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Tuesday, April 22, 2003

Vaisakha 02, 1925 (Saka)

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(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, April 22, 2003/Vaisakha 02, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after Goa, three cases of SARS have been detected in Pune also. ...*(Interruptions)* This is a very serious issue. SARS has broken out in more than two dozen countries of the world. The Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want the hon. Health Minister to make a statement during 'Zero Hour' today. The Health Minister must respond. In your State of Maharashtra, in Pune, three cases of SARS have been detected. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You may raise the issue during Zero Hour, the Hon'ble Minister will be present then.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may please ask the Government. This Government have been misleading this House. ...*(Interruptions)* Hon'ble Minister claims that there is no case of SARS in India but the Government of Maharashtra have accepted. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare should give a statement. ...*(Interruptions)* I will raise this issue during Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Three cases of SARS have been detected in Pune. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government of India have been reiterating that no case of SARS have been reported. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have disallowed all the Adjournment Motion notices. The notices for Suspension of Question Hour are also not accepted by me.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you during 'Zero Hour'. Now, let us go to the 'Question Hour'.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I sincerely request you to direct the Minister of Health and Family Welfare and during Zero Hour when we are allowed to speak on this issue. Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare should come out with a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, I have also given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

In Karnataka, the Paragodu dam is being constructed by the Karnataka Government on the river Chitravati. Recently, the Chief Minister of Karnataka laid the foundation without the knowledge of the Andhra Pradesh Government and without getting the sanction from the Government of India. Now, the State of Andhra Pradesh is completely reeling under drought. If the dam is constructed, the whole Rayalaseema area, including Anantapur will not get drinking water. This is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise it during 'Zero Hour'.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Capacity of Tihar Jail

*442. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi High Court has given notice on the Union/Delhi Government/Tihar Jail Authorities over the condition of Tihar Jail as reported in the Nav Bharat Times dated 26.2.03;

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

(c) the capacity of all the six prisons in Tihar Jail to accommodate the prisoners;

(d) the number of prisoners lodged in these prisons at present;

(e) whether prisoners lodged in these prisons are more than their capacity;

(f) if so, justification therefor;

(g) whether the Government propose to construct more jails in Delhi; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Criminal Writ Petition has been filed in the High Court of Delhi seeking its intervention for issuance of writ of mandamus or any other writ to alleviate the hardships of the prisoners lodged in Central Jail, Tihar. A reply on behalf of the respondents has been filed in the Hon'ble Court and the matter is sub-judice.

(c) to (f) The number of prisoners lodged in Tihar Jails as on 15th April, 2003 was 12,586 as against the sanctioned capacity of 3637 prisoners.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. There are four additional jails, three within the premises of Central Jail, Tihar and the fourth at Rohini, under construction at present. It is also envisaged to construct a new Jail Complex consisting of six jails at Mandoli.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the number of prisoners lodged in Tihar Jail is four times more than the sanctioned capacity. These prisoners include persons who have committed petty crimes and can be convicted with the punishment of 3 to 6 months imprisonment. I had raised one more issue as to what is the justification of detaining undertrial prisoners in such a large number? In the reply, no response has been given regarding justification. We know it quite well that dreaded criminals and smaller criminals, particularly those who are to be punished for not more than three to six months imprisonment, are at times unable to arrange lawyers to plead to their cases in the Court. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Due to this reason, prisoners in large number are languishing in jails for 10 to 12 years. They are waiting for final decision in their cases. Petty criminals whose punishment is likely to be not more than three to six month's jail, are unnecessarily lodged in the jail for the last 10 to 12 years. I would like to ask from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government propose to find a way out to ensure that at least these petty criminals are released as soon as possible and are not subjected to such prolonged imprisonment?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concern expressed by the hon'ble Member is very much correct. It's a fact that the undertrial prisoners lodged in Tihar Jail exceeds four times more than the sanctioned capacity. As you have said nearly 78 per cent of prisoners have been kept in jails as undertrials on petty charges and are accused of smaller crimes. In order to sort out this problem, the Chief Justice of India has written a letter on 29 November, 1999 to high courts of various states that Chief Metropolitan Magistrate and Chief Judicial Magistrate should personally go to jails and set up Courts in jails itself so that the escorting time of prisoners is reduced and the trial is conducted and completed then and there. As a result, this procedure has now begun throughout the country. As far as Tihar Jail is concerned, 34 such courts were arranged there by 19th April, 2003. Cases were heard by these courts and a total of 2411 cases were disposed of. Simultaneously, the Government is considering to have a lenient view under Prisoners Administration in the cases where the bail is granted but the concerned persons fail to produce the required papers with regard to their bail in time. The Court has taken a lenient view in this regard and is engaged in the process of their release.

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all know that Human Right is a fundamental right and prisoners in these jails are severely harassed. I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister as to how many representation to improve the condition of jails in our country have been received from the Human Rights Organisations in the country so that victimisation and harassment of prisoners is, stopped and they live decently. Whether any measures have been taken in this regard?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a lot of suggestions are required. The fact is that this question refers to a writ petition filed in Delhi High Court on 18th February. The petition - L.R. Luthra Vs. Union Government and others - highlights the prevailing condition inside our jails. All these things have been mentioned therein. However, all these matters fall within the Jurisdiction of Delhi Government. Tihar Jail is functioning under Delhi Government. A reply to the said writ petition has been filed by the Tihar Jail Authority on the 3rd April. So far as harassment is concerned, there is a committee on prison reforms to examine these suggestions

coming from NGOs. The suggestions made by NGOs are forwarded to this Committee. That Committee takes care of the living conditions of prisoners and facilities provided to them.

[English]

DR. C. KRISHNAN: Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to ask a supplementary question. My supplementary question is in relation to the terrorism in the country, as the main Question puts it.

As the Question is about terrorism in the country, I am bound to raise a question about the leader of my party, Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, MDMK, Thiru Vaiko, who is in Vellore jail for the past about 282 days - the first victim of misuse of the Prevention of Terrorism Act by the Tamil Nadu Government. He is arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which was passed in the Joint Session of both the Houses of Parliament with the good intention of curtailing terrorism in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. C. Krishnan, you ask your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. C. KRISHNAN: Sir, I am asking the question. ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Speaker has allowed me. Please allow me to raise the question. ...*(Interruptions)* The National Democratic Alliance in a statement agreed that the POTA has been misused against Shri Vaiko and this was stated immediately after his arrest. Likewise, more than one crore and ten lakh people have signed and the first signature was of Kalaignar Karunanidhi, the ex-Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Now, having been signed by one core and ten lakh people stating that Shri Vaiko has been arrested under POTA by misuse of the Act. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. C. Krishnan, what is your question? Please ask the question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Has Shri Vaiko been brought to Tihar Jail? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, I am sure, you are not confused.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. C. KRISHNAN: More than that, midnight search is the morale of the Tamil Nadu Government to put the political opponents in jail, as it once happened to our senior DMK Leader Mr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Krishnan, please ask a question.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: Now, Mr. Stalin, son of Shri Karunanidhi, and a journalist also have been put under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. I feel it is high time to scrap POTA (Prevention of Terrorism Act). ...*(Interruptions)* It has always been misused by the Tamil Nadu Government. It is being used against political opponents as a measure of political vendetta, which is unjustifiable.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Krishnan, I go to next question. Please sit down.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: Yes Sir. I would like to have the Government's reaction and the Government's. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is going to reply. Please sit down.

DR. C. KRISHNAN: Yes Sir. I would like to know the Government's experience and Government's reaction to this question.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main Question which has been asked by the hon. Member is related to Tihar Jail and I think it is not related to this Question.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Once you have permitted the question, the Minister must answer.

MR. SPEAKER: This is his answer

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: This is not his answer. He is evading an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Committee on Empowerment of Women have visited jails all over the country and they have submitted a Report to Parliament entitled "Women in Detention". Many of the problems in jail, including Tihar Jail, are due to the fact that the Jail Manual which is over a century old has not been updated. The Committee has recommended the revision of the Jail Manual. I would like to know why this revision is taking so long. Thank you Sir.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: The Centre has already circulated a Model Manual of Jail Reforms. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the President of India has given his assent to the Delhi Prisoners' Bill, 2000 which has already been passed by the Delhi Assembly and which has also been notified. All these matters are related to that Bill. The concern of the Member has been taken care of.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. I want to humbly ask a question to the Deputy Prime Minister. Article 25 of the Indian Constitution has given

an unfettered Constitutional right to the Sikhs to wear and carry the *kirpan*. Even in the Arms Act, Sikhs are exempted from the penal provisions and can exercise this right. In Parliament and in aircraft, we are allowed to do so. Sardar Sukh Dev Singh Dhindsa, our representative in the Union Cabinet is here. But I want to complain that whenever I go to Tihar Jail, I am not allowed to wear my *kirpan*. I recently visited Shri Vaiko in Tamil Nadu and the Tamil Nadu Government allowed me to wear my *kirpan*.

I have raised this question before the Minorities Commission also but I have not received a satisfactory reply. I want to know from the hon. Deputy Prime Minister whether this constitutional provision, which is denied to me by the Tihar Jail authorities and which supersedes the provisions of the Constitution, is superior to the practices followed in Parliament, and whether the constitutional provision is more powerful than what is written in the Tihar Jail Manual. I want, as a Sikh, my Constitutional right to be preserved and exercised in Tihar Jail.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question, which has been asked, is in contest with the criminal writ petition filed in the Delhi High Court regarding Tihar Jail. I think, I need a separate notice from the hon. Member to look into his agony and his demand. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, the question is simple, but this is not the way the Minister should take the question. He should really answer the question in the House. This is a question to which he is not replying. ...*(Interruptions)*

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Sir, this is a very important question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: A pertinent question should be asked in the House. There are different ways and means to raise the question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The concerned hon. Member has asked the question, whether one will agree with him or not, the Minister should reply to the question. Only in the remote cases should the Minister take this plea that a question is not related to the main question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the Minister is right in saying that if the question is not directly arising from the main question, he will require a notice. What is wrong in it?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, the Minister should know this much about the working of the jail. ...*(Interruptions)*

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how can a constitutional right guaranteed in the Indian Constitution be *sub judice*?

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise the question under some other rule. I will permit you to raise the question.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Sir, it cannot be sub judice. Let the Deputy Prime Minister *speak*.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with you that your question is important, but it does not arise, unfortunately, out of this Question.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Sir, it is a question of protecting the rights of the minorities. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They are to be protected. I will permit you to raise the question under some other rule and the Minister would reply. He must be given a prior notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I would like to say that in view of the rapidly growing population of Delhi a decision was taken five years ago to set up a few more jails in Delhi and land was also acquired for this purpose. I would like to know the amount of allocation earmarked for this plan and the number of jails set up so far? The other part of my question is that on the one hand inhuman treatment is made with the prisoners, while on the other hand there are a few prisoners who are using cellular phones and are well-equipped with the aids and facilities to operate their gangs and run their illegal business. They regulate the functioning of their gang from behind the bars. Have you received such complaints, if yes, what arrangements are being made to provide basic facilities to the prisoners and the action being taken by the Government to prevent misuse of these facilities by the criminals and eliminate the crime - dens operating in jail.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Khuranaji has raised a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)* In so far as Tihar Jail is concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: The basic question relates to the sanctioned capacity of jails on which Man Saheb wanted to know something which you turned down. But when the second question was asked, which was quite irrelevant, you said that it was a very good question. It is surprising. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: On this issue also, my ruling is the same.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reason why I said it a good question is that the main thrust in the writ petition is on the solution to the over crowding. This was why in reply to a supplementary question I termed this issue as a good one. I have to apprise the Hon'ble Member of the fact that Tihar Jail was established in the year 1958. At that point of time it was not anticipated that the number of prisoners of undertrial prisoners or convicted ones will grow in such a large number. With the passage of time it was modernised and the number of prisons increased in fair proportion. Currently, Tihar Jail houses 6 complexes and four more new prisons are being constructed, out of which three prisons are being built up in Tihar. Out of which one is 6-B that's fully completed and is equipped with the capacity of 350 prisoners. The second and the third one is 6C and 6D. Both of which are having the capacity of 598 prisoners. All the three are jails One is completed and the rest of the two are being constructed. In this way, we will be able to accommodate 1547 more prisoners. In so far as expansion is concerned, we are getting 6 more jails constructed in Tihar Complex. One more jail complex is being build up in Mandawali. The Government of Delhi is ready to build it up. They have completed the acquisition of land. As the work begins, this too is designed to accommodate 3,000 (Three thousand) prisoners.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister a very general question, though related to the prisoners. Time and again it has been said that in India jail reforms are taking a new dimension. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the number of custody deaths in India, in respective jails, have been increasing for the last 10 years. The National Human Rights Commission under their aegis, in respective States, have repeated the same thing. Will the hon. Minister, therefore, consider in the Tenth Plan Document a specific reforms plan for the jails in India, and specially for the women prisoners, including compulsory engagement of additional Jailers who should be women, in respective jails. It is because the custody deaths, suicides and physical tortures, including attempts to rape the women prisoners, have been noticed. Unless the States and the Centre adopt a very strong comprehensive progressive policy in this regard, the Indian image inside the jails would get eroded. Will the hon. Minister consider it as a subject during the Tenth Plan? Again I would request that additional women Jailers should be there in the respective jails to take care of the arrangements for the women prisoners.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Member has expressed deep concern over it and the issue is also very serious. I am in full agreement with him. On the point that going by the prevailing conditions in the various jails in country there is a need for improvement. The Central Government have been continuously asking the states to begin jail reforms. In so far as Tihar prison, located at Delhi is concerned, I would like to submit that no custodial death has been reported since the last four years. Only cases of natural death have been reported. As far as women prisoners are concerned, Delhi Tihar prison 6(A) is exclusively meant for women prisoners where as many as 550-600 prisoners are women. Non only that, the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Warden etc. posted there are all women.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 443, Shri Dalpat Singh Parste -- Absent

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHI SHANKAR: Mr. Speaker Sir, it is an important Question. We should be allowed to ask supplementaries. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. The concerned Member is not present here in the House.

...(Interruptions)

Women Prisoners

+

*444. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any specific guidelines to monitor the implementation of the recommendations by the State Governments/UTs to improve the basic facilities for women in detention;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware that a large percentage of women prisoners in different jails of the country are undertrials;

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

(e) whether the Supreme Court in its ruling has stated that an undertrial should not spend more than half the maximum period of punishment in jails;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto: and

(g) the steps proposed to ensure safe conditions for women prisoners in jails?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) 'Prisons' being a State subject under List-II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, the Central Government through advisories from time to time have impressed upon the State Governments to implement recommendations made by various Committees to improve the facilities for women in detention. In order to supplement their efforts in this direction, the Central Government have been providing financial assistance for modernization of prison infrastructure. The implementation of recommendations by State Governments/UTs are monitored by the Central Government through periodic visits, reports and review meetings held at regular intervals.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the Government are aware that a large percentage of women prisoners in different jails of the country consists of under-trials. At the end of year 2000, number of under trial women prisoners was about 68% of the total women prisoners.

(e) and (f) In Rajdev Sharma Vs. State of Bihar case, the Supreme Court has held that in cases where the accused has been in prison for a period of not less than half of the maximum period of punishment prescribed for the offence, the trial court shall release the accused on bail forthwith on such conditions as it deems fit.

(g) The Union Government have circulated among States/UTs a Model Prison Manual which has been prepared taking into account the concerns expressed by the Supreme Court of India, National Human Rights Commission, UN Minimum Standards, etc. which has provisions for improving facilities to prisoners. Besides, a new non-plan scheme for modernization of prison administration has also been introduced in the year 2002-2003, which can be utilised to provide better and safer conditions for the women prisoners.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Sir, it has been mentioned in the Statement that 'prisons' is a State subject. So, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women has pointed out that it is not inclined to accept the plea that since prisons is a State subject, the Home Ministry has no role to play. I would like to draw his attention to the Parliamentary Committee's Report, which has been fully criticised for the inaction of the Home Ministry, for remaining silent on the conditions of the women prisons in the country. The Committee has suggested that the Home Ministry should put the appropriate mechanisms in place and specific guidelines be formulated to monitor the implementation of the recommendations by the State Governments or the Union Territories to improve the basic facilities for women in detention. I would like to know whether any guidelines in this regard have been issued. If so, the details thereof.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Mr. Speaker Sir, it is correct that the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women has made certain observations. But, out of the 20 observations which were made in the Committee's Report, about 12 of them have already been replied to and have been accepted by the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women. So far as the other three recommendations are concerned, on the recommendation of the Home Ministry, they have been dropped. That means, 75 per cent of the observations made by the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women have been satisfied. The other five are under investigation.

Sir, so far as monitoring process is concerned, quarterly and annual progress reports are asked for from the States, and there is a proper format which has been prescribed on which these reports are obtained. An Empowered Committee has also been established in the Home Ministry under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary or the Special Secretary and, similarly, Empowered Committees in the States have also been established which meet periodically and regularly.

In addition to that, detailed guidelines have been issued wherein it has also been mentioned that periodical visits should be made. The Home Ministry officers have also been making periodical visits to the jails to see the monitoring and to see the implementation of the guidelines, which have been sent to all the State Governments.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Sir, the Human Rights Commission had also suggested to the Ministry that the Government should take steps whereby the children of those women, who are undertrials, are given proper education and facilities so that the children are not affected by the atmosphere

of the prison. In this regard, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken to take care of the children of the women prisoners.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Sir, in this respect, in fact, the new Model Prison Act has also been circulated to all the State Governments so that these things can be taken care of, and the Jail Manual has also been circulated to all the State Governments. We have prepared a Model Jail Manual.

So far as the children's problem is concerned, the guideline envisages the arrangement, the instructions have been sent and all the State Governments are implementing it. In many of the cases, children up to the age of six years or eight years or ten years are kept with their mothers but separately, and the nursery schools, creches are being opened and have been opened in some of the jails.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: In how many States, they have opened it?

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Sir, though jail reforms had been undertaken in almost all district jails from time to time before independence but today the number of prisoners are four times more than the sanctioned capacity. For example in Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and even in Tihar Jail the number of prisoners in four times more than the sanctioned capacity of respective jails. The Central Government have allocated an amount of Rs. 1800 crore in the Tenth Plan to undertake the reform process in all such jail. This amount is to be released Rs. 360 crore per year in the five years. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister as to how much amount has been sanctioned by the Central Government during the Tenth Five Year Plan because condition of jails is very unhygenic. There is no provision for air, water etc. in the jails. In such situation, unless funds are allocated conditions can not be improved. In reply you said that it is a state subject. No doubt it is a state subject, but centre on their part provides financial assistance. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the name of the states which have been provided with financial assistance and the year-wise details of the assistance being granted? Alongwith that the Supreme Court has given a ruling particularly in respect of women prisoners that in the cases where the prisoners have been undertrial for a period of more than fifty per cent of the maximum period of punishment prescribed for the offence, they should be released irrespective of charges or arrest made under Indian Penal Code. I would like to give an example in this respect. In Chandrapur jail, after High Court Justice J.N. Patel and Justice Shah made a visit, they released 12 women prisoners on the spot out of 18 undertrial women prisoners. I would like to know the state-wise number of women prisoners and how many of them have completed more than 50 per cent of the period as undertrial. Whether the Government are likely to take a final decision in this regard in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, consequent upon the directions of the Supreme Court for expeditious disposal of cases of undertrials a decision to this effect was taken. As per the judgement, the detenues the undertrials who have been detained in jail for half of the maximum period of punishment prescribed for the offence as undertrial, they should be granted bail. There is no mention about their acquittal. It has been mentioned in the judgement that they may be granted bail on the basis of surety, personal bond. This is for the Court and they are doing it. Apart from this as has been replied by my colleague in the earlier question that the Chief Justice of India has issued instructions to the Chief Justices of all the High Courts asking them to direct their Chief Judicial Magistrates and Metropolitan Magistrates to arrange for on the spot trial in jails to dispose of the cases pertaining to petty offences and bail application. When they will go for trials, this facility will also be available there and it's being executed.

So far as overcrowding is concerned the Government are taking steps to resolve this problem by providing with better facilities and decent living conditions to undertrials/convicts. For, this, the Tenth Finance Commission has directed to allocate Rs. 66.32 crore to improve the living conditions and the 11th Finance Commission has allocated a sum of rupees 116 crore which goes to the State straightway. It is a fact that this is a state-subject but the Centre does not back out from its responsibility. We provide financial assistance and guidelines. In 1987, the Mullah Committee had given their report. An amount of Rs. 45 crore was allocated to the states between 1987 and 1992. Subsequently, during the period between 1993 and 31 March, 2002. Rs. 86.64 crore were given. Since submission of the report, a total of Rs. 131.72 crore has been given. For the next years, about which you have asked, an allocation of Rs. 1800 crore has been made. Out of this Rs. 1800 crore, 75 per cent share will be provided by the centre and the remaining 25 per cent will be the share of State. Earlier, it was on fifty-fifty basis. But now, it is on 75-25 per cent basis. Thus, by this year 2003, it comes to be Rs. 231 crore which has already been released to the States.

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Thank you, Speaker, Sir. A person is presumed to be innocent unless contrary is proved. In the Minister's reply, in Rajdev Sharma's case, the Supreme Court has said that "if a person served half of the sentence, prescribed for the offence, he shall be released on bail

forthwith." Does the Government take any follow-up action in pursuance of the judgement to amend the provisions of bail under Section 439 of the Criminal Procedure Code? If not, after serving half of the period by the accused, supposing he gets an acquittal, can he redeem the sentence? Can he get any compensation? There is no such provision. Will the Government take steps to amend comprehensively the bail provisions? It is because it is held by the Supreme Court consistently that jail should be an exception, bail should ordinarily be granted. If a person is presumed to be innocent, he will have free bail. Will the Government take steps to amend the provisions of Section 439 of the Criminal Procedure Code?

MR. SPEAKER: It is also necessary that people must know that such provisions exist so that they may take advantage of it.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Sir, your observation is also correct, and his question also goes into the depth of the matter. So, keeping all these recommendations of the Human Rights Commission, the pronouncements of different Courts, High Courts, the Supreme Court, the Reports of different agencies, the Iyer Commission Report, and the Mullah Committee Report, in view, Justice Balmat Committee was appointed by the Home Ministry and by the Government. That Report - I am happy to tell this House - has come only yesterday. It has been presented to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister yesterday. It has gone deeper into all this criminal judicial system - where evidences are recorded under IPC, G.P.C, how they can be reformed, where amendment is needed or reform is needed, and so on. They have submitted the Report yesterday. We will certainly consider it.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is all right in the remaining parts of the country but please improve the condition in the jails atleast in two states of Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Rural Employment Schemes

*446. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various rural employment schemes;

(b) whether there is overlapping among some of these schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the physical achievement of these schemes during the past three years; scheme-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the deficiencies noticed in these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development implements two employment generation schemes - the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for Self Employment and the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) for Wage-Employment in the rural areas of the country.

(b) There is no overlapping among these schemes.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) 24.23 lakh Swarozgaries have been assisted during the years 2000-01 to 2002-03 under the SGSY and 5051.07 lakh mandays of employment was created under SGRY during the year 2002-03. During the years 2000-01 and 2001-02, a total of 9414.67 lakhs mandays of employment was also generated under the erstwhile Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), which have since been merged into SGRY.

(e) The erstwhile IRDP and allied Schemes have been restructured to form a holistic scheme of Self employment namely the SGSY. Similarly the erstwhile EAS and JGSY have been restructured to form a new wage employment scheme viz. the SGRY. The Guidelines of the schemes are constantly reviewed to make revision wherever found necessary, based on implementation experience.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of the guidelines of the Centrally-sponsored Employment Generation Schemes are not suited for different States due to geographical, climatic and other aspects. There are a lot of complaints also coming from the different States in this regard. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government will consider, or whether the Central Government will consult the State Rural Development Ministers for the review of the existing guidelines on the basis of the implementation experience so that the State Governments can implement these schemes more effectively.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Sir, the hon. Member has asked a Question regarding Employment Generation Schemes. His question is a general question. I think SGRY and SGSY are the two important schemes which are implemented for employment generation in the rural areas. SGRY is wage-based while SGSY is self-employment-based.

Whatever schemes of this nature are implemented by the Central Government in co-ordination with the State Governments, I think the Member may be aware that we have been calling several times the Ministers of the States for monitoring the performance, and review the progress of the various schemes to be implemented.

As far as these two schemes are concerned, we had called a meeting on 27th January, 2003 to review as to how the various Governments are implementing the schemes. As per my information, the various Governments of the States have very well agreed. As he has pointed out, some of the States that are not doing well, have already accepted the difficulties. They said that they will certainly be informing the Government.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Earlier the Central Government had a system of concurrent evaluation of the various rural development schemes. These had been carried out by independent non-governmental agencies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such a concurrent evaluation is carried out by the Rural Development Ministry or not. If not, what is reason for stopping that kind of a system which was highly useful for the implementation of these schemes?

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: The evaluation is done not by an individual. There is a team of evaluators from the Central Government to the State level, and even up to the district level. Therefore, the Government of India has got the evaluation team with the independent sort of an evaluator for each State. They coordinate with the State Governments' co-ordinators. The State Government's coordinators co-ordinate with the district co-ordinators. There is a full range of coordination for the evaluation of each programme of the rural development. He says that there are some individuals. No doubt, there are some experts on various programmes who can evaluate certain things. But they are limited. They are also from the Government Departments, the Government bodies, and individual experts.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Earlier, in the Rural Development Ministry, there was a system of concurrent evaluation by an independent agency. My specific question is whether that is continuing or not.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether that scheme still exists or not.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: It exists, Sir.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Sir, the Ministry of Rural Development has allocated rice to different States under SGRY and created 5,051.7 lakh mandays for self-employment. I am really very happy with that. But it should be seen that the rice is utilised for drought relief under SGRY. The Tamil Nadu Government, without comprehending the guidelines of SGRY properly, are utilising the rice made available under SGRY for some other purpose. They have not even lifted the rice allotted by the Government of India, that is a different thing. They are utilising the rice available with them for MPLAD Fund Scheme. As far as I understand, it is nowhere mentioned in the guidelines issued by the Government of India that this can be done. So, the Special Component rice Plan has been misused in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Government's Order No.17 dated 27th February, 2003 states that the rice available under the Special Component Scheme of SGRY may also be utilised under MPLAD Fund Schemes. I do not know how they arrived at this interpretation of the SGRY guidelines.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any instruction from the Government of India to the Government of Tamil Nadu specifically in this regard. I say this because nowhere in India such a Government Order has been issued. The Tamil Nadu Government must be asked not to misuse the rice like this because MPLAD Fund Scheme does not come under SGRY.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Sir, the guidelines are uniform to all States. There is no exception for any State as far as the guidelines are concerned. If the hon. Member informs us the specifics of the case, we will certainly look into it.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Nowhere in India has this Scheme been misused like this. It is only in Tamil Nadu that the Government has issued such a G.O. How can they include it in the MPLAD Fund Scheme without the permission of the Government of India and without consulting the Member concerned?

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: I understand that the Tamil Nadu Government is probably doing this to supplement the existing scheme of MPLADS. They actually utilise this as a supplementary measure. That is all. What is there to misuse?

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: It is a food-for-work programme. How can they misuse it?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malaisamy, I have not allowed a discussion. How can we have a discussion like this? Please sit down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, every now and then it is suggested that there are many employment giving schemes, and they are overlapping, and so there should be a consolidation of all these schemes. We have been discussing the decentralisation, giving authority to many, to see that the

schemes that are made are implemented through the method of decentralisation. Here we are going in the reverse direction. We are trying to consolidate all the schemes. The schemes have been made in different States for different purposes, to meet different demands of the people. If this kind of consolidation is done, on the one hand the schemes are reduced, the amount of money for providing employment will be reduced, and the nature of work which has to be done under these schemes also will be totally altered and we will be using only one formula to see that employment is provided to people in North-Eastern States, in Kerala, in Madhya Pradesh, in Karnataka, in Maharashtra and Punjab in the same manner. So, there is a danger of having a uniform formula applicable to the problem of providing employment to the people, thereby reducing the employment generating capacity of these schemes, and also ultimately seeing that the amount being provided for these schemes is reduced. Is the Government aware of this aspect relating to doing away with the overlapping of the schemes for providing employment to the unemployed?

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: As far as overlapping of various schemes of employment generation goes, the question does not arise. The existing schemes of the States for employment generation are entirely different from the schemes that are implemented by the Central Government.

Therefore, I do not think there is any conflict between the schemes of the State Governments and the Central Government. I was explaining about these two schemes of SGRY and SGSY. SGRY is an important scheme for the rural employment generation. As far as its funding is concerned, earlier there was very limited funding. But now an amount of more than Rs. 10,000 crore has been allotted for this programme of employment generation. I do not think that the Government has reduced the amount on that account.

As far as SGSY is concerned, it is totally a different scheme for self-employment. There is no scheme from the State Government as far as self-employment is concerned. Therefore, I think, I have explained it.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He should see that there is no overlapping.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no overlapping - according to the hon. Minister, there is no overlapping.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity. The Central Government boasts about SGRY and SGSY. Under its very nose, there are many State Governments which are openly breaking the very guidelines which are being issued by the Ministry of Rural Development. There are a number of such States, in connection with which I have written a letter to the Minister. For instance, the Government of Gujarat is paying less than the minimum wage by giving exemptions to all the SGRY work under the purview of minimum wages under section 26(1). I have drawn the attention of the Minister and yet the State Government has not complied with it, nor the Ministry has written a letter to me. There are thousands of labourers who are employed under the SGRY who are supposed to get minimum wage of Rs.80-Rs.85 and so on. But they are providing only Rs.42 and giving only 2 kg. of grains. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action he has taken on the State Government of Gujarat to rectify the breaking of the guidelines by the State Government itself.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: This question was raised by the hon. Member during the meeting of the Consultative Committee of this Ministry itself. As soon as the meeting of the Committee was over, I had called the Chief Minister of Gujarat. He explained to me that the scheme has not started now and it has been going on for the last ten years. I enquired about the other States also. He said that there were more than 2-3 States including - though I do not want to name the State of Rajasthan. He has explained about the case in Rajasthan. In the case of Rajasthan, he was telling me that the minimum wage that is paid to the employees is to the extent of Rs.38, not even Rs.42 which is being paid in the State of Gujarat. Therefore, I think, we have already done it.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, there is a judgement of the Supreme Court where it said that any payment less than the minimum wage is a forced labour and that it violates the very constitutional provisions. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Union Government is allowing the State Government of Gujarat to pay less than the minimum wage officially. Are they doing it? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: I have explained to whatever he has asked. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, the State has to be an ideal employer. How can the Union allow the State to do it? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has been assured by the Minister that he will look into it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: No, Sir. The State has to be an ideal employer. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: No, Sir. He did not say that. The Minister tried to say that he had been told by the Chief Minister that it is there for the last ten years and that the other State is paying less. It is not the question. The question

the hon. Member put was whether the Union Government is encouraging it; but he did not reply to that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He said he would look into it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, the State Government cannot violate the guidelines. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Anything outside the guidelines cannot be done.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, he must answer whether the Central Government does it - be it Gujarat, be it Rajasthan or be it any other part of India. It should not be encouraged by this Government. That is the question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you are going to look into it, is not it?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: It is not the question. The question is whether the Union should allow such things? The States doing such things should be reprimanded. It is not like the structure of a private employer. I can understand if it is a private employer. The private employer can give less than the minimum wage, but a State Government cannot do it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, this is a very important matter. The Minister cannot pass on the buck. Irrespective of the State, the Union Government should not encourage it. The hon. Minister passed on the buck to the other States. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister should take the matter very seriously and look into it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I need your protection. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I understand your problem. The Minister has explained the situation and he is going to look into it very seriously. That is the reply he has given.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, if such a situation is allowed to continue, many more State Governments will come forward to break the guidelines of the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked the Minister to look into it very seriously.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 447.

Grants from European Commission

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*447. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Commission has agreed to provide grants to the Community based Rural Development Programme;

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

(c) the details of the other foreign assistance received for the Community Based Rural Development Programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan period, State-wise;

(d) whether foreign assistance has been utilized properly and fully by the State Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government plan to seek foreign assistance for CBRDP during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. There is no Community Based Rural Development Programme under European Commission bilateral assistance with the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The requisite details of projects involving community based rural development approach are given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

(d) Foreign assistance has been utilized as per the provisions of the Project(s) towards attainment of project objectives.

(e) The projects are at various stages of implementation.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The details of pipeline projects are given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

Annexure-I

The details of the other foreign assistance received for the Community Based Rural Development Programme during the Ninth Five Year Plan period, State-wise.

(In million)

S. No	State	Name of the project	Donor agency	Assistance	Agreement date/Termination Date
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Gujarat	(i) Community Managed Ghogha Regional Water Supply & Sanitation Project - Revised Phase	Netherlands	Euro 12.543	04/08/1997/ 31/12/2004
		(ii) Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake affected Rural Households in Gujarat	IFAD	US$ 15.0	18.2.2002/ 31.12.2008
2.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Projects	DFID, UK	UK Pounds 45.43	23.7.1999/ 31.7.06
		(ii) AP District Poverty Initiative Project	IDA	US$111.0	12.5.2000/ 31.12.2005
		(iii) AP Participatory Tribal Development	IFAD	US$26.71	13.5.1994/ 30.9.2002
		(iv) Integrated Rural Water Supply in Vizianagram District	Netherlands	Rs. 16.5	May, 1999/ June, 2001
3.	Orissa	Western Orissa Rural Livelihood Projects	DFID,UK	UK Pounds 32.750	23.7.1999/ 31.7.09
4.	Multi State (Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh)	Western India Rainfed Farming Phase - II	DFID, UK	UK Pound 19.942	26.4.99 31.3.06
5.	Kerala	(i) Water Supply and Sanitation Projects	World Bank	US$65.5	February, 2002/ 31.12.2006
		(ii) OECF aided Kerala Water Supply Project IDP - 123	Japan	Rs. 15193.8	1997/ Dec., 2003
		(iii) Attappady Wasteland Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project	JBIC	Rs. 1768.9	1996/ March, 2003
6.	Uttar Pradesh/ Uttaranchal	Water Supply and Sanitation Projects	World Bank	US$59.6	Aug, 1996/ May, 2003
7.	Karnataka	(i) Water Supply and Sanitation Projects	World Bank	US$151.6	Dec., 2001/ 2007
		(ii) Karnataka Watershed Development Project	IDA	US$ 100.4	26.7.2001/ 31.3.2007
		(iii) Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	DANIDA, Denmark	Rs. 393.00	Oct., 1996/ Nov. 2002
8.	Multi-State (HP, Haryana, Punjab, J&K & Uttaranchal)	Integrated Watershed Development Project.	IDA/IBRD	US$50.0	14.7.99/ 31.3.2005
9.	Madhya Pradesh	MP District Poverty Initiatives Project	IDA	US$110.1	5.12.2000/ 30.6.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Rajasthan	(i) Rajasthan District Poverty Initiative Project	IDA	100.5 Dollar	19.5.2000/ 31.12.2005
		(ii) Integrated Water Supply and Sanitation and community participation programme in 3 districts in Rajasthan - Phase - I	KFW, Germany	DM 135.0	1994-95/ 30.9.2002
11.	Multi State (Jharkhand and (Chhattisgarh)	Jharkhand Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme	IFAD	US$22.8	13.3.2001/ 30.6.2009
12	Haryana	(i) Mewat Area Development Project	IFAD	US$15	29.9.1995/ 31.12.2004
		(ii) Haryana Community Forestry Project	EC	Euro 23.3	24.1.1997/ 2007-2008
13.	Maharashtra	(i) Maharashtra Rural Credit Project	IFAD	US$29.2	1.6.1993/ 31.3.2002
		(ii) Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation	ODA/DFID (UK)	Rs.629.50	April, 1990/ 31.3.1999
		(iv) RWSS Project in 3 districts	KFW, Germany	Rs.1071.8	March, 2001/ April, 2003
14	Multi State (Assam, Meghalaya Manipur)	North Eastern Region Community Resources Management	IFAD	US$32.9	20.5.1997/ 31.3.2004
15.	Multi State (Bihar, Jharkhand Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, M.P., Chhattisgarh, U.P. & Uttaranchal)	Rural Women Development and Empowerment Project	IDA/	US$ 10.5	14.9.1998/ 31.12.2003
			IFDA	US$12.2	27.3.1997/ 30.6.2004
16.	Tamil Nadu	Integrated Rural Sanitation and Water Supply Project - Phase II	DANIDA, Denmark	Rs.340.2	Oct., 1996/ March, 2004
17.	West Bengal	Rural Water Supply in West Bengal - Bolpur Raghunathapur Water Supply, Sanitation and Health Education Project	KFW, Germany	DM 50.0	1996-97/ Feb., 2003
18.	Multi State (A.P, Gujarat, U.P Uttaranchal, WB, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, & Chhattisgarh)	Community Based Pro-Poor Initiatives (CBPPI) Programme	UNDP	US $ 11.7	5.9.1997/ Dec., 2003
19.	Multi State (i) (A.P. Karnataka, Gujarat)	Tree Growers Cooperative Projects	CIDA, Canada	Rs.459.9	March, 1993/ March, 2003 (proposed to be extended upto March, 06)
	ii) (M.P., Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttaranchal)	Tree Growers Cooperative Projects	SIDA, Sweden	Rs.244.7	1.1.1991/ 31.12.2000

Annexure II

The details of the projects in pipeline.

S. No.	State	Name of the project	Status
1.	Gujarat	(i) Community managed Development, Water Sanitation Programme in earthquake affected villages of Gujarat	Agreement has been signed with the Netherlands on 14.11.02 for assistance of Euro 35.712 million. The likely date of termination of the project is 30.9.07. The disbursement upto 31.3.2003 is Euro 2.760 million. The Project is to be funded by the World Bank.
		(ii) Integrated Rural Development Support Programme	The estimated outlay for the project is of Rs.489.65 crores.
2.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Community Owned & Managed Drinking Water Supply & Environment Sanitation Project (AP III), Vizianagaram District	The grant agreement is yet to be signed with the Netherlands.
		(ii) AP Rural Poverty Reduction Projection	Agreement has been signed on 3.04.2003 with IDA. The donor agency will provide assistance of US$150 million.
3	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Projects	Project proposal posed to DFID, UK for consideration.
4.	Maharashtra	Second Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	To be assisted by the World Bank.
5.	Tamil Nadu	(i) Tamil Nadu Rural Water Supply Project	To be assisted by the World Bank.
		(ii) Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project	To be assisted by the World Bank. The estimated outlay of the project is US$ 214.44 million.
6.	Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh Rural Supply and Sanitation Project - Follow on Project	To be assisted by the World Bank.
7	Assam	Assam Rural Water Supply & Sanitation (Watsan) Project	To be assisted by the World Bank.
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	To be assisted by the World Bank.
9.	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh District Rural Poverty Project	The project has been negotiated with the World Bank in March, 2003. To be assisted by the World Bank. The estimated outlay of the project is US$ 132 million.
10.	Karnataka	'CHETANA' Community Heralded Empowerment, Transformation and New Awakening	The project with the objective of rural poverty reduction is to be assisted by the World Bank at an estimated outlay of US$ 240 million.
11	Uttaranchal and Meghalaya	Livelihood Improvement Project for the Himalayas	The Project is to be assisted by IFAD at an estimated outlay of US $ 31.9 million
12.	Orissa	Orissa Tribal Empowerment & Livelihood Programme	The Agreement has been signed with IFAD on 18.12.2002 for an assistance of SDR16.03 million. However, the Project is yet to be effective.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ashok Mohol, why don't you ask question?

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL (KHED): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am satisfied with the reply.

MR. SPEAKER : The Member is satisfied.

Shri Ram Sheth Thakur is absent the must also be happy with the reply!

Development of Wasteland

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*448. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to mobilise resources for the extensive development of wastelands in the country with external aid:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States which have sent project proposals for external aid and the regions for which this aid has been requested;

(d) whether the Government have cleared these projects for external aid;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared; and

(g) the countries and External Organisations who have provided aid for this purpose and the total amount received for this purpose so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development is administering the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) for development of desert & drought prone areas and wastelands/degraded lands. These Programmes are being implemented on watershed basis and have components to develop/reclaim wastelands and degraded lands by checking land degradation and putting such lands to productive use.

In order to mobilise maximum resources for development of wastelands, efforts are also made for obtaining external assistance. Presently, the following five projects are under implementation with the assistance of different foreign donor agencies:

(i) Department for International Development (DFID), UK assisted Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (APRLP) - Project Cost Rs.320.00 crores.

(ii) Department for International Development (DFID), UK assisted Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project (WORLP) - Project cost Rs.230.00 crores.

(iii) Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) assisted Tree Growers' Cooperatives Project - Project cost Rs.45.99 crores.

(iv) Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) assisted Attappady Wastelands Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project - Project cost Rs.219.31 crores.

(v) European Commission (EC) assisted Haryana Community Forestry Project - Project cost Rs.126.00 crores.

(c) to (f) In addition to the above ongoing projects, the following four proposals seeking foreign assistance have been received from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. These proposals have been supported by the Ministry of Rural Development and sent to Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance. The DEA has forwarded the above proposals to the donor agencies for consideration.

(i) Project proposal for Watershed Programme by Dutch assistance in five districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Adilabad, Nizamabad, Medak, Khammam, and Rangareddy - Project cost - Rs.543.88 crores.

(ii) Extension Proposal for Dutch assisted APWELL Project to be implemented in 9 districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Karimnagar, Nalgonda, Mehboob Nagar, Kurnool, Prakasham, Anantpur, Cuddapah, Nellore, and Chittoor- Project cost - Rs.431.22 crores.

(iii) Project proposal for Technical Cooperation (TC) component of German assistance to watershed projects in four districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Medak, Karimnagar, Warangal, and Adilabad.

(iv) Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project proposal for DFID assistance for covering six

districts of Madhya Pradesh viz. Jhabua, Dindori, Badwani, Mandla, Dhar, and Shahdol in the first phase - Project cost - 17.02 million pound.

(g) Out of the five on-going projects, funds are being released/routed through the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development only in the case of APRLP and WORLP. In other projects funds are being provided to the implementing agencies through the Department of Economic Affairs. Under APRLP, since inception of the project i.e. 2000-01 to 2002-2003 funds to the tune of Rs.7183.09 lakhs have been released to the State Govt. Similarly, under WORLP funds to the tune of Rs.555.75 lakhs have been released during the period from 2000-01 to 2002-03.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Sir, I seek your protection. The reply is evasive in many respects. Except for five States, there is no information about the other States. There are no details about the projects pending with the Centre. There are also no details about when they are likely to be cleared. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is not his duty to ensure uniform and speedy growth of all the States, especially States like Tamil Nadu which is reeling under drought and is forced to develop wasteland for cultivating food crops and providing livelihood to the poor.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Sir, in the answer itself we have given in detail the names of the States which are getting foreign aid for their wasteland development and other activities. I would like to inform that the Department of International Development, UK assisted Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project to the tune of Rs.320 crore, Department of International Development, UK assisted Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project to the tune of Rs.230 crore, Canadian International Development Agency assisted Tree Growers Cooperatives Project to the tune of Rs.45.99 crore, Japan Bank for International Cooperation assisted Attappady Wastelands Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project to the tune of Rs.219.31 crore. We have already given it in detail. With regard to monitoring, the foreign agencies are monitoring themselves all these projects. We have only to administer and make the payment.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: That is why I am asking this question because only five States have benefited from this.

MR SPEAKER: Is this is the supplementary question?

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Yes. There are already 11 proposals from the Tamil Nadu Government which are pending and for which only Rs. 12 crore for just four projects have been released. But Andhra Pradesh has got more than Rs.400 crores worth of project assistance. I am not objecting to the assistance given to Andhra Pradesh. The hon. Minister should kindly explain as to why this step-motherly treatment is given. Will the hon. Minister consider increasing the assistance to Tamil Nadu considering the natural calamity of drought and less flow of water in its main rivers? Kindly help the Tamil Nadu Government.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Sir, what has been blamed by the hon. Member is not correct.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: It is given in the reply given by you.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: There is no question of step-motherly treatment given to any State. In fact, all these projects are forwarded by the State Governments directly to the foreign agencies. We come in picture only when the proposal of the State Governments alongwith the foreign agency is materialised. I do not know because whatever proposal has come from the Tamil Nadu Government has already been forwarded to the Department of Economic Affairs. There is no case pending with the Ministry of Rural Development.

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister replied that the Ministry of Rural Development has suggested so many measures to reclaim desert land or drought prone land. Through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will reclaim desert land by constituting land army or Bhoomi Sena in view of rural unemployment. I would like to know whether steps would be taken for Central Bihar where there is abundance of desert land and whether the Government will also reclaim the desert land there through the Bhoomi Sena.

[English]

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Sir, this does not relate to the main Question. He may give a separate notice for this.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, it is the most important question. In our country we have 175 million hectares of wasteland. Even after 54 years of Independence, we have 30 per cent of landless and crores of poor people in our country. We have to develop this 175 million hectares of wasteland and distribute it to the weaker sections, particularly *dalits*, *girijans* and those who do not have land. There is no time-bound special scheme for development of this wasteland. We have programmes like Wasteland Development Programme, Desert Development Programme and other such programmes, but sufficient funds are not being provided for them. The

Government has provided in the Budget Rs.27,000 crore for food subsidy. Instead of providing this food subsidy if the Government provides Rs 10,000 crore for the wasteland development, within five years millions of hectares of wasteland could be developed and distributed to the weaker sections of society. They can cultivate this land and thus it will also help in poverty eradication. Will the Government have a comprehensive scheme with regard to this?

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Sir, though this question does not relate to the main Question, yet I would like to tell the hon. Member that a provision is being made in the Budget for the Wasteland Development Programme. Earlier it used to be Rs.326 crore per annum which has now been increased to Rs. 1000 crore. I think this is quite a significant increase. In the Tenth Plan we have provided Rs. 1,000 crore for new initiatives wherein the question raised by the hon. Member would certainly get covered.

[Translation]

Assistance for Issuance of Multipurpose Identity Cards

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*449. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide financial assistance to State Governments for the issue of multipurpose identity cards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) At present, only a Pilot Project on the issue of Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNIC) at an estimated cost of 18 crores is being undertaken by the Government in a few selected sub-districts of various districts of 13 States and Union Territories. The entire expenditure for undertaking this Project would be provided to the State Governments and Union Territories concerned by the Government of India.

MR. SPEAKER: Very short time is left for you in the Question Hour. Therefore, please ask the question.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALILDAS VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, certain districts of various states have been selected for the purpose of issuance of multipurpose photo identity card proposed by the Government in the country. I would like to know as to how many districts have been selected from Gujarat out of them.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Sir, certain districts of thirteen states have been selected for that purpose. Two or three criteria have been prescribed for this purpose and some bordering states were kept under them and there are some sub-divisions out of them. All states have not been included. Only those bordering areas have included in it which have a system to maintain a register of birth and death. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You inform later on about Gujarat's district.

[English]

He will give you in writing.

[Translation]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: I will give it to you later on.

MR. SPEAKER: You ask supplementary question.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: My second question is that there is an urgent necessity of multipurpose photo identity card. So how much financial help will be given by the Central Government to the Gujarat Government to issue these identity card.

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Approximately, Rs.18 crore is being spent on the pilot project and total expenditure would be borne by the Central Government.

[Translation]

No expenditure will have to be borne by the State Government for that purpose. All expenditure of this pilot project will be borne by the Central Government.

[English]

Special Forces for Anti-Terrorist Operations

*450. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special forces can be conceived by the Government that will be trained and exclusively engaged for anti-terrorist operations with the latest equipment, education and understanding of terrorist designs and plans; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration. The Central Police Forces (CPFs) are constantly upgraded and modernised to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in tackling the emerging threats to internal security of the country.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, after the attack of 11th September in the United States, even the Government of the United States has evolved new methods for dealing with the terrorists by special force. The Home Minister, Shri Advani also assured in the House that he is also trying to consider how to modernise the equipment for dealing with terrorists. Normally, the CRPF is deployed for tackling the law and order problem in a particular State and not for dealing with the terrorists.

I would like to know from the Government whether it is thinking to have a specialist cadre for dealing with the situation arising out of terrorist attacks in India. They are otherwise equipped with the psychological motivation to deal with the terrorist designs, and the equipment used by them in different parts of India. Therefore, I would like to know from the Government whether it thinks that the time has come to have a specialist cadre or it thinks that the CRPF alone could do it.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a group of Ministers was constituted after Kargil conflict. Then recommendations of the inter ministerial Group came that first of all we should well equip our para military forces and five year's time period was fixed for that. During this period we will update our para military forces.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Wasteland Development Project

*443. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects being implemented by various agencies under the Wasteland Development Programme alongwith funds released for the purpose during the last five years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have involved the local Members of Parliament in monitoring the works under the programme;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints that the concerned Members of Parliament are not consulted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis in accordance with the Guidelines for Watershed Development w.e.f. 1.4.1995. Under this Programme, the project districts are prioritized in the beginning of the financial year in consultation with the State Governments. Thereafter, the project proposals for prioritized districts are prepared by the Zilla Panchayats (ZPs)/District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) and submitted to this Department for sanction during the year. The projects are sanctioned in favour of ZPs/DRDAs and Central funds are released to them for implementation of the projects. The Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) viz various Government departments, voluntary agencies/NGOs, Institutes etc. are nominated by the ZPs/DRDAs. In all, 401 projects covering an area of 34.69 lakh hectares at a total cost of Rs. 1834.65 crores have been sanctioned under the Programme during the last five years i.e. 1998-99 to 2002-03, out of which, Rs.500.81 crores have been released till 31.3.2003 for the implementation of these projects. The details of funds released under IWDP during the last five years (1998-99 to 2002-03), State-wise, are contained in the enclosed statement.

2. The programme has an inbuilt monitoring mechanism which involves experts in this sector. However, the Ministry has recently constituted Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State/District level. A Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) representing the District has been nominated as the Chairman of the District level Committee, depending upon the geographical area represented by him in the District. Other MPs (Lok Sabha) representing the District have been nominated as Vice-Chairmen. One MP (Rajya Sabha) is also to be nominated as Vice-Chairman of the District level Committee of his choice. These committees are empowered to look into and monitor all the schemes of the Ministry including the above scheme.

Statement

State-wise Release of Funds under IWDP during the period 1998-99 to 2002-2003 (As on 31.3.2003)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Funds Released (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	42.71
2	Bihar	1.32
3	Chhattisgarh	10.27
4	Gujarat	38.13
5	Haryana	2.50
6	Himachal Pradesh	33.03
7	Jammu & Kashmir	6.32
8	Jharkhand	2.31
9	Karnataka	28.82
10	Kerala	1.61
11	Maharashtra	22.74
12	Madhya Pradesh	58.74
13	Orissa	18.84
14	Punjab	1.17
15	Rajasthan	28.67
16	Tamil Nadu	25.40
17	Uttar Pradesh	42.80
18	Uttaranchal	9.68
19	West Bengal	0.45
	Total	375.50
North Eastern States		
1	Arunachal Pradesh	5.53
2	Assam	37.29
3	Manipur	14.88
4	Meghalaya	2.84
5	Mizoram	20.05
6	Nagaland	37.82
7	Tripura	1.60
8	Sikkim	5.30
	Total of NE	125.32
	Grand Total of IWDP	500.81

Prices of Medicines

*445. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the apprehension that the prices of medicines are likely to go up after the introduction of VAT;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that any increase in the prices of medicines would result in the medicines going out of the reach of the poor people;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard;

(e) whether there is a wide gap between the wholesale prices and retail prices of certain common medicines; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (f) Value Added Tax (VAT) eliminates cascading (tax on tax) as it provides credit for tax paid on inputs. The prices could, therefore even remain stable or stand reduced. The extent of the impact of VAT on prices of medicines will however depend on the relevant rate of tax. This is to be determined by the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers and not the Government of India. As per Entry 54, List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, tax on sale or purchase of goods is a State subject.

For a Scheduled formulation, a manufacturer is required to follow the price fixed by the Government in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the

manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/ selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

[Translation]

Misuse of Dowry Act

*451. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of gross misuse of the Dowry Act have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and till date as reported in Dainik Jagran dated March 17, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether in view of the gross misuse of the said Act the Government propose to include this crime in the category of bailable offences;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) There is no information about gross misuse of the Dowry Prohibition Act in the country with the Government of India.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Crime Against Women and Children

*452. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Human Rights Law Network has stressed the need for a separate law to deal with sexual crime against women and children;

(b) if so, whether any State-wise study about such women and child victims of sexual abuse has been made; and

(c) if so, the percentage of women and children who have experienced the trauma of sex-abuse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Government has not received any recommendation for a separate law to deal with sexual crime against women and children.

(b) No such State-wise study has been conducted by the Government.

(c) As per information available, a total of 60460 cases, out of which 16496 cases of rape, 32940 cases of molestation and 11024 cases of sexual harassment were reported in 2000. This is 42.8 per cent as against a total of 1,41,373 crimes committed against women.

Out of the rape cases, in 7754 cases, the victims were upto the age of 18 years, which is 47 per cent of the total rape victims.

New Drug Policy

*453. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

SHRI A. NARENDRA:

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

(a) whether the Government have received a report from the experts committee on the New Drug Policy in the wake of liberalization and globalisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the time bound action plan formulated for the healthy and faster growth of pharma industry, upgradation and expansion of pharma education including R and D on the pattern of IT industry to acquire lead position in the emerging global scenario in this sector;

(d) whether any study has been conducted to fix the cost of various drugs;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Union Government propose to revise the prices of various bulk drugs; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) In March, 1999, the Government had constituted a Drug Price Control

Review Committee (DPCRC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, to review the current drug price control mechanism and to suggest alternate models, if any, with a view to reduce the rigours of price control where they had become counter productive. Another Committee namely. Pharmaceutical Research and Development Committee (PRDC) was also constituted in March, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar. Director General, CSIR, to recommend measures to strengthen the research and development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in the country and to identify the support required by Indian pharmaceutical companies to undertake domestic research and development. The recommendations of the DPCRC and PRDC have been examined and taken into account while formulating the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002, which was announced in February, 2002. No experts committee was constituted by the Government on the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002. Pharmaceutical Policy-2002, envisages, interalia, measures relating to encouragement to Research & Development and Pharma Education & Training.

(d) to (g) Fixation/Revision of prices of Scheduled drugs is an ongoing process and is undertaken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Revision of the prices is done as and when called for taking into account the changes in input costs resulting in both upward as well as downward revision. The NPPA has fixed/revised prices of 100 bulk drugs/derivatives since its inception in August, 1997.

C.B.S.E. Examinations

*454. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBSE has issued a circular to schools, affiliated to CBSE, advising them against the practice of holding examination for students below class Vth;

(b) if so, the number of schools which have so far implemented the suggestion;

(c) the modalities of the comprehensive evaluation programme envisaged under the Scheme;

(d) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to encourage more and more schools to implement this scheme;

(e) whether Government have any proposal to make this scheme mandatory;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the CBSE has issued a circular on 8.2.2003 recommending to the schools to follow process of continuous and comprehensive evaluation rather than the performance of the learner in the terminal examination. This has been recommended for implementation from Class I to V immediately and for classes upto VIII in a phased manner.

(c) The modalities of the recommendations include reduction in the load of the school bag, setting no home-work for students of 1st & 2nd, provision of a small library having important textbooks, moving away from pass-fail system, participation in softer subjects like painting, music, dance, while continuing to provide utilitarian education. This will help them to grow as a harmonious personality and to understand the meaning and joy of life.

(d) The Board will encourage all the affiliated schools to follow the scheme in a phased manner.

(e) The Government has no such proposal.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Marketing of Coal by CCL

*455. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received recently any complaint against Central Coalfields limited regarding the irregularities and bungling in marketing of the coal to the Industrial units/Power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such cases handed over to Vigilance/ Central Bureau of Investigation during the last three years and the number of cases investigated by them;

(d) the details of irregularities identified, amount involved and the action taken against the guilty officials during the said period, year-wise; and

(e) the details of new initiatives taken/proposed to

be taken for effective marketing of coal, ending premium and preventing black marketing of coal?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) No such complaints have been received in the recent past.

(c) and (d) One complaint was received in November 2000 by CCL Vigilance regarding supply of coal to three industries located in Bhojpur Distt. of Bihar. Investigation revealed that supply of coal was being made under court orders. The case was accordingly closed.

(e) A new policy for sale of coal to non-core sector has been formulated and circulated in January, 2003 to all coal companies with a view to make the marketing of coal more transparent. The salient features of the proposed sales policy are:

(i) Linkage and sponsorship are to be done away with.

(ii) Supply in future to be based on bilateral fuel supply agreement.

(iii) Existing valid linked consumers to be offered coal under the new system in the first place.

(iv) Certain quantity to be made available for seasonal consumers like BRK etc. through the Open Sales Scheme route also.

(v) Coal supply to non-core sector to be made in a manner without affecting coal supply to core sector.

(vi) Additional availability, if any, after meeting requirement of the earlier linked consumers in non-core sector will be offered for intending buyers separately.

(vii) To minimize diversion of coal obtained by linked consumers to the open market, differential pricing system of coal under Open Sales Scheme (OSS) and to regularly linked consumers has been eliminated. Now coal is offered only at notified price irrespective of the category of buyer.

[English]

Pre-School Education Scheme

* 456. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have launched a special programme viz "Pre-School Education Scheme";

(b) if so, the detaiis thereof;

(c) the number of children likely to be covered thereunder;

(d) whether it is a fact that this scheme is largely focused on urban areas of the country;

(e) whether this scheme is a duplication of many existing schemes;

(f) if so, the steps proposed to review the efficacy of this scheme; and

(g) the funds earmarked for this scheme in 2003-2004?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

NSCN (IM) Peace Talks

*457. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the first round of Peace talks between the Government of India and the leaders of NSCN (IM);

(b) whether the NSCN (IM) leaders have agreed to drop the demand for sovereignty and have agreed to negotiate within the frame-work of the Indian Constitution;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that NSCN (IM) are still persisting with their demand for the Greater Nagaland;

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

(f) the time schedule worked out, if any, for further Peace-talks to permanently resolve this issue; and

(g) the likely agenda in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (g) Peace Talks were held during the month of January, 2003 between the representatives of the Government of India and the NSCN(IM).

During the discussions, NSCN (IM) raised among other issues, their demands relating to the distinct identity of the Nagas and their stand on unification of Naga areas. There was an agreement to continue the formal talks until a lasting settlement is reached. Government of India has, from time to time, reiterated its stand that the territorial integrity of other North Eastern States will not be disturbed. No time frame has been fixed for the next round of talks.

Foreign Scholars and Students

*458. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have issued guidelines to all the central universities in regard to foreign scholars and students visiting India;

(b) if so, whether these guidelines have curtailed the academic freedom of foreign students as reported in the Indian Express dated March 26, 2003;

(c) if so, whether these guidelines are a setback to promoting education and foreign participation in the educational sector;

(d) if so, whether Government have reviewed these guidelines due to the stiff resistance from the academic community;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (f) Guidelines have already been issued by the Cabinet Secretariat in December 1999 regarding clearance for study/research schemes involving foreigners/ foreign collaboration from security/sensitivity angle and by the Ministry of Home Affairs in September 2000 regarding security clearance for holding international conferences/seminars/ workshop/etc. in India. The guidelines issued by Ministry of Human Resource Development on 31st January 2003 mainly relate to the procedure to be observed by Central Universities to enter into an MoU with foreign Universities/Institutions with prior clearance from Ministry of Human Resource Development. These guidelines have neither curtailed academic freedom of foreign students nor are they a setback to promoting education and foreign participation in the education sector. At present there is no proposal to review the guidelines of January 2003.

