost of bauxite trading is 25 to 30 US dollars per tonne. NALCO has expanded its bauxite mine from 2.4 million tonnes per annum to 4.8 million tonnes per annum. Its alumina refinery has been expanded from 0.8 million tonnes to 1.57 million tonnes per annum. The smelter expansion has been from 2,30,000 tonnes per annum to 3,45,000 tonnes per annum. This same Government, which is now sitting there, has allowed this expansion. But now a notice has come from the Ministry of Disinvestment, Government of India saying: "The Government intends to disinvest, out of its 87.15 per cent share holding, firstly ten per cent through domestic shares, secondly through 20 per cent ADR, and then 29.15 per cent to strategic sale of partners".

It is noting but allowing certain business houses in India to gain monopoly of the aluminium industry, which is a strategic industry required for defence and other purposes. I charge this Government of selling off the interests of this country to the private sector in the name of disinvestment.

I now come to KBK districts. A portion of my constituency is also in the KBK, or the erstwhile KBK, district. It was the brainchild of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It was meant to do drought-proofing as well as to bring up the tribal, the under-developed, and the far-flung areas into development. And here is a note given to all Members of Parliament by the Government of Orissa on the revised long-term action plan. What is the concern of the State Government? They require Rs. 5,527.41 crore. The letter reads thus:

> "State Government have not received any formal communication from Government of India regarding the approval of the revised long-term action plan."

On this, we the seven Members of Parliament have received only notices For seven times over the last six months, the meetings have been postponed because there is no money. And yet we talk glibly about the KBK districts where it is supposed to be 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan. Nothing has happened. This is what the Government of Orissa says to its Members of Parliament:

"Government of India should augment additional resources for RLTAP under Central Plan and Centrally-sponsored plan."

That is the request of the State Government. There is no mention of it in the Tenth Plan document which has been circulated to Members, nor in the budget, and none as far as the Finance Ministry.

Then I come to the Paradip Refineries. Hon. Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of Paradip Refinery, a Rs. 10,000 crore project, just a couple of months before the March 2000 State elections. The Government of Orissa was asked to give, over a period of eleven years concession on sales tax and excise duty to the tune of Rs. 3,000 crore. Now, suddenly we get to know from the newspapers that the refinery, which was supposed to start functioning from 2003, under the pressure of some very powerful vested interests, has been delayed for three more years. That means, till 2006 no development will take place in Paradip Refinery. This would have given a lot of employment. This would have taken oil from Paradip right up to Ranchi via Rourkela and maybe through Meramandli. All the false promises given to the youths of Orissa, to the youths of that area, will remain unfulfilled till 2006!

[Shri K.P. Singh Deo]

Sir, I cannot make myself support the President's Address as much as I would like to because he has been forced to, in his Address, to reflect his Government's policies. It is only wishful thinking and pun on words. It is only a lot of semantics and oratory. They do not mean any seriousness on the part of the Government to tackle any of this, including unemployment which is raising its ugly head. When you have educated unemployed without any economic activity for them to pursue or any future to behold, they can only lead to terrorism and insurgency. In the President's Address they have mentioned that in the case of Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East, because of the problem of terrorism, they are going to adopt a three-fold approach to speed up economic development as well as security. I hope this would not send a wrong message to the youths of Orissa that they should also follow the path of violence and extremism to see that Orissa gets its due share.

Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by an hon. Member and the whip of our party, Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

The reason for my supporting this Address is that the Government's entire programmes are fully reflected in the hon. President's Address here from para 1 to para 76.

Inn the beginning, I would like to stress regarding terrorism, which has affected our country badly and which is still affecting our country to a great extent. For this, I would squarely blame the Opposition parties because when the TADA Act of 1995 lapsed, now new legislation or no new Act was promulgated to counter terrorism. So, from 1995 till the present date, there has been no law to fight terrorism. This is one of the main reasons where crime got organised.

Everyday, you hear that organised crime is disturbing the communal harmony in the country, it is disturbing the normal activities in the country.

