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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Monday, August 26, 1996/Bhadra 4, 1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION
FROM AUSTRALIA**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the Hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming Senator the Hon. Mr. Nick Minchin, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister of Australia and other Members of the Australian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon. Members of the Delegation are :

1. Mr. Peter Nugent, MP
2. Senator John Tierney
3. Mr. Bob Sercombe, MP

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 25 August, 1996. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Governor-General, the Parliament and the friendly people of Australia.

11.03 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri C. Srinivasa Rao.

Shri C. Srinivasa Rao was a Member of Ninth Lok Sabha representing Nalgonda Parliamentary constituency of Andhra Pradesh during 1989-91.

Earlier, he was a Member of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1967-78 and 1983-85.

An active social and political worker, Shri C. Srinivasa Rao actively participated in the freedom movement. An agriculturist by profession, he took keen interest in the spread of education and upliftment of the downtrodden. He did yeoman's service in setting up of schools and libraries in his area and rendering financial assistance to the poor and needy students. He also

organised sports activities in his area and made efforts for its promotion.

Shri C. Srinivasa Rao passed away at Hyderabad on 4 July, 1996 at the age of 70 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

As the hon. Members know, many of our pilgrims have met with untimely death reportedly on account of inclement weather. We mourn this too and the House may place on record its deep sense of grief in this regard.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.05 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Reimbursement of Surgery Charges

*341. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether for undergoing open heart surgery kidney transplant or other major surgery in A.I.I.M.S., the Central Government employees have first to deposit a huge amount from their own resources and then claim reimbursement from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare after the surgery has been performed;

(b) whether Central Government employees, who are CGHS beneficiaries too, have to face numerous hardships in arranging such huge amount for the surgery;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to make such arrangement by which the AIIMS could collect surgery charges direct from the Ministry with a view to do away with the difficulties faced by CGHS beneficiaries;

(d) if so, by when the orders are likely to be issued in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Government have issued orders for sanction of medical advance to the extent of 80% of the package deal covering major surgical procedures or the expenditure estimated by the concerned hospital. This advance can be drawn by the employees from their respective departments to whom

powers have already been delegated. The pensioners can draw the advance from the CGHS. As such, all efforts have been made to reduce inconvenience to the beneficiaries.

(c) No, Sir. The advance provided by Government is intended primarily to be used for payment towards disposable surgical sundries and artificial appliances to be used in major surgical-interventions not only in AIIMS but in all recognized Government and non-Government hospitals, where facilities for major surgery are being extended. AIIMS does not, however, ask for advance payment for normal hospital charges. Patients needing emergency medicines and other surgical items are provided the same by the hospital and replaced by the patients subsequently.

(d) and (e). In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Hon. Speaker Sir, though the answer given by the hon. Minister is satisfactory, generally in the cases of cardiothoracic surgery, neuro surgery, kidney transplantation and other acute ailments, when the patient is admitted in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and other superspecialised hospitals in the country, the different Departments should send the money or make available to the patient minimum three to four months in advance. So, I want to know whether the order has been issued or some way can be envisaged so that in acute cases, after getting the estimate, the Department could immediately deposit and send the money to the patient account of CTVS, Medical Superintendent of AIIMS, in different capacities. Without that, the advance generally takes three to four months time.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : I understand the anxiety that the hon. Member has expressed. For that, we have taken the step that the Ministries and the Departments have been delegated the powers to sanction the medical advance to serving Government employees. They can sanction the advance and it does not have to be routed through us. The parent Department itself can sanction the advance on the basis of certain package deals that we have worked out at various interventions. So, the question of delay does not arise as the parent Department itself can sanction the advance.

MR. SPEAKER : Any more supplementary?

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : No, Sir.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Hon. Speaker Sir, all the private hospitals charge different amounts for open heart-surgery, such as Apollo hospital charges one lakh sixty thousand, Escorts charges one lakh twenty thousand and a hospital in Madras charge sixty thousand. Therefore, my question is whether the hon. Minister stipulates inform charge for open-heart-surgery in all the private hospitals? Part (b) of my question is that The Central Government has granted exemption in excise duty and other Central taxes in importing

equipments by all the hospitals. But inspite of all these, not a single bed is reserved for the poor. I would like to ask from the hon. Minister that when facilities have been provided for the establishment of these hospitals, then whether on the basis of these facilities they will be asked to reserve beds for the poor also.

[English]

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, though this question is not related to the C.G.H.S., yet I would like to answer this question. These concern the private hospitals and they have their own system of making evaluations of what the charges would be. We go by a package deal for Government recognised hospitals.

[Translation]

We provide a package deal for every ailment stating that to much will be given for open heart Surgery, so much for renal failure, so much for angioplasty. We fix rates on the basis of the amounts charged by our hospitals. If some one wants to consult private hospital or a recognised hospital by the CGHS, we allow them. But we sanction the amount according to our package deal and the rest is borne by the patients themselves ... (Interruptions)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Why do they not follow?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : They are private hospitals... (Interruptions)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : You provide them every kind of facility, so you have control over them.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : I am coming to that also. As regards facilities, there is a point that when the private hospitals take exemption from us, they give an undertaking that they will examine 20 percent or 30 percent patients free or that hospital will supply free beds. But in actual practice, this does not take place because there is no system to monitor it. This matter is already under investigation and the PIB is looking into it. The report is awaited. We will inform you as soon as we receive it... (Interruptions)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : The committee has given its report.

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Government says that in the country, 38 percent to 45 percent people live below the poverty line, whose annual income is less than six thousand. If these people need open heart surgery, is the Government is prepared to provide them free medical treatment?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : There is no provision to provide them free treatment. But there is a budget in the Health Ministry and we assist them out of it and it is a limited budget upto only twenty thousand. In addition to this, if someone goes to a private hospital we try to get him some exemption by negotiating with the private hospital. But there is no such scheme under which the Government may bear the whole expenditure.

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : But the Government should look into it.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : We will think over it.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Sillchar) : Sir, though the question relates to CGHS, my point is about a system that was followed for the benefit of the poorest of the poor. Earlier, when the Members of Parliament used to write to the Prime Minister recommending financial assistance for treatment of poor patients, the sanction for the same used to be given on the basis of a certificate from the hospital where the patient was admitted for treatment. I would like to know whether this practice has been done away with or not. If that system is still in practice, would you kindly consider increasing of the quantum of money that is given at present? Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000 is the maximum amount that is given from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. As has been said by many hon. Members, that nowadays the cost of operation is about Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 1,00,000; then there are other ancillary expenditure like travel and things like that. Apart from this, keeping in view the rate of inflation, this amount of donation or help should also be increased accordingly. Kindly give your reactions on this.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, this matter is already under our consideration. We have a limit to sanction. The authority to sanction which rests with the Minister of Health is only upto Rs. 20,000. The cost of operation may be Rs. 80,000 or Rs. 1,00,000 depending upon what kind of an operation it is. We are already considering this aspect. We are trying to make a representation where we are asking that there should be no limit for sanction; we should have funds which we should be allowed to give as per the due requirement of the patients and according to what the treatment would cost the patient.

Sir, regarding the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, the discretion is with the Prime Minister. He could sanction Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000. But the Minister of Health has the authority to sanction only Rs. 20,000 per patient.

[Translation]

Health Services to Public

*342. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that per capita expenditure on medical facilities spent in India is much less as compared with other Asian countries;

(b) if so, the steps propose to be taken by the Union Government to provide better medical facilities to the public; and

(c) the funds earmarked for the Health and Family Welfare Programme in 1996-97 and in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The per capita expenditure on health in India is higher than several other countries in Asia. The per capita health expenditure for the year 1990 in some of the Asian Countries is indicated at Annexure.

(b) Whereas health is primarily a state subject, the Centre has been providing technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect health services and disease control. Promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative health care services are being provided to the people through a network of Sub-centres, Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres established and State levels. Several communicable and non-communicable disease control/eradication programmes are being implemented throughout the country. Efforts have been made during successive Five Year Plans to strengthen various teaching institutions to train medical and paramedical personnel required for the Health Care Delivery System. Emphasis has been given for child survival and safe motherhood programmes including immunisation. Biomedical Research facilities have been augmented for research in priority areas. Efforts have been made for inter-sectoral coordination with other related Departments and involvement of voluntary organisations/NGOs and private sectors in the delivery of Health Care Services in both rural and urban areas. In addition, to augment the resources available for health sector certain new initiatives have been taken like mobilisation of external assistance for various disease control programmes and strengthening of selected State Health Systems.

(d) During 1996-97 and Eighth Five Year Plan the funds allocated for Health and Family Welfare (including Central, State/UT sector) are as under :

| | | (Rs. in Crore) |
|--------------------|--------------------|---|
| | 8th Five Year Plan | 1996-97 |
| i. Health | 7582.19 | Not yet finalised for States/UTs. However, for Central Sector Health Programmes including ISM and Homoeopathy, the outlay is Rs. 815.00 crores. |
| ii. Family Welfare | 6500.00 | 1535.00 |

ANNEXURE

*Per Capita Health Expenditure for the year
1990 in US \$.*

| Countries | |
|------------|----|
| Malaysia | 71 |
| Thailand | 72 |
| China | 11 |
| Sri Lanka | 18 |
| Indonesia | 12 |
| Pakistan | 12 |
| India | 21 |
| Bangladesh | 7 |
| Nepal | 7 |

Source : The World Health Report 1995-Bridging the Gaps.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Minister, that our slogan Health for All has become a joke, though we talk of implementing policy of liberalisation, economic liberalisation and globalisation.

The order of priority to the health services has come down after the implementation of this policy. During the last five years and if we see in the perspective of the earlier Five Year Plans, we will find that the expenditure on it is going down continuously. Whether the Government is giving attention towards it? No care is being taken for the health of the children in our country.

In Gujarat, our Government is taking care of the health of every child this time and the health of every child was examined recently. Whether the Government of India has ever thought of examining the health of every child?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : We are implementing a number of schemes. Some are being operated hundred percent by the centre and some are being run by sharing with states on 50:50 basis. If we take the total G.D.P. into account, we will find that except America, our expenditure on health is no less than any other country. But our population is very large and we lack funds. Taking this into consideration we try to give maximum facilities. There are a number of constraints in our way. We are trying to involve world bank in it. Some states have also been involved in it. This includes Punjab, West Bengal, Karnataka etc. We had included Andhra Pradesh in the first phase. We are covering 6-7 more states in the next phase so that our priority to increase and implement these facilities is achieved.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has just started that they are spending money on the basis of states and

population and growing unemployment is our greatest problem. In reply to my question, he has mentioned the names of 11 countries and also the per capita expenditure in American dollars on health. He has shown this figure as 21 dollars in case of India. This is not correct. These figures seem to be incorrect. Secondly, we have taken a decision that anyone who becomes a doctor after qualifying M.B.B.S., M.D. or M.S. will have to work in the village. But no doctor is willing to go to the village. Why is it so? Have you ever gone through it to know the reason? If a doctor is asked to go and work there, he evades it. The main reason is that there is no primary facility available in the villages. The villages lack roads, drinking water and schools for giving good education. Whether the Government have made any effort in this direction so that the doctors may go to the villages and work there?

[English]

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : This is really a matter of concern. Nobody can deny the fact that today, inspite of the fact they are trying to place Doctors, they are not going there because of lack of infrastructure facilities and lack of education. We are trying to place them there so that better and better facilities are provided, but we have our limitation also. We are looking into the problem.

[Translation]

You have suggested that we may implement it through some resolution by which two years service by the doctors in the villages in made compulsory. I would like say that this matter is under our consideration.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : The reply of the Minister does not seem to be correct. There is a slogan of the Government "Health for All". This slogan has remained only a slogan. Health is not seen anywhere. The way the children look ill shows that this slogan has remained only a slogan. The figures given by the hon. Minister does not seem to be correct. As per this Budget, the expenditure on per person is two and a half paise. Now what one can buy with this two and a half paise. One cannot even buy poison from the market with this amount. Then wherefrom the question of buying medicine arises. I would like to ask from the hon. Minister whether he would increase this amount in the Eighth Plan, taking into consideration the population.

Secondly, there are two aspects of health. One is protection of health. It means that we come to know which disease or epidemic like cholera or plague is going to outbreak so that we may take precaution and another one is treatment of illness. This means that when a person suffers from some disease, he should be treated. Then, I would like to know how much money have you allotted on both these town, separately?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : The figures which I have quoted.

[English]

They are as per the Report of the World Health Organization.

[Translation]

Survey was conducted here and we have supplied those figures. We have quoted the figures of W.H.O. As far the question of its budget is concerned, I would say that our population is very large. We operate that budget which comes from Finance Ministry. If you quote it on the basis of population. Then it always falls short. However, under these circumstances, whatever better facilities we can give, we are providing. We have some schemes which are sponsored centpercent by us. There are other schemes in which we share 50 percent and the remaining 50 percent is borne by the concerned State Government.

So far ailments are concerned, we supply sufficient medicines, DDT etc. We take preventive measures. The staff of State health services spray DDT, distribute medicines, undertake immunization and so on. If shortage of these things takes place there, it doesn't mean that the Centre has not sent them medicines or DDT has not been sprayed. It becomes difficult for us to monitor whether they have done the job properly or not. As regards schemes I would like to say that that whereas in 1950, the infant mortality was 147 per thousand, it has come down to 74 per thousand in 1994. Therefore, things have improved because we have taken such steps. It will be wrong if we become satisfied and think that we have achieved every thing because we have drawn up 'Health for All' Plan upto 2000 AD and we have fixed targets in it. We have achieved one-two targets. We are lagging behind in the matter of some targets but we are trying to achieve them at the earliest.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir, whatever information about the schemes has been given, this is only on paper. Even today, thousands of people die every year due to cholera, gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea in Madhya Pradesh and other tribal areas during rainy season. As the hon. Members has stated, even after 50 years of independence, doctors are not ready to go to these tribal and far-flung areas. Even after being posted by the Government, they do not go there. The measures which you have stated are not being implemented. May I know what steps are you taking to prevent these epidemics?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : We have formulated a surveillance programme which is aimed at to pre-empt epidemics. Our teams visit those areas where the outbreak of the epidemics takes place or where there is likelihood of its outbreak and they take steps to prevent it. The teams of doctors try to control the diseases with medicines as early as possible. In this way we send the surveillance teams there.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : May I know from the hon. Minister : (a) whether it is a fact that the Government after reports of cases of plague and cerebral malaria in epidemic form in certain parts of the country had set up an Expert Committee : (b) whether it is a fact that Expert Committee had made certain recommendations with regard to the Government's policy in respect of public health; and (c) if yes, what are the salient features of the recommendations?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, I would need a separate question for that. But the fact of the matter is that the Committee was set up after the outbreak of plague and the Committee had submitted its Report. But once I get the question, I would write back to you on this.

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Sir, the Central Council for Health and Family Welfare have discussed in detail the question of making available services of doctors to the rural areas. They have made certain recommendations also. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have examined the question so far and have they taken any steps in this regard?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, this is a very burning problem. We are considering the recommendations. We want to come out with a policy where the rural health can be adequately looked into. The hon. Member has raised a question regarding placement of doctors in the rural areas. It is very much under our consideration. I would be coming out with the answer very soon on this.

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (Jorhat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister's statement says that "Emphasis have been given for 'safe Motherhood Programme'."

According to a World Bank Report titled *Development in Practice - Improving Women's Health in India* released recently, India has about fifteen per cent of world's population but accounts for twenty-five per cent of world's maternal deaths. The Report portrays a grim condition facing the millions of Indian women and calls for immediate measures to ameliorate their condition.

May I know from the hon. Minister—since the Government is committed to improving women's lives, which means women's health - whether the Government agrees to the findings of the Report and if so, what specific and time-bound measures are being contemplated to reduce rate of maternal deaths in the country?

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, we are working on a State Health System Project. This is aided by the World Bank. In the first phase, we have taken up Andhra Pradesh. The sanction given to us was to the tune of Rs.600 crore. In the second phase, we took up Karnataka, Punjab and West Bengal. The sanction given to us was to the tune of Rs. 1669 crore. And in the third

phase, we are taking up some other States which are under negotiation with the World Bank. The primary object of this is to improve the infrastructure and health facilities at the primary level and at the village level where most of the people get affected. We have done it in Karnataka. We have done it in West Bengal. We have done it in Punjab. We have done it in Andhra Pradesh. We are, now, working into the areas of other States so that we can improve these facilities and reduce the sufferings that the women are facing.

Facilities at Ports

*343. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether two third of the export/import volume is handled at sea ports;

(b) whether the Government propose to improve the goods handing facilities at ports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. About 90% of export/import trade is being handled through the major ports.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Eighth Five Year Plan provides for an outlay of Rs.3000 crores for the development of Major Ports including Modernization and creation of cargo handling facilities. A number of Schemes have completed or are under implementation which when completed will result in increasing the capacity from 169 million tonnes at the beginning of the Eighth Plan to 228 million tonnes.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir. the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that a provision of Rs.3000 crores has been made for the development and modernisation of ports in the Eighth Five Year Plan. A number of schemes have been completed.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister the names of schemes which have been completed and the names of ports which have been developed and the amount of money which has been spent on each of them.

May I know whether the Government considers it necessary to privatise ports? If so, the time by which decision is likely to be taken in this regard and the details thereof?

[English]

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, the list which my friend has asked for is a very long list. Now, I can give

a gist of that list. The list includes, -1992-93 Construction of breakwater and wharf on the northern side of Androth Island in Lakshadweep. Procurement of an Oil Skimmer-cum-Buoy tender for Cochin Port.

It also includes construction of breakwater on the eastern side of Kalpeni Island in Lakshadweep and construction of multipurpose cargo berth at Paradip Port.

For Procurement of Pilot Vessel for Calcutta Port, the estimated cost is Rs.30.19 crore. For the construction of New port at Ennore near Madras for handling thermal coal, the estimated cost is Rs. 593.90 crore. For the creation of mechanised coal handling facilities at Paradip and construction of two coal berths, the estimated cost is Rs.587.41 crore. For the construction of an approach bridge to Service Berth at Jawaharlal Nehru Port, the estimated cost is Rs.13.09 crore. For the construction of Breakwater and Wharf at MUS in Car Nicobar, the estimated cost is Rs.47.63 crore. For the replacement of Dredger Vikas by Bombay Port, the estimated cost is Rs.30 crore. For the procurement of three numbers of 20 Ton Electric Wharf cranes at Madras Port, the estimated cost is Rs.38 crore. For the procurement of one 32 Ton high powered BP Tractor Tug for Tuticorin Port, the estimated cost is Rs.15.40 crore.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can give him the list separately.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : My another supplementary question is that the turn around time of ships on Indian ports ranges from 4 days to 10 days whereas this time ranges from 6 hrs. to 48 hrs on foreign ports. According to the World Bank, the Indian exporters and importers are incurring loss of Nine hundred crores of rupees. By what time, the Government is going to present this loss and whether it is a fact that though deals were struck to export 15 lakh tonnes of wheat, only 7 lakh tonnes wheat could be exported due to lack of infrastructures? If it is true, then why the Government could not fulfill the deal to export wheat which is linked with the economic condition of the farmers?

[English]

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, I want a separate notice for this. It is really a question which requires to be thought over. So I want a separate question on this.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : I find that in the Eighth Five Year Plan, you have provided Rs.3000 crore for the development of major ports including modernization. Now the Calcutta Port and the adjoining Netaji Subash Dock need to be looked after and the Hooghly river these badly needs dredging operation because no big ship or even reasonably big ship can come into the Port these days. I would like to know whether you have taken up any plan out of these Rs.3000 crore for the

dredging operation of the river Hooghly in Calcutta—because until Haldia comes up, we are in great need of keeping the Calcutta Port operational.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, we have called for the report from the Port authorities and we are waiting for it. Once we receive it, we will be able to proceed in the matter.

DR. K.P. RAMLINGAM : Hon. Speaker. Sir, due to non-availability of Railway wagons, wheat transport to Tamil Nadu is now heavily affected. Has the Minister got any proposal to allow shipping transport for wheat if a request is made from the traders and from the State Government?

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : If the proposal comes in, we will be able to look into the matter.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has got any plan or project or guideline to make use of the surplus funds that are with the major ports, particularly with the Kandla Port, for increasing the infrastructure facilities surrounding it. Why I am asking this because at the Kandla Port, they are not spending any money. They have got surplus funds but they are not using it for the infrastructure, for the widening of road, for cleaning and for creating hygienic conditions. People cannot stay there. All the labour class people stay in such bad hygienic conditions that they are not in a position to stay there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they are going to spend the surplus fund on the infrastructure or not.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, this question is not a single question; he has put a complicated question. I will answer the points one after another. He has asked about the leasing of berths at Kandla Port. I am going to lay a statement showing the schemes, the projects which have been approved for private sector participation wherein first comes this Kandla Port and the leasing of Berth No.6 at Kandla Port to messrs. GP Corporation Limited, Bangkok for handling of bulk cargos. Regarding other things I want a separate notice.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Sir, my question is: What are the guidelines for spending of surplus funds with major port and particularly with Kandla major port?

[Translation]

Central Ground Water Board

344. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether ground water level in certain States is going down rapidly;

(b) if so, the States which are affected;

(c) whether Union Government have received any scheme in this regard from certain States;

(d) if so, the names of the States and the salient features of the scheme;

(e) whether the Government have examined the schemes; if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(f) the efforts made by the Central Ground Water Board to check the declining underground water level in the country; and

(g) the year-wise and State-wise amount allocated by the Union Government to the Central Ground Water Board during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (g). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Gradual decline in ground water levels has been observed in certain pockets in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab and National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (e). Names of the States from which schemes have been received, salient features of the schemes and the reaction of the Union Government thereto are given in the Annexure.

(f) In order to check the declining ground water levels in the country, the Union Government has circulated a "Model Bill" to the States and Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for control and regulation of the development of ground water. The Central Ground Water Board has also formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme costing Rs.81 crore to assist the States in recharging ground water which has been sent to Planning Commission for approval. Guidelines have been issued to State Governments/Union Territories for formulation of area-specific recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels. A Central sector scheme for recharge of ground water is being implemented by the Central Ground Water Board in the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

(g) No statewide amount is allotted to Central Ground Water Board. Amounts budgeted for ground water recharge scheme during the last 3 years was as follows :

| Year | Amount Budgeted |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1994-95 | 1.00 crores |
| 1995-96 | 1.00 crores |
| 1996-97 | 0.99 crores |

ANNEXURE

| S. Name of State No. | Details of Reference/ Scheme | Reaction of Government thereon |
|----------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | <p>(i) The State Government has sent a proposal requesting for Central assistance for Integrated Project for Ground Water Conservation, Augmentation and Watershed Management in Bhimdeveroalli and Husnabad areas of Karim Nagar District of Andhra Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs.2828.68 lakhs.</p> <p>(ii) In response to the initiative taken by the Central Ground Water Board to collect information for preparation of detailed Scheme for Augmenting of Ground Water Recharge in different Agro-Climatic Zones of the country, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent a proposal for taking operational recharge projects in 60 selected Mandals of the States at an estimated cost Rs.300 crores.</p> | <p>The Government of Andhra Pradesh were intimated that the Ministry of Water Resources was not having any programme under which the integrated project for ground water conservation, augmentation and watershed management in Karim Nagar District could be funded by the Government of India & that the State Govt. will have to make its own arrangements for funding the scheme.</p> <p>Some components of the project can be considered for inclusion in the proposed centrally sponsored Scheme for Assisting the States for Recharge of Ground Water.</p> |
| 2. Gujarat | The State Government has sent a project proposal for external/World Bank Assistance for augmenting surface water recharge in over-exploited aquifers of North Gujarat at an estimated cost of Rs.110.65 crores | The State Government has been informed that the response of the Government of Gujarat on the suggestions given by the Planning Commission for obtaining the investment clearance has not been received in the Ministry of Water Resources. The State Government has been requested to send their decision on the suggestions given by the Planning Commission alongwith revised project proposal. |
| 3. Maharashtra | The State Government had submitted a proposal for financial assistance for the project for Integrated Ground Water Recharge and Water Conservation in Maharashtra at a total cost of Rs.24,558.86 lakhs. | The State Government has been informed that the Government of India have prepared a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for assisting States in Ground Water Recharge on pilot basis and the proposal of the State Government for some Water sheds of Maharashtra would be incorporated in this scheme. |
| 4. Madhya Pradesh | The State Government had submitted a proposal for providing financial assistance for the State Government for the project prepared by them for Ground Water recharge in 6 districts at an estimated cost of Rs. 3257.39 lakhs. | The State Government have been informed that the Government of India have prepared a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for assisting the States in Ground Water Recharge on pilot basis and financial assistance for some of the projects of the State Government can be considered after the Central Scheme is approved. |
| 5. Uttar Pradesh | The State Government had submitted a proposal for financial assistance for investigative pilot studies on Artificial | The State Government have been informed that the Ministry of Water Resources is presently not having any programme under which the proposed studies could be funded |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---------------|--|---|--|
| | Recharge of Ground Water in 5 Districts of Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs.50 lakhs. | | and therefore the State Government will have to make its own arrangements for financing the schemes. It has been further informed that the Central Ground Water Board will continue to provide technical guidance to the State Government for implementation of these schemes. |
| 6. Tamil Nadu | In response to the initiative taken by the Central Ground Water Board to collect information for preparation of detailed Scheme for autmenting of Ground Water Recharge in different Agro-Climatic zones of the country, the Government of Tamil Nadu had sent a proposal for financial assistance for artificial recharge scheme for Tirovadanai aquifer and Viagai River bed in Ramanathpuram District at an estimated cost of Rs.120 lakhs. | | Some Components of the proposal can be considered for inclusion in the proposed Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the States for ground water recharge. |

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Planning Commission has been recommended to allocate Rs.81 crores to six states to raise the declining level of water. Due to declining underground water level, several states are facing acute drinking water crisis. The amount which has been recommended is insufficient. I would like to know from the hon Minister whether he would recommend to enhance this amount and by what time he would get it sanctioned?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir. the Government is aware of the declining level of underground water. Earlier, only an amount of nearly Rs. 3 crores had been earmarked for this purpose. Now it has been enhanced to Rs.81 crore for the next plan. If this amount is approved by the Planning Commission and later on if it is found insufficient then the Government will think to increase it further.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Malwar region of Madhya Pradesh is facing acute shortage of water. There was saying in regard to that region that "Malar Bhoomi Gahan Gambhir, Pag pag roti, dug dug neer" i.e, the land of Malva is fertile and water is available everywhere. Today a canister of water is selling for Rs.20 is this summer. Shri Jagan Nath Mishra had not approved this scheme of Madhya Pradesh which was sent to the Central Government. Whether Shri Janeshwar Mishra is going to approve this scheme so that the water crisis there is solved?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, Madhya Pradesh is facing water problem. If you have seen the reply, it is stated therein that the State Government has been informed. It had sent proposal

for underground water schemes for six districts. They have been informed in regard to this. It is in reply to the original question that the centre has formulated some centrally sponsored schemes and that will be considered.

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : The hon. Minister has mentioned that in a certain area the level of ground water is going down. But in the North-East eara, particularly in Assam, there is lot of ground water existing in the State. It is reported particularly in the CWPC report that if the ground water is not utilised up to a particular level, in the Assam Valley, it will create problems for the production and produce of the State.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government is taking any measures to utilise the ground water and other surface water in the State.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : There is such proposal from the Assam Government. When we receive any proposal then we will then consider it.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : The hon. Minister has stated that the State Government has been informed that the response of the Government of Gujarat on the suggestion given by the Planning Commission for obtaining investment clearance has not been received in the Ministry of Water Resources.

May I know from the hon. Minister on what date this clarification from the Government of Gujarat was asked

for and what are the reasons that they have not replied. Because this is the area where the water level has gone down to almost to 1000 to 1500 feet and North Gujarat is having more and more problems about drinking water. May I know whether this can be expedited or not?

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the crisis of drinking water in Gujarat is very acute and the level of underground water has gone down more than 500 ft. at many places. So far as the date is concerned I can not say correctly when the State Government had sent proposal to us. I can intimate the hon. member after collecting information.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : How can it be? Kindly ask the Minister to give me the date later on.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you towards Rajasthan. This time Lord Indra was very kind on us otherwise due to continuous famine and drought conditions, the level of underground water had gone down considerably. An office for detection of underground water was established in Jodhpur near the desert area by the Government where machines and motors, requisitioned from Soviet Russia were installed but that office has been closed recently and all the motors and machines were removed from there and sent to Faridabad. When Rajasthan is facing an acute problem of drinking water and the level of water is going down continuously the under these circumstances, it becomes imperative to conduct investigation and find out the reasons for going down of underground water level and also on to how this level can be brought up. There is need to conduct exploration and research. Besides, I would like to know through you the reasons for shifting the office above mentioned to and also, why drilling machine vehicles were removed from there.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, many hon Members from Rajasthan met me in this connection and have requested to redeploy the drilling machines and reestablish the office which was shifted from there. It is under consideration of the Government and the drilling machines will again be shifted there very soon.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, the hon. Minister has replied regarding certain States which have not responded to his query. I would like to know about the States like Orissa which are awfully below the all-India

average as far as assured irrigation is concerned, and where there is an acute water shortage.

I would also like to know whether the Central Government *suo motu* will take the initiative to tap the ground water.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : No proposal has either been received from Orissa. When the same will be considered to release at least Rs.245 crores. I would like to know how much amount out of it has been recommended by the Central Government the releasing of fund is secondary but how much amount has been recommended by the Government and the reasons of this injustice meted out to the Maharashtra Government. The hon. Minister may please reply to it because the condition is very bad there.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, generally this work pertains to the state Government. The Maharashtra Government has sent us a proposal. As the hon Member has asked its date. I have information regarding its date. Its reply was sent from here on 3.10.1994 in which it was said that if the Maharashtra Government draws up any scheme of re-charging water through some watershed scheme then the Government is ready to keep but the main work will have to be carried out by the Maharashtra Government itself.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, it is stated here that the level of ground water is going down and among them West Bengal is one of the States. This is also true that West Bengal, as compared to its area, contributes a lot to the production of crops. It is given that the Central sector scheme for recharge of ground water is being implemented by the Central Ground Water Board in the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. May I know whether the hon. Minister will kindly consider the case of West Bengal also under this scheme?

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, generally the work of the Central Ground Water Commissions is to obtain information and conduct survey in regard to the ground water and for its exploration through wells is carried out. In reply to the main question, we have given information of some states. But we have not received any proposal from the West Bengal Government in this respect so as to warrant to take some action from our side.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : What will you do if a proposal comes from the State Government?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : We will look into it when the proposal comes from the State Government.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Hon Speaker, Sir, the National Capital Territory of Delhi is one of the States which have made complaints regarding declining level of ground water. As you know, Delhi is not only a city or a Union territory; it is the capital of the country which on the one hand is visited by foreign guests and on the other lakhs of people from different states every year. This is resulting in more consumption of water. Consequently the level of water is going down and the crisis of drinking water is deepening particularly in South Delhi from where I come, there are some areas where there is not a drop of drinking water available.

I would, therefore, like to know from the Minister whether he will formulate a scheme to increase the water level of Delhi on priority basis and allocate some funds for it?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two schemes for the Capital Delhi. Work on one scheme is going on in J.N.U. campus and on the another in I.I.T. campus. There is a scheme to contain water by constructing tank bund. There is no denying that the water level in Delhi is going down considerably. The consumption of water in Delhi has increased. The underground water in some areas beyond Mehrauli in South Delhi is being used for irrigation of agricultural land and for some other purposes. This is resulting in the declination of water level. This is under the consideration of the Government. Work on two schemes is going on to make enough water available to Delhi and another is proposed. The Government will try to take up more schemes, if necessary.

[English]

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you about the position in Rajasthan. I come from Barmer constituency. A lot of money has been sanctioned from the Central Government for water supply. But then all the sources are drying up and most of the water is taken by tube wells. In the last three or four years the level of water has gone down with the result that a number of pipelines and tanks have been constructed; but there is no water available there. This year also, in Jaisalmer and Barmer areas, in almost 75 per cent of the areas it has dried up and there is famine. I have been touring that area in the last ten days. There has been floods in some parts of Rajasthan. But there is an acute shortage of water there.

I request the hon. Minister that he should depute his team of officials with some other equipment in the Divisions to dig more wells so that water is available. Only laying of pipelines and constructing other infrastructure will not suffice. In this connection I may inform that the Water from the Rajasthan Canal - the Indira Gandhi Canal - is brought to Jaisalmer and Barmer. I request that one or two Divisions should be

raised so that additional deep tube wells are dug so that there is no shortage of water.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has just given suggestion and has not put question. It is true that whenever water is explored, the water level goes down due to this. Water is mineral and its potential generally depends on the rains water and the quality of land. Rajasthan is facing such problem, and that is also in the knowledge of the Government, and the Government will send a team separately to examine it and a model bill will be presented for Rajasthan.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Thank you, hon. Speaker, Sir. I would like to know from the hon Minister that Vananchal is an area of South Bihar from where entire supply of coal is made. The hon. Minister had been himself a Minister of Coal and he has enough experience. Due to the coal mining the water level is continuously going down. I am very much surprised that there is no mention of Bihar in his reply.

I would like to know whether this sluggishness is on the part of the Central Government? Has not the State Government sent any proposal in this regard? I am not finding the name of Bihar in the reply whereas you are morally more responsible towards Bihar. Besides, Bihar supplies coal to the whole country for its industrial progress. This is resulting in the level of ground water going down. I would like to know whether the Central Government and the State Government have knowledge about it? Have you got any concrete proposal on this point from the State Government? If so, what is your reaction on it?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir the water beneath the coal mines is rendered unsuitable for drinking purpose. It is, therefore not proper to think to bring out the water from beneath the land. This is the job of State Government to make arrangement for drinking water for the people of that area.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Has not the State Government sent you any proposal?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : When they cannot draw out the ground water, then why will they send the proposal? For the drinking water, a separate ... (Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : Hon. Minister, efforts can be made to preserve it. What are you replying? ... (Interruptions)

[English]

Outlay for National Highways

*345. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total plan outlay approved for various States

including Kerala for development of National Highways during the Eighth Plan;

(b) the total amount released so far to the States; and

(c) whether there is any short-fall in the release of funds to the states for the above purpose; if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Originally approved Eighth Plan outlay for development of National Highways in the country was Rs. 2460 crores. During the first four years, Rs. 2318.74 crores have been allocated to various States including Rs. 111.7 crores for Kerala.

(c) There is no shortfall with respect to outlay.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the National Highway 49 is known as Cochin-Madurai line. This is passing through very important places like Adimali which is a central place for the high range hill produces and Munnar which is a very important hill station of South India. I understand that the money allotted, according to the Ministry, is Rs. two crore. May I ask the Minister whether he will be ready to allot more money for National Highway 49 which passes through two States in order to strengthen and broaden this line and when it can be completed?

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, the plan envisagement is one thing and the requirement being asked is another thing. Whatever the Finance Ministry is allotting, we are just disbursing it to various States. Therefore, I shall try to give some more money if there are enough funds.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the National Highway bypasses are there. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Trivandrum bypass and the Kollam bypass are being taken up for work? I would also like to know what are the major works for the National Highways in Kerala this year.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, the following major works have been taken up in Kerala. Firstly, the construction of Trivandrum bypass phases one on NH 47 from kilometres 5.6 to 10.2 was sanctioned in March, 1996 for Rs. 12 crore. The prequalification of tenders is being finalised. Secondly, the construction of Kozhikode bypass phases one including Arapuzha Bridge was sanctioned for Rs. 17.31 crore in July, 1993. The revised estimate amounting to Rs. 25.55 crore based on the tender premium is under scrutiny. The revised estimate requires Expenditure Finance Committee's approval. Thirdly, there is a provision of Rs. six crore for construction of part length of Tellicherry-Mahi bypass for which land had already been acquired. The estimate will be sanctioned when received from the State PWD depending upon the availability of funds. Fourthly, regarding four-laning of Alwaye-Sherthala section of NH 47 in Kerala under ADB loan assistance, the original estimate amounting to Rs. 60.59 crore was

sanctioned by the Ministry in March, 1993. Subsequently, the revised estimate amounting to Rs. 93.97 crore based on the tender rates was sanctioned.

[Translation]

SHRI TARA CHAND SAHU : Hon. Speaker, Sir I would like to know through you whether the Government is aware that the then Surface Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot had laid the foundation stone for the development of National Highway 6 from Durg to Raipur on 13th August 1987. Nine years have passed since then. Foundation stone was also laid for constructing a bridge on river Shivnath and for a bypass. Whether the Government is also aware that tenders had also been floated for it? When all these formalities have been completed, then why the work is held up and why not the tender had been opened.

[English]

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, I want a separate notice for the question.

[Translation]

SHRI TARA CHAND SAHU : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Surface Minister has laid the foundation stone. Whether the Government is not aware that foundation stone was laid there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister can ascertain the facts and inform the hon. Member.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Yes, Sir.

SHRI R. GNANAGURUSWAMY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether the laying of National Highway between Kanyakumari and Kochi is in progress. If not, what is the present position regarding the same?

MR. SPEAKER : I think a detailed answer has been given about Kerala. I am sorry. It is the longest ever answer given about Kerala.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, There are two things that are to be considered here. One is the allotment of funds during each of the Five year plan periods and the other thing is the total length of the National Highway sanctioned either during the course of the present Five Year Plan or the previous one. Every State wants more length of National Highways. For example, take the case of our own State of Karnataka. Not even an inch of road has been granted to our State as extra National Highway by the Central Government during the course of the last 15 years. That is the case in so many States in the whole country. Taking all these things into consideration and keeping in view the accidents that are occurring on the National Highways and also the traffic congestion etc., why should the Government not consider this as a big subject and accord sanction or more length of National Highways.

and allot more funds during the present Five Year Plan period or the next one?

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be taken into consideration and we will take a decision.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Hon. Speaker, Sir, Madhya Pradesh is the heart of the country and pressure of the traffic is mounting there due to the increased movement from states all around. A scheme for the construction of National Highway in Madhya Pradesh has been forwarded. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister will consider it in the budget of this year?

[Translation]

National Sports Talent

*346. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

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

(a) the detailed salient features of the National sports talent competition scheme in the country formulated by the Union Government;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Government under the scheme during the last three years;

(c) the details of progress made therein during the last three years State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to grow undiscovered sports talent for national/international competitions?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The main features of National Sports Talent Competition Scheme are :-

- (i) To broadbase sports at grass root level and to bring sports consciousness among children of 8-12 age group for participation in sports;
- (ii) To identify the talented boys and girls genetically gifted with natural motor qualities and physical growth, and
- (iii) To impart scientific sports training to the selected children so as to achieve excellence in sports.

(b) The Government provided the following amount under the scheme during the last three years :-

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| (i) 1993-94 | Rs. 499.69 lakhs* |
| (ii) 1994-95 | Rs. 499.76 lakhs* |
| (iii) 1995-96 | Rs. 310.00 lakhs |

(includes expenses on Army Boys Sports Companies)

(c) The scheme is implemented at present in 41 adopted schools located in various States/UTs. The number of students admitted under the scheme during the last three years is given below :-

| | |
|---------------|------|
| (i) 1993-94 | 1241 |
| (ii) 1994-95 | 1268 |
| (iii) 1995-96 | 1362 |

A Statement I showing the numbers of student state wise is given in the annexure.

A number of children admitted under the Scheme have excelled at the National and International levels in Junior and Sub-Junior championships.

(d) To spot talent the Sports Authority of India has adopted a battery of tests, which is used for conducting selection trials at district, state and regional level. These children are nurtured in the adopted schools by providing scientific sports training so as to prepare them for national/international competition.

ANNEXURE

| S.No. | Name of State | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
|-------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Delhi | 57 | 44 | 17 |
| 2. | Madhya Pradesh | 48 | 46 | 49 |
| 3. | Rajasthan | 31 | 24 | 35 |
| 4. | Uttar Pradesh | 98 | 81 | 107 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 59 | 52 | 71 |
| 6. | Haryana | 97 | 101 | 128 |
| 7. | Punjab | 23 | 24 | 32 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | - | - | - |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 6 | 6 | - |
| 10. | Andhra Pradesh | 88 | 67 | 46 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 39 | 44 | 39 |
| 12. | Tamil Nadu | 64 | 41 | 37 |
| 13. | Kerala | 55 | 27 | 16 |
| 14. | Goa | - | 23 | 28 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 85 | 107 | 177 |
| 16. | Gujarat | 23 | 13 | 36 |
| 17. | Bihar | 48 | 126 | 126 |
| 18. | Orissa | 42 | 42 | 42 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 177 | 178 | 174 |
| 20. | Sikkim | 30 | 27 | 27 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------------------|---|------|------|------|
| 21. Meghalaya | | 22 | 26 | 22 |
| 22. Manipur | | 26 | 31 | 24 |
| 23. Nagaland | | 25 | 9 | - |
| 24. Assam | | 59 | 78 | 71 |
| 25. Tripura | | 30 | 20 | 20 |
| 26. Arunachal Pradesh | | 9 | 31 | 38 |
| | | 1241 | 1268 | 1362 |

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : I am partly satisfied with the reply of the Hon. Minister. The hon. Minister has stated that talented children are selected at the district, state and regional level and they are admitted in the scientific sports school. I want to know from the hon Minister the number of children out of them who have been given chance in the national and international competition. I want its statewide list.

[English]

SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R. : Sir, under this National Sports Talent Competition Scheme, we have taken 1,241 students during 1993-94, 1,268 students during 1994-95 and 1,362 students during 1995-96.

At the junior and sub-junior level, our students are showing good performance...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is giving his maiden answer.

SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R. : Regarding the achievements, in the field of hockey and football, NSTC children have virtually dominated in the prestigious tournaments like Jawaharlal Nehru Junior Hockey Tournament and Subrato Cup Football Tournament. In games like table tennis, gymnastics, athletics and swimming, a large number of NSTC children have already made a mark at junior national level and international level. During the last four to five years, NSTC children have won many medals at sub-junior and junior level in various national championships, and more than 40 medals at various junior, international championships. A large number of wrestlers from this Scheme have won medals at graded world class championships also.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Measles

*347. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of death due to Measles that

have come to the notice of Government during 1996 (so far):

(b) whether the Union Government have taken some steps for eradication of the disease; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) 214 case of deaths due to measles have been reported during 1996 so far.

(b) and (c). The Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme, launched in 1992, incorporates in Universal Immunization Programme for increasing the immunization coverage levels, including measles immunization. Due to late starting in introduction of measles vaccine into the immunization programme, Government of India does not yet have a goal for eradication of measles. However, coverage levels have steadily improved to over 80% nationally.

Assistance for Inter-State Road Bridges in Assam

*348. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial assistance has been provided to the Government of Assam for inter-State road bridges of economic importance during the last three years;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the criteria laid down for selection of such projects for providing Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Due to paucity of funds no financial assistance has been provided to Assam under the E&I scheme during the last three years.

(c) Projects for Central assistance are chosen on the basis of the following criteria :

(i) Inter-State roads/bridges necessary for ensuring through communication.

(ii) Roads/Bridges required for opening up new areas to which railway facilities cannot be provided in the near future.

(iii) Road/Bridges which can contribute materially to rapid economic development, e.g. to hilly areas and places having mineral resources for exploitation.

(iv) Roads or bridges on roads connecting National Highways.

Proposals for assistance are sanctioned on the basis of detailed estimates.

[Translation]

Malaria Patients

*349. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attack of Malaria is on the rise throughout the country particularly in Gujarat and West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government of West Bengal have sought assistance from the World Bank in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Government have since cleared the proposals of the State Government;

(d) the details of the total number of Malaria patients in the country during the last three years and the current financial year;

(e) whether the chemical for spraying, supplied by Central Government to State Machineries to control Malaria is qualitatively checked for its effectiveness and potency; and

(f) the amount of funds demanded by different State Governments during the last three years to check the spread of Malaria and the amount of funds sanctioned by the Central Government and the reasons for not granting the full amount as demanded/required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Since 1992, the incidence of Malaria has shown a rising trend in the country as a whole and in West Bengal also. In Gujarat there has been a decline.

(b) & (c). A reference from Government of West Bengal was received for inclusion of three districts of the State, namely Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar and Purulia alongwith Calcutta Municipal Corporation in the Malaria Control Project with World Bank support. The Project is under formulation covering all endemic areas of the country, including those of West Bengal State.

(d) The total number of Malaria patients in the country during 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 (upto 30th June) are as under :

| Calendar Year | No. of Malaria Cases |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1993 | 22,07,431 |
| 1994 | 25,11,453 |
| 1995 | 28,01,330 |
| 1996 (upto 30th June) | 7,41,074 |

(e) All insecticides supplied to the States are checked at recognised laboratories.

(f) Central assistance under the National Malaria Eradication Programme is provided on 50:50 basis (to be shared between Centre and States). Central assistance is essentially in Kind (drugs, larvicides & insecticides). The North Eastern States & the U.Ts which are provided with 100% Central assistance are, however, provided with some cash assistance to meet a part of the operational expenses. Whereas different States ask for large quantities of insecticides, the Central assistance is extended after making a technical assessment of factors like population to be sprayed, endemicity, incidence and local effectiveness of different insecticides/larvicides. The States do not however, place demands in financial terms. During the last three years the total value of Central assistance provided under the programme to all the States for Malaria Control is as follows :

| Year | Assistance (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 8904.95 |
| 1994-95 | 10095.71 |
| 1995-96 | 12198.07 |

[English]

Purchase of Medicine

*350. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of drug manufacturing companies in the country which are not following Good Manufacturing Practices;

(b) whether the Government are purchasing medicines from these units at higher rates;

(c) if not, the rate approved by the Government agencies during the period from 1994-96, each year;

(d) whether there has been any loss in the purchase on this account; and

(e) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against the officials involved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The grant of renewal of licenses includes observance of GMP by individual manufacturing units. In the absence of adherence to GMP the license is not granted or renewed by the State Licencing Authorities who are responsible for enforcing the relevant provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act & Rules.

(b) and (c). In the case of 76 drugs under Price Control, Government purchases as per the prescribed rates. In the case of other decontrolled drugs, procurement is on the basis of competitive bidding from registered firms. Generally the lowest rate offered is

accepted but exceptions are made keeping in mind special requirements based on expert's advice.

(d) and (e). The effort of Govt. is to purchase drugs at competitive rates keeping in mind quality of the product. To ensure this, a number of measures are being taken to streamline the purchase system by instituting a high level committee to examine the present system and suggest remedial measures to improve efficiency and cost effectiveness.

Indravati Irrigation Project

*351. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the work of Indravati Irrigation Project was started;

(b) the target date for completion of the Project fixed at the beginning;

(c) the initial cost of the project;

(d) the details of cost escalation by now;

(e) the problems faced by the Government in completion of the said project; and

(f) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Upper Indravati Irrigation Project in Orissa was started during the year 1978-79.

(b) The Project was originally scheduled for completion during 1987-88.

(c) The project was originally approved by the Planning Commission in 1978 for an estimated cost of Rs. 208.14 crores.

(d) The latest estimated cost (1994 price level) including cost of power component of the project is Rs.1400.92 crores.

(e) The main constraints in completion of the project are paucity of funds and delay in acquisition of land, both forests and private.

(f) The revised target for completion of the project is 2001—2002.

Fire Accidents in Cochin Port

*352. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the repeated fire accidents are taking place in Cochin Port;

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

(c) the steps taken to check fire accidents?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Two fire accidents took place in the areas not under the direct operational control of the Port Trust.

(b) One accident took place on 17.6.1996 in a shed leased out to a private party for storage of wood pulp and newsprint. The second incident took place on 26.6.1996 in the conveyor belt system of M/s FACT Limited at Ernakulam due to friction. All Available fire fighting facility in Cochin including that of navy was mobilised to control the fire in both the cases.

(c) The Port Trust has issued necessary instructions in the Willingdon Island area to all concerned to initiate precautionary measures to check fire accidents.

Border Road Construction in Manipur

*353. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether work on construction of all roads within 25 Km. Belt of International Border with Myanmar in Manipur State has been stopped;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Union Government propose to permit Government of Manipur to continue with construction of roads as before in the interests of the local people of the area; and

(d) if so, the number of villages lying within 25 Km. from the International Border in Manipur likely to be affected by stopping the construction of roads?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) and (d). A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

As per the existing instructions, construction of roads within a 25 Km. belt of the International Border with Myanmar requires prior clearance of the Ministry of Defence for security reasons. The Government of Manipur can construct roads within the aforementioned belt after obtaining prior clearance on case by case basis from the Ministry of Defence. Recently, the Ministry of Defence accorded clearance to the request of the Manipur State Government for construction of 4 roads in Ukhrul District within the 25 Km. belt from the International Border. However, due to security consideration, the request of the State Government for the construction of 3 more roads within this belt, was not acceded to. As a result, it is estimated that approximately 16 villages may not be connected with surfaced motorable roads immediately.

Expenditure on Participants of Atlanta Olympic

*354. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

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

(a) the number of participants selected and sponsored for the recently concluded Atlanta Olympic Games, event-wise and the criteria adopted therefor;

(b) approximate expenditure incurred on their visit;

(c) whether any assessment has been made of their performance at the Atlanta Games;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) the number of medals won by them;

(f) whether any lessons have been learnt for the future while selecting and sponsoring the participants in the international games; and

(g) if so, whether any plan has been or is being formulated for sports promotion, particularly in elevating sporting standards in the country in the context of the reasons provided by Atlanta for a new direction in sports policy?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The Government had cleared 33 sportspersons 13 official and 7 manager as per details given below :-

| | Sports Persons | Officials | Managers |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. Archery | 1 | 1 | - |
| 2. Badminton | 2 | - | - |
| 3. Boxing | 3 | 1 | - |
| 4. Hockey | 16 | 4 | - |
| 5. Judo | 3 | 1 | - |
| 6. Shooting | 2 | 2 | - |
| 7. Table Tennis | 2 | - | - |
| 8. Tennis | 2 | - | - |
| 9. Weightlifting | 2 | 1 | - |
| 10. IOA Officials | - | 3 | 7 |
| | 33 | 13 | 7* |

*Details are being obtained from Indian Olympic Association

The criteria adopted for the clearance of sportspersons/officials are as under :-

(i) Whether the athletes/teams have qualified for the Olympic Games on the basis of their international performance in recognised tournaments and on the basis of the qualifying standards laid down for participation.

(ii) Creditable performance during the last Asian Games.

(iii) Creditable performance at recent international level tournaments; and

(iv) current standards of athletes, sportspersons and team which indicate high performance standards and promise.

while selecting the Indian contingent, due regard was paid to the importance of our contingent acquiring itself creditably at the international level.

(b) Rs.22.32,732/- (In addition, the cost incurred on the 7 managers, details of which are awaited from IOA, is to be added.)

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. A comparative statement showing the standard of each team/individual player sent to Atlanta as compared to International standards is given in the attached statement.

(e) One bronze medal was won by Leander Paes in Tennis.

(f) In the Atlanta Olympics, reasonably good performance was expected only in Hockey, Shooting and Tennis. In the remaining disciplines, India's standards are far below the international standards. However, in the set up of Olympics, it is the Indian Olympic Association which takes the final decision about selecting and sponsoring the contingent. In fact, several sportspersons and officials have represented India in Atlanta Olympics, even though the Government of India had not cleared their participation.

(g) Promotion and development of sports is an ongoing process and Government of India has several schemes to improve the standard of sports in the country. The Central Government has also made efforts to formulate discipline-wise Long Term Development Plans in consultation with the Federations. Such plans are also being reviewed periodically. Dialogues have also been carried out with the Industry to increase their investment in sports. Efforts have also been made to have better co-ordination with the State Governments in Sports development.

STATEMENT

Indian performance at Atlanta Olympic Games (19th July to 4th August, 1996)

Tennis

(a) Leander Paes won a Bronze Medal in Men's Singles.

First Round :

Paes b Richey Reneberg (USA) 6-7 (2/7), 7-6(9/7), 1-0 later retired.

Second Round :

Paes b Nicolas Pereira (Van) 6-2, 6-3

Third round

Paes b Thomas Enquist (Swe) 7-5, 7-6(7/3),

Quarter Finals

Paes b Renzo Furlan (Ita) 6-1, 7-5

Semifinals

Paes Lost to Andre Agassi 6-7, 3-6,

Bronze Medal

Paes B Fernando Meligeni (Bra) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Men's doubles :**First Round**

Paes and Mahes Bhupathi b Pan Bing and Xia Jianping (Chi) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4,

Second Round

Paes and Bhupathi lost to Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde (Aus) 6-4, 2-6, 2-6.

2. Hockey**India Finished Eighth :****Group-A :**

India lost to Argentina 0-1, drew with Germany 1-1, beat USA 4-1, drew with Pakistan 0-0, beat Spain 3-1.

Classification Matches :

India drew with Korea 3-3 but lost 3-5 in the tiebreak. India lost to Britain 3-4.

3. Shooting

(i) Mansher Singh, in the Trap event scored 118 and was placed 31st Out of 58.

(ii) Jaspal Rana Score 574 and was placed 29th out of 50 in Men's 10 m air pistol Rana scored 534 and was placed 45th and last in 50 m free pistol.

4. Archery

(i) Lalream Sanga beat Andrew Lindsay (NZ) 160-156, and lost to Michael Frangele (Ita) 158-164 in the second round.

(ii) Limba Ram lost to Paul Vermerien (Bel) 140-165 in the first round.

(iii) Skalzang Dorje lost to Matteo Bisiani (Ita) 156-167.

Team : India lost to USA 235-251 in 1st round shoot-off.

5. Athletics

(i) Bahadur Prasad (3:46:16) was 8th out of 12 in heat -5 of men's 1500 meters and placed 43rd out of 56 starters.

(ii) Shakti Singh (56.58m) was 13th in Group-B and was placed 30th out of 36 starters in men's discus throw.

(iii) In women's 4x400 meters relay quarter (Jyotirmoyee Sikdar, K. Beenamol, Shiny

Wilson, Rosa Kutty) disqualified for lane cutting in semifinal heat-1.

6. Badminton

(i) Women's singles : P.V.V. Lakshmi beat Anne Gibson (Brit) 11-6, 11-6 in first round and lost to Katarzyna Krasowska (Pol) 5-11, 6-11 in 2nd round.

(ii) Men's Singles : Deepankar Bhattacharya lost to Heryanto Arbi (Indo) 5-15, 4-15 in 2nd round.

7. Boxing

(i) 48Kg : Devender Thapa lost to Masibulele Makepula (SA) RSC in 1st round.

(ii) 81 Kg : Gurcharan Singh lost to Enrique Flores (P. Rico) 7-15.

(iii) 91 Kg : Lakha Singh lost to Wociecz Barnik (Pol) 2-14.

8. Equestrian

Inderjeet Singh Lamba on Karishma eliminated after endurance test in the three day event.

9. Judo

(i) Men's 60 Kg : Narinder Singh beat Sean Sullivan (Ire) and lost to Natik Bagirov (Bul).

(ii) 65 Kg : Najeab Aga lost to Jozef Czack (Hun) and also lost to Duncan Machinnon (SA).

(iii) Womens' 52 Kg : Sunith Thakur lost to Nariko Sugiwaru (Jap).

(iv) 72 Kg : Aarti Kohili Lost to Estela Rodriguez (Cub) and also lost to Shon-Hyun-me-(Kor).

10. Swimming

(i) Sangeta Rani Puri Placed second in Heat 1 and sets national record in Women's 50 m freestyle with timing of 28.02 secs.

(ii) Sebastian Xavier was placed at sixth position in men's 50 m freestyle Heat 4 with timing of 24.15 secs.

11. Table Tennis

(i) Men's singles Group P : Chetan Baboor lost to the following : (i) Kalin Kreanga (Gre) 0-2, (ii) Segun Toriola (Nig) 1-2; and (iii) Partick Chila (Fra) 1-2. Baboor finished last in the pool.

(ii) Women's singles Group-N A. Radhika lost to the following : (i) Otila Badescu (Rom) 0-2; (ii) Ruta Garkauskaite (Lith) 0-2; and (iii) Huberta Vrieskoop (Hol) 0-2. Radhika finished last in pool.

12. Weightlifting

(i) Raghavan Chandrasekharan lifted 252.5 Kg. He scored 11th position out of 20 competitors in 59 Kg class.

- (ii) *Sateesha Rai* lifted 317.5 Kg. He scored 15th position out of 25 competitors in 76Kg Class.
- (iii) *Badathala Adisekhar* lifted 230 Kg. He scored 18th position out of 22 competitors in 54 Kg Class.
- (iv) *Shamsuddin Kabeer* lifted 275 Kg. he scored 23rd position out of 28 competitors in 70 Kg Class.
- (v) *Sandeep Kumar* lifted 252.2 Kg. He scored 33rd position out of 36 competitors in 64 Kg Class.

13. Wrestling

Greco-Roman 52 Kg : Papu Yadav lost to Andrei Kalash-nikov (Ukr) in 2 minutes 14 Seconds and also lost to Ha Tee-Yeon (Kor) in 1 minutes 37 Seconds.

[Translation]

Repair of N.H. in Haryana

*355. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Central Government are aware of the damage done to the National Highways in Haryana due to heavy rains;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision to take concrete steps to repair the National Highways in Haryana;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total amount of funds likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Some damages to the National Highways in Haryana were reported during the current year. However, a report based on assessment is yet to be received from the State PWD.