Free and Compulsory Education

*459. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government has not yet been able to achieve the objective of free and compulsory education to all children up to the age of 14 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of children up to the age of 14 years that still remain to be educated;

(d) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the comments made in the Third Report of C&AG for the year 2002 in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Out of a child population of 19.2 crore in the age-group 6-14 years projected by the Registrar General of India for the year 2001, 15.7 crore children were enrolled in schools as on 30th Sept. 2000, as reported in the Selected Educational Statistics 2000-2001 brought out by this Ministry. The reasons for non-enrolment of school children include habitations not having facilities for education, socio-economic factors preventing children from going to schools and children dropping out of school after getting enrolled.

(d) and (e) The view of the Government is that in order to redress the situation free and compulsory education for the children in the age group 6-14 should be a Fundamental Right. Accordingly Constitution 86th Amendment Act, 2002 has been enacted. The Government has also launched Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as a National Programme to achieve the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education in a Mission mode in partnership with States. This programme focuses, in particular, on the educational need of girls, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe, Minorities, Urban deprived children and other children in difficult circumstances.

Corruption by Civil Servants

*460. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of corrupt civil servants caught red handed during the last two years by the Central Bureau of Investigation while accepting bribes have been let off despite the use of hidden microphones and special chemical coated money;

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

(c) the fresh steps taken to break the nexus between the accused, the investigating officers and the independent Government witness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The CBI has reported that during years 2001 and 2002, trial of 375 trap cases have been completed. Out of these 375 cases, 228 cases have ended in conviction whilst 134 cases have ended in acquittal. 4 were discharged and 9 were otherwise disposed of.

(b) The CBI has reported that reasons of acquittals are that due to long period taken in concluding the trials, complainants lose interest or are won over by the defence, independent witnesses are not able to recall properly the events during the trial and also distortion of voice/wash samples due to storage over long period of time.

(c) To reduce delays in trial cases and for their speedy disposal, the Government has set up 28 Courts of Special Judges and 7 Courts of Special Magistrates for dealing exclusively with CBI cases.

Production of Fertilizer Mixtures

*461. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have banned the production of fertilizer mixtures in a phased manner;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) the number of small scale units in the country producing such mixture alongwith their total output and employment potential;

(d) whether it is also a fact that some multinational companies are also producing the fertilizer mixtures in large quantities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) The Government have not imposed any ban on the production of fertilizer mixtures. However, in July, 2002, the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation issued guidelines regarding mixtures of NPK fertilizers to State Governments. Through these guidelines, the States have, inter alia, been advised to notify only such grades of NPK fertilizer mixtures which contain minimum 35 units of nutrients in case of the mixture having all the three nutrients, i.e., nitrogen, phosphate and potash and in case the fertilizer mixture is having only two of the three nutrients, then it should contain minimum 25 units of nutrients. Also, the fertilizer mixtures to be notified should not be identical or almost similar to the grades of complex fertilizers already notified in Schedule I, Part-A of FCC. The State Governments were advised to de-notify existing grades of mixtures that do not meet the above requirements with in a period of one year from the issue of these guidelines. The State Governments have further been advised to discourage physical mixtures of NPK fertilizer and to notify minimum standards/facilities for establishment of granular mixing units and the existing such units may be given two years' time to switch over to granular mixtures. These steps have been taken in the interest of farmers to avoid confusion between complex fertilizers, which are produced through chemical process and the fertilizer mixtures, and also that farmers are not made to pay higher per unit cost of nutrients for low grades of mixtures.

(c) to (e) The mixture fertilizers are not covered under the subsidy/concession scheme nor these are under the production/distribution control of the Government. Complete details about the units are not maintained by Department of fertilizers (DOF). However, in a study conducted by DOF during 1997-98 and subsequently in 2001, it has been observed that about 200 units are producing approximately 10 lakh MTs of mixture fertilizers in the country.

[Translation]

Wage/Internal Audit in CIL

4494. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether wage audit or internal audit is conducted by the chartered and cost accountants and their companies or firms in various ancillary units of the Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the names of individuals, companies and firms engaged or being engaged during the last three years till 28th February, 2003;

(c) whether the retired officers of the Coal India limited and its ancillary companies are also there in these companies and firms;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether most of these companies engage fresh college students in place of qualified or semi qualified article clerks for wage audit or internal audit;

(f) if so, the action taken against such companies or firms?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes. Sir. Firms of chartered/cost accountants have been appointed for conducting wage audit and internal audit in various subsidiaries of Coal India Limited.

(b) Names of companies/firms engaged for internal audit appointed by Coal India Limited for its subsidiaries is given at statement-I. Company wise details of companies/ firms appointed for wage audit is given at statement-II.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the record available in some of the audit firms some retired officers of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries were working as partners in these firms.

(d) The list of retired officers of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries who were engaged in some of the Internal Audit Firms are enclosed at statement-III. The list of retired officers of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries who were engaged in Wage Audit Firms in different subsidiaries are enclosed at statement-IV.

(e) As per the terms of appointment they are to engage qualified and semi-qualified persons and assistants.

(f) Not applicable in view of answer (e) above.

Statement-I

Details of Internal Auditor Appointed by Coal India Limited for CIL and other Companies

List of Appointment of Audit Firms During the year 2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the Audit firm
1	2
1.	M/s. Neeraj Agarwal & Co., New Delhi
2.	M/s. Manmohan Singh & Co., New Delhi
3.	M/s. A. Nandy & Co., Kolkata
4.	M/s. Adukia & Associates, Nagpur
5.	M/s. SBS Associates, Kolkata
6.	M/s. A.R. Das & Associates, Kolkata
7.	M/s. Bandopadhyay, Bhowmik & Co., Kolkata
8.	M/s. D.K. Chhajer & Co., Kolkata
9.	M/s. Dasgupta, Banerjee & Associates, Kolkata
10.	M/s. B.K. Bhattacharya & Co., Kolkata
11.	M/s. S. Rishi & Co., New Delhi
12.	M/s. Harodia Agarwal & Sharma & Co., Dhanbad
13.	M/s. DBK Associates, Kolkata
14.	M/s. Ghosal & Ghosal, Kolkata
15.	M/s. Nag & Associates, Kolkata
16.	M/s. S.K. Bhattacharya & Co., Kolkata
17.	M/s. U. Narain & Co., Ranchi
18.	M/s. A.K. Kar & Co., Bhubaneswar
19.	M/s. Mukund B. Mishra & Co., New Delhi
20.	M/s. S Ghosh & Co., Kolkata
21.	M/s. Konar Mustafi & Associates, Patna
22.	M/s. D. Bagchi & Co., Kolkata
23.	M/s. Anjali Jain & Associates, Ranchi
24.	M/s. S.P. Bhattachrya & Co., Kolkata
25.	M/s. K.C. Samal & Co., Sambalpur
26.	M/s. T.K. Ghosh & Co., Kolkata
27.	M/s. J. Gupta & Co., Kolkata
28.	M/s. Abhijit Dutta & Associates, Kolkata
29.	M/s. N. Choudhuri & Co., Kolkata
30.	M/s. P.S. Roy & Associates, Kolkata
31.	M/s. B.S. Sahay & Co., Kolkata
32.	M/s. Sinha Chowdhury & Associates, Kolkata
33.	M/s. P. Mazumder & Co., Kolkata
34.	M/s. C. Dutta & Co., Kolkata

List of Appointment of Audit Firms during the year 2001-2002

1	2
1.	M/s. I. Narain & Co., Ranchi
2.	M/s. A.K. Kar & Co., Bhubaneswar
3.	M/s. S. Ghosh & Co., Kolkata
4.	M/s. Konar Mustaphi & Assiciates, Patna
5.	M.s D. Bagchi & Co., Kolkata
6.	M/s. S.P. Bhattachrya & Co., Kolkata
7.	M/s. K.C. Samal & Co., Sambalpur
8.	M/s. Sinha Chowdhury & Associates, Kolkata
9.	M/s. P. Mazumdar & Co., Kolkata
10.	M/s. C. Dutta & Co., Kolkata
11.	M/s. R.S. Sahoo & Co., Kolkata
12.	M/s. G.P. Agarwal & Co., Kolkata
13.	M/s. SRI Associates, Kolkata
14.	M/s. Pande, Dua & Mathur, New pelhi
15.	M/s. Mitra Kundu & Basu, Kolkata
16.	M/s. J. Jaipuriar & Co., Howrah
17.	M/s. Soumya Dutta & Associates, Kolkata
18.	M/s. SBA Associates, Kolkata
19.	M/s. Ghosh Dutta & Co., Kolkata
20.	M/s. J.I Sengupta & Co., Kolkata
21.	M/s. R. Mangal & Co., Jaipur
22.	M/s. Ramesh Kapoor & Co., New Delhi
23.	M/s. C.K. Dey & Associates, Kolkata
24.	M/s. Mishra Badhai & Associates, Sambalpur
25.	M/s. Gyan Agarwal & Associates, New Delhi
26.	M/s. B.G. Chowdhuri & Co., Hooghly
27.	M/s. N. Mukhopadhyay, Howarh
28	M/s. K.L. Banerjee & Co., Kolkata

List of Appointment of Audit Firms during the year 2002-2003

1	2
1.	M/s. G.P. Agarwal & Co., Kolkata
2.	M/s. SRI Associates, Kolkata
3.	M/s. Pandey, Dua & Mathur, New Delhi
4.	M/s. Soumya Dutta & Associates, Kolkata
5.	M/s. SBA Associates, Kolkata
6.	M/s. Ghosh Dutta & Co., Kolkata
7.	M/s. J.I Sengupta & Co., Kolkata
8.	M/s. C.K. Dey & Associates, Kolkata
9.	M/s. Mishra Badhai & Associates, Sambalpur
10.	M/s. Gyan Agarwal & Associates, New Delhi
11.	M/s. N. Mukhopadhyay, Howarh
12.	M/s. R.S. Sahoo & Co., Kolkata
13.	M/s. Mitra Kundu & Basu, Kolkata
14.	M/s. Singhi & Co., Kolkata
15.	M/s. G. Basu & Co., Kolkata
16.	M/s. D.P. Sen & Co., Kolkata
17.	M/s. Manmohan Singh & Co., New Delhi
18.	M/s. George Read & Co., Kolkata
19.	M/s. DN Dokania & Associates, Dhanbad
20.	M/s. GP. Ghosh & Associates, Kolkata
21.	M/s. AS Gupta & Co., Kolkata
22.	M/s. K.C. Sarkar & Co., Kolkata
23.	M/s. SBS. Associates, Kolkata
24.	M/s. DBK Associates, Kolkata
25.	M/s. A. Nandy & Co., Kolkata
26.	M/s. A. Mitra & Associates, Ranchi
27.	M/s. AC Bhuteria & Co., Kolkata

1	2
28.	M/s. AR Das Associates, Kolkata
29.	M/s. PD Rungta & Co., Kolkata
30.	M/s. Patni & Co., Kolkata
31.	M/s. PK Sahoo & Co., Bhubaneswar
32.	M/s. GGM & Co., Kolkata
33.	M/s. AR Maiti & Co., Kolkata
34.	M/s. K.L. Banerjee & Co., Kolkata

Statement-II

Eastern Coalfields Limited

During the period of last 3 years ECL has appointed Audit Firms/ Wage Auditors only in December, 2002. Details given below:

Pandaveswar Area:

1. M/s. Chatrak & Chandra, Asansol
2. M/s.Mitra Ghosh & Associates, Durgapur
3. M/s. B.Biswas & Associates, Asansol
4. M/s. Debabrata Banerjee & Co., Asansol

Bankola Area:-

1. M/s. Bothra Nirmal Associates, Kolkata
1. M/s. P.S.Kesri & Co., Ranchi
2. M/s. Banerjee Deb & Co., Asansol
4. M/s. Konar Mustafi & Associates, Asansol

Kenda Area:-

1. M/s. D.N.Dokania & Associates, Dhanbad
2. M/s. S.P. Bhattacharjee & Co., Kokkata
3. M/s. P.K. Dhelia & Co., Kolkata
3. M/s. Mukesh Kr.& Associates, Dhanbad

Sonepur Bazaria Area & J.K. Ropeways

M/s. N.Mukhopadhyay & Co. Howrah.

Kajora Area:-

1. M/s. Kayal Dikshit & Associates, Kolkata.
2. M/s. R.M.Associates, Patna.
3. M/s. S.Bose & Associates, Asansol
4. M/s. V.Rohatgi & Co., Ranchi.

Kunustoria Area:-

1. M/s. Arabinda Pathak & Co., Howrah
2. M/s. Sunil Subash & Associates, Chirkunda
3. M/s. N.K.Singh & Associates, Dhanbad
4. M/s. Bandopadhyay Bhowmik & Co., Kolkata

Jhanjra Area & Ukhra Reg. Workshop

1. M/s. N.K. Agarawal & Co., Asansol
2. M/s. Anirban Banerjee, Asansol.

Satgram Area:-

1. M/s. S.K.Roy & Co., Kolkata.
2. M/s. V.S.Bengani & Co., Kolkata
3. M/s. S. Rajguru & Co., Asansol
4. M/s. Singhania Agarwal & Co., Kolkata

Sripur Area & Ratibati/Poniati Workshop

1. M/s. S.K.Goswami & Associates, Kolkata
2. M/s. Swati Roy & Associates, Asansol
3. M/s. Agarwal & Prasad, Patna

Salanpur Area:-

1. M/s. Bhattacharjee A.B. & Associates.
2. M/s. A.Banerjee & Co., Asansol

Sodepur Area:-

1. M/s. Roy & Associates, Kolkata
2. M/s. S.M. Ganguly, Kolkata,
3. M/s. S.Karmakar & Co., Asansol.
4. M/s. Manjari & Co., Asansol

Mugma Area:-

1. M/s. S.Banerjee & Co., Dhanbad
2. M/s. Kartik Chandra Pratihar, Dhanbad

3. M/s. S.N.Das & Co., Dhanbad

4. M/s. S.K.Pasari & Co., Dhanbad

SP Mines/BEFW/Mugma Reg. W/S/Sodepur C. Stores & Central Workshop.

M/s. U.S. Prasad & Co. Patna

Rajmahal Area:-/ Sales Office, Kolkata

M/s. T.K.Ghosh & Co., Kolkata

Units of Head Quarter

M/s. Mukhopadhyay Bandopadhyay & Associates, Kolkata

Name & Address of the Audit Firms who were engaged in Pay Fixation and Arrear Wages Audit of ECL

1. S.K. Pasari & Co., Dhanbad

2. S. Banerjee & Co., Dhanbad

3. Kartik Chandra Pratihar, Dhanbad

4. Roy & Associates, Kolkata

5. Das Bairagya & Associates, Kolkata

6. S.K. Roy & Co., Kolkata

7. Ghosh Datta & Co., Kolkata

8. Chatrak & Chandra, Asansol

9. S. Rajguru & Co., Asansol

10. B. Biswas & Associates, Asansol

11. S.K. Goswami & Associates, Kolkata

12 U.S. Prasad & Co., Patna

13. Mitra Ghosh & Associates, Durgapur

14. S. Karmakar & Co., Sitarampur

15. S. Bose & Associates, Asansol

16. R.A. Singh & Co., Ranchi

17. Konar Mustafi & Associates, Kolkata

18. A. Banerjee & Co., Asansol

19. Banerjee Dev & Co., Asansol

20. S.P. Bhattacharjee & Co., Kolkata

21. A. Roy & Co., Barddhaman

22. N.K. Agarwall & Co., Asansol

23. S.M. Ganguly, Kolkata

Bharat Coking Coal Limited

The details of the Wage Auditors appointed for the period 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 is given below:-

1. Details of Salery & Wages for 2000-01

i) M/s. D.N. Dokania & Associates Chartered Accountants, Dhanbad.

ii) M/s. P.S. Kesheri & Co. Chartered Accountants, Dhanbad.

iii) M/s. Singh, Mukherjee & Associates Chartered Accountants, Ranchi.

iv) M/s. George Regd & Co. Chartered Accountants, Kolkata.

v) M/s. P.K. Banerjee & Co., Cost Accountants, Dhanbad.

vi) M/s. G.Banerjee & Co. Cost Accountants, Dhanbad.

vii M/s. U.S. Prasad & Co., Chartered Accountants, Patna.

viii) M/s. Konar Mustaphi & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Patna.

ix) M/s. B.N.Das & Co., Cost Accountants, Sitarampur.

x) M/s. Karmakar Shamanta & Associates, Cost Accountants, Sitarampur.

xi) M/s. Choshal & Choshal, Chartered Accountants, Kolkata.

xii) M/s. M.P. Sinha & Co. Cost Accontants, Dhanbad.

xiii) M/s. Das Buiragya & Associates, Cost Accountants, Kolkata.

xiv) M/s. Shyamdas Bandhopadhyay & Accociates, Chartered Accountants, Dhanbad.

For the year - 2001- 2002

i) M/s. Nag & Associates, Chartered Accountants.

ii) M/s. Haredin Agarwal Sharma & Co., C.A.

iii) M/s. D.N. Sinha & Co., C.A.

iv) M/s. J. Jaipurem & Co. C.A.

v) M/s. V.K. Jiodal & Co. C.A.

vi) M/s. Shri Associates, C.A.

vii) M/s. K.C. Sarkar & Co., C.A.

viii) M/s. T.K. Ghosh & Co., C.A.

ix) M/s. Dudaoi, Sultania & Co., C.A.

x) M/s. A.C. Bhuteria & Co., C.A.

xi) M/s. Bala & Co., C.A.

xii) M/s. Abhijit Dutta & Associates, C.A.

xiii) M/s. Mishra Sadhai & Associates, C.A.

xiv) M/s. D. Bageni & Co., C.A.

xv) M/s. P.G. Roy, & Associates, C.A.

Note: Wages Audit - 2002-2003- Audit not yet finalized.

Central Coalfields Limited

List of Firms for Wage Audit 2000-2001

S. No.	Name & Address of the Audit firm M/s
1	2
1.	Thakur Vaidyanath Alyar & Co. C.A. 2, India Exchange place, Kolkata-1.
2.	V.K. Jindal & Co. 10, Shree Gopal Complex, 3rd floor, Court Road, Ranchi
3.	George Read & Co., C.A., 1, Chowringhee Square PO Box No. 6803, Kolkata-89
4.	Chaturvedi & Co., C.A. Bentin Bk. Street, Kolkata-89
5.	G.Basu & Co., C.A. Basu House 3, Chowringhee Approach, Kolkata-72
6.	Ashok Shyam & Associates CA, K55/8 Avasar Ganj, Rajpura, Varanasi
7.	A.C. Bhitarai & Co. CA (inside Ratanlall Saurajmall Compound) Navin Road. Ranchi
8.	A.C. Dutta & Co., hart Acct. 10, K.S. Roy Road. 2nd floor, Kolkata-1
9.	A. Mitra & Associates, C.A., Jagat Pai Street, Near Civil Court, Kolkata-1
10.	Bandopadhyay Blaunik & Co. Cost Acctt., G-10, Banerjee Para, Kam, dahari Gariaa, Kolkata-34
11.	C. Duta & Co. C.A. 7, Kiran Shankar Roy Road. (2nd floor) Kolkata-1
12.	Sri Associates, C.A. 3B, Garadin Place, Kolkata-1
13.	Taunk Khatri & Associates, C.A. Vyapar Vihar, Main Road, Near Aastha Petrol Pump, Bitampur
14.	DBK Associates, C.A., 56, Camac Court, Camac Street, Kolkata 18
15.	D.D. Shah & Co. C.A., B.R.P. Basu Road, 3rd floor, Room No. 25A, Kolkata
16.	Sushanta P. Mukherjee & Co. CA, 2B, Grant Lans, 3rd floor, Room No. 49A, Kolkata-12
17.	A.R. Das & Associates, CA. 1, 2 & 3, Woodburn Court, Woodburn Road, Kolkata
18.	Biswas Dasgupta, Dutta & Roy, CA, 10 Government Place (E) 28A, Esra Mansion, Esplanade, Kolkata-88
19.	Laxmi Nivas & Jain, C.A. 54-726, Station Road, Nampathy, Hyderabad-1
20.	S.K. Das & Associates, C.A. 48, D.B. Ganguly Street, 1st floor, Room No.8
21.	K.C. Tak & Co. C.A.1, New Anantpur, Ranchi-2
22.	P.D. Rangta & Co., C.A. Hindustan Bldg., 4th floor, Main Road, Ranchi-1
23.	S.B.S. Associates & Co. C.A. Krishna Kunja, 74A Park Street, Kolkata-700 017
24.	K.C. Sarkar & C.A. 70B, Purana Das Road, 1st floor (Behind Ballygunj Trangular Park), Kolkata-20
25.	G.P. Ghose & Associates,CA, 18 Netaji Subhash Road. 3rd floor, Room No. 10D, & 10E, Kolkata-1
26.	J. Gupta & Co. C.A. 112, Water Loo Street, Room No.10. 2nd floor, Kolkata
27.	R.N. Singh & Co. C.A./0 Dr. TDP Sinha E/5, Sec.III HEC Colony, Ranchi
28.	Patni & Co., C.A.9, Indian Exchange place. 4th floor, Room No.7, Kolkata-1
29.	Adukia & Associates, C.A., Meridian Apartments, Sulta No.3 to 6, Building No.1 Ground floor, Veera Desai Road, Andheri West, Mumbai
30.	B.M. Charath & Co. C.A. India Steamship House, 21, Old Court House Street, Kolkata-1

Note: No wage auditor was appointed by CCL for year 2001-02 and 2002-03 till 28th February, 2003

Northern Coalfields Limited

2000-01

S.No.	Name of the Audit Firm with Address	Name of retired officer of CIL & it's Ancillary Co. working in the Audit Co./Firm
1	2	3
1	M/s. Ghoshal & Co., Chartered Accountants, 4, Ganesh Chandra Avenue, 3rd Floor, Kolkata 700 013.	Nil
2	M/s. N. Mukhopadhyay & Co., Chartered Accountants, 19, Netaji Subhash Road, Howrah 711 101	Sri Mukhopadhyay, Ex. Finance Executive, NCL - Partner Sri S.K.Pandit, Ex. Dy.CFM, NCL-Partner
3	M/s. S.K.Roy & Co., Cost Accountants, Basona Shopping Complex, Room No.15, 30, Nager Bazar Road, Kolkata 700 074	Sri S.K.Roy, Ex.Dy.CFM, NCL - Partner Sri S.K.Khan, Ex:Dy.CFM, CIL - Partner Sri B.D.Gupta, Ex.CFM in Coal Co. - Partner
4	M/s. Ghosh Dutta & Co. Cost Accountants, 8/2 Kiron Shankar Roy Road, Room No.5, 1st Floor, Kolkata 700 001	Sri C.G.Ghosh, Ex.GM(F),CCL - Partner Sri K.K.Dutta, Addl.CFM, CIL - Partner Sri G.C.Chakraborty, Ex.Dy.CFM, ECL-Partner Sri S.K.Chakraborty, Ex.Cost Accountant, NCDC- Partner
5	M/s. Gupta Jeswani & Co. Chartered Accountants, Dal Bazar Tiraha, Lashkar, Gwalior 474009 (MP)	Nil
6	M/s. U.Narain & Co. Chartered Accountants Trinity Complex, 1st Floor, 6, H.B. Road, Ranchi 834 001	Sri U.Narain, Ex. D(F), CCL - Partner Sri N.Biswas, Ex.GM(F), CCL-Partner Sri K.B.Saran, Ex.AFM, CCL - Staff Sri R.P.Sinha, Ex.Dy. FM, CCL-Staff
7	M/s. Chatrath & Chandra Chartered Accountants 203, C.A. Chamber, 18/12 W.E.A. Karolbagh, New Delhi 110005	Nil
8	M/s. Rathi Pasari & Associates Chartered Accountants 208-311, Trade House, 14/3 South Tukoganj, Opp. Dhakkanwala Kuan, Indore 452 001 (MP)	Nil

1	2	3
9	M/s. Sushanta P. Mukherjee & Co. Chartered Accountants, 2B, Grant Lane, 3rd Floor, Room No.49A, Kolkata 700 012 (WB)	Nil
10	M/s. Vinay Jain & Associates, Chartered Accountants, 18/12, W.E.A., Pusa Lane, Arya Shankar Road, Karolbagh, New Delhi 5	Nil

2001-02

S.No.	Name of the Audit Firm with Address	Name of retired officer of CIL & it's Ancillary Co. working in the Audit Co./Firm
1	2	3
1	M/s. A.C. Dutta & Co. Cost Accountants, 10, K.S. Road, 2nd Floor, Kolkata - 1	Sri B.C.Neogi, Ex. Dy. CFM, CIL - Partner
2	M/s. N. Mukhopadhyay & Co., Chartered Accountants, 19, Netaji Subhash Road, Howrah 711 101	Sri N. Mukhopadhyay, Ex. Finance Executive, NCL-Partner Sri S.K.Pandit, Ex. Dy. CFM, NCL - Partner
3	M/s. S.K.Roy & Co. Cost Accountants Basona Shopping Complex, Room No.15, 30, Nager Bazar Road, Kolkata 700 074	Sri S.K. Roy, Ex. Dy.CFM, NCL-Partner Sri S.Chaudhary, Ex.Dy.CFM, ECL-Partner
4	M/s. Ravi Kumar Kalyani & Co. Chartered Accountants, Girdhar Ka Chauraha, Mirzapur 231 001	Nil
5	M/s. Gupta Jeswani & Co. Chartered Accountants, Dal Bazar Tiraha, Lashkar, Gwalior 474009 (MP)	Nil
6	M/s. U. Narain & Co. Chartered Accountants Trinity Complex, 1st Floor 6, H.B. Road, Ranchi 834 001	Sri U. Narain, Ex. D(F), CCL-Partner Sri N. Biswas, Ex. GM(F), CCL, Partner Sri K.B. Saran, Ex. AFM, CCL, Staff Sri R.P. Sinha, Ex. Dy. FM, CCL-Staff Sri K.C. Jerath, Ex-CFM, NCL-Staff
7	M/s. S.B.S. Associates Chartered Accountants, Krishna Kunj, 74 A, Park Street, Kolkata 17	Nil

1	2	3
8	M/s. Rathi Pasari & Associates Chartered Accountants 208-311, Trade House, 14/3 South Tukoganj, Opp. Dhakkanwala Kuan, Indore 452 001 (MP)	Nil
9	M/s. Sushanta P Mukherjee & Co. Chartered Accountants, 2B, Grant Lane, 3rd Floor, Room No.49A Kolkata 700 012 (WB)	Nil
10	M/s. Mukhopadhyay Bandopadhyay & Associates, Cost Accountants 10, Govt. Place East, 31 B, Ezra Mansion, 3rd Floor, Kolkata 69	Sri S.K.Chakraborty, Ex.CFM & GM(Vig.),CIL - Partner Sri M.N. Chail, Ex.Dy.CFM - Partner

Note: Appointment for the year 2002-03 has not been made for wages audit.

Western Coalfields Limited

Details of Audit Firms and Officers appointed in the firms during year 2002-03

S.No.	Name of the Audit Firms	Name of the Retired Officers of Coal India Limited and its Ancillaries
1.	M/s. Konkar Mustaphi & Associates, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	1. Shri Ashok Kumar Kopalker, Ex Director (Finance) WCL 2. Sri Rana. J.S.B. Singh, Ex Director (Finance), B.C.C.L.
2.	M/s. Jha & Associates, Ranchi Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri Suresh Jha, Ex Director (Finance, C.C.L.
3.	M/s R.R. Namidwar & Company, Chanrapur, Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
4.	M/s. Shantanu Deshmukh, Nagpur Chartered, Accountants	Not Applicable
5.	M/s. D.P. Dutta & Company, Nagpur Cost Accountant Firm	1 Shri D. P. Dutta, Ex CGM (Fin), WCL
6.	M/s. Girish Chandak & Company, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
7.	M/s. Singh Das & Associates, Bilaspur Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri R.D. Singh Ex., GM (Fin.) SECL
8.	M/s. V.S. Sathe & Company Nagpur Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri V.S. Sathe, Ex. F.M., W.C.L.

1	2	3
9.	M/s. S.M. Ganguly, Koklata Cost Accountant	Not Applicable
10.	M/s. Ratan Chandak & Company, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
11.	M/s. D.B.K. Associates, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
12.	M/s. A.R. Das & Associates, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	Shri S.B. Das, Ex C.G.M. (Finance), C.I.L.
13.	M/s. Mahesh Shah, Nagpur Chartered Accountant	Not Applicable
14.	M/s. Chichwadkar & Company, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
15.	M/s. S.R. Narke & Associates, Nagpur Chartered Accountants	Not Applicable
16	M/s R.M. Associates, Patna Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable

Details of Audit Firms and Officers appointed in the firms during year 2001-02

S.No.	Name of the Audit Firms	Retired Officers of Coal India Limited and its Ancillaries
1.	M/s. Konar Mustaphi & Associates, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	1. Shri Ashok Kumar Kopalkar, Ex Director (Finance), WCL 2. Shri Rana J.S.B. Singh, Ex. Director (Finance), B.C.C.L.
2.	M/s. Jha & Associates, Ranchi Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri Suresh Jha, Ex. Director (Finance) C.C.L.
3.	M/s Rustomji N. Mehta & Company, Mumbai Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
4.	M/s. Rathi & Rathi, Chandrapur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
5.	M/s. Shantanu Deshmukh, Nagpur Charteted Accountants	Not Applicable
6.	M/s. D.P. Dutta & Company, Nagpur Cost Accoountant Firm	1. Shri D.P. Dutta, Ex CGM (Fin.) W.C.L.
7.	M/s. R.M. Associates, Patna Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
8.	M/s. Girish Chandak & Company, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
9.	M/s. V.S. Sathe & Company, Nagpur Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri V.S. Sathe, Ex. F.M., W.C.L.

1	2	3
10.	M/s. N. Krishna Rao Cost Accountant	1. Shri N. Krishna Rao, Ex. Addl. C.F.M., W.C.L.
11.	M/s Das, Ghosh & Choubey Nagpur, Chartered Accountant	1. Shri S. Das Ex. C.G.M. (Finance), W.C.L.
12.	M/s. D.B.K. Associates, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
13.	M/s. G.G.M. & Company, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
14.	M/s. A.C. Dutta & Company, Kolkata Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri B.C. Negoi, ex. D.C.F.M. C.I.L.
15.	M/s. Mahesh Shah, Nagpur, Chartered Accountant	Not Applicable
16.	M/s. S.R. Narke & Associates, Nagpur Chartered Accountant	Not Applicable

Details of Audit Firm and Officers appointed in the firms during year 2000-01

S.No.	Name of the Audit Firms	Retired Officers of Coal India Limited and its Ancillaries
1.	M/s. Konar Mustaphi & Associates, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	1. Shri Rana J.S.B. Singh, Ex. Director (Finance), B.C.C.L.
2.	M/s. S. Rishi & Company, Gurgaon Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
3.	M/s. Girish Chandak & Company, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
4.	M/s. Rustomji N. Mehta & Company, Mumbai Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
5.	M/s. V.S. Sathe & Company, Nagpur Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri V.S. Sathe, Ex. F.M., W.C.L.
6.	M/s. R.M. Associates, Patna Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
7.	M/s. S.R. Narke & Associates, Nagpur Chartered Accountant	Not Applicable
8.	M/s. Salve & Company, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
9.	M/s. Mahesh Shah, Nagpur Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
10.	M/s. N. Krishna Rao Cost Accountant Firm	1. Shri N. Krishnan Rao, Ex. Addl., C.F.M., W.C.L.

1	2	3
11.	M/s. A.S. Biswas & Company, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable
12.	M/s. U. Narain & Company, Ranchi Chartered Accountant Firm	Shri U. Narain, Ex. Director (Finance), C.C.L.
13.	M/s. A.S. Biswas & Company, Kolkata Chartered Accountant Firm	Not Applicable

South Eastern Coalfields Limited

Wages Audit

2000-2001

1. Mahesh Shah, Nagpur
2. R.M.Associates, Patna
3. Singh Associates, Bilaspur.
4. Anand Kumar Agrawal, Bilaspur
5. R.S. Tiwari & Co. Bilaspur
6. U. Narain & Co., Ranchi
7. Bandopadhyay, Bhowmik & Co., Kolkata
8. Ghosh, Dutta & Co., Kolkata
9. Mukund B. Mishra & Co., Delhi
10. Pandey, Dua & Mathur, Delhi
11. K.L. Bandejee & Co., Kolkata
12. Mishra, Badhai & Associates, Kolkata
13. Konar, Mustaphi & Associates, Kolkata

2001-2002

1. Pandey, Dua & Mathur, Delhi
2. Sri Associates, Kolkata
3. Sushil & Surendra Bilaspur
4. P. C. Bafna & Co., Drug
5. Madanlal Agarwal, Bilaspur
6. V. Rohatagi & Co., Ranchi
7. Bandopadhyay, Bhowmik & Co., Kolkata
8. J.L. Sengupta & Co., Kolkata
9. T.K. Ghosh & Co., Kolkata
10. Mishra, Badhai & Associates, Sambalpur
11. D.P. Sen & Co., Kolkata
12. A.K. Makhal & Associates, Howrah
13. U. Narain & Co., Ranchi
14. P.P. Jain & Co. Bilaspur

2002-2003

1. A.K. Makhal & Associates & Howrah
2. Ashok K. & Co, Raipur
3. P.C. Bafna & Co. Drug
4. A.C. Dutta & Co., Kolkata
5. Sri Associates, Kolkata
6. Nag & Associates, Kolkata
7. V. Rohatgi & Co., Ranchi
8. C. Dutta & Co., Kolkata
9. R.N. Singh & Co., Patna
10. C.K. Dey & Associates, Kolkata
11. S.P. Bhattacharaya & Co., Kolkata
12. Mukhopadhyay, Bandopadhyay & Associates, Kolkata
13. T.K. Ghosh & Co., Kolkata
14. K.L. Banerjee & Co., Kolkata
15. S.K. Roy & Co., Kolkata
16. Ghosh, Dutta & Co., Kolkata
17. Bandopadhyay, Bhowmik & Co., Kolkata
18. Pandey, Dua & Mathur, Delhi
19. K.C. Samal & Co., Sambalpur
20. R.M. Associates, Patna
21. Mishra, Badhai & Associates, Sambalpur
22. G.M. Gupta & Co., Bilaspur

23. N. Mukhopadhyaya & Co., Kolkata

NCWA VI Pay Fixation

1. S.Jha & Associates, Ranchi.
2. Kamal & Associates, Kolkata.
3. Ashok Basu & Co., Kolkata.
4. Susanta P. Mukherjee & Co., Kolkata.
5. R.N.Singh & Co., Kolkata.

NCWA VI Arrears

1. S.K.Roy & Co., Kolkata.
2. C.K.De & Associates, Kolkata.
3. N.Krishna Rao, Nagpur.
4. Mukund B.Mishra & Co., Delhi.
5. Anand Kumar Agrawal, Bilaspur.
6. R.S.Tiwari & Co., Bilaspur.

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

List of Auditors Appointed for last three years in MCL for Wage Audit

Year	Name of the Auditor	Remarks
1	2	3
1999- 2000		
	M/s. D. Rath & Asso Talcher	
	M/s. P.K. Sahu & Co. Bhubneshwar	
	Biswas Dasgupta Dutta & Ray Kolkata	
	M/s. Soumya Dutta & Asso. Kolkata	
	M/s. Prasad Krishna & Asso. Talcher	Ex. Employee
	M/s. P.S. Roy & Asso. Kolkata	
	Singh Mukherjee & Asso. Ranchi	Ex. Employee
	Singh Ray Mishra & Co. Bhuneshwar	
2000-01		
	M/s. Mishra Badhai & Asso. Sambalpur	
	V. Rohatgi & Co. Ranchi	
	Das Pattnaik & Co. Bhubneshwar	
	C.K. Dey & Asso. Kolkata	Ex-employee
	P.K. Sahoo & Co. Bhubneshwar	
	Deb P. Biswas & Co. Kolkata	
2001-02		
	M/s. R.S. Sahu & Co. Bhubneshwar	
	M/s. Mukund B. Mishra & Co. Delhi	
	M/M/ Basu & Co. Kolkata	
	Basak Roy & Co. Kolkata	
	M/s. P.S. Roy & co. Kolkata	
	S.P. Bhattacharya & Co. Kolkata	Ex-employees
	A.K. Tripathy & Co. Bhubneshwar	
	MU Associates Bhubneshwar	

Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited

During last three years only one special wage audit has been conducted in the year 2002 by M/s N Mukhopadhyay and Co., Two Ex-CIL officers, namely Shri S K Pandit, Ex-Dy.Chief Finance Manager, NCL and Shri Nivoy Mukhopadhyay, Charted Accountant, NCL were employed in the firm.

Statement-III

List of retired Officers of Coal India Limited and its Subsidiaries who are engaged in some of the Internal Audit Firms as available in the record.

Sl.No.	Name of retired employees	Firm in which engaged	Place of work as shown in application
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Anupam Mitra, Partner	M/s. George Read & Co.,	ECL
2.	Shri KK Sengupta, Qualified Asstt.,	-do-	CIL
3	Shri S.B. Das, Partner	M/s. AR Das & Associates	CIL

1	2	3	4
4.	Shri S.J.B, Rana, Partner	M/s. Konar Mustafi & Associates	CIL/BCCL
5.	Shri S.P. Bhattacharya & Co.	M/s. S.P. Bhattacharya & Co.	BCCL
6.	Shri G.G. Ghosh, Partner	M/s. Ghosh Dutta & Co.	CIL/ECL
7.	Shri K.K. Dutta, Partner	-do-	
8.	Shri G.C. Chakraborty, Partner	-do-	
9.	Shri S.K. Pandit, Partner	M/s. N. Mukhopadhyay & Co.	NCL
10.	Shri Nirvoy Mukhipadhyay, Partner		
11.	Shri S.N. Kastha, Qualified Asstt.	M/s. A.R. Maiti & Co.	ECL
12.	Shri S.P. Debnath, Qualified Assistant	M/s. A. Nandy & Co.	ECL
13.	Shri A.K. Sinha, Partner	M/s. D.P. Sen & Co.	ECL
14.	Shri G.G. Mukhopadhyay, Partner	M/s. GGM & Co.	BCCL
15.	Shri S. Maulik, Partner	-do-	
16.	Shri P. Chakraborty, Partner	-do-	CMPDIL
17.	Shri A.C. Mukhopadhyay, Partner	-do-	WCL SECL
18.	Shri U.Narain, Partner	M/s. U. Narain & Co.	CIL
19.	Shri C.K. Dey, Partner	M/s. C.K. Dey & Co.	CCL
20.	Shri Basudeb Bhattacharya,	M/s. Susanta P Mukherjee	SECL
21.	Shri A. Sengupta,	& Co.	
22.	Shri S. Ganguli	-do-	ECL
23.	Shri S. Bishnu, Partner	M/s. C. Dutta & Co.	ECL
24.	Shri S. Ghosh, Qualified Asstt.	M/s. D. Bagchi & Co.	SECL

Statement-IV

Retired Officers of CIL Appointed in Wage Audit Firms of Subsidiary Comapnies

Eastern Coalfields Limited

1. M/s. Mitra Ghosh & Associates, Durgapur,
   (a) Mr. D.K. Mitra, Ex.Sr.Executive, CIL.
2. M/s. Mukhopadhyay, Bandopadhyay & Associates, Kolkata
   (a) Mr. S.K. Chakarborty, Ex.CFM, CIL.
   (b) Mr. S.M. Chowdhury, Ex. Dy.CFM, ECL.
3. M/s. Bhattacharjee, A.B. & Associates, Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. A.K. Paul, Ex. Sr. Executive, CIL.
4. M/s. Bothra Nirmal Associates, Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. S. Ambastha, Ex. CGM(PAD), CIL.
5. M/s. N. Mukhopadhyay & Co., Howrah.
   (a) Mr. S.K. Pandit, Ex. Dy. CFM, NCL.
   (b) Mr. N. Mukhopadhyay, Ex. F.M., NCL.
6. M/s. S.N. Das & Company, Dhanbad.
   (a) Mr. S.N. Das, Ex. Addl. CFM, BCCL.

7. M/s. Bandopadhyay, Bhowmik & Co., Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. S.P. Ganguly, Ex. F.M.
   (b) Mr. S.P. Sengupta, Ex. F.M.
8. M/s. V.S. Bengani & Co., Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. S. Bengani, Ex. COF, CMAL and also worked in Sales & Mktg. Division, ECL.
9. M/s. Roy & Associates, Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. A. Roy, Ex. Dy. F.M., CCL.
10. M/s. S.P. Bhattacharjee & Co., Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. S.P. Bhattacharjee, Ex. Dy.CFM, ECL/BCCL.
11. M/s. S. Karmakar & Company, Asansol
   (a) Mr. S. Karmakar, Ex. Dy.CFM, BCCL.
12. M/s. S. Banerjee & Co., Dhanbad
   (a) Mr. S. Banerjee, Ex. CFM, BCCL.
13. M/s. Kartick Ch. Pratihar, Dhanbad
   (a) Mr. K.C. Pratihar, Ex. CFM, BCCL
14. M/s. U.S. Prasad & Co., Patna.
   (a) Mr. U.S. Prasad, Ex. Sr.A.D., BCCL.
15. M/s. S.K. Roy & Co., Kolkata.
   (a) Mr. S.K. Roy, Ex. Dy.CFM, CCL.
16. M/s. Konar Mustafi & Associates, Asansol
   (a) Mr. Rana S.J.B. Singh, Ex. Dir (F), BCCL.

Details of retired Officers of CIL and its ancillary Companies Working as Partners in the Audit Firms appointed for checking of fixation of salary & wages of Wage Board employees & Executive as per NCWA-VI in ECL.

	Name of the Firm	Name of Ex. Employees of CIL and its ancillary companies working as partner in the Audit Firms
	1	2
1.	M/s. Mitra, Ghosh & Associates, CAs, Durgapur	Mr. D.K. Mitra, Ex.Finance Executive, CIL.
2.	M/s. Roy & Associates Cost Accountants, Kolkata,	Mr. A.Roy, Ex. Dy.FM,CCL.
3.	M/s. S.K. Goswami & Associates, CAs, Kolkata.	Mr. S.K. Dey, Ex. AD, CCL.
4.	M/s. S.K. Roy & Company, Cost Accountants, Kolkata	(i) Mr. S.K. Roy, Ex. Dy. CFM, CCL (ii) Mr. B. Dasgupta, Ex. Dy. CFM, CIL.
5.	M/s. S. Karmakar & Company, BCCL. Cost Accountants, Sitarampur.	Mr. S. Karmakar, Ex. A.F.M.,
6.	M/s. S.P. Bhattacharjee & Co., Ex.AFM, BCCL. Cost Accountants, Kolkata.	Mr. S.P. Bhattacharjee,
7.	M/s. Ghosh, Dutta & Co., GM(F), CCL. Cost Accountants, Kolkata. CIL.	(i) Mr. G.G. Ghosh, Ex. (ii) Mr. K.K. Dutta, Ex. ACFM,
8.	M/s. Das, Bairagya & Associates, Ex.ACFM, CIL. Cost Accountants, Kolkata.	Mr. Gopal Das Bairagya,

1		2
9.	M/s. S. Banerjee & Company, BCCL.	Mr. S. Banerjee, Ex.CFM, Cost Accountants, Dhanbad.
10.	M/s. R.A. Singh of Chartered Accountants Ranchi	Mr. R.A. Singh, Ex. Controller Accounts, ECL.
11.	M/s. K.C. Pratihar, BCCL Cost Accountants, Dhanbad.	Mr. K.C. Pratihar, EX.CFM,
12.	M/s. U.S. Prasad & Co., BCCL.	Mr. U.S. Prasad, Ex. Sr.FO,

South Eastern Coalfields Limited

Details of Audit Firms in which Ex-Officials of CIL/Subsidiaries are presently engaged

	Name of the Firm	Name of the person who worked in CIL/Subsidiaries	Designation
1		2	3
1.	Singh Associates	Sri R.D.Singh	GM(Finance)
2	U.Narain & Co.	Late U.Narain	Director(Finance)
3.	Konar, Mustaphi & Associates.	Sri Rana S.J.B. Singh	Director (Finance)
4.	Das, Ghosh, Choube & Associates.	Sri S.Das	CGM(Finance)
5.	S.Jha & Associates.	Sri S. Jha	Director (Finance)
6.	N. Krishna Rao.	Sri N. Krishna Rao & Sri N.R.Dutta	Addl.CFM GM (Finance)
7.	Bandopadhyay, Bhowmick & Co.,	Sri B.K.Bhattacharaya	Finance Manager
8.	A.K. Makhal & Associates.	Sri Debabrata Sanyal	Sr.Accounts Officer
9.	C.K. De & Associates.	Sri C.K.De	Dy. Chief Finance Manager
10.	Ghosh Dutta & Co.	Sri G.G.Ghosh	GM (Finance)
11.	A.C. Dutta & Co.,	Sri B.C. Neogi	Dy.CFM
12.	Mukhopadhyaya, Bandopadhyaya & Associates.	Sri S.M.Choudhary	Dy. CFM
13.	Mahesh Shah	Sri Mahesh Shah	Sr. Accounts Officer
14.	N. Mukhopadhyay Co.	Sri S.K.Pandit	Dy. CFM
15.	S.K.Roy & Co.	Sri S.K.Roy	Dy.CFM
16.	C. Dutta & Co.	Sri Parthasarathy Bishnu	Accounts Officer

1	2	3
17.	D.P.Sen & Co.	Sri A.K.Sinha	Director (Finance)
18.	Soumaya, Dutta & Associates	Sri S.B.Chatterjee	Sr.Accounts Officer
19.	U.S. Prasad & Co.,	Sri U.S.Prasad	Sr. Accounts Officer
20.	S.P. Bhattacharaya & Co.	Sri S.P.Bhattacharaya	Dy. CFM
21.	Sushil & Surendra.	Sri Sushil Agrawal	Accounts Officer

Central Coalfields Limited

Name of the Firm	Name of the person who worked in CIL/Subsidiaries
U. Narain & Co.	Shri U. Narain, Ex-D(F), CCL.
	Shri N. Biswas, Ex-GM(F), CCL
	Shri S. Jha, Ex-D(F), CCL
Suresh Jha & Co.	Shri S. Jha, Ex-D(F), CCL
Singh Mukherjee & Associates	Shri R.A. Singh, Ex-CGM (F), CIL
	Shri K.G. Mukherjee, Ex-CFM, CCL
Roy & Associates	Shri A. Roy, Ex-DFM, CCL
	Shri S. Chowdhury, Ex-DCFM, CCL
D.P. Sen & Co.	Shri A.K. Sinha, Ex-CFM, CIL
S.K. Roy & Co.	Shri S.K. Roy, Ex. DCFM, CCL
	Shri B. Dasgupa, Ex-DCFM, CCL
	Shri S.K. Khan, Ex-DCFM, CCL
Shri Mukhopadhyay & Co.	Shri S.K. Pandit, Ex-DCFM, CCL
George Read & Co.	Shri Anupam Mitra, Ex-D(F), CCL
A.C. Dutta & Co.	Shri K.K. Sengupta, Ex-AFM, ECL
	Shri B.C. Neegy, Ex-DCFM, CIL
Bandopadhyay Bhuamik & Co.	Shri S. Roy Chowdhury, Ex-CFM, ECL
	Shri S.P. Debnath, Ex-DCFM, CCL
A.K. Das & Associates	Shri S.B. Das, Ex-CGM (F), CIL
Ghosh Dutta & Co.	Shri G.G. Ghosh, Ex-GM(F), CCL
	Shri K.K. Dutta
	Shri G.C. Chakraborty, Ex-DCR, ECL
	Shri A.K. Sabul, Ex-DCFM, CMPDIL
V. Rohatgi & Co.	

Bharat Coking Coal Limited

List of Retired persons working with the Audit Agency

Name of the Firm		Retired employee associated with the Firm
1)	Singh Mukherjee & Associates, Chartered Accountant.	1) Sri P.A. Singh, Ex-G4(F) ECL. 2) Sri. K.G. Mukherjee, Ex. GM, CCL.
2)	George Read & Co., Chartered Accountant.	1) Sri. A. Mitra, Ex. D(P), CCL.
3)	P.K. Banerjee & Co., Cost Accountant.	1) Sri. P.K. Banerjee Ex. DCFM, BCCL.
4)	S. Banerjee & Associates, Cost Accountant.	Sri. S. Banerjee, Ex. Addl.CFM, BCCL.
5)	S. Banerjee & Associates, Cost Accountants.	One Partner- Mr. Chakraberty, Ex.GM, CIL.
6)	Kumar Musthapih & Associates, Chartered Accountant.	Sri. Rama S.J.B. Singh, Ex-D(F), BCCL.
7)	S.N.Das & Co., Cost Accountants	Sri S.N. Das Ex. DCFM, BCCL.
8)	Karmakar Samanta & Associates, Cost Accountants.	Ex. FM, ECL.
9)	Ghosal & Ghosal & Co., Cost Accountants.	1) Partners GP Kundu Ex-FM, ECL 2) Sri. PP Lal worked in BCCL. 3) Sri. AK Dasgupta, Ex-Dy.CFM, BCCL
10)	MD Sinha & Co., Cost Accountants	Sri. MP Sinha, Ex-FM, BCCL.
11)	Bairauya & Associates, Cost Accountants.	Partner Sri. D.S. Bhattacharjee worked as Addl. CFM, CIL.
12)	V.K. Jindal & Co., Chartered Accountant.	One Partner Sri SR Singh, Ex-CFM, CIL

Northern Coal Fields Limited

Annexure-II above indicates names of retired officers of CIL in wage audit firms.

Western Coalfields Limited

Annexure-II above indicates names of retired officers of CIL in wage audit firms.

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

Annexure-II above indicates names of retired officers of CIL in wage audit firms.

Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited

Annexure-II above indicates names of retired officers of CIL in wage audit firms.

[English]

C.B.S.E. Examinations

4495. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decrease in the number of students taking the CBSE examinations in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CBSE is considering to improve the facilities for students living with Audio-visual and Physical impairments and dyslexia; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), there is a decrease of 5816 candidates in class X and 2097 candidates in class XII in 2003 examinations as compared to 2002 examination in Delhi Region of CBSE.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As a pace setting Board, CBSE has been trying to bring the physically challenged children into the mainstream of the school education. To achieve this objective, CBSE has provided the following facilities:

(i) Exemption from third language for dyslexic, blind students and those suffering from speech or hearing defects.

(ii) Blind, physically handicapped and dyslexic students appearing in the secondary school examination or senior school certificate examination are permitted to use an amanuensis (writer) and allowed an additional one hour (60 minutes time) for each question paper. The Board considers physiotherapic exercises as equivalent to physical and Health Education (PHE) course of the Board.

(iii) Dyslexic, spastic candidates and candidates with visual and hearing impairment have the option of studying one compulsory language as against two. This language should be in consonance with the overall spirit of the three-language formula prescribed by the Board. Besides one language, any four of the following subjects may be offered:

Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Another Language, Music, Painting, Home Science and Introductory Information Technology

(iv) The Board has issued specific instructions to the Centre Superintendents to make arrangements for the physically challenged candidates for the examination on the ground floor as far as possible.

(v) On experimental basis, blind students in Delhi region have been permitted to use typewriters/ computers for writing their answers.

(vi) Special examination centres exclusively for blind candidates were created in 2003 examination of CBSE in Delhi.

(vii) Separate question papers in Science and Mathematics have been provided to the blind candidates in class X examination 2003. In addition, alternative questions are provided in lieu of questions having visual input in English Course A and Social Science in class X.

(viii) CBSE pays Rs.100/- per paper to the amanuensis (writer) who are provided to the physically challenged candidates.

(ix) The answerscripts of physically challenged candidates are evaluated centrally with a view to sensitizing the evaluators about the status of these candidates.

[Translation]

Prakrat Language

4496. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Prakrat' language is being taught in various universities of India like Pali, Sanskrit, Farasi, Arabi etc.;

(b) if so, whether 'Prakrat' language is recognized as one of the subjects in the National Eligibility Test (NET) organized by University Grants Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), Prakrat language is being taught in various universities of India and is one of the subjects of National Eligibility Test (NET) organised by the UGC.

[English]

National Policy on Children

4497. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to revise the National Policy for Children, 1974;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed changes likely to be made;

(c) the time by which it is proposed to be made effective;

(d) whether a National Children Board was constituted in 1974;

(e) if so, the achievements of the Board, so far and the reports, if any submitted by it with regard to the problems of the children;

(f) the amount spent by the Government on the National Children Board and on its various activities so far;

(g) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to reconstitute the Board; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to make its functioning more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The National Children's Board was constituted in 1974 to provide focus on children's issues and to ensure at different levels continuous planning, review and coordination of all the essential services and programmes for children. Accordingly the current and major issues of children were discussed in the meetings of the Board and decisions taken by the Board were built into programmes and schemes of implementing Ministries and Departments. The National Children's Board was in existence till 1989.

(f) The amount spent on National Children's Board was only for convening meetings of the Board and its Standing Committee.

(g) The Government is considering a proposal to set up a National Commission for Children which will go beyond the objectives of the National Children's Board.

(h) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Committee on Restructure of CSS

4498. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 1479 dated 27 November, 2002 and state the details of the recommendations of the committee set up by the Government for restructuring of the Central Secretariat Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): A statement indicating the major recommendations made by the Committee on Cadre Restructuring of Central Secretariat Service is annexed.

Statement

Major recommendations of the Committee on Cadre Restructuring of the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) are as under:

1. Restructured cadre strength of CSS to comprise 110 posts in Senior Selection Grade to be designated as Director, 330 posts in Selection Grade (Deputy Secretary), 1400 posts in Grade I (Under Secretary), 3000 posts in Section Officers' Grade and 5500 posts in Assistants' Grade.

2. Stoppage of Direct Recruitment in Section Officers' Grade.

3. Introduction of a non-functional scale of Rs, 8000-13500 for Section Officers,

4. Centralization of the cadre management of the grades of Assistant and Section Officer with DOP&T for the purpose of seniority, promotion and inter-cadre transfer and the cadre management of the CSS to be entrusted with the CS Division of DOP&T.

5,. The future promotions to be vacancy based and no further in situ upgradations.

6. Stoppage of entry of Stenographers Grade 'C' through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination for the post of Section Officer and that of Private Secretary to the Grade of Under Secretary in the matter of promotion.

7. The issue of application of DOP&T OM dated 28.03.1988 regarding delinking of confirmation from availability of permanent posts with retrospective effect in CSS to be processed on life.

8. Revision of pay scale of Section Officers retrospectively w.e.f. 01.01.1986 not recommended.

9. Granting of Group 'A' status to Section Officers and earmarking of posts in the grades of SAG and above for CSS not recommended.

10 The Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS) to be restructured and the number of posts in the Grade of Lower Division Clerk (LDC) and Upper Division Clerk (UDC) to be 15% (809) and 10% (538) of the existing posts respectively. As a one time exception, all additional posts in the grade of Assistant, as a result of cadre restructuring, to be filled by promotion of eligible UDCs.

[English]

Right to Shelter

4499. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to include the 'Right to Shelter' in the Constitution as a Fundamental Right; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Appointment of PIO in Ministries

4500. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps and measures to appoint Public Information Officer (PIO) in every Ministry and Departments as provided in the FOI Act, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the FOI Act does not provide for any penalty in case of non-compliance, nor does it has an independent appeal mechanism;

(d) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to bring the necessary amendment in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) In order to make the 'Freedom of Information 'Act, 2002' operational, action is being taken draft rules in terms of enabling provisions in Sections 17, 18 and 19, Matters incidental to the appointment of Public Information Officers would form a part of the rules and after these are notified, the public authorities shall be suitably advised to formally appoint their PIOs accordingly.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (d) of the question.

(f) An independent appeal mechanism was not considered practicable from the point of view of cost, speed of disposal and convenience to the public. On the other hand, it was felt that the department appeals would be far more economical and cost effective for the appellants. The Act, accordingly provides for a two tier departmental appellate mechanism. Similarly, it is proposed to amend the relevant provisions in the Central Civil Service (Conduct) Rules and similar provisions in the corresponding rules so as to make the government servants liable to action under the relevant disciplinary rules in case of non compliance with the provisions of the Act.

[Translation]

Allocation of Cadres

4501. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of cadres of the officers of the All India Services (IAS/IPS/IFS) after the bifurcation of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh has been completed by 15th October 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons and the difficulties being faced in the allocation of cadre of officers of the All India Civil Services even after the bifurcation of the States;

(c) the concrete measures being taken to do away with these uncertainties; and

(d) the authority responsible for this situation and the time by which the issue is likely to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The Central Government has already notified the allocation of 93 I.A.S. officers, 59 I.P.S. officers and 110 I.F.S. officers to Chhattisgarh on 31.10.2000.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Commercial Exploitation of Coal Bed Methane

4502. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has made agreement with ONGC for commercial exploitation of coal bed Methane in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of the block from Western Coalfields Limited has been chosen for development of CBM under this agreement;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two blocks have been awarded to CIL-ONGC consortium on nomination basis. These two blocks are - Raniganj (about 356 Sq. KM) in the state of West Bengal and another block at Jharia (about 85 Sq. KM) in the state of Jharkhand. Coal India Limited has signed a contract for the same along with ONGC with Government of India on 6/2/2003.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (c) above.

(e) WCL blocks have not been considered for awarding to CIL-ONGC on nomination basis.

[Translation]

Financial Aid to Municipal Committees/ Corporations in Bihar

4503. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have held talks with the Government of Bihar for providing financial aid under various schemes to Municipal Committees and corporations during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of projects forwarded by the Government of Bihar;

(c) the total funds sought under the said schemes; and

(d) the details of schemes sanctioned by the Union Government alongwith the funds provided during the said period, year-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (d) No specific meeting has been held with the Government of Bihar for providing financial aid under various schemes of this Ministry.

However, the proposals received, projects/schemes sanctioned and funds provided during last three years to the Government of Bihar under various schemes/programmes of this Ministry are as under:-

(i) Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)- Nine (9) Water Supply projects for the towns of Nasariganj, Nokha, Maharajganj, Motipur, Kanti, Janipur, Khusrupur, Chanpatia and Kahalgaon were received from the Government of Bihar. Five (5) projects for the towns of Nasariganj, Nokha, Maharajganj, Motipur and Janipur have already been sanctioned during the last three years. The Khusrupur water supply project was scrutinized and technical observations sent to State Government for necessary modification. Modified project has not been received from State Government. The remaining three schemes namely for Kanti, Chanpatia and Kahalgaon were returned to the State Government as the same were received very late in the month of March, 2003. These projects may be considered by the State Level Technical Screening Committee (SLTSC) for coverage during the current financial year i.e. 2003-04. The status of all the nine projects are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(ii) Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) - Under the scheme, the details of projects received from Government of Bihar and the Central Assistance (CA) released during the last three years are at given in the enclosed statement-II.