Take for example, the attack on our Temple of Democracy, Parliament. In this attack, nine of our brave security personnel laid down their lives. We salute them for the sacrifices that they had done. But I squarely blame the Opposition parties because when the POTO was being promulgated and when the POTO was being introduced in this House, at that time there was a pandemonium, there was stiff opposition to this legislation, thereby further delaying the action against terrorism.

Sir, if POTO, though it is re-promulgated, was there in true spirit, in the form of a Bill and got passed in this hon. House, this terrorism would have come to a certain check. There would have been fears among those who spread terrorism.

As everybody is aware, the perpetrators of terrorism who attacked our Parliament were arrested somewhere from the Delhi University. So, you can well imagine that how since 1995 or rather even before that, there has a planned and organised internal insurgency which is slowly growing in the country. Previous Governments were not able to stop it. But when our Government is trying its best to do something to curb terrorism, there is always an opposition. That is why incidents like Godhra happened.

The glory incident which happened in Ahmedabad where the coach number six of *Sabarmati Express* was burnt, was a very tragic incident. But as per our information, they were the Congress people who were present there. They could have informed the authority on time but they did not do it, which led to a large scale communal riots in that State.

But I should praise the local Government there for having stopped the riots and carnage which were taking place in the State of Gujarat within 72 hours. They were able to contain it. There were fears that these communal riots would spread throughout the country but they have been contained in Gujarat because of the efficient Administration there.

Now, I come to Ayodhya issue. Everybody in this House from that side for the last four days was making hue and cry about Ayodhya. They thought that there would be a carnage in Ayodhya. But today, by the grace of God, everything passed beautifully and peacefully. The *Shila Pujan* was done with utmost Hindu rituals and everything was peacefully organised.

Now, I would like to touch upon the sensitive North-East area. As you all know, in the President's Address, it is mentioned that for the North-Eastern Council, a special Ministry for development of North-East region has been established thereby the area will develop and come in part with other developed regions of the country.

This region has been neglected. The tribal rife that had been going on in that area had to be contained; and we had been able to contain it. The Manipur elections

were peacefully conduced and now, an elected Government is established there.

Similarly as far as scams are concerned, to have more transparency in defence deals, a Committee has been formed whereby there would be more transparency in defence deals. We have the past experience and we have several CAG reports; and we must have seen that there were Bofors deals, submarine deals, purchase of defence spare parts, etc. during the Congress regime; and they were all reflected in the CAG reports. So, to have further transparency in defence deals, a Defence Purchase Committee has been formed. This is in the right direction. Purchase of defence items creates really a big sensation in the country and the morale of the Army also comes down.

Finally I would like to say something about the WTO. When the WTO was signed during the first round of Uruguay talks, you would have noticed that the developed countries were offering a lot of subsidies to the agriculturists. But in India, we could not give subsidies Since 1994, till 01.01.2000, we had not been able to put the problems of the agriculturists in the WTO meetings. It was the first time that the Government has taken initiatives to bring agriculture as the subject in the multilateral trading system, as part of the Uruguay round of agreements in 1994. The Agreement on Agriculture mandated that further negotiations would take place as per article 20. But since 1994 till date, not a single meeting was held.

I thank the Commerce Minister and the Government today because they had taken 12 special sessions or meetings of Committee on Agriculture. During the first phase of negotiations, 121 member countries have filed 47 proposals. So, our problems of agriculturists have been discussed in the WTO which was not done previously. I would like to ask the Opposition one question. When they were in the Government, they signed the WTO agreements; at that time, have they forgotten the agriculturists? It is a clear proof of it. Today they are shedding crocodile tears for agriculturists, saying that farmers are committing suicides and that they are agitating, etc. For all these things like shedding crocodile tears, etc., the Congress Party has been evident since long. They had never thought of agriculturists before and when the Government wants to take some concrete steps to develop rural areas or the rural scenario in the country, they are opposing us and they are criticising us. So, now agreements have been signed and the Agreement on Agriculture will definitely solve the problems of agriculture in the country.