[English]

Water Projects in Karnataka

356. SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Krishna Basin will be provided with 734 TMC and Markandaya Projects with 4 TMC water under the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal Award;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the above projects are scheduled to be completed.
- (c) the quantum of water to be provided to Mahadayi project and the sources from where the same would be made available;
- (d) whether the Union Government have given clearance to the Government of Karnataka for utilisation of the water under the above mentioned projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which necessary clearance/approval is likely to be given by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal have allocated 700 Thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC) of 75% dependable yield of Krishna River to Karnataka. In addition, it has allowed use of regenerated flow in the state which according to the formula given by the Tribunal works out to 34 TMC. The list of projects among which this water has been distributed by the Government of Karnataka is given in the attached statement-I. Markandaya Project has been allocated 4 TMC of water by the Government of Karnataka. Out of 53 projects, 29 have been completed, 12 are ongoing and remaining are new projects. Out of the ongoing projects, 2 projects are likely to be completed in VIII Plan and remaining are likely to spill over beyond VIII Plan.

(c) Mahadayi Project is a Hydro Electric Project in which diversion of 113 million cubic metres of water through a tunnel to meet deficit in Malaprabha is also envisaged. The water is to be made available from the dams proposed on Mahadayi River and its tributaries.

(d) and (e). The names of Krishna basin projects in Karnataka given investment clearance, under appraisal and sent back to the State Government are given in the attached statement-II.

Clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies, resolves inter-State issues, obtains environmental, forests and rehabilitation & resettlement clearances from the Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Ministry of Welfare.

STATEMENT-I

Krishna Basin projects with quantum of water allocated by Govt. of Karnataka.

| S.No. | Project | Water Allocation (In TMC) |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| A COMPLETED PROJECT : | | |
| 1. | Areshankar | 0.38 |
| 2. | Cithwadgi | 0.26 |
| 3. | Ghatprabha I & II | 32.45 |
| 4. | Gokak Canal | .40 |
| 5. | Kalaskop | .33 |
| 6. | Kolchi weir | 0.53 |
| 7. | Chandrapalli | 11.90 |
| 8. | Hathikoni | 0.50 |
| 9. | Nagathana | 0.08 |
| 10. | Ramanahalli | 0.44 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| 11. | Soudagar | 0.26 |
| 12. | Upper Mullamari | 1.24 |
| 13. | Bhadra Anicut | 3.10 |
| 14. | Tunga Anicut | 11.50 |
| 15. | Bhadra Reservoir | 61.70 |
| 16. | Tungbhadra | 132.00 |
| 17. | Vijayanagar Channels | 12.05 |
| 18. | Anjanpura | 2.50 |
| 19. | Ambligole | 1.40 |
| 20. | Jambadahalla | 0.70 |
| 21. | Bharma | 2.20 |
| 22. | Kanakanala | 0.40 |
| 23. | Hagaribommanahalli | 2.00 |
| 24. | Karihalla | 0.90 |
| 25. | Kajolibanda | 1.20 |
| 26. | Yanivalas Sagar | 8.20 |
| 27. | Gayathri | 0.45 |
| 28. | Narayanpur | 0.60 |
| 29. | Minor Irrigation | 101.67 |
| B. Ongoing Projects : | | |
| 30. | Hippar of (Stage-I) | 8.56 |
| 31. | Upper Krishna-I | 119.00 |
| 32. | Ghataprabha-II | 45.15 |
| 33. | Malaprabha | 44.00 |
| 34. | Bennithora | 5.75 |
| 35. | Lower Mullamari | 3.08 |
| 36. | Amarja | 1.92 |
| 37. | Hirehalla | 2.27 |
| 38. | Maskinala | 0.78 |
| 39. | F.C. to Ranikere | 1.50 |
| 40. | Minor Irrigation | 9.13 |
| 41. | Dudganga | 4.00 |
| C. New Projects | | |
| 42. | Upper Krishna-II | 54.00 |
| 43. | K.S. To Madras City | 5.00 |
| 44. | Karkandeya | 4.00 |
| 45. | Ramthal | 4.50 |
| 46. | Harinala | 0.80 |
| 47. | Bhima Lift | 6.00 |
| 48. | Gandhorinala | 2.16 |
| 49. | Upper Tunga | 12.24 |
| 50. | Singtalur | 7.64 |
| 51. | Basapur | 0.60 |
| 52. | Sasalwad | 0.55 |
| 53. | Minor Irrigation | 9.03 |

Note : Projects Sl.No.30 & 34 are scheduled for completion in VIII plan and remaining on-going projects are likely to spill over beyond VIII plan.

STATEMENT-II

Status of appraisal of Krishna Basin Projects of Karnataka

(A) Scheme cleared by Planning Commission

State : Karnataka

| | | |
|-----|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Ambligola | 1st Plan |
| 2. | Areshankartaka | 1st Plan |
| 3. | Bandra Reservoir | 1st Plan |
| 4. | Chataprabha St.I | 1st Plan |
| 5. | Kalascop Tank | 1st Plan |
| 6. | Kolehi Weir | 1st Plan |
| 7. | Rajolibunda | 1st Plan |
| 8. | Ramanahathi | 1st Plan |
| 9. | Tunga Anicut | 1st Plan |
| 10. | Tungabhadra Project L.B.C | 1st Plan |
| 11. | Tungabhadra Project R.B.C | 1st Plan |
| 12. | Dhaona Reservoir | 26.3.57 |
| 13. | Jambada Halla | 28.3.57 |
| 14. | Hagari Bommana Halla | 6.4.57 |
| 15. | Tungabhadra H.L.C St.I | 9.4.59 |
| 16. | Ghatprabha St. II | 24.10.55 |
| 17. | Hathi Koni | 26.8.60 |
| 18. | Halaprabha | 5.8.63 |
| 19. | Upper Krishna St. I | 28.12.63/ 22.4.78/ 24.9.90 |
| 20. | Harinala | 29.1.64 |
| 21. | Tungabhadra H.L.C. | 7.1.67 |
| 22. | Tungabhadra H.L.C St.I (Rev.) | 16.10.69 |
| 23. | Ghataprabha St.II | 14.6.76 |
| 24. | Chitwadgi | 9.10.76 |
| 25. | Saudager Tank | 7.2.76 |
| 26. | Hire-Halla Tank | 5.4.77 |
| 27. | Anarja | 13.3.78 |
| 28. | Gandorinala | 19.4.78 |
| 29. | Upper Hirenala | 19.4.78 |
| 30. | Improvement of R.B.H.L.C of Tungabhadra project of T.B. Board (Karnataka) Distt. Bellary (Karnataka) & Anantpur (A.P.) | 22.4.78 |
| 31. | Improvement of RB. Lower | 22.4.78 |
| 32. | Maskinala | 5.8.78 |
| 33. | Upper Mullamari | 5.8.78 |
| 34. | Lower Mulla Mari | 15.1.79 |
| 35. | Narihalla Project | 20.1.81 |
| 36. | Bennithora | 23.2.93 |

B. Projects under Appraisal

1. Upper Tunga Project
2. Upper Krishna Stage-II multipurpose project.

C. Projects Sent Back

1. Modernisation of Tungabhadra
2. Bhima Flow Irrigation
3. Bhima Lift Irrigation
4. Rammal Lift Irrigation
5. Hippargi Irrigation.

Selection of Students for Medical and Technical Education

*357. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether C.B.S.E. conducts every year examination to select students for the medical and technical education to fill up the seats reserved in Central Pool in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such reserved seats for medical and technical education respectively; and

(c) the number of students selected during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c). As per information received from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the Board has been conducted All India Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance Examination for admission of 15% of seats in undergraduate Medical and Dental Courses in Various Government Medical/Dental Colleges in the country. The Merit list as well as the Waiting list prepared by the CBSE is supplied to the Directorate General of Health Services as per their requirement for allotment of seats to successful candidates in a particular college. A statement showing the State/UT wise number of candidates placed in the Merit list/Waiting list on the basis of Examinations conducted in 1995 and 1996 is attached.

The Board does not conduct any examination for admission to the colleges of Technical Education.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | No. of Candidates placed on Merit List | | No. of Candidates placed on waiting List | |
|--------|----------------------|--|------|--|------|
| | | 1995 | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 |
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Arunachal Pradesh | - | - | - | - |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 4 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| 3. | Assam | - | - | 1 | - |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 4. | Bihar | 136 | 144 | 96 | 96 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 2 | 1 | - | 1 |
| 6. | Haryana | 181 | 168 | 69 | 65 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 17 | 13 | 11 | 9 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 12 | 12 | 5 | 5 |
| 10. | Kerala | 64 | 103 | 39 | 74 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 115 | 106 | 73 | 59 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 11 | 8 | 10 | 10 |
| 13. | Manipur | 1 | - | - | - |
| 14. | Meghalaya | - | - | - | - |
| 15. | Mizoram | - | - | - | - |
| 16. | Nagaland | - | - | - | - |
| 17. | Orissa | 9 | 18 | 8 | 11 |
| 18. | Punjab | 327 | 279 | 129 | 108 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 48 | 70 | 40 | 47 |
| 20. | Sikkim | - | - | - | - |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 27 | 34 | 18 | 13 |
| 22. | Tripura | - | - | - | - |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 256 | 284 | 144 | 167 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 28 | 24 | 10 | 10 |
| 25. | Goa | 1 | - | - | - |
| 26. | A & N Island | - | - | - | - |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 45 | 41 | 31 | 10 |
| 28. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | - | - | - | - |
| 29. | Delhi | 269 | 254 | 87 | 90 |
| 30. | Daman & Diu | - | - | - | - |
| 31. | Lakshadip | - | - | - | - |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 4 | - | 2 | 2 |

[Translation]

Projects of Surface Transport

*358. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the projects for the development of Surface Transport under construction in the country;

(b) whether the foreign financial institutions have also sanctioned loans for the construction of these projects;

(c) if so, the names of such projects and the amount sanctioned by the foreign financial institutions, project-wise; and

(d) the amount paid to these foreign financial institutions as commitment charge in 1995-96 by the Government as a result of non-utilisation of these sanctioned loan amount?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). For the development of Surface Transport, a large number of schemes are under implementation. These relate to National Highways, ports, Inland Water Transport and ship building.

Details of projects sanctioned under foreign Financial Assistance.

(Amounts in Million)

| No. | Financial institution | Loan No. | Loan amount | Name of Project | Commitment charges during 1995-96 |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| ROAD SECTOR | | | | | |
| | ADB | 918-IND | \$188 | NH Projects in Andhra Pradesh, and U.P. and State Roads Projects in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. | \$ 0.614 |
| 2. | ADB | 1041-IND | \$ 250 | NH Projects in Karnataka, Kerala and Rajasthan and State Road Projects in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, U.P. & W. Bengal | \$ 1.144 |
| 3. | ADB | 1274-IND | \$ 245 | NH Projects in Haryana, Rajasthan, W. Bengal, Bihar & Andhra Pradesh (2 nos.) | \$ 0.063 |
| 4. | OECE, Japan | IDP-81 | JY 4855 | Nh Project in U.P. | |
| 5. | OECE, Japan | IDP-91 | JY 10037 | Nh Project in U.P. | |
| 6. | OECE, Japan | IDP-92 | JY 11360 | NH Project in Andhra Pradesh | |
| 7. | OECE, Japan | IDP-100 | JY 5836 | NH Project in Orissa | |
| 8. | OECE, Japan | IDP-101 | JY 4827 | NH Project in U.P. | |
| 9. | World Bank | LN/3470/IN | \$306 | NH Project in Haryana, Punjab Orissa, Maharashtra MP.&W. Bengal and State Project in Orissa | \$ 0.383 |
| PORT SECTOR | | | | | |
| 10. | ADB | 1016-IND | \$122.690 | II Port Project in Mharashtra | 537,451 US \$ |
| 11. | ADB | 1181-IND | \$285.00 | Coal Port Projects | Not available |
| 12. | Saudi fund | 5/276 | 141.00 million (Saudi Rial) | Jawaharlal Nehru Port Project | |

[English]

Health Centre in Rural Areas

*359. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to

formulate a policy for providing primary health centre at a distance of about 2-3 kms. in rural area or in a village having a population exceeding 1500;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the budget allocation in the current financial year, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the details about the present criteria for providing primary health centres in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). The Primary Health Centres are established on population norms which are fixed by the Planning Commission. A Primary Health Centre is set up for a population of 30,000 in plain areas and 20,000 in hilly areas. At present there is no proposal to establish a PHC on distance basis.

The Primary Health Centres are established and maintained by the State Governments under the Minimum Needs Programme. A Statement showing the State-wise allocation for 1995-96 under the Minimum Needs Programme is attached of the Lok Sabha. Budget allocation for 1996-97 has been provisionally kept at the level of 1995-96 pending finalisation of the allocation by the Planning Commission under Minimum Needs Programme.

STATEMENT

Outlay Under the Minimum Needs Programme for the Year 1995-96

| S.No. | States | (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1029.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 448.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 2048.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2700.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 170.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 2160.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 1063.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 1400.00 |
| 9. | J & K | 1946.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 3638.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 675.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 2919.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 6698.97 |
| 14. | Manipur | 231.50 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 946.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 400.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 175.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 1293.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 1100.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 8296.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 170.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 3014.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 460.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 5361.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 995.00 |
| UNION TERRITORIES : | | |
| 1. | A&N Islands | 330.00 |
| 2. | Chandigarh | 119.56 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|--------------|----------|
| 3. | D & N Haveli | 45.00 |
| 4. | Daman & Diu | 50.00 |
| 5. | Delhi | 0.00 |
| 6. | Lakshadweep | 39.00 |
| 7. | Pondicherry | 214.00 |
| Total | | 50134.03 |

National Kala-Azar Eradication Programme

*360. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons died of Kala-Azar in various States during last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to launch a National Kala-Azar Eradication Programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per reports received from the States by the Directorate of National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP), the number of deaths due to kala-azar during the last three years are as follows :-

| Year | Deaths |
|------|--------|
| 1993 | 710 |
| 1994 | 384 |
| 1995 | 277 |

(b) to (d). No, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Kala Azar Control Scheme on 50:50 sharing basis between the Central Government and the States is already in operation since 1990-91, covering the States of Bihar and West Bengal. Under the Scheme the Central Government provides assistance by way of anti-Kala azar drugs and insecticides.

Supply of Material to Students of Correspondence Courses

2769. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints regarding non-supply of written materials to the students registered with School of Correspondence of Delhi Universities in various disciplines have been received;

(b) whether the same institution charges postal and other expenses from the students while giving admissions to them; and

(c) if so, the action taken/to be taken to ensure supply of written materials to the students in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi the School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education does not charge any postal expenses from the students residing in India, Bhutan and Nepal. It, however, charges extra fees of Rs.1000/- towards postal charges from the students residing overseas. The University has not received any major complaint about non-supply of written material to the students by the School. Stray complaints in this regard, however, have been received and attended to as quickly as possible.

[Translation]

Avro Aeroplanes

2770. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Avro Aeroplanes in the service of Indian Air Force and the life span of each of them;

(b) the details of the inquiry report of the crash of Avro aeroplane of Air force that took place in Yelahanka on 25.3.1991;

(c) whether the aeroplane was loaded beyond its prescribed capacity and if so, how old the aeroplane was on the date of crash;

(d) whether there were no navigators in the aeroplane;

(e) if so, the number of Avro Aeroplanes crashed and ousted from the Air Force so far during the last three year;

(f) whether the crew members who died in the said crash were given any compensation, and if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government propose to consider the increase in the compensation; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The IAF have about 60 Avro Aircraft. The aircraft manufactures have not specified any total technical life for the aircraft.

(b) and (e). The Court of Inquiry in the Avro Aeroplane crash on 25.3.1991 revealed that most of the flight parameters were within the specified limits. Although the exact cause of the accident could not be conclusively established, the Court of Inquiry came to the following conclusions :-

(a) Though there was no actual engine failure, yet failure of the right engine was induced inadvertently during the flight;

(b) Though the aircraft was not overloaded for a normal take off, it exceeded the All Up Weight (AUW) limit for an exercise being carried out of short field/obstacle clearance take off.

The aircraft was manufactured on 12.7.1973.

(d) No navigator was required in the Aircraft since it was doing circuits and landings and was not on a cross country flight.

(e) Three Avros have crashed so far.

(f) All the Crew members who died in the crash were given compensation i.e., exgratia payment of Rs.1 lakh besides death-cum-gratuity, family gratuity, dependent family pension, Group Insurance, Flying Pay Linked Insurance, as per rules.

(g) and (h). There is no proposal to increase the compensation.

Land of Kheria Airport

2771. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Agra Development Authority had urged Government to provide some land belonging to Kheria Airport to connect Fatehpur Sikri Road with Arjun Nagar Road which leads to Kheria Airport Road for the easy passage of tourists; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in regard to the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). A proposal for transfer of about 5 acres of Air Force land near Arjun Nagar Gate for Fatehpur Sikri Link Road, Agra, was received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. They were informed that their proposal can be considered subject to certain conditions.

[English]

Use of Light Houses for Advertisements

2772. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some leading industrial houses of the country have requested to use light houses for advertising their products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Nuclear Programme

2773. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether dissolution of USSR is affecting our on-going Atomic Energy Projects and Programmes:

(b) whether the outcome of Geneva talks on CTBT shall have any adverse impact on our on-going nuclear programmes for peaceful purposes: and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Jalep La Trade Route to China

2774. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the State Government of West Bengal for considering the opening of Jalep La Pass/ route via Kalimpong for promoting the Trade-relation between India and China;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). The Government of West Bengal have, in the past, pointed out the possibility of using either Nathu La or Jalep La as border trade route between India and China. Both Jalep La and Nathu La are in close proximity to each other. The issue of opening Nathu La as trade route is under discussion with the Chinese side.

Judgement on social Evil of Dowry

2775. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a recent judgement wherein the Supreme Court has called in a movement to check the social evil of dowry; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is in agreement with the judgement of the Supreme Court of India delivered

on 11th July, 1996 (Criminal Appeal No.231 of 1994) that there is need for awakening of the collective consciousness, for a change of heart and attitudes and for a wider social movement not only of educating women of their rights but also of the men folk to respect and recognise the basic human values needed to bury the pernicious social evil of dowry.

Malaria Control Scheme

2776. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a seminar on Central assistance to be given under Malaria control scheme was held recently and it was decided that 70% of the expenditure would be borne by the Union Government:

(b) if so, whether the above decision has been implemented:

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be implemented: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) In the meeting of the Central Council for Health & Family Welfare held during October, 1995, a resolution was passed that the present budget allocation for National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) needs to be increased and the Central State Share ratio to be revised to 70:30, keeping in view the malaria situation and the problems faced by the States in providing their sharing 50% under the National Malaria Eradication Programme.

(b) to (d). The implementation of this recommendation would depend, inter alia, on augmentation of budget outlays for Malaria in future, and, appropriate policy decisions at various levels.

[Translation]

Publication of Gujarati/Hindi Books

2777. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial assistance has been provided to Gujarat for the publication of Gujarati/Hindi books during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the development of Gujarati and Hindi in this State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). A grant of Rs.2,73,736/- has been paid in

two instalments to Gujarat Vishwakosh Trust, Ahmedabad for the publication of Gujarati Vishwakosh (Vols. V & VI) in Gujarati language during the financial years 1993-94 and 1995-96 under the scheme of financial assistance for publication and purchase of books in Indian languages and in English.

(c) The Government have formulated the following schemes including schemes to maintain autonomous bodies/subordinate offices under the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the purpose of development of Hindi & other Indian languages including Gujarati :-

- (i) Financial assistance to voluntary organisation for promotion of Hindi.
- (ii) Appointment and Training of Hindi teachers in Non-Hindi speaking States/UTs.
- (iii) Financial assistance for publication/purchase of books in Indian languages and in English.
- (iv) Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for selected promotional activities relating to Indian languages (other than Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu and Sindhi).
- (v) Scheme of production of University level books in Hindi and in regional languages.
- (vi) Appointment and Training of Modern Indian Language teachers in Hindi speaking States/UTs.
- (vii) Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi, a subordinate office is engaged in the development of Hindi as link language though correspondence courses and production of bi-lingual and trilingual dictionaries etc.
- (viii) Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, New Delhi, a subordinate office is engaged in the evolution of Scientific and technical terminology in Hindi and regional languages.
- (ix) Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra, an autonomous organisation is engaged in importing teacher's training for in-service teachers in non-Hindi speaking States/UTs etc.
- (x) Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, a subordinate office is engaged in developmental programmes for Indian languages.
- (xi) The National Book Trust, India, an autonomous organisation is stepping up its publication programme in Gujarati and Hindi for the development of these languages in Gujarat.

[English]

Bye-Passes in Kerala

2778. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several proposals for bye-passes are pending in connection with National Highway No. 49 from Cochin to Madurai in Cochin-Neridmangalam sector, give details thereof;

(b) the stage of fixation of alignment of this highway in the sector running through Kerala;

(c) the cause of delay in finalising alignment and undertaking works of bye-passes; and

(d) the developments planned in the above sector?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The alignment proposal of the National Highway-49 in Kerala is yet to be submitted by the State P.W.D.

(c) The delay in finalisation of alignment is mainly due to hilly terrains.

(d) The development of NH-49 in Kerala would be considered after finalisation of the alignment.

[Translation]

Passport offices in Delhi

2779. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of existing passport offices in the National Capital Region of Delhi;

(b) the number of passports issued by these offices during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the average time taken by these offices in issuing passports;

(d) the number of applications pending for passports in these offices for more than six months; and

(e) the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to dispose of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) At present, there is one Passport Office in the National Capital Region of Delhi viz. Regional Passport Office, Delhi. Two more are in the process of being established, respectively in Ghaziabad and Gurgaon.

(b) The number of passports issued by RPO, Delhi during the last three years is as follows :

| Year | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| No. of Passports Issued | 128186 | 108249 | 106607 |

(c) The average time taken for issuing passports by this office is approximately four weeks after receipt of a complete application.

(d) The number of cases pending for issue of passports for more than six months in this office is 1594.

(e) Cases in this category are pending owing to questions regarding the eligibility of the applicant for issue of passport, and necessary investigations are in progress.

[English]

Upgradation of Medical College

2780. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal under consideration for the upgradation/modernisation of diagnostic services at the Tirumala Devashom (T.D.) Medical College at Alapuzha in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with estimated costs thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However a proposal for the setting up of an Institute of Imageology and Laboratory Services at Medical College, Alapuzha was received in Planning Commission from the Govt. of Kerala for special Central assistance. The State Government was advised to put up a comprehensive proposal as a part of the 9th Plan.

Upgradation State Highways in A.P.

2781. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted proposals covering a length of 4812 Kms. to the Union Ministry vide letter No.1612/R11(2) 91-3 dt. 24.2.1992 for upgradation of State Highways to National Highways;

(b) if so, whether out of these proposals the Union Government have sanctioned State Highways from Kurnool to Chittoor to a length of 362 Kms as National Highway No. 18 in January 1993;

(c) if so, the fate of other proposals;

(d) to what extent the works of the approved highways have been completed;

(e) the time by which all proposals will be accepted; and

(f) the time by which works on these projects is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (f). Due to paucity of funds it will be difficult to declare any more roads as National Highway, original works contng Rs.720 lakhs have been sanctioned and are in different stages of progress.

Four Laning of N.H.47

2782. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the two lane traffic of National Highway-47 to 4 lane traffic from Trivandrum to Ernakulam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). There is no provision in the Eighth Five Year Plan for 4 laning from Trivandrum to Sherthalai on NH-47, except from Aroor to Sherthalai (around Ernakulam) for which the work is in progress.

Luggage per Haj Pilgrim

2783. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any restriction on the maximum luggage per Haj pilgrim during Haj journey;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether extra charges are lavied for extra luggage; and

(d) if so, the total amount collected for extra luggage during the last three years and how the said total collection has been utilised-whether paid to the airways or utilized by the Haj Committee, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Pilgrims going for Haj under arrangements made by the Central Haj Committee have been allowed to carry 35 kgs. of personal baggage on their outward journey to Saudi Arabia and 45 kgs. including provision for Zam Zam (Holy water), on their return journey to India.

(c) As per accepted norms of international flights, excess baggage charges are levied beyond the permissible baggage allowance. This generally happens on Pilgrim's return flights when they bring more luggage.

(d) Excess baggage collection for Haj 1994, 1995 and 1996 was Rs.24,93,330/-, Rs.34,14,307/- and Rs. 18,56,726/- respectively. Collection of excess baggage charges is made by Air India on behalf of the Central Haj Committee and the amounts collected are settled during the reconciliation of accounts between Air India and Central Haj Committee every year.

Induction of Jawans from Recruitment Offices in Assam

2784. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the number of defence personnel in different wings of Armed Forces recruited by offices in Assam during the three years upto 1995-96 as against total such personnel recruited in the whole country year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NV.N. SOMU) : (a) The number of personnel recruited in the Army, Navy and Air Force by recruiting offices in Assam during the three years upto 1995-96 is as follows:

Army

| Year | Total Intake From The whole Country | Total Intake from Assam |
|---------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 48338 | 771 |
| 1994-95 | 70681 | 1135 |
| 1995-96 | 87285 | 2083 |

Navy

| | | |
|---------|------|----|
| 1993-94 | 2254 | 9 |
| 1994-95 | 2547 | 7 |
| 1995-96 | 2329 | 11 |

Air force

| | | |
|---------|------|----|
| 1993-94 | 3916 | 22 |
| 1994-95 | 4507 | 16 |
| 1995-96 | 4912 | 41 |

[Translation]

Surface Transport in Bihar

2785. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether surface transport in Bihar is in a very bad shape for want of adequate assistance from the Central Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Students Studying Abroad

2786. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of students studying abroad in schools and colleges with beak-up of those students studying in technical and other subjects:

(b) the number of students out of them getting assistance from the Government; and

(c) the number of drop outs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is available in the Ministry's publication : 'Indian Students/Trainees Going Abroad 1993-94', copies of which are available in Lok Sabha Library.

(c) The information is not maintained.

[English]

Assistant Engineers in Engineering Department of Delhi University

2787. SHRI M. SELVARASU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

• (a) whether the posts of Assistant Engineer reserved for Scheduled Castes is lying vacant since 1990 in the Engineering Department of Delhi University;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to direct Delhi University to promote engineers belonging to Scheduled Castes for the post of Assistant Engineer from retrospect date;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if, not, the reasons for not filling the said posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pending Irrigation Projects in A.P.

2788. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh pending before the Union Government for clearance since last five years;

(b) the details of the projects cleared;

(c) the names of the pending projects for clearance; and

(d) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) 7 Major and 2 Medium Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh are pending clearance at the Centre.

(b) Five Medium Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh namely Yerrakalva, Maddileru, Koulasnal, Buggavanka, & Chelmelavagu were given investment

clearance by the Planning Commission during the last 5 years.

(c) and (d). Out of 7 Major & 2 Medium Irrigation Projects pending at the Centre. 5 major projects namely Pulichintala, Krishna Delta Modernisation, Bhima Lift, Sri Ram Sagar Stage-II & Flood Flow Canal from Shri Ram Sagar and 2 medium Irrigation Projects namely Pedderu & Polemvagu have been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee of this Ministry subject to compliance of certain observations by the State Government. Remaining two Major Projects namely Veligonda & Changanadu Lift have been recently received in the Central Water Commission for Techno-Economic appraisal.

[Translation]

IGOU Study Centre at Gadhwa

2789. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for setting up of Indira Gandhi Open University Study Centre at Gadhwa in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Scholarships to Students for Further Studies

2790. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National and External scholarships being provided to the Indian students/scholars for further studies in India and abroad; and

(b) the details of the schemes being implemented with external assistance for the development of education at various levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) The Scholarship Scheme being operated by the Department of Education are :-

I. Internal Scholarships :

1. National Scholarships Scheme
2. Scheme of Scholarships at Secondary Stage for Talented Children from Rural Areas

3. Scholarships to students from Non-Hindi Speaking states for post-Metric Studies in Hindi.

4. Scheme of Scholarships in residential Secondary Schools (being operated only for students already awarded)

II. External Scholarships :

(A) Scholarships offered under bilateral/Multi-lateral arrangements :

| Country | No. of awards in 1995-96 |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Commonwealth Scholarships/ Fellowships (U.K., Canada, New Zealand etc) | 31 |
| 2. Nehru Centenary British Fellowships | |
| 3. Confederation of British Industry Overseas Scholarship | |
| 4. Australian Development Cooperation Scholarships | 25 |
| 5. German Academic Exchange Service Scholarships | 15 |
| 6. Japan (Monbusho) Scholarship | 13 |
| • (B) Scholarships offered under Cultural Exchange Programme | |
| 1. Ireland | 7 |
| 2. France | 2 |
| 3. China | 6 |
| 4. Italy | 2 |
| 5. Bulgaria | 4 |

(b) The following major externally aided projects are presently being implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development:

| S. No. | Name of the Scheme | Funding agency |
|--------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) | World Bank and European Commission |
| 2. | Bihar Education Project | UNICEF |
| 3. | UP Basic Education Project | World Bank |
| 4. | Shiksha Karmi Project | Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) |
| 5. | Lok Jumbish, Rajasthan | SIDA |
| 6. | Mahila Samakhya | Govt. of Netherlands |
| 7. | Technician Education Project | World Bank |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| 8. Regional Engineering Colleges | Overseas Development Agency, U.K. | |
| 9. Intergrated Child Development Scheme. | World Bank | |
| 10. Assistance to 47 ICDS Projects in Tamil Nadu | Govt. of Sweden | |

Sunderban As National River Path

2791. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are going to recognise the river path of Sunderban as National river path; and

(b) if so, the details thereof the the necessary steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The International Steamer route in the Sunderbans between India and Bangladesh has been identified by the National Transport Policy Committee (1980) for declaration as a National Waterway. The approximate route length of this stretch from Rangfala Channel to the Baharikhali-Raimangal river confluence is 200 Kms. An Environmental Impact Assessment and preparation of an Environmental Management Plan are in Progress. After the studies are completed, necessary steps to declare this stretch as National Waterway will be taken.

Mortality Rate of Girls

2792. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether mortality rate among girls is increasing relatively to boys of the similar age;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per information available through Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India there has been a declining trend in infant (0-1 years) and child (0-4 Years) mortality rates over the years. While there was a marginal increase in the child (0-4 years) mortality rate for girls in 1992 has compared to 1991 there has been a considerable decline in this rate for girls in 1993.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

New Bridges on N.Hs. in West Bengal

2793. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the details of the proposals for construction of new bridges on National Highways in West Bengal pending with the Government for approval for the last three years; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No such proposals are pending with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Vessels by Kuwaiti Authorities

2794. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Registered Sailing Vessels that were impounded in the months of April-May 1996 by Kuwaiti Authorities;

(b) whether crew members of the detained Indian vessels were released, but their vessels were offered for auction; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to get these vessels released?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No such impounding has been reported by Embassy of India, Kuwait during April-May 1996.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Court Martialling Cases in Armed Forces

2795. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of court-martialling cases occurred in the Armed Forces during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the system of court martialling is grossly one-sided and denying natural justice to the accused; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to rectify the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a)

| Year | Number of Court Martial cases occurred in the Armed Forces |
|------|--|
| 1993 | 1856 |
| 1994 | 1671 |
| 1995 | 1486 |

(b) and (c). Under the Army/Navy/Air Force Acts a very fair system for dispensation of justice has been

provided. It generally conforms to the procedure in the Criminal Procedure Code (Law of the Land). Pertinently, the military judicial system is fair not only to the accused but also to the victim and the organisation.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations

2796. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the proposal for acquiring of Jinha House in Mumbai for giving boost to the cultural activities of Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) whether functioning of Regional Centres in India and cultural centres set up abroad has been reviewed recently and details of significant achievements, shortcomings observed thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to restructure/expand/strengthen the existing network of ICCR - both within the country and abroad; and

(d) if so, the details of decisions taken/proposals under consideration to upgrade and strengthen the network for cultural diplomacy through ICCR and additional funds provided therefor during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) One of the proposals that has been made for Jinnah House is that it be maintained by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations as a cultural complex. The various proposals remain under consideration.

(b) The Standing Committee of Parliament on External Affairs had undertaken a detailed review of the functioning of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and their report was presented to Parliament on 19.12.95. The Committee's recommendations are under appropriate implementation by the ICCR.

(c) and (d). Steps have been taken to upgrade and modernise the infrastructure of the Council's Headquarters and Regional Offices in India. The Cultural Centre in Trinidad & Tobago will be made operational this year. Further Proposals for opening new Cultural Centres are also under consideration.

Steps have also been taken to increase the resources available to ICCR. The budgetary allocation for ICCR were increased from Rs.15 crores during 1994-95 to Rs.25 crores in 1995-96.

Lift Irrigation Schemes

2797. SHRIMATI M. PARVATI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that for the benefit of small and marginal farmers in Ongole Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh there are no lift irrigation schemes at work;

(b) whether Government are also aware that because of scarcity of rainfall in this area the economic

conditions of the small and marginal farmers are miserable;

(c) if so, whether Union Government propose to allocate some funds to them under the centrally sponsored schemes to enable them to take up lift irrigation schemes and better their economic condition; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d). There are thirty six lift irrigation schemes under execution in Ongole Parliamentary Constituency. Additional forty schemes are pending for want of funds. Because of scarcity of rainfall in the area, crops of small and marginal farmers have been reported to be affected. Under centrally sponsored scheme, (Integrated Rural Development Programme) subsidy amounting to Rs.83.665 lakh has been allotted to the Lift irrigation schemes for the year 1996-97 in the Ongole Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Government Schools in U.P.

2798. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government schools in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the number of teachers working therein;

(b) whether there is shortage of teachers in these schools;

(c) if so, the number of posts lying vacant; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Shortage of Medicine

2799. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government hospitals in Delhi are facing shortage of medicines and other equipments including those required for performing operations;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been made in that regard and if so, the outcome thereof hospital-wise;

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortages of medicines and equipments;

(d) whether the hospitals in the States are also similarly hit by shortage of supplies of medicines and equipments; and

(e) if so, the names of hospitals so affected and the steps being taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, such report has been received in the Ministry.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) and (e). Health being a State subject it is the responsibility of State Governments to provide medicines and Equipment in the hospitals under their control.

Objectionable References in Text Books

2800. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that text books for schools in Jammu and Kashmir and in other States contain objectionable references hurting patriotic sentiments of Indian Republic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Folk Arts of Orissa

2801. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to protect the folk arts of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) and (b). Government of India, Department of Culture have already launched a Scheme for Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture. Under this scheme financial assistance is provided to the voluntary institution/individuals engaged in the preservation, promotion and dissemination of tribal and folk art and culture. The folk arts of Orissa are also covered under this scheme and during the last year i.e. 1995-96, financial assistance has been provided to the following organisations individuals of Orissa.

1995-96.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Adibasi Sanskrita Gabesana Parisad, Sinapali, Orissa. | Rs. 1,40,000/- |
| 2. Shri R.P. Das, Bhubaneswar | Rs. 1,60,000/- |

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 3. Orissa Sahitya Akademi, Bhubaneswar | Rs. 75,000/- |
| 4. Sate Jawahar Jal Bhavan, Bhubneswar | Rs. 1,00,000/- |
| 5. Social Scheme & Development Research Instt., Bhubneswar | Rs. 93,000/- |
| 6. Shri P.K. Das, Bhubneswar | Rs. 50,000/- |
| 7. Shri D.N. Rao, Bhubneswar | Rs. 1,20,000/- |

Ultimate Potential of Teesta Project

2802. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.1318 on July 22, 1996 and state:

(a) whether against an ultimate potential of 527 thousand hectares, a potential of 73.55 thousand hectares was likely to be created by March 1996;

(b) whether the potential of 73.55 thousand hectares has been created by March 1996; and

(c) if not, the time by which the potential is likely to be created as per position till date?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Maharashtra

2803. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to open Navodaya Vidyalayas in Maharashtra is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Central University in Kerala

2804. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a demand has been made by the Government of Kerala for setting up of a Central University in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. Moreover in view of the directives of the National Policy on Education - 1986, as amended in 1992, the Central Government does not encourage setting up of more Central Universities.

Water Sports Complex

2805. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation for the financial assistance for the construction of the Water Sports Complex at Alleppey in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) The Union Government had received a proposal for financial assistance for construction of an outdoor stadium at Punnamada lake as a part of Water Sports Complex at Alappuzha, Alleppey, Kerala.

(b) Since the proposal did not conform to the provisions of this Departmental schemes of Grant for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, the Govt. of Kerala has been informed of the inability to render any financial assistance.

[Translation]

New Technique

2806. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for providing information relating to latest techniques of treatment to doctors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on this scheme; and

(d) the date by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir, Government doctors from all over the country are regularly sent abroad for training in various health related fields to keep them abreast of the latest techniques of treatment.

During the years 1994-95, 571 doctors health professionals were sent abroad on WHO/Commonwealth Fellowship.

Similarly under continuing Medical Education Programme, medical practitioners get exposure to the latest developments in the health sector.

In addition, No Objection Certificates were also granted to 3088 doctors during the same period to pursue higher studies/residency training abroad at their own expense.

[English]

Defence Deals Investigated by CBI

2807. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pertaining to defence deals investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation; and

(b) the number of cases in which investigation has been completed so far and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Following 4 cases pertaining to defence deals have been investigated by CBI:-

(i) RC.1(A)/90-ACU.IV (Bofors Case)

(ii) RC.1(A)/90-ACU.I (HDW Submarine Case)

(iii) RC.62(A)/88-DLI (Purchase of 'Sniper Rifles with Telescope)

(iv) PE.5(A)/94-DLI (M/s Ashok Leyland Case)

(b) Investigations in 2 cases i.e. RC.62(A)/88-DLI and PE.5(A)/94-DLI have since been completed. Case No.62(A)/88-DLI was closed for want of sufficient evidence and in case No. PE.5(A)/94-DLI the CBI had forwarded a report recommending watch over the conduct of the concerned officer.

Widening of Karakoram Highway

2808. SHRI PINAKI MISRA :

SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in 'Hindustan Times' dated May 21, 1996 regarding widening of Karakoram highway linking Pakistan with China; and

(b) if so, whether the Government view it as a development of strategic concern in the context of peace prospects in the region and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Karakoram Highway involves the use of Indian territory in that portion of the State of Jammu & Kashmir which is under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. India has consistently protested since 1969, when the construction of the Highway was undertaken, against Pakistani activity in this regard. Neither the Karakoram Highway nor its upgradation would confer any right or any legal authority on Pakistan. Further, the proposed upgradation and the administrative arrangements which may flow out of it as well as any traffic through this route would only be a consequence of the fact of Pakistan's illegal occupation.

The Karakoram Highway can be used for military purposes. It, therefore, impinges upon India's security. Government consistently monitors all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard and defend India's security interests.

[Translation]

Looting of Indian Airlines Office in Karachi

2809. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons robbed the Karachi based office of the Indian Airlines at gun point recently;

(b) if so, the number of persons injured in this incident and the details of the amount looted from them;

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

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). On 12 June, 1996 several armed men entered the Indian Airlines office in Karachi. They forced open the cash boxes, safes, drawers, etc., and at gun-point robbed all officials and passengers of their belongings, including cash and other valuable items. In addition, they took away the day's collection of Rs.1.21.200/- and the imprest cash.

A protest has been lodged with Pakistan through the diplomatic channels. Pakistan authorities have been asked to investigate the matter and to provide adequate security to the Indian Airlines office, its officials and their families.

[English]

Pakistan's Missiles Project

2810. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact

that according to a report based on 'Securitic Political Analysis Magazine, Pakistan is likely to go for missile project which will go to a distance of 600 kms and for the manufacture of these missiles Pakistan had already acquired the requisite material viz. Aluminum powder, RDX etc.; and

(b) if so, the action of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

Legislation on Family Planning Programme

2811. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Haryana and Rajasthan, there has been a legislation barring people having more than two children from contesting panchayat Election;

(b) if so, whether this legislation is in accordance with the Central policy regarding family welfare programme; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government to settle the issue with the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Section 175 of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 prospectively debar persons with more than two living children from holding office in Panchayats at village, Samiti and district levels. Section 19 of the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 prospectively disqualifies persons having more than two children from contesting elections to Panchayats.

(b) and (c). The Constitution (Seventy-ninth) Amendment Bill, 1992 provides, inter-alia, that a person shall be disqualified, for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament, or of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State, if he has more than two children. The disqualification will come into force one year after the commencement of the Act corresponding to the Bill. This Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd December, 1992. It was subsequently referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee which has since recommended passage of the Bill without any changes.

Expressway in Delhi

2812. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Government has proposed to develop an urban expressway in the city;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have accorded clearance to the proposed project;

(c) the details of assistance Union Government propose to give to Delhi Government for the same; and

(d) the time by which the proposed project is likely to commence and the schedule prepared for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No Such proposal has been received.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Salaries of Anganwadi-Balwadi Employees

2813. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the monthly salaries of the Anganwadi-Balwadi employees and to provide other facilities to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir. The Anganwadi Workers, Helpers and Bal Sevikas and Helpers working in Anganwadies and Balwadis respectively are not paid salaries. They are paid an honorarium of a fixed amount. The honorarium paid to Anganwadi Workers category-wise and Helpers and Balsevikas and Helpers is as follows:-

| Category | Amount of Honorarium per month |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| (A) Anganwadi Workers | |
| 1. Non-Matriculate | Rs. 350/- |
| 2. Non-Matriculate with 5 years' honorary work | Rs. 375/- |
| 3. Non-Matriculate with 10 years' honorary work | Rs. 400/- |
| 4. Matriculate | Rs. 400/- |
| 5. Matriculate with 5 years' honorary work | Rs. 425/- |
| 6. Matriculate with 10 years' honorary work | Rs. 450/- |
| (B) Helpers | Rs. 200/- |

| 1 | 2 |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| (C) Balsevikas | |
| 1. Trained | Rs. 325/- |
| 2. Untrained | Rs. 275/- |
| (D) Helpers | Rs. 165/- |

The anganwadi worker in addition to getting a fixed amount of honorarium is also entitled to TA/DA based on actual Bus/Train fare (Second Class and daily allowance as applicable to Lower Division Clerk as per State Government Rules. The anganwadi helper is also entitled to TA based on actual Bus/Train (Second Class) fare and daily allowance applicable to Grade-D employees of the State Governments. The other benefits to anganwadi workers include facility of maternity leave and 20 days casual leave in a year.

(b) and (c). A number of representations have been received from various Anganwadi Associations/NGOs requesting for enhancement of honorarium of Anganwadi Workers/Helpers. The same are being examined.

[English]

Integrated Child Welfare Scheme

2814. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any integrated child welfare scheme to wear away children engaged in hazardous occupations/industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the amount of budget allocation made therefor; and

(c) the total number of children rehabilitated under these schemes during the last three years, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). Government has taken several steps to tackle the problem of child labour. According to the National Child Labour Policy, 1987 the problem of child labour is being tackled through (i) Legislation; (ii) general development programmes for the benefit of children; and (iii) implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 already exists to prohibit the employment of children in the interests of children, there are protective provisions in various other labour laws such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952; and Motor Transport (Workers) Act, 1961 etc.

The approach of the Government is to implement all the child related provisions of these laws in a harmonious fashion. Government has taken up a major programme for rehabilitation of about 2.00 million

working children in hazardous occupations by the year 2002. So far 76 child labour projects have been sanctioned in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to cover over 1.5 lakh children through special schools where they are provided non-formal education, Vocational training, supplementary nutrition, health care and stipend etc. Apart from this, a massive awareness generation campaign has also been launched against the evil of child labour at national, regional and district level. Funds for district level awareness generation have been released to 133 most child labour endemic districts in this country to sensitize people against the practice of child labour. These measures will be consolidated and expanded in the coming years. During 1994-95, the expenditure incurred on the programme was Rs.34.00 crores (Approximately). The allocations for various child labour related programmes for 1996-97 is Rs.56.00 crores.

(c) While the State-wise details regarding the number of children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and put in special schools are not available, it is estimated that about 1.00 lakh children have been withdrawn from hazardous occupations and are presently in schools.

Mansarovar Pilgrimage

2815. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide financial assistance to the pilgrims visiting Mansarovar situated in China on the pattern of assistance being provided to Haj pilgrims;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). The charges payable by a pilgrim going on Kailas Mansarovar Yatra, in 1996, include a payment of US \$ 500 to the Chinese authorities and Rs.8,250 to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN). For the Yatra during 1996, the Government decided to peg the amount payable to KMVN by the pilgrim at Rs. 5,000 per pilgrim; Government would bear the rest i.e. Rs. 3,250 per pilgrim.

In addition, Government bears the expenses for facilities provided to the pilgrims which includes medical assistance, security and escort cover through ITBP and UP State police, communication links between Delhi and places enroute on the Indian side and with China, aerial aviation of pilgrims in case of emergencies, cost of publication of advertisements and partial cost of creation of infrastructure of logistics and facilities on the Indian side.

Schemes for Ex-Servicemen

2816. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the schemes being run for the welfare and rehabilitation of the Ex-Servicemen and the dependents of the deceased soldiers in the Tribal, rural backward and plateau regions in Bihar;

(b) the year-wise amount spent on the welfare and rehabilitation of the Ex-servicemen/dependents of deceased soldiers during the last three years; and

(c) the number of persons benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N.SOMU) : (a) to (c). Important Resettlement and Welfare schemes for Ex-Servicemen implemented in various States including the State of Bihar are as under :-

Resettlement Schemes

(i) Central Government have reserved 10 per cent of Group 'C' posts and 20 per cent Group 'D' posts for ex-Servicemen. 10 per cent posts of Assistant Commandants in Para Military Forces are also reserved for ex-Servicemen. Central Public Sector Undertakings and Nationalised Banks provide 14.5 per cent reservation in Group 'C' and 24.5 per cent in Group 'D' posts to ex-Servicemen.

(ii) Loans/Financial Assistance for setting up small scale industries, Service industries, Agro-Based industries, Khadi & Village industries are provided to ex-Servicemen under three self-employment schemes known as SEMFEX-I, SEMFEX-II, and SEMFEX-III.

(iii) Government have reserved 7.5% of the Oil product agencies i.e., LPG Kerosene Oil agencies and Petrol Pumps for widows/dependents of posthumous gallantry award winners, war widows, war disabled and for disabled personnel during peace time with disability of 50% and above.

(iv) A Scheme to raise ex-servicemen coal transport companies is also in operation in the state of Bihar.

Welfare Schemes

(i) Ex-Servicemen are provided free medical treatment in the Military Hospitals.

(ii) Ex-Servicemen suffering from serious diseases are given financial assistance equal to 60% of the total expenditure, for treatment in civil hospitals in case they cannot be treated in

Military Hospitals and have not availed similar assistance from other sources.

- (iii) Ex-Servicemen can avail of Canteen facilities from the nearest CSD canteens.
- (iv) Children of Defence Personnel killed or permanently disabled in action who are studying in institutions under the Department of Education, are granted complete exemption from tuition fee and other fee levied by the institution.
- (v) Reservation of 25 seats in MBBS and one seat in BDS have been made for the wards of ex-Servicemen killed or disabled in action or during peace time due to attributable causes.
- (vi) Two seats in each of the six IITs are reserved for children of the Defence/Para Military Forces personnel Killed or permanently disabled in action.
- (vii) Twenty five percent seats are reserved for wards of serving and retired Armed Forces personnel in Sainik Schools.
- (viii) 50% concession is provided in air fare for travel in domestic flight of Indian Airlines to recipients of gallantry awards of Param Vir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra, Ashok Chakra & Kirti Chakra; permanently disabled officers and dependent members of their families; and to the war widows of post Independent era.
- (ix) 75% concession in rail fare for travel in II class is available to war widows.
- (x) 35 War memorial hostels have been constructed to provide accommodation to wards of war bereaved and disabled personnel to enable them to pursue their studies. Kendriya Sainik Board also provides education grant to the children staying in these hostels. There are 4 War Memorial Hostels located in Bihar.
- (xi) Kendriya Sainik Board and Rajya/Zila Sainik Boards provide financial assistance from Welfare Funds to old and infirm ex-Servicemen and their widows in indigent circumstances. Financial assistance is also provided to needy ex-Servicemen for medical treatment, daughter's marriage, repairs of house etc.
- (xii) 238 Sainik Bhawans/Rest Houses spread all over the country have been established for ex-Servicemen. There are 8 Sainik Rest Houses in Bihar.

2. In addition, State Government of Bihar is also providing a number of facilities/concessions to ex-Servicemen.

3. Year-wise amount spent on welfare and rehabilitation schemes for ex-Servicemen and dependents of the deceased soldiers in the State of Bihar including tribal area and plateau region, and the

number of beneficiaries during last three years were as under :-

| Year | No.of Beneficiaries | Amount Spent |
|------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1993 | 4336 | Rs. 26,50,851/- |
| 1994 | 4466 | Rs. 37,44,207/- |
| 1995 | 2896 | Rs. 25,57,472/- |

Agreement Signed with Canada

2817. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five agreements were signed with Canada recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including areas covered, salient features, cost involved and quantum of foreign exchange in case of each agreement?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) One Agreement and four MOUs were signed with Canada during the visit of the Canadian Prime Minister to India in January, 1996.

(b) (i) Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement was signed between the Ministry of Finance and the Canadian Department of National Revenue for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital.

(ii) MOU on cooperation in Telecommunications was signed between the Ministry of Communications and the Canadian Department of Industry to promote the expansion and modernisation of India's telecommunication services through cooperation for voice, data and video services in urban and rural areas, introduction of new transmission, switching and network management facilities, etc.

(iii) MOU in the field of Highway Transportation was signed by the Ministry of Surface Transport and the Government of Ontario, Canada for cooperation in the expressway development programme in India. The areas of cooperation include packaging of privatisation projects, evolving bid documents for privately financed projects, management of privately financed projects, development of technical and operational standards, assessment of hardware and software requirements for operation and development of a highway management system, exploring possibility of bilateral

aid for funding feasibility studies for expressway projects, providing training facilities for personnel in relevant areas.

- (iv) 2 MOUs for cooperation in Heavy Oil was signed by ONGC and Oil India Ltd. and the Alberata Research Council for increasing the energy self sufficiency in India through an accelerated and orderly approach to the development of India's non-conventional hydrocarbon reserves including heavy oil.

[Translation]

Assistance to Sri Lanka

2818. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in which India and Sri Lanka are collaborating at present;

(b) the areas in which they propose to collaborate in near future; and

(c) the annual assistance provided by India to Sri Lanka during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Relations between India and Sri Lanka are close and cordial, marked by wide-ranging cooperation in various fields. The areas of collaboration include Industry, Trade, Science & Technology, Civil Aviation, Education, Dairy Development, Training & Human Resource Development etc. In the field of Dairy Development, a joint venture between NDDDB and MILCO (a Sri Lankan Govt. Agency) is expected to be functional in the near future. In addition, a large number of joint ventures involving Indian companies have been set up in Sri Lanka. The economic reforms within India coupled with the incentives offered by the Sri Lankan Government continue to present a sound base to the Indian companies. The notable trend in joint ventures is diversification from the traditional segments of textile and transport into new areas such as chemicals, hotels, food and beverages, construction, drugs and Pharmaceuticals, automobile tyres, steel, sugar and medical care. A credit line of US\$ 30 million was made available to the Sri Lankan Government in Jan'96 for import of goods and services from India.

A meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission is scheduled to take place in Colombo later this year. This would be preceded by meetings of sub-Commissions on Trade, Finance and Investment, Science & Technology and Social, Cultural and Educational Affairs. These meetings would review progress made in existing areas of cooperation and also identify new areas of meaningful cooperation.

(c) Assistance provided to Sri Lanka through the "Aid to Sri Lanka" Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs was to the tune of Rs.4.4176 crores in 1993-94;

Rs. 4.8381 crores in 1994-95 and Rs. 6.1792 crores in 1995-96.

Indian Institute of Technology in Bihar

2819. SHRI LAL BABU PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more units of Indian Institute of Technology in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. Owing to financial constraints, the Government, at present, does not propose to set up any more Indian Institutes of Technology in the country.

Indian Students in Russia

2820. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the "Indian Express" dated March 24, 1996 to the effect that Indian students studying in Russia and other erstwhile Soviet Republics are engaged in smuggling and other such activities in guise of courier service to meet their expenses;

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

(c) the steps taken so far and the steps proposed to be taken to alleviate the difficulties being faced by such Indian students?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are aware of some cases of Indian students studying in Russia having indulged in illegal activities. While illegal activities cannot be condoned, Government are cognizant of the difficulties being faced by Indian students owing to reduction or elimination of stipends and increase in the cost of living.

(c) Government have taken steps to alleviate these difficulties to the extent possible. In recent years, There has been considerable liberalisation in the foreign exchange conversion facilities available for students going for higher studies abroad.

In November 1994, Government entered into an agreement with the Russian State Committee for Higher Education providing for placement of Indian students in recognised institutions of higher education in Russia, as well as guaranteed terms and conditions for the entire duration of their study, against payment in hard currency.

When approached by students who face problems as a result of enhancement of fees, our embassies in these countries, after examining the fact, intervene as necessary to ensure equitable treatment for Indian Students.

Whenever specific difficulties are brought to the notice of our Embassies, efforts are made to resolve them in accordance with the rules and regulation

[English]

Ban on Oxytocin

2821. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the oxytocin a drug which was developed for facilitating delivery of child, is being used in excessive quantities on cows/buffaloes for letting down of milk since it is available even in grocery shops easily;

(b) whether it is well established that by the very use of oxytocin, milk properties change and uterus of cows also becomes defective; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ban oxytocin keeping in view the health of both the animals and human beings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Oxytocin is some times used in cows and buffaloes which suffer from let down problems.

(b) No Sir, there are no such published scientific reports in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Armed Forces

2822. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of measures taken to modernise the Indian weapons system;

(b) whether different wings of defence forces Army, Navy and Air Force have been complaining about the non-availability of adequate funds to upgrade and modernise and also adequately maintain the weapons; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Government are committed to modernise the Armed Forces within the available resources. Modernisation is an ongoing process. A concerted exercise is undertaken every year to determine the priorities of modernisation taking into account the changing threat scenario, the advancement

of technology, the global and regional security environment and the availability of resources. It will not be in the national security interest to divulge the details of the modernisation programme.

(b) and (c). The requirement of funds are worked out in consultation with the Service Headquarters and are projected to the Ministry of Finance to enable them to decide on the Defence allocation keeping in view the overall availability of resources, national security and the demands of other sectors of the economy.

[Translation]

Construction of SindhmuKh Branch of Indira Gandhi Canal in Rajasthan

2823. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the proposed course of SindhmuKh Branch of Indira Gandhi Canal under construction in Rajasthan;

(b) the length of the said canal constructed and the remaining length of the canal to be constructed; and

(c) whether more villages will be connected by the said canal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The proposed SindhmuKh Canal is a part of Sidhmukh and Nohar project implemented by Rajasthan to draw water from Bhakra main line in Punjab ex-Tohna Head works. The Canal will traverse through Haryana and enter Rajasthan to irrigate the command area of Nohar and Bhadra Tehsils of Hanumangarh District and Rajgarh and Taranagar Tehsils of Churu District.

(b) As reported by Government of Rajasthan, the proposed length of the Sidhmukh Canal System including Sidhmukh Feeder, Raslana distributary and Raslana minors is about 223.66 km., out of which about 75.95 km. has been completed upto January, 1996.

(c) No. Sir.

[English]

New Medical Colleges

2824. SHRI NAKLI SINGH :
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE :
SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Medical College in Saharanpur for the benefit of students of the area who want to study medical sciences and also to provide medical services to the urban and rural poor of the area;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the medical college is likely to be set up there;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number and locations of medical colleges operating in the country and present, State-wise alongwith criteria governing the opening of Medical Colleges;

(e) the States from which the requests for opening of medical colleges have been received for approval, assistance and recognition; and

(f) the steps taken to open the new medical colleges in the States/districts where there is no college to facilitate the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). There is no such proposal. Proposals from the State Govt. or Trust/Society etc. have also not been received.

(d) A statement is enclosed.

(e) The proposals from the States of Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Union Territory of Pondicherry have been received for opening of new medical colleges.