In addition, the IDSMT project reports of Lalganj, Fatuha, Kanti, Barh, Jamui and Dehri-On-Sone were received in February and March, 2003. Proposals for all the towns except Dehri-On-Sone and Jamui have been appraised and appraisal reports sent to the State Government for consideration in the State Level Sanctioning Committee. The project report of Dehri-On-Sone and Jamui are under process.

(iii) Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) - Under the scheme, the Government of Bihar had sent a proposal for construction of 128 dwelling units (including 9 community toilets at Gopalganj Municipality) for Rs.50.53 lakhs during the year 2002-2003. The total amount sought by the State Government was Rs.25.00 lakhs. The amount could not be released due to non-completion of formalities of the proposal by the State Government during the financial year 2002-2003.

Statement-I

Details of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) received and Sanctioned for Bihar during last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Name of town for which Project sent by State Govt.	Project Cost (as submitted by State Govt.)	Amount Sought by State Govt. (Central Share)	Amount sanctioned (approved project cost by Govt. of India)	Amount released
2000-01	Nasariganj	121.81	50% of project cost	108.56	Nil*
	Nokha	210.31	-do-	144.15	
	Maharajganj	136.23	-do-	147.26	
	Motipur	245.32	-do-	246.08	
	Kanti	217.96	-do-	Yet to be sanctioned	
	Janipur	64.96	-do-	70.69	
	Khusrupur	167.77	-do-	Yet to be sanctioned	
2001-02	Nil				Nil *
2002-03**	Chanpatia	145.66	-do-	Yet to be sanctioned	
	Kahalgaon	171.89	-do-	Not eligible under AUWSP as per 1991 census	
Total		1481.9	740.955	716.74	

* No funds could be released to the State Government due to non-submission of utilization certificates for the funds released during earlier years.

** During the year 2002-03 an amount of Rs.419.05 lakhs was released to the government of Bihar out of which Rs.17.67 lakhs was for new schemes and the balance for the on-going schemes.

Statement-II

Details of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) Sanctioned for Bihar during last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Name of town for which project sent by State Govt.	Approved Cost	Central Assistance (CA) eligible**	Central Assistance (CA) released
1	2	3	4	5
2000-01	Araria	199.80	89.91	15.00
	Khagaria	190.42	85.68	15.00
2001-02	Forbesganj	188.86	84.99	69.99*

1	2	3	4	5
	Narkatiaganj	182.98	82.34	41.00
	Aurangabad	201.36	90.00	45.00
	Bhabua	198.50	89.32	44.50
2002-03	Darbhanga	551.62	180.25	90.00

* Central Assistance of Rs.15.00 lakhs was already released in 1996-97.

** Central Assistance eligible is based on Category of town as per 1991 census population.

[English]

Placement of CISF

4504. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of placements made in CISF during each of last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is quota for each of the States for different cadres of CISF;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of training centres with names of States in which the centres are and the current status of each training centre;

(e) whether any training centres for disaster management has been started in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Details of State-wise recruitment of Constables/Followers made during the last 3 years in 2000, 2001 & 2002 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) For recruitment of Constables and Followers, vacancies are allotted to various States/UTs according to their all India population ratio and their representation in the CISF. Recruitment in respect of other cadres is made through competitive examination held on All India Basis.

(d)

Name of Training Institution	State	Training Capacity/Status
NISA Hyederabad	A.P.	846 for Asstt, Comdts, & SOs
RTC Arakkonam	Tamil Nadu	1008 Recruits
RTC Barwaha	M.P.	500 Recruits
RTC Bhilai	Chhatishgarh	500 Recruits
RTC Deoli-I	Rajasthan	500 Recruits
RTC Deoli-II	Rajasthan	500 Recruits
RTC Mundali	Orissa	500 Recruits
FSTI Hyderabad	A.P.	150 Recruits

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) (i) National Industrial Security Academy (NISA) Fire Service Training Institute (FSTI), Hyderabad (A.P.)

(ii) National Fire Service College, Nagpur (Maharashtra)

(iii) National Civil Defence College, Nagpur (Maharashtra)

(iv) ITBP Training Centre, Bhanu, (Haryana)

Statement

Details of State-wise recruitment made during last three years

S. No.	State	2000	2001	2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	576	1	316
2.	Assam	77	0	69
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	0	24
4.	Bihar	769	4	336
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	20	44
6.	Delhi	463	0	57
7.	Goa	32	0	34
8	Gujarat	202	0	360
	Himachal Pradesh	30	0	88
10.	Haryana	56	3	103
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	65	0	140
12.	Jharkhand	0	3	242
13.	Karnataka	279	0	278
14.	Kerala	314	0	150
15.	Madhya Pradesh	529	9	388
16.	Maharashtra	786	1	609
17.	Mizoram	2	0	32
18.	Manipur	22	0	32
19.	Meghalaya	13	0	49
20.	Nagaland	7	0	32
21.	Orissa	254	1	153
22.	Punjab	55	0	55
23.	Pondicherry	4	0	10
24.	Rajasthan	60	1	125
25.	Sikkim	2	0	33
26.	Tripura	21	0	62
27.	Tamil Nadu	278	1	426
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1547	10	485
29.	Uttaranchal	0	1	112
30.	West Bengal	513	7	206
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	29
32.	Lakshadweep	0	0	10
33.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	10
34.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	39	0	10
	Total	7006	62	*5109

* Rectt. is under finalisation.

Agreement with Workmen's Organizations

4505. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government in a tri-partite meeting held on 1st August, 2002 entered into an agreement with the workmen's organizations to address their demands in a time bound manner;

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

(c) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Settlement was arrived at between the management of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its workmen represented by the five Federations of Trade Unions affiliated to Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC), Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC), Centre for Indian Trade Unions (CITU) and Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) on the industrial dispute over strike notice dated 17-7-2002 before the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) on 1.8.2002.

The details of the above Memorandum of Settlement (MaS) are as follows:-

1. The unions were assured that the Group of Ministers (GoM) on Coal Industry will hear the five Federations of unions. Till such time, Coal Mines Nationalization

(Amendment) Bill, will not be moved for consideration in Parliament. Independently, within a month, the unions will also have discussions with the Coal Ministry with a view to resolving the issue.

2. It is agreed that the revival plan of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and North Eastern Coalfields Ltd., (NEC) will be discussed by CIL management with the Apex Joint Consultative Committee within one month along with the unitary plan and the revival plan will be finalized.

3. It is agreed that the five Federations of trade unions operating in Coal industry may submit the revival plan for Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC) which will be jointly discussed by CIL management. Till this discussion takes place, further action on tendering will be kept in abeyance.

4. There is no proposal either for disinvestments or privatization of Coal India or any of its Subsidiary companies.

5. Joint discussions will be held by the trade unions with the Government on the following issues within 3 months:

   (i) Income tax on fringe benefits;

   (ii) Rate of interest on Coal Mines Provident Fund;

   (iii) Pension

6. Pending issues to be discussed with Coal India Management:

   It is agreed that in regard to the demands raised in the 21 Point Charter of Demands which are related to Coal Industry, will be settled through the joint discussions between the Management and the trade unions by the end of December, 2002.

7. **Re-Constitution of JBCCI - VII**

   It has been agreed to constitute joint Bi-Partite Committee for Coal Industry-VII (JBCCI- VII), with a view to start immediate wage negotiations after submission of charter of demands by the trade unions.

8. The parties should submit implementation report by 31st March, 2003. If no report is received by that time, the Settlement shall be deemed to be implemented.

(c) The progress made so far in this regard on all the above points are given below:

1. The matter has been discussed with the unions in the meeting taken by Minister of Coal on 3rd April 2003. Among other things it has been decided to circulated a comprehensive note on projections of demand and supply to all the CTUs. The unions may give their comments within two weeks and there after the Ministry will organize a comprehensive joint discussion with Ministry of Power and Planning Commission.

2. and 3. The revival plans of ECL, BCCL & CCL including DCC have been discussed with the unions from time to time. In the meantime, further action on tendering of DCC has been kept in abeyance.

4. Noted by the unions.

5. These discussions will be held with the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labour.

6. Pending issues have been discussed with the unions in different Committees.

7. A decision on the constitution of JBCCI-VII is being taken by the Ministry of Coal.

Criminals of 1993 Mumbai Blast

4506. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have brought all the 1993 Mumbai Bomb Blast Criminals in India;

(b) if so, the number of detainees brought from other countries;

(c) the precautions Union Government and Maharashtra Government have taken to see that proper cases, charges have been filed against those detainees;

(d) whether POTA, TADA have been applied;

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

(f) whether the State Government of Gujarat has also demanded custody of these criminals; and

(g) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) 124 accused persons involved in the 1993 Mumbai Bomb Blast cases have so far been arrested. Two accused viz. Aizaz Mohd. Sharif @ Aizaz Pathan and Musthfa Ahmed Dossa were recently arrested after their arrival in India from Dubai.

(c) Proper cases, charges etc. have already been filed against the 122 accused and trial for them has reached a final stage.

(d) and (e) The accused are facing charges u/s 3(2), 3(3), 5 & (6) of TADA (P) Act, 1987.

(f) and (g) The State Government of Gujarat has requested the Designated Court, Mumbai for the custody of Musthfa Ahmed Dossa, one of the accused.

Achievements of Poverty Alleviation Programme

4507. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to USQ No. 3310 dated 10.12.2002 and state:

(a) whether the information especially regarding parts (h) to (j) has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The complete information in respect of the Lok Sabha USQ No. 3310 dated 10.12.2002 has been collected and compiled.

The implementation report has been sent to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 17.4.2003 for fulfilling the Assurance.

The information in respect of parts (h) to (j) of the Lok Sabha USQ No. 3310 dated 10.12.2002 is as under:

(h) and (i) The percentage of number of poor in urban areas has declined over a period of time and the details are given in the enclosed statement.

(j) The Ministry has already initiated action to modify the guidelines of schemes by raising limit of educational qualification, enhancement of cost of training, subsidy and administrative cost etc. wherever applicable.

Statement

Details of Progress made in Alleviation of Poverty

Year	Urban Poverty Ratio (%)	No of Poor (million)
1973-74	49.0	60.0
1977-78	45.2	64.6
1983	40.8	70.9
1987-88	38.2	75.2
1993-94	32.4	76.3
1999-00	23.6	67.1

[Translation]

Funds Allocated Under Urban Development Schemes

4508. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantum of funds provided to various States under Urban Development Schemes in the country during 1998 to March 2003 year-wise, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals of various States, sanctioned under different urban development schemes during the said period, scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the details of achievements/progress made with regard to urban development and poverty alleviation since 1998 till date alongwith the comparison of details of development between pre and post 1998 period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Use of Mines Lying Vacant after Exploration

4509. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions for alternative use of mines lying vacant after their exploration;

(b) whether any directions have been issued by the Government for levelling the vacant mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received proposals from the State Government especially from the Government of Chhattisgarh for alternative use of such mines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) The question of decommissioning, reclamation and rehabilitation of the mines or part thereof after cessation of mining and mineral processing operation have been engaging the attention of the Government. The matter was considered in the Mineral Advisory Council (MAC) meeting held on 21.9.2002. As decided in MAC, a Committee was constituted for suggesting appropriate changes in Mineral Concession Rules 1960 (MCR) and Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 (MCDR), relating to mine closure. The recommendations of the Committee were considered in the Conference of State Ministers of Mining and Geology held on 22.1 2003. As per the decisions taken in the Conference appropriate changes have been made in MCR and MCDR providing for mine closure scheme for reclamation and rehabilitation of mine after cessation of mining and mineral processing operation. The purpose of the scheme is to restore land, to the extent feasible, to its original condition so that it could be put to normal use.

(d) to (f) The State Governments of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were members of the Committee constituted for suggesting changes in MCR and MCDR as mentioned above. In the Conference held on 22.1.2003, all State Governments including Chhattisgarh were invited and based on decisions taken in the Conference, the Central Government has made appropriate changes in MCR and MCDR as mentioned above.

[English]

Grants for Chandigarh Municipal Corporation

4510. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the grant-in-aid provided by Chandigarh UT Administration to Municipal Corporation during each of the last three years;

(b) the percentage of the total revenue of the UT Administration that this grant-in-aid represented;

(c) whether the majority of functions entailing heavy expenditure were transferred by the UT Administration to the Municipal Corporation;

(d) if so, whether the grants-in-aid are not commensurate to the functions so transferred and the Chandigarh Administration itself incurred proportionately bigger amounts on these services before the Municipal Corporation came into being;

(e) whether UT Chandigarh is other-wise is a revenue surplus State;

(f) if so, the reasons for not devolving sufficient funds to the Municipal Corporation for performing multifarious public utility functions;

(g) whether the Delhi Finance Commission has recommended grant of 17% of the UT revenue to the Municipal Corporation with effect from 2000-2001; and

(h) the reasons for not accepting the recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given below:-

Year	Grant-in-aid given	Percentage of total revenue
2000-01	Rs.66.60 crores	10.96%
2001-02	Rs. 73.75 crores	11.02%
2002-03	Rs.82.04 crores	11.23%

(c) None of the functions not included in the Twelfth Schedule of the Constitution has been transferred to the Corporation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Chandigarh Administration has a positive Balance from Current Revenue.

(f) The Grant-in-aid released to the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh is commensurate with the expenditure incurred on the functions transferred to it.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. The Commission has recommended that 17% of the tax revenue of the Chandigarh Administration be transferred to the Municipal Corporation as grant-in-aid in respect of each of the five years of the award. This

recommendation is under active consideration of the Government.

Assistance for Improvement in Water Supply for Guwahati

4511. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has sought aid from the Union Government and the World Bank to improve water supply in Guwahati;

(b) if so, the details of the projects, nature and the extent of aid sought; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) Government of Assam has sought assistance of the World Bank, Water and Sanitation Programme for South Asia (WSP-SA) to explore strategic options available for improving water supply and sanitation for Guwahati city as well as institutional and technical aspects of the water and sanitation network. The proposal has been accepted 'in principle' from technical angle by the Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) and has been recommended by the Ministry to Department of Economic Affairs on 17.4.03 for posing to the World Bank, Water and Sanitation Programme for South Asia (WSP-SA).

Government of Assam had also submitted a project proposal entitled "Greater Guwahati Water Supply Scheme" at an estimated cost of Rs.399.48 crore received in this Ministry through Deptt. of Economic Affairs for exploring the possibility of external assistance from Japan Bank for International Cooperation. Technical comments on the project proposal have been communicated by the Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organisations (CPHEEO) to the Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board in November, 2002 for revision of the proposal. Revised proposal is awaited from the Assam Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

[Translation]

Wrong Map of India

4512. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of publication of wrong map of India which came to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that in a map of India Kashmir has not been shown as its parts as reported by a News Paper titled "Desh ki Dharti", from Kota dated December 25, 2002;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Year-wise number of cases of publication of wrong maps of India which came to the notice of the Central Government during last three years are as follows:-

Years	Cases
2000	3
2001	7
2002	4

(b) The report published in the Newspaper titled "Desh Ki Dharti", dated 25th December, 2002 about a map of India wherein Kashmir was not shown as its part has not come to the notice of the Central Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

[English]

Thrust Area Identified for Rural Development

4513. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some thrust areas have been identified for rural development for the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target set for the development of such areas during the plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the Major Thrust Areas identified for Rural Development for the Tenth Five Year Plan are given below:

Ministry/ Department	Sector/Sub-Sector	Priority Agenda for Action
Department of Land Resources	Wastelands Development	Land Reforms Formulate policy on leasing of land Utilization of un-utilized/under utilized land - Identification all such lands under the control of panchayats/ government - Formulation of policy for allotment of hitherto un-utilized/under-utilized land to landless, small & marginal farmers, SCs & STs/weaker sections, educated youth, retired defence personnel, etc. for cultivation/production activities. - Providing technological and input support to all allottees of such lands with emphasis on use of resistant/tolerant plant species/crops/varieties for improving water logged/marshy lands, saline/alkaline lands.
Ministry/ Department	Sector/Sub-Sector	Priority Agenda for Action
	Watershed Development	Development of Rain-fed/Degraded land Preparation of perspective plan for development of agriculture on watershed basis with support from GOI and States. - Implementation of perspective plan with active participation of people, PRIs and NGOs including the contribution from the beneficiaries towards the development/treatment of their land. To converge/bring in convergence of watershed development programmes/ schemes being implemented by different central ministries/ departments - DAC, DLR, MoE&F, Planning Commission. List the agencies at the district level for monitoring of watersheds and regular feedback from them.
Department of Rural Development	Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)	Bengal, Assam and Jharkhand, where incidence of poverty is higher and self help movement is not vibrant. Monitoring of financial and physical targets of SGSY, particularly, number of SHGs taking up micro enterprises. To focus on guaranteed wage employment of 100 days to the poorest of the poor in 131 identified backward districts in the lean season. Monitoring of financial and physical targets of SGRY, particularly, Number of mandays generated, works taken up and works completed, foodgrains lifted and foodgrains utilized/distributed to ensure that shelf of projects is maintained at District level. Bring about a Legislation/Constitutional amendment for making it mandatory for State Governments to devolve funds, functions, and functionaries, in selected sectors.

Ministry/ Department	Sector/Sub- Sector	List of Critical Reforms
Ministry of Rural Development	Delivery of Programmes	Reform of bureaucracy including a minimum fixed tenure for development functionaries at the district level.
Department of Land Resources	Land acquisition	Land Acquisition Act. Enactment of amendments to the Land Acquisition Act 1894.
	R&R	Resettlement and Rehabilitation Act. Enactment of Resettlement and Rehabilitation Bill for project affected families.
Ministry/Department	Sector/Sub-Sector	Reform Based Incentives
Department of Drinking Water Supply	Drinking Water	Reforms based allocation to States linked to promotion of participatory drinking water programme including the issues relating to maintenance and promotion of sanitation in villages through campaign mode.
Department of Rural Development	Panchayati Raj	Empowerment of Panchayats to be linked to Central Assistance to the States.

(c) No specific targets have been fixed.

[Translation]

Involvement of NDMC Officers in Corruption Cases

4514. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of New Delhi Municipal Council punished in corruption cases during the last three years till date:

(b) the number of the officers against whom CBI inquiry is going on;

(c) the details about the allegations levelled against them; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check corruption in NDMC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) During the last three years till date, there was no case in which an officer of the New Delhi Municipal Council was punished in connection with an offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

(b) and (c) There are three cases involving officers/ employees of the New Delhi Municipal Council under investigation of the CBI, as per details given below:

(1) RC-74(A)96 dated the 27th September, 1996:

CBI have since filed a chargesheet against a private person but the possible role of the officials of NDMC in connection with the offence allegedly committed by the said private person is under examination;

(2) PE-18(A)2002-DLI dated the 26th December, 2002

It is alleged that on receipt of an invitation from Hounslow Cricket and Sports Club, U.K. to participate in a cricket tournament in England, the NDMC team consisting of 18 members left India on 19.08.2001 and returned on 09.09.2001. However, three members of the team were reported to be missing and failed to return to India alongwith other members of the team: and

(3) RC-25(A)2003-DLI dated the 3rd April, 2003

The allegation relates to a conspiracy in which a deal for payment and acceptance of bribe for non-demolition of an unauthorized lift constructed on DDA land and its regularization was settled.

(d) The steps taken to check corruption in the New Delhi Municipal Council include appointment of a full-time Chief Vigilance Officer in the Council; strengthening the system for registration of public grievances against the municipal officials; close watch on the activities of suspect officials; and strict departmental action as per rules against those found guilty of misconduct.

Non Availability of NCERT Books

4515. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is unable to provide books of the new syllabus of the current session, 2003-04 as the books could not be published in time;

(b) if so, whether the NCERT has ensured the availability of books to all the students by 20th April; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by it, NCERT has already published and released all the text books based on the new syllabi for 2003-2004 except two, namely 'Modern English for Class-VII and the History textbook 'Modern India' for Class-XII'. These two books are under print and will be released shortly. The NCERT textbooks have been made available through a network of about 160 wholesale agents throughout, the country. The books are also sold from NCERT Headquarters' sales counter, New Delhi.

[English]

Community Centres in Delhi

4516. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for construction of community centres in Delhi pending with the Government, location-wise;

(b) the reasons for the pendency of these proposals;

(c) whether land for the construction of community centres in Delhi has been allotted;

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

(e) the time by which construction work is likely to be started at these places;

(f) whether the Government have any financial arrangements for the purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (g) The information will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Prosecution of Civil Servants

4517. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases which are under consideration of the Government for several years in which the Central Bureau of Investigation has sought permission to prosecute the civil servants for corruption;

(b) if so, the number of such cases pending as on date;

(c) the number of cases in which clearance was given by the Government during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the speedy disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that as on 28.2.2003 sanction of prosecution was pending in respect of 170 cases.

(c) The Government had granted sanction of prosecution in respect of 260, 277 and 350 cases during the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 respectively.

(d) The Central Vigilance Commission monitors through monthly review meeting with CBI, the pending cases of sanction of prosecution.

Raids by CBI

4518. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any campaign against corruption and conducted raids in various departments during last three years;

(b if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount/ property seized during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the officers found guilty after these raids are still in service;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of officers against whom action has been recommended by the Government during the said period;

(f) whether the Government have noticed any loopholes in registering corruption cases against a person resulting in his acquittal by the court;

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

(h) the reasons for acquittals by court in corruption cases during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes Sir. It has been the endeavour of the Government to root out corruption from public life. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conducts raids from time to time to detect and weed out corruption. During last three years, the CBI had conducted five (5) Special Drives in this regard.

(b) The CBI has informed that it had registered 174 cases against officials working in various Government Ministries/Departments, employees of public sector

undertakings and banks and private persons. During the aforementioned Special Drives, the CBI either seized or detected cash amounting Rs. 109.70 lakhs and $ 2470, other investments worth Rs. 800.04 lakhs, movable and immovable properties worth Rs. 1506.28 lakhs and Idols and antiques worth Rs. 100 lakhs approximately.

(c) and (d) The raids are conducted to unearth illegally acquired money and to check corrupt activities. Guilt of the officials found involved during raids have to be established in courts of law and following conviction of Regular Departmental Action dismissal or removal from the service can be ordered.

(e) The respective disciplinary authorities take action as per rules and regulations against the officials after the raids. Such figures are not centrally maintained.

(f) to (h) The CBI has reported that reasons of acquittals are that due to long delays in concluding the trials complainants lose interest or are won over by the defence, independent witnesses are not able to recall properly the events during the trial and also distortion of voice/wash samples due to storage over long period of time.

[English]

C.B.S.E.

4519. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the educational qualifications set for the appointment/promotion to the post of Deputy Secretary and Advisor in the Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi;

(b) whether the officers working on these posts in Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi are Matriculate, whereas the minimum educational qualification set by the Department of Education is Graduation;

(c) if so, the number of such officers who are not Graduate;

(d) whether Central Board of Secondary Education is not violating the minimum qualification set by the Department of education;

(e) if so the reasons therefor; and

(f) the corrective action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Educational qualification prescribed for promotion to the post of Deputy Secretary in CBSE is at least Bachelor's Degree from any recognized university. This post is to be filled by promotions failing which by direct recruitment. The prescribed qualification for direct recruitment is at least Second Class Master's degree of a recognized university. There is no regular post of Adviser in the CBSE.

(b) Yes, Sir. Prior to the amendment in relevant recruitment rules made in 1997, Assistant Secretaries even with matriculate qualification with 5 years regular continuous service were eligible for promotion. The amendment too provides some relaxation in the prescribed qualification under the Rules.

(c) As per the information received from the CBSE, at present, there are three Deputy Secretaries who are not graduates.

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Special Body for Education

4520. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

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

(a) whether there is any special body in India to study various courses, syllabi, standards and credits and to equate them in relation to various universities in India and abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government are considering to appoint such body in the context of rapid globalization;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Association of Indian Universities (AIU) is a special body in India to evaluate the courses, syllabi, standard and credits of foreign Universities and to equate them in relation to various courses offered by Indian Universities.

(b) The AIU is mainly concerned with the recognition of Degrees/Diplomas awarded by the accredited Universities in India and abroad for the purpose of admission

to higher courses at Indian Universities. The AIU is also an implementing agency for the agreements signed under the Cultural Exchange Programme executed between India and other countries in the field of education, in so far as it relates to the recognition of foreign qualifications (except for medicine and allied courses).

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

U.P. Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited

4521. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that compilation of accounts at U.P. Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited was done annually instead of half yearly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that in said establishment no system prevailed for downward delegation of financial powers below the level of Managing Director;

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor: and

(e) the steps being taken for address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) and (b) The company has reported that the accounts are being compiled on half-yearly basis.

(c) to (e) As the company is sick and under reference to the BIFR since August 1992, most of the senior posts of the company are lying vacant. The financial powers are consequently vested only in the Managing Director. The delegation of powers is an internal administrative arrangement of the company and changes, would be effected as and when necessary.

Appointment of Secretaries

4522. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that non-empanelled officers from the States are drawn to man the posts of Secretary to the Government of India;

(b) if so, the number of such appointments effected during the last three years with the details of the names of the States they are drawn from;

(c) whether it is also true that this new process fails to give adequate representation to many of the States;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to revert to the process of empanelment;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

VRS in NDMC

4523. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide the facility of Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the employees of New Delhi Municipal Council; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The scheme of voluntary retirement as applicable to the Central Government servants has also been adopted by the New Delhi Municipal Council.

[English]

Firing on Border

4524. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasions on which Pakistan troops resorted to firing along international border to disrupt the ongoing border fencing work in Jammu and Kashmir sector during 2002 and 2003, till date;

(b) the extent of loss of life and property sustained in such firing; and

(c) the steps taken to stop firing from Pakistan side and carry on the fencing work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The details of firing incidents by Pakistani troops on the International Border in Jammu Sector to disrupt the on going border fencing works and the casualties suffered by the Border Security Force due to such firing during the years 2002 and 2003 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Protective bunds are being raised to protect the Border Security Force personnel as well as civil population from direct observation and firing from across the border so that fencing work is carried out as per schedule.

Statement

Year	Number of firing incidents	BSF casualties	
		Killed	Injured
2002	2644	8	53
2003 (upto 31st March)	369	Nil	5

Implementation of IDSMT Scheme

4525. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had suggested ways to effect improvement in the implementation of the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any improvements in the implementation of IDSMT have come to notice after termination of the Ninth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following suggestions were made by the Planning Commission for improvement in the implementation of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) Scheme:-

- Revision of guidelines to cover all the cities upto one million population under IDSMT.
- Categories to towns to be provided assistance under IDSMT be reduced from 5 to 3.
- IDSMT outlay be allocated in the ratio of 7:23:30 to A, B and C categories of towns.
- 66% of A category, 50% of B category and 25% of C category towns be covered during the Tenth Five Year Plan.
- The project cost (excluding institutional finance) of Rs.4.5 crores for A category, Rs.2.25 crores for B category and Rs.1 crore for C category towns was proposed.
- For release of subsequent instalment, qualifying expenditure must exceed 50% of the Central assistance plus State share released and the share of financial institutions/other sources.
- Central assistance @ 50% for A category, 60% for B category and 75% for C Category towns was proposed.
- State share @ 20% for A and B category towns and 15% for C category towns was proposed.
- Institutional finance @ 30% for A category towns, 20% for B category and 10% for C category towns was proposed.
- Minimum 40% of the project cost to be used for water supply and sanitation including solid waste management and drainage.
- Proposals under IDSMT should be processed by TCPO/ Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation only after town/city development plans are finalized by the State Government.
- Guidelines for the formulation of State Urban Development Strategy should be incorporated.
- Releases under IDSMT should be made to the State only after the concerned State has created and operationalised the State Urban/Municipal Development fund.
- State level Sanctioning Committee must meet every Quarter.
- An indicative list of projects eligible under IDSMT be included.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation takes review of the implementation of the scheme with the State Governments/Union Territories twice in a year. The annual Central releases under the scheme has been increased to Rs.86.43 crores in the year 2002-03 (first

year of 10th Plan) as against the release of Rs. 76.71 crores in the last year (2001-02) of the Ninth Plan. The number of towns covered during the year 2001-02 was 114 only whereas in 2002-03, 168 new towns were covered.

[Translation]

Introduction of Posts Based Roster

4526. SHRI NAGMANI:

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) has introduced post based roster in place of the vacant based roster with effect from 02.07.1997;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the norms prescribed by Ministry in respect of all categories of posts;

(d) whether the Government propose to withdraw DOPT circulars dated 2.2.1997 and 13.8.97 regarding the rosters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons for delay in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To implement the Supreme Court judgement dated 10.2.1995 in the case of R.K. Sabharwal Vs State of Punjab.

(c) The norms for determining reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/ Other Backward Classes have been given in the Department of Personnel and Training OM No. 36012/2/96-Estt(Res) dated 2.7.1997.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

I.C.H.R.

4527. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expenses of Indian Council of Historical Research have increased from Rs.2.89 crore in 1998-99 to Rs.5.65 crore in 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the historians had made allegations of mismanagement of funds and nepotism in awarding fellowships against the Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research in the annual meeting of the Council on 26 March, 2003;

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

(e) whether the Government have taken any initiatives to check the expenses being made by the Council; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) ICHR has informed that grants-in-aid as indicated below has been received by them from the Ministry of Human Resource Development during the last 4 years.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Year	Plan	Non-Plan
1.	1998-1999	66.25	200.00
2.	1999-2000	90.00	230.00
3.	2000-2001	182.65	251.32
4.	2001-2002	220.00	322.00

The increase in expenditure is mainly due to implementation of 5th Pay Commission Recommendations in respect of Officers and Staff of ICHR, revision of rates of fellowships by the Ministry of HRD and expansion of academic activities of the Council.

(c) and (d) Proceedings of the annual meeting of the Council held on 26th March 2003 have not been received in the Ministry so far.

(e) and (f) The audit of the accounts of ICHR is annually conducted by Director-General of Audit, Central Revenues, New Delhi.

Unauthorised Construction/ Encroachments by Petrol Pumps in Delhi

4528. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the petrol pumps in the capital have unauthorisedly constructed and encroached upon land in an illegal way;

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

(c) whether any plans have been formulated to demolish all such illegal constructions at petrol pumps;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the illegal constructions by the petrol pumps are likely to be demolished; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) A Survey Committee constituted by the Government to look into the encroachment and unauthorized construction in petrol pumps in Delhi had surveyed 276 petrol pumps and found encroachment in 191 petrol pumps. The petrol pump owners/ lessees who were found to have encroached in the Government land in excess than the actual allotment made to them were served notices by the local agencies. Some of the petrol pump owners/lessees have gone to the court against the notices issued to them for the encroachment and thus in their case the matter is subjudice. However, DDA has reported removal of unauthorized encroachments on 13 petrol pump sites and L&DO on 3 petrol pump sites.

(c) to (e) The detection of encroachment and unauthorized construction in petrol pump sites is a continuous process. As and when unauthorized construction/ encroachment in petrol pump site is noticed, action is initiated by the local agencies as per the terms and conditions of the lease deed.

Night Shelters for Shelterless

4529. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States which have forwarded project proposals for financial assistance to the Union Government for construction of Night Shelters for Urban Shelterless during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals cleared by the Union Government during the said period, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the financial assistance provided to each State during the said period;

(d) the reasons for keeping the other proposals pending;

(e) the total Night shelters constructed during this period, year-wise and State-wise;

(f) the details of NGOs and other, Voluntary/ Charitable Institutions provided financial assistance by the Union Government for this purpose, State-wise;

(g) whether some NGOs and Voluntary/Charitable Trusts which were provided financial assistance for this purpose failed to submit the utilization certificates; and

(h) if so, the action taken against such NGOs and Voluntary/Charitable Trusts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) The centrally sponsored scheme of Night Shelters for Urban Shelterless is being implemented through HUDCO. During the last three years i.e. 2000-01 to 2002-03, only the two States of Chhattisgarh and Jammu & Kashmir submitted proposals for construction of Night Shelters which were received in the last quarter of 2002-2003 and which are under process. However, under the Pay & use Toilets component of the Night Shelters Scheme, 24 projects involving central subsidy of Rs.558.98 lakhs and HUDCO loan of Rs.620.18 lakhs were sanctioned by HUDCO. State-wise and year-wise details of pay & use toilet units sanctioned are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) As informed by HUDCO, no proposal was kept pending during the period.

(e) Since inception of the scheme, 19 night shelter projects envisaging construction of 4078 beds have been completed.

(f) HUDCO has informed that all the Pay & use toilet schemes have been sanctioned to the concerned local bodies and no scheme has been sanctioned to NGOs or to any Voluntary/Charitable Institution.

(g) and (h) Do not arise in view of above.

Statement

State-wise and Year-wise details of projects sanctioned by HUDCO during the last three years (2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003) under Shelter and Sanitation Facilities for the Footpath Dwellers in Urban Areas Scheme

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount	Subsidy Sanction	Units Sanctioned				Loan Release/Date	Subsidy Release/Date
						Beds	WC	Bath	Urinal		
For the Year 2000-2001											
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	21.00	0.00	8.40	0	60	24	0	0.00	0.00
2.	Maharashtra	8	598.14	136.72	211.60	0	1515	0	0	0.00	9.10 on 12.3.03
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1	83.45	38.56	35.14	0	145	55	51	16.50 on 14.12.2000	18.50 on 31.3.02
4.	Orissa	1	53.56	0.00	26.78	0	206	206	0	0.00	13.39 on 31.3.01
5.	Rajasthan	1	157.76	0.00	70.98	0	507	0	0	0.00	0.00
	Total	12	913.91	175.28	352.90	0	2433	284	51	16.50	40.99
For the Year 2001-2002											
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	178.19	0.00	62.16	0	226	100	0	0.00	14.98 on 11.6.02 & 30.10.02
2.	Chhattisgarh	2	952.01	444.90	25.62	0	2885	41	29	75.60 on 31.3.03 & 27.12.02	93.20 on 31.3.03 & 12.3.03
3.	Karnataka	1	17.50	0.00	17.50	0	125	28	9	0.00	8.75 on 20.5.02
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2	214.85	0.00	84.84	0	345	137	124	0.00	49.00 on 1.5.02 & 9.9.02
	Total	10	1362.55	444.90	190.12	0	3581	306	162	75.60	165.93
For the Year 2002-2003											
1.	Madhya Pradesh	1	29.40	0.00	11.76	0	45	21	18	0.00	0.00
2.	West Bengal	1	6.92	0.00	4.20	0	30	12	24	0.00	2.10 on 12.12.02
	Total	2	36.32	0.00	15.96	0	75	33	42	0.00	2.10

[Translation]

Vigilance/Monitoring Committees

4530. SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI:

SHRI K. MALAISAMY:

SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Monitoring and Vigilance Committees appointed recently with the involvement of the concerned Member of Parliament to monitor the implementation of the Rural Development Programmes have started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reports have been received from the States of Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh about convening the meetings of District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The Chairmenship of all the District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been requested to hold the meeting latest by 31st March, 2003. However reports on holding the meeting are still awaited from many districts. The State Governments have again been advised to extend assistance and co-operation for holding the meetings at the earliest.

Setting up of Power Project

4531. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal to set up a 650 megawatt power project by KRIBHCO at Pipwall;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date on which the proposal was received;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the reasons for delay in sanctioning/clearing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) and (b) Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) had submitted a proposal to the Government on 2.11.1998 for preparation of a Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) for setting up a 615 megawatt combined cycle power project at Pipavav in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) First stage clearance was granted by the Government to this proposal in November 1998. Before submitting the DFR to the Government for investment approval, the Board of Directors of KRIBHCO on 30.8.2001 reviewed the proposal and decided that KRIBHICO would not be proactive in pursuing the proposal till issues related to supply and transportation of gas for the proposed project are settled since availability and supply of natural gas at Pipavav was uncertain.

BPL Census

4532. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present norms to identify the Below Poverty Line persons are different from the norms of 1997 and 1992;

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

(c) the States and UTs that have completed and approved the BPL list of 2002 along with results thereof;

(d) the average percentage of persons Below Poverty Lines and highest and lowest concentration of BPL districts as per 1992 and 1997 survey, State-wise;

(e) the monthly income of the people living Below Poverty Line in each State in the year 1997; and

(f) the criteria fixed for monthly income of such people in the present census?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Thirteen scorable socio-economic indicators namely, Size of operational holding of land, Type of house, Average availability of normal wear clothing, Food security, Sanitation facilities, Ownership of consumer durables, Literacy status, Status of the household labour force, Means of Livelihood, Status of children, Type of indebtedness, Reasons for migration from household and Preference of assistance, each having scores 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 depending on the status of the household, are to be used for working out a composite score for each rural household and the households with lower scores are to be identified as living below poverty line.

(c) The BPL Census, 2002 has not yet been completed in any State/UT.

(d) The percentage of BPL persons identified through the BPL Census conducted in 1992 and 1997, State-wise and the districts with highest and lowest concentration of BPL persons in 1997 are given in the statement enclosed. District-wise information on the 1992 Census is not available.

(e) The Ministry of Rural Development has not estimated the monthly income of the people living Below Poverty Line in 1997 Census.

(f) The methodology for conducting the BPL Census, 2002 is not based on monthly income criteria.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Percentage of BPL persons		District with BPL concentration**	
		1992	1997	Highest	Lowest
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	43.47	39.91	Adilabad (44.00%)	Mehboobnagar (15.00%)
2	Arunachal Pradesh	79.63	78.39	N.A.	N.A.
3	Assam	62.01	60.00	Goalpara (75.25)	Dibrugarh (40.34%)
4	Bihar	54.42	49.64	Araria (80.26%)	Dhanbad (8.35%)
5	Chhattisgarh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
6	Goa	45.65	17.00	North Goa (19.23%)	South Goa (13.32%)
7	Gujarat	54.51	35.45	Dangs (80.27%)	Mehsana (16.58%)
8	Haryana	36.77	24.25	Kaithal (32.78%)	Soniput (14.94%)
9	Himachal Pradesh	28.62	27.59	Chamba (61.72%)	Una (19.06%)
10	Jammu & Kashmir	61.97	57.92	N.A.	N.A.
11	Jharkhand	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
12	Karnataka	56.56	34.00	Chamarajanagar (72%)	Bangalore Urban (15%)
13	Kerala	32.01	36.56	Alapuzha (52.50%)	Idukki (16.07%)
14	Madhya Pradesh	64.48	43.87	Balaghat (63.82%)	Datia (17.02%)
15	Maharashtra	77.82	35.07	N.A.	N.A.
16	Manipur	67.37	67.54	Chandel (79%)	Tamenglong (49.97%)
17	Meghalaya	60.1	55.48	S. Garo Hills (72.52%)	Ribhoi (41.81%)
18	Mizoram	58.51	67.07	Lunglei (81%)	Aizawl (61.87%)
19	Nagaland $$	44.27	60.39	Wokha (72.33%)	Phek (43.96%)
20	Orissa *$$	78.7	65.50	Koraput (84.60%)	Jharsuguda (44.30%)
21	Punjab	39.98	27.90	N.A.	N.A.

1	2	3	4	5	6
22	Rajasthan	31.09	30.99	Banswara (72.98%)	JhunJhunu (10.57%)
23	Sikkim	80.82	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
24	Tamil Nadu	37.89	29.16	N.A.	N.A.
25	Tripura	73.58	66.81	N.A.	N.A.
26	Uttar Pradesh	N.A.	36.91	UttarKashi (68.51%)	Bagpat (6.33%)
27	Uttaranchal	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
28	West Bengal	46.04	44.40	D. Dinajpur (56.30%)	Siliguri MP (28.38%)
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	43.89	21.25	Andmans (14.5%)	
30	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	66.12	65.67	D & N Haveli (65.67%)	
31	Daman & Diu	51.29	3.68	N.A.	N.A.
32	Lakshadweep	47.12	10.26	Lakshadweep (10.26%)	
33	Pondicherry	46.65	47.36	N.A.	N.A.
	Total	52.49	41.05		

*: Provisional
$$: Rural Household
N.A.: Not Available
**: Percentage of BPL persons identified is given in bracket

[English]

Construction of Toilets Under Pour Flush Latrine Scheme

4533. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of toilets constructed under Pour Flush Latrine Scheme since 1995 in Harminder Bay, Little Andaman in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether any water tap connections have been provided in those latrines;

(c) if so, the number of latrines in which the tap connections have been provided: and

(d) the number of latrines functional as on date in Nicobar group of Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) This Ministry is implementing Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) Scheme under which Government of India subsidy is provided for conversion of dry latrines into pour flush toilets and construction of new toilets where none exists. This Scheme is taken up on a whole town basis. One scheme was sanctioned under LCS in 1994 for conversion of 1302 dry latrines in Port Blair Municipal Council. As per progress report received, 125 units have been reported to be completed upto March 1999. The scope of LCS Scheme is limited to construction and conversion of dry latrines to pour flush units upto plinth level only.

(b) to (d) Urban water supply and sanitation is a State subject and as such, no such data is compiled in this Ministry.

[Translation]

Training and Employment Schemes for Women

4534. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being implemented by the

Government to impart training and provide employment to the women;

(b) the amount provided to the non-Governmental oprganisations under training and employment Programme during the year 2002-2003 and in the current budget therefor; and

(c) the number of non-Governmental organisations to whom funds have been allocated under the said programme so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) Support is extended to Public Sector Organisations, District Rural Development Agencies, Federations, Cooperatives, Voluntary Organisations and NGOs under the Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) Scheme. The main objective of this Scheme is extending training for upgradation of skills and sustainable employment of women in the traditional sectors of employment.

(b) During the year 2002-2003, an amount of Rs.311.419 lakhs was provided to the NGOs under Support to Training And Employment Programme for Women (STEP). During the year 2003-2004, no amount has been provided to any NGO as yet.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	No. of Non Governmental Organisations to whom funds have been allocated during the last 3 years (2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03) STEP
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
3.	Assam	1
4.	Bihar	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	-
6.	Goa	-
7.	Gujarat	-
8.	Haryana	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
10.	Jharkhand	-
11.	Karnataka	1
12.	Kerala	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	-
14.	Maharashtra	1
15.	Manipur	6
16.	Meghalaya	-
17.	Mizoram	-
18.	Nagaland	5
19.	Orissa	-
20.	Punjab	-
21.	Rajasthan	-
22.	Sikkim	-
23.	Tripura	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	
25.	Uttaranchal	1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4
27.	West Bengal	1
28.	Chandigarh	-
29.	Delhi	
	Total	29

Development works by Panchayat representatives

4535. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give the powers for execution of rural development works directly to the peoples' representatives at the Panchayat level instead of existing system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development involves Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the implementation of various Rural Development programmes. It has also been impressing upon the States the case for speedy devolution of powers and authority to PRIs in accordance with the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution.

(b) Funds are released to Panchayats under Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) for implementation. Recently, two new schemes viz., Swajaldhara and Hariyali have also been launched which will be implemented through PRIs.

Reservation of IPS Cadre

4536. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of IPS officers serving in the country and abroad;

(b) the number of IPS officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes, separately out of the entire IPS Cadre;

(c) whether the quota seeking reservation for the IPS officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes is full;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be filled up;

(e) whether in absence of candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes the quota is dissolved in the general category; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) As on 1.1.2003, total authorized strength of IPS is 3573 consisting of 2477 Direct Recruitment posts & 1096 promotion posts, out of which total No. of 3168 IPS officers are in position in India and abroad consisting of 2287 direct recruits and 881 promotees.

(b) As per information available, 304 directly recruited Scheduled Castes, 160 directly recruited Scheduled tribes and 108 directly recruited other backward classes category IPS officers are in position in Indian Police Service as on 1.1.2003.

(c) and (d) Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes & other backward classes in IPS is provided only for direct recruitment, done through Civil Services Examination conducted by UPSC every year. Vacancies in Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes quota in IPS are filled up in full as per their prescribed percentage and as per instructions contained in DOP&T's OM dated 2.7.97. However, occurring of vacancies in the prescribed quota for each reserve category due to superannuation, voluntary retirement, resignation or death, etc. and their filling up through Civil Services Examinations conducted by UPSC every year is a continuous process and the time gap between occurrence and filling up of vacancies is inevitable.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

[English]

Accountability Among Government Officials

4537. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make the senior Government officials accountable for the errors of omission, commission and corruption committed by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to inculcate the sense of accountability among the Government officials to improve the governance; and

(d) the success achieved as a result thereof so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The conduct rules and regulations which apply to all Government officials require them to maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty at all time. For dereliction of duty or for corruption, action

is taken by Government against officials in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations.

(c) and (d) The Government has introduced checks and balances for bringing more accountability and ensuring efficiency to improve the governance. The Secretary of each Department assisted by Chief Vigilance Officer has been made responsible for ensuring probity and integrity in his Department. Government have also taken several measures to ensure transparency which aims in bringing in more accountability such as setting up of 90 Facilitation Centre, as on 1.12.2002 in various Ministries/Departments/ Organizations to provide information and assistance to the public regarding schemes and procedures of the organizations concerned. Also 71 Central Government organizations have published Citizens' Charter reflecting the commitment of the concerned Ministries, Departments or agencies to provide services within the time frame specified. Some Ministries and Departments have also developed there own web sites for promotion of e-governance. The Freedom of Information Act, 2002 has also been enacted for ensuring greater transparency, openness and accountability in the functioning of the public authorities.

[Translation]

Declaration of Cities as Mega Cities

4538. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some states have submitted any proposals to declare some of their cities as Mega city;

(b) if so, the names of the cities proposed to be declared as mega cities, State-wise; and

(c) the nature and quantum of grant given by the Central Govt. to States for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) State Government of Gujarat requested for declaring Ahmedabad as Mega City under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities.

Mega Cities under the scheme were declared keeping in view the population criteria of 40 lakhs as per 1991 census. As Ahmedabad did not have population of 40 lakhs, as per 1991 census, it was not declared Mega City under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities.

Central and State Government release grants to the nodal agency in the ratio of 25:25 for infrastructural development of the mega city. Balance 50% is released by the nodal agency or implementing agencies from financial institutions. Quantum of grant in any financial year to mega city is decided by application of rational formula and availability of funds.

[English]

Involvement of DDA Officials in Watch and Ward Scam

4539. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain officials who were involved in the DDA's watch and ward scam have either been promoted or given sensitive postings;

(b) if so, the nature of the alleged activities in which they were involved, stating the official status they were holding at that time;

(c) whether before promoting these persons or giving them sensitive postings, they were exonerated from the charges levelled against them; and

(d) if not, the reasons for promoting these tainted employees or given them sensitive postings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (d) DDA has reported that while taking up promotion of employees instructions issued by Government of India from time to time are duly followed. Only those employees who fulfill the criteria for promotion are taken into consideration zone. Vigilance clearance is also obtained for each incumbent. Only such employees who fulfilled the benchmark and were cleared from vigilance angle have been promoted. Similarly, vigilance clearance is always obtained prior to posting in sensitive seats.

[Translation]

Employees/ Officers in Delhi Metro Rail Project

4540. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of employees and officers working in Delhi Metro Rail Project;

(b) the number of employees and officers working under different categories in various projects on adhoc, permanent and any other basis;

(c) the basis on which said appointments have been made;

(d) the details of vacant posts at present in Delhi Metro Rail Project and the action being taken to fill up all the vacant posts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a)

Employees	-	724
Officers	-	155

(b) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. is handling only one project namely, "Delhi Metro Rail Phase-I".

Number of Officers		
Direct recruits	-	32
Deputationists	-	123
Number of Employees		
Direct recruits	-	555
Deputationists	-	169

Direct recruits are taken on 'contract basis' and deputationists on 'tenure basis'. There is no permanent appointment.

(c) Appointments have been made on contract/ tenure basis.

(d) Nil at present.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up of Commercial Bank by IFFCO

4541. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Farmers and Fertilizers Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has decided to set up a Commercial Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether IFFCO has made any foreign financial institution as its strategic partner for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the stake of strategic partner in the proposed commercial bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) and (b) IFFCO is exploring the feasibility of setting up a Commercial Bank having a cooperative nature with special thrust to Rural Community.

(c) IFFCO has not yet made any foreign financial institution as its strategic partner for this purpose as the proposal is at preliminary stage.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Meeting with Kashmiri Pandits

4542. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of leaders of Kashmiri Pandits met him recently in regard to the problems faced by them in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details of the demands made by them; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) A delegation of Kashmiri Pandits met the Deputy Prime Minister on 29.3.2003 and submitted a memorandum expressing concern over the Nadimarg massacre of Kashmiri Pandits on 24th March 2003 and urging to fix responsibility and punish the guilty. The Delegation also requested to provide relief and succour to the affected families, foolproof security to the remaining members of the Hindus and Sikh Communities in Kashmir and to adopt a more pro-active policy on Kashmir. The Deputy Prime Minister assured the Delegation all help and assistance from the Government.

[Translation]

Construction of Ashram in Rajghat Complex

4543. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of construction of an Ashram in Rajghat complex for veteran followers of Gandhian ideology has commenced;

(b) if so, the accommodation capacity of this Ashram; and

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ashram is being constructed in the premises of the Gandhi Darshan adjoining Rajghat.

(b) Accommodation Capacity of this Ashram is for 29 persons.

(c) The construction work is in advanced stage and is likely to be completed by 15th May, 2003.

[English]

Refugee Problem

4544. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the countries from which the refugees seek asylum to our country;

(b) whether our country is a signatory to the 1951 Convention on the status of Refugees;

(c) if so, the actual number of Foreign Refugees living in the country, State-wise, country-wise; and

(d) the action taken for rehabilitation of these refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) India does not give asylum status to refugees from any country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The figures are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) Relief and rehabilitation assistance is being provided by Govt. of India to Sri Lankan and Tibetan refugees.

Statement

State/UT & Country-wise Registered foreign Refugees Residing in India as on 31.12.2001

State	Country	No. of Refugees	Grand Total
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	Afghanistan	2	
	Malaysia	2	4
Arunachal Pradesh	Bangladesh	38219	
	Stateless	7356	45575
Bihar	Afghanistan	1	
	Myanmar	3	
	Stateless	8	12
Chandigarh	Afghanistan	1	
	Iran	1	
	Stateless	1	3

1	2	3	4
Delhi	Afghanistan	10521	
	Iran	43	
	Iran	3	
	Myanmar	416	
	Stateless	843	11826
Haryana	Afghanistan	1215	1215
Himachal Pradesh	Stateless	17623	17623
Jammu & Kashmir	Stateless	6794	6794
Karnataka	Iran	4	
	Sri Lanka	232	
	Stateless	35455	35691
Madhya Pradesh	Stateless	14	14
Maharashtra	Afghanistan	10	
	Bangladesh	80	
	Iran	6	
	Stateless	1167	1263
Meghalaya	Stateless	488	488
Orissa	Afghanistan	1	
	Iran	3	
	Stateless	2951	2955
Pondicherry	Sri Lanka	27	27
Tamil Nadu	Sri Lanka	63995	63995
Uttar Pradesh	Sri Lanka	189	189
Uttaranchal	Stateless	7228	7228
West Bengal	Afghanistan	2	
	Stateless	3259	3261
Total			198163

Bharat Shiksha Kosh

4545. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the manner in which the Government propose to encourage public participation in the Bharat Shiksha Kosh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): The Bharat Shiksha Kosh has been constituted as a Society, registered under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860. Besides senior Government Officials, leading

industrialists and professionals have been included in its Board of Governors. The Kosh was formally launched on the 9th January, 2003 during the celebration of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in New Delhi, where a large number of NRIs were present. Wide publicity has been given to the Kosh in the form of advertisements in some leading newspapers. Brochures have been printed for circulation. The Confederation of Indian Industries and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries have also been requested to give it wide publicity. The Ministry of External Affairs has been requested to give wide publicity to this initiative particularly amongst the NRIs and PIOs and also amongst all others who may be interested in the educational development of the country. The various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India have also been requested for their support.

The Kosh has been granted exemption under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 for accepting foreign contributions. The question of granting hundred percent tax exemption under the Income Tax Act for donations/ contributions to the Kosh, has also been taken up.

Auto Theft in Delhi

4546. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether auto theft menace has been increasing as reported in Times of India dated March 3, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to intensify the drive to nab wanted criminals and curb auto theft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of vehicles reported to have been stolen during the year 2002 was 7434 as against 7895 vehicles reported to have been stolen during the preceding year. This declining trend continued during the first three months of the current year also.

(c) The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent theft of vehicles include formation of Anti-auto Theft Squad in every Police District to provide focused attention to the investigation of such cases; check-posts at exit points from Delhi; collection of intelligence about the organized gangs involved in auto-theft; intensification of Motor Cycle patrolling in the parking areas; compilation of data regarding suspect auto-lifters operating in Delhi and its circulation to all the Police Stations; and setting up of inter-state coordination committee with the neighbouring States, etc. to share crime and criminal-related information.

[Translation]

Categorisation of Fertilizer Producing Units

4547. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

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

(a) whether the chemical fertilizer producing units of the country have been classified in 6 categories under the Group-Based concession scheme;

(b) if so, the production capacity of all the chemical fertilizer producing plants divided into the said categories, category-wise and unit-wise;

(c) the utilisation of production capacity by these units during 2002-03 in percentage terms; and

(d) the production cost of projects under each category during the last financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) Under the new pricing scheme made effective from 1.4.2003, the urea units have been placed in six groups based on vintage and feedstock, for determining the group based concession rates. These groups are: pre-1992 gas based units, post-1992 gas based units, pre-1992 naphtha based units, post-1992 naphtha based units, Fuel Oil/Low Sulphur Heavy Stock (FO/LSHS) based units and mixed energy based units. The mixed energy based group shall include such gas-based units that use alternative feedstock/ fuel to the extent of more than 25% as admissible on 1.4.2002.

(b) and (c) Production capacity and utilization of production capacity of the urea units is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Under the Retention Price Scheme which was in existence till 31.3.2003, the retention price (cost of production as assessed by the Government plus 12% post tax return on net worth) of the urea units used to be determined unit-wise, which differed from unit to unit depending upon the technology, feedstock used etc. The weighted average retention price for the above-mentioned categories of urea units as on 1.4.2002 is as given in the table below.

S. No.	Name of the category	Estimated weighted average retention price as on 1.4.2002 (Rs./MT)
1.	Pre-1992 Gas based units	5227
2.	Post-1992 gas based units	6456
3.	Pre-1992 naphtha based units	12036
4.	Post-1992 naphtha based units	11431
5.	FO/LSHS based units	10843
6.	Mixed energy units	7464

Statement

S. No.	Name of the unit	Installed Capacity (Lakh Metric Tonne)	% capacity utilization during 2002-03
1	2	3	4
Pre-1992 Gas based units			
1.	BVFCL-Namrup-III	3.15	59.2
2.	IFFCO-Aonla-I	8.646	100.2
3.	Indo Gulf- Jagdishpur	8.646	100.0
4.	KRIBHCO-Hazira	17.292	92.7
5.	NFL-Vijaipur-I	8.646	100.0
6.	RCF- Trombay-V	3.30	6.3
Post-1992 Gas based units			
7.	NFCL-Kakinada-I	5.973	94.1
8.	CFCL-Gadepan-I	8.646	100.0
9.	TCL-Babrala	8.646	100.0
10.	OCFL-Shahjahanpur	8.646	94.2
11.	NFCL-Kakinada-II	5.973	104.7
12.	IFFCO-Aonla-II	8.646	100.1
13.	NFL-Vijaipur-II	8.646	100.3
Pre-1992 Naphtha based units			
14.	FACT -Cochin	3.30	2.9
15.	DIL-Kanpur	7.22	0.0
16.	IFFCO-Phulpur-I	5.511	100.0
17.	MCFL-Mangalore	3.80	100.0
18.	MFL-Manali	4.8675	82.4
19.	SFC-Kota	3.79	103.9
20.	SPIC- Tuticorin	6.20	91.9
21.	ZIL-Goa	3.993	97.7
Post-1992 Naphtha based units			
22.	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	8.646	100.0
23.	CFCL-Gadepan-II	8.646	100.0
FO/LSHS based-units			
24.	FCI-Sindri	3.30	0.0
25.	GNFC-Bharuch	6.36	100.1
26.	NLC-Neyveli	1.5345	0.0
27.	NFL-Nangal	4.785	100.0
28.	NFL-Bhatinda	5.115	100.1
29.	NFL-Panipat	5.115	95.8
Mixed energy units			
30.	GSFC-Vadodara	3.7059	64.5
31.	IFFCO-Kalol	5.445	98.8
32.	RCF-Thal	17.068	90.1

[English]

Task Force on Development of Wasteland

4548. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force constituted to examine the private sector participation in the development of wasteland in the country has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the task force; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Task Force is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (c) A 9-Member Task Force headed by Secretary (Rural Development) with representatives from Reserve Bank of India, NABARD, States etc. was constituted in March 2002 to suggest measures for promoting involvement of credit/financial institutions to mobilize additional funds for wastelands/ watershed development projects. The Task Force held several meetings and a draft report was prepared, which was discussed in the last meeting of the Task Force held on 26.12.2002. The draft report is to be modified to incorporate the various suggestions of the Members at the meeting. The Task Force is likely to finalise the report in 6 months.

Infiltration

4549. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fall-out of Iraq war and the new strategy adopted by the Pakistan will cause a surge in the infiltration of ultras and fundamentalists across the porous border of Jammu and Kashmir and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the number of cases of infiltration reported during this period in particular;

(c) whether the Government perceive an upsurge in jehadi sentiments coupled with rising anti-US feelings will find a flow valve directed towards infiltration into India;

(d) if so, whether the Government have also assessed the situation post-lifting of US sanctions against Pakistan both economic and military in view of Pakistan's involvement in abetting the cross-border terrorism;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Such speculation exists. It is very difficult to give exact number of cases of infiltration. However, infiltration is continuing.

(c) The possibility cannot be ruled out that Terrorists and their Pak mentors may increase infiltration and terrorist activities taking advantage of the international security scenario consequent to Iraq War,

(d) and (e) It is however not certain whether or not, the lifting of embargo would directly impact on Pak sponsored terrorist activities.

(f) The Government, conjointly with the State Government, has adopted a multi-pronged approach, to contain cross border terrorism perpetrated by the Pak ISI in Jammu & Kashmir, which includes, inter-alia, strengthening border management and multi-tired and multi-model deployment along with International Border/LOC and near the ever changing infiltration routes to check infiltration, pro-active action against terrorists within J&K etc.