Regarding Quantitative Restrictions, I would say that they have been lifted from the small-scale industries and they can compete with other countries and they can improve and increase their products. A lot of innovative and progressive steps have been announced by the hon. President of India. I am sure that this will take the country forward. The expected goal of eight per cent rate of growth will definitely see the light of the day, some day. It is not a by gone era. Though there have been problems, we have been able to make a turn around up to 5.4 per cent growth rate. But this problem can not be solved in 2 $^{1}/_{2}$ years.

Sir, you please see the legacy which we inherited from the previous Governments. Most of the PSUs including Navratnas and mini-ratnas were sick and most of the 19 lakh workers who were serving there, are laid off today. So, we had to privatise. Privatisation has become imperative. We are bound to privatize to save the industry, the economy, and the country. So, further steps have been taken in this regard.

Sir, from the Opposition side, the hon. Member mentioned about KBK region. Sir, during 1998, the Prime Minister made a solemn vow from Red Fort to eradicate poverty from the KBK districts. I think him for that. Sir, steps have been taken in that regard. My hon. friend, Shri K.P. Singh Deo mentioned that the programme was announced by late Rajiv Gandhi. Maybe, it might have been the brain-child of late Rajiv Gandhi. When Shri Narasimha Rao was the Prime Minister, he visited Kalahandi and the KBK region and he had announced Rs. 4700 crore for a long term action plan. But when we got receipts from the Central Government, we got only Rs. 1 lakh. In the year 1995, we got only Rs. 1 lakh and that also was given for soil testing. But today, I am very proud of my Government for the programme that they have initiated. They have allotted Rs. 9000 crore for a revised action plan for the KBK area which is supposed to be spent in distressed area of the region of India. These steps have been taken to eradicate poverty from this region.

As regards my districts, once upon a time the irrigation potentiality was only 3 per cent but today after this Government's coming to power, the arable land has jumped to 26 per cent from 3 per cent. Another Rs. 3000 crore is in the pipeline to develop other irrigation projects in my district and the KBK area as a whole. If I name all the projects, it will take a lot of time. At some other occasion, I would speak about these projects in the House. What the KBK people had accepted, they have got it and they will get it in future also.

Sir, finally, I would like to make a request to the Government, Presently, the Golden Quadrangular does not touch Orissa. So, I would request that a super highway should be developed from Delhi to Chennai which

[Shri Bikram Keshari Deo]

should pass through Orissa. There is no direct highway from Delhi to Chennai. I would request that it should be done.

Besides that, Orissa has always been neglected as far as Railway sector is concerned. In future, Orissa should not be neglected by the Railways.

20.54 hrs.

ARREST OF MEMBERS

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that a communication has been received from District Magistrate, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh intimating that Shri Brij Bhushan Saran Singh and Shri Cinmayanand Swami, Members of Parliament have been arrested today at about 10.40 a.m. under section 151 Cr.P.C. at Chinhat, Lucknow.

20.55 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ajoy Chakraborty would speak.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, we must adjourn at 9 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are four or five speakers. We must conclude it today.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, there was no such decision to conclude it today. Such a large number of Members have spoken today.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry): Sir, it has been decided in the BAC that there will be sitting only up to 9 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was present in the BAC meeting. But you were not there.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK: Sir, we have been told that.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): Sir, we should conclude it today. The dinner has also been arranged.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Sir, I will speak tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tomorrow's agenda is different. You would not get a chance tomorrow.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I pay my respects and homage to our beloved and respected Speaker, the late G.M.C. Balayogi. I also pay my respects, homage and salute to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in Parliament.

I would like to convey my gratitude to the hon. President as he came here in spite of his ill health and delivered a long long speech to the Joint Session, though I am sorry to say that I cannot share the views of the hon. President. I respectfully differ with the contents of his speech which was delivered through his mouth by this Government.