(f) Central Government has no proposal to open a new medical college.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of the States | Number of Medical Colleges | Locations |
|--------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 10 | Hyderabad - 3 Vishakhapatnam - 1 Kakinada - 1 Guntoor - 1 Vijaywada - 1 Warangal - 1 Kurnool - 1 Tirupati - 1 |
| 2. | Assam | 3 | Guwahati - 1 Silchar - 1 Dibrugarh - 1 |
| 3. | Bihar | 9 | Lheriasarai - 1 Muzaffarpur - 1 Patna - 2 Ranchi - 1 Jamshedpur - 1 Bhagalpur - 1 Gaya - 1 Dhanbad - 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|------------------|----|---|
| 4. | Goa | 1 | Bambolim - 1 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 8 | Ahmedabad - 2 Baroda - 1 Jamnagar - 1 Surat - 1 Karamsad - 1 Rajkot - 1 Bhavnagar - 1 |
| 6. | Haryana | | Rohtak - 1 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | | Shimla - 1 |
| 8. | J & K | 4 | Srinagar - 2 Jammu - 2 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 19 | Manipal - 1 Mangalore - 1 Bangalore - 5 Tumkur - 1 Mysore - 2 Bellur - 1 Devengere - 1 Hubli - 1 Bijapur - 2 Belgaum - 1 Gulbaraga - 1 Bellary - 1 Kolar - 1 |
| 10. | Kerala | 6 | Trivendrum - 1 Allepepy - 1 Kottayam - 1 Calicut - 1 Trichur - 1 Kannur - 1 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 6 | Jabalpur - 1 Gwalior - 1 Indoor - 1 Bhopal - 1 Rewa - 1 Raipur - 1 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 33 | Mumbai - 8 Pune - 5 Loni - 1 Miraj - 1 Sholapur - 1 Karad - 1 Aurangabad - 3 Ambejogai - 1 Nagpur - 3 Wardha - 1 Amravati - 1 Nanded - 1 Kolhapur - 1 Dhule - 2 Nasik - 1 Yeotmal - 1 Latur - 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------------------|----|----------------|-----|
| 13. Manipur | 1 | Imphal | - 1 |
| 14. Orissa | 3 | Cuttack | - 1 |
| | | Behrampur | - 1 |
| | | Burla | - 1 |
| 15. Punjab | 5 | Patiala | - 1 |
| | | Faridkot | - 1 |
| | | Ludhiana | - 2 |
| | | Amritsar | - 1 |
| 16. Rajashtan | 6 | Jaipur | - 1 |
| | | Bikaner | - 1 |
| | | Udaipur | - 1 |
| | | Jodhpur | - 1 |
| | | Ajmer | - 1 |
| | | Kota | - 1 |
| 17. Tamil Nadu | 15 | Madras | - 4 |
| | | Vellore | - 1 |
| | | Chingalpatti | - 1 |
| | | Thanjavur | - 1 |
| | | Coimbatour | - 2 |
| | | Tirunelveli | - 1 |
| | | Madurai | - 1 |
| | | Salem | - 2 |
| | | Anamalai Nagar | - 1 |
| | | Perunthurai | - 1 |
| 18. Uttar Pradesh | 11 | Agra | - 1 |
| | | Allahabad | - 1 |
| | | Aligarh | - 1 |
| | | Varansi | - 1 |
| | | Kanpur | - 1 |
| | | Lucknow | - 1 |
| | | Jharisi | - 1 |
| | | Meerut | - 1 |
| | | Gorakhpur | - 1 |
| | | Ghaziabad | - 1 |
| | | Dehradun | - 1 |
| 19. West Bengal | 7 | Calcutta | - 4 |
| | | Bankura | - 1 |
| | | Darjeeling | - 1 |
| | | Burdwan | - 1 |
| 21. Delhi | 4 | Delhi | - 4 |
| 22. Pondicherry | 1 | Pondicherry | - 1 |
| 23. Chandigarh | 1 | Chandigarh | - 1 |

Total Medical Colleges = 155

According to the Establishment of new Medical Colleges, opening of higher courses of study and increase of study and increase of admission capacity in medical colleges Regulations, 1993 - eligibility criteria regarding organisations eligible to set up new medical colleges is as under :

Universities & State Govts/Union Territories.

ii. Autonomous Bodies promoted by Central and State Govts.

iii. Societies registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 or corresponding Acts in States

Public Trusts religious or charitable registered under Indian Trust Act, 1882, Wakfs Act etc.

Bypass in Calcutta

2825. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct Bypass in the greater Calcutta area upto Baruipur including the construction of a flyover connector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal has been received in this Ministry. Moreover, Central Government is primarily responsible for the development & maintenance of National Highways only. The bypass, in question, would not form part of the existing national highway system and, therefore, responsibility for its construction lies with the Govt. of West Bengal.

[Translation]

Visit of Chief of Air Staff to Israel

2826. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief of the Air staff had visited Israel recently;

(b) if so, the purpose of the said visit;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed between India and Israel;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the type of relations shared by India and Israel during the last three years and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e). The Chief of the Air Staff visited Israel from 30 July to 06 August 1996. This was a goodwill visit on an invitation from his counterpart. Matters of mutual interest were discussed. Pursuant to the establishment of full diplomatic relations with Israel in 1992, there has been a commencement of interaction between India and Israel in a number of areas, including the field of defence. This interaction with Israel is in line with India's policy of exploring the possibility of developing interaction with various friendly countries.

Mondaha Dam in U.P.

2827. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mondaha Dam Project in district Hamirpur of Uttar Pradesh initiated in 1977 with proposed cost of Rs.23 crores has not yet been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in its construction and the amount spent thereon so far;

(c) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards breakage of this dam twice before its construction;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken against the defaulting and irresponsible officers; and

(e) the sources from which funds were arranged for this dam and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Mondaha Dam Project in district Hamirpur of Uttar Pradesh is under construction.

(b) Irrigation is a State subject. The projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments from their own resources. Completion of the project will depend upon the priority given by the State Government. An expenditure of Rs.98.54 crores has been incurred on the Project upto March 96.

(c) to (e). Information is being collected.

[English]

Length of N.Hs

2828. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise break up of the ratio between the total length of National Highways and the total area of each State;

(b) the criteria fixed for approval of a National Highway in a State;

(c) whether there is any proposal to consider the claims of States which have a low ratio between the length of N.H. and the total area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) A Statement is enclosed.

(b) The criteria for declaration of State roads as National Highways are as under :-

(i) roads which run through the length and breadth of the country;

(ii) roads connecting State Capitals;

(iii) roads connecting adjacent countries;

(iv) roads connecting major ports and important industrial or tourist centres;

(v) roads meeting very important strategic requirements;

(vi) roads carrying high density of traffic over on adequate length; and

(vii) roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievement of substantial economies thereby.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

National Highway Length in Relation to Area

| S. No. | State | Length Km. | Area in 1000 km. | Length of NH (km) per 1000 sqr. km |
|--------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2888 | 276.8 | 10.43 |
| 2. | Arunchal Pradesh | 330 | 83.6 | 3.94 |
| 3. | Assam | 2296 | 78.5 | 29.24 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2237 | 173.9 | 12.86 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 24 | 0.1 | 240.00 |
| 6. | Delhi | 72 | 1.5 | 48.00 |
| 7. | Goa | 229 | 3.8 | 60.28 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 1631 | 196.0 | 8.32 |
| 9. | Haryana | 698 | 44.2 | 15.01 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 854 | 55.7 | 15.33 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 648 | 272.2 | 2.91 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 1996 | 191.8 | 10.48 |
| 13. | Kerala | 940 | 38.9 | 24.18 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 2946 | 442.5 | 6.66 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 2918 | 307.8 | 9.49 |
| 16. | Manipur | 431 | 22.4 | 19.24 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 472 | 22.5 | 22.98 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 551 | 21.1 | 26.11 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 113 | 16.5 | 6.85 |
| 20. | Orissa | 1649 | 155.8 | 10.58 |
| 21. | Pondicherry | 23 | 0.5 | 46.00 |
| 22. | Punjab | 892 | 50.4 | 17.70 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 2931 | 342.2 | 8.57 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 62 | 7.3 | 8.49 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 1896 | 130.1 | 14.58 |
| 26. | Tripura | 200 | 10.5 | 19.05 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 2733 | 294.4 | 9.27 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 1638 | 87.8 | 18.65 |
| Total: | | 34298 | 3278.8 | 725.20 |

[Translation]

Population

2829. SHRI VIDYASAGAR SONKAR :
 SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
 SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :
 PROT. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
 SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :
 SHRI ANNA SAHIB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the population in the country is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have shown higher rate of growth of population;

(c) whether any assessment of the anticipated growth of population in the country by 2001 has been made by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps Union Government propose to take to control the population growth and achieve the target; and

(f) the reasons for not achieving the requisite target of population control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per latest Sample Registration System (SRS) estimates for 1994. The States/UTs having higher natural increase as compared to all India are Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Sikkim and D&N Haveli.

(c) and (d). The projected population for the country as on 1st March, 2001 will be 1006 million as per the Standing Committee's projections.

(e) The steps taken, inter-alia, include (i) Integrated Reproductive Child Health (RCH) package with emphasis on quality and clients satisfaction (ii) increased involvement of Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) (iii) Implementation of Family Welfare Programme on the basis of target free approach effective from 1996-97 with emphasis on quality of care and clients satisfaction making Family Planning Programme (iv) externally aided projects in States higher growth rate.

(f) There are wide State-wise variations in adoption of family planning programme which inter-alia depends on factors like strong son preference, low female literacy, low age at marriage and socio-economic conditions.

[English]

Indian Fishermen in Pak custody

2830. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.538 on July 15, 1996 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that only 17 Indian fishermen were released by Pakistan during the last three years;

(b) the purpose of holding technical level talks with Pakistan in this regard;

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the present efforts made by the Indian High Commission in Pakistan to get the Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails released are repatriated to India; and

(d) if not, the concrete measures Government propose to take to get all the Indian fishermen and other Indian prisoners in the custody of Pakistan released early and repatriated to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) 171 Indian fishermen were released and repatriated from Pakistan in the last three years. The figure of 17, which had appeared in the English version of the reply under reference was due to a technical copying fault. A statement correcting the reply to unstarred question No.538 answered on 15th July, 1996 will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Technical level talks are essential to address legal and administrative issues concerning the modalities of exchange.

(c) and (d). The Indian High Commission in Islamabad is making all necessary endeavours in this matter and is regularly pursuing the issue with the concerned Pakistani authorities.

Modernisation of Ports and Docks

2831. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to modernise ports and docks in the country; and

(b) the funds sanctioned during the current five year plan for this purpose so far year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) In the 8th Five Year Plan, an outlay of Rs. 3216 crores has been provided for port sector including modernisation and development of major ports.

(b) The approved outlays for port sector year-wise in various Annual Plans is as under :-

| Year | Annual Plan approved outlay (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|---|
| 1992-93 | 612.76 |
| 1993-94 | 621.54 |
| 1994-95 | 475.00 |
| 1995-96 | 814.13 |
| 1996-97 | 631.60 |

Gandhian Institute of Studies at Varanasi

2832. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision was taken to strengthen the Gandhian Institute of Studies at Varanasi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) and (b). Gandhian Institute of Studies (GIS), Varanasi, is one of 27 grantee Institutes of the India Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). It requested for an endowment fund and special grants for strengthening the faulty, construction of staff quarters, faculty rooms, seminar rooms etc. The Plan and Non-Plan grants to the Institute during 1995-96 were Rs.3.32 lakhs and Rs.17.20 lakhs respectively as against Rs.1.40 lakhs and Rs. 12.85 lakhs in the preceding year. The budgets of the Research Institutes, including that of Gandhian Institute of Studies, Varanasi are finalised by the Council keeping in view the overall sanctioned budget of ICSSR.

The Council has appointed a Review Committee to assess the performance of GIS with a view to determining its needs during the IX Plan period.

N.H. Delhi-Amritsar

2833. SHRI DARBARA SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision for four laning of the National Highway from Delhi to Amritsar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The position of 4-

laning of NH 1 Delhi-Amritsar National Highway is as under :-

| S. Section of NH No. | Progress/Target date of Completion |
|--|--|
| 1. Delhi-Murthal (km.0 to 50 km) | Already 4-lane. |
| 2. Murthal to Samalkha (km.50 to 74.80) | Nearing completion. |
| 3. Samalkha to Karnal (Km.74.8 to 130) | The contract has been terminated on 3rd May, 1996. State PWD is taking action to complete to the balance work. |
| 4. Karnal to Sirhind (km.132 to 252) | In progress. Likely to be completed by 3/99. |
| 5. Sirhind to Jalnadhar (km.252 to 372) | Recently completed. |
| 6. Jalandhar to Amritsar (km. 32 to 452) | Not being considered for 4-laning at present. |

[Translation]

Repair of N.H. in U.P.

2834. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh is very bad, particularly on Allahabad to Azamgarh section;

(b) if so, the details; thereof and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to repairs, the National Highways in U.P.?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). All the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh are being maintained in traffic-worthy condition within available funds. Highway from Allahabad to Azamgarh is a State Highway and, therefore, the responsibility for development and maintenance thereof lies with the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

National Women Fund

2835. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked for the 'National Women Fund' in the years 1995-96;

(b) whether the entire amount has been made available to the needy women;

(c) whether the Non-Government Organisations also provide such assistance; and

(d) if so, the norms laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) to (d). Government of India have constituted Reshtriya Mahila Kosh on 30th March, 1993 and they placed a corpus fund of Rs.31 crores with RMK. Governing Board of RMK has adopted a policy to give RMK loans to poor women through experienced and competent NGOs. Where NOGs are not available, Women Development corporation and Women Co-operative Societies can also be considered for loans. The extent of credit per woman borrower was fixed at the rate of Rs.2,500/- for short-term purposes, repayable within 15 months and Rs.5,000/- for medium-term purposes repayable within 3-5 years.

During 1995-96, an amount of Rs.852.00 lakhs was sanctioned to 38 new and 24 repeat NGOs for benefiting 37502 women. In addition, Rs.9.46 lakhs was sanctioned for supporting the formation/stabilisation of self-help groups of women through 10 NGOs.

[English]

N.H. 21- H.P.

2836. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated damage caused to National Highway No.21 between Pandoh and Manali by floods in the months of September, 1995 (rainy season) ;

(b) when and how much funds were demanded by Himachal Pradesh Government for restoration of the said road and the quantum of funds sanctioned therefor;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon upto January, 1996 and the quantum of funds sanctioned in the month of January/February, 1996; and

(d) the time by which the sanction was conveyed to Himachal Pradesh Government and how much expenditure was incurred thereon upto June 30, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Due to September, 1995 floods the damage to Pandoh-Manali section of NH.21 was estimated at Rs.17.61 crores by the State Government. Estimates amounting to Rs.8.10 crores were sanctioned for restoration works.

(c) and (d). An amount of Rs.700.00 lakhs was allocated during the year 1995-96 for flood damage repairs (new) for National Highways in the State of Himachal Pradesh. Expenditure of Rs.124.08 lakhs has been reported upto January, 1996 and Rs.465.00 lakhs upto June, 1996 for restoration of flood damages to Pandoh-Manali Section of N.H.21.

[Translation]

Goitre

2837. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of areas in the country where incidence of Goitre has been noticed;

(b) whether in certain States it has become highly virulent; and

(c) if so, the names of the places where it has become virulent and the steps being taken to tackle the same and measures contemplated to eradicate the disease from the endemic areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Out of 255 districts surveyed in all States and UTs except Poindicherry, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Goitre has been found to be endemic in 222 districts of the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In order to tackle the problems of Goitre, the Government is implementing National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme. All States and UTs except Kerala, Goa and Pondicherry have banned sale of non-iodised salt for consumption.

Besides this, the Government is providing financial assistance to the States/UTs for the following activities:

- (i) Establishment of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Control Cell.
- (ii) Publicity and Health Education.
- (iii) Conducting IDD Surveys/re-surveys.
- (iv) Establishment of IDD monitoring Laboratories.
- (v) Monitoring the quality of iodised salt.

Higher Education Institute in Jalaun

2838. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open any institute for higher education/technical education in Jalaun district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Widening of National Highways

2839. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a stretch of 6,674 km. out of total 34,000 km. of country's National Highways is narrow, as a result of which the number of road accidents is rapidly increasing;

(b) if so, whether the Government consider it necessary to widen the narrow National Highways; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to widen these narrow National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Out of total length of 34,298 km. of National Highways in the country at present, about 6,935 km. length is having either single lane (3.75 m. width) or intimate lane (5.5 m. wide) carriageway. However, it may be mentioned that road accidents are not dependent on lane width alone but on a large number of other factors.

(b) and (c). The widening of National Highways is taken up in a phased manner depending upon the availability of resources.

[English]

Bridge on N.H.47

2840. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to replace the old Bridge with a new, across the Kuzhithurai River on the Trivandrum Kanyakumari National Highway (N.H.47)?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : The construction of new bridge across Kuzhithurai river at Km.604/4 of N.H.-47 has been included in the Annual Plan 1996-97. Land acquisition work for construction of the bridge has been completed in April, 1996. The proposal/estimate is yet to be received from the State Government.

[Translation]

Condition of N.Hs.

2841. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for dilapidating conditions of the National Highways in the country;

(b) the provisions made by Government in the Eighth Five Year Plan for the purpose;

(c) whether the funds made available have been spent thereon;

(d) if so, the reasons for dilapidating conditions of National Highways;

(e) whether the Government conduct inspect of the work and correctness of the schemes through Governmental or any other agency; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Even though the inadequacy of resources has affected the proper upkeep of National Highways, all efforts are being made to keep them in traffic worthy condition within the available resources. An amount of Rs. 2318.74 crore has been released for development of National Highways during the first 4 years of the 8th Five Year Plan.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. State Government acting as the agents of Central Government, carry out all developmental and maintenance works on National Highways.

Health Guide

2842. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU
YADAV :

SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme is being implemented by Government to appoint Health Guide in the rural areas in the country for every 1000 persons;

(b) whether the Health Guide are still being paid a salary of Rs.50 which was fixed 30 years ago whereas salary of employees in all other departments has been increasing during this period;

(c) whether any steps being taken to increase the salary of these Health Guides in view of the long period of service rendered by them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Health guide is a volunteer chosen by the village community to serve the people in his spare-time for which is paid an honorarium of Rs.50/- per month. At present there is no proposal to increase the honorarium of these health Guides.

Incurable Tuberculosis

2843. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL :
SHRI SOHAN BEER :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has warned that a special type of incurable tuberculosis will pose a major threat particularly to India;

(b) whether as per a survey conducted recently in Delhi, one third of the tuberculosis patients of the capital have been found to be immune to a particular type of treatment;

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

(d) whether around 10 lakh people are afflicted with tuberculosis and about half of them die every year in the country;

(e) whether the Union Government have sought a loan from the World Bank to implement an action plan in this regard;

(f) if so, the outline and the salient features of the said action plan; and

(g) the reaction of the World Bank thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No such survey has been conducted.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g). The proposed Tuberculosis Control Project include (a) gradual implementation of the Revised Strategy for TB Control (RNTP) in 102 districts, (b) strengthening of the National TB Programme (NTP) in 203 short course chemotherapy districts (SCC) as a transitional steps to adopt the RNTP, and (c) strengthening of conventional treatment in the remaining non SCC districts.

The World Bank has made an appraisal of the project proposal and the project is due for final negotiations.

[English]

Acquisition of Land in Bhavnagar

2844. SHRI RAJU RANA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is occupying land in Bhavnagar District in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the total area of land occupied and the locations thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is going to formulate developmental action plan for the same land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). The Ministry of Defence has 81.925 acres of land in Bhavnagar but the same is presently under temporary loan to the state Govt. of Gujarat on no rent basis. It is under occupation of State PWD. The land is in two pockets - (i) 60.05 acres in Sy. No.2836 D, Lancer Lines and (ii) 21.875 acres in Sy. Nos. 2121 and 2976 infantry Lines.

(c) and (d). The land will be developed and used by army as per the zonal plan of the area.

[Translation]

Private Sector participation in Defence

2845. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite adopting the policy of liberalisation in the country the participation of private sector in Defence Industry is quite less;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Union Government propose to encourage the participation of private sector in Defence Industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e). The importance of mobilising the civil sector capabilities to supplement the efforts of defence/public sector units in building up an indigenous defence production base has been engaging the attention of the Government for quite some time. The contribution of the private sector towards indigenous development of defence equipment and spares has been significant. During the last three years, in the field of ab-initio indigenous development of defence equipment and spares the contribution from private sector is around 80% item-wise, which value-wise accounts for approximately 68%.

2. Recognising the significance of establishing closer and continuous interaction between defence and industry for optimum exploitation of the available

potential, a two-tier institutional mechanism consisting of an Apex Body headed by Secretary (DP&S) and three discipline-wise Functional Groups have been in existence since 1985. The meetings of these bodies, of which major associations of trade and industry are members, provide an effective forum for exchange of views between the users, the suppliers and the inspection authorities.

3. With a view to encouraging greater participation of civil sector units by recognising the endeavour put in by them in meeting defence requirements of equipment and stores which are currently being imported, a scheme of National Award for excellence in indigenisation was introduced from the year 1993-94. The awards for the year 1994-95 were presented to seven firms on 18 July, 1996.

4. In order to give a further thrust to the participation of the private sector and specifically the small industry sector in the development of defence equipment a time bound Action Plan in association with Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industry) was drawn up by the Department during 1994. As part of the Action Plan three day workshop/exhibitions were organized at nine different industry centres spread over the country. The response of the small scale entrepreneurs to this programme was very encouraging. As a result of this Action Plan over 300 small scale units have been added to the list of registered suppliers for defence equipment.

[English]

Road Accidents in U.P.

2846. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of road accidents occurred and the number of persons killed in the hilly districts of U.P. during the last six months;

(b) whether the Government have given compensation to the near relative of the persons killed in such road accidents;

(c) whether the Government ensure that the compensation actually reach the relatives of the victims of road accidents;

(d) whether the Government propose to widen the roads and take steps to prevent recurring such accidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Youth Hostel in Karnataka

2847. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to construct atleast one Youth Hostel in each District in Karnataka;

(b) if so, how many such Youth Hostels were constructed during 1995-96;

(c) the amount of assistance provided for the purpose during 1995-96 to Karnataka;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a Youth Hostel constructed in Honnali taluk in Shimoga Distt., Karnataka remains unutilised though construction had been completed;

(e) the number of places in Karnataka proposed to be covered under the above scheme during 1996-97; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above. However, two Youth Hostels, one each at Mysore and Hassan are already functional. One Youth Hostel at Tirtharameswara is under construction. Further, one Youth Hostel each at Sogalu and Karwar has been approved, in principle, for construction.

(c) Nil. For setting up of Youth Hostels, land is provided by the State Government and construction taken care of by the Central Govt. through CPWD.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Nil.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Mid Day Meal Scheme

2848. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :
DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME
SHRI RAM SAGAR :

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

(a) the number of schools in the country where mid-day-meal scheme has been introduced so far, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of raw/cooked/baked food being given to the children;

(c) whether the introduction of the scheme has increased the attendance of students in schools;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce it compulsorily in all the primary schools in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) The National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, popularly known as Mid-Day-Meal Scheme, is intended to cover all children in primary classes (I-V) in all Government aided schools in the country by 1997-98. During 1996-97, 4426 blocks in the country comprising 5.57 crores primary school children are being covered under the programme. State-wise details are given in the attached statement.

(b) Under the Programme, each student of primary classes (I-V) is to be provided hot cooked meal of calorific value of 100 gms. of wheat or rice.

(c) to (e). The initial feedback indicates improvement in school attendance. The programme is to be implemented in a phased manner to cover all primary school children in Government, Government aided and local body schools by 1997-98.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of primary school children being covered during 1996-97 under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education.

| S. No. | State/Union Territory | No. of Distt. | No. of Blocks | No. of Beneficiaries. |
|--------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 22 | 330 | 4913852 |
| 2. | Arunchal Pradesh | 12 | 56 | 96934 |
| 3. | Assam | 23 | 157 | 2093846 |
| 4. | Bihar | 50 | 715 | 6125567 |
| 5. | Goa | 2 | 3 | 3508 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 18 | 138 | 1753695 |
| 7. | Haryana | 16 | 88 | 1172399 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 10 | 33 | 303895 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 14 | 121 | 620364 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 18 | 147 | 3701781 |
| 11. | Kerala | 7 | 21 | 314576 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 45 | 453 | 7429866 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 27 | 200 | 4297718 |
| 14. | Manipur | 7 | 25 | 137631 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 7 | 32 | 218581 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 3 | 20 | 96748 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 7 | 28 | 97335 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|-----|------|----------|
| 18. | Orissa | 27 | 235 | 2220702 |
| 19. | Punjab | 7 | 40 | 545284 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 31 | 237 | 3636521 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 4 | 8 | 62122 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 20 | 185 | 1163122 |
| 23. | Tripura | 4 | 27 | 379028 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 66 | 889 | 9909644 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 17 | 216 | 3637813 |
| 26. | A&N Islands | 1 | 2 | 5483 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 1 | 1 | 64770 |
| 28. | D & N Haveli | 1 | 1 | 24456 |
| 29. | Daman & Diu | 2 | 2 | 8150 |
| 30. | Delhi | 1 | 1 | 600000 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 1 | 9 | 8786 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 4 | 6 | 46996 |
| India | | 475 | 4426 | 55691153 |

[English]

Expenditure On MBBS And MD Students

2849. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on MBBS and MD students in Government Colleges;

(b) the part of this expenditure recovered by the students;

(c) the number of doctors out of them who have gone out of India during the last three years;

(d) whether Government propose to put a condition on those who study in Government Medical Colleges to work in rural and backward areas for certain period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per a study commissioned by the Medical Council of India, the cost of medical education per student ranges from Rs. 74,000/- to Rs. 1.78 lakhs per annum at Under-graduate level and Rs. 71,000/- to Rs. 1.46 lakhs per annum at Post-graduate level in Government medical colleges. The fee being charged for these courses from the students is very nominal.

(c) the number of doctors gone abroad during the last three years is as under :

| | | |
|------|---|----------------------|
| 1993 | - | 5989 |
| 1994 | - | Figures not compiled |
| 1995 | - | Figures not compiled |

(d) and (e). The Central Council of Health and Family Welfare has resolved that rural position for a specific period be made compulsory and also a pre-requisite before admission to Post-graduate courses.

Tunnels on N.H. in Hilly Regions

2850. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified locations for digging of tunnels on the National Highways, particularly in hilly regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any plans to offer these locations to private sector investment on toll basis?

(d) if so, whether any financial terms for tendering have been drawn up; and

(e) whether any tenders have been floated?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The construction of tunnels on the National Highways is being taken up on case to case basis depending upon the geography of the area. However, two locations for the construction of tunnels one each on NH1A and Nh21 are under consideration, but the details are yet to be worked out.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

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

Special Dispensation Admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2851. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of quota fixed and admission given under the Special Dispensation Admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1995-96 on the recommendations of MPs, Union Ministers, Ministers of different States, MLAs/MLCs, Judges and bureaucrats separately;

(b) whether any committee has been set up to decide such admissions; and

(c) if so, the terms of reference and its composition thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The guidelines for Special Dispensation Admission provide that each Member of Parliament can recommend 2 cases. Members of the Consultative and Standing Committees of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Union Ministers and Members of the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalayas Sanganathan can recommend 5 cases each and each of the Chairmen

of Vidyalaya Management Committee can recommend 1 case. The details of the admissions ordered by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanganathan for the year 1995-96 are as follows :

| | |
|--|-------|
| Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) | 1118 |
| Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) | 486 |
| Union Ministers | 7992 |
| Members of Board of Governors of KVS/Chairman Vidyalaya Management Committee | 314 |
| Very Important Persons (VIPs./Senior Official) | 339 |
| | 10249 |

(b) and (c). To operationalise the recommendations for Special Dispensation Admission a Committee consisting of Additional Secretary, Deptt. of Education as Chairman and Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanganathan and Chief Welfare Officer, Department of Personnel and Training as Member, was constituted for ensuring that the broad guidelines regarding such admissions are adhered to.

[Translation]

Compensation For Submerged Land

2852. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the basis on which assessment is made by the Union Government to provide compensation for agricultural land, residential land, houses etc. to the people whose land is submerged under the dam area and Narmada-Sagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) whether assessment is being made properly?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Programmes for resettlement & rehabilitation of people affected by reservoir projects are carried out by the State Governments themselves based on their own policies which vary from State to State and project to project. Government of Madhya Pradesh has formulated a Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy for rehabilitation of displaced persons for Narmada Projects in 1989.

[English]

National Poisons Information Centre

2853. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first National Poisons Information Centre has been set up in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(b) if so, whether the Centre has been provided immediate tips for treating cases of poisoning and will function round-the-clock;

(c) if so, the details of the proposed plan;

(d) whether arrangements have been made to treat the poisoning patients through the Centre at internal level; and

(e) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Centre functions round-the-clock and provide immediate remedial measures for the treatment of all poisonings.

(d) and (e). The Centre has International Data Base on treatment of poisoning. The Centre is in the process of getting attached to the Poisons Information Centre of other countries through Internet and at present the International Centres are consulted on fax for certain poisoning emergencies.

Forgery in Admission in Delhi University

2854. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

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

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that colleges under University of Delhi have been found flouting admission rules as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated July 7, 1996;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to probe into the cases against colleges which provided admission by flouting rules; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

CGHS Dispensary at Madurai

2855. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware the hardship faced by Central Government employees for want of a CGHS Dispensary at Madurai;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up CGHS Dispensaries at Madurai;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). There is no proposal for setting up CGHS dispensary at Madurai for the present. As per policy of the Government, CGHS dispensaries are to be set up, in a phased manner, in the State Capital cities having 7,500 or more beneficiaries, subject to availability of funds. Madurai does not fall in this category.

Conversion of State Highway into National Highway in Karnataka

2856. SHRI QAMARUL ISLAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government for converting the Bidar-Sri-Rangapatnam State Highway into the National Highway in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). A proposal from the Government of Karnataka has been received for conversion of Mysore-Srirangapatnam- Biryur-Gulbarga-Humnabad State road as National Highway.

(c) Due to paucity of funds for the development of National Highways during the Sub Plan, it has not been possible to declare this road as National Highway.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation under Sardar Sarovar Irrigation Project

2857. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the date from which the rehabilitation work in connection with Sardar Sarovar Irrigation Project is going on in Taloda Taluk, Dhule district of Maharashtra;

(b) whether there is a provision of providing irrigation facilities to the land provided to the tribal farmers under the said scheme;

(c) if so, the time by which the said irrigation facility is likely to be provided to these people;

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed for the said purpose;

(e) the time by which Valheri, Rapapur, Aamlbari, M.I. tank would be constructed and water would be provided for irrigation of the said land;

(f) whether the work pertaining to providing water through Borewell and well (Bavri) for the said purpose is on;

(g) if so, since when;

(h) whether there is a provision to provide water to 5 farmers for irrigating 10 hectares of land by installing 7½ horse power electric pump; and

(i) the concrete measures been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The rehabilitation work in Taloda Taluk, Dhule district of Maharashtra in connection with Sardar Sarovar Project has commenced in the middle of 1989.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The irrigation facilities to 4200 hectares of land which are being allotted to the oustees are planned to be provided by 1998 end.

(e) the proposed projects are now at very preliminary stages and the time by which these projects could be completed cannot be indicated as yet.

(f) and (g). Yes, Sir. The work is in progress since the commencement of rehabilitation.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) Measures to supply water through bore wells and open wells to provide irrigation facilities to all the

allotted land by 1998 are under implementation by the Government of Maharashtra.

[English]

Funds for Development of National Waterways

2858. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI M. SELVARASU :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated in the Eighth Five Year Plan for development of National Waterways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any amount has been allocated for this purpose;

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

(e) the amount utilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The requisite information is given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Crores)

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme/Project | Amount Allotted from 1992-93 to 1995-96 | Total Expenditure from 1992-93 to 1995-96 | Amount Allotted for 1996-97 |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1.0 National Waterway No.1 | | | | |
| 1.1 | River Conservancy Works of Ganga | 4.75 | 6.31 | 2.50 |
| 1.4 | Navigational Aids on Ganga | 1.26 | 0.00 | 0.50 |
| 1.5 | Terminals on Ganga (Calcutta) | 1.30 | 0.58 | 0.50 |
| 1.6 | Pilot Project Between Patna and Haldia | 0.03 | 0.00 | 0.10 |
| 2.0 National Waterway No.2 | | | | |
| 2.1 | River Improvement Works on Brahmaputra | 4.75 | 2.71 | 1.00 |
| 2.2 | Navigational Aids on B'putra | 0.65 | 0.15 | 0.50 |
| 2.3 | Terminals on Brahmaputra | 0.25 | 0.20 | 0.50 |
| 2.4 | River Training Works on B'putra | | | 0.01 |
| 2.5 | Pilot Project on Double Vertical Tidal Jetty | | - | 0.05 |
| 3.0 National Waterway No.3 | | | | |
| 3.1 | Development of West Coast Canal | 6.50 | 2.66 | 4.00 |
| 4.0 Common Schemes/Projects | | | | |
| 4.3 | Acquisition of Vessels and Survey Equipment | 0.10 | | 0.50 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--|--|-------|-------|-------|
| 5.0 Miscellaneous Schemes/New Schemes | | | | |
| 5.1 | Training of IWT Personnel | 0.63 | 0.08 | 0.20 |
| 5.2 | Construction of Office Cum R&D Complex for IWAI | 1.75 | 2.72 | 1.20 |
| 5.3 | Navigational Aids on Sunderbans | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5.4 | Development of Godavari and other New Schemes | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.20 |
| 5.5 | Consultancy Services | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 |
| 5.6 | Development of Goa Waterways | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| 5.7 | Regional Crew Training Centres | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.20 |
| 5.8 | Development of East Coast Canal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| 5.9 | Hydrographic Surveys on other Waterways | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.35 |
| 5.10 | Development of Brahmani, Mahanadi, Barak | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.05 |
| 5.11 | Project Formulation Framework for Development of IWT in the Country with UNDP Assistance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.05 |
| 5.12 | Introduction of Computerised Data System | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.10 |
| Total | | 21.99 | 15.41 | 12.55 |

Sainik Samachar

2859. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of copies of Sainik Samachar published per issue in different languages;

(b) whether concession is availed of in postal rates to the regular magazines from Postal Department;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the extra amount incurred by Sainik Samachar per issue for the last five years for not availing of concessional postal rates, year-wise;

(e) the action taken against the persons responsible for this; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure that postal concessions are availed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The Sainik Samachar is published in 13 languages. The print order varies with the languages in which it is printed, and is presently as follows :

| | |
|-----------|------|
| English | 5400 |
| Hindi | 5500 |
| Marathi | 1300 |
| Gorkhali | 4600 |
| Punjabi | 800 |
| Urdu | 200 |
| Tamil | 700 |
| Telugu | 500 |
| Malayalam | 1600 |

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Bengali | 300 |
| Oriya | 550 |
| Assamese | 200 |
| Kannada | 400 |

(b) and (c). The concession has not been availed of due to delays in the publication of Sainik Samachar.

(d) The approximate cost of not availing concessional postal rates per issue is Rs. 2,300.

The year-wise break-up of extra payments are as follows :-

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| 1991-92 | Rs. 1,76,233 |
| 1992-93 | Rs. 57,554 |
| 1993-94 | Rs. 1,57,498 |
| 1994-95 | Rs. 1,37,655 |
| 1995-96 | Rs. 1,17,668 |

(e) and (f). The inadequacies in the organisational set-up and persisting understaffing of the Sainik Samachar has led to the present situation. To enable timely publication, certain organisational and administrative changes have been effected.

UNICEF Report "Progress of Nation"

2860. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the UNICEF report "Progress of Nation" released recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government generally agrees with the position stated in the UNICEF Report "Progress of Nation". However the perceptions and the views mentioned in the report does not fully reflect the official position of the Government. However, this report helps us in comparing the position of India vis-a-vis other countries of the world. The position of Health and Nutrition aspect of the children of few areas still needs further improvement. Government of India are implementing various programmes like Child Survival and Safe Motherhood, ICDS, etc. for improving health and nutritional aspects of the mother and children of the country. India had made lot of improvement in the reduction of morbidity and mortality rates among children which can be seen from the fact that infant mortality rates have come down from 104 in 1984 to 74 in 1994 and the child mortality rate which has declined from 41.2 in 1984 to 23.7 in 1993.

The areas where more efforts are needed include anaemia among children and mothers and essential new born care. These aspects are being given more emphasis under the CSSM Programme as well as under various schemes for improving nutritional status of the women and children.

An attempt has been made in the Report to rank the countries according to varying degrees of malnutrition among children and women, the most vulnerable segments of the population. There has been improvement in the nutritional status of pre-school children, but it does not match the expected levels according to the increase in G.N.P. The percentage of under-weight children during 1988-90 (NNMB surveys) was 68.6 per cent while in 1992-93 (NFHS Survey) it was 53 per cent. Further, the prevalence of anaemia among the pregnant women has been shown as 83 per cent in the Report.

Since the figures quoted in the Report for prevalence of malnutrition among children and pregnant women are a reality, the Report is taken in the spirit of sensitisation of the concerned sectors of the Government, national institutes, NGOs, national and international organisations.

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme has been universalised and expanded into a programme with possibly the greatest outreach in the country. Till 30.06.1996 the total number of ICDS projects was 5614 which include 194 ICDS projects under State Sector and 318 under TNP-II Project covering 212 lakhs beneficiaries including mothers and children of 0-6 years. "National Plan of Action - A commitment to the Child" prepared by Government of India as a follow up of the promises made by the global fraternity at the World Summit for Children sets out a quantifiable and time dimension to India's Charter of Action for Women & Child Development.

[Translation]

Amount for Literacy Campaign

2861. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided for literacy campaign in district Morena of Madhya Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the targets laid down in respect of literacy on the basis of aforesaid amount;

(c) the names of the development blocks and the amount spent therein on that account upto March 31 1996 and the number of people made literate; and

(d) the number of type of committees set up for running the said literacy campaign?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Rs. 50.00 lakhs were provided as adhoc grant during 1994-95 for literacy campaign in Murena. No grants were released during 1995-96.

(b) The Total Literacy Campaign proposes to cover approximately 3.40 lakh learners.

(c) 3 Blocks, namely, Jaura, Kailaras and Pahargarh are to be covered in the first phase. An amount of Rs. 26.49,000/- has been spent upto March 31st, 1996. Teaching learning phase is yet to begin.

(d) At district level, one Executive Committee of Zila Saksharata Samiti has been constituted. 5 Sub Committees for Core Group, Environment building, Survey, Monitoring, Training and Physical Verification have been constituted. At Block Level, 9 Core Groups have been constituted. 43 Sector Level Committees have been constituted alongwith 482 Village Level Committees.

[English]

Protection of Historical Monuments

2862. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the historical monuments protected and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) the money being spent annually for this purpose;

(c) how many more monuments need to be protected; and

(d) the number of such monuments lost due to non-maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) There are 3574 centrally protected monuments, comprises of Forts, Palaces, Temples, Mosques, Churches, Monastries, Stupas, Cemetries and excavated sites etc.

(b) the expenditure incurred on maintenance, conservation preservation and environmental development of centrally protected monuments in India during the last three years are as given below :-

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 1993-94 | Rs 1120.28 lakhs |
| 1994-95 | Rs.1050.17 lakhs |
| 1995-96 | Rs.1473.50 lakhs |

(c) The monuments are protected by the ASI as per the provisions of the A.M.A.S.R. Act, 1958 and by the State Governments under the relevant Archaeological Acts. The identification and explorations of the monument are a continuous process.

(d) The maintenance and conservation of centrally protected monuments is a continuous process. The centrally protected monuments are managed by the ASI through its Circle Offices spread all over India. These monuments are inspected regularly by the Officers from the Circles/Branches as well as from the Directorate. Conservation measures are taken up according to actual needs of individual monuments and as per the availability of resources.

Bridge on N.H. 17, Goa

2863. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have shelved the plan to build a bridge over across Galgibagh river and river Talpona in Canacona taluka of South Goa district on the proposed bye-pass to National Highway No. 17:

(b) if not, when the work is scheduled to commence:

(c) whether any funds were allocated for this project: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). These bridges works are connected with the realignment of Km. 68-85 of NH-17 in Goa. This involves construction of new highway in a length of about 7.15 km. and construction of two bridges - bridge across river Talpona comprising 7 spans of 50m each and bridge across river Galgibagh comprising 4 spans of 50m each. They are included in the VIII Five Year Plan. Rough cost of the projects is Rs. 25.00 crores. Clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests has been obtained. The project is proposed to be taken up under private sector participation.

[Translation]

Computer Education in KVs

2864. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce computer education in Kendriya Vidyalayas shortly: and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (Class) in Kendriya Vidyalayas which was introduced in the year 1984-85, at present covers 325 Kendriya Vidyalayas by providing BBC Micro Computers. This scheme was revised by Government of India in 1994-95 by phasing out the existing hardware gradually with modified hardware covering students of classes XI and XII and providing of full time instructors and imparting training to teachers through outside agencies. In addition "Introductory Computer Science" as an elective subject at plus two stage was sanctioned in 28 Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1995-96 and 6 more Kendriya Vidyalayas have been added during 1996-97.

Special Scholarship to Players

2865. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government provide any special scholarships to the national and international level players:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any scheme to provide reservation for them in Government services is under consideration of the Central Government: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Govt. provides scholarships to the national and international level players under the following schemes:

1. *Scholarship for training of specialists and outstanding sportspersons in sports/adventure abroad* : Under this scheme, financial assistance is being provided to outstanding sportspersons for training abroad.
2. *Promotion of sports and physical education among women* : Under this scheme, scholarship upto Rs.6000/- per annum is

provided to the winners of the National Women Championships. Scholarships are also given to women doing M.Phil/Ph. D in physical Education

3. *Sports Talent Search Scholarship* : Under this scheme, scholarships are provided to boys and girls showing meritorious performance in sports. The National level Scholarships are given at the rate of Rs. 400/- per month while the State/UT level scholarships are Rs.300/- per month.

(c) and (d). Ministries/Departments of Government of India can recruit meritorious sportspersons upto 5% of the vacancies in Group-C and D posts subject to fulfilment of certain criteria.

[English]

Extension of National Highway No. 44, Tripura

2866. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Tripura for extension of National Highway No. 44 upto Subroom (the Southern most point of Tripura); and

(b) if so, the steps taken to approve and execute the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to paucity of funds for the development of National Highways during the 8th Plan, it has not been possible to declare this road as a National Highway.

World Bank Loan for Road Projects in Bihar

2867. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar has submitted any proposal in March, 1996 for road projects in the State for World Bank Loan; and

(b) if so, the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Grants to Rural Hospitals

2868. SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a scheme to give aid for the purchase of expensive diagnostic equipments for the benefit of tribal and rural patients in the hospitals run by Municipal Corporations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Health being a State subject, supply of equipment to hospitals is done by the State Governments. In the case of local bodies like municipal corporations the purchase of equipment is made from their own resources. Central Govt. do not have any scheme for providing funds for equipment purchase for local body hospitals.

Implementation of Family Planning and Welfare Schemes in Villages

2869. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the various study reports suggesting that the most effective approach for implementing family planning and welfare schemes in villages can be only through the motivated and trained women workers drawn from the communities;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) this time by which the requisite facilities are likely to be provided throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Government is aware of the fact that the motivated and trained women workers drawn from the communities can play a very useful role in family welfare activities.

(b) The services of women such as ANMs are being utilised at the Sub-Centres and Dais from the community are being trained to promote family welfare schemes at the community level. So far 75,568 Mahila Swasthya Sanghs have also been constituted in the country for creating Health & F.W. awareness in their respective areas. These MSS groups are groups of 15 women in each village with 10 women elected for the community.

(c) The family welfare services are already being provided through a network of Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and Rural Family Welfare Centres where the women workers play an important role in family welfare activities.

Transfer of Defence Land

2870. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :

SHRI RAM NAIK :

SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received

a proposal from Maharashtra State seeking issue of orders for transfer of Defence land required for construction of Road overbridge by closing down existing level crossing at Kandivalli (West);

(b) whether in view of the priority of the project what action has been taken/proposed to handover the Defence land to the authorities for construction of road overbridge to ease the pressure of traffic;

(c) the details of other proposals made by the Government of Maharashtra for release of land belonging to Defence Ministry of development projects, project-wise; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed thereon;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Defence have agreed in principle and offered 4 pieces of vacant lands admeasuring 0.0691 acres near the proposed over-bridge, 0.7461 acres falling under the same 1.5 acres in the north of over-bridge and 2.33 acres located east of the railway line on payment of current market value. The State Government also accepted the offer of the land. But the State Government later on expressed their inability to adhere to conditions of the offer and has requested to transfer the lands as per changed alignment marked in the plan forwarded by them. This request has not been accepted on security grounds and the State Government has again been requested to convey the acceptance of offer of the land as per earlier agreed alignment for issue of Government sanction for transfer of the land.

(c) and (d). The other proposals regarding transfer of land are for construction of New Bridge parallel to Holkar Bridge in Krikee Cantonment, Construction of 30 mtr. wide road in Aurangabad Cantonment, establishing a Sub Station and construction of a Bus Stand in Deolali Cantonment and transfer of Defence land is Sholapur Rifle Range to State Government. These proposals are under examination in consultation with various organisations/field functionaries as per requirements for the policy/guidelines laid down.

[Translation]

Health Schemes

2871. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the various health and welfare schemes being implemented in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh and the details thereof;

(b) whether the above schemes are being implemented successfully and if so, the percentage of success of these schemes; and

(c) the amount being spent on the said schemes during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The details of the various health and family welfare schemes being implemented for rural areas of Uttar Pradesh alongwith the allocation for 1995-96 is given in statement-I.

In additions, all National Health Programme being implemented in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh. A statement showing the provision for 1995-96 for National Health Programme being implemented both in rural and urban areas of Uttar Pradesh is given in statement-II.

A sample survey of some demographically weak districts of U.P. was conducted by I.C.M.R. in 1992-93. the survey had shown some deficiencies in the facilities in rural areas. Based on the findings of the Survey, a Social Safety net scheme was introduced in 32 districts of U.P. for improving the quality of services in rural areas.

World Bank assisted India Population Project-VI is being implemented in Uttar Pradesh at a cost of Rs.94.00 crores from 6.4.1990 to 30.9.1996 with the aim of developing trained manpower and setting up of training institutions, enhancing the service delivery system by constructing sub-centres and by providing other related inputs.

With a view to reduce total Fertility Rate and to increase Contraceptive prevalence Rate, the Govt. of India and United State Agency for International Development (USAID) have entered into an agreement in 1992 under which USAID undertook to provide aid of US \$ 325 million for Innovations in Family Planning Services Project in Uttar Pradesh over a period of 10 years.

STATEMENT-I

Scheme-wise releases for Rural Areas of Uttar Pradesh for 1995-96

| | | (Rs. in lakh) |
|---|---------|---------------|
| Schemes | Amount | |
| Training of ANV/LHV | 109.50 | |
| Training of Dais | 66.50 | |
| Rural Family Welfare Centres | 2655.00 | |
| Sub-centres | 4800.00 | |
| Area Projects | 1280.02 | |
| Social Safety Net | 960.00 | |
| Child Survival and Safe Motherhood | 4723.80 | |
| Maintenance of HFWTC | 66.00 | |
| Orientation Training for Medical & Para Medical Staff | 7.00 | |
| Village Health Guide Scheme | 270.33 | |

STATEMENT-II*National Health Programme in Uttar Pradesh*

(Rs. in lakh)

| Schemes | Amount |
|--|---------|
| Malaria Eradication Programme | 349.96 |
| Leprosy Eradication Programme | 476.13 |
| T.B. Control Programme | 442.44 |
| Blindness Control Programme | 394.12 |
| Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme | 1.16 |
| AIDS Control Programme | 371.129 |

[English]

Erosion of Ganga in West Bengal

2872. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the very serious problem of erosion of the banks of the Ganges in the districts of Murshidabad, Nadia, Hooghly and 24 Parganas (N) in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to save the villages and towns affected by the erosion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of West Bengal has taken up six interaction schemes for execution in Murshidabad district at an estimated cost of Rs.21.29 crore which includes 3 schemes costing more than Rs.1 crore appraised and approved by the Centre. Schemes for the districts of Nadia, Hooghly and 24 Parganas (N) have not been referred to the Centre so far for appraisal.

Family Planning in Villages

2873. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research shows that traditional healers and trained persons could play a vital role in influencing the villagers to accept one or other method of family planning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). A Pilot study was conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research in 1984-87 in 37 villages of two Primary Health Centres in Muzaffarnagar

district of Uttar Pradesh. A total 22 institutionally trained traditional medical practitioners who were resident of the selected villages were provided training for 11 days. The study showed that after two years of intervention by these practitioners there was an increase in the number of acceptors of contraceptives in these villages. However, the male acceptance of contraception remained unchanged and the number of men undergoing Vasectomy declined.

This is only a Pilot study covering a small population. A number of large scale studies focussing on the use of rural practitioners for delivery of family planning services including regular supervision and performance evaluation are essential before the same can be incorporated into the National Family Welfare Programme.

Issue of Passports by RPO, Bangalore

2874. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of passport applications received by the Regional Passport Office at Bangalore during the period January, 1995 to April, 1996 for the issue of new passports and for the renewal of the passports;

(b) the number out of them cleared;

(c) the average time taken for the issue of passports;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that due to non-receipt of police verification report, there has been inordinate delay in clearing passport applications; and

(e) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up a separate Police Wing in the above passport office to undertake police verifications?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJARAL) : (a) The number of passport applications received by RPO, Bangalore during the period January 1995- April 1996 for the issue of new passports and for the renewal of passports are as follow :

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| New Passports | 118887 |
| Renewals | 48919 |

(b) During the same period, the number of passports cleared out of (a) above and from the pending applications on 31.12.94 are :

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| New Passports | 126197 |
| Renewals | 49501 |

(c) The average time taken to issue a fresh passport by this office is approximately 50-60 days.

(d) and (e). In order to avoid delay, in cases where police verification is not received within 30 days of making a reference, passports are issued by the RPO without waiting any further for a clearance. This procedure, which speeds up the process in the interest

of applicants, removes any need for a separate police verification procedure by the RPO.

Introduction of Scheme for Adolescent Girls

2875. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced the Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) in some educationally backward States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objective of the scheme;

(d) the number of Early Childhood Education Centres opened in the States, State-wise; and

(e) the extent to which the objectives have been achieved, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) and (b). The Adolescent Girls Scheme has been introduced in 507 integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Blocks in all the States/Union Territories, which includes educationally backward States also. A statement indicating State-wise number of blocks sanctioned and number of beneficiaries covered is annexed.

(c) the objectives of the Scheme are as under :-

1. To reach to girls in the 11-18 year age group (many of whom have lost the opportunity to either enroll or complete primary schooling due to social, economic and cultural pressures).
2. To improve their nutritional and health status.
3. To provide them with the required literacy and numeracy skills, through Non-formal Education/National Literacy Programme.
4. To train and equip the girls to improve and upgrade home-based skills.
5. To promote awareness of health, hygiene, nutrition and family welfare, home management and child care.
6. To gain a better understanding of their environment, related social issues and the impact on their lives.
7. To help them understand their reproductive role and take measures that would facilitate delaying the age of marriage. (As a preventive health action towards reduction of born maternal as well a infant mortality).
8. To stimulate a desire for more social exposure and knowledge and to help them improve their decision making capabilities.

9. To promote in the community and environment supportive to the attainment of the above goals

(d) 4365 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Centres are in operation in the nine educationally backward States. The State-wise number of ECE Centre is given below :-

| S.No. | State | No. of ECE Centres |
|-------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 672 |
| 2. | Assam | 170 |
| 3. | Bihar | 340 |
| 4. | Jammu & Kashmir | 65 |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | 375 |
| 6. | Orissa | 338 |
| 7. | Rajasthan | 336 |
| 8. | Uttar Pradesh | 1099 |
| 9. | West Bengal | 970 |
| Total | | 4365 |

(e) The Scheme represents a special intervention, institutionalised through, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) infrastructure to cater to the health, nutrition, recreation, awareness generation and skill improvement needs of adolescent girls in the age-group 11-18 year in rural areas. The scheme has been well received. Over 3.51 lakh girls have been covered under the Adolescent Girls Scheme. State-wise number of beneficiaries is given in statement annexed.

STATEMENT

State-wise No. of blocks sanctioned and No. of beneficiaries of Adolescent Girls Scheme

| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | Total Number of Blocks | Total No. of Beneficiaries |
|--------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 37 | 67810 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | N.A. |
| 3. | Assam | 10 | N.A. |
| 4. | Bihar | 74 | 5578 |
| 5. | Goa | 1 | 416 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 15 | 42873 |
| 7. | Haryana | 4 | 2633 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 1 | 3369 |
| 9. | J & K | 2 | N.A. |
| 10. | Karnataka | 23 | 18285 |
| 11. | Kerala | 13 | 15547 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|----------------|-----|--------|
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 48 | 65146 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 39 | 20208 |
| 14. | Manipur | 1 | N.A. |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 1 | 300 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 1 | 594 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 1 | N.A. |
| 18. | Orissa | 24 | 42614 |
| 19. | Punjab | 3 | 1017 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 24 | 3934 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 1 | 240 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 33 | 23241 |
| 23. | Tripura | 1 | N.A. |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 99 | N.A. |
| 25. | West Bengal | 41 | 29388 |
| 26. | A & N Island | 1 | 100 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 1 | 101 |
| 28. | D & N Haveli | 1 | 500 |
| 29. | Daman & Diu | 1 | 447 |
| 30. | Delhi | 3 | 4950 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 1 | N.A. |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 1 | 1788 |
| Total | | 507 | 351079 |

N.A. - Not Available.

Bridge on NH-31

2876. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bridges on NH-31 at Jalpaiguri damaged during 1993 flood has not yet been repaired; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Two bridges on NH-31 near Jalpaiguri, were damaged during floods in 1993. The position of bridges is as under :

(i) *Birbitigora bridge at Km. 717:*

Traffic is restored through diversion and the reconstruction of this bridges was sanctioned in April, 1995 for Rs.197.24 lakhs. Tenders have been settled by the State Govt. and construction work is likely to commence after monsoons.

(ii) *Balatorasa bridge in Km.741 :*

The existing wooden bridge was outflanked which has since been restored.

[Translation]

Formal Education Programme

2877. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to the Government of Madhya Pradesh under the formal education programme during 1995-96;

(b) whether the above funds have been utilised by the State Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) Details of funds released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 1995-96 for development of school education are available in the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 1995-96.

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

[English]

Compensation to Victims of Road Accidents

2878. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of compensation to road accident victims awarded under the Motor vehicles Act against UPSRTC by various Courts during the last two financial years;

(b) the number of awards honoured so far;

(c) the number of awards not yet settled;

(d) the number of awards against which the Corporation has filed appeal in Allahabad High Court; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Irrigation Management

2879. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI SAYTAJITSINH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government

have given 'highest priority' to participatory Irrigation Management in Irrigation Management;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to expedite activities in Participatory Irrigation Management; and

(c) whether any special Central assistance to the States for rehabilitation to expedite Participatory Irrigation Management is being sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government have given priority to Participatory Irrigation Management.

(b) The following steps have been taken to encourage farmers' participation in the management of irrigation :

Giving management subsidy to farmers' associations under Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme;

Holding National Conferences and sponsoring State level and Project level conferences on Participatory Irrigation Management with farmers' participation in the State and project level to create awareness;

Conducting training courses at National level for officers and at State level for officers and farmers;

Providing States with guidelines and assisting them in preparation of Manuals for formation of associations and introducing amendments in Irrigation Acts;

Advising State Governments to constitute High Level Working Groups to formulate policies and guidelines for constituting farmers' associations;

Setting up of a Working Group by Planning Commission on Participatory Irrigation Management for the IX-Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

Ground Water in West Bengal

2880. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that ground water in seven districts of West Bengal has been found to have four times more of the chemicals than the safe limit exposing more than a million and seriously affecting 2,00,000 people of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to solve the drinking water problem of the people of the area?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Yes, please. In April, 1996 there are 984 habitations spread over in 8 districts

of West Bengal reported to have arsenic content in the ground water with more than the permissible limit (0.05 mg/l).

The Government of West Bengal has prepared a perspective plan at a total cost of Rs. 750 crores indicating long term and short term measures to tackle arsenic contamination. The replacement of tubewells by deeper ones, construction of new piped water supply schemes and construction of Sanitary Protected Wells and Rain Water Harvesting Structures for immediate relief and establishment of surface water based Piped Water Supply Schemes, tubewell based new Piped Water Supply Schemes establishing new spot sources for solving the problem on a long term basis are some of the salient features of the Perspective Plan.

Linking of National Highway No. 31 and 34 in Bihar

2881. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for connecting National Highway No. 31 and National Highway No. 34 in Katihar district of Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a link road connecting NH-31 and NH-34 in Katihar district of Bihar was sanctioned in 1982 and all the preliminary works were done long before;

(c) if so, the reasons for this work could not be taken up and completed till now; and

(d) the present position of this project and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The work for construction of major bridge over river Manananda including improvement of road in Parapur-Labha-Dilli-Dewanganj section a part of Katihar-Harishchandarpur road (linking NH 31-34) was approved by this Ministry in 1982 under the scheme of 'Central Loan Assistance' for State Roads of Inter State Importance.

(c) and (d). It is reported that technical problems in sinking of wells are hampering the progress of work and the work is spilling beyond the earlier target date of March 1995.

Two Lane into four Lane Road on N.H. 17

2882. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert National Highway No. 17 between Mangalore-Udupi and Coondapur into four lane road;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to paucity of Funds.