[Translation]

Concession for Higher Education

4550. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries which are offering concessions for higher education to Indian students;

(b) the details of concessions offered by each country;

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto; and

(d) the number of students who have got concessions during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) No information on concessions being offered by foreign countries to the Indian students for pursuing higher education is available with the Government. However, scholarships are being offered by certain foreign governments to Indian students for pursuing higher education in their respective countries under various Cultural Exchange Programmes. A statement indicating year-wise break-up of

such scholarships offered by foreign governments during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

Year-wise Break-up of Scholarships offered by Foreign Governments to Indian Students for pursuing higher education under Cultural Exchange Programmes during the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003

S. No.	Name of Country	Number of Students		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1.	Belgium	3	3	3
2.	Canada	14	14	14
3.	China	25	25	25
4.	Mexico	4	6	6
5.	Japan	24	24	30
6.	Israel	7	7	6
7.	Ireland	6	6	6
8.	Germany	8	8	7
9.	Czech	2	2	-
10.	Slovak	2	4	4
11.	New Zealand	2	2	2
12.	U.K.	55	55	55
13.	Italy	20	27	27
14.	Greece	1	1	1
15.	Portugal	8	8	9

Schemes for Science and Technology and Bio-technology

4551. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Department is running schemes for Voluntary Organisations;

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

(c) whether it is mandatory to get these schemes approved by the State Government;

(d) if so, the position in this regard;

(e) the schemes/projects being run by the Government to promote bio-technology; and

(f) the funds allocated by the Government to the Non-Governmental Organisations for these schemes, during the last three years, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA"): (a) to (f) The Ministry of Science and Technology does not run any specific scheme for voluntary organisations. Scientists in science & technology based voluntary organisations along with those in universities, research laboratories, etc., receive grant-in-aid for action oriented research and developmental projects under programmes such as entrepreneurship development, science & technology communication, biotechnology for societal development and application of S&T for societal development in general and women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, etc., in particular. It is not mandatory to get these proposals recommended/ approved by the State Government. No specific allocation of funds has been made for non-governmental organisations for these programmes/schemes.

[English]

IDPL

4552. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total amount needed for giving VRS to the employees of the IDPL is much higher than the amount needed for its revival;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the employees as well as for the sustenance of the company in the Indian Market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) to (c) With a view to safeguarding the interest of the employees, VRS/VSS has been introduced in the Company. However the future of the Company, including revival, would be determined by the proceedings and the final decision of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

Administrative Tribunals in Daman & Diu

4553. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether no Administrative Tribunal has been established for Daman and Diu after Goa was delinked and given statehood more than fifteen years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether frequent representations have been made, particularly by the Bar Association, for the establishment of the Administrative Tribunal for Daman and Diu;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Mumbai High Court has given its concurrence, required under the law for the formation of the Administrative Tribunal for Daman and Diu;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government propose to establish the Administrative Tribunal for Daman and Diu; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (d) There was no Administrative Tribunal in Goa under Section 4 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, nor has any request been received for setting up of Administrative Tribunal for the Union Territory of Daman & Diu, after Goa was delinked from Daman & Diu to become a State. Incidentally, Union Territories are covered under the jurisdiction of Central Administrative Tribunal under Section 14 of the Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985 and separate Administrative Tribunals are not envisaged for them.

(e) and (f) Notwithstanding the position stated hereinabove, concurrence of a High Court is not required under the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 for setting up any Administrative Tribunal.

(g) and (h) In view of reply given above, the question does not arise.

[Translation]

Support to Training and Employment Programme

4554. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

SHRI ADHI SANKAR:

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

(a) the number of Non-Government Organisations to which funds were provided under the Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) during the year 2002-2003;

(b) the amount allocated from the current budget under this scheme;

(c) the number of Non-Governmental Organisations being provided funds by the Union Government under this scheme; and

(d) the details of the achievements of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) Funds were provided to 22 Non-Governmental Organisations during the year 2002-03 under the STEP Programme.

(b) During 2003-2004 no amount has been provided to any NGO as yet.

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

Statement

Grants-in-Aid released to NGOs under STEP scheme of Department of Women & Child Development during 2002-03

S. No.	Name of the Organisation	Fresh Sanction (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount released in respect of earlier sanctions (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Biswa Santi Sakti Parishad, Guwahati	16.200	600		
2.	Joint Effort of Suppressed Upliftment Services, A.P			2.246	600
3.	RASS, A.P			9.790	2000
4.	J&K Ex. Service League, J&K			59.850	3000

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Karnataka	5.560	600		
6.	Kyamgei Khoirom Leikai Women's Welfare Association, Imphal			2.480	500
7.	Institute of Social Dev. For Welfare & Weaker Section, Manipur			6.830	500
8.	Chil Chil Asian Mission Society, Manipur			1.156	500
9.	Manipur Tribal Farmers' Dev. Assn., Manipur			4.990	500
10.	Gramin Vikas Sanshodhan Prashikshan Sanstha, Nagpur			5.062	500
11.	Integrated Rural Dev. Centre, Dimapur			11.775	600
12.	Hennoru MPCS Ltd., Nagaland			3.690	500
13.	Thujo MPCS Ltd., Nagaland			2.480	500
14.	Onnuri Mission Society, Nagaland			2.630	500
15.	West Bengal SC, Tribes & Minority Welfare Assn., Tripura			6.080	540
16.	Women Dev. Org., Uttaranchal	56.920	3046		
17.	Women Dev. Org., Uttaranchal			56.680	3046
18.	Gramothan Audyogic Samiti, Lucknow	23.740	1200		
19.	Binor Seva Sansthan			10.100	1500
20.	New Public School Samiti, Lucknow			6.090	1000
21.	Mahila Kalyan Samiti, U.P			13.030	1050
22.	West Bengal SC, Tribes & Minority Welfare Assn., Kolkata			4.040	600
	Total	102.42	5446	208.999	17436

[English]

Excess Expenditure on ARWSP

4555. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will be Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C&AG in its Report 3 of 2002 on pages 128-129, Union Government (Civil) Performance Appraisals has brought out many startling revelations including meeting excess expenditure of hundreds of crores of rupees in supply of unsafe drinking water to the rural population and misappropriation of funds etc.;

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

(c) whether the Government have looked into those matters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) In Para 17.7 of Chapter III of the Report No.3 of CAG for the year 2002, it has been observed that in ten States Rs. 191.41 crore were spent in excess of sanctioned cost/ provisions and the expenditure met out of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) in violation of Guidelines. In addition, in Para 17.8 of the same Report, it has been stated that sample checks of records revealed some cases of suspected misappropriation or defalcation in five States.

(c) to (e) Drinking Water being a State subject, schemes for providing drinking water facilities are implemented by the States from their own resources. The Government of India only supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The powers to plan sanction and implement rural water supply schemes vests with the State Governments. The observations of the CAG are State specific and the concerned States have been advised to take action thereon and report to the Government of India.

Anganwadi Centres

4556. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any Expert Committee to review functioning of Anganwadi Centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Government Engineering College, Jabalpur

4557. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for mini tool room scheme involving 430 lakh rupees in Government Engineering College, Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be cleared;

(c) whether the cost escalation owing to delay in clearing this project is also likely to be sanctioned; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No such proposal from the Government Engineering College, Jabalpur is pending in the Ministry.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

4558. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the total amount allocated to State Governments under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme, during the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 State-wise, particularly to Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): A Statement showing State-wise outlay approved, including the amount allocated to Kerala, under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during 2002-2003 is enclosed.

No amount has been allocated to the States so far during 2003-2004.

Statement

State-wise outlay approved under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for 2002-2003.

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Outlay approved
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16990.27
2.	Assam	15040.01
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2331.89
4.	Bihar	23885.31
5.	Chhattisgarh	6763.67
6.	Goa	
7.	Gujarat	12957.58
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2906.37
9.	Haryana	8138.4
10.	Jharkhand	9564.91
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	5148.55
12.	Kerala	8684.05
13.	Karnataka	10465.58
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16522.03
15.	Manipur	938.06
16.	Meghalaya	451
17.	Mizoram	1602.24
18.	Maharashtra	36957.33
19.	Nagaland	1971.17
20.	Orissa	13407.38
21.	Punjab	9946.34
22.	Rajasthan	17434.48
23.	Sikkim	580.91
24.	Tamil Nadu	18422.49
25.	Tripura	1131.01
26.	Uttar Pradesh	38447.74
27.	Uttaranchal	4783.33
28.	West Bengal	22146.98
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	*
30.	Chandigarh	*
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	*
32.	Daman & Diu	*
33.	Delhi	15
34.	Lakshadweep	34.69
35.	Pondicherry	341.58
	Total	308010.35

* The State /UTs had not submitted the District Plans for 2002-2003.

[Translation]

Encroachments on Central Government's Land in Delhi

4559. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some influential persons encroach the Government land by way of getting jhuggi clusters on the Central Government's land especially in Delhi and after some years pressurise the Government to allot flats or plots in lieu of those encroached land;

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

(c) whether in a judgement recently the Delhi High Court ordered that it is not mandatory for the Government to allot lands to the jhuggi people who are being evicted from the Government lands;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any strict action against such persons and to protect the Government's land from encroachment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Delhi being a modern megapolis with excellent social and economic infrastructure attracts large number of people in search of gainful employment with consequential pressure on land and the coming up of jhuggies. As per the existing policy, eligible jhuggi dwellers squatting prior to 31.12.1998 are provided relocation benefits.

(c) Delhi High Court, in its order dated 29.11.2002 passed in CWPs No. 4441/94 and 2112/2002, has set aside the relocation policy of the Government. The Ministry has filed a SLP in the Supreme Court against the High Court order. Hon'ble Supreme Court through interim orders of 19.2.2003 and 3.3.2003 has allowed the Government to proceed with the relocation policy and make allotment of land while clearly specifying that such allotment would be subject to the result of the petitions.

(d) and (e) The Government has been impressing upon from time to time all land owning agencies to keep their lands free from encroachments.

[English]

Programmes for Rural Unemployed Youth

4560. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch any programme for the unemployed rural youth on par with the women's Self Help Group (SHGs) programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the programme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) to (c) The Ministry does not propose to launch any new programme for the unemployed rural youth. However, the Ministry is already implementing Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) as an integrated self employment programme under which rural youth from families living below the poverty line are covered for assistance to take up Self Employment Activities. Further, the Self Help Groups (SHGs) being organised under the scheme may be exclusively of women or men or mixed groups. Therefore, SHGs of rural youth could also be organised under the existing Self Employment Programme of the Ministry.

Kendriya Vidyalayas

4561. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV) across the country have invited private participation to build and operate gymnasiums and swimming pools for their schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has the approval of the Ministry;

(d) if so, the reasons for according permission for construction of facilities within the school premises on a build, operate and transfer basis; and

(e) modus operandi to be followed for safety of the school and its students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has drawn up a scheme to get swimming pools and Gymnasia constructed in Kendriya Vidyalayas by private parties on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Under the scheme, private parties are provided a specified area of land in the Vidyalaya premises for a specified period. At the end of the concession period, the assets get automatically transferred to the KVS. The party concerned constructs, maintains and operates the Swimming Pool & Gymnasium with its own funds. During school hours, KV students are allowed to use the Swimming Pool and Gymnasium free of cost. Beyond school hours, the party is free to use the facilities commercially.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan being an autonomous body, the scheme has been approved by the Board of Governors of the Sangathan. The scheme provides opportunities for these additional facilities to the students of KVS without any financial burden on Government exchequer.

(e) The private operators are required to provide the necessary life guard and coach for the safety of the Children.

[Translation]

Pakistani and Bangladeshi Living in the Country

4562. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindus who have come from

Pakistan and Bangladesh and are living in the country illlegally, State-wise;

(b) whether those people do not want to go back;

(c) if so, the facts and reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being contemplated by the Government in respect to those people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) As per available information, 10266 Pakistani nationals were living illegally as on 31st October 2002. State-wise break-up is given in the enclosed statement. A large number of Bangladeshi nationals are also illegally staying in the country. Data based on religious identity of the Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals in not maintained.

(b) and (c) The Pak nationals belonging to Hindu community are not interested in going back due to the fear of religious persecution by the Government in power.

(d) The powers to detect and deport foreign nationals, including Pakistanis and Bangladeshis staying illegally in India have been delegated to the State Governments and UT Administrations under the Foreigners Act, 1946. Besides administrative instructions are also issued to them from time to time to launch special drives to detect the illegally staying Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals for their deportation.

Statement

State-wise Break-up of Pak Nationals Overstaying/ Underground in the Country as on 31.10.2002

Sl. No.	State	Overstaying	Untraced	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	6	23
2.	Bihar	19	32	51
3.	Maharashtra	423	1097	1520
4.	West Bengal	255	364	619
5.	Delhi	-	78	78
6.	Gujarat	580	20	600
7.	Karnataka	70	9	79
8.	Kerala	268	126	394
9.	Madhya Pradesh	600	105	705
10.	Orissa	16	8	24
11.	Punjab	144	-	144
12.	Rajasthan	4878	75	4953
13.	Tamil Nadu	83	19	102
14.	Uttar Pradesh	527	378	905
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	64	4	68
16.	Goa	1	-	1
	Total	7945	2321	10266

Funds to NGOs for Rural Education

4563. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3292, dated 10th Dec. 2002 regarding NGOs involved in rural education and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The necessary information is being collected by the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resources Development, which is the concerned Ministry in the case, from all its subordinate offices and will be laid on the Table of the House soon after being collected.

Curtailment of Funds under Rural Development Schemes

4564. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated/

released funds under the Rural Development Scheme to States during 2002-2003; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds curtailed during the said period, State-wise and Scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details of the funds curtailed under the major Schemes of the Ministry of Rural development during the year 2002-2003 are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Funds Curtailed under IAY, SGRY-I, SGRY-II, SGSY and ARWSP during the year 2002-2003

(Rs. In lakh)

Sl. No.	State Name	IAY	SGRY-I	SGRY-II	SGSY	ARWSP
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	162.62	0.1	49.04	1327.00
3	Assam	2836.32	1340.37	1789.1	499.98	3154.50
4	Bihar	13057.94	5429.3	4170.79	3806.66	3703.00
5	Chhattisgarh	36.20	0	0	0.00	0.00
6	Goa	38.98	10.96	72.36	32.35	122.00
7	Gujarat	0.00	621.15	164.29	0.00	0.00
8	Haryana	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00
10	Jammu & Kashmir	162.07	0	111.64	3.72	1159.61
11	Jharkhand	4177.54	3347.09	3897.21	950.39	1113.20
12	Karnataka	1391.30	0	0	0.00	0.00
13	Kerala	898.67	0	0	0.00	1798.70
14	Madhya Pradesh	184.91	0	0	0.00	0.00
15	Maharashtra	968.13	383.93	0	0.00	0.00
16	Manipur	419.50	576.37	473.19	221.40	879.00
17	Meghalaya	0.00	36.08	0	220.54	0.00
18	Mizoram	42.15	0	0	0.00	0.00
19	Nagaland	291.42	304.29	349.72	87.01	0.00
20	Orissa	0.00	0	0	0.00	395.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21	Punjab	178.45	0	0	0.00	0.00
22	Rajasthan	123.75	0	0	0.00	1881.28
23	Sikkim	6.38	0	54.32	0.00	0.00
24	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00
25	Tripura	0.00	0	31.02	0.00	0.00
26	Uttar Pradesh	1103.16	0	0	3382.50	1529.50
27	Uttaranchal	283.84	0	0	0.00	0.00
28	West Bengal	2865.83	2076.87	1003	2778.92	0.00
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	106.50	50.27	47.29	50.00	13.00
30	Dadra &. Nagar Haveli	77.05	23.8	24.07	50.00	7.00
31	Daman & Diu	31.89	1.68	28.59	50.00	0.00
32	Lakshadweep	0.00	3.35	44.81	50.00	0.00
33	Pondicherry	0.00	32.02	9.87	0.00	5.00
	Total	29284.98	14404.15	12276.37	12238.51	17094.99

IAY: Indira Awaas Yojana
SGRY I: Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana
SGRY-II: Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana
SGSY: Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana
ARWSP: Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme

[English]

Girls Hostel

4565. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Girls Hostels have been constructed by his Ministry as Central Sector Projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in the KBK districts in Orissa;

(c) whether these hostels are constructed under the revised long term action plan in the KBK districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (e) Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Strengthening Boarding and Hostel facilities for girls under which 100% assistance is provided for running these hostels. There is no provision for construction of Hostels under this Scheme.

However, the Scheme of Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernisation Programme provides grants for the construction of Girls Hostels in the identified area of concentration of Educationally Backward Minorities. So far, assistance has been provided for 20 girl hostels, one in the State of Haryana, one in Rajasthan, 6 in Maharashtra and 12 in Uttar Pradesh. The State of Orissa is not covered under the Scheme.

Additional Central Assistance of Rs.37.50 crores was allocated by Planning Commission for the construction/ operationalisation of 400 ST Girls Hostels from 1998-99 to 2000-01 under the Revised Long Term Action Plan for the KBK districts of Orissa.

Upgradation of Centre for Earth Science Studies

4566. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any plan to upgrade Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivandrum into a National Centre of Excellence with more autonomy and funding; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA"): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received for consideration by the Department of Science and Technology.

Purchase and Import of Machinery by CIL

4567. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the machinery purchased and imported by the Coal India Ltd. during the last three years, subsidiary-wise;

(b) whether some machinery purchased is still lying unused in the godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not using the same; and

(d) the money spent on the purchase of this machinery?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The details of machinery purchased and imported by Coal India Limited during last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

Out of above total purchases only 460 HP Wheel Dozer pertained to the category of imported purchase.

(b) None of the above machinery purchased is lying idle in the godowns.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (b) above.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given to parts (b) and (c) above.

Statement

The details of the machinery purchased and imported by the Coal India Limited during last three years:

Equipment	ECL				BCCL				CCL			
	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Dumper 35 T	6	8	6	20	29		39	68	56	33	39	128
Dumper 50 T	3	3	6	12	-	-		0	10		3	13
Dumper 85 T	2	2	5	9	-			0			10	10
Dumper 120 T	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-			0
Loader 5-6 M3	-	-	-	0	-		-	0	-		4	4
Water Sprinkler	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0		-		0
Crawler Dozer 320 HP	5	-	2	7	13	-	11	24	5		15	20
Crawler Dozer 410 HP	2	-	5	7	-	-	-	0	4	3	7	14
Wheel Dozer 460 HP	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
RBH Drill 160 MM	1	-	1	2	-	3	3	6	8	3	10	21
RBH Drill 250 MM	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	1	2	-	3
RBH Drill 311 MM	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
HYD. Shovel 3.5 M3	-	2	1	3	1	-	5	6	5	-	5	10
HYD. Shovel 4 M3	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
HYD. Shovel 5 M3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
HYD. Shovel 9.5 M3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
Rope Shovel 5 M3	-	1	-	1	3	-	-	3	1	3	-	4
Rope Shovel 10 M3	-	-	1	1	-		1	1	-	-	-	0
Crane 30 T	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	1	-	-	1
Crane 70 T	-			0	-		-	0	-	-	-	0
Crane 40 T	-	-	-	-		-	-	0	-	-	-	0

Equipment	NCL				WCL				SECL				MCL			
	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total	2000-01	01-02	02-03	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Dumper 35 T			-	0	41	-	-	41	4	8	10	22	-	-	-	0
Dumper 50 T	-	-	-	0	31		32	63	-	-	-	0	-	-	4	4
Dumper 85 T	13	17	52	82	-	-		0	-	-	-	0	-	-	6	6
Dumper 120 T	-	37	5	42	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
Loader 5-6 M3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	1	-	-	1
Water Sprinkler	1	-	-	1	-	-		0	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	0
Crawler Dozer 320 HP	-	-	-	0	26	-	9	35	8	-	5	13	2	-	1	3
Crawler Dozer 410 HP	3	-	16	19	-	-	-	0	1	-	6	7	1	-	3	4
Wheel Dozer 460 HP	-	-	-	0	2	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	0
RBH Drill 160 MM	4	-	1	5	13	-	4	17	2	2	3	7	1	-	-	1
RBH Drill 250 MM	3	6	-	9	-	-	-	0	6	-	6	12	1	1	-	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
RBH Drill 311 MM	-	-	2	2		-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0
HYD. Shovel 3.5 M3	-	-	-	0	15	-	5	20	2		4	6	-	-	-	0
HYD. Shovel 4 M3	-	-	-	0	-	-		0			2	2	-	-	-	0
HYD. Shovel 5 M3	-		-	0		-		0	-		-	0	-	-		0
HYD. Shovel 9.5 M3	-	-	-	0	-		-	0	-		-	0		-		0
Rope Shovel 5 M3		-	-	0		-		0		1		1	-	-		0
Rope Shovel 10 M3			3	3	-			0	-		1	1				0
Crane 30 T	-	-	-	0	1	-	1	2				0			-	0
Crane 70 T		1	-	1	-			0		1		1				0
Crane 40 T	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	0

[Translation]

Education to Disabled and Reservation in Education

4568. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have sent some proposals for providing integrated education to disabled and reservation in education/vocational training and employment;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have sought any clarifications from the concerned State Governments/ NGOs;

(d) if so, whether the said clarifications have been received by the Government;

(e) if so, the number of proposals cleared by the Government and those awaiting clearance; and

(f) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (f) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC), 100% financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/ UTs/NGOs for providing necessary facilities to the children with mild to moderate disability with the purpose of integrating them in the general school system. Department of Secondary and Higher Education has released an amount of Rs.3384.41 lakhs under this scheme to various States/UTs/NGOs as per enclosed statement. The recurring grants are released to various States/UTs/NGOs subject to availability of funds, receipt of statement of expenditure, utilization certificates in respect of earlier grants, full utilization of earlier grants, viability of the proposals and proposals being in conformity with the guidelines of the scheme. No eligible proposal is pending with this Department.

Statement

Assistance to States/UTs (including NGOs) under the Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) during the year 2002-2003

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the States/UTs	2002-2003
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	89.98
2.	Assam	23.08

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	12.54
4.	Chhattisgarh	10.58
5.	Gujarat	798.15
6.	Goa	1.37
7.	Haryana	68.32
8.	Karnataka	517.02
9.	Kerala	379.78
10.	Madhya Pradesh	583.64
11.	Manipur	132.87
12.	Maharashtra	160.66
13	Meghalaya	1.73
14.	Mizoram	33.58
15.	Nagaland	22.61
16.	Orissa	150.33
17.	Rajasthan	33.66
18.	Sikkim	12.35
19.	Tamil Nadu	139.60
20.	Tripura	8.20
21.	Uttar Pradesh	16.94
22.	West Bengal	103.24
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16.49
24.	Chandigarh	3.34
25.	Delhi	57.77
26.	Daman & Diu	0.17
27.	Pondicherry	6.41
	Total	3384.41

[English]

ISI Activities in Andaman & Nicobar

4569. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISI activities have been spread to Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken to check the activities of ISI in the Islands;

(c) whether some of Tamil Tigers of LTTE have used Andaman and Nicobar Islands as safe hideouts; and

(d) if so, the action taken to stop such inflows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) There is no confirmed information about the activities of Pak ISI in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. However, the local police as well as the intelligence agencies are keeping a close watch on the situation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The immigration staff as also the local police exercise a close vigil to prevent infiltration of LTTE activists in the Islands.

Fertilizer Industry Development Fund

4570. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to set up Fertilizer Industry Development Fund with an initial corpus of Rs. 200 crore to support cooperates whose revenue streams are likely to be adversely affected once the Group retention pricing scheme becomes operational;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the actual implementation of fund is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) There is no proposal to create Fertilizer Industry Development Fund.

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

Sarkaria Commission

4571. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the progress made so far in the implementation of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission Report on the Centre-State relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): Out of 247 recommendations of Sarkaria Commission, the Inter-State Council in its seven meetings held so far, has taken decisions on 230 recommendations. Out of the 230 recommendations on which the Inter-State Council has taken a view, 147 have been implemented, 51 have not been found acceptable for implementation, and the remaining 32 are at different stages of implementation in various Ministries/Departments concerned.

[Translation]

Foreign and Central Assistance to Primary and Higher Education

4572. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign and Central assistance provided to the States for the promotion of primary and higher education during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of schemes being implemented in this regard in the country, particularly in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the expenditure incurred on each of these schemes separately, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the details of the achievements, review and evaluation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Socio-Economic Package of Bodo

4573. SHRI M.K.SUBBA: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Financial package offered for socio-economic development of BODO Council territory; and

(b) the steps taken and being taken to implement the same indicating the action plan drawn out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) According to provisions of Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) signed between the Central Government, Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT), and the Government of Assam on 10.2.2003, the Government has agreed to provide an additional financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore per annum (over and above normal plan assistance to State of Assam) for 5 years for projects to develop the socio-economic infrastructure in the Bodoland Territorial Council area. Action has been taken in hand to implement the provisions made in the MoS.

Difference in Royalty

4574. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the royalty for lignite is different from the royalty for coal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The royalty rate for lignite is Rs. 50/- per tonne w.e.f. 15.3.2001. Royalty rates for coal range from Rs. 250 per tonne, for the superior most grade of coal, to Rs. 65 per tonne for the inferior most grades of coal, w.e.f. 16.8.2002, except in the State of West Bengal.

The basic reason for difference in royalty rates for lignite and coal is the difference in characteristics between the two minerals.

Sale of Computers

4575. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar has been selling computers at suggested retail prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rates at which the Kendriya Bhandar is purchasing computers;

(c) the reasons for purchasing computers from re-sellers and not from authorized dealers or manufacturers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar obtains Dealer Transfer Price (DTP) from the manufacturers and fixes a selling price by adding Sales Tax, dealer's margin and a nominal Kendriya Bhandar margin over the DTP.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Bhandar makes efforts to purchase the computers directly from the manufacturers. However, in case the manufacturers express their inability to directly deal with Kendirya Bhandar, the computers are purchased from their authorized suppliers and tripartite agreement is entered among the manufacturer, Kendriya Bhandar and its authorized supplier.

Concessions to Students for Exams

4576. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

COL.(RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that the unavoidable circumstances caused students to arrive late for their Class X exams when the road in East Delhi and Ghaziabad were blocked in view of Dy. Prime Minister's visit to Ghaziabad on 10th March, 2003 as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 12, 2003;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received several representations from various quarters in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the response of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the Government have considered granting any concessions to the students of East Delhi and Ghaziabad due to their late arrival for exams for no fault of theirs;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the CBSE has received two separate representations from Ghaziabad - i) from Shri V.P. Singh, F/O Master Rahul Prakash Singh of class X and ii) from Shri Dinesh Sharma, F/O Master Karn Bhardwaj of Class X.

(d) to (f) The CBSE has decided to conduct re-examination for the affected students and it is scheduled to be held on 21.4.2003 at Apeejay School, Sector XVI A, Gautam Budh Nagar, NOIDA (U.P.) from 10.30 A.M. to 1.30 P.M.

(g) Does not arise.

Indian Pharma Industry

4577. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pharrna industry which has not been provided sufficient provision and incentives in the budget 2003-04, has urged the Government to help the pharma sector;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to consider any incentives for the pharma industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) and (b) A post-budget memorandum has recently been received from Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance. This pertains to Income Tax concessions, Service Tax on Contract Research, Exemption to Life Saving Drugs from Import Duty etc.

(c) and (d) Appropriate provisions are made after taking all the relevant factors into account.

Rural Employment

4578. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rural employment generation fell from 2.4% in 1983-1994 to 0.67% during 1994-2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have taken measures to improve the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development has not analysed the reasons for decline in rural employment generation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 50 million employment is envisaged to be generated during the Tenth Plan Period.

Central Staffing Scheme

4579. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the appointments/postings of the officers in the Central Government are made under the Central Staffing Scheme;

(b) if so, since when it is in operation; and

(c) the appointments/postings covered there-under?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Central Staffing Scheme has been in operation for over 40 years. It provides a systematic arrangement for the selection and appointment of officers to senior administrative posts at Centre, excluding posts which are specifically encadred within the organized Group 'A' services or filled by recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission. Some posts of Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary under the Central Government are in the Cadre Strength of the Central Secretariat Service (CSS). These posts are filled in accordance with the rules of the CSS, and when so filled, stand outside the Central Staffing Scheme.

Allotment of Land

4580. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the Government land allotted to individuals and the organisations during the years 1996 to 2002;

(b) the grounds on which the land was allotted to individuals and the organisations together with the rate at which this land was allotted, location-wise;

(c) whether any irregularities were noticed in the above said allotment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allotment of House Sites

4581. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andaman and Nicobar Administration had issued proclamation for the allotment of 10,000 housing-sites during December, 1994 in response to which about 38,000 persons had applied;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken so far for allotting housing-sites; and

(d) if not, the time by which the applications are likely to be disposed of as per provisions of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Revenue Rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Andaman and Nicobar Administration has informed that proclamations of allotment of house sites were issued during the year 1994 in accordance with the rules framed under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Land Revenue and Land Reforms Regulation, 1966. The applications received were examined but could not be finalized/processed further.

(c) and (d) Andaman and Nicobar Administration has informed that a favourable decision on allotment is unlikely in view of the reasons cited below:-

Shortage of availability of land for the allotment compared to the number of applications received.

The allotments were to be made under the norms laid down under the 20 Point Programme. The conditions mentioned therein were at variance with Rules framed under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Land Revenue and Land Reforms Regulation 1966, under which the proclamation was

made. The categories of persons who would be eligible for allotment would thus be mutually exclusive.

The cases were not processed further as the Administration felt that such allotments may lead to an influx of population in these islands. The Supreme Court has inter alia directed in its Order of 7-5-2002 that measures to control influx are to be taken.

[Translation]

Reservation in IAS Cadre

4582. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) working in the country and abroad alongwith the break up of officers belonging to SC/ST/OBC categories out of them;

(b) whether the number of posts reserved for SCs/STs/OBCs in the Indian Administrative Service is fully filled up;

(c) the percentage it constitutes;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which their reservation quota is likely to be fully filled up;

(e) whether the posts reserved for SCs/STs/OBCs in the Indian Administrative Service are filled from amongst the general candidates in case the candidates from these communities are not available; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) At present, there are 4820 Indian Administrative Service (IAS) Officers working in the country and abroad. The break up of officers belonging to SC/ST/OBC category is 552, 276 and 165 respectively.

(b) to (f) Presently reservation prescribed for SC, ST and OBC for direct recruitment is 15%, 7.5% and 27% respectively. After declaration of final result of a Civil Service Exam. by the UPSC, recommended candidates are allotted to IAS (including other services/posts) against available vacancies in accordance with the rules of the exam. and usually all the vacancies to be filled in IAS on the basis of Civil Service Exam. are filled by candidates of respective category. The unfilled reserved vacancies in IAS, if any, on account of non-joining of the candidates or for any other reason are carried forwarded in accordance with instructions in the matter. In IAS, no reserved vacancy is filled up by a general candidate.

[English]

Arrest of DDA Officials

4583. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had earlier also received representations about the suspected activities of the DDA officials who have been arrested by the CBI after the raids; and

(b) if so, the action taken at that time as also being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that some representations/complaints were received against some of the DDA officials who have been arrested by CBI, after the recent raids. Necessary action to verify the allegations has been initiated by DDA and enquiries are at different stages.

[Translation]

Education in Rural Areas

4584. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the conditions of school and level of education in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated during each of the last three years and the current year for the educational purposes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) and (b) Under the erstwhile Programmes of the Employment

Assurance Scheme (EAS) and the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Construction of Primary School Buildings was one of the permissible activities which could be taken up by the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as part of its approved Annual Action Plan. In addition, under the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana, additional funds used to be provided out of savings for Construction of Primary School Buildings under Operation Black Board (OBB) on the basis of the proposals received from State Governments. The Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) have since been merged with the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) w.e.f. 25th September 2001 and Construction of Primary Schools continues to be a permissible activity under the Programme.

(c) No separate earmarking of funds was made for Construction of Primary School Buildings under the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and the Employment Assurance Scheme and now under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY).

Funds for Rehabilitation of People

4585. DR. BALIRAM:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been provided for rehabilitation of people living in unprotected areas of coal mines in various States especially in Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand during the last three years and till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of families rehabilitated year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) There are no such people living in unprotected areas of coal mines of CIL in the various states including Madhya Pradesh except in Jharkhand and West Bengal. In Jharkhand and West Bengal, there exist certain unstable areas where people are living. Two demonstration schemes for rehabilitation of people from most endangered areas (one each in Jharkhand and West Bengal) have been sanctioned under Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control (EMSC) for which funds have been provided. The details are as under:

Scheme	Total sanctioned amount	Fund released
Shifting of people from most endangered areas of BCCL in Jharia Coalfield (Jharkhand)	Original- Rs. 33.88 crores Revised - Rs. 61.09 crores	Rs. 7.30 crores (upto 2001-02) and Rs. 6.12 crores (In March, 2003)
Scheme for rehabilitation of four unstable localities of ECL in Raniganj Coalfield (West Bengal)	Rs. 32.52 crores	Rs. 1.00 crore

(c) 32 families (BCCL people) have been rehabilitated in 2001 in Jharkhand so far against the sanctioned scheme for "shifting of people from most endangered areas of BCCL".

[English]

C.B.S.E. Exams

4586. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL:

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

(a) whether the CBSE held its examination for 10th and 12th classes at its centres located in Kuwait and other gulf countries despite US War on Iraq;

(b) if so, the reasons for holding examination in such countries; and

(c) the details of the centres where such exams were conducted and the measures taken by the Government for the safety of the examinees during these exams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The examination centres for the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliated schools in Kuwait and other gulf countries were fixed locally in order to avoid inconvenience to the students.

(c) The details of examination centres in Kuwait and in other gulf countries are given in the enclosed statement. The Government of Kuwait and other gulf countries provided all necessary support for the smooth conduct of CBSE's examination in Kuwait.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Country	Name of the Centre
1	2	3
1.	Bahrain	The Indian School. P.Box 558 ISA Town Bahrain
2.	Iran	Indian SSS Kuche Darvish AV Tonkabon Tehran
3.	Saudi Arabia	International Indian School Al-Khobar Saudi Arabia
		International India School P.B.14861 Jeddah Saudi Arabia
		International Indian School Riyadh Saudi Arabia
		International Indian School PO Box 1188 AL Jubail KSA
		Indian International School P. Box 4260 Buraidah AL Qasim KSA
4.	Libya	Indian Community School P.B.14266 Tripoli Libya
5.	Sultanate of Oman	Indian School Ruwi Muscat Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School Salalah Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School North Al Ghubra Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School P.Box 160 Ibri Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School P.Box 846 Sohar Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School P.Box 42 Muladha Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School P.Box 598 Nizwa Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School P.Box 30158 SUR Sultanate of Oman
		Indian School AL Wadi Al Kabir Sultanate of Oman
6.	Qatar	Indian School PB 3453 Doha Qatar Arabian Gulf
7.	U.A.E.	Indian School P.BOX 16062 Al Ain Abu Dhabi UAE
		Indian Islahi Islamic School Abu Dhabi UAE
		Abu Dhabi Indian School P.B.46492 Abu Dhabi UAE.
		Gulf Indian High School Al Garhoud Dubai UAE
		The Indian High School P.Box 106 Dubai UAE
		Our Own English High School P.Box 3004 Dubai UAE
		Sharjah Indian School P.Box 2324 Sharjah UAE
		Asian International PVT School Ruwais Abu Dhabi UAE
		Indian School P.Box4943 RAS Al Khaimah UAE
		Our Own English High School P.Box 2676 Sharjah UAE
		Our Own English High School P.Box 967 Fujairah UAE
		Indian Public School P.Box 5079 RAS-AL-Khairnah UAE
		Indian School P.Box 1827 Ajman UAE
8.	Yemen	Indian Embassy School Sana' A Repulic of Yemen
9.	Kuwait	The Indian Community School P.Box 5901 Safat Kuwait
		Carmel School P.Box 596 Safat Kuwait
		Jabriya Indian School P.Box 66855 Jabriya Kuwait

Proposal for Rural Development Schemes

4587. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI KHEL SAI SINGH:

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from the State Governments for the rural development schemes during each of the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the details of the proposals cleared so far alongwith allocation of funds therefor, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(d) the date from which the remaining proposals are lying pending, State-wise; and

(e) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has received the proposals from the State Governments under Special Projects of the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Innovative Stream of Rural Housing, the Total Sanitation Campaign, the Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programmes and the Desert Development Programme. State-wise details of the proposals received and approved under various programmes are given in the enclosed statement-I and II.

(d) and (e) The proposals received from the State Governments are scrutinized in time and submitted before the respective Sanctioning Committees of the programmes for final approval which meets at regular intervals.

Statement-I

Proposal received during last three years and amount sanctioned

Sl. No.	State Name	DDP		TSC	
		Proposal sanctioned	Funds Released	Proposal Sanctioned	Funds Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	250	28.62	14	14911.85
2	Arunachal Pradesh	NC	NC	2	175.99
3	Assam	NC	NC	8	1367.90
4	Bihar	NC	NC	15	15299.36
5	Chhattisgarh	NC	NC	4	2520.82
6	Goa	NC	NC	NC	NC
7	Gujarat	981	81.21	45	946.51
8	Haryana	365	41.04	5	1255.64
9	Himachal Pradesh	243	18.16	6	601.90
10	Jammu & Kashmir	261	22.61	4	1171.57
11	Jharkhand	0	0.00	5	5048.22

1	2	3	4	5	6
12	Karnataka	551	29.10	0	0.00
13	Kerala	NC	NC	13	6099.61
14	Madhya Pradesh	NC	NC	15	8645.18
15	Maharashtra	NC	NC	15	9900.18
16	Manipur	NC	NC	4	505.48
17	Meghalaya	NC	NC	0	0.00
18	Mizoram	NC	NC	1	60.19
19	Nagaland	NC	NC	4	532.32
20	Orissa	NC	NC	12	11768.06
21	Punjab	NC	NC	5	1314.73
22	Rajasthan	1969	249.12	6	3529.44
23	Sikkim	NC	NC	2	354.79
24	Tamil Nadu	NC	NC	18	11223.32
25	Tripura	NC	NC	4	2060.96
26	Uttar Pradesh	NC	NC	37	16473.76
27	Uttaranchal	NC	NC	6	1626.95
28	West Bengal	NC	NC	15	12448.09
29	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NC	NC	1	31.50
30	Pondicherry	NC	NC	1	158.06
	Total	4620	469.86	267	130032.38

DDP : Desert Development Programme
TSC : Total Sanitation Campaign
NC Not Covered

Statement-II

Proposal received during last three years and amount sanctioned

Sl.No.	State Name	IAY		SGSY		IWDP		DPAP	
		Proposal Received Nos.	Funds Released Rs. in Lakhs	Proposal Received Nos.	Funds Released Rs. in Lakhs	Proposal Sanctioned Nos.	Funds Released Rs. in Lakhs	Proposal Sanctioned Nos.	Funds Released Rs. in Lakhs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	12	218.98	14	6402.58	19	35.01	771	136.82
2	Arunachal Pradesh	30	353.30	2	149.30	9	5.44	NC	NC
3	Assam	4	65.69	9	2899.87	36	35.80	NC	NC

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4	Bihar	2	61.38	2	600.07	1	1.32	134	2.92
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	1	281.25	10	10.27	419	29.81
6	Goa	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
7	Gujarat	0	0.00	5	1154.20	12	29.73	680	58.65
8	Haryana	2	0.00	1	204.75	4	24.98	0	0.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	57.45	8	2279.19	15	28.05	167	9.35
10	Jammu & Kashmir	5	20.67	2	260.10	4	5.46	242	8.88
11	Jharkhand	0	0.00	2	320.00	3	1.94	537	21.22
12	Karnataka	15	48.00	2	356.82	9	19.50	732	57.85
13	Kerala	5	0.00	2	494.00	2	1.61	0	0.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	4	42.75	15	4679.72	20	51.18	1160	115.77
15	Maharashtra	16	122.15	3	608.52	11	17.21	1174	52.03
16	Manipur	9	199.70	2	135.00	7	11.05	NC	NC
17	Meghalaya	6	141.63	0	0.00	5	2.19	NC	NC
18	Mizoram	1	0.00	4	483.78	17	20.05	NC	NC
19	Nagaland	16	171.00	1	433.35	17	34.63	NC	NC
20	Orissa	1	0.00	2	638.63	15	15.31	492	25.53
21	Punjab	2	14.50	5	935.94	3	1.17	NC	NC
22	Rajasthan	8	90.30	14	3426.85	16	24.12	480	36.07
23	Sikkim	1	0.00	0	0.00	3	4.01	NC	NC
24	Tamil Nadu	24	464.50	3	664.80	13	22.19	205	28.33
25	Tripura	2	0.00	4	624.05	4	1.60	NC	NC
26	Uttar Pradesh	29	684.73	3	764.62	10	29.84	343	44.62
27	Uttaranchal	8	0.00	8	1516.69	14	9.68	245	12.11
28	West Bengal	0	0.00	2	80.00	1	0.45	120	5.61
	Total	213	2756.73	116	30394.08	280	443.79	7901	645.57

IAY : Rural Housing
SGSY Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana
IWDP Integrated Wasteland Development Programme
DPAP Drought Prone Area Programme
NC Not Covered

[Translation]

Deep Mining in Coal Mines

4588. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether deep mining is not undertaken in the coal mines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Deep mining has been undertaken and is being continued in various coal mines.

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

[English]

Increase in Intake Capacity of Technical Education

4589. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the intake capacity of Technical education has been increased since 1999 and till date;

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

(c) whether the All India Council of Technical Education is not properly monitoring the standard in such institutions;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the standard of Technical Education does not fall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHRIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of students' intake in Degree Engineering Programme approved by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), as per the information furnished by them, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) AICTE regularly monitors the standard of such institutions.

(e) There is no decline in the standard of technical education. In fact, there has been a steady progress in the development of technical education system. A massive programme for improvement of quality of technical education in the country namely, 'Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India' has been launched. With a view to providing necessary direction towards promotion of Postgraduate Education and Research in Engineering & Technology, the Ministry has announced a policy framework. Besides, AICTE operates various schemes under which assistance is provided for modernisation of laboratories, development of thrust areas, faculty development, etc. In order to assess the qualitative competence, the National Board of Accreditation is functioning under the aegis of AICTE.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	Students intake in Degree Engineering Programme approved by AICTE in various years since 1999			
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25435	30561	46750	64300
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	210	210	210	210
3.	Assam	660	660	720	720
4.	Bihar	2635	3160	1335	1575
5.	Chandigarh	530	560	460	580
6.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	3200	3385

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Delhi	2420	2560	2950	3540
8.	Goa	334	404	710	740
9.	Gujarat	5885	7370	9376	9559
10.	Haryana	6125	7445	8145	9385
11.	Himachal Pradesh	410	410	410	610
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	1360	1360	1165	1245
13.	Jharkhand	0	0	1560	1890
14.	Karnataka	26337	30152	36625	40160
15.	Kerala	5385	6815	10654	18083
16.	Madhya Pradesh	7735	10380	9950	12970
17.	Maharashtra	35835	41315	43620	47035
18.	Manipur	150	150	150	150
19.	Meghalaya	0	180	180	135
20.	Mizoram	120	120	120	120
21.	Orissa	6360	7000	8665	9505
22.	Pondicherry	580	940	1690	1950
23.	Punjab	4050	4720	5320	8875
24.	Rajasthan	2964	5164	5984	7807
25.	Sikkim	220	220	340	420
26.	Tamil Nadu	31895	40491	66207	79122
27.	Tripura	160	160	160	160
28.	Uttaranchal	0	0	2130	2290
29.	Uttar Pradesh	12886	16896	18471	22491
30.	West Bengal	5077	7157	8539	10709
	Total	185758	226560	295796	359721

Senior Engineers of Compulsory Retirement

4590. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has asked some senior engineers to go on compulsory retirement; and

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that they have prematurely retired 3 Superintending Engineers (Civil) and 2 Executive Engineers, on 24th Feb., 2003 after considering

their overall service record, details of disciplinary cases initiated against them, the nature of charges established against them and penalties imposed on them. The action has been taken under the provisions of Fundamental Rule 56-J.

[Translation]

Funds Allocated Under Basic Services Programme

4591. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise amount allocated by the Union Government under the Basic Services Programme aimed at improving the living standard of poor people in the urban areas during the last three years;

(b) the achievements made under the programme so far; and

(c) the names of the districts of Jharkhand covered under the aforesaid programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) A scheme called Urban Basic Services for the Poor was in operation till 30.11.1997 in the country and thereafter the scheme was subsumed into Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) w.e.f. 1.12.97. The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has been implementing the SJSRY scheme on all India basis, including the State of Jharkhand with a view to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under-employed poor through (i) encouraging the setting up of Self-employment ventures by those who have read upto 9th standard and (ii) provision of wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. Statements-I and II giving details of the financial and physical progress as on 31.3.03 under SJSRY are enclosed.

(c) The Scheme is implemented on all town basis in all the States/UTs all over India including the State of Jharkhand.

Statement-I

State-wise Funds Position under SJSRY (As on 31.3.2003)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Reported Unspent Balances of Old Schemes as on 30.11.97	Central Share Released under SJSRY from 1.12.97 to 31.3.2003	State Share Released from 1.12.97	Total (3+4+5)	Expenditure Reported	Balance Funds Available with the States/ UTs (6-7)	%age of expenditure (7/6%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3953.25	6254.72	1756.46	11964.43	11124.04	840.39	92.98%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	458.65	204.65	167.55	830.85	291.59	539.26	35.10%
3.	Assam	1787.24	1617.83	111.72	3516.79	1000.79	2516.00	28.46%
4.	Bihar	4647.40	1693.94	505.85	6847.19	3915.18	2932.01	57.18%
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	787.54	187.71	975.25	1069.40	94.15	109.65%
6.	Goa	221.90	132.18	35.53	389.61	224.33	165.28	57.58%
7.	Gujarat	2728.98	4183.85	1518.97	8431.80	5097.45	3334.35	60.46%
8.	Haryana	404.71	817.82	215.43	1437.96	1275.24	162.72	88.68%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	698.04	340.73	144.95	1183.72	1040.77	142.95	87.92%
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	939.20	334.74	610.85	1884.79	1215.46	669.33	64.49%
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	268.74	41.64	310.38	0.00	310.38	0.00%
12.	Karnataka	4888.75	4422.49	1367.87	10679.11	9206.10	1473.01	86.21%
13.	Kerala	846.82	1853.12	711.36	3411.30	2881.80	529.50	84.48%
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3053.95	6151.70	1746.66	10952.31	9034.46	1917.85	82.49%
15.	Maharashtra	4860.44	4779.62	1386.95	11027.01	7877.60	3149.41	71.44%
16.	Manipur	543.38	358.31	40.98	942.67	108.44	834.23	11.50%
17.	Meghalaya	311.47	237.99	79.34	628.80	197.22	431.58	31.36%
18.	Mizoram	90.58	644.01	273.86	1008.45	778.21	230.24	77.17%
19.	Nagaland	641.10	401.86	89.55	1132.51	634.24	498.27	56.00%
20.	Orissa	1116.34	1795.10	572.28	3483.72	2554.94	928.78	73.34%
21.	Punjab	1541.47	473.21	130.74	2145.42	1854.97	290.45	86.46%
22.	Rajasthan	3160.17	2091.91	583.27	5835.35	4210.53	1624.82	72.16%
23.	Sikkim	106.16	174.06	50.05	330.27	216.50	113.77	65.55%
24.	Tamil Nadu	7514.65	4714.51	1323.18	13552.34	12546.32	1006.02	92.58%
25.	Tripura	112.95	695.54	193.74	1002.23	835.45	166.78	83.36%
26.	Uttaranchal	0.00	147.18	44.96	192.14	139.07	53.07	72.38%
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7364.15	9259.08	2873.78	19497.01	17166.92	2330.09	88.05%
28.	West Bengal	2679.15	3248.22	915.61	6842.98	5624.65	1218.33	82.20%
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	120.31	261.06	N.A.	381.37	103.65	277.72	27.18%
30.	Chandigarh	77.70	398.49	N.A.	476.19	62.38	413.81	13.10%
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	73.31	273.14	N.A.	346.45	178.46	167.99	51.51%
32.	Daman & Diu	81.65	161.63	N.A.	243.28	55.98	187.30	23.01%
33.	Delhi	184.24	275.31	66.68	526.23	64.80	461.43	12.31%
34.	Pondicherry	259.13	568.65	153.81	981.59	204.62	776.97	20.85%
	Total	55467.24	60022.93	17901.33	133391.50	102791.56	30599.94	77.06%

Statement-II

State-wise Cumulative Physical Achievement under different components of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) (as on 31.3.2003)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP)			No. of Mandays of work generated under Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) (in lakhs)	No. of beneficiaries covered under Community Structure (CS) (in lakhs)
		No. of beneficiaries assisted under USEP	No. of women beneficiaries under DWCUAs	No. of Persons Trained		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	56271	11742	17576	80.69	34.93
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	239	39	62	1.60	1.50
3.	Assam	1640	0	541	3.86	0.80
4.	Bihar	590	0	629	0.00	4.28
5.	Chhattisgarh	5934	410	3741	1.57	4.01
6	Goa	291	30	711	0.75	1.57
7.	Gujarat	20434	0	46842	12.61	14.00
8.	Haryana	8546	1440	6720	1.68	2.61
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1156	97	1313	5.84	0.12
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	7025	126	10956	0.72	0.07
11.	Jharkhand	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
12.	Karnataka	24020	5950	95121	61.87	8.97
13.	Kerala	13181	10046	22780	1.88	10.26
14.	Madhya Pradesh	77795	4625	51094	24.31	12.34
15.	Maharashtra	42093	1775	62652	24.48	14.44
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0.45	4.60
17.	Meghalaya	833	1	136	0.25	0.12
18.	Mizoram	296	0	958	2.06	0.40
19.	Nagaland	945	1764	1020	1.25	1.33
20.	Orissa	11080	8976	12434	18.47	12.27
21.	Punjab	7069	200	8910	4.37	10.57
22.	Rajasthan	29140	364	11642	16.65	9.46
23.	Sikkim	287	0	841	2.39	N.R.
24.	Tamil Nadu	16230	3951	4698	61.54	25.38
25.	Tripura	3027	540	1482	3.23	0.39
26.	Uttaranchal	659	170	202	0.15	N.R.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106296	5807	37312	50.24	56.23
28.	West Bengal	5450	50	44761	30.02	54.70
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	21	0	0	1.39	0.01
30.	Chandigarh	138	0	682	Not Applicable	0.21
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	57	0	121	0.76	0.00
32.	Daman & Diu	68	0	0	0.39	0.01
33.	Delhi	504	0	1190	Not Applicable	12.39
34.	Pondicherry	1069	158	1195	25.51	2.32
	Total	442384	58261	448322	440.98	300.29

[English]

Schemes for Unemployed Craftmen

4592. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes to solve the problem of unemployment of village craftmen engaged in the handicrafts;

(b) the funds provided under the schemes during each of the last three years, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) the number of persons benefited under the scheme, scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to solve the rural unemployment by encouraging handicraft in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) The Ministry does not have any specific scheme for self employment of village craftsmen engaged in handicrafts. However, the Ministry is implementing Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) as a major Self Employment Programme for families living below the poverty line which also includes village craftsmen engaged in handicrafts in rural areas of the country.

(b) and (c) The State-wise central funds released under this scheme during each of the last three years and the number of craftsmen benefited under the scheme is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Guidelines of the scheme gives special emphasis for providing assistance to rural artisans on priority.

Statement

Central Releases and Craftsmen Assisted during 2000-2001 to 2002-2003 under SGSY

Sl. No.	States/U.T.	Central Releases (Rs. in lakhs)			Craftsmen Assisted		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	5283.98	3068.31	3738.02	1604	918	638
2	Arunachal Pradesh	99.26	106.34	78.06	93	103	2
3	Assam	0.00	3328.48	2802.61	NR	921	422
4	Bihar	2978.76	3348.37	3493.34	438	537	2172
5	Chhattisgarh	1138.08	1467.21	1968.76	NR	322	122
6	Goa	25.00	25.00	17.65	NR	NR	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	Gujarat	1216.65	885.51	1403.27	238	289	329
8	Haryana	1088.61	679.48	827.79	103	46	56
9	Himachal Pradesh	245.91	286.16	348.62	256	227	113
10	Jammu & Kashmir	195.23	342.81	350.44	567	765	NR
11	Jharkhand	808.88	1196.01	1801.02	NR	NR	418
12	Karnataka	1600.56	1659.33	2686.99	NR	NR	246
13	Kerala	919.53	1039.64	1266.55	918	340	180
14	Madhya Pradesh	3420.63	3425.29	4232.53	NR	664	137
15	Maharashtra	5770.72	3842.09	5579.85	390	347	103
16	Manipur	24.94	13.02	0.00	NR	NR	0
17	Meghalaya	23.89	83.38	27.51	NR	NR	0
18	Mizoram	62.56	64.17	86.08	0	18	1
19	Nagaland	174.94	69.98	83.15	NR	NR	66
20	Orissa	4353.99	2744.13	4181.99	NR	511	237
21	Punjab	454.49	325.37	391.58	77	51	328
22	Rajasthan	2594.50	1759.38	2143.41	305	260	234
23	Sikkim	136.83	82.38	95.33	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	4626.30	2713.06	3290.35	4065	2152	1147
25	Tripura	860.44	622.08	599.65	109	99	13
26	Uttar Pradesh	7737.07	6316.37	7126.87	NR	NR	899
27	Uttaranchal	344.28	496.90	667.95	179	134	10
28	West Bengal	0.00	78.26	1121.19	653	291	1024
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	12.50	0.00	1	0	12
30	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	NR	0	0
31	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	NR	NR
32	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	NR	NR	NR
33	Pondicherry	25.00	28.93	53.64	0	0	0
	Total	46211.03	40109.94	50464.20	9996	8995	8909

NR. Not Reported

Secondary and Higher Education

4593. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Government are considering to make it compulsory at the secondary and higher education levels to have military training and social services as reported in the Indian Express dated March 17, 2003;

(b) if so, whether any task force has been set up to study this aspect;

(c) if so, the time by which the task force is likely to submit its report;

(d) the rationale behind introducing these subjects in the secondary and higher education;

(e) whether the Government have assessed the fund requirements for introducing these subjects; and

(f) if so, the source from which the fund is likely to be met for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (f) The Government has constituted a Task Force on 26th February, 2003, under the Chairmanship of Shri Anand Sarup, former Secretary (Education), Government of India, to examine various issues affecting the student community, including inter-alia, making of social service works and military training compulsory part of education in order to instil moral and physical strength and discipline. The Task Force is required to submit its recommendations within six months from the date of its constitution. The question of fund requirements etc. does not arise at this stage.

[Translation]

Assistance to Calamity Hit Areas

4594. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give final shape to certain schemes in the natural calamities hit areas with the assistance of public works and the Rural Technology Development Council; and

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise especially in the State at Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development has not taken any such decision as it does not have such Schemes.

(b) Question does not arise.

[English]

Scam in MCD Budget

4595. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the irregularities in different sectors of MCD as reported in 'Times of India' dated February 16, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the points brought out in the news-item have been enquired into and the action taken thereon; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found involved in these irregularities, sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Purchase of Electric Rope Shovels by CIL

4596. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of electric rope shovels purchased by the Coal India Limited during the last three years as on March 31, 2003;

(b) the names of companies from which the said shovels were purchased;

(c) whether the global tenders were invited for the purchase of these shovels;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore and the manner in which these shovels are procured;

(e) the price of 10 cubic meter electric rope shovel at present;

(f) whether it is a fact that in the year 1999 such variety of imported B.E. shovels has been purchased by Bharat Earth Movers Limited at the cost of Rs. 13 crore;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the saving accrued by CIL in purchase of shovels due to decline in prices in the world market as compared to the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Nine (9) nos. of 10 M3 Electric Rope Shovels and Nine (9) nos. of 5 M3 Electric Rope Shovels were procured during last three years.

(b) The names of the companies from which the shovels were purchased are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Quantity ordered
10 M3 Elec. Rope Shovel		
1.	BEML	6 Nos.
2.	HEC	3 Nos.
5 M3 Elec. Rope Shovel		
1.	HEC	9 Nos.

(c) Global tenders were not invited for the purchase of these shovels.

(d) The shovels were procured by way of issue of open domestic tender, strictly following the approved guidelines of CIL. This facilitates availability of adequate after sales service and spare parts support from the infrastructure created by the Indian manufacturers.

(e) The present ex-works price of 10 M3 Rope Shovel is Rs. 13.72 crore (for addition requirement where concessional rate of customs duty is applicable for imported kits) and Rs. 15.7136 crore (for replacement requirement where normal higher rate of customs duty is applicable for imported kits).

(f) Not known to this Ministry.

(g) Not applicable in view of reply given to part (f) above.

(h) Since the tender was invited from proven indigenous manufacturers only, the international price trend was not exactly known. However, there is no reported downward trend in international market for such shovels. Prices accepted by Coal India was found reasonable on comparison with the price accepted in World Bank tender and also at Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Andhra Pradesh in 1998 for similar shovels, escalated due to exchange rate variation upto the date of opening of tender.

[English]

Scheme for Professional Graduates

4597. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to make it mandatory for the professional graduates who have obtained scholarships to work in the country before they go abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

External Assistance for Water Supply/Environment

4598. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from State Governments for providing World Bank/foreign assistance for drinking water/sanitation in rural areas especially in Arid/ Semi Arid areas during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of projects cleared so far and State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining project are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) The details of proposals received from State Governments for World Bank/ foreign assistance for providing Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation in rural areas are given in the enclosed statement-I. The number of projects cleared by this Department, State-wise is given below:

Sl. No.	State	Number of projects on-going	Number of additional projects cleared
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	
2	Gujarat	1	5
3	Himachal Pradesh	-	
4	Karnataka	2	
5	Maharashtra	1	
6	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	1	
7	Kerala	2	
8	West Bengal	1	
9	Rajasthan	1	
10	Tamil Nadu	1	

In addition a list of on-going projects is enclosed as statement-II.

(c) The examination of the project is done promptly and those projects, which satisfy the necessary conditions are recommended to Department of Economic Affairs immediately.