Sir, this Government has successively, utterly and completely failed on all fronts such as agriculture, industry, employment, education and in all other spheres of life. This country is getting ruined day by day due to the callous attitude of this Government, due to the non-governance and bad-governance of this Government. In his speech the hon. President has stated that his Government is determined to maintain peace and communal harmony. Gujarat, which is the land of Mahatma Gandhi is the best example for maintaining communal harmony. We express our anguish and condemn the heinous crime which was committed at Godhra in Gujarat. But what happened after that? The hon. Home Minister told this House that

[Translation]

It would provoke reaction and reaction accurred.

[English]

After the incident at Godhra, the State sponsoring rioting, killing Anderson and arson had started. More than a thousand people were killed.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): He should withdraw these words. This is not good.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: He can differ with me. He has a right to differ with me. But I would again say that after the Godhra incident there was a State sponsored killing, rioting and arson and more than a thousand people were brutally killed. Not only that, one ex-Member of this House had also been killed along with the inmates of his house who were set ablaze. Thousands and thousands of people have become shelterless,

homeless and the Government is not providing them shelter, food, medicine and other facilities. Only NGOs are running the relief camps there. The Narendra Modi Government in Gujarat has failed in providing food, medicine and shelter to the homeless evacuees who are the victims of these riots. So, we rightly press for the removal of the Gujarat Chief Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.

The hon. President has stated in his speech that his Government is determined to maintain the *status quo* at Ayodhya *Ram Janmabhoomi* site.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: You want a situation like that of 1979? The situation was under control in 72 hours and complete help was given to the poor...*(Interruptions)* I do not understand why he is asking for the resignation of the Chief Minister?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Please do not disturb me. What is all this? They want to gag the opposition. Let him speak when his turn comes.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: There was a riot in Gujarat in 1979 which went on for one month. Shri Hitendra Desai was the Chief Minister of the State at that time. He could not control the situation for one full month. But the present Chief Minister was able to stop in within three days. It is peaceful now.

21.00 hrs.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, he is saying that it is peaceful. Yesterday, in an incident which took place in Surat, two persons were killed and shops were looted and set ablaze...*(Interruptions)*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Sir, time is up now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will conclude it in half-an-hour.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: The time of the House was extended only upto 9 p.m....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the sense of the House that the time may be extended for half-an-hour more?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, you may give us one hour time to speak tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There will be no time tomorrow. The discussion will be over in 20 or 30 minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Should I proceed or speak tomorrow?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will have only Prime Minister's reply and the discussion under Rule 193 tomorrow.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, there will be no Question Hour tomorrow. We shall begin the discussion right at 11 a.m. and there will be one hour for Members to speak and then Prime Minister's reply would be there. After that, there will be a lot of time for the discussion under Rule 193...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK: Sir I do not understand as to why you are taxing us so much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let Shri Ajoy Chakraborty conclude now.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, let him continue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not obstruct him. Let him conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Sir, he may continue his speech tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are only four or five more Members to speak and hon. Deputy-Speaker, has said that we should conclude the discussion today itself.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Sir, tomorrow you may give us one hour to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There will be no time tomorrow.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him be allowed to speak now. After his speech, we will conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Chairman Sir, I raise some question then it would not be right....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, the Government is determined to maintain the *status quo* at the Ayodhya site...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tomorrow if there is no time, then we cannot extend it.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK: Sir, you have already said that after his speech, we would conclude. I have never seen the Chair going back on his words.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is because I have been given somewhat different information now.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK: Sir, you are the person who has to decide and you have already decided...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, the same thing was repeated by the hon. Prime Minister in the House. The Prime Minister told in the House that the Government is determined to maintain the *status quo* at the Ayodhya site and that it will abide by the Supreme Court orders. What happened in the Supreme Court later? The learned Attorney-General who represented the Government of India...*(Interruptions)*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Sir, I am again requesting you on this point. The time of House was extended only upto 9 p.m. earlier.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have extended the time only with the consent of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, we had agreed to sit upto 8 p.m. and now it is already 9 p.m. There should be some meaning in sitting late like this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, in the BAC meeting, it was decided to conclude it today and now something different is happening...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let us meet again tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 a.m.

21.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, March 16, 2001/Phalguna 25, 1923 (Saka).

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Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition) and Printed by M/s. Jainco Art India, New Delhi.