Science Education in Schools

2883. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any States have not been allocated funds under the Centrally sponsored scheme for improvement of science education in schools; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) All the States have been provided financial assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Improvement of Science Education in Schools'.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

North Koel Nahar Project, Bihar

2884. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 'North Koel Nahar Project' of Bihar is the biggest and most important irrigation project;

(b) whether irrigation of Palamu, Aurangabad, Gaya, Jehanabad, Navada and Munger districts depend on this project; and

(c) if so, the time by which the above said project is likely to be completed and the steps taken by the Government to improve the irrigation situation in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) North Koel Project is one of the major on-going irrigation projects in Bihar.

(b) This project will benefit Palamu, Aurangabad and Gaya Districts.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject. The projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Government from their own resources. Completion of the project depends upon the priority given by the State Government.

[English]

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in J and K

2885. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNV) functioning in J and K States;

(b) the number of posts of teaching and non-teaching staff are lying vacant in Leh and Kargil Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(c) the pass percentage of students in the JNVs of Leh and Kargil separately for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(d) whether the classes of 11th and 12th have not been started in Leh and Kargil JNVs so far; and

(e) if so, the reasons for non filling up of posts, low academic standard result and non starting of classes of 11th and 12th in Leh and Kargil JNVs so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) 14 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) The number of teaching and non-teaching posts vacant in the Navodaya Vidyalayas of Leh and Kargil is as follows :

| | Teaching | Non-Teaching |
|--------|----------|--------------|
| Leh | 06 | 05 |
| Kargil | 07 | 01 |

(c) The pass percentage of students in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas of Leh and Kargil for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as under :

| | Leh | | Kargil | |
|---------|------|------|--------|-----|
| | X | XII | X | XII |
| 1994-95 | 51.0 | 17.7 | 77.8 | * |
| 1995-96 | 23.3 | 83.3 | 78.6 | 100 |

* No students of Kargil Vidyalaya appeared in Class XII Examination in 1994-95.

(d) Class XI and XII were started at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Leh but were discontinued. Class XI and XII have not been started at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kargil.

Students from both these Vidyalayas have shifted to other vidyalayas in the Region.

(e) The efforts made by the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya's to fill up the vacant posts have not been completely successful as many of the staff members were reluctant to join because of inadequate infrastructural facilities and the extreme climatic conditions, especially during the Winter months, at Leh and Kargil. Students of plus 2 level are shifted from these schools to the schools in plains in order to ensure that their academic performance is not affected adversely.

West Coast National Waterway

2886. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received by the Government from Kerala to develop and maintain the West Coast National Waterway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on the development of Water Coast Canal during 1995-96 and its latest progress?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The following points have been submitted for consideration :

(i) Declaration of remaining stretch of West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kasargode and Kollan to Kovalam as National Waterway;

(ii) To ensure that funds provided for development of West Coast Canal during 8th Five Year Plan are fully utilised;

(iii) Release of Central share of funds for the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of modernisation of jetties in Kerala.

(c) During the year 1995-96 an expenditure of Rs. 97.00 lakhs was incurred on the development of West Coast Canal. Various activities such as repairs of navigation locks, maintenance, capital dredging, land acquisition and channel marking, etc. are in progress.

Shortage of Blood

2887. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRTA :
DR. I.D. SWAMI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of Blood in the country particularly in district headquarters and rural areas on account of which critical operations during summer and monsoon have to be suspended;

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

(c) the steps taken to overcome the same;

(d) whether the Government have any scheme to provide blood to patients in emergency, where no such facilities exist;

(e) the number of blood banks at present in the Government/Private Sector in each State, State-wise;

(f) the financial assistance being provided by the Government and other agencies to them;

(g) whether the Government propose to open some more blood banks in the country; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requirement of blood as per WHO norm of 7 units of blood per hospital bed per year is about 42.00 lakh units. As against this, the availability is about 27.56 lakh units approximately as per Statement-I attached.

(c) It has been the consistent endeavour of the Government to increase the blood supply through voluntary donations, organisation of blood donation camps at regular intervals and campaigns to educate the masses through mass media and one to one communication are some of the measures adopted for this purpose.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A Statement-II is attached.

(f) IEC component of the National AIDS Control Programme provides substantial inputs for motivation to voluntary donors involving mass-media, Government Institutions and NGOs.

(g) and (h). Opening of blood banks falls within the purview of State Governments/UT Administrations.

STATEMENT - I

Table Statewise break up of Volume of Blood Collected

(Year - 1995-96)

| S.No. | Name of State/UT | Blood units collected |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 79800 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 816 |
| 3. | Assam | 115066 |
| 4. | Bihar | |
| 5. | Goa | 17690 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 288965 |
| 7. | Haryana | 32130 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 349905 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 28917 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 75090 |
| 11. | Kerala | 289622 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 100155 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 592288 |
| 14. | Manipur | 702853 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 952 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 11702 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 5103 |
| 18. | Orissa | 130363 |
| 19. | Punjab | 65320 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|------------------------|---------|
| 20. | Rajasthan | 168330 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 1020 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 64435 |
| 23. | Tripura | 310459 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 103520 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 285836 |
| 26. | A and N Islands | 2721 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 43410 |
| 28. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 435622 |
| 29. | Daman and Diu | 545 |
| 30. | Delhi | 412526 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 340 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 422256 |
| Total | | 2756140 |

Remarks : The figures are estimated from information received from the States towards their demand for HIV test kits required for the screening of blood. From the estimates 10% deduction has been made towards quality control.

STATEMENT-II

The Status of Blood Banks in the Country as on 1st July, 1996

| Name of State | Govt. | Pvt. | (Public Sector, Pvt. Hosp. and Charitable) Others | Total No. of Blood Banks |
|-------------------------|-------|------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 57 | 54 | 2 | 113 |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 7 | - | - | 7 |
| 3. Assam | 28 | 5 | 11 | 44 |
| 4. A & N Islands | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| 5. Bihar | 48 | 21 | - | 69 |
| 6. Chandigarh (Admn.) | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| 7. Delhi (Admn.) | 15 | 7 | 10 | 32 |
| 8. Dadra & Nagar Haveli | - | - | - | - |
| 9. Gujarat | 39 | 70 | - | 109 |
| 10. Goa | 4 | 3 | - | 7 |
| 11. Haryana | 18 | - | - | 18 |
| 12. Himachal Pradesh | 13 | - | - | 13 |
| 13. Jammu and Kashmir | 12 | 1 | - | 13 |
| 14. Kerala | 12 | 19 | 3 | 34 |
| 15. Karnataka | 15 | 20 | 24 | 59 |
| 16. Lakshadweep | - | - | - | - |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|------|
| 17. Maharashtra | 76 | 121 | - | 197 |
| 18. Madhya Pradesh | 53 | 20 | 5 | 78 |
| 19. Meghalaya | 2 | 2 | - | 4 |
| 20. Manipur | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| 21. Mizoram | 4 | - | - | 4 |
| 22. Nagaland | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 23. Orissa | 50 | 1 | 8 | 59 |
| 24. Punjab | 48 | 15 | 3 | 66 |
| 25. Pondicherry | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 26. Rajasthan | 44 | - | 2 | 46 |
| 27. Sikkim | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 28. Tamilnadu | 127 | 73 | - | 200 |
| 29. Tripura | 4 | - | - | 4 |
| 30. Uttar Pradesh | 82 | 39 | - | 121 |
| 31. West Bengal | 67 | 28 | - | 95 |
| Total | 834 | 499 | 68 | 1401 |

Bal Bhavans

2888. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up Bal Bhavans in each State during the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). There is, at present, no proposal for setting-up of Bal Bhavans in States/UTs by the Government of India. The primary responsibility of setting-up Bal Bhavans in the States/UTs rests with the respective State Government/UT Administration. Bal Bhavan Society India, New Delhi, which is an autonomous institution under Department of Education, has been persuading the States/UTs to set-up Bal Bhavans with a view to galvanise the Bal Bhavan movement in the country.

US-Sri Lanka Military Cooperation

2889. SHRI O. BHARATHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published in the Delhi edition of 'Times of India' on July 16, 1996 under the caption "US military presence likely in Sri Lanka";

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment of the likely fall out of such a move on the security scenario in the region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes Sir, Government are aware of reports appearing in the media about likely US military presence in Sri Lanka, including the report that appeared in the Delhi edition of "The Times of India" of July 16, 1996.

(b) and (c). Sri Lanka and the US have an ongoing programme of cooperation between the defence establishments of the two countries which includes courses in defence institutions in the US and joint exercises on lines similar to what exists between the US and other countries in our region.

The Government closely monitors all developments in the region which have a bearing on India's security interests.

Road from Chogdibal to Tangda

2890. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the road going from Chogdibal to Tangda on the pass of Nathadhyama is open for six months only;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to lay a tunnel on this road in the Nathadhyama Pass and whether that tunnel will be kept open throughout the year; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking action by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The road Chogdibal-Tangda passes through high altitude areas and snowfall during winter is a normal feature. Due to low temperature, blizzards and intensive avalanche activity, the road remains closed to traffic for varying durations every year.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal as construction of a tunnel covering the long snowfall zone is not likely to be cost effective.

[Translation]

Approval of ILIP of Sawai Madhopur

2891. SHRIMATI USHA MEENA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the date when Indira Lift Irrigation Project of Sawai Madhopur district was referred to the Central Water Commission for the first time for its approval;

(b) the reasons for not approving it by the Central Water Commission for such a long time;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to approve this project; and

(d) if so, the year by which the project is likely to be implemented after getting approval?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The detailed Project Report of Indira Lift Irrigation Project (Rajasthan) has not been received in the Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal. However, a report on hydrological study of the Project was received in the Central Water Commission, in February, 1994, and the observations were communicated to the State Government in March, 1995.

(b) and (c). The State Government is required to comply the observations of the Central Water Commission on hydrological Studies and submit the detailed Project Report to the Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

(d) In absence of the detailed Project Report and investment clearance, it is not possible to indicate any date for completion of the Project.

[English]

Set Back on Parambikulam Aliyar Project

2892. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parambikulam Aliyar Project has suffered a set back due to the disputes of Tamil Nadu and Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made by the above project so far;

(d) the likely date by which this is going to be completed;

(e) the Central assistance actually made available to this project during each of the last three years; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure the proper utilisation of Central assistance and to expedite the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP) Agreement was executed between Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu in May, 1970 on sharing of waters of these rivers. The agreement is stipulated for establishment of a Joint Water Regulation Board comprising representatives of both the State Governments. The Board has been functioning since 1970. The agreement of 1970 also stipulated for its review after a period of 30 years with effect from 9-11-1958 and once in every 30 years thereafter. Though the discussions between the Government of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, both at official and ministerial level, have been held, no consensus in the matter of the review of agreement could be reached. However, the Joint Water Regulation Board is functioning and there is no set back to the project on account of the differences between the two Governments on review of the agreement.

(c) and (d). Parambikulam-Aliyar Project has already been completed. Even the PAP Ayacut Extension Scheme taken up in 1979-80 is reported to have been completed in 1988 and only some payments on account of acquisition of land were pending.

(e) and (f). No Special Central Assistance has been made available to the State for execution of this project. The Central assistance in the form of Block Loans and Grants not tied to any project or programme. No funds have been sought by the State Government and made available for PAP since commencement of the VIII Plan. However, for PAP Extension Scheme, the expenditure during 92-93, 93-94 and 94-95 was Rs. 2.43 crores, Rs. 1.05 crores and Rs. 1.94 crores (anticipated) respectively.

Facilities in Central Government Hospitals

2893. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi lack in facilities besides ambulances and other equipments;

(b) if so, whether any in-depth study about the deficiencies in the facilities and equipment in various hospitals in Delhi has been made by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far to make the Hospitals self-sufficient and well-equipped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (c). Adequate medical facilities are available in Central Government Hospitals. However, upgradation of facilities in the Central Government hospitals is periodically undertaken keeping in view the availability of resources.

Reduction in Plan Outlay

2894. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a substantial reduction in Plan Outlay Irrigation Sector in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has extended financial support in the form of Additional Central Assistance to the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

N.H.P.P. in A.P.

2895. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects to be taken up in Andhra Pradesh under the National Hydrology Project Programme proposed to be taken up with World Bank assistance; and

(b) the target for completion of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Under the National Hydrology Project (renamed as Hydrology Project), the details of the Projects/programmes proposed to be taken up with World Bank assistance in Andhra Pradesh are as under :

- (i) Improvements to the observation systems;
- (ii) Establishment of interactive computerised data banks and interbank communication systems;
- (iii) Improvements in reservoir instrumentation and management;
- (iv) Improvements in the monitoring of return flows from selected irrigated command areas;
- (v) Real time water resources management by extending the flood warnings/forecasting system by supplementing five existing wireless stations which have been installed for flood management by 20 additional stations;
- (vi) Institutional strengthening activities;
- (vii) Procurement of equipment and material;

(b) These activities are proposed to be completed in a period of six years with the credit closing date of the Project as December 31, 2001.

Child Welfare Development Schemes

2896. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the aims and objectives of the Child Welfare Development Schemes and to what extent have those been achieved;

(b) the number of children benefited by these schemes; and

(c) whether any evaluation has been made of the Schemes to find out if the same is working properly and satisfactorily or there is need to tune it up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the aims and objectives of the major Child Welfare and Development Schemes and the

achievements thereunder in terms of number of beneficiaries is attached.

(c) The schemes are evaluated, reviewed and monitored from time to time by various agencies like National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child

Development etc. and improvements made wherever necessary. Besides, the Schemes are also reviewed during the Annual Plan discussions in the Planning Commission. In addition, the Five Year Plans are also reviewed by way of Mid-Term Appraisal.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of the Scheme | Aims/Objectives | No. of beneficiaries during 1995-96 |
|--------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. | To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0-6 years, to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child and to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and School drop-out by way of a package of services namely, supplementary nutrition, immunisation, health check-up, referral services, nutritional and health education and non-formal education. | 1.75 crores |
| 2. | Balwadi Nutrition Programme (BNP). | To improve the basic nutritional requirements of child in the age group of 3-5 years through a network of 5641 Balwadis. | 2.25 lakhs |
| 3. | Early Childhood Education (ECE) Scheme. | The Scheme functions as a distinct strategy to reduce the drop-out rate and to improve the rate of retention of children in schools. | 1.53 lakhs (approximately) |
| 4. | Creches/Day Care Centres | To provide Day Care Services to the children of the age group 0-5 years of mainly casual, migrant, agricultural and construction labourers. | 3.12 lakhs |
| 5. | National Creche Fund (NCF) | The National Creche Fund has been set up to meet the growing demand for Creches. | 0.31 lakh |
| 6. | National Children's Fund (NCF) | To mobilise the resources from the community and utilise the interest accruing from investment of these resources for financial assistance to NGOs for implementing schemes for welfare and development of children. | 15,000 (approximately) |
| 7. | Child Survival and Safe Motherhood (CSSM) Scheme | To reduce infant (0-1 year) and child (0-4 years) mortality by sustaining high coverage levels of immunization and by providing measures to prevent death due to diarrhoea and pneumonia. | 11.6 crores (approximately) |
| 8. | Scheme for Welfare of Street Children | To provide integrated community based non-institutional basic services for care, protection and development of street children facing destitution, neglect, abuse and exploitation. | Not available |
| 9. | National Child Labour Project Scheme. | To eliminate and rehabilitate the child labour engaged in hazardous occupations. | 1.5 lakhs |

Human Organs

2897. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned, "Paschim Bengal ke

'majdoor ko Mumbai le ja kar Gurda Nikal liya' appearing in 'Jansatta' on July 3, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number and details of such cases that have come to the notice of Government in 1995-96; and

(d) the effective steps taken or proposed to be taken to curb the trade in human organs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 came into force w.e.f. 4th Feb. 1995 in all the Union Territories and the States of Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Government of West Bengal have also adopted this act. There are sufficient provisions in the Act for punishment of persons dealing unlawfully in Human Organs. The main objective of the Act is to regulate the removal, storage and Transplantation of Human Organs for therapeutic purposes and for the prevention of commercial dealing in the Human Organs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. As the Act is applicable in the State of Maharashtra and West Bengal, those States are competent to take necessary action against the guilty persons.

Preservation and Promotion of Tribal Culture

2898. KUMARI FRIDA TOBNO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the rapid industrialisation in the tribal belt, there is influx of non-tribes which is creating threat to age old rich Tribal Culture;

(b) whether the Government have issued any guidelines or instructions to the Public and Private sectors towards Preservation and Promotion of Tribal Culture;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken by the owners/managers of these industries including all Steel Plants in the areas regarding safeguarding of Tribal culture; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) Threat to age old rich tribal culture comes from different sources. Therefore Govt. of India in the Department of culture have launched a scheme of Financial Assistance for promotion and dissemination of Tribal/folk Art and Culture under which Govt. gives grants to the Voluntary Organisations/Institutions/Individuals who are engaged in the field of preservation and promotion of Tribal Culture. In addition Govt. in the Ministry of Welfare has given grant on 50:50 basis to Tribal Research Institutes in the States of A.P., Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, M.P., Orissa, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Manipur to establish Museums or promotion and preservation of Tribal Culture.

(b) As per information available, Govt. have not issued any instructions to the Public and Private Sector

industries towards preservation and promotion of Tribal Culture. However, the working Group on Development and Welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the Ministry of Welfare during 8th Five Year Plan had recommended a number of steps for promotion and development of Tribal Culture.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Bridge on N.H.-8A

2899. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact Surajbari bridge on NH-8A (Ahmedabad to Kandla) connecting Saurashtra and Kutch on little Rann of Kutch is in a dilapidated condition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs.60.54 lakhs has been sanctioned, since 1989, for undertaking repair works of the bridge project in question in the Gujarat State. Further for the construction of a new bridge, survey and investigation works are now in progress.

[Translation]

Inter-State Projects

2900. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inter-State projects being monitored by the Union Government;

(b) whether Bansagar, Bhandar Canal, Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam, Tones lift Scheme and Kanhar Inter-State Projects are also being monitored by the Union Government;

(c) the date when each of these projects was cleared and the time period fixed for the completion of each of these projects;

(d) the economic and physical achievements of the above projects upto 31st March, 1996; and

(e) whether the Government propose to complete these projects at an early date by formulating phased programme and by providing necessary funds?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) In all, 14 Inter-State Irrigation Projects are being monitored by the Central Water Commission, an attached office of the Ministry of Water Resources.

(b) Out of five Projects name in the Question, only two Projects Bansagar and Mahi Bajaj Sagar are being monitored by Central Water Commission. Bhandar Canal Project has already been completed.

(c) Out of the above Projects Bansagar Dam, Bhandar Canal, Mahi Bajaj Sagar and Tones pump Canal Projects were given investment clearance by the Planning Commission in 1978, 1952, 1971 and 1969 respectively. While Bhandar Canal Scheme has already been completed, Bansagar Dam Project and Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project are likely to spill-over beyond 8th Plan.

(d) The financial and physical progress on these projects are as under :-

| Name of Project | Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crores) | Likely Expenditure upto March 1996 (Rs. in crpres) | Ultimate Irrigation potential (1000 hactares) | Irrigation potential likely to be created till March, 96 (1000 hactares) |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Bansagar Dam | 936.00 | 409.71 | 399.49 | Nil |
| Bhandar Canal | 13.38 | 6.68 | 44.50 | 44.50 |
| Mahi Bajaj Sagar | 587.55 | 491.89 | 123.50 | 88.11 |
| Tons Pump Canal | 35.19 | 34.27 | 33.15 | 30.14 |
| Kanhar | 174.27 | 39.51 | 33.13 | Nil |

(e) The completion of a project depends upon the inter-se priority given by the State Government. The Union Government has recently announced a scheme "Accelerated Irrigation benefit programme" to provide loans assistance to the States for completion of ongoing irrigation projects which conform to the guidelines formulated for the purpose. It is for the States to submit their proposals to Union Government for inclusion of the projects under the programme.

Funds for N.H. 16 - M.P.

2901. SHRI MAHENDRA KARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned for the broadening of Jagadapur-Bhopal-Patnam National Highway No.16 under district Bastar of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the progress made in this respect till now;

(c) the number of short and medium culverts on this highway; and

(d) whether any proposal for the construction of Mari River Bridge is under the consideration of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). A sum of Rs.105.84 lakhs has been sanctioned for widening of road from Km. 493 to 504 of National Highway-16 and the work stands completed. There are 52 medium bridges and 381 Nos. of culverts.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

Delivery of Passenger Vessel

2902. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a passenger vessel was ordered by A & N Administration at Hooghly Dock and Port, Calcutta, a Government of India Undertaking, a few years ago;

(b) whether the vessel has not been delivered so far;

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

(d) the time by which the said vessel is likely to be delivered?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The delay in construction/delivery of the vessel is primarily due to the following reasons:-

(i) Delay in finalisation of General Arrangement Plan.

(ii) Delay in selection of Main Propulsion Engine & Generator Set.

(iii) Ground sinkage in the slipway at HDPE.

(iv) Devaluation of rupee in April and June, 1991.

(v) Escalation in the cost of vessel due to time over-run.

(vi) Acute cash flow problem experienced by HDPE.

(d) The vessel is expected to be delivered within a period of two years after the approval of Revised Cost Estimate.

Assistance to Indian Workers abroad

2903. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government provide legal/financial assistance to poor Indian workers especially in Gulf countries in the event of their accident/demise confinement/execution, while they are working abroad;

(b) the source of information/assistance provided to their relatives in India; and

(c) whether the Government have any programme to educate such people going to Gulf countries for employment and their relatives to overcome such incidental happenings?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) On receipt of information regarding accident/death of the Indian national abroad, the Indian Mission liaises with the family members and employer/ sponsor for medical assistance/return of the mortal remains to India. In case of arrest of an Indian national,

request is made to the host Government for seeking Consular access. The Consular Officer of the Indian Mission concerned visits the detainee and tries to ascertain grounds and circumstances leading to his arrest. Where necessary the Mission takes up the matter at a higher level with the host Government for speedy and fair trial of review of sentence. The Indian Mission makes all efforts to ensure effective legal defence is available to the prisoner as and where necessary. However, the cost of any legal representation must be borne by the person concerned. Depending upon the circumstances, financial assistance and advances can be provided to destitute and stranded Indians, on a case by case basis, by the Indian Mission.

(b) On receipt of information, the concerned Indian Mission either directly or through the Ministry of External Affairs informs the relatives of the Indian workers abroad of any information/problems concerning the workers.

(c) Government has not formal programme to educate person going to Gulf countries for employment and how to deal with problem which they might face abroad. However, all Indian Missions are in touch with the Indian community and are available to assist in the redressal of their grievances.

Pending Major Monuments in Rajasthan

2904. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BAHTI :

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

(a) the details of proposal for conservation of Major Monuments of Rajasthan pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) the reasons for not clearing them;

(c) the time by which Archeological Survey of India is likely to give clearance to such major monuments of Rajasthan; and

(d) the details of steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) to (d). Conservation of Centrally protected monuments in the State of Rajasthan is a continuous process. The monuments are inspected periodically by the Officers of the Circle/Branches/Headquarter and preservation of these monuments are carried out as per their priorities on the Archaeological principle. Three proposals are under different stages of scrutiny and will be disposed off, on their merits and receiving complete technical data. However, an amount of Rs.64.00 Lakhs has been earmarked to structural maintenance and conservation of the Centrally protected monuments in State of Rajasthan.

World Bank Aided Projects

2905. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status and details of the ongoing World bank aided National Bridge and Highway Projects in the country;

(b) whether there has been delay in execution of these projects and if so, the reasons therefore in each case.

(c) when each of these projects was launched and at what cost;

(d) the time by which each of these projects are likely to be completed with cost thereof; and

(e) the estimated cost overruns on account of delay in their execution and by whom it will be borne?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Presently one loan signed in June, 1992 amounting to US\$ 306 million, is under implementation with the assistance from World Bank. The details are given in statement attached.

(d) and (e). The target dates are also indicated in statement attached. It is too early to indicate the likely costs of completion and cost overrun.

STATEMENT

Second National Highway Project under World Bank Loan

(Ln-3470-IN/CH 2365-IN)

Loan amount : US \$ 306 Million
Date of Signing : 18.06.1992
Date of closing : June, 2001

Effective Date 31.08.1992

(Amount in Rs. crores)

| S. No. | State | NH. No. | Name of Project | Length in Km. | Sanctioned Cost (Rs. Crores) | Present Progress | Target Date of completion | Project running behind schedule & reasons therefor |
|--------|---------|---------|--|---------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Haryana | 1 | 4-laning between Karnal & Ambala Km 132.88-212.16 (NH.1) | 79.50 | 287.22 | Works Commenced in Jan.1995 Progress-18% | July, 1998 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|----|----------------|-------|--|-------|---------|--|----------------|---|
| 2. | Punjab | 1 | 4-laning between Sirhind and Punjab/Haryana Border KM 212.2 to 252.25 of NH-1 | 40.00 | 199.500 | Works commenced in Jan.1995 progress-25% | July, 1998 | |
| 3. | Orissa | 5 | 5-laning of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar Section of NH-5 (Km.0.0 to 27.8) | 27.80 | 218.41 | Works commenced in Jan. 1995 progress-13% | August 1998 | (i) Shifting of water mains (ii) Removal of encroachments and cutting trees |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 3 | (a) construction of Indore bypass, NH-3 | 31.40 | 73.44 | Pre-construction activities in progress. Tenders invited in Aug. 96. | December, 2000 | Delay in implementation of (i) pre-construction activities. (ii) delay in approval of fresh prequalification of contractors |
| | | | (b) 4-laning of Indore-Dewas Section of NH-3 (km.574.4 to 591.6) | 18.20 | 29.53 | Pre-construction activities in progress Tenders invited in Aug.96 | | |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 8 | 4-laning between Bassein Greek and Manor Km.439 to 497 (NH-8) | 58.00 | 117.73 | Pre-construction activities in progress. Tenders invited in Aug.96. | December 2000 | (i) Delay in project pre-preparation (ii) Delay in acquisition of forest land and Cutting of trees (iii) Delay in approval of fresh prequalification of contractors |
| 6. | West-Bengal | 2 | 4-laning between Raniganj and West Bengal/Bihar Border Km.438.6 to 474.0 of NH-2 | 35.40 | 88.27 | Pre-construction activities in progress. Tenders area to be invited. | December, 2000 | (i) Delay in project preparation and land acquisition (ii) Delay in finalisation R&R action plan as per World Bank guidelines |
| 7. | Orissa | State | Construction of 6 Road damaged State Road Bridges in Ganjam District | - | 32.5 | Works commenced in March, 1994 Progress-65% | December, 1996 | Due to unprecedented rains |

Simplification of Passport Procedures

2906. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have simplified the procedures for the expeditious issue of passports; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the changes incorporated?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several steps have been taken to simplify procedures with a view to issuing passports expeditiously. The major ones are : (a) upgradation of office facilities including computerisation leading to faster screening and processing of applications;

(b) simplification of passport and miscellaneous services forms; (c) issue of passports without any further wait for clearance in cases where police verification reports are not received within the prescribed time limit of four weeks; (d) thorough scrutiny of application at the acceptance stage itself to check their completeness and correctness in all respects; (e) augmentation of staff strength to reduce and clear pendencies; (f) provision to issue passports in cases of emergency/urgency on out of turn basis on the strength of Verification Certificate issued by an authorised official; and (g) expansion of the list of officials authorised to sign verification certificates.

In Addition, certain further efforts to streamline the issue of passports are being taken such as setting up Passport Advisory Committees, opening new offices and collection centres and increasing the size and validity period of passports.

National Commission of Women

2907. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt a policy for empowerment of women in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives;

(c) whether the National Commission of Women had submitted some demands for reservation of seats in teaching profession and in decision-making bodies of the country;

(d) whether the proposed policy will cover these demands; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the draft National Policy for the Empowerment of Women is attached as statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Paras 6 and 7 of the Draft Policy provide for taking measures and actions for empowering women and for their full participation in decision making.

STATEMENT

Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Women and Child Development

**National Policy for the Empowerment of Women
1996**

(Draft)

Introduction

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the

Indian Constitution in its Preamble. Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles.

Within the framework of a democratic polity, our laws, development policies, plans and programmes have aimed at women's advancement in different spheres. From the Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-78) onwards, there has been a marked shift in the approach to women's issues from welfare to development. In recent years, the empowerment of women has been recognised as the Central issue in determining the status of women. The National Commission for Women was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1990 to safeguard the rights and legal entitlements of women. The 73rd and 74th Amendments (1993) to the Constitution of India have provided for reservation of seats in the local bodies of Panchayats and municipalities for women, laying strong foundation for their participation in decision making at the local levels.

India has also ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments committing to secure equal rights for women. Key among them is the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW-1979) in 1993.

The Mexico Plan of Action (1975), the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies (1985), the Beijing Declaration as well as the platform for Action (1995), have been unreservedly endorsed by India for appropriate follow up.

The women's movement and a wide-spread network of non-Government Organisations which have strong grass-roots presence and deep insight into women's concerns have inspired many initiatives for the empowerment of women.

However, there still exists a wide gap between the goals enunciated in the Constitution, legislation, policies, plans, programmes, and related mechanisms on the one hand and the situational reality of the status of women in India, on the other. This has been analysed extensively in the Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India. "Towards Equality", 1974, and highlighted in the National Perspective Plan for Women, 1988-2000 and the Shramshakti Report, 1988.

Gender disparity manifest itself in various forms. the most obvious being the trend of continuously declining female ratio in the population in the last few decades. Social stereotyping and violence at the domestic and societal levels are some of the other manifestations. Discrimination against girl children adolescent girls and women still persists.

Consequently, the access of women - majority of whom are in the rural areas and in the informal, unorganised sector.. to education, health and productive resources, among others, is inadequate. Therefore, they remain largely marginalised, poor and socially excluded.

In this background, having taken stock of national and international developments and after a series of

consultations with Members of Parliament, State Governments, non-Governmental Organisations, Womens' Organisations, social activities, researches and other experts in the country, this Policy Xhabeen drawn up. The goal of this Policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women. This is to be achieved by changing societal attitudes and elimination of all forms of gender based discrimination, active participation of women in all spheres of life, incorporation of gender perspective, translation of de jure equality of women into defacto equality and affirmative action, as necessary.

The positive features of Indian culture and tradition which reiterate the dignity of and respect for women, will be reinforced in the endeavour to achieve social harmony. Through appropriate programmes, women and men will be made aware of their social responsibilities as change agents, their role as promoters of progressive values and respect for humanity will be emphasised therein.

The Policy will be widely disseminated so that a meaningful partnership is established with all sections of civil society, to achieve its goals.

2. Human Rights & Fundamental Freedoms

The de jure and defacto enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women on an equal basis with men shall be ensured both in letter and in spirit and all factors which impede the realization of such rights and freedoms eliminated.

3. Elimination of Violence against Women

All forms of violence against women, physical and mental, whether at domestic or societal levels, particularly sexual abuse and violence, including through recourse to customs, traditions or practices, shall be eliminated. Mechanisms/schemes for assistance will be created and strengthened for the rehabilitation of the victims of violence. Institutions and mechanisms responsible for elimination of violence against women and taking action against the perpetrators of such violence will be strengthened.

4. Ending Discrimination Against Women

Recognising the equal entitlement of women and men to human rights and fundamental freedoms in all spheres, political, economic, social, cultural, civil etc. no discrimination shall be allowed in law or practice against women. Equal rights for women will be ensured in respect of access to health care, quality education at all levels, career and vocational guidance, employment, equal remuneration, occupational health and safety, social security and public office.

5. Elimination of Discrimination against and Violation of the Rights of the Girl Child

All forms of discrimination against the girl child and

violation of her rights shall be eliminated by undertaking strong measures including punitive ones. These relate to strict enforcement of laws against pre-natal sex selection and foeticide, female infanticide, child marriage, child abuse and child prostitution. Removal of discrimination in the treatment of the girl child in the family and outside and projection of a positive image of the girl child will be actively fostered. There will be special emphasis on the needs of the girl child and earmarking of substantial investments in the areas relating to food and nutrition, health and education, including vocational education. In implementing programmes for eliminating child labour, there will be a special focus on girl children.

6. Empowerment of Women

A synergy of development measures will be effected and affirmative action designed for the holistic empowerment of women. Women will be given complete and equal access to and control over factors contributing to such empowerment, particularly, health, education, information, life long learning for self-development, vocational skills, employment and income earning opportunities, technical services, land and other forms of property, including through inheritance and matrimony, common property resources, credit, technology and markets etc.

7. Women in Decision Making

Women's equality in power sharing and active participation in decision making, including political decision making at all levels and in all processes will be ensured for the achievement of the goal of empowerment. All measures will be taken to guarantee women equal access to and full participation in all decision making bodies at every level, in the private and public sectors, including the legislative, executive, judicial, local, corporate, statutory bodies, as also advisory Commissions, Committees, Boards Trusts etc. Affirmative action, such as reservation/quotas including in higher legislative bodies, will be considered whenever necessary, on a time bound basis.

8. Women and the Development Process

Policies, programmes and systems will be established to ensure mainstreaming of women's perspectives in all development processes, as catalysts, participants and recipients Co-ordinating and monitoring mechanisms will be devised to assess from time to time the progress of such mainstreaming. Women's issues and concerns will as a result be specially addressed and reflected in all concerned laws, sectoral policies, plans and programmes of action.

9. Sensitization to Women's Issues

Specially planned and Well funded sensitization programmes will be conducted on a regular basis for all sections of society. There will be special focus on

functionaries of the State in the executive, legislative and judicial wings and in all development agencies, governmental and non-governmental. These programmes will be, in a phased manner, integrated as part of all on-going training programmes, both in the public and the private sectors.

10. Women and Mass Media

Media will be used to portray a positive image of girls and women. It will strive to remove demeaning, degrading and negative, conventional stereotypical images of women and violence against women. Legislation media policies and regulatory mechanisms, including codes of conduct etc. will be put in place to address these aspects.

11. Eradicating Poverty and Ensuring Provision of Women's Basic Needs :

11.1 Poverty Eradication

Since women comprise the majority of people below the poverty line and are very often in situations of extreme poverty, given the harsh realities of intra-household and social discrimination, macro economic policies and poverty eradication programmes will specifically address the needs and problems of such women. There will be improved implementation of such programmes as are already women oriented or have special targets for women. New programmes will be devised, based on mobilization of poor women and convergence of services, by offering them a range of economic and social options, alongwith necessary support services to enhance their capabilities.

11.2 Food Security

In order to satisfactorily cater to the nutritional needs and requirements of households, the Public Distribution System will be strengthened. Intra-household discrimination in this regard vis-a-vis girls and women will be sought to be ended through appropriate strategies. Women's participation will also be ensured in the planning, superintendence and delivery of the system.

11.3 Housing and Shelter

Women's perspectives will be included in housing policies, planning of housing colonies and provision of shelter both in rural and urban areas. Special attention will be given for providing adequate and safe housing and accommodation for women including single women, heads of households, working women, students, apprentices and trainees. This will be in the form of special facilities such as hostels, dormitories, short stay homes and reservation in housing colonies and townships etc.

11.4 Education

Equal access to education for women and girls will

be ensured. Measures will be taken to eliminate discrimination, universalise education, eradicate illiteracy, create a gender sensitive educational system, increase enrolment and retention rates of girls and improve the quality of education to facilitate life-long learning as well as development of occupation/vocation/technical skills by women. Sectoral time targets in existing policies will be achieved, with a special focus on girls and women.

11.5 Health

A holistic approach to women's health will be adopted and special attention will be given to the needs of women throughout their lives, including in terms of nutrition and basic services during infancy, childhood, adolescence, reproductive years and services during old age. Sectoral time targets in existing policies will be achieved with a special focus on girls and women.

11.6 Women and the Economy

Women's perspectives will be included in designing and implementing macro-economic and social policies by institutionalizing their participation in such processes.

Women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers will be recognised in the formal and informal sectors and appropriate policies related to employment and other working conditions will be drawn up.

There will be reinterpretation and redefinition of conventional concepts of work wherever necessary e.g. in the Census records, to reflect women's contribution as producers and workers.

Satellite Accounts will be prepared by Government, consistent with National Accounts to highlight women's work. This will be done by the development of appropriate methodologies.

11.7 Support Services

Support services for women, like child care facilities, including creches at work places and educational institutions, homes for the aged and the disabled will be expanded and improved. Women-friendly personnel policies will also be drawn up to encourage women to participate effectively in the developmental processes.

11.8 Drinking Water and Sanitation

Special attention will be given to the needs of women in the provision of safe drinking water, sewage disposal, toilet facilities and sanitation within accessible reach of households. Women's participation will be ensured in the planning, delivery and maintenance of such services.

12. Women and Environment

Women will be involved and their perspectives

reflected in the policies and programmes for eco-systems management. Considering the impact of environmental factors on their livelihoods and the distribution of labour and time within households, in connection with the collection of fuel and fodder, women's participation will be ensured in the conservation of the environment and control of environmental degradation.

13. Women and Science

Programmes will be strengthened to bring about a greater involvement of women in science and technology. These will include measures to motivate girls to take up science and technology for higher education and also ensure that development projects with scientific and technical inputs involve women fully. Efforts to develop a scientific temper and awareness will also be stepped up.

14. Needs of Specially Disadvantaged Women

In recognition of the diversity of women's situations and in acknowledgement of the needs of specially disadvantaged groups, measures and programmes will be established to provide them with special assistance. These groups include women in extreme poverty, women in conflict situations, women affected by natural calamities, women in less developed regions, dalits, tribals, minorities, the disabled, widows, elderly women, single women in difficult circumstances, women heading households, those displaced from employment, migrants, the internally displaced and prostitutes etc.

15. Resources

Additional resources for expanding and strengthening the existing institutions/mechanisms for women's development and empowerment will be provided. There will be an enhancement in the budgets for the Department of Women and Child Development and earmarking of funds for women in the budgets of Ministries/Departments implementing development programmes in different sectors like education, health, welfare, rural development, urban development, labour, agriculture, industry, science, and technology etc.

A synergistic modality of resource mobilisation will be effected to ensure flow of funds and related services from banking/financial institutions, corporate bodies and community organisations at the grass-roots level.

16. Involvement of NGOs

The involvement of voluntary organizations, associations, federations, trade unions, non-governmental organisations, women's organisations, as well as institutions, dealing with education, training and research, will be ensured in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and review of all policies and programmes affecting women. Towards this end, they will be provided with appropriate support related to resources and capacity building and facilitated to

participate actively in the process of the empowerment of women. Their participation in effecting societal reorientation towards women will also be ensured.

17. Gender Development Indices

Gender Development Indices will be developed by Government by networking with specialised agencies and be based on specially established criteria to support planning, implementing, monitoring, review and evaluation of laws, policies, plans, programmes and for determination of resource devolution from a gender just standpoint.

18. Gender Disaggregated Data

Gender disaggregated data will be collected by all primary data collecting agencies of the Central and State Governments as well as Research and Academic institutions in the public and private sector. Data and information gaps in vital areas reflecting the status of women will also be filled in by these Agencies.

All Ministries/Departments/Corporations/Banks and financial institutions etc. will collect, collate and maintain/publish data related to programmes and benefits on a gender disaggregated basis.

19. International Cooperation

International, regional and sub-regional cooperation towards the empowerment of women will continue to be encouraged, through sharing of experience, exchange of ideas and technology, networking with institutions and organisations and through bilateral and multi-lateral partnerships.

PART-II

Strategies and Action Points

1. Grass-Roots Level

At the grass-roots, women will be helped by Government through its programmes to organize into self-help groups at the Anganwadi/Village/Town Level. Existing women's groups and women's organisations working at the grass-roots level will also be appropriately strengthened. The women's groups will be helped to institutionalize themselves into registered societies and to federate at the Panchayat/Municipal level. These societies will bring about synergistic implementation of all the social and economic development programmes by drawing resources made available through Government and non-Government channels, including banks and financial institutions and by establishing a close interface with the Panchayats/Municipalities.

2. District and Sub-District Levels

At the District and Sub-District levels, the services of the existing agencies, Zilla Parshads/District Rural Development Agencies/Municipal Bodies will be

available to the womens' groups for co-ordination and facilitating smooth flow of resources for the advancement and empowerment of women.

3. State and National Levels

- 3.1 At the National and State levels there will be Councils for the Empowerment of Women to review implementation of recommendations of National and State Commissions for women and to give broad policy advice, guidance and direction; these National and State Councils will also oversee the operationalisation of the Policy on a regular basis. The National Council will be headed by the Prime Minister and the State Councils by the Chief Ministers. The Councils will be broad in their composition, having representatives from the concerned Departments/Ministries, National and State Commissions for Women, Social Welfare Boards, representatives of Non-Government Organisations, Womens Organisations, Corporate Sector, Trade Unions, financing institutions, academics, experts and social activities etc.
- 3.2 All Central and State Ministries will draw up time bound Action Plans for translating the Policy into a set of concrete actions, in consultation with Centre/State Departments of Women and Child Development and National/State Commissions for Women. These Action Plans will be reviewed at regular intervals. The Plans will specifically include the following.
 - 3.2.1. Commitment of resources for women in key sectors relating to education, vocational training, employment and income generation, health, all support services, gender sensitization programmes and information dissemination etc.
 - 3.2.2. Time targets to achieve the mandates, strategies and action points of the Policy, for the short term and the long term after determining relevant priorities.
 - 3.2.3. Fixing up responsibilities for implementation of action points.
 - 3.2.4. Structures and mechanisms to ensure efficient implementation, monitoring and review of action points.
- 3.3. To ensure mainstreaming of women's concerns and issues, every Ministry/Department of the Centre/State will provide for the equal participation of women in their programmes/activities, as catalysts, participants and recipients.
- 3.4. The National Development Council will review all development programmes and targets on the basis of gender disaggregated data and

ensure, with the support of the Planning Commission, flow of funds for programmes undertaken for women in various sectors.

- 3.5. Planning Commission/State Planning Boards/ Commissions, will ensure that the Central and State Governments identify separately, specific physical and financial resources for women and men, in all sectors, particularly in health, nutrition, education, housing, water, sanitation, environmental conservation, training, skill development and employment/income generation in agriculture, industries and allied sectors.
- 3.6. Every Ministry/Department at the Centre/State will ensure equal flow of benefits in physical and financial terms to women, including specially disadvantaged groups of women, through their different plans and programmes, executed directly, or through autonomous organisations and public undertakings working under it and will report annually to Parliament/ State Legislatures in this regard.
- 3.7. To affirm the full and equal participation of women of all sections and categories and to ensure their rights, equal access and equal control over resources, the following will be undertaken :
 - 3.7.1. All existing laws, including personal, customary and tribal laws, subordinate legislation, related rules as well as executive administrative regulations, will be reviewed in consultation with the National/State Commission for Women.
 - 3.7.2. All new laws, subordinate legislation, related rules as well as executive and administrative regulations will be formulated with a gender perspective.
 - 3.7.3. All existing policies, including sectoral policies, plans and programmes will be reviewed.
 - 3.7.4. All new policies, including sectoral policies, plans and programmes will be formulated with a gender perspective.
- 3.8. The contribution of all sectoral policies, plans and programmes to the development, advancement and empowerment of women, will be subject to Parliamentary and Legislative review by appropriate mechanisms and structures to be created in Parliament and in State Legislatures. Suitable structures and processes will also be created in Panchayats and Municipalities to enable them to oversee and monitor the implementation of sectoral policies on women.
- 3.9. Women's rights will be guaranteed by strict enforcement of all relevant legal provisions and speedy redressal of grievances, with a special

focus on violence and gender related atrocities. Measures will also be taken to prevent and punish sexual harassment at the place of work.

- 3.10 Crimes against women, their incidence, prevention, investigation, detection and prosecution will be regularly reviewed at all Crime Review Fora and Conferences at the Central, State and District levels and by the Home Ministry/Department.
- 3.11 Recognised, local, voluntary organisations will be authorised to lodge complaints and facilitate registration, investigation and legal proceedings related to violence and atrocities against girls and women.
- 3.12 There will be strengthening and expansion of Women's Cells in Police Stations, All Women Police Stations, Family Courts, Mahila Courts, Counselling Centres, Legal Aid Centres and Nyaya Panchayats, to eliminate violence and atrocities against women.
- 3.13 There will be widespread dissemination of information on all aspects of legal rights, human rights and other entitlements of women, through specially designed legal literacy programmes and rights information programmes. Legal literacy will also be included in the academic curricula of schools and colleges.
- 3.14 All steps will be taken to protect the interests of the girl-child and adolescent girls according to the Convention on Rights of the Child and the Decadal National/State Plans of Action for the Girl-Child.
- 3.15 There will be affirmative action, by way of reservations and quotas, as may be considered appropriate, in all bodies of the public and private sector, including the law making bodies, to facilitate active power-sharing by women and their meaningful participations in decision making at all levels.
- 3.16 Gender Sensitization programmes will include :
 - 3.16.1 Training of personnel of executive, legislative and judicial wings of the State, with a special focus on policy and programme framers, implementation and development agencies, law enforcement machinery and the judiciary, as well as non-governmental organisations.
 - 3.16.2 Societal awareness to gender issues and women's human rights.
 - 3.16.3 Review of curriculum and educational materials to include gender education and human right issues.
 - 3.16.4 Removal of all references derogatory to the dignity of women from all public documents and legal instruments.
- 3.16.5 Use of different forms of mass media to communicate social messages relating to women's equality and empowerment.
- 3.17 There will be strict enforcement of laws and codes of conduct relating to positive portrayal of women in the mass-media, so that commodification of women and demeaning images of women are effectively checked. Suitable measures will be considered to check public utterances derogatory to the dignity of women.
- 3.18 To ensure that women are provided with all support services, drinking water, and sanitation, sectoral policies will be suitably reviewed and amended.
- 3.19 To improve the nutritional status of girls and women and provide them with food security, awareness generation and other related programmes will be strengthened.
- 3.20 Women will be actively associated in the conservation of the environment and in the management of common property resources specially relating to fuel and fodder collections so as to utilise them optimally and in a sustainable manner.
- 3.21 Labour protection for women workers in the organised and unorganised sector will be ensured. There will be strict enforcement of relevant laws such as Equal Remuneration Act and Minimum Wages Act, scientific measurement of women's work for determination of their wages and review of all labour legislation from a gender just standpoint.
- 3.22 Skills related to technology management will be imparted to women through appropriate programmes, governmental and non-governmental so as to enable them to utilise effectively, among others, infrastructure/services provided by development projects, e.g. those relating to provision of drinking water, irrigation, non-conventional energy sources etc.
- 3.23 The progress in the advancement of the status of women will be reviewed once in five years. These reviews will be based on objective criteria and Gender Development Indices (GDIs), and also carry Situational Profiles on the status of women at the National and State levels. These reviews will coincide with the Five Year Plans. Appraisals at shorter interval than five years may also be undertaken, as may be required from time to time.
- 3.24 To analyse and study relevant Gender Development indices, gender auditing and evaluation mechanisms will be established information derived therefrom will be widely disseminated.

3.25 National and State Resource Centres will be established with mandates for collection and dissemination of information undertaking research work, conducting surveys, implementing training and awareness generation programmes, etc. These Centres will link up with Womens' Studies Centres and other research and academic institutions through suitable information networking systems.

3.26 Institutional mechanisms which exist at the Central and State levels, to promote the advancement of women, will be strengthened. These will be through interventions as may be appropriate and will relate to, among others, provision of adequate resources, staff training and advocacy skills to effectively influence macro-policies, legislations, programmes etc., to achieve the empowerment of women.

[Translation]

Dispute Over Irrigation Projects

2908. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the disputes among various States over some irrigation projects and also of the differences among various Departments of the Union Government;

(b) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to monitor all the irrigation projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). There are disputes on different issues among participating States over some Irrigation Projects. The Union Government makes efforts to resolve these disputes through negotiations and meetings at different levels. There are no differences among various departments of the Union Government in respect of Irrigation projects.

(c) All on-going major irrigation projects and some selected medium irrigation projects are monitored by the Central Water Commission of the Union Ministry of Water Resources.

Passport Office in Jammu

2909. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a permanent passport office in Jammu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). A Passport Office was opened at Jammu in March, 1993 and has been functioning there since then. The possibility of opening an office in Srinagar will be examined soon. In the meantime, a Collection Centre is functioning in Srinagar.

Use of Water in Maharashtra

2910. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to make the Nar-Par West flowing rivers east flowing in Maharashtra as their waters goes waste unused in Arabian sea;

(b) whether the famine-prone areas will be benefited at large scale after making these rivers east-flowing by construction of big dams on these two rivers;

(c) the details of the action being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if no action is being taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No such proposal has been received in the Central Water Commission.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[English]

Conversion of State Highway No.11

2911. SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from Members of Parliament regarding conversion of State Highway No.11 from Rohtak to Luthiana via Jind and Sangrur as a National Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One representation in this regard has been received.

(c) Due to paucity of funds for the development of National Highway during the 8th Plan, it has not been possible to declare this road as a National Highway.

[Translation]

Inadequate Budget Allocations

2912. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether inadequate funds has been allotted for the Department of Defence in the Budget presented recently;

(b) whether the issue of huge expenditure incurred by the neighbouring countries on the Department of Defence is being ignored by the Government; and

(c) the steps likely to be taken by Government to equip the army with modernised aircrafts, weapons etc., to meet the security thereof by neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The requirement of funds is projected by the Ministry of Defence to the Ministry of Finance, which decides on the actual allocation for the year, keeping in view the overall availability of national resources, national security and the requirements of different sectors. Ministry of Defence had projected a requirement of Rs.31925.61 crores for Defence allocation for the year 1996-97 against which the allocation presented by the Finance Minister in the Budget 1996-97 provides Rs.27819 crores for Defence.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Having regard to the developments in the neighbouring countries, all efforts are being made to equip the Army with the required equipment and weapon systems to meet our security concerns.

[English]

Laws for the Use of Basin River Water

2913. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a law prohibiting the use of water of one river basin in a neighbouring river basin;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the Act to facilitate diversion of water to help the drought prone areas to fill in water in their tanks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Medical Colleges

2914. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to a study conducted by the AIIMS, majority of the country's medical colleges are imparting sub-standard medical training;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Such a study conducted by the All

India Institute of Medical Sciences has come to notice of the Government.

(b) The methodology adopted and conclusions arrived are yet to be evaluated by the Medical Council of India;

(c) Medical Council of India conducts periodical inspection of medical colleges to assess the standards of medical education imported. Under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 as amended prior permission of Central Government is required for opening a new college, increase of seats and opening higher courses of study.

Four Lane N.H. in Kerala

2915. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Edappally-Kanyakumari four lane Highway will be completed in the stipulated time;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to have such a four lane Highway in the Northern part of Kerala;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the project of Kanyakumari-Bombay Highway will be taken up in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Edappally to Shertalai of NH 47 is being four laned, for which the target date of completion of 14-9-97, has been revised to 14-7-1998, due to unprecedented rains and extended monsoon.

(c) to (f). Due to paucity of funds and considering inter-se priority of four laning of National Highways in the country, no other proposal for four laning has been considered in Kerala State.

Bridge on N.H.-8 in Gujarat

2916. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problem faced by the traffic due to a bottleneck at Watrak Bridge near Kheda on N.H.-8 in Gujarat;

(b) whether there is a provision of construction of new bridge to remove this bottleneck;

(c) if so, the details thereof and in which development plan it was included; and

(d) the present status of the case?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). The existing Watrak Bridge near Kheda on N.H.8 is catering to two lane traffic. To meet the growing traffic needs an additional Watrak Bridge on the proposed re-aligned bypass has been approved. Due to paucity of funds, the proposal is to be taken up on Build-Operate-Transfer basis.

Loading & Unloading Process at Ports

2917. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether goods meant for exports from the country are delayed enroute to ports due to obsolete loading and unloading process;

(b) whether the Government have taken any measures to expedite movement of goods right from the facility till its final despatch to the various destinations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Harassment of Indian Labourers Abroad

2918. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any data in regard to complaints of harassment of Indian labourers working abroad;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received during the last three years;

(c) the reaction of the Government on those complaints; and

(d) the number of such Indian labourers brought back to the country during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The information regarding complaints of harassment of Indian labourers working abroad received during the years 1993 & 1994 is given in the statement enclosed. The information for the year 1995 is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Indian Missions receive, from time to time, complaints regarding harassment of Indian labourers. The Mission at first tries to resolve the difference between the aggrieved worker and the employer through a mutually acceptable solution. Wherever necessary, the cases are taken up with the concerned authorities of the foreign Government. Where no alternative or solution is possible, all assistance is given to facilitate repatriation of the aggrieved worker.

(d) The information regarding number of Indian labourers brought back to India during 1993 & 1994 is given in the statement enclosed. The information for the year 1995 is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

| Country | No. of Complaints of harassment of Indian Labourers working abroad | | No. of Indian Labourers brought back to India | |
|-------------------------|--|------|---|-------|
| | 1993 | 1994 | 1993 | 1994 |
| 1. Bahrain | 430 | 292 | 370 | 541 |
| 2. Bhutan | 6 | 83 | Nil | Nil |
| 3. Cyprus | 1 | 1 | 27 | 20 |
| 4. Hong Kong | Nil | 6 | Nil | Nil |
| 5. Jordan | 1 | 1 | 31 | 94 |
| 6. Kenya | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 7. Kuwait | 2373 | 1334 | 910 | 395 |
| 8. Lebanon | 2 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| 9. Libya | 5 | 7 | Nil | Nil |
| 10. Malaysia | Nil | 3 | Nil | 3 |
| 11. Maldives | 59 | 43 | 12 | 43 |
| 12. Mauritius | 11 | 8 | Nil | Nil |
| 13. Nepal | 54 | 42 | Nil | Nil |
| 14. Oman | 803 | 672 | 89 | 76 |
| 15. Qatar | 464 | 663 | 434 | 363 |
| 16. Saudi Arabia | 4903 | 6143 | 13252 | 16547 |
| 17. Seychelles | 2 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. Singapore | 9 | 11 | 5 | 1 |
| 19. U.A.E. | 170 | 179 | 2595 | 3036 |
| 20. Yemen (Republic of) | 1 | 1 | Nil | 1 |

[Translation]

Projects of N.C.R.

2919. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects for National Capital region of Delhi related to his Ministry are lying pending with the Union Government for getting approval till date;

(b) if so, the project-wise details thereof as on date alongwith the date since when these projects are lying pending;

(c) the estimated cost of these projects;

(d) the time by which these projects will be accorded approval; and

(e) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

*[English]***Conversion of Cochin Port**

2920. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to convert the Cochin Port into a container transshipment port;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and total estimated cost involved;

(c) whether any other Port also is proposed to be converted into a container transshipment Port; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Cochin and Tuticorin Ports have been requested to undertake feasibility studies for construction of modern container terminals, which can also be used as transshipment ports.

(c) and (d). There is no other proposal.

Death of Haj Pilgrims

2921. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Haj pilgrims who died during the pilgrimage during the last three years;

(b) whether the dead bodies were handed over to the next of kin or relatives or were disposed of by the authorities themselves and the details thereof; and

(c) whether any help, monetary or otherwise, was provided by our Consulate, Haj Committee and our other officials and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The total number of Indian Haj pilgrims who died during the pilgrimage in the last three years is as follows:

| | | | | |
|-----|---|------|---|-----|
| Haj | - | 1994 | : | 80 |
| Haj | - | 1995 | : | 79 |
| Haj | - | 1996 | : | 120 |

(b) It has invariably been the practice for deceased Indian pilgrims to be buried in Makkah/Madina in the presence of their relations or acquaintances accompanying them during the Haj pilgrimage. There has been no case of a request being made for transportation of a dead body to India in case of death during the holy pilgrimage.

(c) All expenses on account of burials during the pilgrimage are met by the Haj authorities in Saudi Arabia. The Consulate General of India renders assistance as necessary, informs the next of kin in India, issues the death certificate, retrieves the belongings of the deceased and arranges to send them to India, expenses on which are borne by the Central Haj Committee.

Refund of one way pilgrim air fare is made by the Central Haj Committee.

Delay in Berthing the Oil Tankers

2922. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "port delays, confusion, dearer petroleum" appearing in the 'The Hindu Business Line', New Delhi dated 9th July, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein as per his Ministry's information;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the measures being taken to eliminate chronic delays in berthing the oil tankers at Indian Ports and payment of huge demurrage and hiked transportation charged/caused by the sheer lack of planning?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Development of Navigation

2923. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any inland (river) navigation has been developed in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, there are any prospects of developing inland navigation on the Narmada river in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the last three years, developmental activities have been carried out on three National Waterways viz. Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System, River Brahmaputra and West Coast Canal. Fairway has been provided alongwith channel marking pilotage and terminal facilities on these waterways.

(c) and (d). Two studies have been carried out on the navigational potential of the stretch from Hoshangabad to the Sea (640 kms) in river Narmada. Navigation will have to be studied again after construction of four major dams viz. Sardar Sarovar Dam, Maheshwar Dam, Omreshwar Dam and Narmada Sagar Dam is complete. Besides, Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal has also not allocated any water for navigation downstream of Sardar Sarovar Dam. Therefore, at presently, the navigational potential of river Narmada is not established.