Statement-I

List of Projects under Water Supply and Sanitation Received from State Governments for World Bank and Other International Agencies Assistance

S.No.	Title of Project
1	2
1	Proposal from Punjab for removal of excess iron from drinking water in villages of Ludhiana, Hoshiarpur and Jallandhar (Japan assistance)
2	Sector Reforms - Project proposal for expansion phase of NAP-AP III expansion in Vizianagaram Distt. with Netherlands assistance
3	Integrated rural water supply and environmental sanitation project with World Bank assistance in Andhra Pradesh
4	PRED - RWS - DFID water reforms sector in Andhra Pradesh with assistance of DFID
5	Waste Water Project in Khammam distt. with assistance of YMCA in Germany
6	Project proposal Sardar Sarovar canal based drinking water supply project from Govt. of Gujarat for consideration under Dutch Assistance.
7	Proposal for processing rigs and other equipment in Gujarat with JBIC assistance.
8	Community managed development of water and sanitation earthquake affected villages of Gujarat.
9	Promoting Water quality monitoring water quality sanitation service of earthquake affected areas through Health centre with Netherlands assistance
10	Community managed sustainable rural water supply programme in the Adivasi area of Dahod district of Gujarat with Netherlands assistance
11	Proposal for OPEC assistance for Sardar Sarovar canal based drinking water supply project for Kachchh Package -K bulk water transmission Phase I
12	Rejuvenation of various LWSS from River Beas of Logvalti bas bhora and sankaghad areas in HP
13	Karnataka proposal for German assistance in arid and semi-arid zone
14	Project proposal for Phase II of Danida assisted rural drinking water supply and sanitation project in Karnataka
15	OECF Japan assistance for rural water supply and environmental sanitation project in Satra and Thane (Maharashtra)
16	Bilateral assistance for rural water supply and sanitation project for Satara District (Maharashtra) from French assistance
17	OECF assistance for RWS and drinking project in Nasik and Amrawati Distt. (Maharashtra)
18	2nd Maharashtra RWS & ES project in 16 districts of Maharashtra with World Bank assistance
19	Management of fresh water sources in the Lakshadweep for IECF funding
20	Proposal for rural water supply and sanitation in 2 districts Alleppey and Idduki in Kerala with Netherlands assistance

1	2
21	Rural water supply and sanitation project in Madhya Pradesh with World Bank Assistance
22	Safe drinking water supply and rural sanitation to Phghoboto HQW and 7 surrounding villages of Nagaland with World Bank assistance
23	Uttaranchal WS & Environmental sanitation project - II with World Bank Assistance
24	Tamil Nadu WS and Sanitation project for rural areas with World Bank assistance
25	Hognekkal water supply and sanitation project for Dharampuri district in Tamil Nadu from JBIC- Japan assistance
26	Drinking water in hill top areas through water lifting or Rain water harvesting in rural areas of Tripura for Japan assistance
27	Surface water based WSSS for Nadia Distt. West Bengal with German assistance
28	Rural water Supply and Environment project (Swajal II) of UP for WB assistance
29	Integrated Watsan project Assam Phase I for WB assistance

Statement-II

Details of World Bank Aided/ Foreign Funded Drinking Water Project under Implementation in the Country

S.No.	State	Name of the Project	Cost of project (Rs. in lakhs)	Expected date of completion	Population likely to be covered after completion of the project
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agency: Netherlands					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Integrated Rural Water Supply in Vizianagaram Distt. (AP-III)	165.00	June, 2001 (Completion report not received)	26,000
2.	Gujarat	Ghogha Regional Water Supply and Sanitation	4644.00 (original 6880 revised)	December, 2004, (Revised)	1.64 lakhs
Agency: DANIDA (Denmark)					
3.	Karnataka	Karnataka Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Project	5462.00	30.11.2002	Approx. 22.91 lakhs
4.	Tamil Nadu	Integrated Rural Sanitation and Water Supply Project Phase-II	4300.00	March, 2004	Not available
Agency: ODA/DFID (U.K.)					
5.	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	7430.00	31.03.1999 (completion report not received)	29 lakhs
Agency: Kfw - Germany					
6.	Rajasthan	Integrated Water Supply and Sanitation and community participation programme in 3 districts in Rajasthan - Phase-I	39927.00	30.09.2002	(Approx. 7.20 lakhs (Rural) and 1.53 lakhs (Urban)
7.	West Bengal	Rural Water Supply in West Bengal - Bolpur Raghunathapur Water Supply, Sanitation and Health Education Projects	14897.00	February, 2003	Bolpur - 20.3 lakhs Raghunathapur 1.05 lakhs

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Maharashtra	RWSS Project in 3 districts	15300.00	April, 2003	4.31 lakhs
Agency: Japan					
9.	Kerala	OECF aided Kerala Water Supply Project IDP-123	78745.00	25.2.2003 (This project has not started so far)	40 lakhs (approx.) for both rural and urban
Agency: World Bank					
10.	Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	UP Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project	300.00	May, 2003	Against original target of covering 1000 villages, 1217 villages have already been covered.
11.	Karnataka	Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Sanitation project, Jal Nirmal	* 96520	2007	40 lakhs
12.	Kerala	Kerala Water Supply and Sanitation Project	* 43337	31.12.2006	15 lakh

* Worked out at the rate of Rs. 48.26 per Dollar

Export of Alumina/Aluminium by NALCO

4599. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the Alumina and Aluminium exported by National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) during each of last three years alongwith the name of countries to which the exports have been made;

(b) the foreign exchange earned there by the NALCO during the said period; and

(c) the projection made by NALCO for the export of its production in the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The Alumina and Aluminium exported by NALCO during the last three years alongwith the name of the countries and the foreign exchange earned during the said period are given below:

Aluminium Export

Year	Qty. (MT)	Countries to which exported	Foreign exchange earned
2000-2001	1,18,869	China, Hongkong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, UAE, USA, Vietnam	$ 188,246,967
2001-2002	1,06,283	Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, UAE, Vietnam	$ 148,634,010
2002-2003	1,07,302	Baharain, China, Indonesia, Japan Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, UAE, Vietnam	$ 148,847,632

Alumina Export

Year	Qty. (MT)	Countries to which exported	Foreign exchange earned
2000-2001	4,95,723	China, Georogia, Iran, Russia, USA	$ 100,149,948.00
2001-2002	6,70,120	China, Georgia, Iran, Russia	$ 107,542,942.61
2002-2003	10,37,287	China, Russia, Georgia	$ 166,018,976.00

(c) NALCO has made following projections for the export of its production in the Tenth Plan:-

(Unit : MT)

Product	Year				
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Alumina	10,75,000	9,49,000	9,12,000	9,12,000	9,12,000
Aluminium	1,07,000	1,71,000	1,90,000	1,90,000	1,90,000

Raids by CBI on DDA Officials

4600. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items appearing in the Indian Express dated 4th and 5th April, 2003 regarding arrest of DDA officials on charges of corruption;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the names of the beneficiaries involved in the deals;

(d) whether there is any proposal to proceed against the DDA directors and the beneficiaries involved in the deals;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has unearthed the awarding of out of turn tenders to some builders in the capital; and

(g) if so, the salient observations/findings of the CVC report and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered cases against former Vice-Chairman, DDA, the then Director (Land) DDA, the then Commissioner (Plg.) DDA, the then Commissioner (Land Disposal)DDA, Ex. PA to Vice-Chairman, DDA (already under suspension) and some private persons for allegedly showing undue favour to private parties and abusing their respective official positions. All these DDA Officials have been arrested and have been placed under suspension.

(c) Apart from the DDA Officials against whom CBI has registered cases, the alleged beneficiaries involved in the deals are:-

(i) Modern Public School Education Society.

(ii) DLF Universal Ltd.

(iii) M/s. APY Hoteliers & Developers.

(d) and (e) Investigation is being conducted by CBI against all the accused in the FIRs.

(f) and (g) DDA has reported that the Chief Technical Examiner, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) examined the work of "strengthening of existing 2 lane carriage way, constructing additional 4 lanes, service road, foot path, drainage, X-drainage work and fixing kerb stone, constructing bridges, culverts etc., at Dwarka Project, New Delhi from 26.11.2002 to 10.12.2002. In the first week of April, 2003 CVC referred some paras relating to discrepancy in award of work for detailed scrutiny & comments and fixing of responsibilities for the lapses, to the Vigilance Department of DDA for detailed enquiry.

[Translation]

Role of MPs in DRDAs

4601. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any role has been assigned to MPs for giving suggestions and approvals regarding the utilization of funds released by the Union Government for Rural Development Schemes to the District Rural Development Agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments especially the Governments of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have complied with the same;

(d) if not, the facts, thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development attaches utmost importance to close involvement of elected representatives including Members of Parliament in the implementation of various Poverty alleviation programmes. As per the existing

Guidelines of 'DRDA Administration' Scheme, Hon'ble Members of Parliament are Members of the Governing Body of DRDAs. The Governing Body of DRDA provides policy directions, approves the annual Plan and also reviews and monitors the implementation of different programmes.

(c) and (d) In the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the DRDAs have been merged with Zilla Panchayats which are responsible for planning, implementation, review and monitoring of various Rural Development Schemes in these States. Members of Parliament are members of the General Body of Zilla Panchayats in order to facilitate them in making suggestions regarding programmes executed through the Zilla Panchayats.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Slum Rehabilitation Scheme in Mumbai

4602. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra had sent any memorandum to the Union Government way back in 1995 seeking their approval to implement the slum rehabilitation scheme on Central Government land in Mumbai: and

(b) if so, the action taken so far by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Closure of FCL and HFCL

4603. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers, employees and workers who have lost their jobs on account of the closure of some units of FCL and HFCL;

(b) whether their statutory dues have been paid prior to acceptance of forced VRS;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) if not, quantum of dues thereof head-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. have 10,593 employees as on 30.9.2002 out of which 10,456 employees have opted for Voluntary Separation Scheme (V.S.S.).

(b) to (d) The acceptance of applications of employees who have opted for Voluntary Separation Scheme is decided in accordance with the scheme of V.S.S. The terminal dues of the employees are paid on submission of the 'No Dues Certificate'. In the case of those employees who are retaining the company accommodation, Provident Fund and gratuity is being released immediately and the ex-gratia and leave encashment are paid after vacation of company's quarters.

Investment by NRIs

4604. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have not been able to convince the NRIs from USA to invest in India on education;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) the number of delegations from his Ministry visited US in regard thereto;

(d) whether the NRIs in USA have sought some modifications in the present norms for investment;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) the action taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that the Government of India has not been able to convince the NRIs from USA to invest in India on education. The NRIs/PIOs contribution in the education sector in India is estimated at USD 10-12 million a year. Some of the major initiatives are for starting specialised faculties and improving existing facilities in IITs of Kharagpur, Mumbai and Chennai and starting of the Indian Institute of Business in Hyderabad. In addition they have been contributing for establishing and running schools and colleges in different parts of the country. There have also been several private sector initiatives in IT related training centres in different schools in India.

(c) No delegation from the Ministry visited US in this regard.

(d) This department has no specific information.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Bio-Technology Industry

4605. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bio-Technology industry has failed to take quantum jump and make use of potential available in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to give philip to the Bio-Technology industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA"): (a) and (b) Biotechnology industry is presently moving ahead with a good speed to cover the areas of agriculture, nutrition, animal feed, health products and various diagnostics. An Indian directory prepared by Biotech Consortium India Ltd. (BCIL) in January 2001 includes biotech activities of about 176 companies in private sector whose products range from agriculture, environment to healthcare. More than 53 technologies developed in the country have been transferred to industry based on indigenous R&D. Some of the important ones like leprosy vaccine, HIV diagnostic kits, streptokinase, and bioremediation packages for clearing petroleum oil sludge are already in the market.

(c) Several steps have been taken by Government to have speedy growth of Biotechnology Industry Some of these include:

- Liberalisation of Industrial licensing policy with automatic route in Agribiotech.

  100% foreign equity investments made possible in all biotech sectors.

- Fast Tract Clearance route for FDI proposals through FIIA.

- Government R&D investment over Rs. 1000 crores in biotechnology for developing skilled humans creating R & D infrastructure and providing extramural R & D support to public funded institutions.

  100% rebates on R & D expenditure incurred by the company and 125% rebate if research is contracted in publicly funded R & D institutions.

- More than 50 R & D national labs are functional in public sector and over 20 labs are conducting research in frontier areas of biotechnology.

- Joint R & D projects provided with special fiscal benefits.

- Tax benefits to biotech sector have been brought at par with IT sector.

- Government funding in the area of Biotechnology has increased 4.5 times from 7th Plan to 9th Plan.

Conviction in Rape Cases

4606. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of conviction by the courts in rape cases in Delhi during each of the last three years;

(b) the grounds on which accused have been acquitted by the courts; and

(c) the number of rape cases pending as on date in lower courts in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The requisite information is given as under:

Year	Conviction percentage
2000	47.38
2001	40.27
2002	47.00

(b) The main reasons because of which the rape cases do not always end with conviction are reluctance on the part of the victims to appear before the court; non-availability of the witnesses; and the complainant/witnesses turning hostile.

(c) The requisite information is given as under:

Year	Number of pending cases
2000	325
2001	329
2002	264

DRDA in A&N Islands

4607. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the District Rural Development Agency in Andaman & Nicobar Islands is functioning without Assistant/ regular Project Officers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to fill up these posts for effective implementation of Rural Development Programmes besides streamlining DRDA and Rural Development Department;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) and (b) As intimated by the Andman and Nicobar Administration, the post of Project Director stands filled. However, the post of Assistant Project Officer is presently vacant. Action to fill up the post is under process.

(c) and (d) Government of India have been issuing instructions to the States/UTs from time to time for filling up the vacant posts for effective implementation of Rural Development programmes.

(e) Does not arise.

Indira Awas Yojana

4608. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to each State under the Indira Awas Yojana during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide low cost houses under the scheme;

(c) the target fixed for the construction of houses under the scheme for the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have provided special grants to States under the Indira Awas Yojana for the construction of houses damaged in Super Cyclone in 1999 and severe flood during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details of the assistance provided under the scheme, State-wise and Year-wise; and

(f) the progress of the work done so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) The Central allocation of funds, State-wise, under the Indira Awas Yojana during the Ninth Five Year Plan is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) Under the Scheme, an assistance of Rs.20000/- per unit in plain areas and Rs. 22000/- in hilly/ difficult areas is provided for construction/upgradation of dwelling units to below poverty line rural households belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, freed bonded labourers and non SC/ST categories. The IAY Guidelines stipulate that effort should be made to utilize, to the maximum possible extent, local materials and cost effective technologies developed by various institutions.

(c) Under the IAY, target for construction of the houses is fixed on year to year basis depending on the availability of funds. The State-wise target fixed for construction of houses under the IAY for the first year of the Tenth Five Year Plan - (i.e. 2002-2003) is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) and (e) During the last three years, Additional Central Assistance (ACA) was provided for construction of houses under the IAY in emergent situations such as super cyclone and severe floods as per details given in the enclosed statement-III.

(f) The progress made so far as reported by the State Governments is as under:

Name of State	Number of houses sanctioned	Achievement
Orissa	7.00 lakh	4.53 lakh
Andhra Pradesh	0.25 lakh	Not Reported
Himachal Pradesh	0.05 lakh	Not Reported

In case of Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh, the ACA has been released in the March, 2003 only.

Statement-I

Year-wise and State-wise Central Allocation under Indira Awaas Yojana during Ninth Five Year Plan

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Central Allocation 1997-98	Central Allocation 1998-99	Central Allocation 1999-2000	Central Allocation 2000-2001	Central Allocation 2001-2002	Total central allocation during IX Plan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	8970.34	8370.41	11036.00	11036.00	11794.45	51207.20
2	Arunachal Pradesh	80.71	184.03	754.00	726.86	555.06	2300.66
3	Assam	2952.83	4781.82	15658.00	16354.79	12489.11	52236.55
4	Bihar	17597.09	27420.52	38598.00	29832.84	32038.79	145487.24
5	Chhattisgarh*	0.00	0.00	0.00	2045.34	2016.89	4062.23
6	Goa	87.63	19.20	68.00	68.00	76.20	319.03
7	Gujarat	3292.97	3150.78	3243.00	3243.00	3389.62	16319.37
8	Haryana	790.96	1853.66	1171.00	1171.00	1146.14	6132.76
9	Himachal Pradesh	276.72	780.64	515.00	515.00	507.06	2594.42
10	Jammu & Kashmir	562.66	966.16	618.00	618.00	606.54	3371.36
11	Jharkhand*	0.00	0.00	0.00	8765.16	9413.29	18178.45
12	Karnataka	6024.43	6320.85	5898.00	5898.00	6100.88	30242.16
13	Kerala	2191.85	2836.20	3553.00	3552.00	3780.58	15913.63
14	Madhya Pradesh	11368.58	13898.74	9183.00	7137.66	7038.38	48626.36
15	Maharashtra	9779.75	12494.77	10585.00	10585.00	10824.79	54269.31
16	Manipur	103.77	320.57	693.00	866.65	661.80	2645.79
17	Meghalaya	121.07	359.16	1057.00	1151.46	879.29	3567.98
18	Mizoram	50.73	83.11	260.00	276.42	211.09	881.35
19	Nagaland	129.14	246.36	653.00	743.31	567.62	2339.43
20	Orissa	7277.74	9574.03	9154.00	9154.00	9494.97	44654.74
21	Punjab	562.65	900.86	745.00	745.00	759.25	3712.76
22	Rajasthan	4723.84	4799.63	3233.00	3233.00	3198.28	19187.75
23	Sikkim	47.27	92.02	122.00	199.28	152.17	612.74

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	Tamil Nadu	8110.20	7401.30	5846.00	5846.00	5922.86	33126.36
25	Tripura	134.90	578.80	1433.00	1681.23	1283.85	5111.78
26	Uttar Pradesh	21863.19	30176.52	23565.00	21347.67	21595.12	118547.50
27	Uttaranchal*	0.00	0.00	0.00	2217.33	2242.99	4460.32
28	West Bengal	8039.87	10639.62	12064.00	12064.00	12729.32	55536.81
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	47.27	44.40	129.00	129.00	143.47	493.14
30	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	25.37	43.80	69.00	69.00	75.29	282.46
31	Daman & Diu	14.99	1.82	27.00	27.00	31.16	101.97
32	Lakshadweep	24.21	3.65	3.00	3.00	2.44	36.30
33	Pondicherry	47.27	56.57	67.00	67.00	71.22	309.06
	Total	115300.00	148400.00	160000.00	161369.00	161800.00	746869.00

*States formed in the year 2000

Statement-II

State-wise Targets Under Indira Awaas Yojana/ Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme during 2002-2003

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Target (in Nos.)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	96561
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4283
3	Assam	96371
4	Bihar	262302
5	Chhattisgarh	16512
6	Goa	624
7	Gujarat	27751
8	Haryana	9384
9	Himachal Pradesh	3900
10	Jammu & Kashmir	4665
11	Jharkhand	77067
12	Karnataka	49948
13	Kerala	30952
14	Madhya Pradesh	57624
15	Maharashtra	88623
16	Manipur	5107
17	Meghalaya	6785
18	Mizoram	1629
19	Nagaland	4380
20	Orissa	77736
21	Punjab	6216
22	Rajasthan	26184
23	Sikkim	1175
24	Tamil Nadu	48491
25	Tripura	9906
26	Uttar Pradesh	176800
27	Uttaranchal	17250
28	West Bengal	104215

1	2	3
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	881
30	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	462
31	Daman and Diu	192
32	Lakshadweep	15
33	Pondicherry	438
	Total	1314429

Statement-III

Additional Central Assistance (ACA) in super cyclone/floods situation under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) during the year 1999-2000 to 2002-2003

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Name of State	Emergent Situation	Additional Central Assistance
1	2	3	4
1999-2000	Orissa	Super cyclone	4125.00
2000-2001	Orissa	Super cyclone	23876.92
2001-2002	Orissa	Super cyclone/flood	41250.00
2001-2002	Andhra Pradesh	Heavy rain/Cyclone	3750.00
2001-2002	Himachal Pradesh	Floods	412.50
2002-2003	Himachal Pradesh	Floods	401.28
2002-2003	Orissa	Super Cyclone/Floods	24750.00
2002-2003	Madhya Pradesh	Floods	18.75
2002-2003	Kerala	Floods	32.70
2002-2003	Arunachal Pradesh	Floods/Fire	131.19
		Total	98748.34

[Translation]

Financial Status of IFFCO Plants

4609. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) present financial status of various factories/ plants of IFFCO in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of employees retired from each plant and number of employees appointed on various posts during the last three years; and

(c) the details of funds spent on publicity during last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) The financial results of IFFCO plants in Uttar Pradesh for the financial year ended 31st March 2002 as per audited accounts are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

	Phulpur-I	Phulpur-II	Aonla-I	Aonla-II
Total Turnover	378.05	1039.93	385.08	584.97
Profit/(Loss) Before Tax	(78.52)	265.42	59.24	166.46

(b) Number of employees retired and appointed

during the last three financial years i.e. 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 from the above plants, is as under:

Unit	Number of employees retired	Number of employees appointed
Aonla	30	4
Phulpur	109	6

(c) Details of amount spent on publicity and Marketing etc. for the last three years by IFFCO are as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1999-2000	8.95
2000-01	7.00
2001-02	8.01

[English]

CBI Raids on DDA Officials

4610. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has conducted raids on DDA officials in the past also; and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome of such raids during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) During the last 3 years (1.4.2000 to 31.3.2003) Central Bureau of Investigation conducted raids on the offices and residential premises of 13 DDA officials in connection with 3 FIRs i.e. RC No.65 (A) 2000, dated 8.11.2000. RC No. 1(A)/03/ACU 1 dated 26th March, 2003 and RC No. 2(A)/03/ ACU 3 dated 26th March, 2003.

After searches on 10.11.2000 CBI registered two more FIRs (RC 75(A) 2000 & RC 76(A) 2000) against two officials for possessing disproportionate assets. The investigation in respect of FIR No. RC 75 (A) 2000 has been completed by CBI and case for prosecution sanction of one official is under process. In the other case of disproportionate assets, investigation report is awaited from CBI.

In case of RC No. 65 (A) 2000, investigation report on restoration/allotment of Self financing Scheme flats has been received from CBI for grant of prosecution sanction in respect of two officials (one Deputy Director and one Upper Division Clerk). The cases have been referred to the Central Vigilance Commission for first stage advice.

Crime in Delhi

4611. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain drug addicts being used by gangsters for committing heinous crimes were apprehended by the Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to arrest this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No incident of drug addicts being used by gangsters for committing heinous crimes has come to the notice of Delhi Police. However, some drug addicts were found to be members of small groups of pickpockets and robbers indulging in petty thefts.

Law and Order in Delhi

4612. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the law and order situation in the capital has once again deteriorated due to strike by robbers in running buses again as reported in various newspapers on March 29, 2003;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the common man travelling in buses is mostly unsafe due to slackness in the functioning of Delhi Police; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to fix responsibility on Delhi Police to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The isolated incidents of this nature are not representative of the overall crime situation in the Capital which has since 1999 registered a progressive improvement.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Delhi Police has been making earnest efforts to prevent such crimes.

[Translation]

Washery Reject

4613. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the washery reject of country's first non-coking coal washery situated in Peparwar area of C.C.L. under the Jharkhand State is being thrown every month in large quantity in the mines located in the area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of financial loss caused as a result thereof during each of the last three years and as on date; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Ash percentage in the washery reject of Piparwar is very high (i.e. above 60%) and the rejects are being dumped in the mines along with overburden as per the project report.

(c) and (d) There is no financial loss to the company. In the past, tenders were invited for sale of the rejects but there was no response.

[English]

National Commission for Women

4614. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are not consulting the National Commission for Women before deciding upon policy matters concerning the fairer sex;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the number of subjects referred to NCW for their comments during the last one year;

(d) whether it is a fact that only 20 States have constituted the Women Commissions till date despite direction from the Union Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the last one year, the Commission has been consulted, among others, on matters like Maharashtra Protection of Women Bill, West Bengal Shops and Establishment (Amendment) Bill, 2002, Action Plan to implement National Cooperative Policy, setting up Rape Crisis Centres and Sexual Assault Treatment Units for rape victims. amendments in Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, amendment of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

(d) and (e) The setting up of State level women commissions comes within the purview of the State Governments. As a result of continuous persuasion of the Government, all States except the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttaranchal have constituted state level women commissions. Government of Sikkim and Government of Meghalaya have informed that due to the fact that women enjoy equal and respectable status in the society and less number of cases of atrocities on women in their states, they do not consider it necessary to constitute state level women commissions.

Seismic Zones

4615. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that entire country has been divided into five major Seismic Zones to compile and collect all the seismic related information;

(b) if so, the zones found to be most active and the names of states which fall under those zones; and

(c) the details of steps taken by the government to create awareness among the people for the adoption of safety measures to overcome the situation arising out of the earthquakes in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT

"BACHDA"): (a) Yes Sir, as per the Seismic Zoning Map published by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in 1986, the country has been divided into five zones. This map has recently been updated by BIS taking into account the data sets collected during the recent earthquakes. Zone I and zone II of the earlier map has been merged and now the country is divided into only four seismic zones i.e. zone II, III, IV and V. Zone V is the severest in terms of earthquake proneness and expected damage.

(b) The areas lying in zones IV and V are considered to be most active. Zone- V comprises the entire northeastern India, parts of J and K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttranchal, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, a part of north Bihar and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Zone-IV covers the remaining parts of J and K, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Sikkim and parts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Gujarat. However, no part of the country is free from earthquake hazard.

(c) Bureau of Indian Standards has published various guidelines for safe design of structures. The Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation and Ministry of Home Affairs have taken several initiatives towards earthquake awareness and dissemination of information related to construction practices and earthquake resistant design of buildings.

Special Police Force for Coastal Areas

4616. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government plan to set up a Special Police Force exclusively to provide security and protection to the people living in the coastal areas from infiltrators across the borders;

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

(c) the proposals, if any, received from State Governments in this regard;

(d) whether any steps are being taken to stop infiltration into the coastal areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (e) Considering the vulnerability of the country's coasts to illegal cross border activities, the Governments of the Coastal States and the Union Territory Administrations were advised to prepare perspective plans for coastal security for which certain indicative parameters were identified and circulated to them. These parameters include among other measures, creating a Marine Police Cell/Wing in the coastal police stations by developing teams with sea/water faring skills, establishing police stations/police out posts suitably equipped with vehicles, boats, communication equipments and weapons in the sensitive stretches of the coasts etc. Government of India would provide such assistance as feasible for implementation of the proposed coastal security plan which would take care of the concerns of coastal security including infiltration into the coastal areas. Proposals in this regard have been received from the Government of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and the Union Territory Administrations of Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Gas based Fertilizer Units

4617. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have prepared a list of gas-based fertilizer units which would be encouraged to raise production capacity;

(b) if so, the fertilizers units which have been allowed to raise the production capacity;

(c) the details of the incentives likely to be provided to these fertilizer plants; and

(d) the extent to which this decision is likely to help to contain the subsidy outgo to production units thriving on Gold-Plating and reward the efficient players in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Water and Sewage Disposal System

4618. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes sent by the Governments of Maharashtra and Jammu and Kashmir to improve the water and sewage disposal system in various cities and towns during the last three years;

(b) the number of schemes out of these approved so far by the Union Government;

(c) the financial allocation made for implementation of schemes during the said period and current year; and

(d) the time by which the remaining schemes are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (d) This Ministry is implementing Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20000 as per 1991 census. Details of the scheme approved by the Ministry, the schemes awaiting technical approval and the schemes returned by the Ministry to the State Government in respect of Maharashtra State are given in the attached statement.

In so far as Jammu and Kashmir State is concerned, they had submitted a Detailed Project Report for water supply scheme of Katra town at an estimated cost of Rs.10.67 crores without the approval of the State Level Selection Committee (SLSC). The scheme was returned to the State Government with a request to submit the same with the approval of SLSC which is still awaited.

It is also stated that during the last three years, no Central share has been released to the State Government due to non-submission of utilisation certificates by the State Government in respect of Central funds released to them in the previous years.

The position of scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal is as under:-

Maharashtra

Shirdi Nagar Panchayat has submitted a scheme for Underground Sewage and Storm Water drainage System at an estimated cost of Rs.12.10 crores with the following funding pattern:

(i)	Central Govt. Grant	Rs.10 crore
(ii)	Shri Sai Baba Sansthan Trust	Rs.2.10 crore

Jammu and Kashmir

The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has forwarded a project profile for sewerage and drainage for Leh town with an estimated cost of Rs.5.80 crores in pursuance of announcement made by the Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister for release of Rs.5.00 crores as Central assistance for the Sewage Management of Leh town during Sindhu Darshan festival 2002.

At present, there is no Central/Centrally sponsored scheme under which the Central assistance is provided by the Ministry for implementation of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes. The above schemes are under technical scrutiny and would be considered for approval subject to the techno-economic feasibility of the schemes and availability of Special assistance by the Planning Commission in the current financial year.

Statement

Maharashtra Status: 17.4.2003

A Projects Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Town	Distt.	Population	Sanction Date Mon/Yr.	Project Cost	Central Share Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Kandhar	Nanded	16615	January, 2001	471.39	437.92
2.	Bhoom	Osmanabad	14838	January, 2001	334.64	(2000-2001)
3.	Mudkhed	Nanded	13956	January, 2001	312.33	593.68
4.	Unri	Nanded	8310	January, 2001	403.69	(2001-2002)
5.	Kallam	Osmanabad	19741	February, 2001	541.13	563.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Rajapur	Ratangiri	9821	January, 2003	89.57	(2002-2003)
7.	Narkhed	Nagpur	19369	January, 2003	759.54	
8.	Vadagaon	Kolhapur	19007	January, 2003	287.00	
9.	Shridi	Ahmednagar	15126	March, 2003	731.19	
10.	Mahadula	Nagpur	17133	March, 2003	387.72	
		Total	153916		4318.20	1595.36

B. Schemes under Scrutiny in CPHEEO

S.No.	Name of Town	Distt.	Population	Project Cost	Remarks
1.	Vengurla	Sindudurg	12250	98.31	Received in April, 2003. Under examination.

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)
List of Schemes returned to State Govt. from 2000-01 to till date

State: Maharashtra

S.No.	Name of Town	Distt.	Estimated Cost (Rs. lakhs)	Reasons for Returning
1.	Bhokardan	Aurangabad	264.25	Withdrawn by State Govt.
2.	Shirpur	Pune	200.14	Service level more than 70 lpcd.
3.	Panchgani	Satara	1012.20	Service level more than 70 lpcd.
4.	Mahabaleshwar	Satara	546.49	Service level more than 70 lpcd.
5.	Nakoda	Chandrapur	182.83	Late receipt of scheme in 2nd & 3rd week of March, 2003.
6.	Aheri	Ghadchiroli	211.14	Late receipt of scheme in 2nd & 3rd week of March, 2003.
7.	Sasti	Chandrapur	151.68	Late receipt of scheme in 2nd & 3rd week of March, 2003.
8.	Jejuri	Pune	206.54	Late receipt of scheme in 2nd & 3rd week of March, 2003.
		Total	2775.27	

[Translation]

Investigation in Corruption Cases

4619. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI:

SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigation cases of corruption filed against Chairmen/Managing Directors/ Directors of Coal India Limited and its ancillary companies is going on;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of officers against whom vigilance cases have been registered during each of the last three years till date alongwith the details of action taken thereon, ancillary-wise;

(d) the number of officers against whom the cases of criminal and corruption are pending in his Ministry/Coal India Limited as on March 31, 2000;

(e) the details of progress of inquiry made against them;

(f) the details of promotions given to said, officers, inspite of cases pending against them;

(g) the reasons for not taking a final decision on the said cases till date;

(h) whether his Ministry have taken steps for conducting vigilance enquiry for disposing of the said cases; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Ten investigations are going on in cases against CMDs/ Directors of CIL and its subsidiary companies. The subsidiary-wise break-up is as under:

ECL	BCCL	CCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NCL	CMPDI	CIL	Total
04	01	03	-			01	01	-	10

(c) The subsidiary-wise, year-wise details are given below:

		ECL	BCCL	CCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NCL	CMPDIL	CIL	Total
2000-2001											
1	No. of officers involved	13	19	6	4	8	17	20	1	15	103
2	Under investigation	-	7	1	-	2	4	9	-	13	36
3	Punishment awarded	11	6	-	3	3	12**	1	1	2	39
4	Exonerated	2	6	5	1	3	1	10	-	-	28
2001-2002											
1	No. of officers involved	24	16	7	10	22	18	15	1	15	128
2	Under investigation	18	7	-		10	10	11	-	14	70
3	Punishment awarded	6	8	1	8	11	8	4	1	1	48
4	Exonerated	-	1	6	2	1	-	0	-	-	10
2002-2003											
1	No. of officers involved	25	50	6	17	22	11	12	-	8	151
2	Under investigation	18	44	-	11	9	4	11	-	8	105
3	Punishment awarded	4	6	-	1	13	7**	1	-	-	32
4	Exonerated	3	-	6	5*	-	-	-	-	-	14

* Cases closed after investigation.

** Includes cases of administrative action.

(d) and (e) The CBI cases pending in the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited as on 31.3.2000 and.their present status is given below:

		ECL	BCCL	CCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NCL	CMPDI	CIL	Total
1	No. of cases	10	68	1	1	6	15	-	5	-	106
A.	Recommended for departmental action	7	14	-	1	2	9	-	-	-	33
	(i) Punishment awarded	1	4	-		-	3	-	-	-	8
	(ii) Exoneration	2	3	-		2	3	-	-	-	10
	(iii) Pending	4	7	-	1		3		-	-	15
B.	Recommended for prosecution	3	54	1		4	6	-	5	-	73
	(i) Convicted	1	3	-	-		2	-	1	-	7
	(ii) Acquitted	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	5
	(iii) Pending	2	49	1	-	2	3	-	4		61

(f) As per rules, no executive against whom charges are pending has been promoted except few executives who have been granted ad-hoc promotion.

(g) The cases are pending at different stages of investigation or in courts.

(h) and (i) The pending cases are regularly reviewed to monitor their disposal.

[English]

Guidelines for Preventing Demolition Drives

4620. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI KAMAL NATH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently formulated new guidelines to prevent the last minute stoppage of demolition drives as reported in The Hindustan Times dated March 24. 2003;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the nexus between builders, police and MCD officials have prevented demolishing of unauthorised constructions in the capital; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the new guidelines are likely to break this nexus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (d) DDA and Delhi Police have reported that Hon'ble Delhi High Court in CWP No. 1833/94 - The New Friends Cooperative House Building Society Vs. Commissioner of Police Delhi has directed the Commissioner of Police Delhi and other Heads of Department of land owning agencies viz. MCD, DDA. NDMC to hold a joint meeting in order to formulate a scheme for implementation of action plan for demolition of unauthorised construction/ removal of encroachment in Delhi. Accordingly. Commissioner of Police held a meeting with Vice Chairman, DDA; Commissioner, MCD and Chairperson, NDMC on 5.3.2003 to work out modalities for smooth implementation of demolition programmes.

Suitable action is taken by the concerned authorities against the officials whenever complaints are received against them.

Imposition of Prohibitory Orders

4621. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to impose prohibitory order on the democratic movements in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have a further plan to impose permanent application of 144 rule in most parts of the capital; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Pooja at Qutab Minar

4622. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vishwa Hindu Parishad had made an abortive bid to perform Pooja in the premises of the Qutab Minar, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against the persons responsible for disrupting the communal harmony by organising such deeds; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) The attempts made to organize "pooja" in the Complex did not succeed as police took timely action, as permissible under law, against the organizers. The Government is firmly committed to maintain peace and communal harmony in the country.

[English]

Encroachments and Unauthorised Constructions

4623. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the precise definition and scope of the term 'encroachment and unauthorised construction' targeted in 'Clean Delhi Drive';

(b) the different agencies concerned to prevent and/or remove the 'encroachment/unauthorised construction' and their modus operandi;

(c) whether any area-wise survey has been conducted to identify the 'encroachments'/unauthorised constructions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any suggestions for conducting a land-wise survey in Delhi has ever been received by the Union Government;

(g) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon:

(h) whether the Union Government propose to fix the responsibility by a legislation or an executive order on the concerned Department and/or concerned elected representatives of the area for 'encroachments'/ unauthorised constructions occurring in the respective area;

(i) if not, the reasons therefor;

(j) whether the Union Government propose to formulate a national policy for the prevention and removal of 'encroachments' and 'unauthorised constructions' for the State to follow; and

(k) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (k) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Serving of Liquor in Community Centres

4624. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that liquor is prohibited in Government owned community centres;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government plan to review its decision in view of the current liberalized liquor policy;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is also a fact that such restrictions are resulting in low-booking and thus causing financial loss to exchequer; and

(f) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to increase the use of these community centres for social functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Serving and consumption of liquor is not permitted in Community Centres run by the Grih Kalyan Kendra.

(b) to (d) Grih Kalyan Kendra is a welfare organization with a strong orientation for schemes aimed at upliftment of the conditions of needy families of Central Government servants, their dependent families and children. Consumption of liquor in its premises is not considered to be compatible with its objectives.

(e) No, Sir. There has been increase in the number of bookings leading to increase in income from hiring of community centres for marriages etc.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Removal of Slums in Delhi

4625. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of slums removed from different areas of Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the number of displaced slum dwellers rehabilitated by the Government and the number of slum dwellers yet to be rehabilitated; and

(c) the steps taken so far by the Government for the permanent rehabilitation of labourers living in such slums; and to check the creation of new slums?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION: (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Educational Exchange Programme

4626. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of professors, Scientists, Research Scholars and Educationists who visited abroad during the last three years under the exchange programme;

(b) whether the most of the persons visited abroad under these Education Exchange Programmes are from the metros only;

(c) if so, the break-up thereof, city-wise;

(d) the measures taken by the Government to increase the number of persons to be sent abroad under these exchange programmes particularly from other cities and areas of the country as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Educational Exchange Programmes with Mongolia and the Republic of Armenia have been signed on 9.7.2002 and 3.10.2002 respectively. These are in the form of umbrella arrangement under which specific programmes are to be entered into by counterpart institutions of both the countries. No exchange of professors, scientists, research scholars and educationists has taken place so far.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana

4627. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the accounts of erstwhile schemes under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana were not closed in most of the States/UTs;

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

(c) the extent of loss suffered by the Union Government as a result of this and the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) In a number of States some of the accounts of erstwhile schemes are still to be closed by State Governments. The State-wise and scheme-wise details of the unspent funds from the erstwhile schemes and position of closure of accounts are at Annexure. The accounts could not be closed for want of requisite and complete information from the concerned States/UTs.

The Unspent Balances of the erstwhile schemes were treated as opening balance of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana and the matter relating to the settling of these accounts has been continuously pursued with the defaulting States/ UTs. Through Vigorously monitoring of the progress this Ministry has been able to close the accounts of 17 States/ UTs out of 31 States/UTs in respect of Nehru Rozgar Yojana, 30 States/UTs out of 31 States/UTs in respect of Urban Basic Services for the poor and 20 States/UTs out of 27 States/ UTs in respect of Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme. The details are indicated in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the States/UTs	Unspent Balance from erstwhile schemes (As on 30.11.1997)						Closure of Accounts (As on 31/03/03)		
		UBSP		NRY		PMIUPEP		NRY	UBSP	PMIUPEP
		Central	State	Central	State	Central	State			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	323.99	130.00	248.02	1221.52	372.70	1657.02	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.00	3.66	114.89	14.28	158.52	150.30	No	Yes	No
3.	Assam	3.27	19.31	747.00	0.00	480.73	525.93	No	Yes	No
4.	Bihar	247.11	0.00	2502.70	0.00	712.34	1185.25	No	No	Yes
5.	Chhattisgarh	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Goa	20.71	14.24	8.99	6.24	109.14	62.58	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Gujarat	76.66	30.34	639.41	567.53	969.19	445.85	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Haryana	44.55	28.55	37.23	24.82	175.99	93.57	No	Yes	Yes
9.	Himachal Pradesh	29.17	16.66	40.19	231.87	187.74	192.41	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	27.52	20.56	129.95	113.08	333.13	314.96	No	Yes	Yes
11.	Jharkhand	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
12.	Karnataka	93.82	311.91	1322.35	1370.30	655.69	1134.60	Yes	Yes	Yes
13.	Kerala	91.95	35.25	161.77	367.97	100.03	89.85	No	Yes	Yes
14.	Madhya Pradesh	23.00	200.77	479.70	335.11	887.77	1127.60	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	Maharashtra	315.28	339.52	1346.31	989.83	873.45	996.05	No	Yes	No
16.	Manipur	22.00	25.80	160.58	108.00	117.08	109.92	No	Yes	Yes
17.	Meghalaya	43.73	29.15	76.92	51.19	76.11	34.37	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	22.70	11.73	30.97	25.18	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Nagaland	35.00	6.00	96.44	54.19	231.83	217.64	No	Yes	No

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20.	Orissa	23.79	17.22	265.65	398.01	133.11	278.56	Yes	Yes	No
21.	Punjab	55.18	36.67	241.11	180.69	551.08	476.74	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Rajasthan	290.65	193.76	202.83	968.60	835.08	669.25	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Sikkim	2.78	29.31	0.00	0.00	35.02	39.05	No	Yes	Yes
24.	Tamil Nadu	751.91	450.70	706.41	2119.09	1810.06	1676.48	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Tripura	5.25	12.28	25.30	17.57	27.70	12.57	No	Yes	yes
26.	Uttaranchal	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
27.	Uttar Pradesh	520.95	0.00	1465.31	2346.01	1271.68	1760.20	Yes	Yes	Reopen
28.	West Bengal	155.00	263 46	536.93	575.43	344.00	504.33	Yes	Yes	Yes
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	29.45	N.A.	23.93	N.A.	66.93	N.A.	No	Yes	Yes
30.	Chandigarh	23.39	N.A	47.31	N.A.	N.A	N.A.	Yes	Yes	N.A.
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	37.33	N.A.	35.97	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Yes	Yes	N.A.
32.	Daman & Diu	31.05	N.A.	50.60	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	No	Yes	N.A
33.	Delhi	0.00	6.73	177.51	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	No	Yes	N.A.
34.	Pondicherry	3.66	39.61	27.29	77.35	54.88	56.34	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Total	3352.15	2261.46	11941.30	12450.49	11601 95	13836.60			

N.A. Not Applicable
N.R Not Reported by the States/UTs
NRY - Nehru Rozgar Yojana
UBSP - Urban Basic Services for the Poor

Posts of OBCs in Horticulture Department

4628. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of groups A, B and C employees of Other Backward Classes working in Horticulture Department under his Ministry;

(b) the number of posts sanctioned during the last three years in the Department for SC's and ST's and OBC's. Group-wise:

(c) whether it is a fact that posts in these groups have been sanctioned only for SC's and ST's categories;

(d) if so, the reasons for not sanctioning posts for the OBC categories; and

(e) the time by which the posts for OBCs are likely to be sanctioned in all the groups in the Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) The number of employees of Other Backward Classes working in Horticulture Department is as under:-

Group A	Group B	Group C
Nil	1	Nil

(b) Nil

(c) to (e) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Illegal Operation of Commercial Offices

4629. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that many commercial offices are operating illegally in the residential colonies at Delhi especially in the Hauz Khas and Green Park areas of South Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to identify such offices operating in the basements and/or otherwise, causing safety hazards;

(c) whether the Union Government have permitted these business organizations to run their offices in the aforesaid areas; and

(d) if not, the time by which such illegal offices are likely to be closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (d) The Master Plan of Delhi 2001 and Zonal Plan allow some shops in residential area under the mixed use policy, subject to certain stipulations wherein certain types of shops are not permitted/are excluded. In the approved zonal plans, mixed land use streets have been identified where activities other than residential have been permitted.

As per Government's Notification dated 23.7.98 professional activity has been allowed in residential plots and flats on any floor on the condition that part of the premises shall be permitted to be used upto a maximum of 5% of FAR or 100 sq. metres whichever is less for non-residential but non-nuisance activities for rendering service based on professional skills.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has informed that as and when any commercial activity is found running illegally in residential colonies of Delhi, prosecution action is taken against the mis-user under Section 347/461 of Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1957. The MCD has also informed that it has not permitted any business organization to run any office in areas under reference.

Amendment to Criminal Procedure Code

4630. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the some State Governments have proposed to amend the criminal procedure code making bigamy permissible for both the husband and wife; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Release of Coal to Briquetting Units

4631. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the briquetting units have been allowed for non-Ranigunj coal only;

(b) if so, the manner in which the coal is being released to these units from Ranigunj in West Bengal;

(c) whether Eastern Coalfields Limited is still releasing Ranigunj coal to these units that are entitled for slack coal only;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Union Government are aware of the misuse and illegal selling of coal allocated to briquetting units in West Bengal (most of them non-existent or are not in operation) by Coal India Limited;

(f) if so, the facts thereof;

(g) whether the Union Government propose to get the matter enquired by the Chief Vigilance Commission; and

(h) if so, the steps taken so far by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Coal is being released from collieries of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) to briquetting units as per "linkage advice letter" issued by Coal India Limited (CIL) and in accordance with the maximum permissible quantity fixed for each unit on the basis of its lifting in the preceding three years. Supply of coal is made strictly on the basis of linkage and current spcnsorship/positive status report from the State Government under which the unit fall.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given at (c) above.

(e) to (h) Union Government is not aware about the misuse of coal allocated to briquetting units. However, under the new coal sales policy for non-core sector consumers, which is being evolved by Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), a simple and transparent policy for sale of coal to this sector is envisaged. The system of linkage and sponsorship is being done away with and in its place ECL will enter into a Fuel Supply Agreement with the consumers. Coal companies have been advised to get all briquette units manufacturing smokeless fuel inspected and send a report about action taken for discontinuance/ continuance of coal supply to these units based on functioning/non-functioning of the units.

Distance Education and Open Universities

4632. SHRI P. D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the list of top 10 Universities running successfully the Distance Education Programmes and open university in as far as in terms of enrolment and income earnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Agreement between Kendriya Bhandar and its Vendors

4633. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision in the Agreement entered into between the Kendriya Bhandar and its vendors to fetch requirement of stationery items, computers, furniture etc. from the Government offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such an Agreement leads to corruption;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The tender document for registration has a provision regarding marketing of approved products on behalf of Kendriya Bhandar.

(c) There is no reason to believe that the procedure would breed corruption.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Central Research Institutions in Bihar

4634. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise, names of research institutions/organisations/bodies of the Central Government in Bihar;

(b) the total budget allocated for each of the said body as on date;

(c) the names of the bodies/organisations/ institutions which have not fully utilised the allocated amount; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA"): (a) There are two scientific research institutions of Central Government located in the State of Bihar. These are Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences at Patna under Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and ICAR Research Complex for the Eastern Region at Patna under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

(b) The Plan Budget allocated for each of the above research institutions during the year 2002-03 is as given below:

- Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna — Rs. 316.63 Lakhs.
- ICAR Research Complex for the Eastern Region, Patna — Rs. 200.00 Lakhs.

(c) The allocated budget was fully utilised.

(d) Does not arise.

Anganwadi Kendras

4635. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Anganwadi Kendras functioning in the country State-wise especially in Bihar as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have sought to sanction more Anganwadi Kendras to cover increasing number of children;

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

(d) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to bring about improvement in the condition of Anganwadi workers in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) The information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Requests have been received from the States of Assam, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh Haryana, Chhattisgarh and Mizoram for sanction of additional Anganwadi Centres. However, in view of resource constraints, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme has been continued in the X Plan with no expansion activities.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. The Government has recently increased the honoraria of Anganwadi Workers by Rs.500/- and of Anganwadi Helpers by Rs.240/- per month, with effect from 1.4.2002.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	No. of Anganwadi Centre functioning as on 31.12.2002
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	51355
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1380
3	Assam $	19719
4	Bihar $	17683
5	Chhattisgarh	20156
6	Goa	1011
7	Gujarat	32744
8	Haryana	13546
9	Himachal Pradesh	7125
10	Jammu & Kashmir	9951
11	Jharkhand	13635
12	Karnataka	40246
13	Kerala	24231
14	Madhya Pradesh	46864
15	Maharashtra	55510
16	Manipur	4371
17	Meghalaya	2195
18	Mizoram	1320
19	Nagaland	2570
20	Orissa	30560
21	Punjab	14016
22	Rajasthan	35410
23	Sikkim	493
24	Tamil Nadu	31713
25	Tripura	3553
26	Uttar Pradesh	55673
27	Uttaranchal	3974
28	West Bengal	50650
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	429
30	Chandigarh	300
31	Delhi	3842
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	138
33	Daman & Diu	87
34	Lakshadweep	74
35	Pondicherry	677
	All India	597201

$ as on 30.9.2002

SGSY in Bihar

4636. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana' is being implemented in all the districts of the country especially in the Districts of Bihar;

(b) if so, the date from which it is being implemented and the Central allocation made for these districts under the said schemes so far; and

(c) the number of the beneficiaries provided self employment in these districts under the scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is being implemented in rural areas of all the districts of the country including all the districts of Bihar.

(b) and (c) Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is under implementation since 1st April, 1999. The district wise central allocation in the State of Bihar since inception of the scheme and the number of Swarozgaris assisted under the scheme is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	District	1999-2000	
		Central Allocation	No. of Swarozgaris Assisted
1	2	3	4
Bihar			
1	Araria	364.328	861
2	Aurangabad	354.104	1027
3	Banka	233.483	176
4	Buxar	241.016	1375
5	Begsarai	424.638	1976
6	Bhabhua (Kaimur)	276.277	384
7	Bhagalpur	497.360	485
8	Bhojpur	386.699	3406
9	Bokaro	248.800	1643
10	Chatra	210.860	2298
11	Darbhanga	547.699	3999
12	Deoghar	213.539	408
13	Dhanbad	306.444	2260
14	Dumka	447.261	1558
15	East Champaran	698.488	1819
16	East Shighbhum	341.705	2137
17	Garhwa	263.877	2488
18	Gaya	706.033	9093
19	Giridih	316.655	3903
20	Godda	243.694	398
21	Gopalganj	344.132	1674
22	Gumla	439.716	4470
23	Hazaribagh	231.044	2335
24	Jamui	261.199	1607
25	Jahanabad	281.394	264
26	Katihar	437.289	2726
27	Khagaria	228.616	510
28	Kishanganj	211.100	2119
29	Koderma	115.528	976
30	Lukhisarai	251.478	0
31	Lohardaga	100.438	820
32	Madhepura	298.899	3529
33	Madhubani	620.660	720
34	Munger	165.867	382
35	Muzaffarpur	628.205	2610
36	Nalanda	492.494	2434
37	Nawadah	344.132	2120
38	Pakur	178.266	1449
39	Palamau	512.438	2260

1	2	3	4
40	Patna	715.993	7256
41	Purnea	462.111	3183
42	Ranchi	577.854	5972
43	Rohtas	442.143	0
44	Saharsa	268.744	2894
45	Sahebganj	226.177	2126
46	Samastipur	610.449	1829
47	Saran	492.685	1428
48	Shaikhpura	145.683	0
49	Sheohar	77.828	478
50	Sitamarhi	525.077	1042
51	Siwan	404.455	887
52	Supaul	326.627	1920
53	Vaishali	457.221	693
54	West Champaran	572.749	947
55	West Singhbhum	602.904	1039
	Total	20374.560	106393

(2000-01 to 2002-03) (Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No.	District	Total	
		Central Allocation	No. of Swarozgaris Assisted
1	2	3	4
Bihar			
1	Araria	670.13	6209
2	Aurangabad	651.32	8088
3	Banka	429.43	2790
4	Buxar	781.05	12535
5	Begusarai	508.14	12834
6	Bhabhua (Kaimur)	914.78	4381
7	Bhagalpur	711.26	16205
8	Bhojpur	443.29	6199
9	Darbhanga	906.21	11579
10	East Champaran	1007.36	19557
11	Gaya	1284.71	10827
12	Gopalganj	1298.61	15902
13	Jamui	632.96	15369
14	Jahanabad	517.56	8050
15	Katihar	480.43	8560
16	Khagaria	804.28	9973
17	Kishanganj	420.51	3263
18	Lukhisarai	388.27	13947
19	Madhepura	462.57	2382
20	Madhubani	549.77	9114
21	Munger	1141.58	9279
22	Muzaffarpur	305.06	1871
23	Nalanda	1155.45	17880
24	Nawadah	905.84	13353
25	Patna	632.96	4783
26	Purnea	1316.92	17614
27	Rohtas	849.95	11409
28	Saharsa	813.22	11513
29	Samastipur	494.30	6777
30	Chapra (Saran)	1122.82	12986
31	Shaikhpura	267.95	1270
32	Sheohar	143.15	1241
33	Sitamarhi	965.79	21134
34	Siwan	743.91	21407
35	Supaul	600.78	7908
36	Vaishali	840.96	5541
37	West Champaran	1053.47	6907
	Total	27216.76	370637

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table–

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva-Bharti, Santiniketan, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visva-Bharti, Santiniketan, for the year 2001-2002.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7354/2003]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2001-2002.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7355/2003]

(5) (a) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7356/2003]

(b) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7357/2003]

(6) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Indian Institute of Technology Act, 1961:

(i) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the year 2001-2002 together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7358/2003]

(ii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 2001-2002 together with Audit Report thereon.

(7) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) and (6) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7359/2003]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2001-2002.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7360/2003]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Veda-Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Veda-

Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement Regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Veda-Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 2001-2002.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7361/2003]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 2001-2002.

(13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7362/2003]

(14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2001-2002.

(15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7363/2003]

(16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 2001-2002.

(17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7364/2003]

(18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tezpur University, Tejpur, for the year 2001-2002.

(19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7365/2003]

(20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Practical Training, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002.

(21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7366/2003]

(22) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

(23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7367/2003]

(24) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of

Apprenticeship Training (Western Region), Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region), Mumbai, for the year 2001-2002.

(25) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (24) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7368/2003]

(26) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, for the year 2000-2001.

(27) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (26) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7369/2003]

(28) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar, for the year 2000-2001.

(29) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (28) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7370/2003]

(30) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Regional Engineering College, Silchar, for the year 2000-2001, 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 2000-2001.

(31) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (30) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7371/2003]

(32) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(33) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (32) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7372/2003]

(34) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of National Institute of Technology, Hamirpur, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Hamirpur, for the year 2001-2002.

(35) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (34) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7373/2003]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran, I beg to lay on the Table–

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151 (1) of the Constitution:-

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India–Union Government (No.1 of 2003) – Accounts of the Union Government for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7374/2003]

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.2 of 2003) – Transaction Audit Observations for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7375/2003]

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India –Union Government (No.3 of 2003) – Performance Appraisals for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7376/2003]

(iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.5 of 2003) – (Scientific Departments) for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7377/2003]

(v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.6 of 2003) (Defence Services) – Army and Ordnance Factories for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7378/2003]

(vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.7 of 2003) (Defence Services) – Air Force and Navy for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7379/2003]

(vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.8 of 2003) – (Railways) for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7380/2003]

(viii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.9 of 2003) (Railways) for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7381/2003]

(ix) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.10 of 2003) (Indirect Taxes –Customs) for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7382/2003]

(x) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.11 of 2003) (Indirect Taxes – Central Excise and Service) for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7383/2003]

(xi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.12 of 2003) (Direct Taxes) for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7384/2003]

(xii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India – Union Government (No.13 of 2003) (Direct Taxes) – System Appraisals for the year ended the March, 2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 7385/2003]

(2) A copy of Appropriation Accounts, Indian Railways for the year 2001-2002, Part-I – Review (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7386/2003]

(3) A copy of Appropriation Accounts, Indian Railways for the year 2001-2002, Part II – Detailed Appropriation Accounts (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7387/2003]

(4) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Indian Railways for the year 2001-2002, Part-II – Detailed Appropriation Accounts (Annexure-G) (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7388/2003]

(5) A copy of the Union Government – Appropriation Accounts (Civil) for the year 2001-2002 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7389/2003]

(6) A copy of the Union Government – Finance Accounts for the year 2001-2002 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7390/2003]

(7) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services – Union Government – for the year 2001-2002 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7391/2003]

(8) A copy of the Appropriation (Postal Services) – Union Government – for the year 2001-2002 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7392/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 366 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 2003 containing order indicating the supplies of urea to be made by domestic manufacturers of urea to States and Union Territories during Kharif season 2003 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7393/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table–

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited 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 2000-2001.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7394/2003]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited 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 2001-2002.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7395/2003]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Action Taken Report (Hindi and English versions) on the recommendations contained in the Annual Report of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7396/2003]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the National Security Guard (Group "B" - Non-Gazetted Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 53 in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2003 under sub-section (3) of section 139 of the National Security Guard Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. LT. 7397/2003]

12.01 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Thirteenth Report

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (SAMASTIPUR): Sir, I beg to present the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of Estimates

Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Ninth Report (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Shipping - 'Expansion and Modernisation of Ports with special reference to Mormugao Port Trust'.

12.01½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

Nineteenth Report

[English]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (DELHI SADAR): Sir, I beg to present the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence (2003) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2003-2004.

12.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Forty-fifth to Forty-ninth Reports

[English]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development:

(1) Forty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation (Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation);

(2) Forty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development);

(3) Forty-seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2003 - 2004) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development);

(4) Forty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development); and

(5) Forty-ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Urban Development (Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation).

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS

Ninety-ninth, one Hundredth and one hundred first Report

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (DEORIA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the Ninety Ninth, One Hundredth and One Hundred First Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs. On Demand for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Development of North Eastern Region and the Ministry of Law and Justice respectively.

12.04 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Central Silk Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, 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 Central Silk Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, 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 Central Silk Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a Calling Attention notice from Shri H.D. Devegowda.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, maize crop is sown in 2 lakh hectares of land in Bihar. Sixteen lakh tonnes of maize is produced by farmers in Bihar but a muti-national company has advertised a seed of maize branded as Kargil and claimed that it would yield 80 quintal of maize per acre. Farmers purchased that seed and sowed it. The crop bloomed a lot and the ears of corn were also fairly large but not a single grain of seed corn developed inside the ear of corn in the crop area of one lakh and eighty thousand acres of land. The ear of corn and the plants of maize were fed to the cattle and the crop of farmers was devastated.

Sir, money was spent on seeds, irrigation and fertilizers but not a single grain of maize was produced. In this way, a big fraud has been played by multi-national company against the farmers. A leading newspaper of India highlighted it in the news under the caption "Hamari Kheti ka vinash". Thus farmers have been betrayed, cheated and defrauded. What are the Government of India doing? Due to this farmers are crying for protection. My request is that the Government should hold an inquiry and submit a report. If the use of such an unproductive seed continues, the crop of farmers will be ruined and it will be a foul play against farmers. The Government should take it seriously, hold an inquiry and provide compensations to the farmers. Unproductive and sterile seeds are being sown in India. What are the reasons? The Government of India should investigate them and take prompt action to prevent it. ...*(Interruptions)*

12.06 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in the country.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the spread of a particular type of pneumonia SARS is a serious matter. The Government of India have been stating till now that there is no SARS patient in India but today the Health Minister of Maharashtra has stated that three SARS patients have been admitted they were found suffering from SARS.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Government have stated that all arrangements have been made since April 4 but the major hospitals of Delhi have no requisite facilities, equipments and masks. The cumulative effect of this would be that proper treatment will not be possible. SARS is having its psychological impact due to which, as stated by the Minister of Civil Aviation in the reply to a written question that Air India and Indian Airlines have incurred losses to the tune of Rs.7 crores and eighty lakhs and Rs. 92 lacs respectively as lesser number of passengers are travelling now. It is a very serious matter and the Government of India should have taken prompt action to prevent the spread of this disease. The requisite equipments should be provided. The facilities which were supposed to have been provided to the major hospitals, have not been made available. Today's statement of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra has proved that this disease has arrived in India also. It is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Health Minister on the last day of the first half of the Budget Session made a very good statement on this and she also had elaborated on the arrangements that have been made to take care of this problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to appeal to all Members of the House, cutting across Party lines on this issue, that we should not unnecessarily create panic that would adversely affect the Indian economy and particularly the tourism sector. The care that should be taken by the respective State Governments in coordination with the Central Government should be more effectively implemented.

It is a fact that a few cases have been reported in places like Goa, New Delhi and Pune and those are being taken care of by the respective State Governments and the Union Government. What I would like to urge upon the Government of India today is that already three nations under the ASEAN and China have been badly affected by this disease and no less than the Prime Minister of Singapore has stated that it is the worst crisis in Singapore.

I do want that in India all the political parties, Members and the Government, cutting across the party-line, should not be swayed emotionally by the campaign and panic of SARS to such a degree that might endanger our own economy, understanding and tourism. At the same time, I appeal to the hon. Minister that in specific cases detected by Goa, Pune and Delhi, she may kindly inform in general as a caution. The Minister said in her last statement that good supportive treatment has been found effective in many cases. That particular supportive treatment - either the name of a capsule or other medicine - may be quietly communicated on the TV and media throughout the country, so that rumour mongers will not create any problem, and at the same time, healthcare will be taken to the extent possible. I would like to know from the Union Minister whether she has formed the kind of Control Room to monitor the whole thing right from the Airport immigration to Seaport immigration up to reporting to the State Government. That will suffice for the moment.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, three patients have been tested positive for SARS in Pune district of Maharashtra. It is a deadly disease. So, it is essential to check it. Recently a patient suspected to be suffering from SARS has been identified in Ranchi. The Shiv Sena leader Chandrakant Khaire ji and we all members had met the Minister of Health Mrs. Sushma Swaraj 15 days ago. We had requested her that the deadly disease which has come from foreign lands is required to be checked. Immediate measures are needed to be taken. For this we had also met the Minister for Civil Aviation. ...*(Interruptions)* A foreign disease is spreading here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Jadhav ji please conclude. The Hon. Minister would like to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, I had given notice to speak during the 'Zero Hour'. I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak here. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, prompt measures are required to be taken for this. Mumbai and Delhi are Metropolitan cities. Three patients suffering from SARS have been detected particularly in Maharashtra.

I would like to request the hon. Health Minister through you, Sir, that immediate measures should be taken to check the disease of SARS at the earliest. Otherwise this disease may assume proportions of an epidemic. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I request you to mobilise all the means for its prevention. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should also be given opportunity to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to speak on SARS.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Sir, my question is more important that this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a shortage of doctors and medicines at Mumbai Airport. It is a very fatal disease. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Jadhav ji, now please sit down. I have given you ample opportunity to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: I would like to request the Hon. Minister through you, Sir, that it is a dangerous disease it may turn into an epidemic. Therefore, the Health Minister, the Government of India should take immediate steps in this regard and take prompt measures to check the epidemic. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (CALCUTTA NORTH WEST): We have no doubt that one of the most efficient Ministers in the country, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, is well aware as to how to tackle this problem. I was travelling from Singapore on 13th April. Sir, you will be shocked to know. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Are you coming from Singapore? If you are coming from Singapore, then I should consider seriously whether you should be permitted to attend the House!

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, in the 'J' class of the Indian Airlines, there were only two passengers. Myself and my wife were travelling in the Indian Airlines from Singapore to Bangkok, and from Bangkok to Kolkata, there was a huge load because people Were trying to come over from there.

Sir, the total system of medical treatment in the airports has to be strengthened because this disease is normally coming from different parts of Bangkok, Hongkong, Singapore and other affected areas.

I would urge the Government that they should be cautious from the very beginning because the Indian economy, as Shri Suman was saying, is really going to be affected or it might have been affected. The affected parts of the disease is totally a vacant land. I hope the hon. Health Minister would efficiently deal with the problem and succeed in the treatment process and report to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry to say that I would not allow many Members to speak on the issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, on behalf of my Party, I would like to associate myself with what Shri Dasmunsi and other Members who spoke on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you may associate with them.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister, please reply.

[English]

There is no time because Calling Attention Motion has to be taken up now. So, you may reply right now.

[Translation]

His notice is also there, I have not permitted him also.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request you that let all these Members who have given notices may be allowed to speak. It would be better if I speak only after all the hon'ble Members express themselves, then I will comply with your orders.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I too wanted that all members be provided time who have given notices, thereafter only, I would have spoken so that it could be sorted out. However, you have ordered from the chair owing to the paucity of time.

I do associate myself with the concern expressed by the Hon'ble Members over SARS. Even before recess was declared, I had given suo-moto statement over SARS. We don't have procedures to raise questions over statements. However, I intentionally asked the person in the chair that if he gives an opportunity to put questions, I'll be able to reply to them in detail. It occurs to me that the reply given by me did sort out certain problems. I would like to heartily thank Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsiji who has projected the issue in the right perspective. It is such an issue that must be taken as an issue of concern. Concern must be resolved, but it must not result in topsy-turvy situation, one must not create panic. Therefore, I would like to convey to my colleague Shri Ramjilal Suman, as he said the Government kept on saying that no case of SARS has been reported while SARS cases have been identified. The Government issued statements that no SARS cases have been reported only to such time upto when the cases were not found. The very day on which SARS case was reported, the Govt. made statement that the case has been identified. Let me bring it to the kind information of all other Members that we have decided, the procedure has been put in place and we communicate to Media with our updated information at 5 in the evening on daily basis. The cases that are being identified outside, details of all of them have been produced by us. There's a full-fledged Control Room where all information is collected and the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) hold press conference everyday during evening hours and we feed them with updated information as to how many of the cases have been tested positive and how many of them have been tested negative. We also furnish details of patients kept in isolation and also the details of those who were discharged. A complete proforma is there with the patients' name written therein, which we give to the press persons as Press Communique. We don't want any information to be asked on conjectural grounds. Therefore, whatever information has been available to you, has been furnished by the Government until such time as no case was reported, we kept on saying that there was no case. The day on which the case was found positive. It was the case of Prashil Varde. It was the case of Goa and we made it clear that he was called back and was kept in isolation, but, there were such cases, whose blood sample were tested positive. However, when they were kept out of the isolation zone. It was also stated that they were put in Home Quarantine. As Mr. Sudip Bandopadhyaya was saying right now when he came back from Singapore, everybody thought that the persons concerned be consigned to Home Quarantine. In fact, it involves incubation period which ranges from two to ten days. If a person comes from any such place where he has been infected with the disease, he may be sick with the disease within two to ten days. Therefore, when we had the case of Parashil Vardhe in Goa, by then ours was a reporting country. It couldn't be transmitted to our country at the local level. The first case that was identified at Pune became the case of local transmission. Mr. D. Silva who was infected with SARS got communicated to his mother and sister after sometime. Just see, there appeared no panic even yesterday. That girl was to be married. They reduced the number of guests and visitors in the marriage ceremony. However, the marriage was celebrated. Till then our people, Maharashtra's team remained outside. Soon thereafter, they were admitted to the Isolation ward.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, two types of arrangement are required for SARS. In the first category are such people that are coming from abroad. Now you can't compel us to stop all international flights because all the passengers coming here don't belong to infected countries. Among the places from where passengers are coming it can't just be ensured whether anyone hails from an infected country or else. Then the only way forward is to stop all international flight completely. If somebody is coming from the USA ten days earlier he had visited Hong Kong, if you continue to operate flights from the USA. Obviously, the passengers travelling from the USA to us via, Hong Kong may be a carrier of SARS. You just can't stop it completely. The first preventive measure to be taken is to strengthen our airports and undertake proper screening of persons arriving there. We have properly strengthened them by deploying Health Officers, Medical Officers etc. They are being screened by the Medical officers themselves. Let me tell you that out of all the cases that come to our notice, three cases are such that we ourselves have set apart from the Airport. Be it the case of Daniel Mark who got admitted to the RML Hospital or Maria's case we identified them over there

only because they suffered from Nose-running and slight fever, this was why we suspected them to be in incubation period though there were no such clinical findings as to declare them to be SARS patients. However, it occurred to us that they might be in incubation period, that was why we instantly made them admit to the RML Hospital. His blood sample was taken. When their blood samples tested negative, we discharged them. The first thing that we are going to undertake is to ensure that screening process is undertaken by the Medical Officers themselves at every airport in case of the passengers coming from the flights having their points of origin in these places only. Secondly, if even then, some case comes to notice, he/she should be treated in the Isolation ward. As I said in Delhi, we had made the provision of Isolation wards all over the country in every Metropolitan city, the Hospitals meant for the treatment of Infectious diseases, were converted into dedicated hospitals and in the rest of the hospitals, arrangements were made for treatment in the Isolation wards. After the detection of case of Pune, more and more precautionary measures were warranted to be taken up. If any sample is sent to the National Institute of virology wherein sputum sample is tested, and throat Swab, Nasal, Urine and blood Swab are examined. On conducting the test over there, we are able to ensure whether it's a case of SARS or not. Now, we have made over re-agents after getting primer from outside. Through those re-agents we are able to detect exactly after the process of sequencing. In every case we have discovered on our own that they have tested positive. This is indeed a great achievement of India that the NISD and the NIV are currently equipped with such primers that don't require to out-source any kit nor we have to send samples outside. We perform sequencing at our own level and expeditiously ensure whether the patient concerned suffers from SARS.

From now on, we have put one more precautionary measure in place, that's unless a sample becomes available and positive or otherwise report is submitted, the person admitted in the Isolation ward won't be discharged. For this sake, I myself have called for the meeting of all Ministers of Health. The Meeting is scheduled to be held here at 3 p.m. the day after tomorrow, where in red alert is to be sounded. Moreover, other kinds of precautionary measures are being taken. I myself am consulting the health secretaries placed in various states across the country and I would like to assure all the Members that all the elaborate arrangements that were warranted have well been put in place. The WHO has also remarked that India is handling the whole things of affairs very efficiently. On the issue of the concern being expressed, I just wanted to let the Members know that there is no point of worrying as such. This is true that SARS is an epidemic even-then this country has so far remained totally safe. Now, of course, cases have been reported but still situation is well under control and we are taking all precautions. No laxity or carelessness will be allowed on our part. This much I can assure the hon'ble Members.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not yet started 'Zero Hour'. I have allowed the issue of SARS as an exceptional case. Now, we have to take up Calling Attention.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also to say something about SARS.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you the opportunity when discussion will be held again. Now, please be seated.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I want to ask only one question. ...*(Interruptions)* Yesterday, we were watching TV when we saw people on screen saying that we were allowed to go without proper investigation. The doctors asked them to leave if they had no cough. In this way the passengers are allowed to go. I had raised this issue on behalf of the Shiv Sena that people are not being properly investigated at the Air Port. Hon'ble Minister may kindly pay attention towards it. ...*(Interruptions)*

12.26 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of the strike by truck operators in the country thereby causing scarcity of vegetables and essential commodities and steps taken by the Govt. in regard thereto.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (KANAKPURA): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of State of Road Transport & Highways to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

> "The situation arising out of continued strike by truck operators in the country thereby causing scarcity of vegetables and essential commodities and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDUR]: Sir, a seven-point Charter of Demands was received from the All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) on 25th March, 2003. Thereafter, a ten point Charter of Demands was received on 4th April, 2003. Since some of the demands were to be acted upon by State Governments/ other Central Ministries, these were conveyed to the respective authorities immediately. On 7th April, 2003, AIMTC were invited for discussions on their demands. However, they replied vide their fax dated 8th April, 2003 that they would talk only to the Minister and that their President was on tour and he would be available only on 13th April, 2003.

However, two meetings, on 7th April and 11th April were held between the representatives of AIMTC and officers of this Ministry. At these meetings, it was explained to them that there was no conflict between AIMTC and Government's stand on most of the issues. They were, therefore, requested to call off/defer their proposed agitation. Yet AIMTC chose to start the strike at 0600 hours on 14th April, 2003.

The representatives of AIMTC met me on 17th April, 2003. At this meeting they conveyed their demands. I explained the Government's stand on each of the demands. I also requested them that they call off the agitation.

Out of the ten demands of AIMTC there is no difference of opinion on seven of them. These seven demands are:

1. Repeal order pertaining to 15-year old vehicles.
2. Insurance companies be disciplined.
3. Non-inclusion of transporters under VAT.
4. Fix minimum freight rates for trucks.
5. National permit scheme be made logical.
6. Computerisation of Driving Licences and Registration Books, and
7. Amendment of Carriers Act, 1865.

The three remaining demands of AIMTC are as follows:-

1. Demand

Diesel prices be made stable and uniform all over the country and pricing mechanism be made transparent.

Ministry's Stand

We have taken up the matter with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (PNG). They have stated that the price of diesel/petrol is dependent upon the international price of crude. However, hon. Members are also aware that the administered price system is no more in force, market forces decide the cost of fuel. Notwithstanding this, the Ministry of PNG has agreed that they would be willing to consider not revising the fuel prices every fortnight subject to the condition that price fluctuation remains within 25 paise per litre. In case the fluctuation is more than 25 paise, then they would have to revise the prices.

2. Demand

Abolition of Toll Tax on four-lane Highways and Cess on Diesel.

Ministry's Stand

It has been made clear to the transporters that funds are required not only for development of highways but also for improving the entire road network in the country, including the Rural Roads and State Highways. It has also been clarified that Toll is a "User fee" which is being charged from those who use this much improved facility, which results in saving to the user. It has also been made clear to the striking transporters that it is not possible to accept this demand.

3. Demand

Effectively control the overloading and unloading of overloaded goods be made compulsory.

Ministry's Stand

Overloading of vehicles is a violation of the Motor Vehicles Act. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways takes a serious view of this. Checking of overloading falls under the purview of the respective States/UTs. The States have been informed that if they fail to check overloading, this Ministry would be constrained to invoke the provisions of the Central Road Fund Act, 2000 and stop the grant that is being made available to them.

As stated earlier, the Ministry has no dispute with the AIMTC on seven out of the ten demands. The eighth demand is not negotiable. Therefore, effectively only two demands namely one with the Ministry of PNG and the other one with the State Governments require some discussion. The Petroleum Ministry has already been addressed in this regard.

Hence, my request to the striking transporters has been that inasmuch as there is no difference of opinion for most of the demands, it would help in creating a congenial atmosphere by calling off their agitation. The remaining two demands can be discussed to find a solution which is acceptable to all.

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri]

Notwithstanding all these efforts, in anticipation, the Ministry has taken a number of steps in order to see that normalcy is maintained to the extent possible. Some of the major steps taken are as follows:

(i) Control Room has been set up in the Ministry as well as in all the State Capitals to monitor the price situation and law and order.

(ii) Effective steps have been taken to ensure that flow of perishables and essential commodities are not adversely affected. The States have been advised to utilise all modes of transport and movement of such goods.

(iii) States have activated their field staff to caution wholesalers and retailers from profiteering.

(iv) Police force has been alerted so that no untoward law and order situation arises.

(v) Ministry of Railways has been requested to provide adequate support in moving the essential commodities.

(vi) Ministry of PNG has been alerted to ensure that shortage of fuel supply does not take place in the States.

(vii) I am personally in touch with the Chief Ministers and Transport Ministers of various States.

(viii) All States have taken adequate steps and it is well known that in a strike situation some minor hardships would be caused to the citizens. However, by and large, supply of essential commodities including perishables has been maintained throughout the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, five Members whose names have been given here can ask clarificatory questions from the Minister. As there is a time limit for this and the issue being of great importance, I would request the Members to be as brief as possible and get the reply from the hon. Minister. Now, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Sir, the hon. Minister has made some efforts to see that the strike is ended. But, unfortunately he was unable to come to a proper understanding on three demands of the truck operators, according to his own Statement.

The hon. Minister has said that two demands are not negotiable. Further, he has said that the remaining two demands can be discussed to find a solution which is acceptable to all. I do not know which are those two demands, which are not negotiable. ...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Only one demand, which is not negotiable.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: You have mentioned three demands. The first one is about the diesel price. The second one is abolition of toll tax. The third one is effectively controlling overloading and unloading. Out of these three demands, two demands are not negotiable. ...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Only one demand, toll tax.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Today is the eighth day of their strike. The Minister has taken certain steps to see that hardships would not be caused to the general public. But, Sir, I would like to say that the ground reality is something different. First of all, the drivers are suffering; the loaders are suffering; and the cleaners are suffering. I have travelled about 2000 kilometres during the last three days in my home State. Everywhere the trucks were stopped. Nobody is creating law and order problem. They are sleeping on the roads. And whether they get food or not, they are sleeping on the roads. One hundred to two vehicles were stopped near some of the villages. As far as the workers are concerned, that is the position. No truck owner would pay emoluments, including daily allowance, to the loaders, cleaners and drivers. That is number one.

The second one is regarding the essential commodities. Today, whatever may be the steps that you have asked the states to take, the situation is totally different. The vegetables, fruits, milk products and all perishables are not moving to the required places where the demand is there. Everywhere, the prices of the essential commodities like vegetables, fruits and other items have risen sky-high.

Sir, this is the situation. Now, you have shifted the responsibility on the one side to the Ministry of Petroleum. After we demolished the Administrative Price Mechanism, the fluctuation of the international market price cannot be the reason to ask the truck owners to bear the burden. What can the transport operators do when they want to charge on the goods which they are going to transport? They cannot charge every 15 days and go on trying to fix it according to the international market price of the crude oil. It is a very peculiar system. So. all these three issues should be borne in mind.

About the toll tax, they have to pay it at different places. How many places do you want them to pay the toll tax? Do they have to pay in each State? In addition to that, there is

harassment by the official machinery – the police, the Commercial Tax Department and the Transport Department. Everybody knows this. It is not the question of 'x' State or 'y' State. They have been unnecessarily harassed. I do not want to say that there is corruption, but the greasing is so much. So, they cannot sustain all this, what is called, expenditure which is not known, but which is known to all of us. We cannot say how much they have to pay. It is a known fact. So, these are some of the issues to which the transport operators have put to a lot of inconvenience. So, what is the final stand of the Central Government? It is because you put the responsibility on the State Governments on the one side and, on the Ministry of Petroleum on the other side.

About toll tax, it is an issue of your own Department. Ultimately, on these three issues, still you have not come to any final conclusion so far as the negotiation is concerned. How long will this strike continue? If you do not make efforts to end the strike, ultimately, as I told you, the sufferers are the workers, the loaders, even the drivers, the conductors or whoever they may be, and the general public. You should put an end to it. I do not think it is proper on the part of the Government to allow this to continue further.

Today I read in the newspaper that the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, even the senior Ministers and senior office bearers of the BJP have had some discussions yesterday or today on this issue to end this stalemate. Without any further delay, this strike should be ended amicably so that the transport operators should start their operational work. Thank you very much.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): This truck owners strike is creating an adverse impact both on the common man and on the economy. The patience of the common man and the industry is running out. The movements of the goods within the country and from the Ports have been crippled. In the best interest of the nation, this strike may be resolved urgently and normalcy may be brought back urgently.

I was going through the statement of the hon. Minister. The statement itself shows the callous attitude of the Government. This strike would have been avoided. The Minister himself is mentioning in his statement that the President of the Truck Owners Association says that he will discuss only with the Minister. He does not want to discuss with the officials. If the Minister had talked to them earlier and settled this issue, this strike would have been avoided. I do not understand, in a democratic set up, why the Minister is shying away from talking to the lorry owners. He says that only my Ministry people, my officials will talk to them. We wasted five days only on this issue. The Minister could have intervened at the right and appropriate time, talked to these people and the trade union leaders and settled the issues. Also, the Minister has said that some minor hardships would have been caused to the citizens. What is this?

I would like to know whether the Minister is not living in this country. The normal life of the citizen is hurt. Every State Government is facing a lot of problems and alternative arrangements have failed.

The State Governments have their own difficulties in meeting the requirements of the people. For example, the State of Kerala is a consumer State. We are getting everything from outside the State, either from Tamil Nadu or from Karnataka. Now, nothing is coming to our State and people are suffering. Even though our State Government has taken a lot of interest and a lot of precautions, unscrupulous traders are trying to exploit the common man. The steps taken by the State Government are not adequate and the people are suffering.

On the 17th of this month, the representatives of these unions met the hon. Minister. I do not know why the hon. Minister should not have called them much earlier and resolved these issues. Out of the ten demands, seven were accepted and only three were remaining. One of them is the frequent hike in petrol and diesel prices. This is not the concern of the truck owners alone but a concern of everybody. On the frequent rise in diesel and petrol prices, Parliament is not taken into confidence. Nobody is aware why every time they are increasing the petrol and diesel prices. This is the attitude of the Government. Without any kind of responsibility, the Government is increasing the prices. The negative impact of this on the economy is also a serious issue. I do not know why the Government has not taken all these issues seriously.

Shri H.D. Deve Gowda had just now mentioned that some of the BJP leaders are talking about it but I do not understand why this issue is prolonging. There is an allegation that the Government is trying to split the unions. I want to know only two things. What is the strategy of the Government if the strike is prolonged? All the alternative arrangements made so far have not been up to the mark and have not been satisfactory. So, what further steps are contemplated by the Government to ensure availability of essential commodities to the common man'? The farmers are also suffering a lot. They are cultivating perishable produce and they are unable to market them. What steps would be taken by the Government to help the farmers?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (KHAMMAM): Sir, please ask the hon. Minister to allow us to use the buses. I have been using them in my constituency.

[Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury]

[Translation]

We have removed the seats of the buses and have sent fruits through them. Otherwise no one in the Parliament would get mango to eat.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking him for permission now though you are already using them without permission!

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, it is already being done by many States.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I am already doing it in my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: She is doing it without permission and she is now asking for permission!

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I strongly disapprove the attitude of the Government of India towards such a situation. On the first day, at the first moment, I expected the Government to come forward to explain the situation and take the House into confidence. Due to our intervention yesterday, in the morning we came to know that the hon. Minister would make a statement. You were kind enough to admit the Calling Attention and we got the full statement. I strongly condemn this attitude of the Government. This is not a fair attitude. Over the last fifteen days, the entire country has come to a halt. In every mandi and market place, the perishable items are rotting. The prices are falling in some places and somewhere else people are making profits.

I have only three specific questions. The Government says that it has conceded seven demands. If the Government has conceded seven demands, it has to clear the policy. I am told, as per the guidelines and directions of the Supreme Court, all vehicles that are fifteen or more years old should not be used on roads. The Government says that it has accepted the demand No.1 - 'repeal order to permit 15-year old vehicles'. I am happy if the hon. Minister has conceded it but the hon. Minister will have to clarify in what way he would ensure this. The hon. Minister has further said that he has conceded to their demand no. three about non-inclusion of transporters under VAT. The Union Minister of Finance, while consulting the State Finance Ministers, agreed to the limit of VAT to this sector also. Is it with the endorsement of the Union Minister of Finance? This is a very important question because the Union Finance Minister attitude and your statement are already confusing. That is why, the truck owners are very much confused.

There is another demand, which he has himself said about fixing minimum freight rates for trucks. If you have accepted their demand about minimum freight rates, then you have to take the House into confidence, what is in your estimation the minimum freight should be. You must tell us. let the public know and the truck owners also know about it.

You have accepted their seven demands. Now, you are negotiating to the other three demands of AIMTC. The hon. Minister has said and I would like to quote:

> "Effective steps have been taken to ensure that flow of perishables and essential commodities are not adversely affected."

The Hapur market, as reported yesterday, and the biggest *sabzi* market of Delhi, the *Sabzi Mandi*, reported yesterday about non-arrival of regular flow of the green vegetables, which are rotting for the last seven days, and there are no fresh arrivals. The hon Minister has said that effective steps have been taken.

The hon. Minister has further said and I want to quote:

> "States have activated their field staff to caution wholesalers and retailers from profiteering."

Sir, yesterday only the Delhi newspapers, in South, North and Central, have published four types of rates of the vegetables in Delhi varying from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 8/- per kg. Hon. Minister, these newspapers are published right at your nose. Now, you are saying that effective steps have been taken to ensure that flow of perishables and essential commodities are not adversely affected. It is affected. I do not know where from he is buying his vegetables. I have no information. It maybe that he is not taking vegetables.

Now, this is the situation. I think, he is misleading. It is because he has promised that, by and large, supply of essential commodities including perishables has been maintained throughout the country. Has he got the report from the States that it is maintained excepting Orissa? Shri Navin Patnaik has issued the statement that his inner problem is settled. The Outside trucks may not come. No State Government has still come forward with a clear statement that it has settled its domestic problems so far as the supply is concerned. How can the hon. Minister make a statement in the House that it has been ensured? It is not. Therefore, he must give a factual position as to how many State Governments have confirmed that the supply is ensured.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST):

Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated that the transporters have called off their strike in some of the States. What is the solution that has been reached at in some of the States? Whether that solution can be applied in rest of the States?

The second thing is that, the law allowing only those heavy vehicles to move which are old not more than 15 years does not appear to apply only on trucks or transport vehicles.

[English]

What is this 15 years

[Translation]

If such a law has been made then what is it's background? If it's real objective is pollution control then only removing the 15 years old vehicles from roads will not be sufficient to control pollution. Even 100 years old vintage cars run on the roads. If certain guidelines are defective.

[English]

The Government should come out and should totally amend the guidelines.

[Translation]

This is the misconception. How it has to be removed? If seven of the demands have been fulfilled and rest of other three demands which you have stated and about which we read in the Newspapers and which have been told us by Transporters themselves - have not been acceded to and if this is the reason why they are continuing their strike then. I think it is not proper. As they have three demands that if the rates of petrol and diesel go up.

[English]

They are passing it on to the industry or the ultimate consumer. They are not paying it from their own pockets. This is question number one.

Secondly, regarding toll tax, I would say that everybody is paying the toll tax in the country.

[Translation]

It has its benefits and losses. Benefits are more than the losses, therefore, if they want it to be simplified.

[English]

I can understand.

[Translation]

But if transporters insist that they should be exempted from the toll tax and the prices of diesel should not be raised for them, then I fail to appreciate it. The third point is

[English]

regarding over-loading, I am of the opinion that

[Translation]

If the transporters continue their strike over these three issues,

[English]

then, the government of India should join hands with the State Governments.

[Translation]

If impression is that general public has been taken for ransom, then the Govt. should come out with a clear cut message. We do not want that hard decision should be taken against any individual or institution by any State Government or for that matter by the Central Government itself. The public should be taken into confidence and steps should be taken in coordination with the State Governments. A similar strike was witnessed three years back. If they are so adamant on their three demands and through their collective leadership or through their collective organising capacity, they are causing losses to the general public and to the industry then I want to know from the government whether they would give them 2-3 days time? In some states the strike has been withdrawn and 7 demands have been acceded to. But if it continues in some other states then I would like to know whether the Government would take stringent action against them? Through this House I want to say this much only.

[English]

After all, this is a democratic society.

[Translation]

The Government also make mistakes which require our attention in the House. But general public should not be taken for ransom and this should be voiced together by the entire House. The government should take strict action on this issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The format of the notice and the format of the reply given by the Minister are good. I am really happy with the format that you have used stating that these are the

[Mr. Speaker]

demands, this is what the Government has done and this is what the Government proposes to do. The only aspect, which I found missing in the statement, is that in the given circumstances, the Government can make an appeal to the strikers to withdraw the strike. While replying the Minister, if he feels proper, can make an appeal to them.

Lastly, from the statement, it appears that there is not much difference between the transporters and the Government. He may also mention whether in the given circumstances, the Government is prepared to meet them again, discuss with them and sort out all these issues as early as possible. These are the two things which are required. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of an Adjournment Motion. I may be permitted to raise the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER Shri Radhakrishnan, there is a strict procedure as per the rules. If you want, I can read the rule.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I may be permitted to raise the matters even at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER: Only five Members are allowed to speak, which I have already done.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have given notice for an Adjournment Motion on the same subject. I may be permitted to put in a word. After all, we are living in democracy. Why should I not be allowed?

MR. SPEAKER: Your name did not come in the ballot. What can I do?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not deny that you have given a notice.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have given a notice for an Adjournment Motion on the same subject.

MR. SPEAKER: May I try my best to convince you?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, there is a calling attention on the same subject. ...*(Interruptions)* So, you please see that my right to raise the issue is not taken away.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you can raise it.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I had already given notice for an Adjournment Motion, even before this matter was raised.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already rejected that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, please go to him and convince him. Shri Pramod Mahajan always used to do that. Shri Dasmunsi is not doing that.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it is beyond my capacity. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Anyway, you can ask only one question as a very special case.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: After hearing the hon. Minister, an impression is created that everything is normal. It is not correct. We are not getting essential commodities and essential goods in the market. The Civil Supplies Corporation Depots are out of stocks, and nothing is available. All the Civil Supplies Corporations in my State, and in the Southern States, have been closed for the last one or two weeks because no supply is made to these Civil Supplies Corporations. Similar is the case with regard to other stocks. We do not get anything in the market. Vegetable market is more or less closed.

The learned Minister, while speaking, talked about some alternative arrangement. Where is it? If there is an alternative arrangement, vegetables should have been made available in the market.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can reply to his question. Shri Radhakrishnan, please sit down. There are only five minutes left before the House is adjourned for lunch and, before that, I have to complete the business before the House.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Nothing is available. Therefore, the alternative arrangement about which the Minister is speaking is not a correct position. Something must be done for the movement of vegetables to the market without which we cannot pull on.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, please cooperate and please conclude now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Let the Minister say as to what specific alternative arrangements are being made for the transport of vegetables and other essential goods. That is my question.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I am thankful to hon. Members and respected Shri Deve Gowda for bringing various points with regard to the truckers' strike. I want to clarify one or two things before I come on to the specific queries that have been raised.

Of course, as brought out by Shri Deve Gowda, we are all concerned about the hardship that is being created both to the common people and also to the people who are associated with this business: you have talked of the drivers, the loaders and the helpers. We fully agree with you. My effort all along has been to accommodate as much as is possible and see that this hardship is avoided.

One more issue has created a doubt -- Shri Dasmunsi and Shri Kirit Somaiya have raised it. When I spoke about the seven demands, Dasmunsi ji, I said that there was no difference of opinion. It is not conceding of demands because some of the requests do not pertain to me. Therefore, ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is a very confusing statement. Earlier, he said that there was no difference of opinion, and now he says that it is not conceding to the demands.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: You may read the Statement. I had given an advertisement in the papers. I did not want to write all those things here because I presumed that the people who would be talking on this issue would also have seen this advertisement. In that advertisement, item by item, I have given the status. There are certain demands which I cannot concede to because they are pertaining to the State; some are subject matter in court cases. Therefore, I had said that as to what are their views and to what extent we subscribe to their views. There is no difference of opinion between them and us and, therefore, we can get along with those demands properly. This, I thought, I would clarify in the beginning itself. In the advertisement, I have tried to convey to everybody as to what is the Government's view.

Various other issues have been raised and I would like to clarify one general point. I have been personally speaking to the Chief Ministers, State Transport Ministers and finding out what is the situation there. To say that there is no hardship, I think, is not correct. There is hardship, there is shortage and there are also some elements who are misusing the situation, and at the retail level, they are trying to create problems. However, there are States which have gone into this in a very innovative manner. Some of the States have converted their buses into load-carrying vehicles and they are carrying vegetables and other perishable commodities. It is being done very nicely. Even in Delhi, you might have even seen the pictures, some bullock carts from the nearby places are being used. Therefore, alternative methods have been found. In three States where the truck operators have withdrawn their strike, there is no problem there. Even in the neighbouring States, next to these three, movement is taking place, though it cannot be compared with the perfect situation that was there before the strike.

Therefore, hardships are there. What I have tried to convey is that in consultation with the State Governments, all efforts are being made to minimize these hardships. Hardships would be there, but our effort is to minimize them.

One of the issues which has been raised by Shri Deve Gowda is about fluctuations in the cost of diesel. However, the fluctuations in the cost of diesel is an issue which the Petroleum Minister has to deal with, but I have had discussions with him, and he has agreed, as we have conveyed in this, to absorb my fluctuation up to twenty-five paise. However, if the fluctuation is large, how will it be absorbed if we do not increase? A similar thing will happen with decrease. Apart from the truckers, there are a lot of other consumers who may not subscribe to this view and, therefore, a *via media* has to be found out. I requested them that let us sit down with the Petroleum Minister to try to work out a *via media*.

Regarding the toll tax, I humbly submit that it is a user fee. There can be various types of arguments. Two things have been said about it. One is that different rates are being charged, and the second is that it should not be charged at all.

13.00 hrs.

We are spending three to five crore rupees per kilometre on these roads today. The toll tax charged by us is nowhere near this amount. It is purely meant for maintenance. I have explained this to the truckers also. The World Bank report has also stated that once the Golden Quadrilateral of 5,846 kilometres is completed, about Rs.8,000 crore will be saved per year by the users.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: We are not opposing you on the toll tax. We are supporting you on that.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: I am thankful to you all for that. I would just give you the figures to put the issue in perspective. We are charging only about Rs. 1200 crore to Rs. 1400 crore toll on the entire GQ network and the saving is Rs. 8,000 crore, annually.

Shri Chennithala remarked that the common man is suffering. That is true. That is why I have again and again requested them to come for talks. An issue has been raised

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri]

that the Minister is shying away. I would like to say that I am not shying away from it. I have mentioned it in the statement also. Members on the other side of the House have also been in Government. They would know that certain groundwork has to be done. Without doing any groundwork, to go forward on these problems would be infructuous. Even then, on the 7th of April we wrote to AIMTC asking their President to meet us. The reply we got from them was that he was not available till the 13th. Then, I held discussions with them on the 17th. Event today when I wanted to have a discussion with him they said, "After all this, you get the Chief Ministers, you get the Finance Minister, you get the Petroleum Minister, we will sit down with the Prime Minister and then we will talk". I do not think this is how things can go on.

I have been telling them that out of their 10 points, I support them on seven points. On one point, I am sorry that I cannot agree with them and that is the point of the States which are overloading. I had spoken to some of the Chief Ministers personally. I explained to them that the issue of overloading is of our first concern. We are also concerned over it because my roads are getting damaged. We had discussed it on the 16th of January 2003 in the Transport Development Council Meeting. Transport Ministers of all the States were present in that meeting. I had told them not to resort to overloading and cautioned them that if anything is done beyond 31st March, we would take action. Even before the notice came, we had started taking action against one or two States. Our intentions are very clear.

I would like to submit another point to the House. How does the problem of overloading occur? Complaints say that some of the States give Golden Pass whereby they load 15 to 16 tonnes instead of 9 tonnes. The money accrued on account of this Golden Pass is taken by the State eventually. The additional freight that is charged does not go to the truck owners. My question is, how does this overloading occur? Why do they pick up that overloading portion? Why do they allow that overloading portion to get into their trucks? If it is not overloaded, there will be no problem and no problem would be created for me. Therefore, we have to get on with the States, we have to go on with the booking agents who are their own people. You have to sit down and do it together.

All said and done, there is only one issue that is to be discussed and that is, how frequently diesel prices should change. I have told them that we would sit down with the Petroleum Minister and do it. I do not know what else I can do and what the House can expect me to do. I am also concerned over this and feel that it should end quickly. Nobody wants to delay it. But, you please tell me what I could have done. They are not even willing to come and sit down for talks.

Shri Chennithala made another charge that we are trying to split the unions. This is not correct at all. There has been no effort on my part or on my Ministry's part to do any such thing. You please go and ask those people. I do not think even they would make that charge. I am not doing that, it is the differences among themselves because of which they are doing it. There are various reasons for that. About 80-85 per cent of the truckers own one or two trucks. They have a different view. As I said, the extra money that comes does not go to them. There are different views.

Alternative arrangements have been talked of. We are trying to do that through the State Governments. I am quite happy that the State Governments are doing their best. They are all the time assuring me that they are doing whatever is possible. I think the hardship is minimised. I am not saying that there is no hardship. I would request you also to kindly understand that.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Get it called off.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: We are also very keen to get it called off. We want them to come and sit with us. Still we are requesting them to come and talk and call off the strike. We have persuaded Ram Naik ji to meet the transporters as soon as they come. I have hope and even now I am requesting.

[English]

Continuously, I am requesting them to come and sit with us. I once again request them to come. In all my appeals – even over television – I have said this. I request them to kindly come, call off the strike.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, yesterday, in some statement he has reportedly said – it may be wrong – that 'let them call off the strike first; then I will talk to them'. If that is the position, how can the things move?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, let me explain it.

If they tell me: "you first finish, comply with all these things", what can I do? Take, for example, overloading. I have to go to the States. There are certain things which are here. They are talking of Carriers Act. Carriers Act has to be passed by Parliament. How can I tell them that I will do it? It is already in the pipeline. It is now with the Committee of Secretaries.

So, various things are in the pipeline. Therefore, we are

requesting them to please agree to call off the strike. We are willing to sit down and listen to them.

This is my request to them.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection. In your presence, the Statement has been made on the Table of the House by the hon. Minister. In one of the paragraphs, the hon. Minister had stated:

> "I explained the Government's stand on each of the demands. I also requested them that they call off the agitation.
>
> Out of the ten demands of AIMTC, there is no difference of opinion on seven of them."

Sir, we got the message that on three demands only, there are disputes and on seven demands they all agree. But now, the hon. Minister says that even on seven demands, he has to negotiate with the States. This is not the correct position. This is creating confusion.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, confusion may be in your mind. As far as these people are concerned, the position is very clear. We have told them. They have even sent us some clarifications on this. So, there is no confusion on this.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has already stated that he individually agrees with their seven demands.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Government of India agrees with the seven demands. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has made a statement by speaking that he agrees with the seven demands that they have made. He has no difference of opinion. I think, that would be enough.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, may I clarify it further?

The freight rates are to be fixed by the State Governments under the Motor Vehicles Act. I cannot fix them. I agree with them that these rates should be fixed. If the States are willing, they should fix them. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it means that he has had no consultations with the State Governments before he made the Statement to the Parliament. He is a Union Minister. *...(Interruptions)* It is not a lighter matter.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Of course, it is not at all a lighter matter.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Sir, I must appreciate the efforts made by the hon. Minister. But there is one point where I would like to draw the attention of this august House. In his own Statement, the hon. Minister has said that the truck owners are not ready to come and discuss with them, and they have taken a different stand. But this is a matter pertaining to the entire country. By and large, the general public is suffering.

The hon. Prime Minister has now taken some initiatives, as reported in some sections of the Press. I would only appeal to the hon. Prime Minister. This is a matter where the States are involved, the State Transport Departments are involved, the Chief Ministers are involved and the Minister of Petroleum is also involved. In a situation like this, the hon. Prime Minister has taken certain initiative, particularly, to end this stalemate. We should not make it a prestige issue.

So, I appeal to the hon. Minister that if the Prime Minister chooses to convene a meeting of the concerned Chief Ministers and the Transport Ministers with the transport operators, he should also join the Prime Minister and see that this matter is put an end to. That is the appeal I would like to make. It is not the question of any *ijjat*.

The matter should be resolved. The stalemate should end. After all, the inconvenience is being caused to the general public.

I am appealing to resolve the matter.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Yes, we are all appealing. We are all sincere and serious. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of asking of a debate after the hon. Minister has replied.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: The hon. Prime Minister has himself taken this decision. *...(Interruptions)* Let us not unnecessarily create frictions. The hon. Minister has done his best.

Now, the hon. Prime Minister has taken the initiative to convene a meeting. Yesterday, he had a preliminary discussions. At his level, let him convene the meeting with all concerned. Let the matter be ended. The situation should not be worsened by any type of frictions. That is all I wanted to say.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

13.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. Now, we shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

(i) Need for formation of a separate State of Telangana.

SHRI A. NARENDRA (MEDAK): Small States are formed for development and growth of all the regions at par. This also fulfils the aspirations of the people. The newly formed three States, that is, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are excellent example for this. In a democratic polity, people have a right to equal opportunities. As a sequel to this, people identify their rights with their region and whenever their region is not developed properly or is neglected, they feel that their rights are violated due to neglect of their region. Therefore, the reorganization of the country does not stop at one point. There have been demands made for separate States of Telangana and Vidharba. The demand of these regions for a separate State is as old as 45 years. In fact, Vidharba and Telangana were favoured Statehood in 1956 itself by the States Reorganization Commission. But this was not done.

As regards Telangana, I would like to state that the formation of unified Andhra Pradesh had only helped and benefited the coastal and Rayalaseema region at the cost of Telangana. The people of this backward region can be helped only when their region is developed, and that can be achieved only when they get Statehood.

I, therefore, request the Government to seriously consider this issue for formation of the State of Telangana.

(ii) Need to ensure that destitutes' children get the benefits of social security schemes at par with SCs and STs.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE (JABALPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, several welfare schemes have been launched and provision for reservation has been made for the upliftment of the scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and backward classes of the country and these have been continually expanded.

There is a need to do something at the government level to improve the condition of the orphan children in the country. The reserved categories are continuously getting the benefit of social security programmes, welfare schemes, education, employment and medical facilities but the orphan children, remain deprived of these facilities available to the reserved categories or they do not have their identity.

My request is that the facilities available to the reserved categories under the education, employment, medical and social security schemes should be extended to the orphan children.

(iii) Need to take steps to make Sindri Fertilizers Unit in Bihar viable

PROF. RITA VERMA (DHANBAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sindri Fertilizers unit was the first fertiliser unit established in the country. For over more than two decades this fertilisers unit served the country and contributed remarkably in the Green Revolution. In spite of sweat and hard labour of workers this fertilisers unit was closed down last year due to heavy losses. The Damodar Vally Corporation (DVC) used to supply electricity to this fertilisers unit. Due to their heavy dues, they started four hours power cut and presently they are going for ten hours power cut due to which people are faced with acute water scarcity, opposing the power cut the residents of Sindri even took out a large procession and resorted to traffic jam on 3rd of April.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government that the sufferings of Sindri residents should be looked into and remedial measures should be taken to restore the availability of basic amenities. Also, steps should be taken to save this beautiful city from desertion. The Union Government should issue necessary direction to DVC for providing uniterrupted power supply to Sindri City. Apart from that, the amount due to Sindri Fertilisers unit should be given at the earliest so that they could pay back the arrears of DVC.

(iv) Need to start commercial flights from Disha Defence Airport, Gujarat

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY (BANASKANTHA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards Disha Airport in my constituency, which is lying useless and the aircrafts of Defence Department

are operating from this airport. Since this airport is situated at the border, it urgently needs to be modernised. On the other hand operation of passenger flights is also possible. It will be in the interest of the people and the Government, if commercial flights between Mumbai, Disa, Jodhpur and Jaipur are started from this airport. The private airlines can also be encouraged to operate from this airport.

My submission through this House is that a serious consideration should be given to this proposal.

(v) Need to accord approval to the proposal of the Government of Maharashtra seeking one-time grant of Rs.1000 crore to meet liabilities of the State

[English]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR): The Government of Maharashtra has submitted a Memorandum to the Union Government to help the State to meet the financial crisis situation. The State Government has sought a one time grant or soft loan (OMB) of at least Rs. 1000 crores to meet spill over liabilities caused by unexpected payments like the 5th Pay Commission, MSEB, drought, cotton and unexpected reduction in revenue due to economic slowdown. The accumulated spill over is Rs.3500 crores. Bills pending are over Rs. 1000 crores. The State Government has to repay Rs. 1200 crores as principal and Rs.560 crores as interest to the Government of India in 2003-2004. This should be rescheduled and the interest rate should be reduced by at least three per cent as requested by the Government of Maharashtra. The State Government has also requested the Government of India for a Structural Adjustment Loan from the World Bank. The World Bank has completed all the studies. The Government of India should help the Maharashtra State to get the loan from the World Bank.

(vi) Need to Regularise ITI Apprentices of South-Eastern Coalfields Ltd. in Chhattisgarh

[Translation]

DR. CHANRAN DAS MAHANT (JANJGIR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the last 4-5 years all ITI, SECL apprentices in Chhattisgarh have been frequentive the headquarter of the South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) demanding regularisation of their services. In the year 2000, as a result of their agitation, 246 posts were created. Rest of the apprentices were to be regularised, within six months but even after lapse of 5 years no action has been taken in the matter. Soon they will become over-aged. Since they all are fed up with frequent assurances from management, they are now sitting on regular hunger strike in front of SECL headquarters. 150 posts are already sanctioned in SECL headquarters. The appointment of displaced people in SECL have still not been completed so far. Apprentices and displaced people have been demanding and agitating for their regularisation for the last few years. Displaced people are also looking for a job.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to regularise all ITI apprentices and give jobs to the displaced people without any further delay so that justice is done with them.

(vii) Need to expedite expansion of Mangalore Airport to facilitate customs/immigration and cargo handling operations

[English]

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI): It is an established fact that Mangalore has large revenue generating potential for both domestic and overseas sectors when the existing airport is upgraded. Being a tourist/pilgrim destination both for domestic and foreign tourists, regular flow of traffic is ensured. Lakhs of NRIs settled in Gulf and belonging to Dhakshina Kannada region want direct flight facilities from Gulf to Mangalore as also a sizeable number of Haj pilgrims from this region who make to holy Mecca every year.

The State Government of Karnataka has fulfilled its obligations in terms of acquisition of land and handing it over to the Airport Authority of India officials. The private sector is also willing and ready to invest in hotel and transport sectors whenever the new airport facility comes up. When expansion work has already been taken up, it would be worthwhile to provide customs/immigration and cargo handling facilities in order to cater to the needs of international travellers. I urge the Centre to ensure that adequate provisions are given in the current budget 2003 so that the work is taken up in right earnest and the new facility is commissioned well in time.

(viii) Need to waive off interest on loans borrowed by fishermen in the coastal belt of Uttar Kannada district, Karnataka

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): Uttar Kannada District has been facing a fish famine for the last 4 years. This year there is an unprecedented famine in the district. Fishermen find it difficult to support themselves through any type of fishing in view of lack of fish catches. Their boats stand idle and they sit watching the sea on empty stomachs while their families starve.

The loans, they took from Banks and other financial institutions remain unpaid with accumulating interest. These institutions especially nationalised and co-operative Banks are threatening to confiscate their meagre assets including their boats and fishing nets.

As the representative of this poverty stricken fishermen community, I appeal to the Government to declare the coastal belt of Uttara Kannada district an area of fish famine, waive off interest on their loans, reschedule the instalments for repayment of loans and extend the time suitably. Each family may also be granted famine compensation to help them tide over their desperate situation.

(ix) Need to resume broadcast of weekly radio programme 'Sanvari Jayen Jeewan Ki Rahain' in Hindi and in all other languages throughout the country

SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA (SIDDIPET): A popular weekly radio programme titled 'Sanvari Jayen Jeewan Ki Rahain' which was aimed at creating awareness about Government's various social welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes and Weaker Sections of the society has been discontinued by the Government. This programme was providing valuable information to the masses. I request the Government to resume the broadcast of this programme in Hindi and all other languages throughout the country.

(x) Need to improve Telephone Services in Hingoli Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE (HINGOLI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Parbani and Nanded district of my parliamentary constituency, Hingoli thousands of applicants are waiting for telephone connection in their homes and shops for the last so many years. In spite of so much progress made in telephone sector and in spite of Government's assurance that telephone connections will be available on demand by March 2003, nothing such has happened in my constituency. There are not as many telephone exchanges in my parliamentary constituency as they are needed today. Due to it, revenue loss is incurring. This can be achieved by increasing the capacity of existing Exchanges through their modernization but this is not being done in spite of my repeated requests. On the other hand the existing telephones usually remain out of order.

Therefore, through this House, I urge upon the Government to modernise the existing telephone exchanges in my constituency so as to enhance their capacity and improve the telephone services.

(xi) Need to provide Cell-one Services of VSNL at Simri Bakhtiyarpur, Bihar

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (SAHARSA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Saharsa is a very backward district of Bihar under SSA. The people of Simri Bakhtiyarpur Sub division of Saharsa, Bihar are deprived of the cell one services because this area is not covered under BSNL's cell one exchange set up at Saharsa. Apart from being a divisional headquarters Simri Bakhtiyarpur is also a business centre. There are several industrial centres established in this sub-division. It is connected with National Highway No.107.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to extend the facility of cell-one services to the people of this area by setting up a basic station of BSNL's cell one service at Simri Bakhtiyarpur and a cell one highway tower at Balvahat and Sonvarsharaj situated on national highway.

(xii) Need to provide more financial powers to village panchayats to make them more effective

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after freedom of our country the responsibility of progress of society came on us and the Government elected by public started works by taking this responsibility of development. Alongwith us, other countries of world also moved ahead on the path of development but their progress was very fast. So they went ahead of us. Not only is India lagging behind in development but the progress made have been imbalanced. Imbalance development has created new problem in front of us. Due to unemployment, anarchy and dissatisfaction atmosphere in the country looks violent in many forms. Today's need is to contain imbalance development and accelerate the speed of development. In 1992, 73rd amendment was made in the constitution wherein a provision was made to make the functioning of village panchayats more effective by granting them financial powers. After almost a decade, today the condition of Panchayats in rural India has gone from bad to worse. The functioning of village Panchayats are also pathetic. The action taken by the Central Government and the State Governments in this regard have been similar. That's why, these Panchayats are not able to effectively contribute their mite in the development of the country. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to grant more financial powers to the villages panchayats at the earliest so as to improve their functioning and utilise their services for the implementation of different schemes in order to take the country onto the path of development.

14.21 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 2003-2004

Ministry of Labour

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 60 relating to the Ministry of Labour.

Hon. Members present in the House Whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Only those cut motions will be treated as moved.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that, will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand No. 60 relating to the Ministry of Labour."

Demand for Grants 2003 in respect of the Ministry of Labour submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account Voted by the House on March 11, 2003		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the Vote of House	
1	2	3		4	
		Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ministry of Labour					
60		3.00,000	161,81,00,000	13,00,000	809,04,00,000

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (MAYILADUTURAI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no problem which faces our country which is more grave than the problem of unemployment. In this state of increasing unemployment, we are being asked to consider steps which will reduce the space for organized labour without increasing the space for unorganised labour. It is, therefore, meet and appropriate that even though the Government is still to give us its views on the recommendations of the second National Labour Commission, we, in the Opposition Benches, should have given priority, to the Ministry of Labour in this critical year.

Sir, it is now five years since the National Democratic Alliance came into office. Prior to its coming into office, the BJP had fought the 1998 elections on an election manifesto in which inter alia a promise had been made of a crore of jobs every year. While the Government that came into office in March, 1998 had to put a number of the provisions of the BJP agenda on the back burner, as it were, with respect to the eradication of unemployment, there was an unambiguous statement made in the National Agenda for Governance which was then reiterated in exactly the same words in the manifesto of the NDA for the 1999 elections and therefore, we must take it that this commitment in the NAG is a very serious one and it is the one against which the Government's performance requires to be measured. Since it is of the utmost importance and it was written some years ago, I take the liberty of reminding the House through you, Sir, of what it was that the National Agenda for Governance promised. They said, 'recognising the right to work of every citizen'. They have recognised the right to work even before this has been statutorily made obligatory. It says, 'recognising the right to work of every citizen, the main thrust - not just 'a thrust', 'the main thrust - of the new Government' - that is, the Government formed in 1998 - 'will be *Berozgari Hatao*'. The demand made by them of themselves in 1998 was *Berozgari Hatao*. They reiterated exactly the same slogan in the 1999 election and then made a statement which I think is one of the most important perceptions that any political party or any Government in India has had in the last 55 years. This statement said: "Our Government will measure growth by the generation of gainful employment." In other words, they were specifically saying that they were going to measure their performance not on the basis of how the Giloss Domestic Product performed, but on the basis of how employment performed.

[Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar]

We now have before us the Economic Survey - 2003 which gives us a very clear picture of how employment has fared over the last several years, including the latest year. However, before the Economic Survey-2003 was made public, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, in her intervention in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address, started saying:

> "Mr. Speaker Sir, the NDA agenda says that one crore jobs are to be created or were to be created every year."

Before she could continue very much further, there were enormous interruptions from that side. Then she said:

> "During the 1980s and up to the early part of the 1990s, the average growth rate of employment generation was two per cent per year. This dropped sharply to just 1.1 per cent per year."

Actually, the figures provided by the hon. Leader of the Opposition turned out to be marginally incorrect when the Economic Survey-2003 was published a few days later, but not marginally incorrect in the direction of showing her to have been wrong, but in the direction of having shown her to have been far too modest in her appreciation of the poor performance of this Government on the employment front!

I draw your attention to Page 214, Para 10.15 of the Economic Survey - 2003. It will greatly help if the hon. Minister of Labour is allowed to listen to what I am saying, instead of being disturbed.

[Translation]

Sir, I beg your pardon you can meet the Minister whenever you want to but I have got only ten minutes to speak. Please do not waste that. So important is the discussion here and you are talking to the Minister.

[English]

According to Page 214, Para 10.15 of the Economic Survey-2003, during the 80's and in the early part of the 1990s, the average growth rate of employment in India was not about two per cent, as the Leader of the Opposition said; it was 2.7 per cent - nearly a full percentage point higher. And then she was very kind to the Treasury Benches. She said that now it has come down to 1.1 per cent. What this Economic Survey shows is that it was not even 1.1 per cent; it was 1.07 per cent. So, between the Governments of Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, the interim Governments of the early 1990s and then the Government of Narasimha Rao, when our growth rate of employment averaged 2.7 per cent, we have now dipped under the benevolent aegis of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to 1.07 per cent.

What does one per cent mean? The total employment, the total work force of this country according to Page 55 of the Standing Committee Report which constitutes the basis of this discussion, is about 40 crore people. So, one per cent of that comes to about 40 lakh people. If the average annual rate of growth of employment has fallen by about 2 per cent. froth 2.7 to 1.07 per cent, it means 40 lakh people per year who could have got a job if the Congress rate of growth of employment had been maintained, had failed to get a job in the last five years of this Government. ...*(Interruptions)* Would you please stand up and say it, Shri Rudy? There are rules of this House. You are a Minister. Please get up and give your comments.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Shri Aiyar, you should not lose your cool. But there are facts. You spoke of 'the Congress rate of growth'. Now, we would like to understand this 'Congress rate of growth'.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, if only instead of chatting with his friend, Shri Rudy had listened to me a minute ago, he would know that I just explained the figures that I have got; the figures relate to the NSSO's figures given in the Economic Survey. There is one set of figures for the period 1983-94. In that period, as I had said earlier, the Governments were those of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Shri Rajiv Gandhi the interim two Prime Ministers and then Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the later figures that we have got here relate to the period between 1994-2000 with certain extensions up to 2003. Much of this period is covered by certain non-Congress Governments. But, above all, they are the Government which you have the dishonour to represent. That is why I referred to this as the Congress rates of growth and the non-Congress rates of growth. Now listen to me carefully. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: I could not understand the phrase 'dishonour to represent'. I think this should have a better formulation. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE (BHILWARA): You have talked about the period 1983 onwards and now the period is a little different. Can you just explain it to us?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Just sit down. I will explain it to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has not yielded. When he has not yielded, I cannot give the floor to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE: Sir, he is yielding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has yielded only to Shri Rudy and not to you.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I have yielded. Now please sit down. Let me speak. Sir, they do not seem to understand that I am talking about the annual average rate of growth. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It cannot be a running commentary.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Instead of needlessly opposing, just try and listen to me. Between 1983 and 1994, according to the National Sample Survey Organisation, whose figures are related in the Economic Survey, 2003, the average annual rate of growth of employment was 2.7 per cent.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE: What is the difference then and now? Can you explain that now?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I am just giving that explanation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt like this.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I was attempting to make a point of fact. Now please try and understand it. Between 1983 and 1994, the average annual rate of growth of employment was 2.7 per cent. In the years between 1994-2000, it had dropped to 1.07 per cent.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE: Why?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is only giving the statistics.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: But because the economic performance in the last three years, and particularly the last year, has been much worse than in previous years, according to the Economic Survey itself, although we do not have employment generation, it is quite clear that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. You should know the rules. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: It is quite clear that the annual average rate of growth of employment in 2002-03 has dipped tragically.

The total annual average rate of growth of employment between 1998 and 2003 will, when the figures finally come out, be shown to be even below one per cent. Now, at the time I was being interrupted, I was attempting to explain that Page 55 of the Standing Committee's Report that is before us says that the total work force in India is about 40 crore people. If there is a one per cent drop in the annual average rate of growth of employment, it beans that 40 lakh individuals, who might otherwise have gained employment, have failed to gain it. If the drop is of the order of two per cent, as it seems likely now, we are losing 80 lakh jobs a year as compared to what it was between 1983 and 1994. The same Report of the Standing Committee says that out of the 40 crore people employed in India, only three crore employed in the organized sector. So, it is what happens to the people in the unorganized sector which is of the greatest significance for employment. Yet, this Government's attention until the presentation of the Second National Labour Commission's Report has been entirely concentrated on the organized sector. What we wish to underline from this side is that of those who are employed, 60 per cent amounting to approximately 24 crore are employed in agriculture and if you take the unorganized sector, the percentage goes up to 65 per cent. The unorganized manufacturer takes only one crore or two crore people and the labour laws that they are talking about relate to what happens to one crore or two crore people employed in the organized manufacturing sector, whereas they do not address the problems of approximately 24 crore people who are in agriculture or of four crore people who are in the unorganized manufacturing sector, such as, handlooms and powerlooms, nor of approximately nine crore others who are involved in other activities. So, you get approximately 37 crore people who are not being addressed by the so-called labour reforms and the attention is entirely focused on approximately three crore people who have struggled to become an organized sector. That is why, I think it is extremely important that we take a step back.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a lot of noise in the House.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : We should take a step back and consider whether the Government's perspective is correct or not. Now, after the hon. Leader of the Opposition had made her remarks in the course of the discussion on the Motion of Thanks, the hon. Prime Minister in his reply to the debate picked up a piece of paper that was written in English and presumably to which the hon. Minister of Labour had made a contribution. I am able to read it entirely in English because in the original too he spoke in English which is given at Page 5016 of the uncorrected version. The hon. Prime Minister said in English that the net job creation in 2002-03 is nearly 84

* Not Recorded.

[Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar]

lakh. Similarly, last year it was nearly 79 lakh jobs that were created and the year before that, more than 73 lakh jobs were created. So, the hon. Prime Minister is on record in this House in a language which he normally does not use, reading from a document that was supplied to him presumably from the official gallery and presumably with the blessings of the hon Minister of Labour that over the last three years we have been going on creating at least 75 lakh jobs and moving up to 84 lakhs in the year when our economic performance at 4.4 per cent is the worst that India has recorded since the drought of 1987-88.

That, in itself, made one wonder whether the figures being supplied to this House were correct or incorrect. We know that the Prime Minister is a very good poet, but not such a good economist. So, I will not accuse him of misleading the House, but since the Minister of Labour must have contributed to that statement, my request to the hon. Minister of Labour is that he reconcile the statement made at his instance by the Prime Minister with the facts as set out in the Economic Survey. 2003.

Sir, on the one hand it is claimed that the net job creation, that is, jobs created minus jobs which have been cancelled, amounts to nearly 84 lakhs. Let us take it as one crore for ease of calculation. Now, according to the Economic Survey, page 218, the all India work force, that is, employment in this country in the period between 1984 and 1994 increased by 7.6 crores at an annual average rate of 76 lakh jobs per year. In other word, a full decade ago, we were already creating additional jobs, additional employment at the rate of 76 lakhs per annum. But curiously for the period between 1994 and 2000, it says that the total work force, that is, employment, went up by two crores at an annual average rate of 20 lakhs. Now, when the size of work force was increasing at the rate of 20 lakhs a year between 1994 and 2000, how is it that suddenly in 2001-02 it goes up to 79 lakhs, in the year following that it goes up by 73 lakhs and then in 2002-03, which was a disastrous year for agriculture where most of our people are employed, it is claimed that it has gone up by another 84 lakhs? At 84 lakhs, the net job creation last year, according to the Prime Minister, is higher than the performance achieved in any year in the past. It is extraordinary that we should have the poorest economic performance in 15 years and the highest job creation going with that. How is this feasible? I request the hon. Minister of Labour for whom I have the utmost respect because among other things he is the Member of Parliament for the area in which I live and the regularisation of Sainik Farms depend entirely on him. I ask him - I am not making any charges against the Prime Minister - to reconcile the statement made by the Prime Minister with the facts that have come before us through this document.