Srisailem Left Bank Canal

2924. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Srisailem Left Bank Canal Scheme is pending before the Central Government;

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

(c) the steps being taken for its early clearance?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The project at an estimated cost of Rs.480.00 crores was received in CWC in February, 1985. On examination, it was found that the project was based on surplus flow in Krishna river over and above its share in water at 75% dependability, the availability of which is not certain. Accordingly, the State Government was requested in August, 1986 to submit modified report after establishing availability of water on long terms basis. State Government submitted updated estimate at Rs.967.00 crores in March, 1993 without establishing availability of water on long term basis. The State Government was again requested in May, 1993 to establish water availability on long term basis. It has also been suggested to the State Government either to obtain the concurrence of the Krishna basin states or formulate a well substantiated project document for modernisation of existing schemes in the basin to save the required quantity of water for this project and establish techno-economic viability thereof.

(c) The clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of Central Appraising Agencies and obtains clearances from the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Ministry of Welfare as required.

Improved Indo-Pak Cultural Relations

2925. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to improve Indo-Pak cultural relations; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Governments of both the countries in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Government of India is of the view that enhanced people-to-people contacts including cultural exchanges etc. between India and Pakistan would help in promoting better understanding between the two countries.

(b) The approach of Government of India is to pursue liberalised visa policy for Pak Nationals, including intellectuals, scholars, sportsmen, artists etc., desirous of visiting India. Regrettably the Government of

Pakistan follows restrictive visa regime for all Indian Nationals visiting Pakistan. Government of India hope that Government of Pakistan would also take measures to facilitate people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges.

Utilising of Rain Water

2926. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are encouraging researches for utilising the hitherto unutilised rain water for solving the water shortages in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any technique exists for utilising the rain water, the extend of its application in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The research schemes being encouraged for utilising rain water include schemes on ground water recharge, development of integrated watershed management models and other storage facilities.

(c) Full utilisation of rain water is not possible due to evaporation and vegetative (transpiration) losses and due to allowing certain amount of water to flow in the river for maintaining the river regime. However, through large and small dams and reservoirs, storage can be created on the river systems to store a limited quantity of rain water. Out of a total available utilisable water of 1142 billion cubic metres in the country, the present (1994) utilisation of water (surface and ground) is about 606 billion cubic metres i.e. 53% leaving 536 billion cubic metres of utilisable water as unutilised.

[Translation]

Nehru Yuva Kendra, Bihar

2927. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to open a Nehru Yuva Kendra at Garhwa district in Bihar is under consideration;

(b) if so, the time by which the Kendra is likely to be opened;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITAHAN R.) : (a) to (c). Nehru Yuva Kendra at Garhwa (Bihar) has already been opened.

Funds have been released to them during the current financial year. Posts of one Youth Co-ordinator, one Accounts Clerk-cum-Typist and one Group 'D' stand approved.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Youth Council

2928. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to form Youth Council from National level to the local level; and

(b) if so, whether these Youth Councils will enjoy any statutory power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITAHAN R.) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Funds for Indian Hockey Federation

2929. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Hockey federation does not have adequate funds to provide uniforms and playing gear to our olympic team and has to depend on the multinational shoe company "Reebok" for the equipment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITAHAN R.) : (a) No, Sir. The Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) had funds to provide uniforms and playing kits to country's Olympic Hockey team. The IHF has entered into a sponsorship agreement with the multinational Shoe Company 'Reebok' which had provided the playing equipment to the Hockey Team for the Atlanta Olympics.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Funds to Social Service Organisations

2930. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total grant extended to social service organisation during the last year;

(b) the names of organisations and heads under which these received such grants; and

(c) the details of the organisations found involved in the misappropriation of grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). Financial assistance to social service organisations is given by the Government through a large number of Ministries/Departments. Details of such grants and the organisations founds involved in the misappropriation of grants are not maintained centrally. However, the Annual Reports of various Ministries/Departments generally contain the details of grants of Rupees on lakh and above. These Annual Reports are circulated to the Hon'ble Members of Parliament and also placed in the Parliament Library.

Supply of Drinking Water in CGHS Dispensaries

2931. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dispensaries under C.G.H.S. and their residential complexes in Delhi have their own arrangements for supply of drinking water; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the arrangements made and the technique followed in filtering and disinfecting of water consumed for drinking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir. The drinking water is being supplied to them by New Delhi Municipal Council or Municipal Corporation of Delhi, depending upon the locality.

(b) The question does not arise.

Technical and Vocational Institutions

2932. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more technical and vocational institutions in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has accorded conditional approval to Ranchi College of Pharmacy, Ranchi and Kishanganj Pharmacy College, Kishanganj to conduct D. Pharma course for the session 1996-97. A Centrally sponsored scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education launched in February, 1988 is being implemented through State

Governments/Union Territories including Bihar at +2 level. Under the scheme, so far 753 vocational sections in 251 schools have been sanctioned to Government of Bihar.

[English]

Sainik Schools

2933. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Sainik Schools in the country and the location thereof?

(b) the number of students studying in each school;

(c) the number of students who got admission to National Defence Academy from each of school for the past three years;

(d) whether education in Sainik Schools are being evaluated and whether the results are as expected viz-a-viz the goal of such schools; and

(e) the total expenditure incurred on Sainik Schools during the past three years, school-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) There are 18 Sainik Schools at locations given in Statement-I attached.

(b) The requisite information is placed at statement-II attached.

(c) The requisite information is placed at statement-III attached.

(d) Performance review of Sainik Schools is done regularly. Since the goals of the Sainik Schools are also to develop good and useful citizens and to bring public school education within the reach of the common man, in addition to the goal of preparing boys for entry into the Defence Services, the results are considered to be satisfactory.

(e) The requisite information is given in the statement-IV attached.

STATEMENT-I

| S. No. | Name of Sainik School and its location | Year of establishment |
|--------|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Sainik School Satara, Maharashtra | June 1961 |
| 2. | Sainik School Kunjpura, Karnal, Haryana | July 1961 |
| 3. | Sainik School Kapurthala, Punjab | July 1961 |
| 4. | Sainik School Balachadi, Jamnagar, Gujarat | July 1961 |
| 5. | Sainik School Chittorgarh, Rajasthan | August 1961 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|--|----------------|
| 6. | Sainik School Korukonda, Andhra Pradesh | January 1962 |
| 7. | Sainik School Kazhakootam, Kerala | January 1962 |
| 8. | Sainik School Purulia, West Bengal | January 1962 |
| 9. | Sainik School Bhubaneswar, Orissa | February 1962 |
| 10. | Sainik School Amravathinagar, Tamil Nadu | July 1962 |
| 11. | Sainik School Rewa, Madhya Pradesh | July 1962 |
| 12. | Sainik School Tilaiya, Bihar | September 1963 |
| 13. | Sainik School Bijapur, Karnataka | September 1963 |
| 14. | Sainik School Goalpara, Assam | November 1964 |
| 15. | Sainik School Ghorakhal, Nainital, Uttar Pradesh | March 1966 |
| 16. | Sainik School Nagrota, Jammu & Kashmir | August 1970 |
| 17. | Sainik School Imphal, Manipur | October 1971 |
| 18. | Sainik School Sujampur Tira, Himachal Pradesh | July 1978 |

STATEMENT-II

| S.No. | Name of Sainik School | Number of Students |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Amravathinagar | 626 |
| 2. | Balachadi | 608 |
| 3. | Bijapur | 632 |
| 4. | Bhubaneswar | 648 |
| 5. | Chittorgarh | 530 |
| 6. | Ghorakhal | 488 |
| 7. | Goalpara | 670 |
| 8. | Imphal | 504 |
| 9. | Kapurthala | 617 |
| 10. | Kazakootam | 620 |
| 11. | Korukonda | 570 |
| 12. | Kunjpura | 596 |
| 13. | Nagrota | 474 |
| 14. | Purulia | 544 |
| 15. | Rewa | 493 |
| 16. | Satara | 622 |
| 17. | Sujanpur Tira | 466 |
| 18. | Tilaiya | 907 |

STATEMENT-III

*Number of Students who got admission into NDA
from Sainik Schools*

| S. No. | Name of Sainik School | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
|---------|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| 1. | Amravathinagar | 01 | 03 | 02 |
| 2. | Balachadi | 01 | 00 | 00 |
| 3. | Bhubaneswar | 03 | 02 | 02 |
| 4. | Bijapur | 10 | 02 | 01 |
| 5. | Chittorgarh | 02 | 00 | 04 |
| 6. | Ghorakhal | 04 | 05 | 03 |
| 7. | Goalpara | 00 | 01 | 03 |
| 8. | Imphal | 00 | 02 | 08 |
| 9. | Kapurthala | 04 | 02 | 02 |
| 10. | Kazakootam | 01 | 04 | 04 |
| 11. | Korukonda | 04 | 00 | 05 |
| 12. | Kunjpura | 09 | 08 | 10 |
| 13. | Nagrota | 00 | 00 | 02 |
| 14. | Purulia | 04 | 00 | 03 |
| 15. | Rewa | 08 | 02 | 05 |
| 16. | Satara | 04 | 09 | 10 |
| 17. | Sujanpur Tira | 02 | 10 | 01 |
| 18. | Tilaiya | 05 | 04 | 08 |
| Total : | | 62 | 54 | 73 |

STATEMENT-IV

Amounts spent on Sainik Schools in MOD

(Figures in Rupees)

| S.No. | Name of Sainik School | FY 1993-94 | FY1994-95 | FY1995-96 |
|-------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Amravathinagar | 13,57,558 | 12,56,405 | 13,45,902 |
| 2. | Balachadi | 14,96,325 | 14,55,925 | 13,58,650 |
| 3. | Bijapur | 15,86,799 | 15,07,190 | 14,16,354 |
| 4. | Bhubaneswar | 12,83,817 | 11,40,812 | 10,41,552 |
| 5. | Chittorgarh | 14,14,038 | 12,52,834 | 10,19,276 |
| 6. | Ghorakhal | 13,62,190 | 12,85,737 | 11,42,286 |
| 7. | Goalpara | 12,16,476 | 10,68,320 | 9,02,372 |
| 8. | Imphal | 8,90,380 | 7,79,767 | 7,54,665 |
| 9. | Kapurthala | 12,51,022 | 11,95,597 | 10,35,227 |
| 10. | Kazakootam | 13,72,560 | 13,87,905 | 12,54,136 |
| 11. | Korukonda | 15,05,067 | 12,55,063 | 12,43,399 |
| 12. | Kunjpura | 15,29,162 | 13,89,126 | 11,90,752 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 13. | Nagrota | 11,41,700 | 10,58,750 | 9,12,700 |
| 14. | Purulia | 8,28,993 | 6,16,866 | 4,31,574 |
| 15. | Rewa | 12,12,700 | 11,33,050 | 10,41,800 |
| 16. | Satara | 16,89,926 | 15,32,726 | 13,05,873 |
| 17. | Sujanpur Tira | 12,15,012 | 11,43,711 | 10,86,997 |
| 18. | Tilaiya | 32,04,425 | 27,61,600 | 23,19,050 |
| Total | | 2,55,58,150 | 2,32,21,384 | 2,08,02,565 |

Sainik Schools

2934. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide assistance for setting up Sainik Schools in various parts of the country to meet requirement of trained youths to take up to military career;

(b) if so, the details of existing facilities-training network-and additional investment made for establishment of such facilities for youngsters in rural areas during the past three years with State-wise break up;

(c) the policy of the Government in this regard and fresh initiatives proposed to make military career for Indian youth more attractive; and

(d) whether Government of Maharashtra is to set up a number of Sainik Schools during the current year and the details thereof and the Central assistance likely to be made available for such programme of training youth of Military career?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c). Under the Sainik Schools scheme, a State Government has to send a firm proposal for opening of a new Sainik School. Under the scheme, the State Government has to provide required land, buildings with all facilities for a residential school and transport on as required basis. The Central Government besides providing Service personnel, scholarships to wards of serving/ex-servicemen also shares a part of the scholarship granted by the State Governments to its domicile students who are mostly from rural areas. In case any State Government sends a complete proposal, assistance as required under the Sainik Schools scheme can be provided. No such proposal is pending with this Ministry. There are already 18 sainik schools, as per Appendix 'A' in the country, one in each major State. The Services undertake recruitment drives and publicity to make the Services attractive.

(d) State level officials visited Sainik Schools, Satara (Maharashtra) to familiarise themselves with its functioning to formulate a similar routine for district-wise Sainik Schools to be set up by the Government of Maharashtra. This being a State venture, MOD has not been consulted.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of Sainik School and its location | Year of establishment |
|--------|--|-----------------------|
| 1. | Sainik School Satara, Maharashtra | June 1961 |
| 2. | Sainik School Kunjpura, Karnal, Haryana | July 1961 |
| 3. | Sainik School Kapurthala, Punjab | July 1961 |
| 4. | Sainik School Balachadi, Jamnagar, Gujarat | July 1961 |
| 5. | Sainik School Chittorgarh, Rajasthan | August 1961 |
| 6. | Sainik School Korukonda, Andhra Pradesh | January 1962 |
| 7. | Sainik School Kazhakootam, Kerala | January 1962 |
| 8. | Sainik School Purulia, West Bengal | January 1962 |
| 9. | Sainik School Bhubaneshwar, Orissa | February 1962 |
| 10. | Sainik School Amravathinagar, Tamil Nadu | July 1962 |
| 11. | Sainik School Rewa, Madhya Pradesh | July 1962 |
| 12. | Sainik School Tilaiya, Bihar | September 1963 |
| 13. | Sainik School Bijapur, Karnataka | September 1963 |
| 14. | Sainik School Goalpara, Assam | November 1964 |
| 15. | Sainik School Ghorakhal, Nainital, Uttar Pradesh | March 1966 |
| 16. | Sainik School Nagrota, Jammu & Kashmir | August 1970 |
| 17. | Sainik School Imphal, Manipur | October 1971 |
| 18. | Sainik School Sujampur Tira, Himachal Pradesh | July 1978 |

Veligonda Irrigation Project

2935. SHRIMATI M. PARVATI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any project report regarding Veligonda Irrigation Project in Andhra Pradesh was submitted by Andhra Pradesh Government to Government of India;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether the project has been cleared by the Central Water Commission and whether the Union Government have earmarked any funds for the same; and

(d) if so, the present position regarding this project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Project envisages utilisation of 43.5 thousand million cubic feet of Krishna water to irrigate a Culturable Command Area of 2,40,000 hectares at an estimated cost of Rs.978.96 Crores.

(c) and (d). The project has been received in Central Water Commission recently in March, 1996 for techno-economic examination. The clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observation of Central Appraising Agencies and obtains environment/forest/rehabilitation and resettlement clearances. No funds were allocated for the project in the VIII Plan and no expenditure has been incurred on the Project.

[Translation]

Constitution of Mahila Vikas Nigam in Maharashtra

2936. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Mahila Vikas Nigam' has been constituted in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the districts where the units thereof have been formed; and

(c) the works undertaken by the Nigam so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal Limited is working in the entire State of Maharashtra.

(c) The Corporation has taken up the following schemes for empowerment and economic development of women :

(1) Supply of dietary articles to social welfare institutions and hospitals; (2) Kerosene Distribution Scheme; (3) Supply of nutritious food under the Integrated Child Development Scheme; (4) Scheme of Rehabilitation of Women from earthquake area in Latur and Osmanabad districts; and (5) Stitching of uniforms and running of canteens. Zunka Bhakar Kendra, telephone booths, Xerox Centre, stamp vending, typing centre etc.

[English]

Education Ministers Conference

2937. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :

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

(a) whether a conference of the Education Ministers of the States was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the items discussed in that conference; and

(c) the conclusions arrived at in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The conference of State Education Minister on 10th August, 1996 discussed at length, inter alia, the status of Universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE) and literacy campaigns. Compulsory Primary Education as a fundamental right, increased investments in education. The conference resolved to set up a Committee of State Education Ministers under the chairmanship of Union Minister of State (Education) to identify resources for achievement of UEE and total literacy. It recognised the significance of constitutional amendments to make free and compulsory primary education as a fundamental right and urged the Government to consider legal, administrative and financial implications of this proposal.

Centre for Educational Technology

2938. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has demanded the setting up of a Centre for Educational Technology in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal has recently been received from Government of Kerala for setting up of a State Institute of Educational Technology in that State. At present due to financial constraints no new SIETs are proposed to be set up. The proposal of the State Government can, however, be considered during the 9th Plan, subject to availability of resources.

Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial at Tashkent

2939. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hall is not functioning properly at Tashkent;

(b) whether indirect restrictions have been imposed to visit the surroundings of the memorials;

(c) if so, whether the scope of functioning of the memorial is getting closed;

(d) whether the Government have taken up/propose to take up the matter with Uzbek Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e). In January, 1996 the Uzbek Government conveyed to us that they wished to relocate the Shastri Memorial in order to provide it a better public view and to enhance its accessibility. The Government of India took up this matter with the Government of Uzbekistan immediately thereafter and explained that former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bhadur Shastri was a highly revered figure in India's modern history and the memory of his stay in Tashkent evoked deep sentiments, among the Indian people. The Uzbek Government was urged that no unilateral steps should be taken to shift the Shastri Memorial. The Uzbek Government has assured us that no decision would be taken by them on this matter without consulting the Government of India.

During the visit of the former Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee to Tashkent in March, 1996, it was agreed that official-level discussion would be held between the two sides for this purpose.

Admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas on Fake Requests

2940. SHRI SHANTILAL PRASOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether admissions in some Kendriya Vidyalayas have been made on the fake requests by MPs on the ground that these children happened to be their grandchildren;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). Six cases of allegedly forged signatures of members of Parliament have been reported which are under investigation by the Sangathan.

Exchange of Enclaves with Bangladesh

2941. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chief Minister of West Bengal has sent any proposal to the Union Government for the immediate exchange of enclaves between India and Bangladesh;

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

(c) whether there are about 130 Indian enclaves within the Bangladesh territory and over 90 Bangladeshi enclaves in the Indian side;

(d) whether Bangladesh Government has been consulted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal had written to the previous Prime Minister Shri P.V. Nārasimha Rao by letter dated 7 February 1996 on the implementation of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 and exchange of enclaves with Bangladesh. As per information available, There are 119 exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and 72 exchangeable Bangladesh enclaves in India. The exchanges of enclaves in directly linked to and will necessarily follow the demarcation of boundary with Bangladesh. The demarcation of about 41 kilometers of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary is yet to be completed. The Government propose to complete the task of demarcation of the boundary with Bangladesh with the cooperation of the concerned State Government.

Welfare of Prostitutes

2942. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Smt. Mohini Giri, President of National Women Commission has made some suggestions to the Union Government regarding the welfare of prostitutes;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions/recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Child Welfare Schemes

2943. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Adoption Resource Agency has issued revised guidelines on child welfare schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to direct State Government to follow the guidelines; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to implement the guidelines in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Central Adoption Resource Agency has not issued revised guidelines on child welfare schemes. However, the Ministry of Welfare have issued revised guidelines to regulate matters relating to adoption of Indian children

during the year 1995 and published in the official gazette of India (Extraordinary) No. 109, dated 20.6.95.

(b) The objective of the revised guidelines is to provide a sound basis for adoption within the framework of the norms and principles laid down by the Supreme Court of India in its series of judgements delivered in Kaxmikant Pandey Vs. Union of India and others (CRL No. 1171 of 1982) between 1984 and 1991. The revised guidelines contain in details the role of the Govt. of India, State Governments/UTs, voluntary organisations etc., Procedure for inter-country adoption and for monitoring the progress for adoptive children are also given with a view to control and regulate the adoption of abandoned/destitute children.

(c) A copy of the guidelines have been sent to all State Governments for implementation.

(d) The guidelines have been notified on 20th June, 1995 and a copy of the same already issued to all State Govts./UTs, recognised agencies, VCAs and Scrutinising Agencies. State Govts. have been advised to implement the guidelines.

Juvenile Sex Abuse

2944. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two day seminar on Juvenile Sex Abuse was held under the aegis of the UNICEF in Panjim (Goa) in May-June, 1996;

(b) is so, the main revelations made there about the extent of sexual abuse (percentage) of children who fall a victim to such abuse within the families and in remand homes and children homes etc. and in custody, in India and other developing countries; and

(c) the effective steps contemplated to prevent such sexual abuse of children?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The seminar concluded that an exact estimate of the extent of sexual abuse of children would not be possible in view of the nature of the offence and recommended that efforts should be made to tackle the problem through the joint efforts of State, civil society, elected representatives of the rural and urban local self Governments and children themselves, universalisation of primary education and awareness generation.

[Translation]

Child Prostitution

2945. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact

that there has been a heavy increase in the number of incidents of child prostitution in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a special team has been constituted recently to conduct indepth study of the said problem and to suggest about an action plan; and

(d) if so, the details of the action plan recommended by the said team so far to check the child prostitution?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. There are no reliable statistics available about the number of child prostitutes.

(c) and (d). The Government of India set up a Central Advisory Committee on Child Prostitution in March, 1994 which has submitted its report in May, 1994. The report contains recommendations in the area of enforcement of the law, removal of child prostitutes from redlight areas, institutionalised care of such rescued child prostitutes, counselling and vocational training for rehabilitation purpose and the setting up of an effective machinery for the implementation of the recommendations of the report. It has also recommended drawing up a plan for imparting appropriate orientation and sensitization training for such policy officers as well as other custodial officers who would be dealing with the problem of child prostitution.

[English]

Use of IAF Installations for Civil Flights

2946. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Air Force installations in certain places are being used for operation of civil flights;

(b) if so, the names of such airports with periods upto which such use is being made;

(c) whether passengers are subjected to inconvenience in such airports because of security and other administrative controls enforced by the IAF authorities; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of the airfields being used for operating civil flights are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). The passenger handling is done at the civil terminals, which are under the administrative control of Airports Authority of India. No incidence has come to the notice of Ministry of Defence/Indian Air Force where passengers were subjected to inconvenience at these airfields.

STATEMENT

1. Agra
2. Bagdogra
3. Bhuj
4. Chandigarh
5. Chabua
6. Gwalior
7. Jammu
8. Jamnagar
9. Jodhpur
10. Jorhat
11. Kanpur
12. Leh
13. Pune
14. Silchar
15. Srinagar
16. Tezpur

[Translation]

Development of Waterways

2947. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Russian rivers carry tide of investment" appearing in the 'Observer dated' July 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to develop rivers in the country on the lines of Russia; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The information relating to development of Inland Water Transport in Russia and other countries like USA and Netherlands is being used as inputs for formulation of IWT development strategy and programmes in India.

[English]

Four Laning of National Highway No. 8.

2948. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop the present National Highway No. 8 between Ahmedabad and Bombay into four lane road;

(b) whether any assessment has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the steps taken and proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Assessment for developing the present National Highway No. 8 between Ahmedabad and Bombay into four lane road has been made and development is being taken up in selected stretches. The details thereof are as under :

- (i) 106 km. are already four laned.
- (ii) Four laning of 157 Km. costing Rs. 224.70 crores stands sanctioned under 30 road/bridge projects and is at various stages of progress.
- (iii) Four laning of 16 Km. at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.35 crores is proposed to be taken up during Annual Plan 1996-97.

[Translation]

Visit of PM of Sri Lanka

2949. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prime Minister of Sri Lanka had visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of talks held by her with Indian leaders; and

(c) the extent to which the friendly relationship of India-Sri Lanka is likely to be effected?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka visited India in the first week of July. The visit was a purely personal visit.

(b) No official talks were held during her visit.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Defence Spare Parts

2950. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director General, Quality Assurances has started production of the defence spare parts in the country itself with the assistance of domestic industries.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the value of such spare parts supplied by the domestic industries; and

(d) the value of foreign exchange saved as a result of the production of these spare parts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. About 6000 industrial units are in the compendium of DGQA.

(c) and (d). From 1965 upto 31 March 1996, stores valued at about Rs. 2000 crore have been supplied through the efforts of DGQA. This is the value of ab-initio developmental orders. The follow up orders on this by the three services would be many times more. Over 55000 items have thus been indigenised. It is not possible to accurately indicate the foreign exchange saved except to say that it would be much more than Rs. 2000 crore which was incurred in developing the items indigenously.

[English]

Inland Water Navigation in Kerala

2951. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far by the Government for development of Inland Water Navigation in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from Kerala for the Inland Water Navigation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) As a result of various survey and studies conducted by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), on the entire length of the West Coast Canal between Kovalam and Kasergode during the period from 1987 to 1992, the stretch of the West Coast Canal from Kollam to Kottapuram (168 Kms), the Champakara Canal (14 Kms) and the Udyogmandal Canal (23 Kms) have been declared as a National Waterway-III with effect from 1st February, 1993. The IWAI is implementing various developmental works like dredging, channel marking etc. in this National Waterway for improving and maintaining its navigability. Navigational locks in the Waterway are being maintained in operational condition. During the period from 1993-94 to 1995-96, a total quantity of 3.44 lakhs cu. meters were dredged. During the year 1995-96, an expenditure of Rs. 97.00 lakhs was incurred in the development of this National Waterway in Kerala against an approved outlay of Rs. 100.00 lakhs.

(b) and (c). Yes. Sir. The following points have been submitted for consideration :

(i) Consideration of the West Coast Canal stretches from Kollam to Kovalam and Kottapuram to Kasergode for declaration as National Waterway.

(ii) To ensure utilisation of full funds provided in the 8th Five Year Plan for development of West Coast Canal.

(iii) Release of Central assistance with regard to ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme for modernisation of jetties in Kerala.

[Translation]

Viral Fever

2952. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Mystery fever engulfs Hissar" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated August 2, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to send a Central team to the affected areas of Hissar (Haryana) and also provide other health services there; and

(d) the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to find out the reasons and check the diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d). Two Central teams from National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi have already visited the affected areas of Hissar (Haryana), based on Epidemiological, Entomological and Clinical observations, it appears to be Dengue outbreak.

The team collected clinical samples which are under laboratory analysis. The results of these samples are awaited. The team advised Insecticidal spray, Surveillance and Health Education in the affected areas for checking further spread of the disease.

[English]

Central University

2953. SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI :
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE :

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open

any Central University in the country particularly in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh and at Belgaum in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :
(a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Policy on Education - 1986, with modifications undertaken in 1992, states that, in view of the need to effect an all-round improvement in the institutions, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on the consolidation of and expansion of facilities in the existing institutions.

Air Bases Prone to Accidents

2954. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated June 29, 1996 under caption 'Viman Durgatnayen Rokne Ke Upayon per Amal Nahin';

(b) if so, the total number of Air bases which have been identified as more prone to air-accidents due to birds flying around them and other factors;

(c) the total number of accidents and the total loss suffered from such accidents due to birds flying near air-bases during last three years; and

(d) the steps Government have taken so far or propose to take in the near future to avoid such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c). 10 IAF airfields have been identified as "High Risk Bird areas" by the Inter Ministerial Joint Sub Committee. During the last three financial years, 9 serious aircraft accidents have taken place due to bird strike. However, the cost of damage due to bird hits vary depending upon the type of aircraft lost or repaired/overhauled.

(d) Steps have been taken by the Ministries of Agriculture, Urban Affairs and Employment and the concerned State Governments for modernisation of slaughter houses/carcass utilisation centres and for sanitisation of areas around bird prone airfields to reduce bird activities.

By-Pass on N.H. No. 37

2955. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the by-pass of National Highway

No. 37 through Gauhati University has been approved;

(b) if so, the present status of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is going to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Admission to Foreign Students in Colleges of Delhi University

2956. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints of violating prescribed guidelines for admission to foreign students in different colleges of Delhi University have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the names of the foreign students, college-wise who have been given admission in violation of guidelines; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Training to Doctors on AIDS

2957. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide training to doctors on AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the number of doctors to be imparted training under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A module on Clinical Management has been developed in order to impart uniform training to the doctors on AIDS. The trainers have been trained by the Professors and Sr. Consultants from the major hospitals of the country.

(c) and (d). It has already been decided to train all doctors to improve their skills for management of AIDS cases. As of to-day, 11000 doctors have been trained. In the next phase, remaining doctors including General Practitioner and Private practitioners will be trained.

[English]

Subsidy for New Vessels

2958. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inland Waterways Authority of India gives subsidy on acquisition of new vessels;

(b) whether any amount has been paid to Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation for last three years on account of it; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last three years, an amount of Rs. 8,64,013/- was paid to Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation towards subsidy.

(c) The subsidy claims of Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation in respect of two vessels were not submitted in the manner prescribed. Hence payment could not be made.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for N.H. Projects

2959. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several National Highway projects in the country for which financial assistance has been received from the World Bank are still under construction, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total amount sanctioned by the World Bank for the construction of these projects, project-wise;

(c) the details of estimated cost of construction of each of these projects;

(d) whether several projects among them are running behind the schedule; and

(e) if so, the names thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e). presently one loan amounting to US\$ 306 million is under implementation with the financial assistance from World Bank. The details are given in Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

Second National Highway Project under World Bank Loan

(Ln-3470-IN/CR 2365-IN)

Loan Amount : US \$ 306 Million

Date of Signing : 18.06.1992

Date of Closing : June, 2001

Effective Date 31.08.1992

(Amount Rs. in Crores)

| S. No. | State | NH. No. | Name of Project | Length in Km. | Sanctioned Cost (Rs. Crores) | Present Progress | Target Date of completion | Project running behind schedule & reasons therefor |
|--------|----------------|---------|--|---------------|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Haryana | 1 | 4-laning between Karnal & Ambala Km 132.88-212.16 (NH.1) | 79.50 | 287.22 | Works Commenced in Jan.1995 Progress-18% | July, 1998 | |
| 2. | Punjab | 1 | 4-laning between Sirhind and Punjab/ Haryana Border KM 212.2 to 252.25 of NH-1 | 40.00 | 199.500 | Works commenced in Jan.1995 progress-25% | July, 1998 | |
| 3. | Orissa | 5 | 4-laning of Cut-tack-Bhubaneswar Section of NH-5 (Km.0.0 to 27.8) | 27.80 | 218.41 | Works commenced in Jan. 1995 progress-13% | August 1998 | (i) Shifting of water mains (ii) Removal of encroachments and cutting trees |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 3 | (a) construction of Indore bypass, NH-3 | 31.40 | 73.44 | Pre-construction activities in progress Tenders invited in Aug, 96. | December, 2000 | Delay in implementation of (i) pre-construction activities. (ii) delay in aproval of fresh prequalification of contractors |
| | | | (b) 4-laning of Indore-Dewas Section of NH-3 (km.574.4 to 591.6) | 18.20 | 29.53 | Pre-construction activities in progress Tenders invited in Aug.96 | | |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 8 | 4-laning between Bassein Greek and Manor Km.439 to 497 (NH-8) | 58.00 | 117.73 | Pre-construction activities in progress Tenders invited in Aug.96. | December 2000 | (i) Delay in project pre-paration (ii) Delay in acquisition of forest land and cutting of trees (iii) Delay in approval of fresh prequalification of contractors |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|----|-------------|------------|---|-------|-------|--|-----------------|---|
| 6. | West-Bengal | 2 | 4-Laning between Raniganj and West Bengal/Bihar Boardar Km.438.6 to 474.0 of NH-2 | 35.40 | 88.27 | Pre-construction activities in progress. Teners are to be invited. | Decem-ber. 2000 | (i) Delay in project prepa-ration and land acquisition (ii) Delay in finalisation R&R action plan as per World Bank guidelines |
| 7. | Orissa | State Road | Construction of 6 damaged State Road Bridges in Ganjam District | - | 32.5 | Works comm-enced in March, 1994 Progress-65% | Decem-ber. 1996 | Due to unpre-cedented rains. |
| | | | | | 290.3 | | | |

[English]

Road Development

2960. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "over Rs. 253.000 crore needed for road development: study" appearing in the 'Observer' dated May 22, 1996:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry is primarily concerned with the development of National Highways only. As regards National Highways, it has been assessed that approximately an amount of Rs. 73.000 crores (at 1996 price level), would be needed for removal of deficiencies in the existing National Highway network. No such assessment has, however, been made for expansion of National Highway network due to severe resource constraints.

(c) Keeping in view the inadequate budgetary resources, Government have taken measures to involve private sector in the development and maintenance of National Highways.

[Translation]

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Azamgarh

2961. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tehsil Lalganj of District Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Issue of Passports in Mumbai

2962. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of passports issued in Mumbai and Delhi metropolitan cities after April, 1995:

(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that even after police verification a lot of time is taken in issuing passports:

(c) whether the number of employees is not sufficient in the passport offices in Mumbai:

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up another branch of Passport Office in Mumbai; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The number of passports issued by Regional Passport Office, Mumbai and Regional Passport Office, Delhi from 1.4.95 to 31.7.96 are 306230 and 150583 respectively.

(b) Passports are normally issued on receipt of clear police verification reports or on expiry of four weeks from the date of making such a reference to the police whichever is earlier and on first come first served basis except in cases of emergency/urgency where passports are issued on out of turn basis on the strength of a verification Certificate issued by an authorised official and documentary evidence substantiating the

emergency/urgency. It has, however, been found that in some cases where negative or incomplete police reports have been received by the Passport Offices, there have been some delays in issuing new Passports. In such cases, necessary follow-up action is invariably taken by the concerned Passport Officers in getting complete reports from the concerned police authorities and also by advising the applicants to approach the concerned police authorities with original documents/court order to get clear reports from them on the basis of which passports are then issued.

(c) and (d). The number of employees in Regional Passport Office, Mumbai are as per prescribed norms and keeping in view the volume of work handled by this office, the existing staff strength appears to be adequate.

(e) and (f). The possibility of setting up another Passport office is being examined. In the meantime it is proposed to open a Passport Collection Centre at Thane.

[English]

Construction of Tunnel under Rohtang Pass

2963. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a tunnel under Rohtang Pass;

(b) if so, whether any survey was conducted for the same; and

(c) if so, the progress made in construction of the tunnel under Rohtang Pass and expenditure incurred thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). The feasibility study of constructing a tunnel has been entrusted to M/s. RITES.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Repair of N.H. in Gujarat

2964. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highway between Bharuch and Wapi needs repair and the aforesaid highway is under enormous traffic pressure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any repair work is likely to be undertaken on the National Highway between Ahmedabad and Mumbai during 1996-97; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The Bharuch-Wapi section of National Highway 8 is heavily trafficked and is being maintained in a traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

(b) For maintenance and repairs of National Highways including the Bharuch-Wapit section, the following releases have been made :

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1994-95 | : | Rs. 1316.64 lakhs |
| 1995-96 | : | Rs. 1745.20 lakhs |
| 1996-97 | : | Rs. 391.30 lakhs (upto July, 1996) |

(c) and (d). No Flood Damage Repair estimate for the year 1996-97 has been received for the National Highway from Ahmedabad to Mumbai.

[English]

Inter-State Transport Schemes

2965. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of important inter-state transport schemes sanctioned during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). As per information obtained from the State Governments no such scheme has been sanctioned for any State/Union Territories except in case of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli. Reply from these States/ Union Territories have not been received.

Imported Contraceptives

2966. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge consignment of imported contraceptives for the national family planning programme has been found faulty by the statutory tasting authority;

(b) whether any investigations have been made in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). Samples from an imported consignment of tubal rings were found not meeting one of the parameters of BIS specifications in the testing Laboratory at IIT. However, samples were found acceptable when retested at another laboratory. The

test reports of the second laboratory was evaluated by Drugs Controller of India before certifying that they meet BIS specifications. Hence the question of conducting any investigation does not arise.

[Translation]

Anomaly in Pensions

2967. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring parity in the pension of earlier and recently retired army men; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). There has been some disparity in the amount of pension of persons retired at various point of time. The disparity is due to the fact that the pension is linked to the pay drawn at the time of retirement and the length of qualifying service rendered by the individual. For reducing disparity in pension of pre and post 1986 pensioners, the pension of pre 1.1.86 defence pensioners was consolidated by recalculating their pension by applying 50 percent formula and merging dearness relief upto CPI 608. A scheme for One Time Increase in pension (OTI) has also been sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.92 to pre 1986 defence pensioners. About 8.03 lakhs defence pensioners who retired prior to 1.1.86 are expected to benefit from the OTI Scheme.

2. The above measures have substantially narrowed down to disparities in pension between pre and post 1986 pensioners.

Flyover on N.H. 31

2968. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals are pending with the Government for constructing flyovers on National Highway No.31;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

State Highways into National Highways

2969. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to convert

the 11 State Highways proposed by the Maharashtra Government into National Highways;

(b) if so, the time by which these State Highways would be declared as National Highways; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Due to paucity of funds for the development of National Highways during the 8th Plan, it has not been possible to declare this road as National Highways.

Funds For Research Proposals

2970. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has been unable to fund a large number of research proposals of vital importance due to shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the details of these proposals which could not be financed by UGC due to shortage of funds; and

(c) the future plan of action, if any, so that research projects do not suffer on account of inadequate funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). University Grants Commission (UGC) provides requisite financial assistance to various universities and colleges for execution of research projects in different subjects and disciplines. According to the information furnished by UGC, during 1995-96, 52 Major and 54 Minor Research Project proposals in Sciences and 80 Major and 36 Minor Research Project proposals in Humanities and Social Sciences were approved as the first priority and funded as per the prescribed norms. Besides, 53 Major and 3 Minor Research Project proposals in Engineering & Technology were also approved in the first priority category. It has, however, not been possible to accommodate all proposals due to constraint of financial resources.

[English]

Loss of Life and Property by Floods in U.P.

2971. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the regions in Uttar Pradesh which had floods during the current monsoon and the total loss of life and property suffered on that account;

(b) the factors primarily responsible for floods in the State, region-wise/place-wise;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has sought assistance from the Union Government for immediate and long term measures to check the recurrence of floods in those regions/places;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the decision taken by the Government with regard to short term and long term measures keeping in view the havoc caused by the floods in these areas;

(f) whether the district administration of these districts had sought military assistance to combat flood menace in these areas; and

(g) if so, the reason for not providing military assistance to expedite relief operations in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Three districts namely, Firozabad, Agra and Mathura were affected by floods during current monsoon. The details of loss of lives and property are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The factors primarily responsible for floods in the State are heavy rainfall, flat topography, lack of

easy outfall, inadequate drainage and in some cases backing up of waters in tributaries from the main rivers at their outfalls.

(c) and (d). Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted a memorandum to the Central Government seeking financial assistance of Rs.409 crore for immediate and long term measures. Central Government has released two instalments of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs.46.92 crore for immediate relief and rehabilitation measures.

(e) Long term and short term measures of flood control are planned and implemented by the State Government out of their own plan funds. Schemes costing more than Rs.1 crore are examined and approved by the Centre. However, as a non-structural, long term measure, the Centre is providing flood forecasts during the monsoon at 33 stations in Uttar Pradesh to assist the State authorities in rescue and relief operations.

(f) and (g). Information in this regard is not available in this Ministry.

STATEMENT

Damage due to Heavy Rains/Floods, 1996

| S. No. | Districts affected | Villages affected | Population affected (in lakhs) | Total area affected (in hect.) | Cropped area affected (in hect.) | Houses | | Lives-Lost | |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|--------|
| | | | | | | Damaged/Destroyed | | Human | Cattle |
| | | | | | | Fully | Partially | | |
| 1. | Firozabad | 281 | 1.80 | 8515 | 230 | - | - | 10 | 31 |
| 2. | Agra | 490 | 3.12 | 7635 | 4606 | - | 4084 | 12 | 159 |
| 3. | Mathura | 293 | 5.03 | 74125 | 25109 | 7848 | 9617 | 23 | 260 |
| Total | | 1064 | 9.95 | 90275 | 29943 | 7848 | 13701 | 45 | 450 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| District-Padrauna (due to Boat accident) | 4 |
| | <u>49</u> |

[Translation]

Jamrani Dam Project In Uttar Pradesh

2972. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jamrani Dam Project in Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh is under construction;

(b) if so, the reasons for slow progress in its construction;

(c) whether the Government propose to take action to complete this project soon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Jamrani Dam Project in Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh is an ongoing scheme of VIII plan. As per the Draft Annual Plan of 1995-96 of the State, the construction works of the Jamrani Dam Project has been postponed for the time being due to paucity of funds.

(c) and (d). Irrigation is a State subject. The projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Govt. from their own resources. Completion of the project will depend upon the priority given by the State Government.

[English]

Implementation of Reservation Rules by Educational Institutions

2973. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain educational institutions which are in receipt of grants-in-aid from the University Grants Commission are not implementing the Reservation Rules in recruitment and promotions in favour of SC/ST in utter violation of the Constitution of India and the rules made thereunder;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action, the Government, propose to take against such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), the Commission has been urging the Universities to implement the Statutory Reservation Policy for SCs/STs in matters of admission and appointments to teaching and non-teaching posts. Central Universities/Deemed Universities are expected to take appropriate action for implementation of the reservation policy announced by the Government in this behalf. As regards State Universities, they are expected to follow the reservation policies prescribed by the respective States.

UGC has set up SC/ST Cells in 98 Universities for effective implementation of the reservation policy. Matters relating to this policy are discussed by UGC with the concerned Universities from time to time with a view to ensuring that the Policy is implemented in letter and spirit.

Sanction For Civil Works of Women's Hostels in Mysore

2974. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India and the World Bank have sanctioned an additional outlay of Rs. 67 million for Civil works of Women's Hostel and Polytechnic for physically handicapped at Mysore;

(b) if so, the amount spent so far;

(c) the progress of work;

(d) the amount proposed to be spent during 1996-97; and

(e) the time by which they are likely to be ready for occupation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e). An additional outlay of Rs.68.00 million (Rs.680.00 lakhs) has been approved by the Government of India and the World Bank for Civil Works for 4 Women hostels at Hubli, Mysore, Hassan and Shimoga and Polytechnic for Physically Handicapped at Mysore. Rs. 127.00 lakhs has been spent as on 30-6-96 which includes Government Polytechnic for Women, Hubli JSS Polytechnic for Women, Mysore, Government Women' Polytechnic, Shimoga and also Institute for Physically Handicapped Mysore. The construction of hostel for Government Polytechnic for Women at Hassan is likely to start in November, 1996. The amount proposed to be spent for these buildings during 1996-97 is Rs. 380.00 lakhs. The hostels for the polytechnics at Hubli and Mysore and Shimoga are expected to be completed by June, 1997 and the construction for Physically Handicapped is expected to be completed by December, 1997.

Height of Sardar Sarovar Project

2975. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the main issues discussed in the last meeting of Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra regarding height of Sardar Sarovar Project on river Narmada;

(b) whether the report of Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee recommending raising of present height of the dam to 110 metres was discussed;

(c) whether the irrigation and power losses to Gujarat due to reduction of height of Narmada dam were also discussed; and

(d) if so, the details of agreement on the issues made reached in the recent meeting?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The main issues discussed in the meeting regarding the height of Sardar Sarovar Dam related to the availability of water submergence due to reservoir, resettlement and rehabilitation aspects and generation of hydropower.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) During the meeting the following was agreed to; construction of Sardar Sarovar Dam may proceed as planned, limiting the Full Reservoir level to 132.68

metres (436 feet) in the first instance. Thereafter the data for actual flow of water in the dam will be observed for a period of five years. If during any three out of these five years, the flow of water-discharge is adequate as assessed in the award, the decision regarding raising the reservoir level to 138.68 metres (455 feet) could be considered.

Construction of the dam will proceed pari-passu with the resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected persons as per terms of the Award and relief and rehabilitation Policies laid down by the States in this regard. The States shall ensure speedy and proper implementation of the relief and rehabilitation measures.

[Translation]

Promotion of Sanskrit Language

2976. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Union Government to promote Sanskrit language in the country particularly in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the 'Rashtriya Sanskrit Shikshak Sansthan' provides grants to the Sanskrit Vidyalayas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide grants to the Sanskrit Vidyalayas of East Champaran district of Bihar by giving recognition to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Government have been promoting the Sanskrit language in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh as well as the rest of the country through the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, Maharishi Sandipan Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan, two Deemed Universities and the Central Plan Scheme of financial assistance to States/UTs for the development of Sanskrit.

(a) and (c). Under the scheme of Financial Assistance to Voluntary Sanskrit Organisations, the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan has provided in 1995-96 financial assistance to 404 Voluntary Sanskrit Organisations/Sanskrit Vidyalayas in the country for meeting the expenditure on salary of teachers, scholarships to students, library books etc. Of these 404 organisations 109 are in Uttar Pradesh and 22 in Bihar.

(d) and (e) The Government of Bihar have not so far sent any proposal for assistance to Sanskrit Vidyalayas of East Champaran.

[English]

Birth Centenary of Ghalib

2977. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether two hundred years of the Birth of Great Urdu Indian Poet Mirza Ghalib are going to be completed;

(b) whether the Government propose to celebrate the bi-centenary of the poet in Delhi at international level, who was the true representative of the mixed culture;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to protect the House of Mirza Ghalib in Delhi as a National monument; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir; 200th birth anniversary of Mirza Ghalib falls in December, 1997.

(b) and (c). A proposal to celebrate the birth bi-centenary of Mirza Ghalib is under the consideration of the Government.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Deteriorating Condition of Minority Colleges

2978. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial condition of some of the minority colleges in the country is not better;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide grants to these institutions;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up more minority schools and colleges in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). University Grants Commission (UGC) provides development grants, as per the prescribed norms, to all colleges including Minority colleges, which have been recognised by the Commission and declared fit to receive such financial assistance from UGC and other Central Sources in terms of the rules/regulations framed under the UGC Act.

(c) and (d). Schools are generally set up by the State Governments/ UT Administration or private trust/

agencies. Department of Education has also set up Kendriya Vidyalayas and Novodaya Vidyalayas which are open to all, irrespective of their caste, creed, sex or region. Colleges are established by State Governments universities or private trusts keeping in view the requirement of education in the given region and availability of resources. Central Government or UGC do not set up any colleges on their own.

[Translation]

Land Submerged Due to Seepage

2979. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether thousands of acres of land submerged due to seepage in the Hanumangarh of Rajasthan;

(b) whether there is any proposal to give financial assistance by the Central Government to the State Government to deal with the problem of seepage; and

(c) if so, the quantum thereof and details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) As reported by Govt. of Rajasthan about 6000 ha. of area under Command of Bhakra Canal System and Indira Gandhi Nahar Stage-I in Hanumangarh district are affected due to seepage.

(b) No Sir, Central Assistance is provided to States in the form of Block Loan and Block Grants and not tied to any specific project, programme or region.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Capacity of Periyar Dam

2980. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is lying with the Union Government in regard to increase in the capacity of Periyar Dam. Tamil Nadu from 136 feet to 152 feet;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Mulla Periyar Dam was constructed in 1897 with Full Reservoir Level at Elevation at 152 ft. The safety of the dam was reviewed in 1979 and it was decided to fill reservoir upto elevation 136 ft. only till strengthening works of the dam were completed by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The strengthening works have since been completed by the Government of Tamil Nadu. However, the Government of Kerala has not agreed to fill the reservoir beyond elevation 136 ft. This Ministry has taken up the matter with the Government of Kerala who have informed that

an Adhoc Committee of the State Legislators had examined the issues and has recommended constitution of a technical committee of experts to study the safety of the dam.

Congestion on NH-35 in West Bengal

2981. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that wide spread traffic congestion between Chandpara and Bongaon in North 24 Parganas of West Bengal on the NH-35, is causing severe inconveniences for the people of Bongaon town and other neighbouring places;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indo-Bangladesh trade is being adversely affected by these frequent congestions;

(c) whether Government of West Bengal have since submitted any package of proposals to meet the situation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to ease the congestion?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e). On NH-35, near Bongaon, trucks awaiting clearance at Bangla Desh border checkpost, get lined up by the roadside. In order to streamline traffic flow near checkpost, work of construction of another 2 lane road parallel to the existing NH between Hakar bridge and Bangladesh border and widening single lane reaches near border to 5.5 m. width, has been sanctioned and the same is at tendering stage. Besides, the construction of truck parking layby near the checkpost is also proposed.

[Translation]

Extension of N.H.

2982. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the length of National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a National Highway Authority of India was set up for extension and development of the National Highways in the country; and

(d) if so, the amount of annual average expenditure incurred on the said authority during the previous years?

THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). There is no such proposal at present.

(c) The National Highways Authority of India was set up as a Central agency for taken up the development and maintenance of National Highways.

(d) Government has released Rs. 3.00 crores each in 1994-95 and 1995-96 as grant-in-aid to the Authority.

[English]

Defence Lands on Lease for Schools in Delhi Cantt.

2983. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Defence lands have been given on lease for running Army Public School and the Air Force School at Dhaula Kuan and Subroto Park in Delhi Cantt.

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the lease and area that have been leased and amount of lease rent charges;

(c) whether these schools are run by societies floated under the aegis of Army/Air Force and if so, whether the Government have any control over these societies;

(d) whether three types of rates for tuition fees are charged from the students and if so, details thereof;

(e) whether the rates of tuition fees other charges have been approved by the Government and whether these are in conformity with the rules framed by the Education Department of Government;

(f) if not, whether Government propose to take any action to correct this situation; and

(g) whether children of parents not serving in Army/Air Force are admitted into these schools and if so, the rates of fees payable by such children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the Defence Land measuring 30.50 acres has been leased for running of the Army Public School at Dhaula Kuan under two separate leases on nominal rent of Rs.2/- per annum (@ Rupee 1/- per lease) and 15 acres of land has been leased for the Air Force School at Subroto Park in Delhi Cantonment on payment of nominal rent Rs.1.50/- per annum. The other main terms and conditions are that the land will be used only for the school purposes and prior permissions for construction of buildings will be obtained from the competent authority as per the lease deed.

(c) Yes, Sir, Army Public School is run by Army Welfare Education Society under Delhi State Education Act and rules, 1973. The Air Force School is run by IAF Educational and Cultural Society registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860.

(d) In Army Public School four types of tuition fee and in Air Force three types of tuition fee are charged. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) and (f). The rates of tuition fees and other charges in Army Public School are intimated to the Education Department. In the Air Force School the rates

of tuition fee are approved by IAF Educational & Cultural Society and are filed with the Directorate of Education Delhi Administration. The Army Public School are established with the non-public Army Welfare Funds partly subscribed by the Defence personnel and Air Force School are funded by IAF Educational and Cultural Society. The fee structure is therefore, different for the wards of the Officers, JCOs, ORs, Air Force Airmen, Air Force Officers and those of Civilians. It is not considered necessary to remove the differential fee structure.

(g) Yes, Sir. The details of fee are given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

The types of rates of tuition fee charged from the students are as under :-

Army Public School

| S. Standard No. | OR | JCOs | Officers | Civilians |
|-----------------|-----|------|----------|-----------|
| (In Rupees) | | | | |
| (a) I-V | 110 | 165 | 230 | 390 |
| (b) VI-VIII | 120 | 175 | 240 | 410 |
| (c) IX & X | 120 | 175 | 250 | 430 |
| (d) XI & XII | 130 | 190 | 270 | 460 |

Air Force School

| S. Standard No. | Airmen | Air Force Officers | Non-Air Force |
|-----------------|--------|--------------------|---------------|
| (in Rupees) | | | |
| (Civilians) | | | |
| (a) KG-V | 120 | 225 | 500 |
| (b) VI-X | 130 | 250 | 600 |
| (c) XI & XIII | 150 | 275 | 700 |

(Staff children are exempted from paying tuition-fee)

New Anganwari Schemes

2984. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME :

DR. BALIRAM :

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to handover 10% of all new Anganwaris schemes to private agencies;

(b) whether the Anganwari workers were consulted by the Government on this issue;

(c) whether there has been retrenchment of Anganwari workers following privatisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme provides that the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), Voluntary Organisations, local bodies, Panchayat Raj Institutions etc. are to be actively involved in this programme for effective implementation with maximum community support and for making it a people's programme. Accordingly the State Governments were requested to draw up guidelines within the overall framework of ICDS Scheme, for entrusting the whole or a part of an ICDS project to a voluntary organisation. A model set of guidelines drawn up by the Government, were also sent to all the States/Union Territories. These guidelines are also to be followed by Department of Women & Child Development in considering the direct allotment of some ICDS projects to voluntary agencies for implementation.

A decision was taken during the year 1993 to allocate 10% of the ICDS projects sanctioned during 1992-93 to registered voluntary organisations with a view to involve these organisations in the implementation of ICDS Scheme. All the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations were addressed and the Formats/Application Forms suggested for this purpose were also sent to them.

(b) to (d). The Government decision was to entrust new ICDS projects or part of project to registered voluntary organisations who are experienced in the delivery of services in the Social Sector.

NGOs have been encouraged to organise ICDS in new areas and therefore, there has been no impact on the Anganwadi workers in existing projects.

Relations with Myanmar

2985. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of our relations with Myanmar;

(b) the steps taken to strengthen further our relations with this country; and

(c) the steps being taken to open up travel and trade with this country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) We have friendly and cooperative relations with Myanmar.

(b) and (c). We have recently initiated border trade with Myanmar which is expected to develop in the years ahead as communication and transport infrastructure improves. Under the Border Trade Agreement, travel by road is permitted for business purposes in border areas for a period of 7 days. India and Myanmar are cooperating in border management and control of traffic in narcotics. We also have an agreed MOU on

developing infrastructure facilities including roads and telecommunications, in the border areas. Training slots are provided to Myanmar students in various vocational and other institutes. Following an understanding on resumption of direct flights between the two countries, Indian Airlines has resumed its operations to Yangon on 7th December, 1995.

[Translation]

Sports Complex in Rajasthan

2986. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct a big sports complex in Bayana-Dhaulpur area of Rajasthan;

(b) whether there is any planning for this complex in the current Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government have received any demand letter in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) to (c). No, Sir.

[English]

Acquisition of Missiles by Pakistan

2987. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that medium and long range missiles have been acquired or are likely to be acquired by Pakistan in the near future;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any diplomatic approach to dissuade the countries which are supplying such missiles;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to intensify their efforts in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government have seen press reports regarding the deployment of nuclear capable M-11 missiles by Pakistan. Government have been aware of the acquisition of these missiles and consider it a matter of great concern. Our concern regarding Pakistani acquisition of nuclear capable missiles have also been conveyed to the concerned countries. Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

Missing Indian Soldiers in Pakistan

2988. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the 54 missing soldiers of 1971 war as per the list released along with Unstarred Question No.6803 dated April 12, 1979, have since been traced or released by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the special efforts that are being made further in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have repeatedly taken up with the Government of Pakistan the question of the 54 missing Indian defence personnel believed to be in custody in Pakistan. It is regrettable that Pakistan has not responded positively to the numerous constructive proposals made by the Indian side over the years for resolving this humanitarian issue. Government of Pakistan, however, maintains that there are no Indian defence personnel in its custody. We would continue with our efforts to seek Pakistan's cooperation on this issue.

Working Women Hostels

2989. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have been providing funds to the States to construct working women hostels;

(b) if so, the number of working hostels set up in different States particularly in Maharashtra so far;

(c) whether Government have received proposals from different States for construction of more of such hostels particularly during last three years, state-wise;

(d) if so, the number of proposals cleared so far and the target date when rest of the proposals will be cleared; and

(e) the fund sanctioned by the Government to each State for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Department of Women & Child Development has been providing funds under the Central Sector Plan Scheme of 'Assistance for Construction/Expansion of Hostel Building for Working Women with Day Care Centre for Children'. Besides voluntary organisations, Women's Development Corporations, Universities, Schools/

Colleges of Social Work, Logcal Bodies and Cooperative Institutions, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are also eligible for assistance under the scheme.

(b) 783 Hostels have been sanctioned so far all over the country including 110 in Maharashtra.

(c) and (d). A statement I showing the number of proposals sanctioned so far State-wise out of the proposals received during the last three years is attached. Annexure-I. Sanction of a proposals is dependent on timely completion of all the schematic requirements by the applicant organisation and the concerned State Government.

(e) A statement-II is attached

STATEMENT-I

| S.No. | State/Union Territory | Number of proposals received during last three years (1993-94 1994-95 & 1995-96) | No. of proposals sanctioned so far out of proposals received during last three years |
|-------|-----------------------|--|--|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 9 | 5 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 2 | - |
| 3. | Assam | 6 | - |
| 4. | Bihar | 6 | - |
| 5. | Gujarat | 5 | 3 |
| 6. | Haryana | 3 | - |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 1 | - |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6 | 3 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 24 | 11 |
| 10. | Kerala | 21 | 13 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 11 | 3 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 32 | 15 |
| 13. | Manipur | 2 | - |
| 14. | Mizoram | 4 | 1 |
| 15. | Nagaland | 2 | 1 |
| 16. | Orissa | 4 | 2 |
| 17. | Punjab | 1 | 1 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 3 | 1 |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 42 | 27 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 13 | 1 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 8 | 5 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 2 | 2 |
| 23. | Delhi | 5 | 3 |
| | | 212 | 97 |

STATEMENT-II

| S.No. | State/Union Territory | Funds sanctioned during last three years (1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96) (Rs. in lakh) |
|-------|-----------------------|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 126.11 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 27.07 |
| 3. | Assam | 36.51 |
| 4. | Bihar | 12.31 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 41.35 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 38.03 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 234.43 |
| 8. | Kerala | 343.57 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 38.60 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 424.29 |
| 11. | Manipur | 16.88 |
| 12. | Meghalaya | 4.50 |
| 13. | Mizoram | 4.97 |
| 14. | Nagaland | 25.41 |
| 15. | Orissa | 57.20 |
| 16. | Punjab | 53.76 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 31.98 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 349.72 |
| 19. | Tripura | 7.84 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 133.16 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 122.01 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 35.63 |
| 23. | Delhi | 169.29 |
| 24. | Pondicherry | 1.20 |
| | | 2335.83 |

[Translation]

Zafri Committee

2990. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps being taken for implementation of the recommendations of Zafri Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : The Government has not taken any final decision on the Jafri Committee Report on Urdu. However, one of the recommendations has been implemented by converting the Bureau for Promotion of Urdu into an autonomous body, namely, the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL).

[English]

Kandla Lands

2991. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Gujarat for handing over the lands of Kandla area back to the State Government;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of Gujarat has requested for transfer of Gandhidham Township and adjacent lands.

(c) The proposal has not been accepted as the land is required for the future development of the Kandla Port.

Modification in Contracts

2992. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the contract arrived in 1987 with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation of Japan who was to supply Turbogenerator sets for Sardar Sarovar Project has requested for modification of the assigned contract order to include storage and interest charges in the contract before adhering to the supply of Turbogenerator sets manufactured by the company for the project;

(b) whether the Government not have taken up the issue with the company;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to end the statement?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In a special meeting of the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority held on 15th July, 1996 attended by the chief Ministers of four participating States among others, it was agreed to negotiate with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation, Japan the suppliers of the Turbo-Generator sets for the River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project, regarding storage and interest charges for the Turbo-Generator sets already manufactured and stored in Japan. It will lead further course of action in this regard.

Utilisation of Funds Allotted To IWAI and IWTC

2993. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :

SHRI E. AHAMED :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allotted in

Eighth Five Year Plan to Inland Waterways Authority of India and Central Inland Water Transport Corporation has not been fully utilised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken or likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the details of funds allotted and utilised, so far State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for low utilisation of funds are mainly attributable to (1) inadequate availability of manpower, (2) time taken in completion of techno-economic studies, (3) detailed preparation of schemes, (4) non-implementation of Rajabagan Dockyard Modernisation Project and non-acquisition of all vessels under the 7th Plan Vessel Acquisition Scheme.

(c) The Inland Waterways Authority of India has made a comprehensive review in 1995-96 and preparation of schemes has been expedited. As regards the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation the implementation of the scheme of modernisation of Rajabagan Dockyard is under process. Necessary steps are also being taken to obtain approval for the revised cost estimate for the 7th Plan Vessel Acquisition Scheme.

(d) Allocations of funds are not made State-wise; they are made for National Waterway Scheme and other activities. For Centrally Sponsored Schemes executed by various State Governments, there was an allotment of Rs.3.95 crores under the 8th Plan for the period from 1992-93 to 1995-96. The details of State-wise expenditure under Centrally Sponsored Schemes are furnished as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

| Name of State | Expenditure 1992-93 to 1995-96 |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bihar | 0.02 |
| Goa | 0.20 |
| Kerala | 0.54 |
| UP | 0.04 |
| West Bengal | 0.53 |
| Total | 1.33 |

National Drug Authority

2994. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up the

National Drug Authority to develop and define basic standards relating to all aspects of drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Action has already been initiated to set up a National Drug Authority under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to develop and define basic standards relating to all aspects of drugs.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Irrigation Capacity

2995. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NAVAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the irrigation capacity of the country was 22.6 million hectares before the commencement of five years plan;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that schemes had been formulated by fixing target in each Five Year Plan for continuous increase in the irrigation capacity of the country;

(d) if so, the details of the target set for each first to Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) the total amount spent in each five year plan for achieving the target;

(f) total irrigation capacity likely to be achieved in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(g) whether Union Government had conducted any survey to find out the extent of difference in the capacities of various States of the country;

(h) if so, the State-wise gap noticed at the end of the year 1994-95; and

(i) whether Union Government have issued any directives to the State Government to make full utilisation of the installed irrigation capacity?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. A Statement showing Plan-wise targets of irrigation Potential and total amount spent thereon from the First Five Year Plan to the Eighth Five Year Plan is at Statement-I.

(f) Out of the Eighth Five Year Plan target of 15.80 million hectares, in the first two years of the plan (1992-

94) an irrigation capacity of 3.79 million hectares has been achieved.

(g) and (h) A reappraisal study of irrigation potential created and utilised was carried out in 1986. Based on this study the Statewise details of the gap between creation and utilisation of irrigation potential at the end of 1994-95 are given at Statement-II.

(i) State Governments are advised from time to time to make full utilisation of the installed irrigation capacity by proper water management measures and by implementation of command area development programmes.

STATEMENT-I

Targets for creation of irrigation potential and total amount spent thereon from First Five Year Plan to Eighth Plan.

| Plan | Target for creation of irrigation potential (in Million hectares) | Amount spent on creation of irrigation potential (Rs. in crores) |
|--------------|---|--|
| First Plan | 6.77 | 441.86 |
| Second Plan | 8.50 | 522.23 |
| Third Plan | 6.57* | 903.73 |
| Fourth Plan | 9.60 | 1754.58 |
| Fifth Plan | 13.11 | 3147.01 |
| Sixth Plan | 13.74 | 12495.10 |
| Seventh Plan | 12.90 | 14225.64 |
| Eighth Plan | 15.80 | 28391.79 |

*Targets for Minor Irrigation Schemes not available.

STATEMENT-II

Gap in Irrigation Potential Created and its utilisation through Major & Medium Irrigation Projects and Minor Irrigation Schemes at the end of 1994-95 (provisional)

(In Thousand hectares)

| S. No. | States/UTs | Irrigation Potential Created (IPC) | Irrigation Potential Utilised (IPU) | Gap between IPC & IPU |
|--------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 6058.08 | 5617.95 | 440.13 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 75.13 | 66.08 | 9.05 |
| 3. | Assam | 811.65 | 617.71 | 193.94 |
| 4. | Bihar | 8167.90 | 7134.24 | 1033.66 |
| 5. | Goa | 33.23 | 30.10 | 3.13 |

| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|---|
| 6. Gujarat | 3282.78 | 3024.97 | 257.81 | |
| 7. Haryana | 3635.47 | 3343.12 | 292.35 | |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 155.87 | 130.74 | 25.13 | |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | 543.56 | 507.70 | 35.86 | |
| 10. Karnataka | 3075.76 | 2793.11 | 282.65 | |
| 11. Kerala | 1077.75 | 992.49 | 85.26 | |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | 4810.79 | 3957.70 | 853.09 | |
| 13. Maharashtra | 4748.79 | 3438.85 | 1309.94 | |
| 14. Manipur | 126.12 | 105.66 | 20.46 | |
| 15. Meghalaya | 50.50 | 44.06 | 6.44 | |
| 16. Mizoram | 12.08 | 10.35 | 1.73 | |
| 17. Nagaland | 67.25 | 57.28 | 9.97 | |
| 18. Orissa | 2807.31 | 2836.64 | 270.67 | |
| 19. Punjab | 5825.52 | 5706.85 | 118.67 | |
| 20. Rajasthan | 4645.84 | 4309.64 | 336.20 | |
| 21. Sikkim | 24.19 | 18.74 | 5.45 | |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | 3702.64 | 3700.89 | 1.75 | |
| 23. Tripura | 98.88 | 91.05 | 7.83 | |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | 58673.00 | 25702.00 | 2971.00 | |
| 25. West Bengal | 4454.83 | 3827.55 | 627.28 | |
| Total States | 86964.92 | 77765.47 | 9199.45 | |
| Total UTs | 102.09 | 89.33 | 12.76 | |
| Grand Total | 87067.01 | 77854.80 | 9212.21 | |

[English]

Height of Sardar Sarover Dam

2996. SHRI SATYAJIT SINGH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD :

SHRI N.J. RATHVA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals/suggestions have been received by the Central Government from the Gujarat Government regarding height of the dam at Sardar Sarover project during the last three years enabling Gujarat to start the irrigation and power generation benefits as early as possible;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be given final shape and the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There have been proposals from the Government of Gujarat for raising the Sardar Sarovar

Dam upto EL 110 metre as early as possible to derive interim benefits of both irrigation and power. The progress of raising of dam height from the present level of EL 80.3 metres in the spillway portion is linked with pari-passu implementation of resettlement & rehabilitation measures.

**Road From Azamnagar to Dalkola
N.H. 34-Bihar**

2997. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a road from Azamnagar Railway Station to Dalkola on N.H. 34 in Katihar district of Bihar was sanctioned by his Ministry in 1989 and was to be constructed with the Central Road Fund;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a directive had already been sent to the State Government by his Ministry vide their letter No. NH-28012/3/88-Policy/OR dated 3.1.1989;

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking up the work so far; and

(d) the present position of this Project and the time by which it is expected to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A directive of general nature relating to augmentation of Central Road Fund was sent to all States on 3.1.1989.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Repair of Bridges on National Highways

2998. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred on repair of bridges on National Highways during the period 1995-96 and 1.4.96 to 31.7.96, State-wise; and

(b) the extent to which the expenditure is likely to be incurred for the said purpose particularly in respect of West Bengal and other North Eastern States till the end of 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Funds for the repair of bridges on National Highways are sanctioned depending upon the urgency of the repair required and the overall availability of resources. It is too early to estimate the likely expenditure on the repair of bridges during the year 1996-97.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| S. No. | State/Union Territory | Funds released for the repair of bridges during 1995-96 | Funds released for repairs of bridges during 1.4.96 to 31.7.96 |
|--------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 35.39 | - |
| 2. | Assam | 92.59 | - |
| 3. | Bihar | 2.30 | - |
| 4. | Chandigarh | - | - |
| 5. | Delhi | - | - |
| 6. | Goa | 10.85 | - |
| 7. | Gujarat | 28.68 | - |
| 8. | Haryana | 17.40 | - |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 3.41 | - |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 20.00 | - |
| 11. | Karnataka | 1.80 | - |
| 12. | Kerala | 8.50 | - |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 26.18 | - |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 59.39 | - |
| 15. | Manipur | 1.01 | - |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 3.89 | - |
| 17. | Nagaland | - | - |
| 18. | Orissa | 20.82 | - |
| 19. | Pondicherry | - | - |
| 20. | Punjab | 9.03 | - |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 1.60 | - |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 4.31 | - |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 38.26 | - |
| 24. | West Bengal | 3.87 | - |
| Total | | 389.28 | |

Mughal Road from Jammu to Srinagar

2999. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to revive the all-weather Mughal Road from Jammu to Srinagar;

(b) if so, the mileage of this road and the capital outlay involved in its revival;

(c) whether any project report for this Road has been prepared, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the project is scheduled to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The length of this road is approximately 85 kms. and is estimated to cost Rs. 77.40 crores at 1994-95 prices.

(c) The detailed project report is being prepared.

(d) The project is likely to take six years time for completion.

Sources of Irrigation in Azamgarh, U.P.

3000. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is true that the main sources of irrigation in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh are tubewells and canals;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that most of the Government tubewells remain out of order and breach in the canal embankments, result in the loss of crop, life and property; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for digging the canals and to repair the tubewells?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Some breaches do occur in canal embankments, but no loss of crop, life and property has been reported.

(c) Silt clearance and digging in the canals are carried out as per requirement and breaches in canal embankments are repaired promptly. The mechanical and electrical defects in tubewells are also attend to promptly.

Visit of Amnesty International to J & K

3001. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Amnesty International have been invited to send their team to Jammu & Kashmir during or following the recent elections to the Lok Sabha in that State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the response of Amnesty International thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Uttar Pradesh Transport to Private Sector

3002. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh State Transport

Corporation is being wind up and handed over to private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Release of funds for repairs of irrigation canals

3003. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has not released any funds for the annual repairs of irrigation canals in nine hill districts of Kumaon and Garwal in Uttar Pradesh for the last three years;

(b) whether most of the canals have become inoperative for non sanctioning of any funds by the State Government even under special repairs and damages by monsoon (SRDM); and

(c) the steps being taken for smooth running of the canals?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Irrigation is a State Subject. The Irrigation Projects are planned, funded, implemented and maintained by the State Government out of their own resources. Information on provision of funds and expenditure on maintenance of irrigation projects including canals is not maintained at the Centre.

[English]

Settlement of Accident Claims

3004. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act with regard to settlement of claims of road accident victims are not being followed by State Transport authorities in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to issue necessary guidelines to State Government for the settlement of claims awarded by the Motor Accident Claims Tribunals promptly and to avoid further litigation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Vacancies of Teachers in Schools

3005. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the posts of teachers in secondary and Intermediate Schools in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh are lying vacant;

(b) if so, whether an ill effect is prevailing on the teaching activities due to posts of teachers lying vacant; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

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

[English]

Insurance of U.P. Buses

3006. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the buses of U.P. State Road Transport Corporation are exempted from the provisions of Insurance; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh have exempted Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation from Insurance of buses to the extent of Third Party risk in exercise of its powers under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Construction of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Building at Leh and Kargil

3007. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether land for the construction of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) at Leh has been handed over to the JNV authorities;

(b) the total estimated cost involved for completion of the building and amount spent so far;

(c) the present position of construction of building of JNV in Kargil District of Ladakh; and

(d) the time by which the school building is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction of the building for the Navodaya Vidyalaya at Leh has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.156.88 lakhs. An amount of Rs.28.82 lakhs has already been given as advance to the construction agency.

(c) The construction of building of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Kargil has already been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.185.44 lakhs. The construction agency has already been paid an advance of Rs.19.80 lakhs.

(d) Expected time to completion is in 1996.

Kashmir youth in Army

3008. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the youths in Kashmir who are being selected for appointments in the army are asked by authorities to produce certificates from local police;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the difficulty faced by the Kashmiri youth in the matter; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Character and antecedents of everyone selected for appointments in the Army, including the youth in Kashmir are verified through civil police after the enrolment. Due to peculiar conditions prevailing in the valley, Jammu & Kashmir Rifles Regiment Training Centre Located in Srinagar is asking for character certificate duly signed by the Station House Officer of the area from candidates seeking enrolment in the Army. No complaints or representation regarding any difficulties being faced by the Kashmiri youth because of this have been received by the Government.

12.00 hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and review of the working of Kalakshetra Foundation, Madras for 1994-95 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Madras, for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Madras for the year 1994-95 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Madras, for the year 1994-95.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T. 322/96]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audit Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.- 323/96]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal, for the year 1993-94.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-324/96]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-325/96]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre of Cultural Resources and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-326/96]

Notification under Major Port Trust Act, 1963 etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):
On behalf of Shri T.G. Venkatraman, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) in the sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 :-
 - (i) G.S.R. 153(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Madras Port Trust Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 1996.
 - (ii) G.S.R.154(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Cochin Port Employees' (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
 - (iii) G.S.R.157(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Cochin Port Employees' (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
 - (iv) G.S.R.158(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Employees' (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
 - (v) G.S.R.159(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the New Mangalore Port Employees' (Grant of Festival Advance) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
 - (vi) G.S.R.160(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Cochin Port Employees' (General Provident Fund) Amendment Regulations, 1996.

- (vii) G.S.R.80(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1996 approving the Cochin Port Employees' (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
- (viii) G.S.R.81(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1996 containing corrigendum to the notification No. G.S.R.644(E) dated the 16th August, 1994.
- (ix) G.S.R.155(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Nehru Port (Recruitment, Heads of Departments) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
- (x) G.S.R.156(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 containing corrigendum of the Notification No. G.S.R.757(E) dated the 18th October, 1994.
- (xi) G.S.R.161(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1996 approving the Cochin Port Employees' (Classification, Control and Appeal) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
- (xii) G.S.R. 162(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March 1996 approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees (Interest Subsidy on House Building Advance) First Amendment Regulation, 1996.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-327/96]

- (2) A copy of the Directorate General of Shipping and Regional Offices (Sails) Group A & B (Non-Technical Posts) Recruitment Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.172 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1996, under provision to article 309 of the Constitution.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-328/96]

- (3) A copy of the Merchant Shipping (Fees for Load Line Surveys) Amendment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 108(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1996, under sub-section(3) of Section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT. 329-/96]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, For the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts, under section 24 of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Act, 1985.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-330/96]

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the paper mentioned at (4) above.
- (6) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under Section 5E of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948 :-
 - (i) Annual Report of the Ex.Bombay Dock Labour Board, for the period from the 25th February, 1994 to the 31st March, 1994, together with Audited Accounts thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Ex.Bombay Dock Labour Board, for the period from the 25th February, 1994 to the 31st March, 1994.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English Versions) Showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-331/96]

Annual Report and Review of the working of the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh for 1994-95 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IEQBAL SHERVANI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 1994-95, under section 19 of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, Act, 1996.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section(4) of section 18 of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Reserach, Chandigarh, Act, 1996.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 1994-95.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-332/96]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon, under section 18 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Act, 1956.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-333/96]

- (5) (i) a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Allied Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lala Ram Sarup institute of Tuberculosis and Allied Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-334/96]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi, of the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-335/96]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 1994-95.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, of the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-336/96]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 1994-95.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-337/96]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Account.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1994-95.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT.-338/96]

Annual Report of Review of the working of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla for 1994-95 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of

Advanced Study. Shimla. for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study. Shimla. of the year 1994-95.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-339/96]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Social Science Research. New Delhi. for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Account.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Social Science Research. New Delhi. for the year 1994-95.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-340/96]
- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University. New Delhi. for the year 1993-94. together with Audit Report thereon.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-341/96]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University. New Delhi. for the year 1994-95.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indira Gandhi National Open University. New Delhi. for the year 1994-95.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-342/96]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Banaras Hindu University, for the year 1993-94.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the

working of the Banaras Hindu University, for the year 1993-94.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-343/96]
- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maharashtra Prathanik Shikshan Parishad. for the year 1994-95. alongwith Audited Account.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Prathanik Shikshan Parishad for the year 1994-95.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-344/96]
- (13) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-345/96]
- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College Silchar, for the year 1994-95. alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College. Silchar, for the year 1994-95.
- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) Showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-346/96]
- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan. Ujjain, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the Year 1994-95.
- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) Showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.
[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-347/96]

(19) Copy of the Annual Account (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

(20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-348/96]

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the audited Accounts of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-349/96]

(23) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.

(24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at 23 above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-350/96]

(25) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for the year 1994-95 together with Audit Report thereon.

(26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-351/96]

(27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-352/96]

(28) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Institute of Technology Act, 1961.

(29) Statement (Hindi and English versions) Showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) and (28) above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-353/96]

(30) A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Universities (Amendment) Act, 1996 (President Act No.4 of 1996) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 1996 under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Uttar Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1995.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-354/96]

(31) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Primary Education Development Society of Kerala, Trivandrum, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the primary Education Development Society of Kerala, Trivandram, for the year 1994-95.

(32) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-355/96]

General Reserve Engineer Force Group 'C' and Group 'D' Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 1996 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy of the General Reserve Engineer Force Group 'C' and Group 'D' Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.247 in Gazette of India dated the 8th June, 1996 issued under proviso to article 309 of the Constitution.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed is the Library. See No. LT.-356/96]

12.03 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the following eight Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Current Session and assented to by the

President since a report was last made to the House on the 11th June, 1996 :-

1. The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996;
2. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) No.2 Bill, 1996;
3. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 1996;
4. The Supreme Courts and High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1996;
5. The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1996;
6. The Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1996;
7. The Arbitration and Conciliation Bill, 1996; and
8. The Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Bill, 1996.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today, it is the birthday of Mother Teresa. She is ailing, and she is under treatment. Let us pray for her quick and speedy recovery.

MR. SPEAKER : On behalf of the House, I wish her a speedy recovery.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : A large number of people were killed in this Amarnath tragedy. But the Governor including all his officers were here in Delhi for the last three days. What was the Government doing in Delhi for the last three days?... (Interruptions) I sent three communications... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, we have an adjournment motion on it.

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR (Baramulla) : The Government should have come forward itself and made a statement.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Pune) : Sir, the Amarnath tragedy is a very serious issue and that must be discussed here.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Well, hon. Members, I have received a number of notices on this unfortunate incident in Amarnath. I had referred to it during the obituary reference. We should find out a way

to discuss about this. In fact, as I said, I have received a lot of notices. I will allowed one by one to speak on this. Let us not go into the debate now because we will find out a way to discuss about it.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly say something about Mother Teresa. She is undergoing treatment in a Calcutta Hospital.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I think, on behalf of the House, we will wish her a speedy recovery.

12.05 hrs.

RE: TRAGEDY DURING AMARNATH YATRA

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry. In this morning where you have expressed condolences on the death of a former hon Member, you have also expressed condolences on the death of these people who went on a pilgrimage to Amarnath. But the question is not only to express condolences, we want to express our resentment. Is it fury of nature or some sort of human failure is involved in it? Therefore, we have given adjournment motion in this respect. Our adjournment motion fulfil all the conditions of rules. It is also important under which rules discussion will take place. We would like to stress and request you to allow us to move adjournment motion and given an opportunity to criticise the Government.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do wish to emphasise why we have moved an adjournment Motion. The Leader of the Opposition has pointed out one thing. In fact, it is very unusual and exceptional that the Chair expresses collective grief and conveys collective condolence from the chair itself. One such occasion was today when you are persuaded to do it of your own. We had also pleaded with you that such collective expression of grief be expressed by this House. There are no other reasons to seek an Adjournment Motion. This in itself would amount to conceding our demand that our Motion for Adjournment be admitted.

As the Motion itself says, it is a grim human tragedy of unprecedented dimensions. In turn, what are these dimensions? That is why, this is directly related to the question why and Adjournment Motion should be accepted. Till today, as of now, even while we are discussing this, over 150,000 pilgrims have been abandoned to their fate in a mountainous terrain in most adverse weather conditions. Of the almost 350 kms. of road and track, at least a hundred Kilometres of that is purely mountainous track. We are not unmindful of certain other things. Our complaint is not about the

adverse weather. Our complaint and the reason why we wish to move an Adjournment Motion is about official apathy. Governmental insensitivity and total incompetence in planning adequate preparations and thereafter taking care to provide timely succour and relief to the pilgrims who were abandoned there. This is unforgivable because, as of today, even while we are doing this, the sense of urgency that should be governing the Government action is totally absent. Those who are familiar with the terrain would know that at Panchtarani, which is in excess of 15,000 feet, pilgrims are still abandoned. There are pilgrims abandoned at Seshnag. There are about 70,000 pilgrims today at Pahalgam. The important point is that Pahalgam has in no capacity to absorb 70,000 people. If you put 70,000 pilgrims in Pahalgam, that in itself creates problems. The Government is totally unmindful of this. There are no accurate figures of the dead. There are differences between the figures that are being spoken of by the official and the non-official agencies. The disparity in the numbers. Report coming to us from our representatives from that area, from the unofficial agencies, from other agencies and from the pilgrims themselves show these variation. The reports vary from 200 to many multiples of deaths that have taken places. There are reports that 400 bodies have already been conveyed to Srinagar. The casualty evacuation has been laggard. I had instructions from my Leader. I had to do it myself. I was there. Between yesterday and day before, I tried to contact everyone concerned with this. I tried to contact the Prime Minister. I would informed that Prime Minister was away in U.P.

I tried to contact the Home Minister. I was informed that the Home Minister was away in Calcutta. I tried to contact the Defence Minister. He was away elsewhere. I tried to contact even the Railway Minister because there is a direct linkage of rail relief. But the Railway Minister was also absent. And most unforgivable, the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir who is directly responsible for the governance of that State on behalf of the Government of India, when this enormous tragedy was unfolding itself, was content to stay and be in Delhi for three days. And the Governor did not find it necessary to go back to Srinagar. *(Interruptions)* No simply that. The hon. Home Minister was in the Valley on the 22nd of August. The yatra had already started on 22nd of August. The Home Minister made references to every other responsibility that he has. We do not object to those reference. But he did not find it necessary to make even one reference to the yatra. He did not find it necessary to at least supervise, to enquire about the preparation that had been made. Because all these attempts made by me personally to contact each of them failed, that is why, we again assert that you should accept our Adjournment Motion.

I give just three or four additional reasons why it should be accepted. The Army was not called out in time to provide relief and support to the abandoned

pilgrims. And the Army in turn was not called out because there was simply no one in Jammu and Kashmir to officially call the Army out. There was not one even to make that request to the Armed Forces. The Chief Secretary, I am informed, was also absent. The casualty evacuations from there where deaths have taken place and the figures that are being given are all wrong. I am informed that 2000 people were heli-lifted from Panchtarni to Baltal. It is practically impossible - 2000 people to be lifted from Panchtarni to Baltal involves both ways one hour's flight by helicopters at least. You cannot lift more than 16 people at a time. And if 2000 people were lifted, you would have to really deploy the entire helicopters of the Air Force. These wrong figures are being propounded.

Look at the question of relief trains. I got in touch with our representative in Udhampur. I tried to get in touch with the Railway Minister. Finally, I succeeded in getting in touch with the only officer available, he was the Union Home Secretary. I was informed that a railway train was placed in Jammu to enable people from Jammu to move out on the evening of the 24th. Then I am informed that there were not enough yatis to move away. I find it amazing when 150,000 people have been told that the yatra is abandoned and they are being asked to come away that there was no one in the relief train to move out. This is a canard that is being spread because what has brought this about is the Government's announcement saying, "yatra is cancelled: yatra is taking place again yatra is cancelled." And just one relief train for 150,000 pilgrims to be moved out, I think the Union Home Minister and Union Railway Minister ought to reflect on this.

In addition to all these points, why do we say that the Adjournment Motion ought to be admitted is because never in the living memory has the yatra of the *chhadi mubarak* to Amarnath Cave been abandoned in this fashion. It has never happened in living memory that before *Raksha Bandhan*, the yatra is abandoned and the yatries are asked to move back. Now today we are informed over radio that the plans are being made to carry the *chhadi mubarak* by helicopter to the Amarnath cave. This is an unprecedented human tragedy. In living memory, it has never happened that Amarnath yatra is abandoned in this fashion and the *chhadi mubarak* is carried to the cave simply in a helicopter. If this is not a failure, I do not know what is the failure. And it is because of this failure, this callousness and this incompetence, we request you to concede our demand for an Adjournment Motion because if this Government is not to be castigated and chastised for this failure, then what are we to castigate them about?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, at the very outset, I would like to express my unhappiness.

You called the meeting. We discussed something. And, we thus agree to do something. But after coming here, the contrary happens. Shri Jaswant Singhji was

present in the meeting. Shri Jena and Shri Paswanji were also present there...*(Interruptions)*... It was discussed and told that 'the Home Minister had gone there. He will come back and give a statement before the House.' Now, we have heard from Shri Jaswant Singhji, what he has done.

As far as I am concerned, I could contact the Prime Minister as well as Shri Jena. We expressed our worries and sorrows and we wanted to know what was happening there. We were told that the Home Minister had been rushed to the spot. After coming back, he would give a Statement before this august House.

He have got elected Members from Kashmir here. They have said and Shri Dasmunsi and others have also said that because people from all over the country have gone there on pilgrimage, it is not an issue of Kashmir only. There is some lapse somewhere. What is that lapse? Unless we hear from the Home Minister, I do not want to rush to conclusion like Shri Jaswant Singhji. I am not an expert of it. It seems that this Party is an expert in everything. They came to the conclusion before hand. But the fact remains, that is next. Whether yatra is continuing...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI B.L. SHRAMA 'PREM' (East Delhi) : What do you want to convey?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please, sit down. I will come to you also.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : This is an example of insensitiveness of the Government and also an example as to how their supporters hindering other persons to speak is this way...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, I did not disturb Shri Jaswant Singhji or Shri Vajpayeeji. They had got every right to say and I have also got every right to say.

What I want to say is, I beg to differ with him only on one point...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to him.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : We have read about it in the newspapers also.

I think, the para-military forces and various voluntary organisations have done tremendously good job otherwise the death toll would have been even more. A lacuna was from the Government side. We are also equally unhappy to hear that the Governor was in Delhi to have a dinner with the Prime Minister. That has been told in the newspapers, we do not know as to how far it is correct.

But we firmly believe that this incident could have been avoided. Pilgrimage is taking place there for years together; it is not a new thing. In the past also, such

weather could have been there and action was taken in the past also by the appropriate authorities. It has been written in either, The *Hindustan Times* or *The Times of India*.

So, Sir, we want a threadbare discussions on this issue. All Members from Kashmir and other parts also, want to participate. And, as it had been decided in your Chamber, I will request, first, let the Government say that information they have got from the appropriate authorities till now and fix up the matter by which we can discuss this issue.

Sir, we are against the Adjournment Motion. The discussion should be under Rule 193. In everything the Adjournment Motion is too much. So, we do not want it. I would request you, first you please allow our Kashmiri Members to speak on this issue one by one ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do not be impatient. I will call you also.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday in the night an announcement was made about these numbers on T.V. that anyone who wants information in regard to Kashmir should did these numbers on telephone...*(Interruptions)* when I dialled these numbers on telephone, I found that it pertains to some private persons...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I did not ask you to give telephone numbers. No, nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bhopur) : It is a matter of national tragedy and we are all extremely sorry for it. The whole country is grieving on this very tragic incident. This is not a matter which should be politicised, I submit very respectfully. No doubt this House should discuss this issue, but on proper information and materials available. As we have been informed, the hon. Home Minister is already there. I hope he has been able to reach there because the weather should be favourable. He is expected to come back today and the Government has assured us that he will make a comprehensive statement after his return. Therefore, I think this House should discuss a matter of national tragedy on proper materials available to it, so that there can be an effective discussion. Suggestions can be given. The Government owes an explanation; it is its boundened duty to give that explanation.

My request is, in a matter of national tragedy, which has persuaded you rightly, if I may say so, to make a mention in the obituary statement that you have made,

* Not Recorded.

the House should not be divided. the country should not be divided. Let us take it seriously: give suggestions to the Government; pull up the Government: the Government has to be pulled up: there is no question of exonerating anybody; if there are lapses, people should suffer. Therefore, my appeal to everybody is, let us wait for the Home Minister's return as he is expected today and let us have a meaningful discussion on the basis of materials available.

So far as our sympathies are concerned, we are extending our fullest sympathies. On behalf of my party I am sure everyone will join me in conveying our sincere sorrow and condolence to the members of the bereaved families. Let us hope that this House will unitedly deal with the issue without being divided. That is my submission.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you might recall that I had raised the issue of Amarnath pilgrimage earlier also. At that time the hon. Prime Minister was also sitting here and I told him about it. Shri Chatterjee has just said that Amarnath pilgrimage is a pilgrimage of a whole country. This symbolises the unity and integrity of the country. People bring water from Rameshwaram and offer to lord Amarnath. At that time I also had said that a cup of tea was being sold upto Rs. 15. During pilgrimage time people have to pay Rs. two hundred as hiring a blanket.

This is on record. At that time I raised this issue and requested the Government to make some arrangement before hand. This time also it was a record pilgrimage. On the one hand there was a challenge of militants and on the other hand the country had accepted this challenge. About one and a half lakhs pilgrims had reached Jammu on 16th. You can well imagine under these circumstances how the Government took the pilgrims so casually. Today there is no semblance of administration in the Government of Kashmir and they were given charge of managing this pilgrimage. The management of this pilgrimage was given to the D.C. Anantnag. Whatever staff they had, they were not willing to extend cooperation. Neither you had sent additional staff there who would have managed the work.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all know that vehicles can go upto Pahalgam. Thereafter, the journey of 50 Kilometres is very different. Pissu valley falls in between. The pilgrims have to reach to the height of 15 thousand feet. All the regions of Sheshnag, Panchtarni are snow covered completely. I would like to tell you that the Government had made arrangement of only twenty thousand people.

About one and half lakhs pilgrims reached there but, no management was seen there. There was no person to look after them.

Even now the state of confusion is there. The weather becomes bad on 22nd. Earlier also the weather used to become bad but no one made plan to tackle the situation caused in high altitudes. The forces had arrangements for it but there was no planning. With result when the weather became bad, the pilgrims got stranded and a state of confusion prevailed. There was no control room in Jammu even till date. Yesterday on 25th it was announced in the 2 o'clock radio bulletin that a control room has been set up in Srinagar. News of death of pilgrims started coming from 22nd and the control room was set up on 25th at Srinagar. You can well imagine what the administration was doing there. It was announced on 24th that Yatra would not be allowed to proceed further and special trains have been but into service. After this, 15 thousand yatis reached there because the train was to start return journey at 11.30 in the night.

12.27 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the chair)

But, I would tell you that there was no train upto 1.30 in the night. All the yatis were harassed. Even there is news in today's news papers. That 8 trains have been sent there but I can say with guarantee that not a single special train has run from there. How it would have run? On the one hand announcement is being made that Yatra has been postponed and on the other the Governor reached there from here only yesterday. He reached there after waiting for a party here for three days. You would be surprised to know that even the Divisional Commissioner is not available in Jammu. The Chief Secretary of Kashmir is passing his time here. So many people are dying there but no one is there except Saklani we know his capacity. We also know how he was dealing with things there. There was not a single such person who would contact the army and called them there. Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government have greatly minimised this yatra and underestimated it. With the result that this has happened.

This is a fine example of secularism about which the Government talk of much. The offerings in Amarnath is divided into three share. One share goes to the priests at the temple. Second goes to the mahants who carry Charri Mubark to the care and the third share goes to the muslim brother Malik. This is so sacred journey that we are surprised to hear what the Government is saying.

We are told that there is another route through Baltal. They are saying that dead bodies are being brought by helicopter. It is in my knowledge that 60 bodies have been cremated. The bodies found on route are being cremated. There is no arrangement there to send dead bodies to their near ones. I would say that the more the Government is condemned the less it is.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Government through you that the Government itself make arrangement to send the dead bodies to their families

because they have no money to carry the dead bodies through planes. So, it is the responsibility of the Government to make arrangement to bring the dead bodies. The Government should also make a arrangement to give them relief immediately. The situation is such there that neither medicines nor food is being supplied. Other State Governments are sending food packets there. There is scarcity of fuel and blankets are also not available. These things should be supplied there immediately. The road between Jammu and Kashmir has been completely damaged at the moment. If this work is left for the Government of Kashmir it is unlikely to be completed in a month. This is the only way to link the rest of the country. This should be repaired on war footing. This is my submission. Taking these things into consideration the Government have failed miserably. So our Adjournment motion should be accepted so that it is debated in the House ...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The Central Government is responsible for it because the President's rule is imposed there.

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fully share with the sentiments expressed by hon. Members here on this great tragedy of Amarnath. Yatris belonging to different parts of the country are there. The people of the country want to know the welfare of their near relatives, family members and near and dear ones and where they are at present. There is no such information centre at Delhi. Jammu and Srinagar from where people may come to know the names and address of those persons who are dead also those who have survived and in what condition they are?

Those who are in hospitals, what is their condition and in which hospital they are admitted. I think that the people of the whole country are very anxious and they want to know about the condition of their brothers and relations. Firstly the Government of Jammu and Kashmir should be instructed to find out in detail about the persons who are dead and also those who are admitted in the hospitals. The country should know where they are held up.

This incident has not happened for the first time. The same incident had happened in 1973 and the weather turned inclement. At that time about 100 pilgrims were dead. As this is not the first incident so the incharge administration of Jammu and Kashmir and the planners of this pilgrimage should have planned it in such a way keeping in view the possibility of inclement weather that if the weather turns hostile the pilgrims will be supplied woollen clothes, blankets and arrangements for their lodging and boarding will be made but, such plan was not formulated. Plan was made keeping this in view that less number of pilgrims will undertake the yatra and the weather will remain good. This is said reflection. The State administration is responsible for it.

Lakhs of people have been hurt with the planning and arrangements. There due to which valuable lives had lost. The whole house is sad over it. Everyone is concerned with it. We have sympathy with the near ones of those people who have lost their lives. We want that better arrangement be made to rescue those still stranded there. Train services should be arranged so as to help them to reach to their homes. The Jammu-Srinagar route should be opened immediately. Money should be provided to those people who lack. If even to buy tickets. Medical facility should be provided to the sick people. Had our Armed Forces and Air Force not come forward to provide help them a big tragedy would have struck and more people than this would have died. I take this occasion to pay my compliments to Armed Forces, Air Force, B.S.F. and personnel of administration. Terrorists had declared that they won't allow the yatra but the Kashmiri people did not allow their plan to succeed. As terrorists failed to do any mischief, it shows that the people of Kashmir particularly the muslim brethren want peace in Hindustan and in the State and are giving cooperation to the Government. I appreciate their role. But whatever failure has taken place, it should be enquired into and the guilty persons should be punished. The stranded people should be rescued and treatment should be given to the sick. The people of the country should be informed where their relatives, friends and near and dears ones are, and how they are and in which condition they are? I think the whole House should condemn this and the people who are responsible for it and also for failure of administration should be punished so that this thing does not happen again. Proper arrangement should be made for the people to undertake yatra. Besides, the Congress Members have given notice under rule 188 which may be taken up for discussion.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir it is a national tragedy. Even if 50 per cent of what Shri Jaswant Singh and Shri Chaman Lalji have said in this House is correct, it indicates that the Government was not only insensitive to the situation that may develop because of bad weather, but even after the tragedy, the Government was callous and so, it should be charged for dereliction of duty.

None can expect that after such a great tragedy, the Governor could remain in the capital city of Delhi. He will find no reason to go to Jammu or to Srinagar, wherever it was possible, to manage the affairs there. One should try to know from the Government what were the pressing reasons for the Governor to remain in Delhi and why did all the officer of the Kashmir not rush to the spot? Why did the people responsible in the Government of India including the Prime Minister and the Home Minister not think it proper to cancel their programmes and go to that spot? There was no other pressing problem; and I know that the Government is

not busy in taking any crucial decision which will determine the destiny of the nation, where they should not have taken note of this tragedy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is an emotional issue. I shall like to request the hon. Leader of Opposition not to make it a partisan issue. But may I urge upon the Prime Minister that he should rise to the occasion and he should not try to give *alibis* to all the things that happened there. It is a situation in which all of us should unitedly try to find out where were the lapses, who were the people responsible; and they should not be spared. I have no grudge against any individual; I do not know about the 'fires'. But, Sir, nothing can be more shameful and degrading for a nation than what has happened. Natural tragedies do take place and we should be ready to face it. But what Shri Chaman Lalji has said was shocking that after three or four days only they were able to have a control room there. It is done within hours, whenever tragedy occurs. When a tragedy like this happens, what was the Government doing for three days? Why were the Defence Forces not put on alert and asked to start the control room immediately, within hours?

Sir, I do not want to make it a political issue, but I think, this is the worst that can be expected of the Kashmir Government; and if I say the same about the Government here, it shall not be out of place. I think, if the Home Minister make the statement, he should come ready with the answers to the questions raised by Jaswant Singh and by Shri Chaman Lalji. Only than a fruitful discussion can there on this issue.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahaad) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is such a tragedy for which the whole House is concerned with one voice. The question of making it a political issue does not arise and neither the leader of the opposition nor Shri Jaswant Singh have tried to give it a political colour and neither they will try to give this tragedy a political colour. This is a national tragedy and it should be discussed in that perspective. It is noteworthy that limits for the tragedy were coming in advance. I recall that our hon. Minister of Home Affairs had gives an assurance in the House that he would take adequate security precautions and would make better arrangement than before. I vividly remember when Shri Chaman Lalji raised this question for the first time, the hon Home Minister gave reply in the form of this assurance. I would like to know what steps have been taken by the Home Ministry and Kashmir Government after this assurance. In which way they have taken this assurance and what type of arrangement they have made there. I have been receiving news since yesterday and I told the Home Secretary that the toll of dead is not just 120 or 160. It can exceed the figure of 400 or 500. I received a call in the morning that people have see more than 400 and

about 500 dead bodies and it was told that a number of dead bodies were being cremated. They are not being identified and no information is being given to their family members.

12.41 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker in the chair)

I have received telephone calls from nearly 60-70 places since yesterday till date. The people are worried where are their family members and they have no information about it. They cannot go there. Those persons cannot be brought here who had gone their for the pilgrimage. Under these circumstances if we stop all the business and discuss this tragedy than it will not be wrong. But Shri Chandra Shekharji has said that the Home Minister has gone there and if the Home Minister and the Government want to say something, they should tell. We would like to know the response of the Government on this issue? It is very regretable that when our leader and Deputy leader of the opposition gave notice for adjournment motion then the Government should have atleast present here to give its information but we are said that no attention has been paid towards it. Not only the Kashmir Government but I think even the Central Government is insensitive towards this matter. I was informed there that those persons who want to return are being demanded certificates to the effect by the railway department personnel that they are returning due to road blockade. Their reservation was for five-six days beyond i.e. for 28th. When they were informed of the cancellation of Yatra they started returning. When they go to the railway counter to purchase ticket, they are told at the railway counter to give certificates to the effect that they are returning due to the closure of the road only then, they will give seat to them. On the one hand they say that they are running trains and on the other hand we are getting such information. I don't know how an officer can take such a decision. It is a sign of total insensitivity that on the one hand people die there, get stranded, weather becomes inclement and they would like to return but the Government could not make arrangement. This is a matter of great concern.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request you to consider this question purely from national perspective. As Shri Chaman Lalji has stated this yatra is a symbol of unity and integrity of India, of brotherhood and of enterprise and courage. Lakhs of people have reached Kashmir which is struck by terrorism. If you do not make arrangement for them you are affronting their courage and commitment towards India. Lakhs of people have come from Rameshwaram and are going to Amarnath via Srinagar and Anantnag with sentiments for the motherland in their heart and are going there to sacrifice their everything for the unity and integrity of the country and are accepting the challenge. I am very sorry to state that the Government did not responded to their

sentiments but rather have affronted it. So I would like that serious discussion should take place on this issue. It would be better if we discuss the adjournment motion brought forward by Shri Jaswant Singhji. We should stop all business of the House and consider the whole problem from purely national perspective. We should punish those who are responsible for this happening and ensure that such things do not take place in future.

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR (Baramula) : Hon Speaker, Sir, we four members belong to the valley and we had requested you in the morning that a discussion should take place on the serious tragedy that accrued during Amarnath Yatra even if the question hour is to be suspended for it. I think there is no difference in making request or in bringing adjournment motion or raising it in zero hour. You have given a ruling on it that discussion can take place on it so, there should be a discussion on it.

I am not well versed with the rules. After this bringing adjournment motion during for discussion or the way of moving it was not correct. This tragedy has no link with any particular community. Those who are Shiv devotees generally go to Amarnath Yatra every year. The historical background of Amarnath Yatra does not go back to thousand years. A muslim lambardar Malik had located this cave during the period of Maharaja Pratap Singh and brought it to the notice of Maharaja. From that time carrying and bringing back Chhari Mubarak started. Due to the snow the shivling takes shape for 15 days and when the snow melts, it comes down in another 15 days. We have great reverence for it. As Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta has said that the income that is accrued from Amarnath Yatra is distributed among panch of Pattan, Malik and Mahant. There are two ways to go there. One way is from Pahalgam and another is from Baltal on the road to Kargil. This is the short route and the number of yatris from here is steadily increasing for the last 40 years but they have not constructed a road for which the Government and we are responsible. Generally the yatra starts from Pahalgam. Previously Chhari Mubarak used to be carried from Srinagar, but for year of terrorists and militancy Chhari Mubarak is now taken from Jammu. I understand a number of serious incidents have taken place for the last seven years. I do not want to raise political issue here. Two years ago about hundred people died due to the blizzard and a number of vehicles got stranded. No one took actives against the administration. The national highway remains closed for three months in a year but there is no metalled road. In this scientific era we could not construct road from Pahalgam to the cave. We could not make arrangement for the pilgrims. I regard it as a tragedy for the entire country. Today the whole country is greatly concerned. About 1 lakh yatris have come. You may by taking into the political consideration bring the adjournment motion and pass it, condemn the Government or condemn the Government of Kashmir but I think before giving

judgement this should be investigated fully A CID enquiry should be got conducted and enquiry against those people should be held who are responsible for it.

Yatris are dying there but it does not move the Governor. The big leaders have said here so many times that the Governor should be removed from here. I understand in our time also there had been great demand and we demand today also that this arrogant Governor who is holding this post should be removed. He should be punished. There will be a feeling among the people that the Central Government is going to take action. The stranded yatris should be rescued and arrangement for providing food to them be made. There a plate of dal is available for Rs. 25. A cup of tea is being sold at Rs. 5 to 10. They have no clothes and no shelter to stay. I think it is very Shameful. Instead we make it a political issue. I want the hon. Home Minister give a Statement and highlight their weaknesses. He should not hide them. I would request the opposition leader Shri Vajpayee ji that instead of making it a partisan issue, he should make it a national issue. Discussion on it can only take place when we get material from the Government. I fully understand the sentiments of Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta. The sentiments of the people there and of every Kashmiri are so hurt that every taximan, bus driver and other people around talk of it. Not only Hindus but Muslims render help. In spite of the militancy which has been going on there for the last so many years. So many people came forward to help in the yatra. Our people have welcomed it, the Muslims have welcomed it. The Home Minister should come here and make a Statement and those persons should be removed from there who are responsible for it.

I had said two years before that three army generals and a Post Master are ruling there. After a week, elections are going to be held there this month. Since Kashmir budget is being presented tomorrow so I would like to speak a few words on its but we should have information. When new Government assumes responsibility there, it should make Amarnath yatra comfortable. There should be arrangement for provisions, hotels, lodging and this can happen only when a responsible Government assumes charge there. So I want that the adjournment motion should be withdrawn and some unanimous decision should be taken on this issue for the sake of national unity and make this yatra easy. We should protect the sanctity of this cave and effort should be made that not only Hindu Shiv devotees but other people also who are not Shiv devote and Muslims should visit that place. This yatra should be held as a gesture of national unity. Shri Vajpayeeji I will request this to you. I think there is no need to move the adjournment motion. I agree that carelessness has taken place and we are sorry for it. Our heads hang in Shame. We should discuss this issue in detail. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (Aska) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a lot of discussion has taken place on this issue, if this is an issue. Blizzards take place every time when there is a fall in temperature. It has taken place all over the world; it has taken place here. Unfortunately, it was a very severe blizzard. People who go to Amarnath are quite used to adverse weather, but they were not used to this sort of an attack of a blizzard.

What is required of the Government now, if I may suggest, is to ensure that these pilgrims are properly evacuated. No tickets, no fare, and nothing should be charged from them. And it should be seen that they are totally evacuated. I request the hon. Minister of Railways, who is sitting here, to ensure that. Secondly, I request the hon. Prime Minister - whatever has happened, has happened, we can now lay blame on one or the other - that for the future there should be a national highway going right up to the shrine. By stages, proper accommodation should be provided to the pilgrims, and proper care should be taken. After all, this is a national affair and pilgrims come from all over the country. From Pahalgam up to the shrine a proper road system should be developed. Proper arrangements for the protection of *yatris*, in the event of another blizzard, should also be made.

Whatever discussion will take place, will take place in due course, but these are almost like fire-fighting arrangements that I have suggested.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say only one or two points and would take a little time. I would like to know that when the tragedy struck on 22nd, where were the Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister at that time and to whom they contacted immediately and from which sources they derived information? Whenever the Amarnath Yatra and the elections in Jammu and Kashmir were held successfully, the Government took all its credit. It was duly and publicly stated that Home Ministry has expressed its unhappiness that why the Governor was here and the response of the state Government there was inadequate. I do not regard that the responsibility lies with the State Government only but the Central Government is mainly responsible for it. The Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister must give its clarification.

Secondly the Governor, Chief Secretary were staying in Delhi at that time. Was it not necessary for the P.M.O. or the Prime Minister or the Home Minister to give instruction to them to go back immediately. Do you know that the Chief Secretary is still here? I do not know whether he has gone or not. When they were here, there was no one to give them instruction that such a big tragedy has taken place so they should go back. It would be better that an enquiry commission is

constituted under the leadership of the leader of the opposition, a Committee of the House be constituted in which there are 4-5 main leaders. They should go there and see what lapses have taken place. They should see whether the Central Government or the State Government is responsible for it. The State Government is already helpless there. The D.C. of Anantnag has nothing to do there.

I would also like to know under whose command the Air Force and the Army carried out the work? Who was guiding them? Why not a Central room could be established in Jammu, Delhi or Srinagar?

I do not subscribe to the views of Chandra Shekhar ji in regard to the adjournment motions that whatever matter is raised it may be called partisan. After all there is some way to raise matter. Will anything raised in the Adjournment motion be regarded as partisan? What does it mean? If a way is found out of criticize the Government, it cannot be called partisan and it is not proper to define it in this way. When all members here agreed that discussion on it should take place then why discussions should not be allowed to take place under adjournment motion?

Secondly, the Government should take the responsibility of handing over the dead bodies to their families and give them compensation. I have come to know that the Prime Minister has announced to give Rs. 50 Thousand to the dependents of the dead persons. I would say that it is not sufficient. They should give more thought to it and more compensation should be granted to them. Energy should be conducted into the lapses that took place there and responsibility should be fixed on the Central Government and the State Government. This is my demand.

SHRI HARBHAJAN LAKHA (Phillaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to say in regard to the report of Ramesh Chand committee. Demonstration is being held outside the Parliament House...(Interruptions) We should be given chance to speak...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sarpotdar.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let us finish this one.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will dispose of this first.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : The hon. Leader of the Opposition and Shri Jaswant Singh has given a notice of Adjournment Motion. I am supporting the Adjournment Motion.

The basic reason being that this is not the new thing that the pilgrims who go to Amarnath have always faced a number of difficulties. This particular problem was discussed in the House and it was assured by the

Government that all necessary arrangements would be done to look after the pilgrims. I really fail to understand that when there is uncertainty of climatic condition, was it not the Government to see that the necessary arrangements for the protection of the pilgrims has been done? Was it not the responsibility of the Government to see that the roads are in good condition, all control rooms and all other necessary arrangements have been made?

On 22nd August, this particular incident took place. I do not know the state of condition today. Shri Indrajit Gupta, our hon. Minister of Home Affairs, has gone there yesterday. I would like to know prior to him how many officers have reached the place. Who is incharge of the operations? Who is incharge of the situation over there?

13.00 hrs.

Who is supposed to pass on the instructions to the Army so that they can immediately take steps for rescue operation? What type of Government is functioning here? When lakhs and lakhs of people are facing tremendous amount of problems and when there is no guarantee of life, under such a situation, if the Government is keeping quiet, I would say it is something absurd. It is beyond imagination. The Government should be functional. The Government should be active. The Government should be in a position to take very prompt decisions. But somehow, we do not see this. I do not know how many pilgrims have already died. We are not aware of the figures. The figures are secondary. But the situation is very important. Who is going to take preventive action? Even today what has the Central Government done to protect the very costly lives of the pilgrims? What have they done? Luckily, hon. Prime Minister is here. My earnest request to the hon. Prime Minister is to find out the facts and take the entire House into confidence and tell us what is the situation prevailing and as to why this entire situation has been allowed to develop. The condition there is horrible. Is it the fault of the people who have rushed to that spot? Should they not go to such pilgrimages? The people go there in lakhs. Was it not the basic responsibility of the Government to provide them all basic amenities? In addition to other arrangements, the Government should have made arrangements to look after their lives as also their transportation. But somehow this Government has miserably failed. So, my humble request to the hon. Speaker is that this Adjournment Motion should be admitted.

Hon. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has suggested that there should be a discussion under Rule 193. I entirely oppose it. When will the Government become active? When there is a Censure Motion like this, then only the Government will become more active and they will take cognizance of the situation and at least in future, they will avoid such kind of a situation to develop.

So, again my humble request to the hon. Speaker is that this Adjournment motion should be admitted and discussion should start now. After the discussion, the final result should be made known to all of us as per the procedure laid down.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, such a serious tragedy has occurred for the last three days but no statement has come from the Government so that the people are ensured that the Government is doing something for them. The leader of the opposition wants to bring "Adjournment motion" while others say that this matter should be raised under rule 193 and this issue should not be made political. I would like to ask whether this Government is not formed on political issue? Then what is the reason that such thing is being uttered. When the whole country is shocked over this tragedy, why not this Government had sent the Governor and Chief Secretary back there. The Chief Secretary and the Governor of Kashmir are still staying at Delhi. Whether the Prime Minister of this country and the Home Minister are not responsible for it? the Prime Minister and the Home Minister had been going to Uttar Pradesh on helicopters and holding public meetings but took no much time in asking the Governor of that state and the secretary to go back. I believe that the whole fault lies with the Government.

The hon. Member has just said here that we have told about it earlier. If the Governor is not capable then he should be replaced immediately. We are not ready to hear that this issue is being given a political colour. Whatever issue is raised by the opposition, the Government always say that this issue is being given political colour. Does the political issue not become national issue and does the Government not form on political issue?

I request the Prime Minister through you to inform the House about the action taken there? The dependents of deceased have been given Rs. 50 thousand each. I would like to say that when these people were in opposition. They used to say that the family of deceased should be given Rs. 5 lakh each. I would request the Prime Minister that the dependents of the deceased should be given Rs. 5 lakhs each. The dead bodies should be handed over to their families. There the bodies are being cremated. Unless dead bodies are not handed over to their families, how will they come to know that their family members has died or is missing. In this matter also the Government has many lapses. The Government is trying to hide the whole issue. All this matter should come in public through adjournment motion. Why Government is shying away from the discussion?

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that the Government should admit this adjournment motion and have discussion on it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You see, we have not gone into the debate. I think the consensus of the House is that we should have a debate on that. I do not think everybody should speak at this stage. What is the stand of the Government on that?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA): Sir, this is one of the important issues where the entire House is concerned about this tragic event. I would like to make it clear that the Government does not want to suppress any information so far as the action taken either by the State Government or by the Central Government on this tragedy is concerned. Our Home Minister has gone to Jammu and also to that particular place. If weather permits and if it is clear, he will also go near to the Shrine to see the condition and to see if there are some people left over. To know the actual position, we have requested him to go up to the point, i.e. Amarnath Cave, if weather permits. We requested him to go up to that point and study the whole situation and come back today itself.

Sir, today I came to know that in the all-Party leader's meeting, this issue was raised and they have come to a unanimous decision that this issue should be discussed in a threadbare and if there are any lapses in the administration, action should be taken against the concerned people. I would like to make it very clear that there is no hesitation on the part of the Government to take action against any person who has not taken appropriate action at the appropriate time. If the Home Minister comes today itself, he will give a detailed statement on the floor of the House about the entire event and the discussion can be taken up after the Home Minister's statement.

Sir, I have got some information. I do not want to give a piecemeal information. Let me be very plain. What action I have taken or what action the Central Government has taken, what earlier action the State Government has taken, all the information I am going to give it to the House after the Home Minister comes back. So let the discussion be taken as per the decision taken in the all-Party leaders' meeting. This is all what I want to submit at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER : As per the schedule, at what time the Home Minister is expected? Let me know.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Before 5'o clock, he is expected. I am prepared for a threadbare discussion in this House according to the decision taken in the all-Party leaders' meeting.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (Surendra Nagar) : A large number of people from Gujarat have gone there. Thousands of Gujaratis have gone there. There is no information available about them. Before the discussion takes place, the Government of India should arrange that in the morning, evening and every time we get the information about those who have gone there. The

discussion apart, steps should be taken right from today. We are not getting the information.

MR. SPEAKER : We are going to have a discussion on this. It is not a finality now.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Before discussion, we want information. What arrangements are being made to pass on the information to the relatives? That is the point ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : A number of people from Rajasthan have gone there...*(Interruptions)* What is their condition. This information should be given ...*(Interruptions)* Information should be given on radio and television...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : If you do not allow all those who have given notice and unless the Government hears about the points with regard to the notice and the queries, how will the Home Minister come and reply to the queries? The Home Minister can simply make a *suo motu* statement.

After that statement we cannot seek any clarifications also. That is the rule...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It's not so.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : People from all parts of the country are affected. I gave the notice...*(Interruptions)*

I spoke to the Governor. I sent a Fax message to the Chief Secretary. He was sitting all through the night. The Governor did not bother to contact me. Nobody contacted me.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIA (Ujjain) : No information is coming. Their family member are greatly concerned...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : The Home Minister was in Calcutta yesterday morning. I rang him up five times. Every time the reply came that he was busy.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : No. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must say this...*(Interruptions)* How can I show my face to the people of my constituency? There is no justification. This Government is taking it so casually. All sorts of things are happening. People from all over the country are there who are affected by this. The Government is sitting tight...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I would like to clarify ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, you can throw me out ...*(Interruptions)* Many people died. Their relatives could not contact anyone.

MR. SPEAKER : I understand. Everybody's sentiments are known. The Home Minister is on the spot. Let him come back.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Home Minister should inform what the other measures taken are.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vajpayee is on his legs. Nothing else will go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are noticing how much the sentiments of hon. Members are excited. There is no reason to assume that they are attached with some particular party so they are expressing in such a way. The dividing lines of parties have been erased. There may be difference of opinion what should be the form of discussion but there is no difference of opinion that a great tragedy has struck. The Government has taken it casually in which the administration of Jammu and Kashmir is also involved. The Centre has also not carried out its work with responsibility the way it should have done. Under such circumstances as a member sitting in opposition what is my duty. If we have moved an adjournment motion, the motive behind it is not to earn political gains. This is also a way to have discussion. The members who used to sit with us here, have gone to other side. They also adopted the same method. The notice for this adjournment motion has been given with that aim in mind so that there is discussion on it and we may get the chance to criticize the Government.