Sir, I gave the figures just now for what has happened in the increase in employment was 7.6 crores in the period between 1984 and 1994, but it has been only 2 crores in the period between 1994 and 2000. Now, let us come to the other side of the coin which is the position with regard to unemployment and it is even more fascinating, I dealt with the employed and I will now deal with the unemployed. According tot the Economic Survey, between 1984 and 1994, the of unemployed decreased by 1.5 crores. But, according to the same Economic Survey, between 1994 and 2000, the number of unemployed increased by 63 crores. This is there in the document. If the number of unemployed has gone up by 6.5 crores, on an average of 65 lakhs a year, to get a net increase of 84 lakhs as claimed by the hon. Prime Minister, the total job creation in the year 2002-03 should have been of the order of 1.5 crores in one year. It begs credibility. I do not believe that the hon. Prime Minister was attempting to deliberately mislead this House, but I do think that his Treasury Benches have succeeded in the misleading this House. The misleading by the Prime Minister was after the publication of the Economic Survey 2003, whereas the modest statement made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition was before the publication of the Economic Survey 2003. Should not the Government have taken some care to look at its own document, which had become public a week earlier and which was known to them for years earlier before asking the Prime Minister to make a statement that was at best factually wrong and at worst deliberately misleading?

Sir, according the Economic Survey, in agriculture, which employs 60 per cent of our workforce between 1983 and 1994, our employment in agriculture increased by five crore and between 1995 and 2000 it stagnated. There was no increase at all. Actually, the figure given is an increase of 0.02 per cent. We had increased it by five crore employment in agriculture. Between 1994 and 2000, employment in agriculture has stagnated. In the year 2002-03, agricultural production in this country has fallen by three per cent. It is three per cent less today than it was in 2001-02. Therefore, as against an increase in employment of five crore in agriculture between 1984 and 1994, between 1994 and 2003, there has been an actual reduction of employment in agriculture.

When it comes to the annual growth rates of employment - I am not going into these figures; I see that you are looking rather sharply at me - if you compare the growth rates of the previous NSSO period with the current NSSO period, we find that in agriculture, the notional job loss, that is, the jobs that were not created because the Government was not able to maintain the old rates of growth of employment, was 60 lakh a year in agriculture, amounting to three crore over the five years of this Government. In manufacture, the job loss was

six lakh per year, amounting to 30 lakh job loss over the last five years. In construction, the loss was 10.5 lakh per year, amounting to 55 lakh jobs notionally lost in their five years. In mining, it was one-and-a-half lakh job loss per year and seven-and-a-half lakh job loss in the last five years.

If you add all this up together, you find that in the last five years, if employment had increased at the Congress rates, then we would have added four crore people to the employment registers in 1998 and 2003, instead of only two crore who have been added between 1998 and 2003. If we had been there, today the figure of employment would have been six crore higher than it actually is, and we have this statement that they are creating one crore jobs a year. It seems as if notionally, they are losing one crore jobs a year, whereas they are claiming to be creating one crore jobs a year. This kind of statistical fiddle has become the stock-in-trade of this Government.

They have done the same with the poverty figures, they are now doing the same with the employment figures. I do not think people can eat their statistics. We need jobs. This country is in an extremely acute employment crisis. The extent of that crisis was recognised by the National Democratic Alliance when it said, "our Government will measure growth by the generation of gainful employment". By that measure, it is for Shri Sahib Singh Verma to get up, and confess that his Government has been a dreadful failure. It is written into this document. Let me just read a few lines to you what they themselves say about their performance. I am reading just a few lines from pages 214, 219 and 221. The absolute number of unemployed increased during this period. They have said it. They say: "The incidence of unemployment expressed in terms of unemployed as a percentage of the labour force has increased during this period." They say: "There has been near stagnation of employment in agriculture." they say: "The share of casual labour in total employment has gone up. "Casual labour has gone up." They say: "The employment elasticity of output." Let me just explain that. It means for every increase of one unit in output what is the increase in employment. Now, in our times, the elasticity of employment vis-a-vis output was 0.52 according to this document. That is, for every unit increased in production, there was a half unit increase in employment. It has come down now to 6 per cent. It means, for every unit of production that is being increased, employment is going up by only one-tenth of that unit. They say: "The private sector responsible for 75 per cent of organised manufacturing output hardly constitute 1.5 per cent of total employment in the country and they want to favour the private sector over the public sector."

Sir, even in agriculture, it is a real tragedy. Employment elasticity in agriculture which was in our time according to them 0.70 that is for every one rupee increase in agricultural output, there was a 70 paise increase in wage employment. That is what employment elasticity means, in agriculture, employment elasticity of 0.70 has been tragically reduced to - Shri Sahib Singh Verma, please listen to this figure - 0.01. Where we increased one rupee of production, the total wage bill went up by 70 paise. Now, when they increase agricultural output value by one rupee, the wage goes up by one paisa. This is the scale on which we have an employment crisis in this country. What is the answer that we have been provided to this employment crisis?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are told that the answer lies in legislation, legislation, which will be based on the three principles of Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG). Now, Sir, is this the right response to the current crisis? That is the question which ought to have been posed without any conditions to the Second National Labour Commission, instead of which the Terms of Reference were used to try and indicate what their conclusions should be. They are abstracting from that. It is because we are not here discussing that report. Let us just go back to how India handled labour relations immediately after Independence. We produced a social compact where we said - my Left Front friends will forgive me for this - we do not accept class conflict, we do believe that it is possible for the State and the citizen to work out a system within which labour rights can be recognised. We said that there are employers' rights, there are employees' rights they can be harmonized as well, so that we can promote industrial growth while, at the same time, promoting industrial peace. That was the social compact and through the social compact we undertook certain very important steps. The most important step which has often been forgotten, is that in 1947, just as we became Independent, this Parliament passed the Industrial Truce Resolution of 1947.

Then, it was quickly followed by the mother enactment, which is the Industrial Disputes Act of 1947, which was actually passed before the 15th of August, 1947. We then constituted a Fair Wages Committee in 1948. And on that basis, in forming our thoughts, we had in the Constitution's Directive Principles of State Policy as well as Parts III and IV of the Constitution, this social compact written into our Constitution. Then followed the revolutionary Contract Labour Act of 1970, which they want to undo. Altogether, on our Statute Book, we today have about 100 pieces of legislation which deal with labour relations. Not only that, we have fully accepted - even this Government has accepted - the Fundamental Principles of the ILO and the core standards prescribed by the ILO. All this is the basis on which we can say with pride that we have neither gone down the path of red revolution nor have we gone up the path of

[Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar]

crony capitalism. This is a country which, based upon its socialistic principles, decided that everyone in this country has the right to live in this country with dignity. This is the totality of the social compact. And what is now happening is that it is being thrown into the dustbin because a tiny group of the biggest capitalists in India represented on the Prime Minister's Advisory Group on Trade and Industry, which does not contain a single trade unionist, which does not contain a single labour law expert, which does not even seem to know of the clash that has been brewing between the Washington consensus of the IMF, the World Bank and the WTO on the one hand and the ILO on the other, and the deep concern in the International Labour Organisation over the social consequences of globalisation, which has led to the establishment of a World Commission chaired by the Presidents of Finland and Tanzania. Without any reference to any of this, this Prime Minister's Group threw up its ideas which are entirely centred on how to deal with employers' problems, not those of small employers but the biggest employers of them all, the Tatas of this world, the Ambanis of this world, and the Bharat Rams of this world. It is these people who brought together and said in their Report, which is three pages long compared to 100 pieces of legislation, that amend section 5(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act and amend section 10 of the Contract Labour Act. And what does the Finance Minister of the time - 2001 - do? Shri Yashwant Sinha, without asking the Ministry of Labour, without consulting a single trade unionist, without its even being the job of the Finance Minister to do so, gets up here in his Budget speech and announces that he is not only going to amend section 5(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act and section 10 of the Contract Labour Act but he also announces how he is going to do it. Now, I think, it is utterly shameful that he should have done this. What is the result? The result is that not only has Shri Yashwant Sinha disappeared into the mist of antiquity but his proposals have also disappeared into the mist of antiquity. First Dr. Jatiya was there. Now, I hope, Dr. Sahib Singh Verma will have the guts to stand up against the SSS - Shourie, Sinha and Jaswant Singh - that is going on in our country, the evil axis of three. They are promoting a globalisatign which has been conceived in Washington, which has nothing to do with New Delhi and which is opposed by the *Swadeshi Jagran Manch* of the *Sangh Parivar* itself. There are really serious consequences of what is happening in this country.

Sir, we cannot run our country with this axis of evil. It is sad that the *mantra* of the SSS is "exit policy" and "labour flexibility".

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg your indulgence to finish this in a few minutes.

15.00 hrs.

Exit policy already exists. I do not know why these Ambanis and all the other friends of the BJP are telling us that there is no exit policy and we need an exit policy. There is an exit policy in our Company Law. There is an exit policy in our Sick Industrial Companies Act. There is an exit policy in the amended version of Section 5B of the Industrial Disputes Act because the House will remember that the original Section 5B was challenged right up to the Supreme Court in what is known as Excellwear case. And after that judgement, this House amended Section 5B to bring it in line with the Supreme Court's observations. After all this, the Reserve Bank of India said, "Sickness in India is a business." I am not quoting myself. It is the RBI that has said, "Sickness in India is a business." And because it is a business, we have the shocking development of the last three years reported by their organisation, the Labour Bureau located in Shimla. We do not have figures for the last two years. At least, I do not have the figures after 2001. They have said, in the last three years, that is, 1999, 2000 and 2001, the number of strikes in this country, which are done by the labour unions, decreased and the number of lock-outs done by the company management increased.

The consequence was that the workers affected by strikes between 1999 and 2001 decreased from 11 lakh to 2 lakh. The number of workers who went on strike decreased from 11 lakh to 2 lakh. But the number of workers who were locked out between 1999 and 2001 increased from 2 lakh to 12 lakh. Today, business is being closed not by workers incited by communists, but it is being closed by the businessmen who are being incited by this evil axis of 'SSS'. ...*(Interruptions)* Please allow me to speak. I am just completing.

So, what we have is that as a result of the threats held out by Shri Yashwant Sinha and his ilk, the capitalist community in India is beginning to assault the organised workers. The organised worker, for fear that he will be rendered an unorganised worker, is so restraining himself that the number of workers affected in strikes is virtually in exact adverse of the number of workers affected by lock-outs. Is this the direction that this Government wishes to take us in order to do *Berozgari Hatao* and to say we will make labour, both organised and unorganised, and equal and proud partner in the production of the nation's wealth and in its progress?" Not only is their Prime Minister a poet, they do not seem to have anything but poetry in their language. What we need is results.

Here, they bring up the China example again and again. The Second National Labour Commission Report first states that there is no unbridled labour flexibility in China. Let us get

it out of our heads. Second, that Report itself says there is no hire and fire in China. There are rules; there are regulations; and there are laws. There are many, many reasons for greater competitiveness in China, Japan and anywhere in the world. But what they are narrowly focussing on is that they claim an absence of labour flexibility and say that our organised sector should also become unorganised; then, everybody will come here and invest in this country. This is very, very wrong.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR): Sir, I am withdrawing my name. You can give my time to Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR Sir, please give me two minutes more.

I was invited by the World Commission on the Social Consequences of Globalisation to attend a national meeting here in Delhi followed by a regional Asian meeting in Bangkok.

Here, in India, all the participants were talking about the wonderful things happening in China; and when I fetched up in Bangkok, all the participants started praising the Chinese for the manner in which they handled this matter. And then spoke Dr. Huang Ping. He is from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. We became such good friends that he has now sent me an entire paper of about a hundred pages in which he has examined exactly this. If the hon. Minister of Labour wishes, I can send the entire paper to him It is a Chinese view of Chinese labour law and the consequences for China of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation. He pointed out that there were 115 million Chinese wandering around the countryside who had once been employed and whom globalisation had thrown out of employment. The Thai member of the World Commission, whom most people tip to become the next Prime Minister of Thailand, intervened to say that in ASEAN, after the 1997 crisis, there were a hundred million people who were once employed but who were not employed any more. Keeping all this in mind, Dr. Huang Ping said: 'First, we make them landless; then, we make them jobless; and then we make them hopeless'. This is the route down which this Government is leading us, from landlessness to joblessness and from joblessness to hopelessness - *Berozgari hatao, zindabad!*

I obviously do not have time to really complete my speech but my very final word is that the experience of not only India but countries all around the world over the last one hundred years shows that those who are perennially poor are no threat to the stability of society. They are so miserably poor that they do not have the time or energy to do anything other than fill their bellies. The danger comes from those who have been employed, with have seen the better life and then suddenly find that they are without a job. What happens then? We saw what happened then in Italy; we saw what happened then in Germany in the 1930s; and we have seen what happens then in India last year. The State with a miracle rate of growth, the State whose rate of growth was the only one which could be said to match ASEAN standards or East Asian standards was Gujarat. Gujarat consistently had a rate of growth of above eight per cent; sometimes tending into double digit. But where did that growth come from? The growth came from a huge petroleum refinery in Jamnagar, which increases income but does not increase employment. It came from massive petrochemical complexes in the Vadodara region, which give much higher levels of income but much lower levels of employment. It came from the fertilizer factories near Bharuch - the Gujarat Fertiliser Limited is a pride of India - where income went up but employment did not go up.

Employment used to go up in the textile mills of Ahmedabad, but one by one they closed for no fault of labour. They' closed for a combination of faults of capital and the State. The consequence was that people who had a job, people who got married because they had a job, people who had children because they lad a job and people who expected their children to get educated because they had a job suddenly found themselves, by this model of employment which gives income but does not give employment, thrown out of employment. All our privatisation is about reducing the workforce. This is why we have an army of those who had once been employed but are now without employment for no fault of their own, with frustration well in a within their system, which exploitative elements could use to run the kind of fascism that we saw between March and June of 2002. It is this tragedy of people who got jobs and then are thrown out of jobs not in tens or hundreds, not in hundreds or thousands, not in lakhs or millions but in crores. Crores upon crores of people are either being thrown out of employment or are being denied employment which is their due and therefore we are creating the underclass of fascism in this country. Since fascism in this country takes the shape of communalism, there is an integral link between the Party that leads this Government and what this wretched, unhappy nation has had to go through in the last several months. I, therefore, plead with you or through you, Sir, with this Government to stop this country from sliding down the Mussolini way, from sliding down the Hitler way. What we need to do is to get back to what we were doing. We were not attempting to increase income at the expense of employment. We were following the dictum of the NDA, that the measure of good governance is the increase of employment. In this, they have grossly failed. I expect the hon Minister of Labour to put up either a weak defence of his

position or better still to arrive here in sack cloth and ashes and apologise for the dreadful performance of his Government, which has harmed this country, particularly the poor so badly.

CUT MOTIONS

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): I beg to move:

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD MINISTRY OF LABOUR (PAGE 60) BE REDUCED TO RE.1

Failure to consult the major trade unions in the deliberation of Second Labour Commission on the major issues like industrial disputes, trade unions and participation of workers in Management (1)

Failure to create a welfare fund to mitigate the miserable plight of emigrant workers particularly those stranded in the Gulf countries. (2)

Failure on the part of Director-General of Mine Safety Organization for providing adequate safety in the mines. (3)

Failure to bring a comprehensive legislation for the workers in the unorganized sector for ensuring their occupational safety and improving their living conditions. (4)

Failure to make payment of the statutory dues such as ESI, EPF and pension etc. of employees of the sick Public Sector Undertakings. (5)

Failure to reduce the ceiling on employment from 20 to 10 in an establishment under Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. (6)

THAT THE DEMANDS UNDER THE HEAD MINISTRY OF LABOUR (PAGE 60) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100

Need to have a comprehensive survey to identify bonded labour and rehabilitate them. (7)

Need to have and enforce a National Minimum Floor Level of wages for the workers throughout the country. (8)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): I beg to move:

THAT THE DEMANDS UNDER THE HEAD MINISTRY OF LABOUR (PAGE 60) BE REDUCED TO RE.1

Failure of the Government to ensure protection to the workers in the unorganized sector. (9)

Failure to ensure welfare and protection of the large number of workers employed in Small Scale Industry who face retrenchment with closure of SSI units. (10)

Failure of the Government to safeguard the interest of Contract Labour. (11)

Failure to follow Supreme Court Orders to ensure regular employment to workers working on daily wages/ad-hoc basis for years. (12)

Failure to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities to women workers and to respect their dignity at work place. (13)

Failure to ensure payment of equal pay for equal work to all workers. (14)

Failure to provide recreational facilities to workers. (15)

Failure to provide to workers health care, housing and drinking water etc. and education to their children. (16)

Failure to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations and processes. (17)

Failure to check forced labour and unfair labour practices.(18)

Failure to put in place an old-age pension scheme for the workers in the unorganized sector. (19)

Failure to formulate and implement an Unemployment Insurance Scheme. (20)

Failure to check large scale loss of employment as a result of economic policies. (21)

Failure to effectively implement recommendations of the Wage Boards on Working Journalists and employees of non-journalist newspaper/news agencies. (22)

Failure to protect the employees against the adverse impact of disinvestment policy of the Government and globalization of the economy. (23)

Failure to ensure a minimum level of guaranteed employment to agricultural workers. (24)

Failure to check harassment of subscribers of Employees Provident Fund applying for withdrawal. (25)

Failure to contain wasteful expenditure on Government advertisements and instead to use the amount saved for labour welfare. (26)

Failure to pay bonus to employees of UT Administration, Chandigarh for the last 5 years. (27)

Failure to provide for suitable working space for roadside

vendors, repairers, barbers, cobblers etc. in UT Chandigarh. (28)

Failure to regularise the daily wage-workers of Chandigarh UT Administration. (29)

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): I beg to move:

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD MINISTRY OF LABOUR (PAGE 60) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100

Need to change the labour policy of the Government. (30)

Need to ban child labour in the country. (31)

Need to provide social security to labourers throughout the country. (32)

Need to provide adequate funds for the safety, health and welfare of industrial labourers. (33)

Need to abolish contract labour system in the country. (34)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (DHANDHUKA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour for the year 2003-2004. My preceding speaker hon'ble Mani Shankar Aiyarji has submitted many a thing with the help of data. He expressed concern over the prevailing condition. He expressed his concern and submitted that people are disconcerted due to the lack of employment. Through you, I want to submit that we are here to take care of all these things. Day by day the number of unemployed is increasing in this country. The people of the country are not getting the facility they ought to have got. Industries are getting closed down day by day. The whole country is experiencing the scarcity of electricity. Not only this, employment in the unorganised sector is going down gradually and as per my opinion is concerned the main reasons for it is the tremendous growth of population in India in the post-independence period whereas power production has not increased proportionately.

The power scarcity is being felt in the entire country. The Bhakhra Nangal dam was constructed and the whole of the Punjab got water. Today, the Punjab has become the symbol of independence and power of the country. Be it the advertisement of urea or truck, the Sardar of the Punjab is shown in it. It means that the Punjab has become the symbol of faith. The dams that had to be constructed on other rivers of the country were not taken into account.

About Gujarat, he said many a good thing. Why Gujarat made progress? The Narmada Dam Project in Gujarat was inaugurated during the period of Pt. Nehruji but has not been completed till date.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (RAJGARH): It was stopped by Medha Patkar. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: I thank the Supreme Court that they gave permission for raising the height of the dam. Had it been done twenty years earlier then it would have protected the river water that gets wasted and thereby the country would have progressed. Seventy percent of our population is agricultural labourers. I have got the figures. In 1997-98, 29.8 crore people were employed in the unorganised sector. During 1993-94, 34.7 crore labourers were employed in the unorganised sector whereas during 1999-2000 their number is 36.9 crores. Had the previous Governments taken care of this fact, the problem of unemployment that has risen before the country would not have got created. The previous Governments are responsible for this unemployment. During these five years the employment generated by the Government of the Bharatiya Janata Party through the various schemes is appreciable whereby the rural people are also earning their livelihood through the rural schemes. In any country industry promotes development and employment. Industry has not received the kind of promotion after independence, as it should have got. For promoting industry roads have a crucial role to play but their growth remained truncated. Keeping in view the contention of the hon'ble Prime Minister, big roads are being made to connect all the four corners of the country. Whether the construction of roads will not generate employment? It will certainly generate. But the previous Governments did not pay heed towards it.

In the area of I.T. India has made a place for herself in the world. But had the children been made aware about this area right from independence and had been taught we would have surged further. Today in the field of I.T. our children are getting respect in the world. They would have got this respect 20-30 years back had the previous Governments paid heed towards it.

For the development of the country labourers are very important. Who is responsible for their exploitation? Without labourers the country can not make progress. But whether the previous Governments have provided any facility to the labourers. Today the hon'ble Minister of our Government is trying to provide facilities to the labourers through the enactment of new laws.

Ahmedabad is called the Manchester of the country. All the mills of Gujarat were running smoothly. But the Chiman Bhai Patel Government in Gujarat closed down several departments of various mills due to which the labourers

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

working at Rs. 150 per day were compelled to work at Rs. 80/-. Tell us in whose period all these mills were closed down? But today the Government of the Bharatiya Janata Party is working for the interest of the labourers.

Who is responsible for the exorbitant rates of electricity prevailing today in our country. Had the previous Governments taken interest in generating power with the help of hydro thermal plants, the industries, mills and small factories would not have been closed down. Today in the rule of the Bharatiya Janata Party our Government is worried to provide assistance and subsidy to keep those factories and mills viable. The previous Governments never thought about the welfare of the labourers but the present Bharatiya Janata Party Government is taking care of their welfare. The labourers of the villages come to the cities at the prime of their youth and return home after becoming old and then face trouble for earning their livelihood. The previous Governments never thought anything about them. Our Government are making efforts to provide a minimum wage to the labourers. Our Government have now fixed the working hours for the labourers, earlier they were forced to work for 24 hours. The working hours of the labourers have been fixed. They complete their work within their working hours is also a matter of concern. All the labourers should be provided ESI facility. Some time will be required for rectifying the old system, but efforts are being made in this direction. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister that ESI facility should be provided to all the labourers. At the same time they should also be provided bonus and gratuity. Provision of over-time allowance should be made for the labourers working in small industries. They would have to be helped by enacting a legislation in this direction.

Today the labourers are being exploited and this exploitation has been going on for years. Even small boys and girls are being exploited. The girl children are being sexually exploited. A number of complaints have been received in this regard. For solving this problem enactment and enforcement of stringent laws will be required. The Government is providing facilities for the construction of house. But arrangements should be made for providing accommodation separately for such labourers who reside in slums, on the bank of rivers and in the narrow lanes of the towns. We will have to give all the required assistance for providing the facility of houses.

So far as the question of safety and health is concerned, attention has not been paid towards it earlier. I know that earlier 100-150 labourers used to be burnt alive whenever any industry would caught fire, the labourers would not be able to get out. But now the hon'ble Minister has given importance to the demand of safety through the enactment of law for the provision of safety. Simultaneously case for their health should be taken into account. As I said, the labourer appears 55 year old at the prime age of 30. No one can guess the real age of a labourer by looking at his physique. Efforts are being made to improve their health. The Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies are making efforts in this direction.

Secondly, I want to speak about unions. Industries are destroyed and closed down in the name of unions. The livelihood of workers is snatched in connivance with mill owners. I want to say that agriculture is a source of livelihood throughout the country. Agriculture is the pride of the country. Our country will prosper only if our villages prosper. Agricultural land is lying unused in villages. To take an initiative in this direction, I suggested during discussion on budget that this land should be distributed among poor labourers so that they can earn their livelihood. They would be able to earn their livelihood by staying in villages only. Similarly atrocities are committed on workers working in hotels and small places. In a recent incident in Delhi, a young boy who worked as a cook was killed by his employee as he did not like the food cooked by him. We have to do something to protect the workers to stop such incidents. Young boys also take to criminal activities due to adverse circumstances. I suggest that the Government should conduct a survey about young boys working in small hotels and see to it that such incidents do not occur in future. The big industrialists should establish new industries to sort out the problem of unemployment and persons from far flung villages should be given priority while handing over jobs. Big industries are set up in cities but this is not done at district level and block level in rural areas. Subsequently, persons from rural areas flock to cities and in this way the population of cities is increasing which is leading to several other problems. To check this problem, industries should be set up in villages. People living in rural areas should be given some incentive.

Aiyar ji has told that roads are being constructed in rural areas, national highways and 50 lakh residential houses are being built. I appreciate the work done by the Government for poor labourers, destitute and exploited persons. Our economy is progressing. We can make more progress in this field by helping the poor. Opportunities of employment should also be increased alongwith the population. Today we are facing the problem of unemployment and we are all concerned about it. It is for the first time that such a large number of opportunities of jobs have been created. The schemes being run by the Government for creating jobs which never been run before. A slogan was given at that time, "Indira Gandhi lao, Garibi hatao, they were mentioning it right now. I thought they had alleviated poverty. Now there would be no poverty, no unemployment,

there would be no problem. I feel they had made false promises at that time. Poverty and unemployment is still there. He has presented the facts as proofs.

I will not take much time. I would only say it in few lines that "hamare kuch bhai hain mazdoor, sukh tha unse lakhon meel door, unki ankhon ka chala gaya tha noor." They lost their zest for life during your regime. They were bereft of any hope. They were exploited and victimised, now in the regime of BJP and its allies, they again see a glimmer of hope. We want to make them happy but you never thought about them. ...*(Interruptions)* You are going to close down the industries. You do so wherever you go.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): You want to make yourself comfortable. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please stop this running commentary.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: There is a glimmer of hope in the reign of BJP as we want to see our workers happy and prosperous. We are working towards the equation of live and let live between the capitalist and the worker so that the nation may prosper. Please do not mislead the workers. Do not talk about closing down the industries which are earning profit. Do not try to hamper the schemes started by the Government. There is no need to play politics and level charges where labourers and soldiers are concerned. They are like our brothers and are the members of our family we should get together to work for their welfare so that they can get back zest for life of which they have been deprived all these fifty years.

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Labour has a budget of around Rs. 971 and odd crore, out of which, the amount earmarked towards 'salaries of the staff' is around Rs. 126 crore. An amount of Rs. 7.5 crore has been earmarked for domestic and foreign travel; Rs. 130 crore and Rs. 465 crore for contributions and grant-in-aid respectively and so on and so forth. In the document, you will see that only the columns relating to the 'staff payment and other things' have been filled up, and the others are almost zero or reflect some notional value. It is just a scrap of paper that has been given.

It is all right that the Department has to be maintained and, for that purpose, Rs. 971 and odd crore has to be granted and, therefore, the Demands for Grants have been placed before us. It is all right. However, from the papers, the redundancy of the duties of the Government is clearly evident. The Government has some duties towards labour resource development, which has evolved over the years, and our esteemed colleague Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar dealt with it to some extent. It has evolved since Independence. Before Independence also, it has evolved, and it has got its history. Unfortunately, I want to state it on record that the Government has successfully made the role of the Government towards labour resource development and also the welfare aspect of labour redundant.

For labour resource development, ITIs and various institutions were formed to train labour to work in consonance with the programmes of the State. For its development and emancipation, as an Independent country, the targets set by the Planning Commission through successive Plan periods have been taken into consideration. Accordingly, the labour resources were sought to be developed in accordance with the needs and to keep pace with the development.

Labour is an essential force in a class-divided society. The upper classes, the ruling circles, to a great extent, have exploited this class. When the purpose of exploiting this class has been served, the Government of every country tried to evade the importance of the role of labour in the development process; it happened in our country also. In the atmosphere of imperialist-driven globalisation, we have found that the Government of India has glibly liberalised the participation or control of the Government. The role of the Government has been reduced to the standard of an onlooker leaving the labour force with tied hands and feet before the so-called market force, that is, the big business houses. The big business houses are considered as the one and only main market force, which the Government takes into account.

The forces of labour can come into play as a market force if they are given some support, if they are given protection, if they are given training, if they are given education, if they are given shelter, and if they are given drinking water and other living facilities. Denying all these things, the labour has been stripped of all the materials they have, to come into play in the market face-to-face with the employers. The check and balance has to be maintained by the Government, by different laws, rules and regulations.

During his speech, my colleague Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar had mentioned about the Second National Labour Commission. Here, I would like to add that at least, three Committees have been formed. One of them has been referred to by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. All these three Committees almost concurrently suggested or recommended mainly two

[Shri Tarit Baran Topdar]

aspects of the Labour Commission Report, which has already been mentioned. I do not want to dilate on that. One is regarding Industrial Disputes Act, to abolish that section. The other is regarding the Contract Labours Act.

Sir, an endeavour has been sort to be afoot to form, to institute a statutory body to look after the pension fund which will be realised from the employers, and that body will look after, manage, disburse and do all that is necessary regarding pension of the employees, which is a social security aspect.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, such an important subject is being discussed and all the benches in the ruling side are empty. You should do something about this. It is a very important matter. It concerns the labourers of the country, it concerns the increasing unemployment in the country and this is the attitude of the ruling side. You should do something about this. Please call the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. He should be here.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ministers are here.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: If the rules permit, I would like to move a Motion of No Confidence against this Government because nobody is sitting there. *...(Interruptions)* It is only out of the kindness of your heart that you are allowing this Government to last, otherwise we would have thrown them out of office. *...(Interruptions)* It is shameful. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): We are all here. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS (TRICHUR): Even the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is not here. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should be called here. What is the reason of his absence.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The concerned Minister is here.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: The hon. Labour Minister is here. The hon. Minister of Textile is here. Many Minister are here. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here. Let Shri Topdar continue.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, pension is a part of the social security measure. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The concerned Minister is here. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs are also here.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Don't we need the presence of other MPs? Is the presence of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs sufficient? This shows that they are not concerned about the labourers. This subject is not important for this Government. Such scant presence from the members of ruling side shows that this Government is not concerned about the labourers.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, Demands for Grants of the Labour Ministry are being discussed. *...(Interruptions)* It is a very serious issue.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): It is right that you have drawn attention towards this but how many members are present from a particular party for a particular subject is not the point. Our Union Minister is present and listening to you. The Government is being represented. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I would like to know whether the ruling side is not accountable in any way. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been discussing the issue for 20 years and it will not do if only one Minister and the other Minister of Parliamentary Affairs take part in the discussion for formality's

sake. Your behaviour reflects your attitude towards the labourers. We are not talking about formality and laws, we are talking about the mentality that is getting reflected in your attitude. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, pension is one of the aspects of social security measures. More than 95 per cent are not under a cover of any social security scheme.

When the Labour Department is bent upon drawing a scheme as to how to draw more and more of our country men under the social security scheme, the Government is trying to shirk off the responsibility of social security measures, that is in their hands, to the hands of a statutory body. In the name of a statutory body, it will go down to the hands of the market forces once again.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Topdar, there four other speakers from your Party to speak.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: I shall not accuse the Labour Ministry for creation or abolition of jobs which take place as a result of the basic economic policies. The discrepancies of the facts and figures have been very splendidly elaborated and exposed by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. But, I shall charge the Ministry to be mindless and heartless in giving wrong figures of employment, and not giving the figures of entrenchment and other aspects of the shrinkage of jobs, and also not protecting the labour from the attack of the employer, promoter, and for denying welfare measures to the workers. In a class divided society, when the Welfare State concept has been given a go-by, the under-privileged, the working class, the peasantry will be the worst sufferers. They will have to bear the brunt of the whole mess that is going to happen. When the bogey has been raised by the employers that the labour has been responsible for the slump in the economy, in order to be competitive in the production and productivity, labour-relation has to be re-oriented. The production system has to be re-organised and improved to a level, to be compatible with the international standards. In this case, I say that Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has expounded the point. But in his splendid diction, he has omitted to point out the role that they should have played, which was not played well. There should have been some admittance of the fact that during the period of five years from 1991-1996, the process of getting the Labour Ministry redundant had started. Very little measure was taken in regard to this aspect. It was the responsibility of the employers to develop production, to keep pace with the international standards, globalisation and globalised aspect. Who prevented them from taking measures? Is it the labour that prevented them to upgrade or to modernise the industry? The responsibility was with the Government, with the politicians, with the bureaucrats and with the members of the Planning Commission. The act committed by them was sought to be thrown on the shoulders of the workers. The awakened working class will take on the system very soon and you must be prepared for that.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD, MAHARASHTRA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants under the Ministry of Labour but while giving support I would like to say something regarding workers. Very good issues have been raised during the debate in the house about the workers and the labourers. The Hon'ble Member of the House, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyarji delivered a very good speech. I would like to say that the Department of Labour functions as a private organisation. The people working in the public organisations always have a good relation with the people's representatives. Many industries had been set up in Mumbai and my constituency, Sambhajeenagar (Aurangabad) but now a days the situation is such as that a number of industries are being closed. The reason of closing the industries are different.

Sir, it used to be said that due to labourers these industries are being closed. Some of the Labour Unions have done very wrong and tried to stop the industries, thereby the opinions were formed that the industries are being closed because of labourers. At that time I said that if industries continue, our youth will get employment. By inculcating this such a spirit we formed a very good atmosphere. So many workers were earning their breads well on account of this spirit but since when India became a member of the WTO, a new labour policy is being prepared after liberalisation, privatisation, globalization in India.

First of all I would like to thank the honourable Minister because I had requested him not to lower the interest rate of 9.5% of provident fund. If you increase this interest rate, the people will be happy. This depends on him. I would like to say that I was also a service personnel. I used to see every year as to how much interest rate has been increased. Hon'ble Minister is facing pressure from the Ministry of Finance or other officer to lower the interest rate but he is very competent and he has taken a very bold step by not reducing the interest rate. That is why I appreciate him. ...*(Interruptions)* In labour sector our Bhartiya Kamgar Sena is working. The Bhartiya Kamgar Sena has its strong hold into many companies like the Airport Authority of India, the Airways services, hotels etc. the policy of our Shiv Sena which has been prepared by honourable Bala Saheb Thackrayji is that you people do not lose your job by Chakka Jam. You keep up your job and if any

[Shri Chandrakant Khaire]

injustice is done with you, you launch agitation to undo the injustice while working in the company but do not stop the production of company. Today in Maharashtra so many companies support the Shiv Sena due to its policy. ...*(Interruptions)* In addition to Maharashtra there are so many companies in Bengal and also in other states.

I would like to say with deep concern that today there are different reasons for very poor conditions of several companies. Some time back the Indian Express had published a series about the industrialists who had taken crores of rupees from our bank. Hon. Minister of State in the Finance Ministry is not here. He has gone somewhere this time. I would like to say that this is a subject of Finance Department. The CMD's of the several banks through the Finance Department have given crores of rupees like 800, 900, 1200 or 1300 crores of rupees to companies in connivance with them. In spite of this the condition of those employees are very miserable. It is our allegation that they did not pay any attention towards this. When we are accepting the policy of privatisation, modernisation, globalisation then what is its benefit? Today our workers are not safe. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): You are not mounting the pressure on them. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: We are mounting pressure. ...*(Interruptions)* A very big front is yet to come up. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Bala Saheb Thakeray and Shri Udhav Thakeray have said that. ...*(Interruptions)* It is not a matter to withdraw the support. We would tell and continue our support. Today the Labour Reform Bill has not been passed in the Lok Sabha due to the Shiva Sena. We will not get it passed. The reason is that honourable Bala Saheb Thakeray has said that first of all this Bill should be in worker's interest. The Department of Labour is our heart. The heart of politicians is the Department of workers. Nothing will be achieved if you do not pay attention towards them. Now the day before yesterday Shri Udhav Thackeray had said as to why should they shake hands with the Pakistan. First they would shake hands with workers. The country will progress if we shake hands with them. This industry will survive only with the cooperation of labourers otherwise it will not survive. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You please convince Arun Shourieji. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Bala Saheb Thakerayji should discuss with him at Mumbai and convince him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: We will not allow him to go outside. During the time when the Hindustan Petroleum, the Bharat Petroleum and RCF are privatised, we will not allow him to go outside. ...*(Interruptions)* Arun Shourie would not come to Mumbai, it is my promise. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is your commitment in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: There are nine thousand Marathi workers in the Hindustan Petroleum and the Bharat Petroleum.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (MIRYALGUDA): Sir, I am the Chairman of the Privileges Committee. It should be referred to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: It is not his subject. The policy of our Shiva Sena is different. We do not compromise for that. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): The Congress Government is ruling there. So how will you nab him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: The Congress Government can not do anything. ...*(Interruptions)* The Congress people would not do anything in front of Shiva Sena. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Shri Thakerayji holds the view that if the Congress Party talks about good things it must be heard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the time of the House is being waster like that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time will be wasted if you talk while seeing other side.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: If industry has to be run today the better the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANOJ SINHA (GAZIPUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Laxman Singhji was very worried about labourers but as the leader of opposition went the unified force of that side is coming to an end. The people are fleeing. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Leader of the

Opposition is so concerned about the problems of the labourers that she stayed here for two hours to listen to the problems being faced by them but the Leader of the House, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. ...*(Interruptions)* Let us count the number of persons present from the ruling side except Shri Manoj. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: The people who seemed to be very much concerned in this regard, left with their leader.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Only Khaireji is taking pains to look into the problems of labourers, rest of the Members are sitting at Shri Arun Shourie's residence.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: I am a new Member. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: You are speaking well, we support your views.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: A Bill is likely to be introduced to amend the labour law, but before that the Government of India has opened several training centres. We appreciate this initiative but more provisions should be made in this regard. Our labourers would be trained here itself and there would be no need to go abroad. The material that is being imported from China is substandard, like the bulb that costs there to four rupees only, but fails in a very short time. All the material that is being imported from China is a complete failure here. Therefore, I want to say that the work being done through Swadeshi Jagran Manch, Bhartiya Kamgar Sena or Bhartiya Mazdoor Sena is progressive. Today, our labourers and workers need to be protected.

15.57 hrs.

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

The women workers should also be given protection, as they were refused facilities due to recession in industries. In Public Sector Undertakings, like Railways, Airport Authority, Telephone, Textile Mills, Post Office etc., there is a provision that workers should be made permanent after they have worked for 120 days, 240 days and if it is not done, our labour officers will take action against them. The day before yesterday, we visited Airport Authority. We found that people have been working on temporary basis i.e. on contract basis for 17 years. The Supreme Court has given directions for their absorption. If Central Government officers do not follow rules and regulations even after our visit to the Airport Authority, then action should be taken against them. Similar conditions prevail in Railways, Telephone Department and other undertakings. I want to request the hon. Minister to get an enquiry conducted in all these undertakings to find out whether rules and regulations are being followed there or not. As I said earlier, the industrialists have kept crores of rupees under their belt and have not done anything about the welfare of workers.

16.00 hrs.

There are several such companies like Fateja Company and API company. There is an undertaking named Miltron under Government of Maharashtra. The employees over there are still suffering. They are not getting any protection. They are seeking VRS but they are not being given the same. Are there any rules or regulations being followed or not? The representatives of the workers present themselves before the officers of the State Government, but the representatives of the company owners do not come. What can be done for this? Our workers can not stay in BALCO after its disinvestments. The new management will fire them in a minute. Their interests are not looked after in any way. Today, we are not looking after the interests of the workers in the Government undertakings, then what will be the situation once these undertakings are sold. No one can be held accountable after disinvestment. The Government also has some responsibility in this regard.

I had raised the issue of Centaur Hotel, Mumbai. Sahara Group took away all the profit. 550 Marathi employees were given VRS notice. They were compelled to sign the documents. Nothing was done for them after forcefully taking their signatures. 550 Marathi people are facing starvation. They have only been given 50-60 thousand rupees. That is why, I am saying that regulations should be made stringent for every company be it the Automobiles Products of India which is established in my constituency. Employees are dying of starvation over there. They have not been given a single paisa during the last three months. Rs. 1000 or 2000 were given one year back. We organised a meeting in Chennai. The owners did not participate in it. It is a very important issue. We bring in labour reforms bills. We call FICCI and CII industrial advisors. Who is the Chairman of FICCI? Shri Muthiya is holding this post. He is the owner of API company and has embezzled Rs. 250 crore of the banks. All the issues relating to FICCI are being published in the newspapers and despite this the hon. Ministers attend FICCI meetings. The workers and labourers are starving and the Chairman of FICCI is responsible for it. The labourers and workers went on a hunger strike alongwith their wives and children. MPs, MLAs and Collector visited them but they were not able to do anything. The labourers should be given protection. It is wrong that the Chairman of FICCI, who is not looking after the employees of his company, is issuing guidelines to ensure the welfare of the labourers. So it is not proper to keep such people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: The same conditions prevail in the textile mills of NTC. They do not want to offer VRS. Moreoften than not the owners are responsible for closing down of the industries and not the workers. You must have seen the survey findings. I want to submit that we need to change the whole set up, run the industries efficiently and take the workers into confidence. The workers are given many facilities in several nations. This should be done here also. In China also all the facilities are provided to the workers. The rules and regulations should be formulated in favour of the workers and not the owners. The companies fired one thousand workers in a minute and they are not held accountable. Where will the workers go? They shout slogans at the residences of public representatives. Nobody from Labour Officer to Labour Commissioner is ready to listen to their grievances. We ring up the owners but they do not answer our calls. Shall we physically drag them out? We have rules under Payment of Wages Act and Bonus Act and we can prosecute those persons who flout these rules. Action should be taken against those who are not paying the workers. The Chairman of FICCI, who owns API also, has not deposited the share of money in the Provident Fund. You should direct the Commissioner to take action against him. The guilty persons should be sent to Tihar Jail. I want to know what action you are going to take in this regard? We have to formulate laws in favour of the labourers to implement new labour policy. Special Economic Zones and free export zones cannot be brought within the purview of labour laws, but there should be some kind of a policy to protect the interests of the labourers. We should try to find out the reasons for the closing down of industries. The reasons are apparent that the industries do not get electricity, water, telephones and means of transport. There are disputes pending between the banks and the partners of the company also. The workers should be protected fully. Sir, Bhartiya Kamgar Sena alongwith others organised a big rally. We are united in this regard. Bhartiya Kamgar Sena, ITU, INTUC, AITUC, Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh all are united. I do not want to speak about rules or regulations. I support the Bill and want to thank you for giving me opportunity to speak for the protection of workers.

[English[

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (KANAKPURA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will not take much time of the House. I am going to raise only two-three issues which have come to my knowledge.

The growth rate of employment has declined in the last ten years. One of the senior Members of the then ruling party and the present principal Opposition party, gave almost all the facts and figures. I was listening to his marathon speech. I do agree with him But the question is how to solve this problem We have accepted the New Economic Policy, the New Industrial Policy, and the New EXIM Policy The era of globalisation, liberalisation and privatisation has started The end-result of all this has been that production by machine has destroyed production by masses. The question is how to revive production by masses which has been destroyed by production by machine. In every walk of life we are seeing that employment has been declining. It is the case not merely in the industrial sector, but even in the agricultural sector and the agro-based industry, what his goodself mentioned that there has been a decline is a fact. Sir, when we were in office for a short duration of ten and a half months- ten months and twenty days - we had gone through the various problems which we were facing in those days. Most of the textile industry is in Mumbai. The jute industry is in your State. For the coffee industry, the labour laws are there but the labourers are begging before the planters to give them three working days in a week. They say they will work for three days and keep quiet. This is the situation that is prevailing. So, it is very difficult to overcome this problem. Our NDA friends tried to take very vigorous steps for implementing the second phase of economic reforms. When they came to power, they said: "We would go all out and want to sell off even such private sector undertakings which we have classified as *Navratnas*, the profit making industries, who will come to take a loss-making private sector undertaking?" This was the stand taken by the Prime Minister. I was also there in 1998 when the Prime Minister took this decision. Now, I do not want to go into all these issues.

Sir, almost all issues in the last ten years have gone from bad to worse as Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was mentioning. There is no need to go for the figures. They have been supplied by the Government itself. There are only two issues in your own State. Recently I went to Calcutta. The Jute industrial workers met me and tried to submit a memorandum. More than six labourers actually committed suicide. I have no union as you people have. You are primarily fighting for the cause of the organized sector. That is one of the bases for Left Parties. When I went there, the families of those labourers who had committed suicide approached me. I addressed a small group of people. Sir, according to the information supplied by the Ministry of Textiles, more than four million families are dependent on jute cultivation and about two lakh workers are today in the streets. About five or six jute mills are under the control of the National Jute Corporation of India. The wages have not been paid. In West Bengal, there are 59 jute mills. The hon. Minister knows more than all of us. ...*(Interruptions)* Jute mills are located in West Bengal. There are three each in Bihar and UP. Fifty nine out of the total 76 jute mills are located in West Bengal. These are the official figures. For 14 years, one jute mill in Kanpur has been closed. The number of sick mills as on 13.7.2002 is 38, excluding

one closed mill. The number of mills referred to BIFR at present is 30. Out of the total 76 mills, 59 jute mills are located in West Bengal, three each in Bihar and UP, seven in Andhra Pradesh, and one each in Assam, Orissa, Manipur, Tripura and Madhya Pradesh. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Labour Minister to this. He is also coming from an agriculturist family. I have great respect for him.

I have got personal regard for him. I would like to ask him a question. Is there any uniform policy so far as the Voluntary Retirement Scheme is concerned? The Government has one type of policy for bank employees and another type of policy for industrial employees. Is there any scheme for agro-based industries where the employees have been thrown out due to closure of mills, whether they are sugar mills or textile mills or jute mills? How much wages to be paid is still pending?

Sir, I went to Modi Nagar and a textile mill was closed there. I do not want to take the name of the industrialist here. The mill was closed. The entire stretch of land of that industrial complex is just like gold and it has been allowed to be diversified now. They have now started setting up educational institutions like medical colleges, engineering colleges, etc. But wages to the labourers of the closed mill have not been paid. When they want to take the entire benefit of the value of the land, is it not the responsibility of the Department of Labour to pay the wages due to the labourers? Is the Labour Department or the Government functioning?

Sir, in the case of bank employees, there is the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. If a first division clerk or a second division clerk in a bank who has still got seven or eight years of service opts for voluntary retirement, he will get Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 lakh and some officers will get Rs. 30 lakh in addition to pension. Under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme meant for bank employees, an amount of Rs. 12,000 crore have been paid. Is the same yardstick applied for employees in other sectors? Should it not be thought over by the Government? The same yardstick should be applied to one and all, even to the employees in the organised sector. That is what I want to stress on the Government and the Labour Minister. On this issue, if the hon. Minister makes an assurance that whatever wage arrears are due to the labourers in the jute industry would be paid to them, I think he would be doing a great service to them.

Sir, an employee actually came to me and narrated his pitiable condition. He lifted the upper part of his cloth and shown his stomach to me. He said that there are seven children in his house. He said he boils seven potatoes and gives one potato each to every child. I am not making any exaggeration or a false allegation here, but this is the sorry state of affairs of a labourer who came before me and cried. You might have seen these kind of things everyday. So, when they have swallowed the valuable land which has been earlier given either by the State Government or the Central Government and when they are allowed to diversify the land and start any type of industries that they want, should they not pay the wages due to the workers? Should some compensation not be paid to the workers who have worked for 25 years in the industry? As a former Chief Minister of Delhi and as a person coming from the family of a farmer, I request the hon. Minister to look into these things.

Sir, the last point that I want to make pertains to my State. A very prime hotel was sold in Karnataka and that is coming under the Ministry of Tourism. The new management of the hotel declared that there would be no retrenchment of workers although they could avail the attractive Voluntary Retirement Scheme. This was the declaration made at the time of the sale of that hotel. Both the NDA Government and the Congress Government have collided to part with such a valuable property. In the city of Bangalore, the hon. Minister might have stayed in Ashok Hotel. That property is today worth Rs. 200 crore. I do not want to try to dig all these issues which ultimately the people will decide. The management says:

> "The new management of the hotel today declares that there will be no retrenchment of the workers, although they can avail the attractive voluntary retirement scheme."

Today, they have removed 121 workers. It is just like hire and fire. We have seen this in the Western world but we do not know whether in our country that system has been brought into force. It is utter disgrace.

I went to Quilon in Kerala. Somebody took me there. The hotel having 420 posh rooms was sold for Rs.42 crore. The value of the property is worth Rs.250 crore. I do not want to blame the Minister. He is not responsible for all these things. He is not concerned with all those things. But at least he can protect the labourers, the workers. Whatever agreement has been entered into at the time of selling of this prime property, should be adhered to. It is not the property built by the NDA Government. It is the property built by the previous rulers. Whether it is Congress or any other Government, I am not bothered with that. This is country's property. It is our national property and it is sold at throw away prices.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): This money belongs to the people of India.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: That money might have been invested by the Congress Government or anybody else, that is not the issue. At least, should they not take substantial

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

protective measures to safeguard the interests of the workers? What they do is that just a notice is put on the board that the workers have been dismissed. Please look into all these things.

There is the case of Ashok Hotel, Bangalore. There is the case of Ashok Hotel, Hassan. Is there any agency or organisation to look into these things whether any follow up action has been taken or not or whether these people have adhered to the agreement signed on the day of the sale? Can they enforce all these things? I want a categorical answer from the hon Minister, at least, on this.

They talk about social security issues. All these are dreams. We talk about social security measures in the unorganised sector, in the landless labour sector. It is just a dream when they are unable to waive off one year's interest for the farmers. Social security measures is a very laudable expression. I do not want to go into all these details. We have seen enough of this. So, I would request that these issues should be taken up when you have entered into an agreement.

I raised only two issues of jute labourers and hotel workers. I would request the hon. Minister to try to enforce these agreements for the benefit of labourers and workers. With these words I express my sincere thanks to you.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, all those, who are defaulting the banks and all those who owe crores of rupees by way of NPA to the Government are today in the Prime Minister's Advisory Council. When they are there, how can you have correct policies? They are all sitting and advising the Prime Minister. They owe to the IFCI Rs. 1,500 and odd crore. I asked this in Parliament but there was no reply and this is the answer given by the Finance Minister in the House.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Rupees one lakh crore by way of NPAs and rupees one lakh crore by way of unpaid taxes. That comes to rupees two lakh crore. ...*(Interruptions)* They are the advisors to the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever my turn comes to speak why my friends from the Congress and others feel hard?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN (NAGERCOIL): Sir, they have extended that Chairman's tenure by three times. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, the defaulters should be brought to book. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Let their property be attached and let the workers get their dues. ...*(Interruptions)* Send them to jail and then the workers will get justice. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the NPA of all companies should be declared in the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Let not any defaulter be defended here. We are working for our livelihood.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pandian, please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to support the demands pertaining to the Ministry of Labour, under para 60 of the demands for grants for the 2002-03. The country got independence even more than fifty years ago and the people of the country has seen rule of different parties. The people of the country also saw the rule of Shrimati Indira Gandhi when she used to go to the people with the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' and used to get vote of poor and labour class people. But as she came in power, she took care of rich people and poor people did not get anything but their days were spent in paying debts.

Right now Honourable Deve Gowdaji was speaking but when he was the Prime Minister he got issued five memoranda on 22.7.1997 through DOP for violating the rights of the Dalits providing reservation in backlog or carry forward of vacancies and subsequently they took away the employment of small employees and labourers on the pretext of those DOP orders. I would like to congratulate the present government, that by initiatives of the Honourable Prime Minister and Shri Jatiyaji three such orders have been changed which were anti dalits. Today, new opportunities for poor and labour class have been generated. Some of our friends were saying that unemployment has increased and opportunities of employment has not generated during the tenure of present Government. I would like to say that the present government has given employment to seventy three lakh and three thousand people in the year of 2000-01 out of three years.

Similarly 78 lakhs, six thousand people were given employment during the year of 2001-02. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: What are the sources.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: I have sources of our achievements issued by different departments. ...*(Interruptions)* Similarly eighty two lakh three thousand people got employment during the year of 2002-03. The whole employment were given to the people through the National Highway Development Project, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Pariyojana, the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana, Rural Employment Generation Scheme etc. As the economic reformation started in the year 1991, the labourers of the country were faced the limited scope of employment arising out of globalisation and liberalisation. The present government realised the seriousness of the problem. The Government took revolutionary steps subsequently to save our Indian labour sector from its likely impact. Fifty rupees per day the wage of a labourer was fixed under the National Minimum Wages. The relief has been given to six lakhs employees under the Employees State Insurance Scheme by this way who were contributing in provident fund or in other ways. There is a large group of agricultural labourers in our country because India is an agricultural country. Keeping in view the interest of our agricultural labourers the Government of India introduced Agriculture Workers Security Scheme 2001. One after the other bill has been introduced for the safety of the people working in unorganised sector. Earlier 2 lakhs 74 thousand rupees used to be paid to the family of a deceased labourer now this amount has been increased to 5 lakh 48 thousand rupees under the workman compensation Act. A provision has been made to pay 4 lakh 56 thousand rupees in stead of 2 lakh 33 thousand rupees to those workers who became disabled anyway while working in the factories. The way the number of old aged persons is increasing in the country. The Government of India has given exemption of 20 thousand rupees on the income of one lakh and fifty thousand rupees under the provisions of Income Tax to those people in view of this fact that this figure will reach 100 millions by 2013. These steps have been taken for providing them social security system. Not only this the steps have been taken for the security of women at their work place to raise their dignity. There are 5652 blocks in the country. Arrangements of ICDS and self Help Group have been made for the protection of children and for providing employment to the women in those blocks, so that relief could be provided to those people.

I would like to appreciate the present Government for raising the issue in favour of labourers in ILO. The whole world is admiring India's labour policy. Even communist country like China has invited Shri Dattopant Thengri there who founded the BMS and a seminar was organised by the Communist Party of India where he delivered a lecture on labour system of India and a conclusion came that today either it is the countries of Europe, America or communist country; they are thinking that the opinion developed by India about the labourers under which we care everybody who live in our country is correct. We know that the labourer in India are the backbone of the country.

We will have to provide all the facilities to our workers either it is related with their health or where women work, be it brick kiln labourers, wine workers, hotel industries workers, agricultural labourers and the Government of India is formulating its policy keeping in view the interest of workers.

Sir, I would like to congratulate Shri Vermaji and the Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee that they born in a poor family and now he is the Prime Minister of India. His vision and mission is crystal clear that a message spread in the world is the NDA Government in India ruling the country for five years has set a record in every field either it is in the field of Telecommunication, LPG or the Ministry whose demands we are discussing i.e. Ministry of Labour. ...*(Interruptions)* You do not speak about corruptions. I will expose all of you.

[English]

You have no right to speak on the issue of corruption. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Katariaji, you address the Chair.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Sir, those people are interrupting me who are totally corrupt, talk about corruption. Sir, these people spoils the nation, flow of speech by creating interruptions. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, today good relation should be developed between the employee and employer so that the country could become most powerful nation of the world in twenty first century and workers and industrialists of our country enjoy happiness. Production of factories in our countries may not stop for a single minute. I would like to say that our workers and industrialists should follow the laid down policy.

Sir, I would conclude by citing a small example. I got an opportunity to visit Japan just two-three years ago. I had a talk with Japanese there and they told me that America destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki by bombardment on 6th and 9th August, 1995 respectively but today Japanese achieved super position in the field of technology and

[Shri Rattan Lal Kataria]

development in the world because of the spirit of nationalism. There were one Japanese and one Indian friend. They met each other after 15-20 years and inquired about the well-being of each other. The Japanese friend asked Indian friend that how many children he had. The Indian friend stated that he had two children. The Indian asked his Japanese friend who also replied that he had two children. The Indian friend indicating by his hand told the heights of his elder and younger children. When the Indian asked his Japanese friend about the heights of his children, the Japanese friend indicated their height in breadth. The Indian friend asked with surprise that you have indicated me their breadth whereas you should have told me their height. What is the reason. The Japanese said that when in the morning he goes for work the children are in bed and when at night he returns the children are already slept. So he had not seen his children awake. He said that they worked day and night to take their country at new heights.

Sir, today there is a need to develop such a culture in our country also. Full autonomy should be given to the trade unions and they should be granted full functional rights. Simultaneously, the workers of our country have also got a mission to build up the nation. This mission is for taking the country on the path of progress and we have to fulfil this mission unitedly because many a power, in today's world is having an evil eye on India. It is appearing to them that in the time to come i.e. by 2025, India is going to become one of the super powers of the world. Therefore they want to foment trouble in our country by hook or by crook. From one side Pakistan tries to foment trouble through cross border terrorism and from the other side Bangladesh tries to weaken our country by allowing I.S.I. to operate from their soil and at times through strikes etc. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you please conclude.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: I have to speak a bit more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now conclude your speech. I have called Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: At last the Health Ministry has introduced a health scheme for labourers under which they have to contribute 1 Re. everyday and in case the labourer dies his next of kin would receive compensation upto Rs. Thirty thousand. There is a need to spread this scheme throughout the country. Similarly, benefit of the revolutionary measures taken during the last five years by the Ministry of Health under Vermaji for protection of interests of the poor, women and children need to be taken to the common man today.

I support these demands and appeal the Government that much you give to this sector, less it would be. More and more grants should be given to this sector so that we could save the interests of our labourers.

I would once again like to say thanks.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are discussing the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour for the year 2003-2004. This is a very important subject because, I think, today discontentment among people, tension in the society and the deteriorating law and order situation is because of unemployment. If we do not take note of this problem the conditions, instead of improving, will all the more deteriorate. Instead of criticising one another, we should make efforts that some fruitful result emerges out of this discussion and the Government takes steps in the right direction.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to go into the details of the figures given about unemployment and the claims that are made by the Government because it is not just to confine oneself to the statistical figures and to remain aloof from the reality. There is a public reaction whatever action we take public realises it very soon as to what is being done for them by the Government and I think, reaction from the public about any government is the proper yardstick for evaluating the performance of any Government.

In the rally of the BJP's Kisan Morcha held on the 13th of January, the Prime Minister himself said that the unemployed people should not depend entirely on the Government rather they should search for a job through self-employment. It explicitly means that the Government has not the capability to provide employment to all and sundry. Today the most unfortunate factor is that the agriculture sector which provide employment to the maximum number of people is in a poor condition. Enough protection is not available to the maximum job providing sector and this is the reason the growth rate of employment in agriculture which was 2.04 percent between 1983 and 1993 has come down to 0.9 percent between 1994 and 2000. The employment opportunities in agriculture has come down. Today the condition of our country is such that the number of people living below the poverty line is continuously rising. As per the figures available for 1999-2000 per capita per mensem average income in the rural areas is Rs. 327 and in the urban areas it is Rs. 454. People do not have job. They have no work. Therefore, hon'ble Labour Minister, it is my submission that the Government should make some concrete and positive efforts in this regard.

In the unorganised sector 91-92 percent people work. 8 to 9 percent people work in the organised sector. Therefore the foremost requirement of today is that the interests of the

workers engaged in the unorganised sector should be protected. I would like to submit that for their social security there is no arrangement. In the budget of 2001-2002, a pension scheme for the labourers was proposed and to implement this scheme a Group of Ministers was also constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. But no results emerged from the constitution of that Group neither did it give any recommendations. I think that if no effective results come out of the constitution of a committee or a Group of Ministers then it is nothing but a wastage of time.