The sentiments of Members who took part in the debate are very agitated on this issue. There is anguish and pain in their heart. I don't know which party Shri Chandra Shekharji belong but there was great pain in his voice and he made an appeal. I give importance to his appeal that adjournment motion on this issue should not be taken up.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have been in the opposition. What should the opposition do in such situation. Still no one is ready from the Government to give reply in details. It is good that the hon. Home Minister has gone there. We are ready to wait till he comes. So I suggest that an adjournment motion may be deferred till tomorrow. We will hear the hon. Home Minister. The Home Minister should make a statement keeping in view the points raised here. If the reply is not satisfactory then again we will press for adjournment motion. I had expected that the Prime Minister would give more details. There is great concern in the country. People got stranded there, are they alive or not, whether they would come back home or not? In which condition they

are? Whether the persons who are suffering from cold are being supplied sufficient clothes or not? Whether the train has started or not from Jammu? This has also become a subject of controversy. When the Government have radio, television and mass media facilities then whether it cannot give advance information in case of weather becomes bad? Earlier also 70 to 80 thousand have undertaken this yatra and the arrangement made was Govt. What has happened this time? There are only some more people. About 1.25 lakhs yatis have undertaken the yatra. No doubt, the weather has turned bad but the bad weather also put us to test.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, calamity is of two kinds. One is natural and the other is man made. We have come across both. The weather was not favourable and the Government was unaware. There was no one in Srinagar who would take cognizance of the situation. I do not want to name the officer and criticize him but what type of administration is this? We are supposed not to indulge in politicising here but the Ministers and the Prime Minister of the Government are indulging in politicising...*(Interruptions)* I do not want to touch the issue. It can not be that outside this House everywhere are indulges in politicising and no politicising takes place inside this House because this is big national issue. Which issue is not national issue? Conducting of peaceful elections in U.P. is this not a national issue? What is being done for it? But I do not want to raise it.

I do not mind if my adjournment motion is deferred. It may be kept deferred until the Statement of the Home Minister comes and give a chance to the House to have discussion on it. If we find that the statement is not satisfactory then we will press for the adjournment motion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Kanshi Ram ji, I have got your notice with me. I am going through it. Let us dispose of this item. I have received your notice. I will go through it.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you. Shri Atal ji has given notice for the motion. I do not say that this is not his right or it is unfair. I only submitted that he is within his limits and rights and it is his duty. I do not want to go into it. But just now Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munshi and Shri Sanat Mehta had raised issue that there is no information how many people of their regions have died or are missing. Is the Government not in a position to tell even after 3-4 days how many people of which region have died? Do the Government need four days to give information? The second question is this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it is right.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : An another question arises. The day chosen by the Home Minister for undertaking this visit was when the session started, he go earlier?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what about the people who are dead. The people are greatly concerned to know about them. Those people who have been killed...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After Shri Vajpayee has spoken, I do not think, you need to speak on this.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : No information is coming from there.

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Government have informations. If the hon Member and the leader of the opposition want to have it, the Government have no objection. The Prime Minister has all the fact with him. The Prime Minister has stated to the Home Minister to go there and personally study the situation so that all the facts are placed in right perspective and action taken against those who are found guilty for any lapse. This is not the matter of any party politics, Government and the opposition party. If the hon. Members want immediate debate on it, we have no objection. On behalf of the Government we are prepared to initiate debate on it. The Home Minister will come. We can do like this. In the meeting with leaders of all parties, it was decided unanimously that let the Home Minister come and make a statement and on the basis of that statement a discussion will take place. Shri Jaswant Singhji who is our able friend and a responsible leader of his party was himself present there. It was decided in the meeting that the Members who would like to express their sentiments will be given chance to speak. But it seems as if the Government is being cornered and effort is being made to put it in the dock...*(Interruptions)*. So it depends on the House. We are ready to accept the ruling of the Chair.

Charges have been levelled on the Railway Ministry. As a Minister of Railway Ministry. As a Minister of Railways I say with responsibility that 11 regular trains are running from there. Besides nine special trains are running from there.

SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' (East-Delhi) : There is no train running. He is telling a lie and misleading the House. I have facts. Not a single train is running.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : They are not going to help.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : There is no space for trains at Jammu Station so one train has been stationed

at Jammu, two at Sambha, two at Pathankot, there at Amritsar and one at Jallandhar.

SHRI CHAMANLAL GUPTA : No train has started from Jammu.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Please listen to what I am saying. Nine special trains are ready besides regular trains. Three trains have arrived from there due to lack of passengers...*(Interruptions)* Shri Harin Pathak is not present here. He rang up me. He told me that all the trains are coming from Jammu to Delhi. The passengers want to go to different parts of the country from Jammu. I asked him for which place he wants train. He told me that they want one train for Ahmedabad. I was told that as per arrangement trains were coming from Jammu to Delhi. Passengers can go anywhere they like from Delhi. He alleged that passengers are being charged railway fare for the ticket. I would like to say that I instructed my senior officers that as the matter is of tragedy. So if anyone wants to go in the special trains can do so free and as a Minister of Railways I can say that if any one wants to go from Delhi to any part of the country he can do so without purchasing tickets. This is an humanitarian approach. If anyone does not want to come to Delhi and wants to go somewhere else. So I instructed to run trains for that area. A Central room has been set up there. Special assistance booth has also been set up. It was announced in the morning on T.V. and on the radio also. We have done whatever arrangement we can make.

You have been in the Government and Members of every party have also been in the Government. It becomes very easy to level charges. So I say with responsibility that the Government is committed to it if you want, you can have discussion now and if you want discussion after the arrival of the Home Minister, you can also do so. The Government is always ready to agree with your decision. But this dharna is unfortunate. The Government is as much worried as you are ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SATYANARAYANA JATIYA : What steps the Government is taking to give information regarding those persons who have died?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I am on my legs.

I think the understanding in all-party meeting was that the Home Minister will make a statement today if he is able to come back. So, I will postpone this matter. We will take up this issue again at 5 o'clock. If the Home Minister comes back by that time, let the Home Minister give a full statement. Supposing the Home Minister is not able to reach here because of weather conditions, I would like the Government to make a statement on the basis of whatever information they have got because something is better. The Prime Minister has said that he has some information with

him. So, if the Home Minister does not come by 5 o'clock, whatever information the Government has got can be given to the House. Therefore, this matter will be taken up at 5 o'clock.

The House now stands adjourned for lunch till 2.25 p.m.

13.26 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Twenty Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.30 hrs.

Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Sir, some friends and a political party have held a demonstration outside Parliament House today. I had raised a matter regarding the matter in which Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and his party cultivists had conspired to murder Kumari Mayawati who was staying in the Lucknow guest House. At the time when the recommendations of Ramesh Chandra Committee were out, you had given a ruling on it that the recommendations of the Ramesh Chandra Committee will be laid on the floor of the House. It is said in the report that an investigation by the CBI and CID should be got conducted. The CID has conducted investigation of the report and found Shri Mulayam Yadav and Beni Prasad Yadav guilty in criminal conspiracy and preparing forged documents. Charge sheets have been filed in the court. Not only this they approached High Court to get it quashed. The court cancelled the appeal. High Court directed them to be present in the court but they are not appearing. Regarding Ramesh Chandra Committee report, the Prime Minister has said in Lucknow that such report has no value.

Sir, I would like to say that one Sukhrām already exists and now another Sukhrām is being created. This is not proper to manipulate corruption and criminals.

Sir, lakhs of people have held demonstration and a notice was also given. My submission is that a report may be presented and action taken on it.

14.31 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we take up Motions for Elections to Committees.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Sit down, please. I am on item No. 9 now.

CENTRAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL CADET CORPS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of Section 12 (1) (i) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 12 (1) (i) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted

14.33 hrs.

GENERAL COUNCIL OF INDIAN SCHOOL OF MINES, DHANBAD

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri S.R. Bommai, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of the provisions contained in clauses (ii) to (iv) of rule 4 read with clause (3) of rule 15 of the Rules and Regulations of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves, to serve as Members of the General Council of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, subject to other provisions of the said Rules and Regulations."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of the provisions contained in clauses (ii) to (iv) of rule 4 read with clause (3) of rule 15 of the Rules and Regulations of the Indian School of Mines,

Dhanbad, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves, to serve as Members of the General Council of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, subject to other provisions of the said Rules and Regulations."

The motion was adopted.

14.35 hrs.

COUNCIL OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): On behalf of Shri S.R. Bommai, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of clauses 9 (i) (e) of the scheme for the Administration and Management of the Properties and Funds of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, read with Regulations 3.1 and 3.1.1 of the Regulations of the Institute, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, subject to other provisions of the Scheme and the Regulations."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of clause 9 (i) (e) of the scheme for the Administration and Management of the Properties and Funds of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, read with Regulations 3.1 and 3.1.1 of the Regulations of the Institute, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, subject to other provisions of the Scheme and the Regulations."

14.36 hrs.

NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) On behalf of Shri T.G. Venkatraman, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of Section 4 (2) (a) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as Members of the National Shipping Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 4 (2) (a) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as Members of the National Shipping Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

14.36½ hrs.

NATIONAL WELFARE BOARD FOR SEAFARERS

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) On behalf of Shri T.G. Venkatraman, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of Rule 4 (i) of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers Rules, 1963, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as Member of the National Welfare Board, for Seafarers, subject to other other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Rule 4 (i) of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers Rules, 1963, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as Member of the National Welfare Board, for Seafarers, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

14.37 hrs.

INDIAN NURSING COUNCIL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) On behalf of Shri Saleem Iqbal Shervani, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of Section 3 (1) (o) of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 3 (1) (o) of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

14.38 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to accord approval by Railways to Maharashtra Government proposal to Construct the road linking Pachora and Ghoregaon.**

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL (Erandol) : Under rule 377, I would like to inform that there is a road along railway line from Pachora to Golan via Tarkheda and Talegaon to Ghoregaon via Karajgaon in my parliamentary constituency Erandol. There are potholes everywhere. Vehicles passing through this road get damaged and it proves very dangerous for the children, ill persons and old people on this road. Maharashtra Government had tried to construct road along with railway line but the railway authority did not accord permission to it.

I, therefore, urge the Government to ask the railway authority to accord approval to Maharashtra Government to construct road along the railway line from Pachora to

Gatan village via Tarkheda, and from Talegaon to Ghoregaon via Karajgaon.

- (ii) **Need to increase the supply of Coal to South Bihar**

SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA (Hazaribagh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is acute shortage of coke in Hazaribagh, Chatra and Kodarm districts of South Bihar. Although there are a number of coal mines of Central Coal Field Limited in Hazaribagh district, yet most of the people of Hazaribagh, Chatra and Kodarma are poor. Their main source of fuel is coal. In the past the people of these areas used to buy Coal from the small shops but, the supply of coal to the shops has been discontinued for the last ten months. As a result the people are facing a lot of difficulty.

As per arrangement the Government is allotting coal to big dealers for further supply instead of allotting coal to small shopkeepers but the big dealers do not distribute it among the local people but send it outside the districts.

So, I request the Central Government to supply coal in the above areas again to small shopkeepers so that the people of the area get coal for their use easily.

- (iii) **Need to provide direct air service between Delhi and Saurashtra region in Gujarat**

DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHERIA (Rajkot) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is no direct air service to Delhi from the Saurashtra region of Gujarat. Saurashtra region has developed as a big industrial area. There are industries like oil mills, brass parts, diamond cutting, cement, A.C. parts, iron, watch, saris, cloth, plastics etc. there but there is no air service for Delhi. Earlier there used to be a Rajkot-Delhi air service which has been discontinued now. Rajkot is also not very far off from Amreli Smada Nagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Porbander, Kutch and some other places. Members of Parliament can come to Rajkot from their constituencies in an hour or two and catch flight for Delhi. Traders and industrialists have to visit Delhi, U.P. Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Kashmir, Haryana in connection with their business. They have to face hardships. They reach Delhi by taking flight from Bombay or Ahmedabad. All air facilities required from Rajkot to Delhi are available at Rajkot. Several organisation and the Members of Parliament have demanded that a direct air service should be started between Rajkot and Delhi.

- (iv) **Need to Ensure Utilisation of Funds Under Border Area Development Funds on High Priority Projects**

[English]

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I represent the backward and

underdeveloped districts Barmer and Jaisalmer (Rajasthan). The Ministry of Home Affairs, every year, allot special funds for development of these districts. These funds are called 'Border Area Development Funds (BADF). Allocation of these funds for each district is to the tune of Rs. 10 to 12 crore per year.

But norms and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs are not properly implemented in the allotment of funds. Priority of funds should be for drinking water, roads, education and health services only, whereas it is spent lavishly on construction of luxurious houses for officers.

This was pointed out to the Collector Barmer by me, Parmukh of District and six Pradhans of Panchayat Samities. But nothing positive has come out so far.

This issue was also brought to the notice of the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, in writing, and followed by personal interview with him on 9th July, 1996.

I apprehend that these funds may be siphoned to less priority projects.

Therefore, through you, I request the hon. Home Minister to intervene in the matter and ensure that funds are spent as per guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs keeping in view the problems of poor people of Barmer District.

(v) Need to extend Intensive Employment Scheme to Samastipur District of Bihar

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Samastipur district is an industrially backward area. There are only two sugar mills in the name of industry out of which one is closed. There is a sick jute mill and a closed paper mill here. In the absence of job opportunities the youth of this area are forced to go to other states like Punjab, Haryana, Delhi etc. Every year a large number of educated or uneducated youth are becoming unemployed. As a result of which criminal tendency is increasing in the district and they are turning towards terrorism in large numbers.

So, I request the Central Government to include these district into Intensive Employment Scheme so that the youth may get employment opportunities.

(vi) Need to check severe erosion caused by the river Ganga in West Bengal

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip) : Erosion caused by the river Ganga is a serious problem in my

parliamentary constituency. Vast area from Navadwip to Kalyani Majherchar is damaged due to the severe erosion. From Farakka to Haldia, Ganga embankment has been eroded manifold. Navadwip is a very old town. Navadwip is the birth place of Gouranga Mahaprabhu. Navadwip Municipality and its surrounding areas, Swarupgange, Nri Singapore, Mathidanga, Tarapur, Sahedbanga, Charswarhati, Sanyalchar, Majherchar have severely been damaged. Not only these areas are damaged, but other areas have also been swallowed by the erosion caused by the Ganga.

In 1992, the then Minister of Water Resources visited these areas and an all party delegation from West Bengal met the Prime Minister and the Minister in this regard. The State Government, with its meagre funds used to make some repair work, but every time it is washed away into the river Ganga. In this manner, thousands of acres of agricultural land is being damaged by erosion of the Ganga. For permanent protection, it is essential to invest heavy fund but the State Government does not have the capacity to spend more for preventive measures of embankment repair etc. Moreover, water of the Ganga is under the Central Government and this erosion by the Ganga water creates serious problems. Every year, due to erosion, the river bed is raised. Since long no programme has been undertaken. For this reason several river courses have come into being and it is difficult to identify the real course of the Ganga river.

I urge upon the Union Government to take effective steps in this matter and save the life and property of the people.

(vii) Need to declare Giripur area in Himachal Pradesh as Scheduled Tribe area

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, there are some areas falling in my parliamentary constituency in Himachal Pradesh which need to be declared as Scheduled Tribes area. The Scheduled Tribe Commission has already submitted its report to the Central Government in this regard. The people of Giripur area, which was included in the Sirmour state after separating it from Jaunsar Bhabhar areas of U.P., which is a Tribal area and my all relatives are residing in this area, have been demanding since long that this area should be declared as Scheduled Tribe area.

In addition to it Chauhra block (Nerua Sub Tehsil of Dodaraibar Chaupal) of Rodu Assemble Constituency, which is a part of Shimla district, should also be included in the Scheduled Tribe area because the people of

these two areas have common customs, traditions and relationship. Many organisations have been demanding to declare this area as tribal area since long. I have met the Prime Minister and the Minister of Welfare along with a deputation and drawn their attention towards this problem but no action has been taken as yet. Hati Sabha is raising this demand at different places along with the people of this area. The local MLAs are also raising the demand along with the people of this area. I urge the Govt of India to declare that area as a Tribal area so that they may also get benefits like the Scheduled Tribe people living in neighbouring states.

(viii) Need to ensure Implementation of Assam Accord of April, 1995

[English]

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI (Autonomous-District) (Assam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I want to raise the following very serious and urgent matter under Rule 377.

A popular mass movement has been going on demanding Autonomous State in Karbi, Anglong and North Cachar Hills of Assam under the leadership of ASDC, KSA, NCHSF and DSU since 1986. After prolonged negotiation, an agreement was signed on the 1st April, 1995 in New Delhi between the movement organisations and the Government of Assam in the presence of the then Union Home Minister. The agreement envisages upgradation of the existing two Autonomous Councils of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India by conferring upon them enhanced legislative, executive and financial powers. Certain clauses of agreement dealing with delegation of powers to the Autonomous Councils relating to the Departments of Law and Order, DRDA, Food and Civil Supplies, Transport etc. are yet to be implemented as the State Government has taken a position that further clearance from the Union Government is required on these matters. Therefore, the Union Home Minister should immediately take necessary steps so that further delay could be avoided in the implementation as a consensus was achieved on this matter by all sides at the time of the negotiations.

Secondly, the Union Government was to set up a system so that funds meant for the hilly areas and the Hill Councils of Assam reached the two Autonomous Councils at the earliest and without any difficulty. This has also not been done. Therefore, I draw the attention of the Union Government to take immediate measures so that the agreement is implemented, the commitments honoured and faith restored among the people.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, I would just like to remind the Chair about one matter. There was an assurance by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the Government would make a statement on TADA detainees when I referred to that point here, but that has not been complied with by the hon. Minister. So, the Chair may direct the Minister that as assured to the House he will have to come here with a statement.

14.53 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET-1996-97—GENERAL DISCUSSION

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up General Discussion on the General Budget the time allotted is eight hours. Now I call Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi to speak.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for inviting me to speak on the General Budget 1996-97.

I have gone through the Budget and in my view such an insipid Budget might have ever been presented before. This Budget is devoid of direction and philosophy generally a Budget reflect the economic philosophy of the Government and ensure its direction. But there is nothing in this Budget on the basis of which we may say that it has direction and philosophy. This is a Budget of the Congress and it seems to be a copy of Shri Manmohan Singh's Budget. Had our all friends, particularly the friends Left Parties not joined this Government, they would not have supported this Budget. If you see the figures, you will find that the United Front Government has adopted the same thing in this Budget which was there in the interim Budget presented by Shri Manmohan Singh. The revenue receipts was Rs.1,27,000 crore in the Budget presented by Shri Manmohan Singh and it is Rs. 1,30,000 crores in the Budget of United Front Government. The Capital receipts were Rs.70,000 crore which are now Rs.68,000 crores. Total receipts were Rs. 1,97,000 crores which are now Rs.1,98,000 crores. The non-plan expenditure was Rs. 1,51,000 crores and this year it is Rs.1,50,000 crore. The plan expenditure was Rs. 50 thousands crores and this year it is Rs.54 thousand crores. The total expenditure was Rs.2 lakh 1 thousand crore and this year it is Rs. 2 lakh 4 thousand crore. The fiscal deficit was Rs.62 thousand crores and this year too it is 62 thousand crores. The amount under borrowing was

Rs.57 thousand crores and this year it is Rs.56 thousand crore. Had this Budget been presented in February and discussion taken place on it then, would our friends Shri Nirmal Chatterjee, Shri Basudeb Bhattacharya and Somnath Chatterjee have supported or opposed it? Now it is said that this Budget has been formulated on the basis of Common Minimum Programme. But there are differences among the constituents on several issues. I will give a few examples. There are differences among the constituents in regard to the disinvestment in public sector. There is difference between Shri Madhu Dandwate, Dy. Chairman of the Planning Commission and the Finance Minister. The Government wants to set up a Disinvestment Commission so as to disinvest five thousand crore rupees or five thousand one crore rupees. But Shri Madhu Dandwate says:

[English]

"The Government should seek to maximise internal resources generation by making PSUs profitable. This is a much better way to repay national debt instead of seeking to get rid of public sector."

[Translation]

He want that the public sector should be strengthened and it should be made profitable. The Finance Minister wants that the public sector should be dismantled gradually and its shares should be disinvested. The communist party is also not in favour of disinvestment. It also wants that the public sector should not be dismantled and it should be strengthened. I want to know the opinion of these friends towards the budget? They are supporting these policies. Does this Budget not reflects the same policies which were there in the Budget presented by Shri Manmohan Singh and in that case would you support the Budget? The special feature of this Budget is direct foreign investment. This is the main characteristic of the economic policy of this Budget. The Government wants that there should be direct foreign disinvestment of ten billion dollar or about Rs.35 thousand crore. Now the question is in which sectors and in what manner the direct foreign disinvestment will take place. In reply to a question in Rajya Sabha, we were told that out of the investment which took place last time, 54 percent went to the consumer sector and only 40 percent was used under capital goods. Will this amount of Rs.35 thousand crore be utilized in the same manner? Will it also be divided and Rs. 17.5 thousand crores on Rs.18 thousand crores or Rs. 19 thousand crores will go to consumer goods, in the preparation of junk food, Pepsi Cola, potato chips and cosmetics and shoe manufacturing? What does the Government wants to do? We would like to know in what way it wants to invest and what is the procedure

of direct investment and what are the priorities. There is no mention about it in the Budget. One does not come to know the sector in which this direct foreign investment will be made. If this investment is intended for the consumer sector, it would be a big misfortune of this country. It will be harmful for the country if 54 percent or 55 percent i.e. sixteen thousand crores of rupees out of Rs. 35 thousand crores are spent in this sector and we invest this big capital for the benefit of some elite class. Foreign loan is another important aspect of the economy of the Government. The Government sometimes wants to mislead the people. According to the Budget of the Government the internal debt amounts to Rs.5,52,744 crores and the foreign debt to Rs. 52,666 crores and the total comes to Rs. 6,05,410 crores.

15.00 hrs.

I can't understand how this debt of Rs.52,666 crores has been shown which today stands at Rs.3,50,000 crores i.e. around 93 billion. Why this Government keep the people in confusion? The Government does not want to tell the people the extent of indebtedness. At least they should have given the figures on the basis of white paper which was brought out last time. I can't understand the manipulation in the Budget.

The question is how this loan was utilised. What assets were created with the loan that the Government had taken during previous years. If we take Rs.6,05,410 as a loan, have we been able to create assets worth Rs.6,05,410 crore or atleast 90 percent assets out of this. The fact is that the Government created assets worth Rs.3,95,252 crores. Now the question is where are the balance Rs.2,09,457 crore. Has it been consumer? The Government have spent it i.e. the Government have met its expenditure by taking loan. It did not utilise the loan to promote industries of the country, to increase the agricultural production, to enhance job opportunities, to strengthen defence of the country but the Government spent One Third loan in its own way. If some private company had done it, the hon. Finance Minister would have declared the company bankrupt. On this basis, we can say that this Government is moving towards bankruptcy. It is misusing the hard earned money of the people of this country. Simultaneously it is misusing external as well as internal loan. Now we see the state of borrowings which is evident from the Budget. Payment of In 1995-96 debt repayment of Rs. 70,480 crores was made and as per figure of 1996-97, about Rs.68,558 crores is estimated to be repaid. In 1995-96, the total repayment of loan was 52,000 crores and this year it is estimated to be Rs.60,000 crores. Similarly, total repayment of loan was Rs.1,22,480 crores in 1995-96 and it is estimated to be Rs.1,28,558 crores in 1996-97. It is not clear if, this amount will increase and not.

So far on the revenue receipts is concerned, 1995-96 the revenue receipts was Rs. 1.00787 crores and this year the receipts is estimated to be Rs.1.30.345 crores. If you see the ratio of total payment of interest and total revenue receipts you will find that it was 47.2 last year and 46.0 this year. A substantial part of the revenue receipts goes to the payment of interest. If we minutely look into it, we will find that the repayment of principal sum and the repayment of interest come to Rs.1.28.000 crores and the total revenue receipts comes to Rs.1.30.345 crores which shows that 98-99 percent share of total revenue is spent on repayment of loan. So you can not do any good for the country with this revenue receipts. You spend all your revenue receipts on the repayment of previous loan and the interest payable thereon. Barring this, you are left with no other alternative. The current Budget throws no light or to how the Government is going to take this country out of the debt trap. If you see the position of public debt of the country will increase at the rate of 11.27 percent is 1996-97 and reach upto Rs.6,15,000 crores. This Budget does not show how the Government will tackle the situation. The hon. Finance Minister has copied the Budget without any wisdom. No mind has been applied in the making of this Budget.

Now I will speak about the position of foreign exchange reserve. Debt is increasing. On the one hand our balance of trade is dwindling and on the other hand, scams in the foreign exchange are becoming a regular phenomenon in the country. In reply to a question No.152, dated 19.7.96, the Government stated in Lok Sabha, that as per the version of the Enforcement Directorate foreign exchange worth about Rs.546 crore was siphoned away to foreign countries illegally. Rs.546 crore is not a small sum. It may seem to be a small amount keeping in view the G.D.P. and the Budget of the country. But if one scam involving Rs. 546 crores has come to the notice then a huge amount of foreign exchange may be getting transferred abroad on the basis of fictitious documents. On the one hand the country is facing such a big financial crisis, on the other hand we are dealing with our foreign exchange in such a shabby manner. Under such circumstances I cannot understand how do you manage the economy of the country.

We know big scams in the banks have come to light earlier also. These taken place on the basis of fake receipts, involving thousands of crores of rupees. It was thought then that the Government would keep on eye on the bank scams and fake receipts, fake hundis, fake documents would not be allowed to operate in banks. But the Government admitted on 19.7.96 that such scams were taking place even then and even ordinary employees manage to transfer an amount of Rs. 546 crores to foreign countries in this way.

Our hon. Finance Minister has mentioned seven main objectives of this Budget. Economic reforms and liberalisation concern for the poor and providing them basic facilities, to ensure development in agriculture, industry and services for creating more job opportunities. You have given first priority to agriculture. Then you have mentioned fiscal farsightedness and to ensure long term economic stability. You have given an example of fiscal farsightedness as to how the revenue received by us is spent in repayment of debt. I can't say whether this farsightedness will come in 100 years, 200 years or in 250 years. I do not find that you are taking steps to make India free from debt.

I was very much surprised because a plea is being put forward that what is wrong in taking loan after all? The logic being given is that the rate of our savings is low in comparison to other countries. Hence, we should continue to take loan. It means that let the country remain indebted and there is no harm in it. Of course, we should be in the position of making repayment of loan. Now the Parliament or the country will decide. Whether you are in such a position or not. But I fail to understand as to why saving rate of other countries is more than ours. We have been taking loan from other. Their argument is that we should keep down our saving rate and take advantage of the saving rate of the others. This is a very strange argument. What type of economy in the world can be created by this thing? When did the developed countries of the world resort to this system? I would like to know whether Germany, Japan and America made advancement in this way? Whether the developed countries of the world made progress by keeping their saving rate low? The fact is that the saving rate of many countries particularly the countries of South-East Asia like Japan and China is upto 35-36-40 percent. So they have made advancement. No country can progress with its rate of savings being low.

It is said in the Budget that investment in the basic sectors would be increased. But unfortunately the foreign investment is being made in the consumer goods sector. About 54 percent investment is being made in the consumer sector. I cannot understand how will you invest in the basic sector. I find no such thing in the budget.

Now I will analyse the Budget. The Budget says that with a view to achieve increase in employment avenues, agro-based industries and services would be expanded. Now I will discuss about agriculture which should have been given an important place in the Budget but it has not given such a place. The percentage of rural population and those dependent on agriculture is about 77 percent and if the investment had been made in agriculture then it would have been beneficial for the majority of the people and the poverty would

have been removed and more employment opportunities generated. But what have you done? You take of agricultural and rural development. You say that you have increased investment in social securities and welfare.

This scheme was introduced by Shri Rao last year. There was no provision for it in the Budget of 1995-96. You have made provision for it in this Budget and you show as if you have done great justice to agriculture.

The Budget estimates for 1995-96 in respect of the Departments of Agriculture and Cooperation are Rs.1490 crore whereas the figures of Budget estimates for 1996-97 is Rs. 1471 crore. Thus, the Budget estimate this year has been reduced, as compared to the last year. Similarly, the Budget estimate for Agriculture Research and Education for 1995-96 was Rs. 310 crore, whereas this year the figure has been reduced to Rs.289 crore. The Budget estimate for 1995-96 for Animal Husbandry and Dairying was Rs.344 crore which is Rs.264 crore this year. The total Budget estimate for 1995-96 was Rs.2144 crores and this time it is Rs.2020 crores.

Now we come to rural sector and employment. The hon. Finance Minister wants to increase job opportunities. Our Prime Minister has been claiming repeatedly that he is a farmer and will remain a farmer. He will serve the farmers and ensure their development. Is this development a reflection of his vision? You can see the condition of rural areas and employment. The Budget Estimates for 1995-96 in respect of Department of Rural Development is Rs. 1263 crore and it is now Rs. 2195 crore. For the Department of Wasteland it was Rs.60 crores earlier and this time too, it is Rs.60 crores.

15.13 hrs.

(Shri Chitta Basu *in the Chair*)

The Budget Estimates in respect of Department of Rural Employment and Poverty was Rs.6437 crores last year. It is Rs.6437 crore this year also. The Revised Estimates for 1995-96 was Rs. 8308 crores whereas it is Rs.8619 crores this year. If we agree with them and take 4 percent increase in inflation, then Rs.8308 crore should have become Rs.8640 crore but the inflation has increased more than 6 percent. Under this circumstance it should have been Rs.8692 crores. Thus, in fact it has been decreased. This has not been increased. It cannot result in expansion. This cannot generate employment.

I would like to dwell on the employment schemes. I had asked a question in this Parliament regarding fund allocated to Allahabad under Jawahar Rojgar Yojna and the number of job generated in a development

block. The Government replied that Rs.21.47 crores was allocated but they did not maintain the figures regarding the number of jobs generated in a development block. The fund are allotted by the Government. The Central Government allocate fund under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojna. I cannot understand why monitoring does not take place. Why not the information regarding the number of jobs generated and the number of jobs likely to be generated is maintained. So far as my knowledge goes, the Ministry of Rural Development has got the matter studied. It has stated that these employment schemes create jobs only for 15-20 days whereas you claim that you give jobs for 100 days. What type of an agricultural system you talk of? The Prime Minister talks of the interests of farmers. The Finance Minister says that the Government will generate employment. What type of employment will be generated. There is no employment in the Government, in the public sector. Similar in the case in the private corporate sector. There is no employment? Last time, I had asked from the Finance Minister in the Rajya Sabha about the information regarding the number job opportunities generated under various schemes in the country? How many job opportunities have been generated with the keep of external investment? The Finance Minister repeated every time that he had no figures and these could not be collected. If you can't collect the figures than what can you do? Why are you launching schemes? What kind of employment you are talking about? Who is the poor and the farmer you are talking about?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government is making tall claims that allocation for the agriculture has been increased. If you see budgetary allocations for Department of Rural Development you will find that it has been increased for social security and welfare. Last year it was Rs.550 crores and this year it is Rs. 932 crores. Last time the Government had announced it on 15th August. So we would like to know in what manner Rs.550 crores was distributed from 15th August to 31st March? What was its result? How many persons have got social security from it? What welfare they got? You have allotted this money to give pension to the poor and aged persons. How many persons have received such pension? Did any one get pension or not? When you were in the Congress, your former Prime Minister had said that whatever money was allotted to the villages, 85 percent of it passed through many hands and only 15 percent of the money reached the village.

I would like to know that as to how this much of money is being utilised? What has been its result? Why job opportunities do not increase. A large number of people live up for jobs. This Budget does not throw light on this. You never try to see whether job opportunities

have been generated in proportionate to the money allotted and claims made in this regard. Then in what way the rural development will take place?

You distribute pension to the aged or give money to some pregnant women. How the development of far off villages can take place. How this can help in the increasing the production? This is only an assistance, a 'dole'. It has no relevance in the rural areas from the point of production. If investment in the rural areas does not increase or capital is not formed in the rural areas, all your schemes will go in vain. We see that there has been less capital investment and capital formation. The capital formation has come to half in the agricultural sector. This is a matter of concern. If capital formation does not take place in agricultural sector then on whose mercy will you leave 77 percent people? Will you like to leave them on the mercy of foreign multinational companies? Will you leave them to survive on debt or make them slave to live?

I do not know in what way you are developing your agricultural sector. The Prime Minister daily announces that we will develop agricultural sector and improve the lot of farmers. But I am finding no improvement in the lot of farmers. If you exclude social security you will find that there has been decline in the allocation for the agricultural sector. This is very disquieting.

The situation of drinking water in the villages is very bad. It was told that potable water would be supplied to all problem villages by the initial years of the Eighth Plan. But this target is still to be achieved. According to the survey held in 1991-93, it has been revealed that only 56 percent towns and villages, which cover 48 percent population, have received drinking water. What is your conception about rural development. You had allocated Rs.1170 crores for 1995-96 in respect of rural water supply and sanitation. You have allocated the same amount in 1995-96 also. If you take into consideration the inflation you will find that the amount has been reduced and not increased. I cannot understand what are you doing for the development of villages. Great injustice has been done to agriculture. As a result, no progress has been made in the agricultural front. This investment in agricultural sector in 1980-81 was Rs.4,636 crore and this actual investment in 1992-93 was 4,613 crore. The capital formation in the agricultural sector in 1980-81 was 18 percent which was reduced to 9 percent in 1992-93. Is it the development of agricultural sector. There is no incentive in the Budget for the development of agriculture. If this is the condition of agricultural sector even after the announcements of the Prime Minister and the budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister for 77 percent population then I would say that the Hon. Finance Minister has no knowledge about the

agriculture. Do you or your Ministry know about the farmers, agriculture and the plight of 77 percent people? Are you, except destroying our industry by reducing custom duty for the benefit of multi-nationals, doing something else? When I see the figures of agricultural production it worries me greatly.

I would like to tell that in 1990-91 the annual growth rate in production of foodgrains was increasing at the rate of 1.01 percent which came down to 1.41 percent in 1995-96. Wheat production was increasing at the rate of 10.59 percent in 1990-91 which came down to -0.41 in 1995-96. The production of pulses was increasing out the speed of 10.54 percent in 1990-91 which came down to 5.32 percent in 1995-96. Similarly, the production of total foodgrains which was increasing at the rate of 3.31 percent reduced to -0.46 percent in 1995-96. This is the development of agriculture which you are bringing about. If this is the progress of agriculture then I will say that you are taking the country to the verge of starvation. The Budget does not give any ray of hope in regard to the foodgrains. I would submit that in 1991 the daily availability of foodgrains was 510 grams, which reduced to 466 grams in 1993. On the one hand you say that we have storage of large quantity of foodgrains and on the other hand this is the position of its availability. Thirdly, we are told that if we allow market forces to act freely there will be no malnutrition in the world. So in the case of foodgrains we should put no restriction on market forces. You have put restriction on market forces with the result that per day availability of foodgrains has gone down from 510 grams to 466 grams. I am much worried about this situation because agriculture experts in the world have been warning that in the next forty years there will be acute famine and China, and all other countries of Asia and Africa will be hit by the famine. Now you tell me that under such condition from where will you import foodgrains. If such a huge population is hit by the famine then the western countries, who have surplus of foodgrains, will be able to feed China, Central Asia and Africa whose population comes to about one billion. Will not our food security become insecure? I would like to state clearly that you should not keep the people of the country in dark in the matter of foodgrains.

The provision made for irrigation surprises me. When I go through the budget and the economic survey, realise how what cleverly the Government keep the people in dark. It is said that budgetary allocation for irrigation has been increased by Rs.900 crores. But this increase has been made for major projects and on-going projects. This allocation has not been increased for minor irrigation and medium irrigation projects. The money is utilized for big projects. Why the money is being invested in these big projects? Whether the

country lacks irrigation potentiality. I would like to tell you that in our country about 14 million hectares irrigation potential is lying unutilised. This is not an ordinary thing. It is given in the Economic Survey that about 89.42 million hectares irrigation potential should have been created but only 1.45 million hectares irrigation potential per year has been increased in the last 46 years. But what we find today is that about 9 million hectares irrigation potential is lying unutilized. The figures given in the survey surprises me.

[English]

The achievement upto Seventh Plan as given in the Economic Survey 1991-92 is 32.91 million hectares in regard to the major and minimum irrigation potential.

[Translation]

The utilisation was 27.89 million hectares. Then minor irrigation potential of 46.83 million hectares was created and the utilisation was of 43.53 million hectares. The utilisation of total 79.74 million hectares potential produced is 71.42. You have shown it here as 79.74 but when you write 'seventh plan document', you say in the economic survey of 1992-93 that the achievement was 76.5. Now you see.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Joshiji, just one second. I want to make a submission.

In the other House, the debate starts at the same time at 2.30 p.m. The other House wants me for five minutes there. Then, they will resume the debate. They are also insisting that I should be there when they start the debate. So, let me go there for five minutes and come back.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Should we adjourn the debate?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am only telling you that why I will not be here.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI CHITTA BASU) : He may not be here for five minutes. Other hon. Ministers are also here.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Do not be under the impression that I am walking out of your speech.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : There should be a provision that his better-half should be on that side.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : His other-half!

[Translation]

It means that there is a gap of 7 million hectares. Suddenly the Economic Survey 1992-93, says.

[English]

Up to the Seventh Plan document and as given in the Economic Survey 1992-93, the achievement is 79.74 million hectares and the utilisation is 79.42 million hectares.

[Translation]

This 3.24 million hectares is missing. Where has it gone? It was very much there in the economic survey of 1991-92. How where has it gone in 1992-93?

So if you see minutely you will find 11-12 million hectares irrigation potential is still lying unutilised. It costs Rs. 60 thousand to create one hectare irrigation potential. If 12 million hectares irrigation potential is not utilised then it means that it is a scam involving Rs. 72 thousand crores. Where has it gone? The money has been allotted for it. It has been shown in the plan. There is a scam of Rs. 72 thousand crores committed in respect of irrigation. Has it gone to ministers, engineers, contractors but no water reached the fields of villagers. I think this is the biggest scam of our economy. Your economic reviews shows this. This Rs. 60 thousand is based on old prices and if you take the current prices into account, it may come to Rs. 70 thousand per hectares then it will be a scam of Rs. 84 thousand crores. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister what provision he has made in the Budget so as to utilise the irrigation potential? This potential can only be utilised when you make investment under minor irrigation. When you Budgetary allocation covers irrigation potential then only it can be utilised fully, otherwise it will remain unutilised. This scheme will remain on papers or water will go on collecting in the dams. It will not reach the farmers. I demand that is should be got investigated. I would like that the Ministry of Finance as well as the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Water Resources should also see it
...(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : The Minister of Water Resources is also sitting here.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : He is present here. That is why I am saying to him. The Minister of Water Resources should tell us where has this 11-12 million hectares of irrigation potential been utilized. You have provided Rs. 900 crores in the Budget for big dams. Why? It is because one gets large amount of kickback? A single project costs Rs. 2 to 3 hundred crores. Therefore, there is no scope for kickbacks and hence, no Ministry is prepared to give heed to it and improve the agricultural system. I would like to tell you and I am very much concerned that if you do not set the thing right then you can't remove poverty from the country,

which is the objective of your Budget. Moreover the agricultural management will not also be set right.

I am amused at the way the Government mislead us by giving such figures in respect of rural poverty. In 1987-88, the Lakadawala Commission made an estimate which showed that rural poverty was 39.06 percent and the urban poverty was 40.12 percent. Today this figures have changed. Now the rural poverty is 40 percent and the urban poverty is 39 percent. About 7-8 years back the villages were more rich and cities were more poor. But during these 7-8 years, cities have become more rich and the village have become more poor. But the economic survey of 1995-96 revealed that the percentage of poverty was only 28 percent and Shri Manmohan had said that in 1995-96 the poverty was only 21 percent. Further, it was said that the total poverty was 18.96 that is 19 percent. This much of difference cannot be there because on the one hand Lakadwala Commission says that the poverty is 39 percent and on the other, Manmohanjanji and Chidambaramji claim that the poverty is only 19 percent. I cannot understand this riddle of figures. The Government is not disclosing the figures of National Sample Survey regarding poverty held in 1992-93. I am much concerned that poverty in this country has increased and the Finance Minister says in the Budget that they want to remove poverty but no measures have been mentioned in this Budget to remove poverty. You have scaled down allocation for the programmes for alleviating rural poverty as well as urban poverty. If you bring down investment and allocation for poverty alleviation programme then how can you alleviate poverty.

Nothing has been said in the Budget to increase employment avenues in the small scale industries and in agricultural sector. No job Opportunities have been created in big industries and in public sector during the last five years. What do you want to convey through your Budget speech? That is not reflection the Budget. You are trying to mislead the country. Similarly, you have said that you want to make more investment in the basic sector.

The budgetary allocation for 1995-96 in respect of power sector is Rs. 23, 795 crores and for 1996-97, the allocation is Rs. 24,270 crore. If we take 4 percent inflation, which the Government announces, then Rs. 951 crores should have been added to Rs. 23,795 crores and the amount would have increased to Rs. 24,270 crores. But if you see the figure of inflation correctly, you will find that it is about 6 percent and the increase in it should have been Rs. 1400 crores. Thus the allocation should have been Rs. 25-26 thousand crores in respect of Power sector. We want to know what the Government want to do for the power sector.

In this sector, the present installed capacity in the country is 88 thousand MW. It was said that during the Eighth Five Year Plan 30 to 32 thousand MW additional capacity will be installed. But the progress made till now does not show that it would be more than 16 thousand megawatt. This is the maximum, otherwise in the opinion of experts the installed capacity will not be more than 14 thousand megawatt. If the schemes are completed in the Eighth Five Year Plan itself the capacity will be 14 to 16 thousand megawatt. It means there will be a gap of 14 thousand megawatt. In the Ninth Five Year Plan nearly 40 thousand megawatt is proposed to be installed. In that situation there will be a gap of 55-56 thousand megawatt. The total installed capacity will be of 88 thousand megawatt and the gap will be of 50 thousand megawatt. What kind of power policy is this. From where do you want to start work? From where the money will come for it? The way you are inviting foreigners to invest money here and they will be generating power worth Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 5 crores per megawatt then the whole country will be sold to foreigners to generate 40-50 thousand megawatt power and there will be no generation of power. Why the Government wants to keep the country in the dark in regard to power. I will tell you how investment is bieng made in power sector.

I had been to Uttar Pradesh. The central Government has knowingly made the Uttar Pradesh Electricity Board idle. At present the Board has no on-going project. The vidyut parishad cannot do any work except installing poles and wires.

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : You are right. They are not even installing wires.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Anpara 'C' project worth Rs. 4 thousand crores was proposed to be launched. The Electricity Board of the State Government had completed Anpara 'A' and 'b' projects. But the hon. Prime Minister and Shri Mulayam Singh handed it over to a foreign company named Hundai. Will the Government admit this fact?

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : 'Hundai' signed the agreement in Lucknow.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I have studied the cost of it. Today there is no discussion on Power. When there will be discussion on it, I will tell you in what way the State Electricity Board and the public are being looted. I would like to know from the Members of Left parties and Janata Dal, who used to oppose the investment alongwith us four-six months back, whether they will support it. Will such a step be in the interest of farmers? All the engineers in Uttar Pradesh will become jobless. At present the U.P. State Electricity Board has no civil engineering job and there is no work with them to set-up a new plant. So the electrical

engineers and civil engineers will be rendered jobless. Their work will be restricted to transmission only. You have been responsible for ruination all such Boards. Your Power policy is not in the interest of the country. I would like to warm through this House that if such power policy continue to be in force then there will be power riots in many parts of the country. The people need electricity but they will not be able to get the electricity. Some houses will have electricity while some others will not. If such will be the condition then the country should be ready for the riots. If there is no power, tubewells will not be operated and if in that case it will affect cultivation. Then the country will move towards food riots. Shri Janeshwar Mishra is smiling but there is no reason to smile. It is a matter of concern.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : Someone is saying from the back benches that now these people will start power riots after communal riots.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : These very people used to foment communal riots and now they will incite people for power riots and food riots. They are responsible for all riots. Whenever there will be discussion on communal riots in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar then I will tell the facts. These people incite others for indulging in caste-riots and communal riots. To which direction your Budget is moving? What is the philosophy in it? What are the allocations made in the Budget reflecting? In which direction the Budget is taking the country? I would like dwell upon this subject.

You have curtailed the allocation the allocation for the atomic energy sector. You have increased allocation for nuclear Power projects. But if we take into consideration the inflation then the amount stands reduced in the real terms. Similarly, the situation on energy front is very bad. The Minister of Energy is not here. But now I will request the Government to, at least, bring out a white paper on power position. They should tell the people how the problem of energy in the country can be solved. No attention has been paid towards it in the Budget. Our Finance Minister has been repeatedly talking about welfare. Charity is being distributed in the name of welfare as if beggars are being given two annas, eight annas, one rupee. Provision of Rs. 5 crores has been made for the old people in the country? If the population of the country is 95 crores and the percentage of the aged is 10 percent then the number of the aged comes to 9.5 crores and the Government say that they will construct houses for them with Rs. 5 crores. I fail to understand how they will carry out this work. Rs. 10 crores have been allocated for women development Corporation. We have great sympathy for women. There are nearly 47-48 crores of women in the country and Rs. 18 crores have been allocated for their welfare. The

Budget mention that National Sickness relief Centres will be set up. The number of blinds, lepers T.B. patients in the country is the highest in the world and the Government is allocating only Rs. 5 crores for the treatment of their sickness. They cannot give medicines worth a single pie. What is the condition prevailing in the AIMS? What is the condition of the Government hospitals. Where are you distributing this Rs. 5 crores? All this amount will be spent on T.A. D.A. in the Government offices. A substantial sum will be expended in the payment of rent of houses, purchasing of cars, telephones etc. Lorry or Bus operators will be given ex-gratia payment of Rs. 50,000 which comes to Rs. 5 crores. You have allocated Rs. 5 crores for the welfare of coolies also who work hard day and night. Do you consider this country as a beggar. The coolies could have paid this much of amount. Why are you playing joke in this way with the country. You are insulting the people of this country. Are you distributing charity? Do you consider this country as a beggar as you are giving Rs. 5 crores, 3 crores, 2 crores. Is this our view about social welfare. You see the condition of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people. In 1994-95, the plan outlay for the welfare of the S.Cs & S.T and the handicapped was 1.17 percent. It was 1.2 percent in 1995-96 and in interim Budget 1996-97 it was 1.10. Now it is 1.07 percent in regular budget. In 1993-94 it was 1.07 percent and in 1996-97 also it is 1.07 percent. If you take into consideration the inflation, you will come to know that this figure has declined and has not increased. This is 1.07 percent of the total outlay allotted for the welfare of SCs STs and the handicapped which was also 1.07 percent in 1993-94. In 1991-92 it was probably maximum i.e. 1.18 percent. It was nearly the same in 1994-95. Now it has been scaled down and you say that we will work for the betterment of the people and upliftment of the poor. In this manner, how the upliftment of the poor will take place. The outlay for the SCs/STs is declining. If the Prime Minister had been here, I would have been very happy.

The outlay for Health and Family Welfare has been declining. In 1994-95, the plan allocation was 2.97 percent, in 1995-96 it was 2.88 percent and in 1996-97 it is 2.69 percent. Is it the Health and Welfare measure? Will they bring about social justice in the country? Will they improve the standard of living of the people of this country? You have increased allocation for health by Rs. 195 crores out of which Rs. 172 crores is for allopathy and Rs. 23 crores is for Ayurveda and Homeopathy. In India, even today, 70 percent people depend on Ayurveda and Unani system of medicine. Last time, with great difficulty we got a separate department for Ayurveda and Homeopathy created. Only Rs. 23 crores have been allotted for the maintenance of this Department. For allopathy Rs. 172 crores have been allotted. I have no opposition to this allocation for

allopathy. You may set up good medical institutes and invest money in them, give quality surgical treatment to the people, bring down the charges of open heart surgery and kidney transplantation. I am not against all these things. But I am surprised to see that you have set apart only Rs. 23 crores for Ayurvedic and Homeopathic treatment which is the expenses on the Directors of the Department and their offices. What kind of health management is this? In which direction your Budget is moving? What is its philosophy? I can't follow. Probably, its philosophy is to copy others.

As Shri Manmohan had said that by pouring old wine into new bottle we should try to show the deteriorating economy in a rejuvenated form. There is nothing new in the Budget.

The Budget allocation for science and technology has also been declining. It was 0.33 percent in 1994-95 and 0.31 percent in 1995-96. For 1996-97 it is 0.297 percent. Our finance Minister and the Prime Minister talk of science and technology. The Finance Minister has announced that science and technology is getting substantial sum. How much sum is allocated under it? Mere giving money does not make the things work. It depends on the share in total plan allocation for science and technology. No country can progress without science and technology and you are making fun of it. Allocation for research in agricultural sector has decreased and we are lagging far behind in Seed technology. Production of new seeds has completely stopped. If the seed technology does not make progress and the quality of seeds is not improved continuously, there will be no increase in production. So you will have to give heed towards agriculture, Defence and Science research.

Presently, the laboratories in the country are in great need of fund. If they require Rs. 150 crores and Rs. 200 crores for modernisation, the Government grants them Rs. 25 crores, 30 crores or 40 crores. It would be better if they don't grant fund to them. Otherwise they give full amount. Laboratories can't sit idle for two years after requisitioning an equipment. You give them everything lock, stock and barrel. You modernise five laboratories but do it completely. Do not cut jokes with us in the name of modernisation.

The Budget allocation for women and Child Development was 1.09 percent which declined to .97 percent in 1995-96. This is the situation. The situation in the education field is very bad. The Government says that for education the Budget allocation for this year is 3.89 percent. Rs. 1400 has been increased. Did you increase this allocation for the Universities? Did you increase it for Engineering and Medical Colleges? Did you increase allocation for centres of Excellence? No, this Rs. 1400 crores have been increased for giving lunch to the students of Primary Schools. I am not against

it. But you have clubbed it with education. You have allocated this fund for nutrition. You have granted it for increasing quality of life. Why are you clubbing it with education? Is this allocation meant for constructing buildings, purchasing scientific equipments, text books or giving better pay scales to teachers? You have allocated this amount for nutrition. But we are told that this amount of Rs. 1400 crores is being given for education. It has no link with education. I am in favour of nutrition. The children should get it. You transfer this amount to that account and say we are giving it to nutrition. But it has been shows that the Budget allocation for education has been increased to 3.89 percent. Don't indulge in such kind of cheating. This will not help in the development of education. The rate of literacy among SCs/STs is very low and particularly in respect of tribal women the rate of education is very low. Their condition is very miserable. They are subjected to high handedness and the main reason of it's that they are uneducated. They are not economically strong. You have done nothing for them.

Defence is an important department of the country. What is happening with the security of the country. In 1990-91, the Defence Budget was 3.9 percent. Today it is 2.4 percent. The Budget of Pakistan is 6.5 percent and the Budget of China is 6.5 to 7 percent. Today China is giving missile to Pakistan. There is news in today's newspapers that Pakistan is making missiles. So under these circumstances, we will have to give heed to the defence of the country seriously. I would like to remind you that long back, I had send in regard to the defence of the country — Arms in violence and forms in peace. We had sent armies to plough the fields. With the result when China attacked us, we were a defeated nation. Instead of giving attention to the security of the country, coffee machines were made. My submission is that we should not play with the security of the country. The Defence Budget of the country should be increased. You have allocated Rs.27-28 thousand crores in the Defence Budget. I would like to demand that this should be increased to Rs.31-32 thousand crores. At present, about 75 percent of the Budget is expended on pension, salary and civilian expenditure. Then, what is left? You have not purchased any arms for the last ten years your Air Force. Navy are in procession of obsolete equipments. This Budget reflects such type of negligence towards defence of the country. Probably the allocation has been scaled down due to American pressure or to show to the world that India is scaling down allocation for defence or to show this to the IMF and World Bank. I would like to tell you that in this country, industrial progress can take place with progress in defence. When you manufacture tanks, the whole lot of mechanical industry is concerned with this. Metal industry progresses. When space work is taken up then thousand of scientists manufacture equipments

which have international market. In the case of science and defence we will find that the industrial progress of the country is very essential. China has made industrial progress and we cannot say in case of Pakistan that it has done nothing. But if you say that if money is spent on the defence then what will be the fate of development. It is a very old and wrong theory. Defence and development can also go together. There are a number of such areas where the defence and the industrial progresses and the educational development of the country go side by side. If you invest properly in DRDO and develop in a correct way the Defence Institutes, technology will develop in a large scale which will be beneficial for the country. You may recall that when America refused to give us super-computer. Then our scientists manufactured super-computers and we are now earning foreign exchange in the international market. So I say that if you scale down the Defence Budget and ask in this way then it will not be good. I am unable to understand the direction of the Budget.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Joshi, your Party has been allotted two hours and eleven minutes. You have already taken more than one hour. I have a list of 12 speakers.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Sir, I am just concluding...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Time overrun is normal in our economy.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I think you are supporting me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Time and cost escalation.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. MURI MANOHAR JOSHI : I would make a submission to the hon. Minister sitting here on behalf of the Finance Minister that I feel concerned for the future of the poor of this country after going through the budget. I feel concerned for the defence of the country. I feel concerned for the farmers, drivers and scientists of the country. I have already mentioned about the petroleum sector when there was discussion on it. So I would not like to repeat it. But the country has been burdened with such a huge budget which has not needed at all. The hydro Carbon industry has earned an income of Rs.23 thousand crores. The Government had withdrawn Rs. 4 thousand crores. From the oil pool during 1980 but it has not been repaid till date. I am also concerned about small scale industry. The small scale industries generate maximum employment yet no investment has been made in it. Textiles, small scale industries and

gems -jewellery are such industries which give employment to large number of people. I can't understand how have you increased allocation for other sectors. You say in your speech that you will increase employment opportunities but you have presented an anti-employment Budget. This Budget is anti-poor anti-farmer, anti-people and this Budget is not in the interest of the country. I would request my friends sitting on the other side that they should oppose this Budget tooth and nail as they used to do earlier. They should not let such anti-people budget be passed. It need be, try to remove this Government which has presented such an anti-people Budget, otherwise the people of this country will not pardon you. This Budget is against your avowed policies and which is not in the interest of the country. I will request the hon. Finance Minister to enumerate the changes and philosophy in the Budget. Change it according to the interest of the poor, the country and to the youth of the country. Thousands and lakhs of educated engineers, doctors are very much worried for the jobs. They are the talents of the country and you have done nothing for these talented persons. You are compelling all the talented persons either to migrate to foreign countries or turn rebels. I warn you that you should change all these economic policies, otherwise no one will support this Budget.

In the end, I strongly oppose this Budget.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I remember 1980 when the Budget was presented by Shri Venkataramanji and from the Opposition benches, the former Prime Minister had spoken against the Budget. I was given an opportunity to speak immediately after he had spoken. In fact, when I spoke then, I had opposed many of the points which were raised by the Opposition benches.

Today, I stand here not to please or not to displease anybody, not to oppose for the sake of opposition or not to support for I should support it because we are sitting here. I would like to take a very realistic stand. I am not going to quote facts and figures in my speech. I would rather like to emphasise upon the principles and policies on the basis of which the Budget is formed.

15.58 hrs.

(Prof. Rita Verma in the Chair)

One of the things which is said about the Budget is that it represents continuity. I think for development and advancement, continuity is required. If there is no continuity, the development and progress cannot take place. At the same time, change is also required. Change and continuity are required for development and progress. So, if this Budget represents continuity,

it cannot be objected to. If the policies are good, if the policies are acceptable, there is no point in setting them aside and trying to invent new policies. If they are good, they should be accepted and acted upon.

While presenting this Budget, the Finance Minister said that it reflects the policies contained in the Common Minimum Programme. Well, we all know that this Government is a coalition Government. This Government had to develop a sort of consensus, out of which the Common Minimum Programme has emanated. If the Budget is using the policies which are mentioned in the Common Minimum Programme, nobody can have any objection to it.

The hon. Prime Minister has been saying that agriculture is the backbone of the country.

16.00 hrs.

So, we shall have to take care of agriculture and the agriculturists in India and adopt such policies which can really help agriculture. I do think that this is a correct policy to follow. The only question which has to be asked in this respect is whether all that is required for the development of agriculture has been provided through this Budget for this year or not. Are we adopting those policies which can really help agriculture?

One of the most important things which is required in the present day agriculture is the credit itself. What is the volume of credit that is going to be made available to an agriculturist? In 1990, Rs. 9,000 crore were given as credit to the agriculturist. In 1996, that figure has gone up to Rs. 26,000 crore, this is a big jump and the tempo which has been created by providing this big credit is reflected in the production that we find in agriculture. If we really want to help agriculture and the agriculturists, the volume of credit should be quite big. Agriculture requires many other things. The farmers have been asking for remunerative prices. One of the dilemmas before the Government is how to give remunerative prices to the farmers and how to provide foodgrains to the consumers at acceptable prices. This is really the dilemma. We shall have to apply our mind to find out as to how this problem of giving remunerative prices to the agriculturists and making foodgrains available at acceptable prices to the consumers is solved. In my opinion, if we produce more and if the agricultural produce is turned into finished goods by establishing agro-based industries in the country and by exporting the agricultural produce and the finished goods to foreign countries, this problem can be solved to a very great extent. I am not going to say that this will solve the problem entirely, but it can solve it to a great extent. Are we having that kind of a policy? If we have that kind of a policy, let us implement it; let us produce

more, let us have more agro-based industries, let us export to other countries, also get good prices for the agricultural goods and commodities and then return those prices to the agriculturists so as to give them remunerative prices and so as to see that the consumers also get the foodgrains at acceptable prices.

The third most important point with respect to agriculture is research and development. What is the amount of money we are using to encourage genetics in India? What is the amount of money which we are using to manufacture new implements which can be used by the small holders? What is the amount of money which we are going to use to produce new varieties of seeds which are resistant to the drought, which can grow in the areas where the flood has taken place, which are resistant to pests also. These are some of the things which have to be very carefully examined. It is not possible to deal with all these points while dealing with the Budget in general. When we discuss the Demands for Grant for Agriculture, we will be able to discuss all these points. But if we are really wanting to help agriculture and the agriculturists, we shall have to see that the fertility of the land is protected. We shall have to see that the irrigation facilities are used in a very scientific manner for which some provision has been made in the Budget, and it is good.

The water resources have to be used in a parsimonious manner. It is not possible for us to use the water resources in a manner which will leave some areas dry and some areas irrigated. So, these are some of the points which I wanted to make with respect to agriculture.

About employment, now the Budget says that the old schemes will be continued. We welcome it. The question is whether the old six schemes, if continued, will meet the demands for employment of the people. The demands have gone up. It would be necessary to improve upon the old schemes. One of the most important things is that the educated ones are unemployed and the problem of the educated unemployed persons in the country is very delicate. It has to be handled. Is there any scheme with us to handle it. By increasing the investment, having more industries and doing agriculture in an intensive manner, having wasteland development, having forest development, using the ocean resources and using the potentialities in the space, we can generate employment and it can be used. But do we have the schemes? Do we have the plans? Are we thinking in these directions? That is the real question. It would be necessary to have something of that kind to provide employment to the people.

Employment is nothing but a right to live. Right to work is nothing but a right to live. If a person does not have an industry with him, if he has no agriculture with him, if he is capable of working and if he is not given the employment, I think, in a way, we are denying him the right to work and the right to life also. So, the problem of employment is not just a problem of providing some jobs but it is a problem which has to be looked into from a different angle. This is a sort of right to live given to the people.

About education, Dr. Joshi, while speaking on the allocations made for Education, did say one thing. I think I can agree with him. Of course, the allocation has gone up. But then, the Finance Minister very brilliantly has put that across to us and to the people. The allocation has gone up. But a major portion of that allocation is going to be used for providing mid-day meals to the children. It is not going to help the primary education also to the extent it should, leave aside the secondary education and the tertiary education. That is why this amount of money, which appears to be very attractive, is not really sufficient. It is good that the allocation has gone up. But it is not sufficient.

About health, now we have two new schemes. I think these schemes should be welcomed. They would certainly help the people to have better medical facilities provided to them. But is the amount of money which is provided for giving health facilities to the people, going to be sufficient? In my opinion, it is not going to be sufficient.

Coming to Housing, I would say that fortunately for India, it has been possible for us to provide foodgrains and clothes to our people. Also, some facilities for education and health have been provided to us. But up to this time, we have not paid enough attention to provide shelter to the people. The Indira Awas Yojana is one of the schemes which is used for providing shelter to the people. It is very good. But we have not been able to provide shelter to the people living in the rural areas as well as in the urban areas. If we are not able to provide shelter so far, now is the time when we should decide that something very concrete and substantial has to be done to provide not only a plot, not only a small amount of money for getting shelter but actually real shelter. Some sort of a house has to be provided to the needy people. In this respect, I think the Budget is not very satisfactory.

Coming to drinking water, the problem of drinking water is becoming very difficult to tackle.

Specially in some of the States in Southern India, the drinking water problem is becoming very very difficult. And as the time passes, it is going to be more difficult. Funds are provided by the State Governments and by the Central Government and they are used. But

what are they used for? They are used for having tubewells, the tubewells which work hardly for two years or three years and afterwards they dry up. The money which is used for providing drinking water is really not helpful. In a way, it is wasted. It is not wasted for one or two years but it is wasted. When a question is put across to the Government - it was put to us also when we were a part of the Government - "Are you doing anything concrete to provide drinking water to the people or not?" The reply given sometimes by some of us was and probably is: "What can we do if it does not rain?" The human ingenuity is not that weak. We can do lot many things to provide drinking water. Some solutions can certainly be found out. There should be short-term, medium-term and long-term plan for providing drinking water. It should be decided that the water which is collected at placed should be taken to the villages through the pipes and not in that open canals; it should be decided that the rivers can be plugged at different places so that water recedes into the soil and it becomes available later on. There are many village tanks which can be desilted. We can develop the technology and we have a technology for turning sea water into potable water. Those equipments can be made available to the people living in the coast-line areas on a large scale. And the problem of drinking water can be solved to a very great extent. The difficulty with this is that we have a very short-term plan and a short-term view of this problem. And that is why, it has not been possible for us to solve it effectively. Even in Delhi sometimes we find that there is water shortage in spite of the fact that Delhi is on the bank of river Yamuna. This problem is really a very important problem not only to the people living in the cities but also to those living in the villages because in cities the problem is not very acute, but in the villages, it is more acute and something has to be done. Our Government says that education will be provided to all the children up to the level of primary stage; then health facilities will be given to the people; then the housing will be provided to the people and the drinking water will be provided to all people by the turn of this century. If this is our design, if this is our plan, this is what we want to do. The question really which is to be asked by us is, whether we are having scientific plans - short-term, medium-term and long-term - for this.

The second question which we should ask ourselves is: Are we developing the machinery required to implement those plans at the national level, village level, district level and the State level also? Are we trying to find out enough funds for this purposes? Then only we can make this claim. Otherwise, if we keep saying that by the turn of the century, all these facilities will be provided and if we do not provide enough funds in our Budget, whom are we deceiving? We are

sufficient amount of money on research and development which is relevant, which is area-specific to them. Then we can have more funds for that. But public sector industry is also not spending enough amount of money. We should ask the public sector industry to spend enough amount of money. The private sector is certainly not spending enough amount of money on research and development. They should also be asked to spend more money. When I was there, they earned Rs. 500 crore because of concessions given in income tax for the development of science and technology. The Government is also helping them. But it is necessary that they should do something more research and development. If individual industries cannot do it, cooperatively they should do it; jointly they should do it; only then it is possible. I am a little dissatisfied with what has been done for research and development.

I was very happy to read in the newspapers that the Prime Minister had released the Technology Vision 2020 which is prepared by the scientists in India after the work of three years. I had the opportunity of discussing as to what they want to do with respect to that Technology Vision and all that. I am satisfied that it is a good Vision and it is going to be helpful. I was very enthusiastic to find out whether sufficient funds have been provided for that. But I am really a little disappointed that sufficient funds for research and development are not provided. If there is no adequate research and development taking place, agriculture cannot develop, we cannot have better health facility, we cannot have population control, we cannot have the best transport facilities provided in the country and industry certainly cannot develop. Something more has to be done.

We understand the difficulties of the Finance Minister. It is easy for anybody who is sitting on the benches other than the Treasury benches to ask for more money. That can be done if the Finance Minister can ask his other colleagues that this is the area which has to be considered properly and some more funds have to be found out for them.

Coming to the infrastructure, there are two areas which are identified by the Government: one is power and the other is transport. Very eloquently and properly a presentation was made on these two points by Dr. Joshi also. What do you want to do with power? How do you want to produce power in this country? We want to produce power in this country by having more generating sets established. What are we going to do for that? We are allowing the private industry to enter this area; we are allowing foreign industry to enter this area and we are establishing new power stations in this country and have more power stations. But what about the power stations which are already established

and not using their sufficient capacity? There are some States in the country which are using the capacity of the power station to the extent of 15 to 20 per cent. If we have the capacity established and if we are using that capacity in this inefficient manner, power availability is going to be a problem. What are the areas, what are the technologies you want to use for generating power? I do think that coal deposits are limited; oil deposits are limited. But atomic energy resources are not limited. We shall have to have a very careful look at it. Japan is producing energy by using atomic energy and nuclear technology. Japan is a country which has suffered. Yet, Japan is one of the countries which is using the atomic technology to produce power.

I think, by using atomic technology, they are producing energy to the extent of thirty per cent. France is doing the same thing. Many other countries are doing it. Why should we not use this technology in our country to produce more energy? Why should we shy away? It is a reality of life and we cannot shy away.

The non-conventional source of energy is a perpetual source of energy which is going to be available to us. The solar energy is going to be available to us. We are emphasizing on bio-energy and not on solar energy. We are emphasizing to some extent on wind energy, and solar energy is not being used. It is necessary for us to use solar energy, the wind energy and the wave energy. The thermal difference also produces an energy which has to be used. We shall have to focus more in the area of non-conventional sources of energy, if we really want to be self-sufficient in power. Hydel energy is also useful but there are so many problems when we try to use hydel energy. We shall have to have a very scientific look at the problem of providing power to our industry and agriculture. Unless that approach is adopted merely providing a few crores of rupees here and there or allowing the private sector or the public sector is not going to help us in the manner in which the help should be made available to us.

The Budget says that a certain amount of money is provided for road transport. Very good! We welcome it. But have we looked at the problem of transport from a comprehensive point of view? We are talking about road transport alone. The problem of transport in India and in countries like India, that is China and Brazil and the problem of transport in countries like Canada and America are different. We shall have to be very careful about the plans that we make and projects that we start to provide transport facilities in our country. Unless we have a comprehensive look, it is not possible. When we think of providing transport facilities to the agricultural and industrial sectors in the country, it is necessary for us to have a look at the road transport, the railways, the

waterways and the airways together. Unless you mix the facilities, unless you use all these systems by having a comprehensive plan, you would not be able to do that. Unfortunately, attempts were made to make a comprehensive perspective plan for 25 years to provide transport facilities in India in a very systematic manner. If the people want to carry the goods to longer distances, they prefer railways or waterways and if they want to carry the goods to a shorter distances, say, 5000 kilometres, they prefer roadways. We shall have to have a look at the requirements of our country. We shall have to find out as to how the railways, the roadways, the waterways and the airways can be developed in the country. They should be developed in a comprehensive manner. Only then the transport facilities could be provided to us. It is not only that the money should be made available, the vision is also important. If that vision, that scientific approach is missing, then nothing can be done. The Budget is not a statement of income and expenditure alone, the Budget is a sort of an instrument which is used for the development of the country also. The principles are projected through the Budget. We shall have to see whether any thinking on these terms has been done.

I am of the view that the Minister of Finance has very graciously agreed to provide more funds, if needed by the Ministry of Defence in future. What does that indicate? It indicates that the Ministry of Defence needs funds and the Government and the Minister of Finance realize that more funds should be given to the Ministry of Defence. But let me put it across to this august House that the development of the defences cannot be done in this fashion. Defence always requires a long term approach. You cannot say that if funds are needed it would be given to you. Unless they know what kind of funds are going to be available for them in twenty years' time, in ten years' time or five years' time, and what kind of funds are going to be available annually, they would not be able to plan in a fashion in which the planning has to be done for the preparedness of the Defence. Now, what is indicated in the Budget is that the funds would be made available. I do think that it is a good thing that it has been promised. But the same time we would have appreciated it very much if the money would have been made available at the initial stages itself.

Defence is something which cannot be prepared in one year's time or in four years' time or five years' time. We shall need a long term approach for the preparedness of the Defence. That depends on the preparedness for the threat perceptions. That depends on the threat coming from different directions and that kind of approach has to be accepted.

On the one hand, I am very happy that it has been realised that more funds, if needed, would be made

available to the Defence Ministry. On the other hand, I am not that happy because the funds should have been given at the beginning itself. If it would have been done, they would have been in a better position to plan at least for one year and remain prepared. The Defence expenditure is not an infructuous expenditure. In India there was a time when we thought that Defence preparedness was not necessary and that we could protect our sovereignty and territory and the borders by using the principles which we had used for acquiring our independence.

But after 1962, our approach was completely different. Whatever money was required, was easily given to the Defence Ministry. We are in the third phase now. In this third phase, money is given but it is given a little grudgingly. Money is given but then it is weighed against the requirements for the development. It is not a wrong policy. It is not wrong to do that. We shall have to develop the economy of the country, we shall have to maintain peace and tranquility in the country and we shall have to have good relations with other countries of the world. But, at the same time, let us not forget that war is very costly but getting defeated in the war is more costly. Let us not forget that the preparation for war cannot take place in one year's time and not even in five years' time. Unless we have a long term approach, it cannot be done. That is why the approach to the Defence problem has to be scientific. It has to be done in such a manner that it can really satisfy the requirements of our country. Probably, we are not going in the wrong direction and we are going in the correct direction. But here and there, more corrections are required as we are committing some small and big mistakes.

I am very happy to hear in the Budget speech that the Ninth Five Year Plan Approach Paper will be prepared and that Paper would contain the plans and programmes of the Government to provide welfare facilities to the people. I am really very happy about it. I am very happy that this exercise is being done to prepare the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Now, a sort of philosophy is being developed according to which the plan is not necessary for the development of the country. The plan is necessary for the development of individuals, for the development of industries and for the development of organisations and that plan may not be necessary for the development of the country. Plans need not be very rigid. They should not create difficulties and restrictions for individuals or for the public sector or for the Government sector. But they can give the priorities and they can give the directions. It can be a mega plan or a long term plan. That kind of a plan is necessary. I am happy that that is being done.

Standing on the floor, the only request that I would like to make is that let it not be done only in the Ministry. Let that Approach Paper come to this House. If you think that you should know what kind of an annual budget is going to be there or what kind of an annual plan is going to be there, then why should not Parliament know what kind of Approach Paper you are going to prepare? You prepare the Approach Paper and present it to the House so that you could get the suggestions from the Members and whether to accept or not to accept it can be decided by you. But it should not be a Paper prepared and used by the Government and Parliament is kept in oblivion as to what kind of direction you would like to take while preparing the Ninth Five Year Plan.

The Ninth Five Year Plan should also be presented immediately after it is prepared; it should be presented to the House. Let the people know what is actually going to be spent on agriculture, on employment on industry, on research and development, on education and on transport. Let the hon. Members know it.

We are all talking in a very loud voice that nothing should be kept secret while discussing the Budget of the Defence Ministry. But we are not very particular about discussing the approach paper, the Five Year Plan and the mid-term appraisal of the Five Year Plan. I think, these are the most important things and fortunately for us, the present Government has said that they are going to have the Ninth Five Year Plan; and before that, they are going to have the approach paper on the Ninth Five Year Plan. We would request that those two documents should be presented to the House so that the hon. Members can express their views and the Government can take advantage of the views expressed by the hon. Members.

Of course, we know that the Planning Commission is not a constitutional body; it is not even a statutory body; and yet, it is planning for the entire country, in consultation, of course with the State Governments, the Chief Ministers and the others. But the Parliament also should know that. The Parliament is a place where that should come first, it should be discussed after it is prepared and then it should be implemented.

One more thing which I find in the Budget is about the Centre-State relations—the federalism. We welcome this idea. This country is full of diversity. But there is a thread which binds this country. We would be happy if more powers which can be given to the State Governments are given to the State Governments and Consultations of all kinds with all the authorities in the country can be done on this point. But while doing so, let us be very very clear that we shall have

to be very balanced. If the Central Government is asked to make the allocations to give a certain amount of money to the State Governments and if the Central Government is not in a position to find out whether that amount of money is spent properly or not, what are going to be its implications? On the one hand, the kitty should be shared by the Union and the State Governments, and on the other hand, let there be a collective responsibility and a collective accountability also if we lose sight of this very important fact, the people will be ultimately asking that this was the money which had come to your coffers, where has that money gone? Then, you will not be in a position to say where that money has gone. If you are going to accept the principle of federalism by all means - except the principle of financial federalism and political federalism or any other kind of federalism you want—you accept it. But while doing it, a balance has to be struck. If we move from one extreme to the other, if the pendulum moves from one extreme to the other, it is likely to create problems.

Madam, if my time is over, you can indicate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. You can go on.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : If the pendulum swings from one extreme to the other, sitting in this House, if we are not taking cognisance of these facts they would create problems in the future. By all means let us have federalism which is provided in the Constitution; if need be, if everybody asks and if Parliament also agrees, let us have a new kind of system of federalism through our Constitution by introducing some modifications here and there. But while doing that, on the one hand, they should have the liberty, the authority and the power to get the money and to spend the money and on the other hand, they should be acceptable not only to the State legislatures, but also to some body which has a national outlook; it should be acceptable at least to the Planning Commission; it should be acceptable at least to the Finance Ministry. They can find out whether the money has been properly spent or not.

Now we are saying that the schemes will be continued and the money will be given to the State Governments. If money is given to the State Governments for those Central Government schemes, for which the funds are given by the Central Government - it should be 'Union Government'; we do not call it Central Government, we call it Union Government only because that is the correct expression - and if we see that that money is not spent by them, what do we do?

Now, for instance, take Rs. 1 crore given to each of the Members. There was a demand that this money should go directly from the Union Government to the Collectors and the State Governments should not interfere. Why? Why was that kind of demand made?

That does not cover the entire gamut. But it gives an indication as to why that kind of demand was made. This is applicable to the funds which are given to the Gram Panchayats under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana also. Why are the funds given? If they do not reach the Gram Panchayats, the purpose of giving the funds to the Gram Panchayats is also not served. Ultimately, the people for whom the funds are provided in the Budget also do not get them.

I am not objecting to having a look at the federal relationship between the Union Government and the State Government and also between the Union and the State bodies. But I am cautioning that there is another aspect. That other aspect also should be kept in mind before taking decisions in this respect.

While concluding my speech, I would say that this Budget is quite sweet in certain respects, it is quite sour in certain respects and quite bitter also in certain respects. What are the areas where the Budget has done well? I think, the approach which is accepted with respect to agriculture might have satisfied us. But that is an area which has given a hope to the people that in agriculture something better would be done.

Health is one of the areas in which some new schemes have been invented. They are likely to help. A lot of money, which is already allocated for primary education, is going to be spent on Mid-day Meal. There is a substantial increase in that and we should welcome it.

As far as industry is concerned, the Finance Minister is very clear that industry should be given impetus because in industry we are weak.

As far as deficit financing is concerned, I think, he has tried his best to see that the gap is reduced. He has tried to see that more taxes are not imposed on the people. He has also tried to see that the help given to the poor will continue. At the same time, if there is some infructuous expenditure committed, that would be reduced and some savings will be done. I think, this is a good part of the Budget.

What are the areas in which we are not fully satisfied? Housing is one of the areas in which we are not satisfied. Sometimes more has certainly to be done. If it is not possible to do it this year, let us think about it for the entire year and have something new to provide housing facilities to the people, especially in the slum areas and the rural areas.

Employment is something in which we shall have to do something more. What has been done to provide employment to the people from the rural areas? In the case of uneducated and unemployed persons, it is good, but as far as providing employment to the educated

people is concerned, we may not be satisfied with what we are doing. We shall have to do a little more.

About drinking water, I do think that something better has to be done. The most important thing is to be clear in our mind that this is not something which entirely depends on the nature, and the human beings are helpless in this respect. We shall have to discard that idea and do something more. I am not fully satisfied with what has been done about the basic minimum services.

What are the bitter areas? In my opinion, the bitter areas relate to the provisions made for research and development. We are not satisfied with it. Mr. Joshi was right in saying and I agree with him. They have pragraph which is having the title of 'other welfare measures'. Some Rs. 5 crore or Rs. 10 crore are there. I do not think it was necessary to mention that in the Budget speech itself. If it was mentionable in the Budget speech, there should have been some substantial amount. If you give Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 10 crore, to *Hammals* and to the welfare societies of women, then it is meaningless. Sometimes we do think that we are mocking at ourselves. That should have been avoided. That is my way of thinking.

I would say that the Finance Minister was to perform a difficult job and he has performed it in a very very sagacious manner. The Budget is certainly balanced. Not Budget can satisfy all the Members in the House and all the people in the country but he has done his job. At the same time, I do have a feeling in my mind that it is not as bold or as brilliant as the Finance Minister is. It is a Budget which is following the beaten track. It is a Budget which could have given many many new ideas and there is no dearth of ideas. You may have dearth of funds but there is no dearth of ideas. If you project the ideas through your budget, plans and speeches delivered by the President to Members of both the Houses of Parliament, you have given a direction to the Members of Parliament and to the people in and outside the country also that this is how we can tackle the problem. When there is dearth of ideas, when there is no brilliant programme or plan or policy projected, then we feel a little sad and dejected. I would say that this is a balanced Budget but not a bold Budget and not a brilliant Budget. But this is a Budget which has been made in the circumstances in which the Government had found itself. Probably, it could not have done better than what it has one and so, it deserves the support of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now request the Minister of External Affairs to make a statement on India's position with regard to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

India's position with regard to Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

16.47 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Madam, this honourable House will recall that I had made two *Suo Motu* Statements regarding the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) on 31st July, setting out the Government's policy on this issue. The discussion that followed has indeed helpful and it represented a national consensus on this subject. This is reflected in the steps taken by the Government to continue to safeguard our national interests, in the deliberations in the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. Today, may I, Madam, with your permission, take this opportunity to brief the honourable House on recent developments in Geneva.

As hon. Members are aware, the Government has been allowing a consistent and principled policy on nuclear disarmament and the CTBT. We have always considered that the CTBT should be the first definitive and irreversible step in the nuclear disarmament process. For this, it is necessary that the Treaty bring about an end to development and refinement of nuclear weapons in a comprehensive manner. It is also necessary that the Treaty be securely based within the nuclear disarmament framework by reflecting a commitment to the achievement of a nuclear weapon-free-world within a time bound framework.

Our approach during the negotiations was in keeping with this policy. In fact, the mandate of the Adhoc Committee is clear. It says :

"to negotiate intensively a universal and multilaterally and effectively verifiable Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which would contribute effectively to prevention of proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects, to the process of nuclear disarmament and therefore to the enhancement of international peace and security."

During the course of these negotiations, we found that the draft Treaty text was moving away from the mandate. Our proposals, put forward in a constructive spirit were in keeping with the mandate.

We are disappointed that the negotiations have been terminated prematurely and without consensus. The reason behind lack of consensus is clear - the desire of the nuclear weapon States to retain their nuclear hegemony. An artificial deadline was imposed

and a flawed text was presented to the Adhoc Committee.

We stated and maintain that India cannot subscribe to such a draft. Not only did this text fall far short of the mandate, it also had other unacceptable features, particularly the formulation on Entry into Force in Article XIV. This formulation was suddenly introduced on 28th June after we had announced our decision not to subscribe to the draft text and withdrawn our stations from the International Monitoring System on 26 June. Hon'ble Members would recall that the Government has been firm and unequivocal in stating that any language that would impose an obligation on India directly or indirectly either today or at a later date, would oblige us to indicate our opposition. Even though a large number of countries appreciated the logic of our position, the rigid position taken by the small number of nuclear weapon States prevented any change in this Article.

As a result, in keeping with our stated policy, we had to oppose the adoption of the draft Treaty text in the Ad hoc Committee. We also opposed the attachment of this draft Treaty text to the Report of the Ad hoc Committee, on the grounds that it was not a consensus text. On 16th August, the Ad hoc Committee adopted its Report, *without* the draft Treaty text with the conclusion that "despite the assessments of (CD/NTB/WP 330/Rev.2) contained in Section VI above and support for a proposal to transmit it to the Conference on Disarmament for its consideration, *no consensus could be reached either on the text or on the action proposed*". This Report was presented to the Conference on Disarmament and adopted by the Plenary on 20 August.

On 22nd August, a large number of delegations suggested that this Report be transmitted to the present session (50th session) of the United Nations General Assembly which concludes on 16th September. After due consideration, we were obliged to point out that such a step was unnecessary because the Report would, in due course, as part of the Annual Report of the Conference on Disarmament, be transmitted to the 51st session of the UN General Assembly scheduled to begin on 17th September. Thus the move to transmit any special report was blocked by us. In taking these steps, we were guided by the national consensus and our commitment to safeguarding our national interests.

We are aware that many countries are determined to take the draft Treaty text to New York and have it opened for signature in September 1996. I would like to assure the Hon'ble Members that the Government is monitoring these developments and will take all necessary actions, consistent with our policy, to indicate

our opposition to this text. At the same time, I would like to point out that unlike the Conference on Disarmament which takes decision by consensus, the UN General Assembly has its own rules of procedure. Nevertheless, we have a position of principle which will be made known in this forum too.

Madam, many countries with whom we have close bilateral relations have adopted a position on this issue which is different from our stands. We have, through our dialogue, tried to explain the rationale for our position. We believe that agreement on all issues is not a pre-requisite for close bilateral relations but mutual respect for each other's vital national concerns is. We are committed to strengthening our relations with all countries and remain confident that our differences on this issue will not affect our bilateral ties.

16.48½ hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 1996-97 GENERAL DISCUSSION - CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we shall resume the discussion on the General Budget.

Shri Virendra Kumar Singh

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Madam Chairman, at the outset I would like to express my gratitude to the hon. Finance Minister Shri Chidambaram for presenting poor-oriented, farmers-oriented, labour oriented, equality oriented Budget ...*(Interruptions)* I know there will be interruption. When new Members stand to speak, the interruption takes place. But when hon. Joshiji was speaking, I don't think there was any interruption but I think there will be interruptions...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : (Lucknow) : There will be no interruption.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the new Member speak, please donot interrupt.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : This Budget is poor oriented because the provision of Rs. 1263 crores in the budget for poverty eradication has been increased to Rs. 2195 crores. Similarly, there was a provision of Rs. 8000 crores in the earlier budget for rural employment which has now been increased to Rs 10,500 crores. The opposition parties have termed it as anti-farmers and anti - labourers budget. This is wrong

criticism. If you criticise, let it be so. It is your duty to criticize

16.58 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

It is said that all the amount in the budget is spent in repaying loan and no means of new income has been given. I would like to know why have you not given any suggestion. You talk of elimination of unemployment, corruption, price rise, illiteracy but the opposition has not given any concrete programme in this respect. They simply criticize. Of course this should be there but they should give some programme also so that people do not think it is a anti-farmers budget.

When we have given Subsidy to all people to buy 30 thousand tractors, it became anti-farmers. When we have increased the allocation for rural employment to the labour them it became anti-labourers. We have allotted an additional sum of Rs. 2500 to develop rural infrastructure. For infrastructure industries, life insurance has been strengthened.

17.00 hrs.

One more thing has been said about the budget that it is a copy of the budget presented by Dr. Manmohan Singh. But it is not so because, Dr. Manmohan Singh's budget was based on low income rate for generating more revenue whereas Shri P. Chidambaram did not find it proper to do away with corporate surcharge. In addition to it he has proposed 12 percent alternative tax on corporate sector. Inflation will be controlled upto 6-7 percent.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You can resume a little later. Now, it is five O'clock.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Amarnath Yatra

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA): Sir, with you kind permission, I would like to make the following Statement as the hon. Home Minister has still not reached Delhi from Jammu. As you have directed, I am making the Statement. Apart from this, any further details will be available to the House after the hon. Home Minister comes back. I think, tomorrow. It may not be possible today.

Sir, the Amarnath Yatra this year has been struck by tragedy because of unprecedented bad weather, heavy rain, snow, landslides and flooding. According to

available information, 121 persons have lost their lives, mostly due to heart and pulmonary failure, and exposure. Relief operations have been severely hampered due to continuing inclement weather, which has disrupted all forms of communications, and also prevented airborne rescue and relief operations.

2. The Yatra commenced this year on 16 August and was to be completed by 3 September, after the main Darshan scheduled on 28 August. Elaborate Planning was done and arrangements made for the Yatra in anticipation of participation of around one lakh yatris as compared to around 70,800 in 1995, 40,000 in 1994.

3. The following main arrangements had been made for the Yatra this year.

- (i) 1200 tents each were pitched at the staging camps at Chadanwari, Sheshnag and Panjtarni, i.e., a total of 3600 tents, as against a total of 900 and 750 tents in all these locations during 1995 and 1994 respectively. In 1995, it is only 900 tents and in 1994, it is only 750, but this year we have made 3600 tents in these three areas. The original plan was to set up around 1900 tents, which was increased to provide greater comfort to the yatris, and, as a contingency, in case of a larger than anticipated number of pilgrims coming for the Yatra. In addition three concrete sheds each were constructed at Sheshnag and Panjtarni. Provision was made through these arrangements for accommodating around 18,000-20,000 pilgrims each at Sheshnag and Panjtarni respectively.
- (ii) 25 metric tonnes of rice and atta, 7 tonnes of sugar and 8 tonnes of wheat bran were stocked at Sheshnag and Panjtarni. This was in addition to arrangements made by the J and K Tourism Development Corporation at Chadanwari, Sheshnag and Panjtarni, and 39 free "langars" set up at the staging camps between Pahalgam and the Holy Cave for providing food and meals to the pilgrims. Further, a large number of local private shopkeepers had set up shops selling eatables, tea, biscuits, etc., all along the Yatra route.
- (iii) The Government hospital at Pahalgam was made fully operational as a base hospital, and sufficient quantities of medicines were stocked there. Arrangements were also made by the State Government for provision of medical aid at Chadanwari, Zojibal, Mahagumas Top, Panchtarni and the Holy Cave. Large quantities of medicines and Oxygen cylinders were

provided and doctors and para medical staff deputed at these places. In addition, the Army and the BSF have also set up medical aid camps at Chadanwari, Sheshnag and Panchtarni.

- (iv) 14,500 blankets were arranged for the pilgrims, to supplement the beddings, etc., carried by the pilgrims.
- (v) Firewood was stocked in adequate quantities at different points on the Yatra route. In addition over a thousand L.P.G. Cylinders were stored at various points for the requirements of the "langars" that had been set up.
- (vi) Ponies and porters were arranged on a large scale for the pilgrimage.

The Yatra route from Pahalgam to the Holy Cave traverses a distance of over 45 kms. involving a steep climb over rugged mountains, mostly at a height of over 12,000 feet. At these heights, problems arising, from lack of oxygen arise commonly, which can be serious, particularly for the aged and infirm.

Keeping all these factors in view, 'Do's and Don'ts' and basic information of the requirements for the Yatris were printed and published well in advance for the guidance of the pilgrims. With your permission, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the information pamphlets. These copies were also widely publicised through the newspapers, etc. The points stressed in these *inter alia* included :

- (i) The Yatris should carry with them items like blankets/sleeping bags, heavy woollens, wind cheaters/raincoats, water proof shoes, etc. In fact, it was stated that Yatris not carrying the above items would not be registered for the Yatra. Arrangements were made to see that shops selling these items in Jammu, where the registration for the Yatra was done, remain open till late hours in the night for the convenience of the pilgrims.
- (ii) Every pilgrim was asked to get himself/herself medically examined to ensure that he/she is physically fit to undertake the journey.
- (iii) The Yatris were advised to carry with them eatables like biscuits, sweets, milk powder, tinned food, etc., and a personal medicine kit, and that it would also be advisable for them to get themselves inoculated.

The Yatra commenced as per schedule on 16 August and around 25,000 pilgrims left Jammu for Pahalgam on 16 August. By 21 August around 1.2 lakh pilgrims had left Jammu for Amarnath and till then the

Yatra had been proceeding smoothly, although 11 persons had lost lives due to cardiac arrest/pulmonary failure.

On the night of 21-22 August, the weather took a sudden turn and heavy rainfall began, along with snow and sleet in the higher reaches of the Yatra route, i.e., the Holy Cave, Panjtarni, Mahagunas and Sheshnag. The unprecedented rains and snow, accompanied by chilly winds continued unabated till 24 August and temperatures in the higher reaches dropped sharply. As a result of the extremely heavy rains, there were landslides and flooding at a number of places in the State, and the National Highway and the road between Jammu-Srinagar and Srinagar-Pahalgam was blocked at a number of places. All this also led to the Yatris getting stranded at a number of places between Pahalgam and the Holy Cave and at different places on the route between Jammu and Pahalgam. At the same time, airborne operations for relief and evacuation of pilgrims in distress on the track between Pahalgam and the Holy Cave were rendered impossible because of continuous rain, even though helicopters had been kept ready and on stand-by for launching relief and rescue operations.

On 23 August, about 52,000 pilgrims were stranded in the upper reaches at Panjtarni (27,000), Sheshnag (11,000), and Chandanwari (14,500). In spite of rain and snow, on 24th the Army and Security force units and the Police deployed along the route, made all out efforts to bring the pilgrims stranded in the higher reaches to the lower areas. As soon as there was a break in the rain after the 24th evening, helicopters were also pressed into service, and most of the pilgrims have been moved to Pahalgam.

According to the latest information available, the number of pilgrims in higher reaches is as follows: At Panjtarni, it is about 150, at Sheshnag, it is 100 and at Chandanwari, it is about 8,000. Around 2000 pilgrims have also been brought to a place called Baltal, on an alternate route to Srinagar from Amarnath and efforts are on to bring them to Srinagar, where camps have been set up for lodging them.

Additional food and medicine supplies have also been sent to Pahalgam, and supplies are also in the process of being airlifted to Sheshnag and Chandanwari. Fifty persons who required urgent medical attention were evacuated by helicopter to Srinagar on 25th August. Of those who have died, the bodies of 40 pilgrims have been brought to Baltal and efforts to retrieve the remaining bodies are going on.

Lieutenant General Saklani, Advisor for Home and Tourism, Government of Jammu and Kashmir is the overall in charge of the Amarnath Yatra and he has been closely supervising the initial arrangements for

the Yatra, as well as the relief measures. He has made a number of trips to all the places along the route and as soon as the weather permitted, rushed to Pahalgam and Panjtarni with medical supplies, blankets etc. The Home Ministry got in touch with the Defence Ministry on 23rd and requested all possible assistance to handle the relief. As a result, the Defence Ministry immediately swung into action. The Union Home Secretary was present in the office throughout Saturday the 24th and Sunday the 25th and instructed the State Government to send the situation reports every three hours. A Special Information Centre was also opened at the Police Control Room, Srinagar to facilitate the families and relations to get information about the pilgrims.

About 73 of the dead bodies have been identified and the list has been released to the Press. Since the highway between Anantnag and Jammu is blocked and could take two to three days to be cleared, the possibilities of airlifting the bodies from Srinagar are being explored.

The Border Roads Organisation in round the clock efforts to clear the road blocks and landslides so that the downward movement of the stranded pilgrims to Jammu can begin. However, problems are also being encountered because of flooding and submergence of the road between Pahalgam and Khanabal, and between Khanabal and Srinagar on the National Highway which has also created bottlenecks in the road movement.

The Ministry of Railways have organised seven special trains from Jammu to clear the pilgrim traffic without any delay.

Keeping in view the extreme inclement weather conditions the State Government stopped movement of any yatris forward towards the cave. The 'Charri Mubarak' which was also stranded at Udhampur due to road blocks on the National Highway was airlifted on 25th of August to Srinagar and will be taken with a group of Sadhus to Panjtarni on 27th August for its final traditional journey to the Holy Cave on 28th August. The same day it would return to Panjtarni and be flown back to Srinagar.

As in the last two or three years right from the beginning there had been apprehensions of possible threats to the yatris from the militants and there were reports of likely attempts to plant explosive devices etc., at the traditional camp sites. Keeping in view these apprehensions and possibilities the sites of the camps at Chandanwari and Sheshnag were also relocated soon before the commencement of the yatra to ensure the security of the pilgrims. As a result of the security precautions and tight arrangements, the yatra has so far passed off peacefully and without any disruption on this score.

It would be seen from the foregoing that there has been a record participation in the pilgrimage this year. The State Administration and the Security Forces had been fully geared up to ensure the safe and smooth conduct of the yatra and the arrangements for the accommodation, food, medical supplies etc., had been substantially augmented as compared to the previous years. Also, this time, all these arrangements were further strengthened by the whole-hearted cooperation of the local employees and participation by all sections of the local population who provide various services for the yatra which was a particularly heartening feature of this year's yatra. The yatra was proceeding smoothly till 21st August when tragedy struck in the form of sudden and unprecedented rains and snow.

The magnitude and unprecedented nature of this would be seen from the fact that the casualties include at least four security force personnel and eight porters and ponywallahs who are generally acclimatised to the heights and the local conditions and are physically very fit.

Efforts have been mounted and are continuing on a war footing by the State Administration, the Army and the security forces to provide relief and succour to the pilgrims who are stranded in various places, and to ensure that the road blocks are also cleared at the earliest so that the pilgrims can move to their houses. *Ex gratia* relief of Rs. 50,000/- has been sanctioned from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to the families of those who have lost their lives in the calamity and an equal amount of *ex gratia* relief has been announced by the State Government.

The latest position is about the railway facilities that have been provided. At about four o'clock I got this information. There are only about 15 to 20 yatries left in the Railway Station. All those pilgrims who came to the Railway station have been helped to go to Delhi as a first step. And then subsequently they will go to their own places.

This is the latest position and I have made the statement on the facts available now. After the Home Minister comes back, if any further information is there it will be supplied to the hon. House.

So far as the discussion is concerned, the Government has no hesitation. Whatever decision that has been taken in the all-party meeting, we are ready for discussion. Any other information about the facilities to be provided on the advice of the senior Members of the House, the Government is prepared to consider. I am prepared to have a discussion today or tomorrow as per the decision that is going to be taken.

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR YATRIES TO SHRI AMARNATH JI

Do's

1. Please ensure that you are fit to perform the journey. Do have yourself medically examined. Remember that you have to cross Mahagunas top which is about 14,000 feet high.
2. Do carry your own tents, Sleeping Bags, Blankets, Beddings, heavy woollens, wind sheeters, rain coats water-proof shoes, torches and walking sticks.
3. Kindly carry some eatables like biscuits, sweets, milk powder and tinned food with you.
4. Avail Ration and Fire wood quota especially arranged for you at all stages.
5. Kindly ensure that all your arrangements are in perfect order. Examine the tent (s) that you have hired. Make sure that the ponywalla, the labourer, the dandywalla is properly registered and carries a token.
6. Please ensure that ponies carrying your luggage and eatables etc. remain with you all the time. If you let them remain behind, you are likely to be inconvenienced.
7. Kindly observe discipline on the trek and keep on moving slowly and steadily. Adhere to the Instructions issued by the Yatra Officer from time to time. The officials of the Police, Tourism, Health, Food and other Departments are there to help you perform the journey comfortably.

Don'ts

1. Do not overstrain on steep gradients.
2. Do not stop at any point where there are warning notices.
3. Do not break traffic discipline or try to overtake others in difficult stretches.
4. Do not pay more than the prices fixed for porters, ponies, dandies, rations, firewood and for supplies from Dhabas.
5. All medical attendance is free of cost.

Note : Aged, Infirm, ailing and yatries not sufficiently clothed will not be permitted to proceed beyond Pahalgam.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the statement of the Prime Minister is

taken as true then whatever the hon. Member has said was untrue. Were all those allegations baseless? Was all the anguish expressed a force. Here every Member is saying that people of his constituency are contacting him/her to seek information. We are further trying to contact officers but they are not available. We are not in a position to tell the people anything. While giving speech, the hon. Prime Minister said that not only the arrangements for the yatra were adequate but it were better and everything was handled properly. When it is the reply of the whole discussion then what is the use of speaking on this subject. It means that whatever we Members have said here irrespective of the party affiliations and placed our experience as well on that of individual constituencies here and the reply of the Prime Minister indicates that what he said was true than what is the use of having a discussion on it?

I would like to ask the hon. Prime Minister whether he has taken notice of all what the hon. Members have said in the morning? Whatever the officers have written, he simply read it out as it is...*(Interruptions)* What is the use of that discussion? Were all those facts untrue? ...*(Interruptions)* This is even not a cover-up ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA (Bombay South): Sir, the Prime Minister has not spoken for Mumbai. About 200 yatris from Bombay and stranded in the Amarnath Yatra...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Shri Jawant Singh and others are saying...*(Interruptions)* If the statement of the Prime Minister is true then there is no need of further discussion on it. Everything is O.K. Whatever was good before, is also good now. There is no need of any supervision and rescue work...*(Interruptions)* People are crying. The people are stranded there ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : It has been agreed to have a discussion. This is a direct challenge to the veracity of the statement. In the discussion that can be done. This is a very serious charge. Let us not convert this House into a slanging match.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : There the food, sugar, wheat were all in adequate measure ...*(Interruptions)*. The medicines were sufficient. Every care was without fault...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

This is not the official statement.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : He has

given statement on the basis of reports that have been received. The Home Minister has not returned yet. The Hon. Minister has seen the situation. We would like to hear his conclusions. After hearing the statement of the Prime Minister, a question comes to the mind repeatedly that if the arrangements were so good then all these deaths were due to the natural calamity? Did not the administration take necessary steps at that time? Why there was delay in calling the army? The Governor was here in Delhi for the last three days. You have not mentioned about it. The Chief Secretary was also in Delhi. But no one could be contacted in Delhi. No control room was set up in Jammu and Srinagar. These are all failures. Are we in a position to deal with sudden tragedy or the arrangements made in advance can be considered adequate? the nature has challenged them and if the administration could not stand up to face that challenge then it should be a matter of concern for the hon. Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)* But the speech of the Prime Minister does not show any concern. So I would like that we should wait for the statement of the Home Minister. The House is ready for a discussion. After all we have to initiate the discussion. But if one thinks that it is a cover up and if after this serious tragedy it is proved that the Government had made all the arrangements but the weather did not favour them, I think it would be injustice with the situation. It even such a situation arose the people should not have been allowed to die. We should have saved them and if there has been any lapse it should be looked into.

Whatever was said in the morning is not an issue of a party. We should find out the truth but the speech of the Prime Minister does not throw any light on it. He has not replied to a number of issues which put the Government in the dock. I would like that the Prime Minister go into this matter in depth. When the hon'ble Home Minister comes tomorrow, we will hear him and then decides in what form the discussion should take place.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think, we can wait for the report of the Home Minister.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, I was not prepared to make the statement today. I had requested you about it.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, exactly.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I requested that the statement will be made by the Home Minister when he comes back.

In the morning during the meeting of Leaders of all the Parties in your Chamber, they took a decision about

it. I do not know. That is the information given by Parliamentary Affairs Minister that the matter should be taken up for discussion after the Home Minister comes and makes a statement. This is what was conveyed to me by my parliamentary Affairs Minister. I have not come here to make a *suo motu* statement. I have never said that the hon. Leader of the Opposition is mixing politics in this very sad tragedy. I have never said it. I have placed on the floor of the House only whatever information that I have.

MR. SPEAKER : It is correct.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am prepared to have a discussion...*(Interruptions)*. I am agreeable for a discussion...*(Interruptions)*. You say whatever you want to say...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb. You must have patience to listen to the Prime Minister.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I have no hesitation for that. If any further information is available, after the Home Minister comes, it will also be supplied to the House...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Sadar-Delhi) : ...*(Interruptions)*
What arrangement is being made regarding the training which are reaching Delhi.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever information the Prime Minister had with him he has placed it before the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : When I am speaking you cannot interrupt. We will wait for the arrival of the Home Minister and after the Home Minister has made the statement, then we will decide about it.

We will now resume the discussion on the General Budget. Shri Virendra Kumar Singh can continue his speech.

17.24% hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 1996-97-GENERAL DISCUSSION - CONTD.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was making speaking on the Budget. This budget reflects the social justice and commercial harmony.

17.25 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

I donot want to go through the figures but would like to give a suggestion. More than half and nearly 50 per cent people of the country are still 11' illeterate. There are only 38.5 percent educated persons in Bihar. There is need to make people literate and educated. For this purpose, primary and middle schools should be opened in all the villages. Unless the people are educated they will not be able to understand the objective of the budget which should have been gone through by the 90 percent of the people in villages. It is necessary to educate them so that they get all the information. To achieve this aim, schools should be opened everywhere.

Saving should also be encouraged. There should be provision in the Budget to give incentive to saving. When saving is more, investment will be more and thus more employment opportunities will be generated and there will be progress in the country. So I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards it. I thank him for presenting such a budget for 90 percent poor and the farmers.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must begin with a confession that on this occasion there are so many things in the Budget which are strikingly new. The speaker from the main Opposition Benches, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi lacked the flamboyance of the speaker who used to initiate the Budget discussion from that side.

It was also a surprise for me. I have profited from my predecessors speaking here, to hear our ex-Speaker as the initial spokesman from the Congress benches.

Sir, it is also in a way a unique situation under which we are having this discussion on the Budget. It is a Budget of a coalition called the United Front. The United Front has succeeded in generating a common approach and on the basis of that common approach, a Common Minimum Programme has been formulated.

I think, it is pertinent to mention at this initial stage that by definition, almost a Minimum Programme provides a minimum only in the sense that that provides the necessary conditions without necessarily being a sufficient one. For that, perhaps one has to look at the common approach and perhaps also to go beyond that common approach for the simple reason that it is a common approach of 13 political parties. I will have the occasion to comment on this later.

But let me begin with the common approach. Sir, the uniqueness should come from what has been stated

in the concluding part of this common approach. Let me quote. It says : "The ethos of our humanist tradition and the aspirations of the Independence struggle inspire the United Front Government to carry out the above Programme". This is a point worth analysing. What was the aspiration of the Independence movement? Simply put, to begin with, it was freedom. We wanted freedom and Independence to decide our own destiny and not being governed by anybody from outside. After we achieved our freedom and Independence, we wanted to have a kind of society for ourselves which is partly embodied in the Directive Principles of the Constitution and in other parts of the Constitution. It can be summed up in this that there will be growth, there will be reduction in inequality of wealth and income, there will be employment to all deserving persons, there will be compulsory and free primary education for all below the age of 14 years and there will be provision for health for all irrespective of whether he is below the poverty line or above it.

Sir, what was the result of the inspiration? These were the aspirations for which there had to be inspiration. The content of that inspiration - all those who participated in the freedom movement know primarily was sacrifice and then came courage and boldness which found reference in our ex-Speaker's speech also. It was sacrifice, it was courage, it was boldness which helped in chalking out a new path and it characterised the inspiration for that Independence.

Sir, that is why, this has been mentioned in the United Front's common approach. Something else has also been mentioned in this common approach. In characterising this Government, it has been mentioned that this United Front Government would not be a Government of one set of rulers or another. It seems, one section of the supporters do not like this kind of a statement. It will mark the beginning of an alternative model of governance based on, as our ex-Speaker suggested, federalism, decentralisation, economic and political reforms, respect for freedom, openness and transparency. If the Budget has to be tested, it has to be tested in this context. Following from this, what we have to try to see from the Budget is how they have responded to the given situation. I will come to some of the other aspects of the common approach later. But before that, let us try to find out what we are responding to.

Sir, in the updated version of the Economic Survey, it has been mentioned - perhaps, correctly, although that particular figure is questioned - that we are on a high growth rate. Some say, it is seven per cent; some say, it is around 6.5 per cent. All the same, it is a high point in our growth. Now, is that all that the Economic

Survey says? It will almost appear, reading the Economic Survey, that we are out of the woods, and we are out of the crisis. I submit, Sir, that that is not so. Let us look at this. The growth rate really picked up in the last three years, but not before that. Let us remember that this growth rate first picked up during the 80s. After having a growth rate of 3.5 per cent till the 80s, we jumped into the new growth rate in the 80s. We all know that 1990-91 brought us into a situation when we did not have money to pay for our imports and we had to deposit our gold stocks in the Bank of England. There was a high growth rate preceding that. The 3.5 per cent growth rate up to 1970 or up to the beginning of 80s, was overtaken by the growth rate of 5.5 per cent on an average. That was the break and the conclusion was not that easy to digest. It began with a bang and concluded in 1991 with what we all know.

Sir, it is true that during the last three years, the exports as a percentage of imports have increased. To what extent is that true? It is true for two years, when this growth was not taking place. It is not true for the subsequent three years, when this high growth rate was being achieved.

The percentage of exports when compared to imports is coming down in the course of the last three years. That causes us to worry. It was once again this scene which characterised the end of the 1980s. Therefore, we should beware of it...(*Interruptions*)

The situation even in terms of the updated Economic Survey is also worrying us in respect of another factor. It is true that the indebtedness has increased, though it is maintained that the indebtedness, as a percentage of the GDP, is coming down. Another worrying feature in terms of the previous policies which have resulted into this is that our outflow in terms of dividend - and not merely interest and debt repayment - is crossing the \$ one billion mark in the economy. While the Foreign Direct Investment is of the level of some \$ two plus billion through FII and other ways, the outflow in terms of dividends is crossing the \$ one billion mark. I want to be proved wrong. I will be happy if the hon. Finance Minister proves me wrong. That burden is increasing and that burden is reminding us of one thing. In the concluding paragraph, it has been mentioned that we were fighting for certain things during our Independence struggle. It is not only indebtedness but it is this also. They came as traders. After being forced to leave the country for so many international and national reasons, they instituted the organisations so that even if the colonies are lost, imperialist exploitation does not cease. Imperialism now is not a word which is mentioned in the civilized societies, where Parliamentary practice is there. But it is the imperialist exploitation against which our entire Independence struggle was focussed. That was the meaning of our Independence struggle. Yet, at

the end, when this new set of leaders are here to lead the country, we find ourselves not only in debt but also in the same flowing out of our income, our output in the form of dividends. I am trying to find out from the update to which the Budget should give a response. It is claimed that this growth rate is not propelled, at least, last year, by any agricultural upsurge but it is by industry.

We have talked about transparency. I would have pleased that there is more transparency than there is in the Budget by trying to focus on all aspects of industrial growth also. This growth in the GDP is characterised by a particular pattern of industrial growth. Even then, this industrial growth is supposed to be propelled by growth in capital goods. We were meeting the officials of the Finance Ministry the other day. We discovered that the capital goods inflow would surprise the House. For example, take the motor car industry. The fastest sector in the industry which grew is the durable consumer goods.

In this particular case, this does not include motor cars but refrigerators, washing machines, ovens and other things. We are worried that the policy pursued in the course of last five years - with a break in 1991 - and which was also pursued, to some extent, during the eighties, we are having a pattern of industrial growth. Once again, that will lead to a disaster and in any case not to the benefit of the people. We are provided with all kinds of reasons as to how our foreign debt is coming down as a percentage of GDP. This transparency requires that we also mention that our foreign exchange reserves in the course of last three years has come down as a percentage of our GDP, that our foreign exchange reserves has come down as a percentage of our import requirement. Transparency requires that these aspects also should be mentioned. We have pursued a policy of encouraging exports without trying to control imports.

Very recently, people close to the Government have suggested that we must have a second look at our import policy. If I remember aright, when our present Finance Minister was our Commerce Minister, he also once suggested that perhaps the imports need to be controlled. That is the kind of situation. This should not have come from the new set of rulers. We have to have a change; we have to take a look which is bold and which is a break from the past. Look at the situation of prices which continue in the Budget. I was shocked. We have repeatedly in the course of last five years demanded that let the price situation be indicated not in terms of wholesale price index which is a meaningless statement, but in terms of the consumption needs, consumption expenditure of the people, the working class consumer price index, the agricultural labourer consumer price index and so on. And for this economy,

it is not the wholesale price index but the national GDP which is better. This is the practice in our country, perhaps we are a little more civilised than they are. And, therefore, we are speaking and claiming that prices have come down. I will come to this also. Not only that, I am just describing where we have come to about a policy in the course of last five years and we have begun to tackle these problems.

The employment in public sector and organised sector is declining. In the last three years, the rate of growth of employment is coming down in the public sector as well as in the organised sector. I have got the figures. But I will not take the time of the House in dealing with those figures. If anybody questions me, I will immediately come with the figures. The situation of employment is this. The situation of consumer price indices are at this level and then of the people living below the poverty line. I think, Dr. Joshi made a mention of it. There are all kinds of estimates. In any case, there is no disagreement on one particular point in estimating population living below the poverty line.

Forget about their absolute percentage. The point is, in the course of the last three years out of the last five years, the percentage of people living below the poverty line is showing an increase in absolute numbers. This has not been denied even by the experts of the Planning Commission. If we take all the five years together, the whole picture would change. I would not get into that. But since the Economic Review update emphasizes the high growth rate of the last three years, therefore, we have to see, what was happening in the course of the last three years.

It is mentioned that the percentage in terms of Gross Tax Revenue is growing. It has not yet achieved the rate that was there in 1991. It is claimed that the direct taxes bear a higher proportion. It is because the collections from customs duties have come down. Relatively, the collections from excise duties have also come down.

Now, I will come to the response in the Budget to a situation which is characterized in this way in the course of last five years. We were having a discussion with the officials. We asked them, what was the target for this expenditure? The answer was astounding. For the first two or three years, it was considered to be a plan expenditure. For the next two or three years, there was no target because that was considered to be a non-plan expenditure. Even in an arbitrary manner, we divide our expenditure as plan and non-plan.

Today I saw the hon. Home Minister making a reference on a paper, not from his mouth because he was in Kashmir, about the Inter-State Council. It is not mentioned even in their Approach Paper. But it is a logical deduction from the approach. Why is it so?

I entirely agree with hon. Shri Shivraj V. Patil that the planning was given a go-bye in the course of the last five years, in the name of indicative planning. And, therefore, perspectives were being lost. When they were at all trying to do something in the form of a Mid-Term Appraisal, there was no difficulty in suppressing that from the House. So, a requirement for the economy as a whole, for reasons of federalism as well as for going ahead on the plane of economy and society is, why should not the Planning Commission be completely an independent organization, not under the Centre but under a Statute? Why should not the States - who were together previously, having 50 per cent of the Plan expenditure which was gradually coming down - have the same kind of say in formulating a plan? In order to do that, one should have independence of the Planning Commission guaranteed through a Statute functioning under either the National Development Council or the Inter-State Council. That should be done.

So, I fully support his suggestion. We had made that suggestion elsewhere also that if the Approach Paper is prepared, that Paper should come to the Parliament for our discussion. But why leave it? Is the plan not for the entire country including the States?

Why should it not be placed before the State Legislatures as well for discussion and then pooled together for drafting a plan satisfying all our points of view or may be each point of view? I expect it because we are as inspired as we were during the independence struggle.

This is the context in which as a response I look at the Budget. The approach also contains several other things. While hearing the previous speakers I was wondering because it was almost a discussion as we had on the Railway Budget. Throughout the night we had the discussion and a record was made here when we broke finally at 7 a.m. the next morning. But what was the discussion about? It was a discussion that there should be a railway line along one's constituency; it was with everybody that there should be double-tracking, electrification, etc. That is the kind of discussion that we had on the Railway Budget. Dr. Joshi and even the very respected Patilji also went along that kind of a track. Please tell me what is the priority sector. Which one is not a priority sector in the economy today? Is primary education less important than education and research at the top-most level? Is health less important than education? Is shelter less important; is power less important; is Defence less important and what have you? Almost every aspect of our life has become an aspect of priority significance. That is what the crisis in the economy indicates. It is this which indicates that we are in a crisis. It is useless to counterpoise one against the other. It is useless to say that you have given here, but not there; you have increased the proportion here,

but not there; you have increased some amount here, but not there. That is not a criticism which is valid under the present circumstances. Why is it so? It is because the kitty is one lumpsum. Every single need through these fifty years of our independence has become so pressing that everyone claims priority to it. To that the Budget has to respond.

What can the Budget do? It can change the given quantity; it can change the relative proportion. If you increase one proportion, how can you not decrease another proportion? This is the logical statement. To the credit of our Finance Minister it should be said that for the first time in the course of the last fifty years education has got more than two per cent. We want to have six per cent; but, for the first time it has crossed two per cent. Giving food to the children who come to primary school is non-educational!

I am surprised that Dr. Joshi who was an educationist - at least till he became the leader of his party which ruined his educational accomplishments! could not understand that. We know that all our boys below 14 years of age do not come to schools.

18.00 hrs.

We know that the percentage of drop-outs is more than 60 per cent at Class IV stage. Providing food is not part of education! I am surprised by that statement. If by providing food, we can guarantee their presence, nothing more need be done for giving education at that stage.

I congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance as the Budget has been able to provide more than two per cent for education. Now, had he given more for research and development and for other higher levels of education, nobody would have been happy, except somebody who is connected with research and development, as Shri Patil at one time was, or Dr. Joshi perhaps also was. The problem is not there. I will come to the subject of proportions a little later. The central problem which has been missed by the Budget ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chatterjee, one minute. I am given to understand that it was decided in the meeting this morning that the House would continue till seven o'clock.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This is not part of my understanding. I would like to open the discussion tomorrow as the opening batsman.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, the decision was that the House would sit late only after the 29th. ...*(Interruptions)* I am simply performing the function of informing the House. The decision was not

to sit till seven o'clock from today. The decision was, considering the Government's...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : Sir, after the 29th, the House would sit upto Seven o'clock. This was the decision taken first. Subsequently, there was a suggestion to sit late from today itself. But now, if he wants to continue tomorrow, we can have it tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Chatterjee, you can continue tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, the 27th August, 1996.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 27, 1996/Bhadra 5, 1918 (Saka).