I want to submit that in 1998 the Prime Minister had announced from the ramparts of the Red Fort that the Government would provide employment to one crore people. In the previous year's budget this Government remained silent on the question of employment and after the announcement was made a committee was also constituted under the Chairmanship of Montek Singh Ahluwaliaji which submitted it's report in 2001. In the report it was proposed to end the reservation in small scale industries. It was also proposed that facilities should be given for foreign investment but there was no recommendation suggesting to bring down unemployment. It was said in that report that we have to occupy a reputation in the industry sector. I, through you, would like to submit that if we go only for technical based industry and concentrate only on capital then it will not do. We have to make our industry labour intensive. Unless we do it, our country is not going to achieve the desired benefit and the condition of this country can not be improved. I also want to submit that after Ahluwalia Committee, S.P. Gupta Committee was constituted and in the report submitted, proposal for enhancement of capital investment has been made. At the same time it has been stated that for providing employment to the 3 million people we need an amount of Rs. 20 lac crore. During the tenth five year plan, a target to provide employment to one crore people annually has been fixed. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Labour Minister that this is their impractical approach. You people are making utopian targets devoid of ground realities. The hon'ble Prime Minister has himself admitted in a meeting that this was impossible to achieve.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would also like to submit that agriculture and small scale industries generate maximum employment opportunities. But the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission opines that due to stiff competition in the international market we have to change nature of industries and instead of labour intensive industries technology based industries need to be promoted. My submission is that the technology based industries are not going to enhance the employment opportunities rather they would reduce it all the more.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make one more request to the hon'ble Minister of Labour that when he gives his replies he should respond to this question, please. When the honourable Sonia Gandhiji had raised a question regarding unemployment in the House, the honourable Prime Minister and his Government pointed out that so many persons had been given employment and it was stated that 7.3 million people were given employment in 2000-2001, 7.9 million people in 2001-2002 and 8.4 million people were given additional employment in 2002-03. I would like to know as to in which sectors opportunity of employment have been generated. The State Government should be consulted it explored as to which various departments employment was generated. Information should be given to the House about those sectors and departments. The Government is claiming that it has generated employment. Information should also be provided to the country and the House regarding the sectors in which employment has been given during these years.

The Government would like to amend contract labour law and it also wants to empower industrialists that when labourers are given employment on temporary basis, they should be given 25 percent extra salary. Honourable Shri Sahib Singh Vermaji your ministry had given this suggestion and the committee headed by Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission and which comprises of ministers, has turned down your proposal. Your suggestion regarding participation of labourers in Management, system has also been turned down.

10.5 lakhs persons name were registered in Employment Exchange office in Delhi and 3 crores and 29 lakhs rupees were spent on this office and only 215 persons got employment during the last three years. The claim made by you people to remove unemployment is impractical, imaginary and it is twice removed from the reality You want to make people happy by showing them budge :d data on papers only but the public want result.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): You give some suggestions.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I am putting forth my own opinion. Please you seek suggestion from those people you depend upon. Honourable Shri Murlidhar Raoji of the Swadeshi Jagaran Manch, one of the wings of Sangh Pariwar, has stated that the Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has completely failed on issue of unemployment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the number of unemployed persons in our country in 1993-94 was 20.13 millions and it has increased to 26.58 millions in 1999-2000. It means that the percentage of unemployment has increased from 5.99 to 7.32

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

percent. The Government are talking about giving employment to one crore people during the Tenth Five Year Plan. But the Government should also understand that 70 lakh new unemployed persons are emerging every year and the class of unemployed persons is getting increased every year. The Government will have to manage for new unemployed persons whose number is increasing every year. I would like to say through you that according to present scenario of the country 39.7 crores people are desirous to get a job and out of them only three crore people get work for 183 days in a year and rest of the people remain jobless. 281 persons had been working till March 1999 in organised sectors and this number has decreased to 277 in March, 2000. It means that the people are not getting job directly. It has publicized by the Government in the country that the second labour commission is going to be constituted and it will take initiative to resolve the problems of labourers effectively and will give recommendations in this regard. We will follow the recommendations of the second labour commission. I would like to submit through you that the report of the second labour commission is very pathetic. This report is in favour of owner, industrialists and could not in the favour of labourers. The most remarkable thing is that the commission itself has commented on its power and function and has stated that no power has been given to commission to raise employment for working out policy and to make recommendations and suggestions. In spite of it the second labour commission has expressed its concern elaborately over lack of efficiency of jobless labourers and employment generation. The purview of the commission to think over the problems of labourers has been limited and it has been asked to work on certain different subjects.

Sir, the honourable Minister has asked to give suggestions. I would like to give my first suggestions that agriculture sector has vast scope for giving employment in our country. There is need to protect agriculture sector. The water level of the country is becoming low. There is need to bring about changes in old norms to give relief from flood and drought to the farmers. These norms have been in vogue here since the British time. Time has changed and the requirements of the people have also changed. If protection is not given to agriculture sector by the Government, the country will be ruined. After agriculture the second important sector is textile industry. We people talk about handlooms and readymade garments but we are levying tax on these sectors also. For example, if production cost on textile is one rupee then we are imposing 70 percent tax thereon. There is necessity to reduce the tax. I can not say as to how much Labour Minister will be able to reduce. I have been also a Minister of Labour in the country for sometime. I would like to make my humble request to give protection to agriculture sector and reduce the tax on textile sector which has been imposed arbitrarily. These two sectors can give employment to the maximum number of people. If it happens, the people will be benefited.

With these words I conclude my speech.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (MADRAS NORTH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to participate in the debate on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour.

At the outset, I want to congratulate the hon. Labour Minister Dr. Sahib Singh, being his first year of tenure, for giving guidance to the Ministry of Labour.

Labour is a concurrent subject under the Constitution, and both the Central and the State Governments are empowered to enact laws and implement them. In the era of liberalisation, employment opportunities are declining. Taking shelter under the modernisation, employers are indulging in 'Compulsory Voluntary Retirement Schemes', which amounts to retrenchment. If the employees do not opt for the 'Voluntary Retirement Scheme' within a specified period, they are threatened with retrenchment. The workers are in such a precarious situation, business institutions and Industries are taking undue advantage of it and are adopting anti-labour and unfair labour practices.

Sir, of late, the Contract Labour provisions are not being observed as strictly as they used to be earlier. With the result, there, is a blatant exploitation of the contract labour. The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 is an important piece of labour legislation, though it is a very weak legislation. It is there to regulate the employment of contract labour in certain specified establishments. The Supreme Court has also upheld the constitutional validity of the provisions and the rules thereunder. Here comes the question of enforcement, and that has become a very big blow to them now. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to see that the provisions of the Contract Labour Act are properly and strictly enforced by the Field Officers and the State Governments concerned.

Generally, Sir, the weaker sections in the society are employed as contract labour and, therefore, they should be regularised in due course of time and they should be given all the benefits as regular employees get. Now-a-days, a new trend has started in the industry where the employers have resorted to outsourcing of various activities, though the main work is of perennial and regular in nature. In fact, the Second National Labour Commission has also recommended that

perennial core services are not transferred to other agencies or establishments.

Sir, the other important aspect is the unorganised labour. The erstwhile DMK Government, under the leadership of Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, formed Labour Welfare Boards for the benefit of the unorganised labour as a measure of social security. Now, in the present regime, it is being neglected. I will suggest to the hon. Minister that on the lines of such a Scheme, the Central Government should come forward to formulate a similar welfare scheme for the unorganised sector as it would be more beneficial to them.

Sir, in the media, there are reports that the interest rate on PF is going to be reduced. The existing rate of interest itself is low. Therefore, there should not be any further decrease in the interest rate because this is the only source of security which the workers are having.

Sir, ESI Scheme is also not functioning properly. In the Centrally-sponsored schemes monitored by the State Governments, there are administrative lapses in implementing the ESI Scheme. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to oversee the functioning of the ESI so that it works properly.

Under the Workers' Education Scheme, workers are being educated about labour laws, conditions of service and other conditions.

Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to see that such workers are educated in all fields including the skill development.

Before bringing a comprehensive Labour legislation based on the recommendations of the Second National Labour Commission, the Government should hold wide-ranging consultations and discussions with all State level major trade union organisations because in the era of Coalition Government, regional parties play a very important role in the development of the nation. Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Labour Minister for his assurance given in the Upper House that he would consult all the trade unions before the legislation in this regard is introduced.

Sir, labour is the backbone of our nation's economy. So, it is of foremost interest to protect the interests of the labour. But here is a very great problem being faced by the workers. The Bonus Act was enacted in the year 1965, and it is outdated now. Erosion of wage has come. The cost of living has been going sky-high. If they implement this Act, nothing will go to the workers. So, I would urge upon the hon. Labour Minister to see that the Bonus Act is amended immediately in favour of the workers.

Sir, there are so many Committees constituted by the State Governments as well as the Central Government. Such Committees have been constituted to hold meetings and get interaction with the workers, the employers and also the Government. So, such Committees should meet frequently and get the proper reason and to know the ground realities of the labour force.

But unfortunately, Sir, in our State of Tamil Nadu, for the past two years, no such committees whether it is a Labour Welfare Board, whether it is an ESI Board, whether it is an implementation and Evaluation Committee, whether it is a Contract Labour Board, has been convened. So, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to see that such committees meet frequently. Though this subject comes under the Concurrent List, it is their responsibility to see that such committees are convened properly and there is a proper interaction held. It will be very helpful to the labour force.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI A.C. JOS (TRICHUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I start this discussion by congratulating the hon. Minister and my party. For the past 20 years, this House had not discussed the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Labour. It is at the insistence of my party that this time, the House has taken up for discussion the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Labour.

I congratulate the hon. Minister for setting this opportunity to talk about labour. The Labour Ministry is a very important Ministry. But the way it is functioning, I do not know whether this Ministry itself would get a voluntary retirement scheme, and this Ministry itself will get disappeared. That is the way in which this Ministry is moving.

Whenever we talk of labour, the rallying point at any labour discussion should be unorganised labour. The statistics show that in this country, there are about 370 million workers Out of these 370 million workers, eight per cent are in the organised sector and the rest, 92 per cent are in the unorganised sector. This is the statistics given by the Government in the year 1999-2000. Based on 1991 census, 250 million workers, which constitutes 90.6 per cent, are engaged in the unorganised sector, out of which 191 million workers are engaged in agriculture, forestry, fishery and plantation. Then, 190 million workers are in the organised sector, out of which 28.92 million workers are in the manufacturing sector.

In the unorganised sector itself, 78 per cent constitute construction workers. The Minister would recall having attended a meeting of the construction workers in Kerala, he

[Shri A.C. Jos]

was kind enough to attend that meeting for which I invited him. The construction workers are the most neglected lot in this country. This august House had passed a legislation for the establishment of a Welfare Board of Construction Workers in 1998. As per that Act - the Building and Other Constructions Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1998 - a Board had been constituted. The Advisory Board is supposed to meet twice a year, but it is not meeting.

It met twice during the course of these four years. In that meeting, it was suggested that all the State Governments should be addressed to enact such a law so that Welfare Fund is established in all the States. But I am sorry to state that the Labour Department of the Central Government has not sent any intimation to the State Government to adopt that legislation. Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya would know that.

Thereafter, I myself suggested to convene a Conference of all the Chief Ministers to impress upon them the need to have a legislation as passed by the Central Government or to have a legislation on the pattern of legislation that was passed by the Central Government in all the States. Except Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Delhi, no other State has followed suit, and till now, that law has not been passed. I am proud to say that in Kerala We have passed that legislation and the Welfare Fund is functioning very well.

We are having pension scheme; we are giving maternity benefits to the construction workers; now we are giving educational facilities for the construction workers. Till date no other State has taken any initiative; and the Central Government also has not taken any initiative to have some legislation for the unorganised sector.

I am listening to the speeches of my esteemed colleagues. Very seldom they talk about unorganised sector. All of them are talking about organised sector only. Ninety per cent of India's workers are in the unorganised sector. But no proper legislation has been passed till date. I understand that the Second Labour Commission was entrusted with the task of suggesting or recommending various steps to be taken for the purpose of having a legislation for the unorganised sector. They had made their recommendations also. They had recommended various social security measures for the unorganised sector workers which include health care, maternity benefit, early child care, provident fund benefits, family benefits and amenities including housing, drinking water, sanitation, etc.

But I do not know whether the Labour Ministry of the Central Government has taken any initiative to consider these recommendations of the Second Labour Commission. They have been asked to have an umbrella legislation for that. Except that umbrella legislation, they have not considered everything. Instead of that, they talked about Contract Labour Act. I am not going into that now. But the only thing is that if that also is abolished, what will happen?

In the present circumstances, even the people in the organised sector are becoming unorganised slowly. If the Contract Labour Act is abolished, they will be left with no other security measures. They will not have any job security; they will not have any other jobs. So, my first submission to this Government, to the hon. Labour Minister, who irrespective of his political links is very committed to this matter, is at least during his tenure he should bring a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of the unorganised sector of the country. I know it comes in the Concurrent List but the State Government also have to follow suit. Whatever be the difficulty, the Minister should call a meeting of all the Labour Ministers of the States and impress upon them the urgency to have a comprehensive legislation for covering the unorganised sector of the country.

I do not want to repeat whatever has been said earlier about the Provident Fund Scheme but a very serious situation has arisen in the country. Provident Fund is one of the largest social security schemes in the world. Whatever one may say, it is the largest social security measure in the country. Deposit it has amassed is mind-boggling. As on 31.3.02 the total investment amounted to Rs.96,793. 11 crore. Till date we used to get 12 per cent interest on Provident Fund. Firstly it was reduced to 9.5 per cent and in today's newspaper it has come out that it has been further reduced to 8 per cent. I seriously warn the Government that with 8 per cent interest the Provident Fund scheme will not work. We are treading into dangerous lines. As per the present schemes, the Provident Fund and the Family Pension, it is not possible to pay that much of amount at reduced interest rate. Not only that, this money is deposited in the Government security and other special deposit schemes. So, it should definitely have more interest rate. Both the Pension scheme and the Provident Fund Scheme should not be altered in any case.

I congratulate the Minister for introducing the card system. Individual number has been given. This is a new and a good step, especially in the present scenario where a worker may have to go from one management to another. If he has a particular number, Provident Fund can be functional wherever he goes to work. I seriously want the government to keep intact the Provident Fund Scheme or a novel scheme has to be introduced. A comprehensive study has to be made as to what will happen because of the emergent situation. The Government has to think very seriously about it. Then only the Provident Fund Scheme can work.

The same is the case with regard to ESI. It is one of the

best schemes that we have envisaged or brought in for the welfare of the workers, but what is the situation? We have about Rs.6686.70 crore of deposits for ESI, out of which the Government has got about Rs.2935 crore as a special deposit in the Government treasury and the rest of the money is kept in the nationalised banks. I do not understand why the Government should accumulate this money. It is the workers' money. It has been introduced for their help. For example, more hospitals with more facilities are to be established. Specialist doctors are to be provided in these hospitals. People are not taking ESI seriously because they think that no facility is available. As Shri Kuppusami has just now mentioned, ESI is being administered by the State and controlled by the Central Government. You have to think about it.

I am seriously placing before this House that the amount of Rs.86,000 crore which has been received from the workers should not be deposited. I could understand your depositing the provident fund money and giving it as pension. But in ESI, it is not covering that. Therefore, my request is that ESI should also be revamped and a serious thinking should be given to it.

At the same time, I would request the hon. Minister that ESI should be extended to the unorganised sector also. I come from Kerala. I can tell you that Kerala Construction Welfare Board can contribute for the ESI scheme if you are prepared to extend the ESI scheme to the construction workers. Even with the present amount, the unorganised sector can be roped in. I am sure that ESI Corporation can work without any difficulty.

Sir, the Constitution of India has given us many fundamental rights and one of them gives the following right:

> "to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business."

Sir, I have freedom to carry on any occupation. But I should have occupation. I should have work. I should have right to work. The right to work should also be a fundamental right. In most the erstwhile communist countries, the right to work was a fundamental right. But in many countries right to work and duty to work are there. They both are correlated. Unless we have a fundamental right to work, what is the meaning of professing the right to have any occupation, etc.? I would request that we should have to have a constitutional amendment. We have made education compulsory through a constitutional amendment. Like that, the right to work and duty to work should be made compulsory as per the Constitution. If the hon. Minister of Labour brings a legislation in this regard, I think this august House would agree to that.

Sir, there should be a National Wage policy. Even after 55 years of Independence, we do not have a wage policy at all. In the Government sector, the gap between the lowest paid and the highest paid is 1:6 whereas in the private sector, the gap is very big. In the private sector, one person may be getting Rs. 1 crore a month and the other person may be getting Rs. 1000 per month. So, the gap is around 500 times to 600 times. Therefore, we shall have to have some wage policy. If it is not possible to have a National Wage Policy, why could we not think of having a Regional Wage Policy? People of Kerala are the worst sufferers. Our workers are reasonably well paid. We give them all other facilities also. With the result, our cost of production is going up and our product cannot compete with other products. In Tamil Nadu and Karanataka, the wages are very low.

Sir, migration of labour also happens. It is cross migration. The industries get migrated to the places where labour is cheap and the labourers get migrated to the places where wages are high. So, for some States, it is a socio-economic problem because it affects their Public Distribution System. We have about 10 to 15 lakh workers from other States. We do not grudge it. We welcome it. Anybody can come and work in Kerala. But it upsets our socio-economic situation also. Therefore, I would urge upon the Minister to have a Regional Wage Policy at least.

Even if a National Wage Policy cannot be formulated, at least the Government should think of formulating a Regional Wage Policy. The country could be divided into three or four zones and then a wage policy could be declared. This would help in curbing cross migration of people from one State to another. Now people migrate from one State to another for their livelihood. The Government should think on this line.

Sir, VRS is a good thing. But as I mentioned at the beginning as a result of this the organised labour force in the country is becoming unorganised. This would, at one point of time, question the very existence of your Ministry. My request to the hon. Minister is that he should see to it that the existence of his Ministry is not threatened because of these policies in this era of liberalisation and globalisation.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (JAGATSINGHPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset I would like to refer to an answer given in response to an Unstarred Question on 21st April, 2003.

17.27 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was referring to an answer given in response to Unstarred Question no. 4451 on 21st April, 2003.

[Shri Trilochan Kanungo]

The answer was given by the hon. Labour Minister, Shri Vijay Goel. The question asked was about the latest employment position in the organised sector, including the Central Government, the State Governments, the Public Sector, the quasi-Government local bodies, the autonomous bodies and the private sector.

Sir, the figures provided in the answer shows that in each sector, whether it is in the Central Government, or in the State or quasi-Government or local bodies or in the public sector, or private sector, employment has gone down. In the private sector employment has gone down from 86.98 lakhs in 1999, that is calendar year, to 86.52 lakhs in 2001. So, there has been a reduction in employment in this sector alone to the tune of approximately 50,000 Now, in the Central Government, State Governments, quasi-Government bodies, local bodies and in the public sector employment has come down from 1,94,15,000 in 1999 to 1,91,38,000 in 2001. So, there has been a reduction in employment both in the public as well as in the private sector. All put together, employment has come down from 2,81,00,000 in 1999 to 2,77,00,000 in 2001. Apart from this, approximately four crore job-seekers are waiting in the wings. There are more than three crore educated unemployed youth in this country. This is the statement of the Government. During the last three years employment in the organised sector has come down both in the public as well as in the private sector. In the name of downsizing it shows that neither in the public sector nor in the private sector there has neither been any increase in production, nor has any new unit come up.

It has shown that neither in the public sector nor in the private sector, neither more number of units have come up nor more employment has been generated. It is a very sorry state of affair. It should be corrected. Otherwise, we are sitting on a living volcano which will erupt and finish this country.

Another point is very important. We ask questions– whether starred or unstarred questions – to elicit correct information from the Government. If the Government which is accountable to this House does not give the correct information, it is a breach of privilege. As it happened only yesterday, I took this opportunity to bring it to your kind notice at the earliest. If it is not corrected, then I shall have the right to move a Privilege Motion against the Minister.

In part (b) of my question I had asked:

"placements, retrenchment, normal retirement, death in service and otherwise relinquishment of jobs during each of last three years of each of the sectors mentioned above;"

The answer given was:

"Sector wise information on placement, retrenchment, normal retirement, death in service and otherwise relinquishment of jobs is not maintained."

Mr. Speaker Sir, kindly lend your ears and give your judgement on this also. I would like to know whether this House has the right to get all this information from the Government or not. The Government has failed to give this information. Whereas they have said that they do not maintain this information, I know that they do maintain it. In The Employment Review of 1998 by the Government of India, Ministry of Labour, they have maintained all this information. But they have not given this information to the House about the placement, retrenchment, etc. We wanted to get the correct answer from them, but we did not get it. Under the Employment Market Information Programme the Government prepares all these things. Even from these papers they have not supplied the information.

I come to part (c) of my question which reads as:

"whether there is backlog in preparing employment statistics;"

They have said "No, Sir". No such backlog is there. They have given information up to 2001. Now, the whole of the year 2002 has passed and they are saying that there is no backlog. You can kindly decide whether it is a fact or not and whether the Government, the Minister and the bureaucracy has tried to mislead this House. I would request you to kindly intervene in this matter against what I say 'false information'. It is not even suppression of information. They just did not care for this House.

In Part (d) of the question I had asked:

"if so, the steps being taken to collate and update employment information;"

They have replied "Does not arise". The last two parts are also very important. I had asked:

"f) if so, whether the provisions are adhered to strictly; and

g) if not, the steps being taken to enact stringent law and necessary rules?"

The answer given was:

"f) and g) Various provisions of the Act on collection of employment statistics are implemented by the respective State/Union Territory Governments. Violations of the provisions, if any, are also dealt by them as per the provisions in the Act."

Before that, they have said:

"e) Employment statistics of the organised sector are collected under the provisions of Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959."

My point is, they said that it is done by the States and the Union Territories excepting Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. This information is collected not only by all the States but also by the Director General of the Government of India. But they have said that they have no role to play in this matter. It is only for seeking information. They are not going to give us employment anywhere. But they are not ready to give us even that information. That is my point. Kindly look into it, Sir. In the meantime, if the Government does not send the correct answers, then I have the other forum to raise it, that is, to move a breach of privilege against the concerned Minister. So, this is regarding the organised sector.

MR. SPEAKER: Your time of ten minutes is over.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Thank you, Sir. My last point is so far as unorganised sector is concerned. I come from the State of Orissa. In the western and southern parts, whether there is drought or flood or cyclone or not, thousands of labourers migrate from Orissa to other States. They go to Mumbai for construction work. They go to Punjab for agricultural work and they come to Delhi for construction work. They go to many other places for work. They go out every year and at the end of the year, when monsoon comes they come back home only with skin and bones. The next year, they do not go to those areas from where they have come back with skin and bones. They go to other areas and they face the same fate there. Sir, you know that lakhs of Oriya labourers are working in Surat. Their fate is precariously bad. I urge upon the Labour Minister to look into this sector of labourers who are migrating, put into difficulties and come back without any saving. They remain as poor as before and I urge upon the Government to look to their interests and social security. This is a very important area which my friend, Shri Jos has also pointed out and it has to be looked into. I request the Labour Minister to look into the economic interests of the labourers and social security of the unorganised sector and do something for the survival of the poorest of the poor, by enacting a comprehensive law in order to safeguard their over all interests.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, during the last five years, we have seen what disastrous consequences the pursuit of a policy of jobless growth can have on the well-being of the people. This Government has miserably failed to achieve the target growth rate.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, I would bring to your notice that you may speak for five minutes only.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, while this Government has miserably failed to achieve the growth target, it has shut the doors of employment to millions of youth entering the job market and equally, an appalling number of youngsters have been pushed out of their petty jobs where they struggled to eke out a living. A glaring example is the small scale industry which is facing closure with the pursuit of the policy of globalisation by this Government. The direct effect thereof is that the people, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers, working there have been shown the door.

Sir, the Prime Minister has repeatedly asserted about the creation of one crore jobs but statistics as we all learn to our chagrin belie that claim. The policies pursued by this Government have inflicted a bloody blow on the youth of this country. In the formulation of its policies, it is the rich who guide this Government and it is only lip service that is paid to the working class and to the poor people. Out of the work force of 40 crore, 92 per cent are in the unorganized sector and are subjected to unfair labour practices and hostile working conditions. Many of them do not get jobs even for a hundred days in a year forcing them to live in an environment of deprivation without access to health care, housing, safe drinking water and education for their children. Even women have to sweat out on construction sites and road building and are not paid their due. Instead, it is humiliation and indignity that they have to suffer at times.

Conscious of the fact that you have given me five minutes to make my points before you, I would simply like to refer to some of the salient points that I would like to emphasise upon the hon. Minister. The first is regarding Provident Fund, to which my hon. colleague Shri Jos who was just speaking before me referred. All that I can say is that besides the injustice that is being meted out to those poor people who in the absence of any other social security measures depend entirely on the Provident Fund, we find that even the Government organizations are not contributing their share and the hassles which these people have to face at the time of withdrawals are untold. Something has to be done about it. The process has to be made totally hassle free so that at least the people get their share and I am confident that the hon. Minister shall take up the fight with his own Government to see that at least the interest rate on the Employees Provident Fund is not decreased, the way it is being done.

My second point is about ESI. I know some hospitals. I must thank the Minister honestly about the ESI hospital that has been commissioned in Chandigarh but at the same time I must point out that the facilities of ESI hospital must not only

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

be confined to the people in the organized sector. People in the unorganized sector must also get it and more than that any person who has worked in an establishment for some time and for whatever reason he is thrown out, he must continue to enjoy the privilege, the benefit. It is not a privilege, just a small benefit of availing the services from ESI hospitals, particularly those who go out through VRS which is now very proudly propagated by this Government.

My next point is about old age pension. The hon. Member speaking from the other side was extolling the efforts of the Government in providing some social security measures to the working force. I would like to say that the teeming millions of this country, such large number of people who have to sweat it out in the industry are given no pensionary benefits. So, we ought to introduce a meaningful old age pension scheme for the people in the unorganized sector.

Sir, there have been Court orders in the past that any person who works in an establishment for a particular number of days must be regularized. What to talk of the private firms, I have seen for myself that there is a persisting inequity inflicted on the working class, that even the employees of the Chandigarh Administration, even after putting in a number of years of service are not regularized in violation of the Supreme Court Orders. Those people are in no position to go to the Court for contempt petitions, etc.

There is one particular class of working people who do not expect anything from the Government. They do not press the Government for giving them a job. All that they want is that some space somewhere is given to them to carry out some petty trades like that of a barber on the road side, the lalari who dyes the turbans, etc., the cycle repairer, the shoe repairer and the shoe mender. There are so many such people. Sir, of late I see that in all the cities this Government has started harassing those people. All that they want is not even a regular site to enable them to work, but that the corrupt staff of the Government enforcement agencies do not harass them and that they continue to work there to eke out a living after putting in more than 12 hours of hard work a day.

The Supreme Court again, in a case relating to Delhi, had tried to regulate this work, but we still find that no Governmental agency is taking care of them. When the Government is talking of formulating laws and formulating policies on many matters concerning the poor, why should they not come forward with a clear-cut legislation of this matter endowing those people, who are working on the roadside, a right to continue to work there, maybe on payment of a small licence fee, and maybe also incorporating a provision that the right to work there would only be a licence and it would not give them the right to that particular piece of land, a small 6 ft. by 4 ft. piece of land? It may even be with dismantlable kiosk, but that is what ought to be provided to them.

Besides referring to the actual allocation or apportionment of the money available in the hands of the Government, I am not actually in a position to refer to the detailed Demands for Grants. A point was made by the hon. Member speaking from this side that a major chunk of the money that the Government expects us to vote today goes for payment of salary and on foreign tours. Another point that I then interjected about was that a major amount of the Government money is wasted on unnecessary activities but which a Welfare State should, in fact, save for the benefit of the poor.

Sir, whether it is 100 days of a particular Minister being in office or a year or two years or three years of the Government being in office, we find full page advertisements being given in all the newspapers these days. But what amount would it cost this Government? Can that money not be saved to be spent on some useful activity for the benefit of the poor, for the benefit of the working class? I would like to know that from the hon. Minister.

Sir, I find you, perhaps, indicating to me that I have exhausted my time. I have quite a few points to make. I have given some Cut Motions, but I would not really like to take more time of the House. I would only want of this Government that if it is really true to its claims that it stands for the benefit of the people, they should not only, as my hon. friend Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar said, express it through poetry as is being done by the Members from the Treasury Benches, but with concrete action to show that it really stands for the poor, the working class in the country.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (RAMANATHAPURAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, though you have called me late, I must thank you for permitting me to speak on a subject on which I have got immense interest. As a student of economics, I have been well taught as to what are the factors of production in any economy. As we all know, labour is an important factor of production. To highlight this, the Father of the Nation said that for India, it may not be even necessary to go for mass production, on the other hand what all we need is production by the masses. This is how the potentiality of employment has been rightly emphasised by Gandhiji.

Sir, our country is confronted with two major problems. One is poverty and the other is unemployment. These are the two major problems to be solved. That is why, the policy makers and planners have tried to eliminate poverty on the one side and generate employment on the other. But how the employment generation or the growth rate of employment

goes? The figures go to show that for five years from 1988 to 1993, the employment growth rate in labour force is 2.77 per cent, but in the next five years, that is, from 1993 to 1997, it has come down to 1.53 per cent. To our surprise, it has come down to 0.81 per cent during 1999-2000. So, this is a significant decline from 2.77 per cent to 1.53 per cent and that has come down to 0.81 per cent.

While the population is increasing and the availability of labour force is so much, the rate of growth of employment is declining. What is this due to? Is it due to the impact of your LPG, that is, liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation or is it due to the disinvestment policy? Is it due to the information and Communication technology explosion or is it due to the introduction of hi-tech technology in the industries? Is it due to the impact of occupational health safety in the present context of the depressed economy?

Under these circumstances, the Govt. have given a note highlighting how the industrial peace has been maintained. It is true that industrial peace is there. They have said that the number of strikes and lockouts have come down. They have further said that the man-days lost is much less. All these things are well taken. But these are the things, which are relevant when the industry is booming, when the industry is growing, when the industry is thriving. In such a situation if they are able to say that industrial restlessness is much less and man-days lost is much less, I will appreciate. But on the other hand, industries are in doldrums, the industrial growth is not there. When there are no industries, no industrial activity, where can there be a strike, where can there be lockouts?

At the same time, as many of the Members have praised the hon. Minister, I equally have got a pat and praise that he is a very serious and sincere person. We have seen him in action when he conducts the Labour Consultative Committee meetings. In that process, I would like to have a specific appreciation on his efforts in bringing a comprehensive and overall legislation, in the sense that many of our Labour Acts are outdated, obsolete and they are not in conformity with the present context of the development, etc. So, to have an overview of the entire legislation and go for a comprehensive re-look, rationalisation is very much essential. He has shown to the effect that he is at it. I would ask him to go ahead with it.

Many of our Members have divulged on the umbrella legislation for the unorganised sector. In fact, the total labour force in the country is computed as 40 crore. Out of this 40 crore, 37 crore or 97 per cent of the work force goes by way of unorganised sector. So, what all the legislation we have to do, should be more only for these 37 crore people or for the unorganised sector. Only three crore people are in the organised sector. What we have been doing much is only for the organised sector and not for the major sector, the gigantic sector.

Unfortunately, this unorganised sector does not find adequate employment because they are illiterates, they are ignorant and scattered. There is no employer-employee relationship. They have been neglected and they have been exploited. Many a times, they are not organised. Sir, you have given the subject to the National Commission, and the National Commission has rightly taken cognizance of the problem of the unorganized sector. They have submitted the Report with a draft Bill also. Now, it is for you to see that it is put in action. I want an assurance from you Sir whether an Act will immediately be passed and implemented. In other words, can you afford to give a timeframe before which this can come into effect as an Act?

Now, I will come to minimum wages. You have got the Minimum Wages Act and you have fixed the minimum wages. I want to know whether it is really in action. On the other hand, I should say it is more on paper. Whatever the minimum wages you have fixed, are not implemented at all. Whatever the law you have framed is not implemented enough. Many times you say that the aggrieved person should come and complain to you. How can he complain? A person who is getting a minimum wages, will not venture to go against his employer at all.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Malaisamy, you must address the Chair, not the Minister directly.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: I address through you, Sir.

The Minimum Wages Act says that there should provide not only sustenance like food, shelter and clothing, but also preserve efficiency of the worker. I want to know whether you are able to assure minimum sustenance on the one side and labour efficiency on the other. The people who are receiving minimum wages, are they able to have the sustenance for shelter, cloth, food etc.? I leave it to you, Sir. One important aspect of the minimum wages is that you have not taken care of minimum wages to protect against inflation. I want to know whether the variable DA has been linked as a component with your minimum wages. These are the things I want to highlight as far as minimum wages are concerned.

Then, coming to another important aspect, Sir is about the child labour. There cannot be two opinions that the child labour should be eliminated. As far as the child labour is concerned, it has got a long history. Though several legislations are in existence, none of them seem to have got any desired effect at all. Out of the total population, 37 per cent of the total population goes by way of child labour. They are not able to get enough protection at all. They are working

[Shri K. Malaisamy]

not in organised sector or any industrial sector but informal sectors. Nearly 37 per cent of the population is like this. What are the reasons? On an analysis, it has been seen that the poverty is one of the main reasons for child labour.

MR. SPEAKER: Your time is over.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Supply of child labour is more, that is why availability is more.

Then, there is lack of access to basic education as far as children are concerned. Another reason given is that the incentive on the part of employer or the inducement given on the part of the employer is again the reason for child labour. The workers' union or the trade unions are very weak to organise this sector. The Government's response is also poor. The law has limited intervention only These are the reasons for child labour in existence

Another important aspect of labour is that there is a forum to educate workers and to make them aware of the legislation etc. They conduct several courses. They give training. They go for Seminars and Conferences. But, I am told that the faculty, namely, the workers education teachers, are the poorly paid employees in that organisation. None of the Pay Commissions seem to have taken any care of them. There basic pay is said to be only Rs.550.

18.00 hrs.

They lack motivation. They have not been given enough instructions, due training etc. With the result, they do not know how to go about. They have to teach and motivate several lakhs of people but they themselves are want of motivation. So, a proper orientation should be given for such of those teachers.

Finally, Sir, the workers should be reckoned with due respect and they should be given enough scope for participation. The workers' participation in management is a theory which has been well thought out and talked out but it is yet to be found in implementation.

With these few words, I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I call Dr. Bikram Sarkar to speak, I must bring it to the notice of the House that we have to complete the discussion on the Demand for Grant of the Ministry of Labour today. I propose to complete it by 8.30 p.m. today, which is the minimum time.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: Sir, at 8.30 p.m. hardly 20 Members would be present here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Time is extended up to 8.30 p.m. Still you can finish it before that. The discussion on the Demand for Grant of the Ministry of Labour will be completed today with the reply of the hon Minister.

Now, Dr. Bikram Sarkar.

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR (PANSKURA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me this opportunity. I will be very brief because almost all the points have been covered.

I must congratulate the hon. Labour Minister for creating a situation where the Demand for Grant of the Ministry of Labour could be discussed after a lapse of 20 years. This gives an opportunity to discuss some of the important issues about the labour in the country.

While supporting the Demand for Grant, I would like to make a few observations and suggestions.

Sir, today the discussion was started by my friend, hon. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. He ably brought out a large number of facts and figures. So far as the statistics are concerned, he gave quite a lot. So, I should be allowed, at the very initial stage, to read out some of the statistics and then to expand on it.

Shri Jos and many other Members have made this point that when we talk of labour, we somehow or the other - there is a mindset - particularly, the trade union leaders, talk about the organised labour who constitute not more than seven per cent of the total labour force. And in the process, 93 per cent of the labour force, who are in the unorganised sector, are completely forgotten Who are they? They are mostly in the rural areas, and in the urban areas they are working in households in different forms or in small establishments. Unless something is done seriously about the protection and security of these 93 per cent of the labour force, nothing worth mentioning would be said about the labour legislation.

Sir, out of the total employment, both organised and unorganised, which, according to the Government figures, is 39.7 crore; 2.8 crore is in the organised sector, constituting about 7.3 per cent; and 36.9 crore constituting about 93 per cent is in the unorganised sector. Out of that, 23.7 crore are in the agricultural sector. Of this, 10.7 crore are landless agricultural labourers and the rest 12.8 crore are medium or large growers or even smaller growers. Linked up with this question automatically comes the question of land reforms in particular and agrarian reforms in general. Before I go into this, I would like to have your permission to read out some of the statistics.

It says of unemployment rate. There are so many ways of measuring the unemployment rate. The unemployment rate in 1977-78 was 4.23 per cent according to the Usual Principal Status (UPS). In 1999-2000 it had come down to 2.81 per cent. If we go by these statistics, one gets an impression that the unemployment rate has reduced. Therefore, it gives a positive picture. But the reality says something else. I shall come to that later.

Another important thing, which bothers all of us, is the unemployment rate among the educated youth. It says that in 1987-88, both for rural and urban, in the category of secondary education and above, the combined figure was 16.2 per cent among the educated youth. In 1999-2000, it, was 14.8 per cent. Again it gives an impression that things have improved. It also remains a fact that since the subject of labour is in the Concurrent List, if you go into the totality of the case, it is not only the responsibility of the Central Government but also of all the State Governments.

I will read out the unemployment rate of the major States. Shri Jos is here. In Kerala, the unemployment rate in terms of percentage of labour force was 21.19. In 1993-94, it went down to 15.50 per cent. In 1999-2000, it again went up to 20.77 per cent. In West Bengal, that is, in my State, the unemployment rate which was 8.13 per cent of labour force in 1987-88, went up to 9.87 per cent in 1993-94. In 1999-2000, it was 14.95 per cent. In the same way -- I will leave aside Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and a few other States -- in almost all the States, the unemployment rate has gone up. So, I really do not know how to reconcile between the unemployment rate, which is, in general, going up in the States and the whole unemployment rate is coming down when we take India as a whole. I do not know how it is happening. Having known a bit of statistics and having also known in my days as a civil servant how to live with the statistics, I leave this here and go to the main thing.

My friend, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, when he was mentioning about the States' statistics, also mentioned, taking a particular year, about the Congress rate of growth. I do not know what it means. But I always personally feel that in such important and serious matter, it is not a question of Congress or Communist or NDA, but it has to be that we have to put all our heads together to find out a solution to this problem.

Regarding the Central Plan outlay, my friend Shri Tarit Baran Topdar was mentioning that as against about Rs. 1,970 crore of Budget, only a few crores have been allocated for the improvement of the labour. I do not know whether it is labour in the unorganised sector. I think it means labour in the organised sector because nothing has been done so far as the 93 per cent of the total core of unorganised sector is concerned.

I am now concentrating on the Central Plan outlay of the Ministry of Labour. In the year 2002-2003, the Budget estimate was Rs. 170 crore. The Ministry could not spend even that. Or, the Planning Commission probably did not allow them to spend this much because there were other compelling demands somewhere else. In the Revised Estimate, it went down to Rs. 140 crore. It is preposterous to say the least. It was the first year of the Plan. It went down. It was a small amount of Rs. 170 crore which was projected. Out of that also, Rs.30 crore had been taken away and it could not be spent. The revised estimate was Rs. 140 crore. Actually what has been done is yet to be found out. It will be found out. As against this sort of scenario, in 2003-2004, the Budget estimate proposed is Rs. 170 crore. So, I would somehow feel that unfortunately the kind of concern that was supposed to be projected has not been made.

I would request the hon. Minister to find a way as to how this could be improved upon at the Revised Estimate stage.

So far as other areas are concerned, we talked about bonded labour They are not getting the minimum wages fixed by law. If you go by the definition of 'bonded labour', you would find that in those cases you could certainly say that they are nothing but 'bonded labour' according to law. Therefore, unless something is done about them, the entire exercise of having a discussion on the Budget of the Labour Ministry would be preposterous and there would be no meaning in it. The other area is child labour. We worry so much about child labour and all of us express our concern over child labour but unless we do something for the children and the parents of the children, those children would continue to be in the same situation.

The interest rate on Provident Fund should not be reduced. It would not be in the interest of the labour force. I would request the hon. Minister to have a strong feeling on this so that this is not reduced. Linked up with this is the question of the Disinvestment Policy. Whenever we discuss labour issues, we discuss unemployment. I have nothing in particular against the Disinvestment Policy, liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation as such but it has to be done in such a way that it helps and does not go against labour. So far, as it has been done, it has gone against labour.

I have a suggestion which is not directly connected with labour but which is also impinging on labour and creating more problems for labour and all of us. We have got to accept realities. There are public sector enterprises where there is absolutely no chance of revival. I am not going into the details. I know it as I have been involved in this. I know the reasons for this. In that case, there is no way out and they have to be

[Dr. Bikram Sarkar]

wound up. There are others which are revivable and every attempt should be made in a concerted manner to revive them so that the workforce and also this nation gets something out of them.

So far as profit-making enterprises are concerned, I had the opportunity of visiting some of them. There is absolutely no reason - and my party feels very strongly - for disinvestment of profit-making enterprises at all

It is a fact - the hon. Prime Minister mentioned about it and so much has been discussed about it - that if we want development, we need to develop infrastructure, which includes power, road, communication, irrigation and so on. So far as the road sector is concerned, quite a lot has been done. It is being done. So far as the Golden Quadrilateral is concerned, reality shows that we have got so many lakh people employed even though on a casual basis. This should also be added and taken into consideration while thanking the Government for undertaking this project.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, keeping in view the importance of labour, you have kindly taken up demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry of Labour for discussion. But the Government is not giving due importance to this Department as it has changed several Ministers. Earlier there was Jatiyaji, then came Sharadji and now Shri Sahib Singh Vermaji is holding this port folio. Several Ministers have been changed from the post of Minister of State. Muni Lallji was from Bihar. Then came Ashok Pradhanji and Goelji. These replacements are being made for betterment while change at the Centre takes place only in five years. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I do not know whether it is being done for betterment or because Labour Department is considered as useless. I do not know what politics is being resorted to in this case. Unemployment is the biggest problem of the country. Almost hundred crore persons are unemployed all over the world. Not many people get registered themselves in the employment exchange as it is of no use since people do not get interview letters even after ten years. That is why very few people get their names registered. People use this data to their advantage. As per my average intelligence there is a population of 102 crores in the country and if it is assumed that a family consists of 5 members then one person is unemployed per family. There are four types of unemployed persons - highly qualified, with average qualifications, semi-literate and illiterate. I feel that there are around 25- 26 crore unemployed persons.

The Ahluwalia Committee was constituted to remove unemployment. S.P. Gupta Committee was constituted which submitted a report as to how unemployment can be removed. Now Agriculture is being talked about as means of removing unemployment. There are two aspects of agriculture also. One is that which involves production. Production cannot take place anywhere in the world without hard work and labour. In our country workers have never been given respect while elite class is respected. It is a social evil. This issue has been discussed since the time of Mahatma Gandhi that labour is important and it should be respected. Marxists have always given a place of respect to labour and we accept it. Animal Husbandry is not being given any importance which has maximum potential for rural employment. Goateries and milk production have a lot of potentiality but the hon. Minister of Agriculture has replied that he does not have any scheme regarding goateries. I have gone through S.P. Gupta Committees report. I have noticed the potential of animal husbandry. People who are formulating reports are not paying any attention towards the potentials areas. I have seen all the reports and there is no mention in them as to how to remove unemployment, generate employment in rural areas and promote self productive employment. Unemployment cannot be removed if self employment involving production is not promoted.

Poverty is the biggest problem. Population has increased and with it unemployment and poverty have also increased. Unemployment and poverty are related to each other. Poverty alleviation programme will fail if unemployment is not removed. Mani Shankar Aiyarji was telling us the kind of problems they are facing in removing unemployment. I will not go into details but I would like to say that globalisation, privatisation, liberalisation, computerisation and mechanisation, automization have not solved the problem but increased it. Can any economist say that all these policies will reduce unemployment? Multinational companies are being invited which function largely through computers which does the work of several persons, thus removing the opportunities of employment. Through this department the entry of multinationals can be checked. It is the duty of department of labour to remove unemployment, generate jobs and look after the interests of the labourers but it is not doing so.

18.20 hrs.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*)

The Finance Department formulates such laws which do not fulfil the desired purpose. The small scale industries, traditional industries, handicrafts, agriculture and animal husbandry have lots of potential for employment and they can check the menace of multinationals. The Government should

try to exploit the areas to the fullest extent. The interest of the contract labourers, child labourers, women labourers and bonded labourers should be looked after. The Government cannot claim that there are no bonded labourer now. Firstly remove the slavery in your party. The public is facing numerous problems and here the Government is being praised to skies. It seems bonded labourers are here itself. The issue relating to bonded labourers is serious. ...*(Interruptions)* The labourers of unorganised sector are facing lots of problems. Minimum Wages Act is there but it is not being implemented properly. It is not implemented properly in the Government sector itself not to speak of the private sector. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: It is implemented in Bihar.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: How can it be implemented in Bihar. The condition of farmers is worse and there agricultural labourers are also working. When I was working as a teacher I used to get very less pay and the Government used to give difference money to match it to a scale. It can be called subsidy. A farmer whose financial condition is very bad can not pay minimum wages to the labourers who work in his field. Would the Government extend financial help to them? It will be a very bold step. Such a provision is in the Government set up and colleges. The Government used to give difference money to match the salary to the scale in affiliated colleges. A similar provision can be considered in the favour of the labourers. The workers of the unorganised sector do not get minimum wages. There are no jobs for them throughout the year, they get work during the season of harvesting and sowing. There are no jobs for them during rainy season also. Attention should be paid towards unorganised sector. I do not know when a bill will be brought about agriculture labourers. I do not blame them. Committees are constituted, conferences, consultations take place.

What about agricultural labourers, nobody talks of them. I do not know why they do not raise issues associated with them. ...*(Interruptions)* Consensus is not being formed among the States. The Government do not make any legislation or the agricultural labourers engaged in the unorganised sector producing grains extend their considerable cooperation in making India self-reliant. There is vested interest and a massive anti working class policy is working. Why a law is not being enacted for the unorganised sector, which force has inhibited it? Why a legislation is not being made for those ones who labour hard in flood situation. In the drought situation, at the time of heavy down pour in the scorching sun and in the shivering cold of winter which force impends its legislation. Therefore, I would like to raise the point that in the year 1997 too, the issue of making provisions for the agricultural labourers was deliberated upon. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member Shri Suresh Kurup. Please give him a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP (KOTTAYAM): Respected Chairman, Sir, this House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I asked him to give you a chance because he has not given me a chance to give you a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: First the bell is rung then warning is issued. Thereafter one stands up to conclude. You rang the bell and we took our seats. I would like to conclude in two minutes. Those who work in the industries are organised labourers. They raise their protest by making provisions for themselves but those who are unorganised labourers or bonded or child labour engaged in weaving carpets must arrest Government's attention. Child labourers are being engaged in weaving carpets and are being apprehended at many places but its poverty that lies in the root of this evil. Those children who ought to be imparted education get employed as child labour as they do not have any other source of livelihood. Therefore, under pressing circumstances they cannot choose but have to send their wards to work in the factories for meagre income. In Delhi alone, 1 crore 10 lakh labourers belong to Bihar. Labourers from almost every State come here in pursuit of earning their bread. Nearly 12 lakh labourers are migrants. Labourers migrating from Kerala number 4 lakh. We have the population of 8 crore and 79 lakh of which the population of migrant labourers falls somewhere between 1 to 1.5 crore. In Delhi alone, there is a great number of migrant labourers that number forty lakh migrant labourers who have settled. There are labourers from Punjab and Haryana also. Labourers are working in all factories located at various places. In Calcutta too labourers are working against the consolidated wages of 1000-1200. They are whisked away at any moment. There is none to care for the labourers. The Department of Labour is also in hibernation. A labourer belonging to ST community fell ill and was left unattended. The department of labour takes no notice of all these things. It has no remedy. The tribals, SCs and STs fell ill and go unattended. Nobody is there to take care of them. What is the function of the department of labour on this front? What is their accountability? Hon. Minister may please clarify it in his reply pertaining to the welfare of labourers. How will unemployment be checked? Until and unless labourers are held in esteem and are properly provided with food, clothing, education and medicine, India will not

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

progress towards prosperity. This is an ultimate truth, nobody can afford to undo it. ...*(Interruptions)*

In the Mahabharata war Bhishrna Pitamah was lying in bed while the whole of his body was pierced with arrows. At that moment he preached sermons. He was talking of wisdom. Draupadi burst into laughter at which Bhishrna Pitamah asked her as to why she had laughed. In reply, Draupadi said, "The moment while I was being undraped, you uttered not a single word." On this he said he was being fed by Duryodhana at that time. After lying on the bed of arrows, the blood came out. The remaining was pure blood. That is why he was talking of wisdom. The Government driven by the interest of capitalists have no reason to sense the trouble being faced by the labourers. Insofar as the labourers are concerned, this Government cannot make any philanthropic gesture for the sake of the labourers.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, they are simply paying lip service to the cause of labourers. They should go to Bihar and protect the labourers and the poor. Their condition is very dismal there.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Suresh Kurup, you can start your speech.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, he has already spoken. I am helpless before this House. I cannot ask him to sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE): He is shouting against the industrialists, the *punjipathies*. You kindly ask him who his leader has sent as Member of Parliament to Rajya Sabha. He will tell you. From Bihar, they have sent an industrialist as a Member of Parliament to Rajya Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not ask him. If I ask him, he will take ten minutes.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: They have sent an industrialist as Member of Parliament to Rajya Sabha, and here he is shouting so much against the industrialists!

SHRI SURESH KURUP (KOTTAYAM): Sir, this House has a long tradition of legislating, I would say, pro-labour laws. This is because of the strong pressure by the trade unions, organised workforce in our country, and also due to the tradition of our national movement. If you look at the reported cases of the Supreme Court during 1950s, you can see that our hon. Supreme Court has interpreted these laws in such a way so that the labour is benefited. None other than the illustrious Justice Gajendragadkar -- you may be knowing about some path-breaking judgments of Justice Gajendragadkar -- interrupting labour laws in our country. Incidentally, he was the first Chairman of the First Labour Commission. All those traditions are gone now. In this era of liberalisation and privatisation, this Government is bent upon amending all those labour laws in favour of the employers.

Sir, even before the Second Labour Commission was appointed and the Report was submitted, powerful interests in our country -- the association of industrialists, the Economic Advisory Committee constituted by the Prime Minister -- have mentioned that such and such amendments should be made to the labour laws in our country. The Finance Minister, which was mentioned by my colleague Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, in an unprecedented move, in his Budget Speech, mentioned that the Industrial Disputes Act would be amended and that retrenchment and labour lay-out limit would be extended up to 1,000 workers. Exactly, the same thing was recommended by the Second Labour Commission. It reduced the number to 300. Almost all the trade unions, except two Central trade unions, had opposed the constitution of this Second Labour Commission and also its agenda. Representatives of the BMS have written a dissent note that its recommendations regarding the amendment to labour laws and the Labour Laws Act was wrong. That dissent note is there. Still, this Government is bent upon accepting the recommendations and amending the labour laws in our country.

What about the contract labourers in our country? Sir, you know that there is a Contract Labour (Abolition) Act. All of us know about it. Both the Central Government and State Governments are not studious in implementing the clauses of that Act. The Central Government, State Governments as well as the private employers in our country are employing Contract Labourers and not giving the minimum wages to these employees, and also the labour laws are not properly implemented with regard to these workers.

The Labour Commission's Report recommends a free hand to the Government to legislate so that the employers in our country could be given a free hand to hire and fire.

The basis of labour laws in our country was that certain facilities like minimum employment security, minimum job security and minimum wage security should be made available to the workers. The thrust is that these facilities should be extended to the workers in unorganised sector also. While continuing to provide these facilities to the workers in organised sector, this benefit should have been extended to the vast majority of labourers in the unorganised sector also. Instead, the Government intends to dismantle all the labour laws in force in the organised sector. The Government talks of umbrella legislation for the unorganised sector. What sort of legislation would they be bringing in, we do not know.

The thrust of the policies of the Government, I would say, is anti-labour. I would not say that the hon. Minister is anti-labour but I would say that the thrust of the policy of the Government is anti-labour. I know that the hon. Minister resisted the pressure that was brought upon him to reduce the rate of interest on PF. However, it was reduced from 12 per cent to nine per cent, now it is further reduced to eight per cent, and it may be reduced once again. Workers in our country are totally frustrated. That is why there hate already been three four all-India strikes. Last month there was a rally held by workers before the Parliament in which almost all the Central trade unions participated.

The Labour Ministry has remained a silent spectator to the sufferings of workers in various sectors. Take the tea industry for example. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know very well that the tea industry is in great crisis and most of the workers employed in tea plantations are not getting their wages. This was discussed in this House elaborately. What has been the role of the Labour Ministry there? Has the Labour Ministry done anything to help those workers who have not been getting wages for months? What about the plight of the workers in the traditional sectors like handloom sector, cashew and coir industries? Lives of workers in those sectors have become miserable.

If you take the coir industry, the Government has done away with the minimum export price. Once the minimum export price is abolished, the employers have started denying workers their proper wages and all other benefits. Those workers went on a long strike. I would like to know what the Ministry of Labour has done in this regard. Members of Parliament from Kerala and the Government of Kerala have repeatedly submitted memoranda urging the Government of India to revive the practice of minimum export price. However, the Government has not paid heed to that. The same is the case with the cashew industry. The Ministry of Labour has assumed the role of a silent spectator. The Government is not ready to intervene in favour of workers. The Government is not ready to put pressure on the concerned Ministry. The Government has not taken any initiative to call a meeting of the people and the trade unions concerned. The Government is not doing anything like that.

I would like the Ministry of Labour to take a proactive role and intervene in all these things and make at least some recommendations so that the workers would come to know that there is a Ministry and a Minister who are prepared to intervene in their favour.

Another major area of concern is the fish processing industry. My friends from Gujarat may know that a lot of workers from our State Kerala go to Gujarat looking for employment in the fish processing industry.

Sir, their plight is so miserable. There is no proper legislation for them. There is no minimum wage for them.

So, I would like the Central Labour Ministry to look into this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Suresh Kurup, there are two more speakers from your party. Please conclude now.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, I am concluding within two minutes.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: You may give some concrete suggestions in those two minutes.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, I would like to say that in the fishery processing industry, there is nobody to help them. They are being exploited, and the Gujarat Government is a silent spectator.

What I would like to say is that the Central Labour Ministry should intervene in favour of these workers. They should depute somebody to examine their plight and working conditions The Central Government can intervene and make legislation regarding this

These are the major points I wanted to make. With these words, I conclude.

*SHRI C. SREENIVASAN (DINDIGUL): Hon. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion on the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Labour. Ours is the second most populous country in the world. And our India assumes first place when it comes to exporting labour because of our vast labour force. China is the most populous country in the world but labour export is not more there. How is that Indian workforce go abroad and seek employment there? How is that labour export is more in this country? Our workers have quality and standard but at the same time they are prepared to work for lesser wages. Since competent labour is available at competitive rates, other countries employ our workers. We are living in an era of globalisation. We have entered into WTO which lay stress on uniform tariff but at the same time there is no talk about uniform wages for the same labour offered by men from different countries. I would like to know from the hon. Labour Minister what step we have taken globally to ensure uniformity in getting wages according to the labour. The current trend is to stress on international labour standards. It is used as a tool by the western world to taunt the developing world. Laying stress on that they even interfere in our rights to determine price for our products that we seek to export. Indian goods cannot get the

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri C. Sreenivasan]

same prices than are paid to the products from the western world. This disparity is caused in the name of labour standards. Our carpet industry, safety matches industry, fireworks industry, beedi industry and glass industry are seriously affected because of the intervention in the name of WTO agreements in the garb of labour standards.

India has got competent information technology experts. We have more number of software professionals. That is why many of the countries of the world hire the services of our information technology professionals. But at the same time most of those countries do not provide job security and social security when our Indian IT men work in their countries What has happened recently in Malaysia is an eye opener. More than 200 of our Indian IT professionals were harassed and barbarically attacked by the police force in Malaysia. When are we going to ensure job security and social security to our IT professionals who could not get suitable jobs here but at the same time ensure our country getting more of foreign exchange? Our Union Government and our Labour Ministry must take up a meaningful role to get visa for our skilled labour while ensuring job security and social security for our work force.

When we come to the unorganized sector we have a vast multitude of work force yet to get legislative protection. So far only the construction workers and *safai karmcharis* have got the benefit of a suitable legislation with the setting up of boards for their welfare. When are we going to extend the benefits of suitable legislation to people toiling in other unorganized sectors, particularly the agricultural labourers in different plantations and fields of this country?

The Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala are the front runners in providing social security to the labourers in the unoiganized sector by way of introducing pension schemes, insurance schemes and ex-gratia payments to the families which lose their sole bread winner who are workers in the unorganized sector.

Shri Sahib Singh Verma, Union Labour Minister, wrote a congratulatory letter to the Government of Tamil Nadu recently appreciating the earnest steps that are being taken to ensure minimum wages to the workers in various industries.

At this juncture I would like to point out that minimum wages cannot be ensured in several industries due to stay orders from the courts of law. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to bring about suitable amendments to the IX Schedule of the Constitution. I also urge upon the Union Government to bring about appropriate amendments to our emigration laws to give protection and ensure social security to Indian workers going abroad for their livelihood.

We find so many manpower agents operating as recruiting agencies to get men seeking employment in foreign countries. Many a times we come across instances where these dreamy job seekers are swindled of their money by some of these spurious agents. Hence I urge upon the Labour Ministry to ensure an effective monitoring mechanism. If it is possible it would be better the Government itself comes forward to run these manpower consultancy service to hire men for overseas employment.

The attention of the Government must fall on the impoverished condition of the workers and their families who depend on beedi industry. Our earnest effort at a national level must focus on a viable social security scheme to benefit the workers of the beedi industry.

The ESI scheme that takes care of the health of workers and their families must continue especially at a time when our economy is being liberalized and our PSUs are privatized.

The interest rate on the employees' provident fund was sought to be reduced from 12% to 7%. Thanks to the intervention of our Labour Minister it was pegged at 9%. Shri Sahib Singh Verma, our Labour Minister, takes care to see that it is not reduced further though it is sought to be brought down to 7 or 8%.

It is the bounden duty of the Government to ensure that the retrenchment and loss of job and dismissals do not take place due to the policy of the Government to encourage more and more of privatization.

When my colleague Shri Kuppusami of DMK participated in this discussion, he mentioned that there is a slackness in the functioning of the labour welfare board in Tamil Nadu. I would like to point out that he has given a wrong information to this august House. In fact the labour welfare board functions well in Tamil Nadu and there is no lacunae. He also pointed out that skill enhancement training and workers' education needs more of attention. In Tamil Nadu this programme is carried out well and it would be better still if the Union Government comes forward to allocate more funds for workers' education programmes. I urge upon the DMK members to support our plea in the interest of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Kuppusami also said that Centre must monitor the ESI scheme that is being run by the Government of Tamil Nadu. I would like to point out that ESI functions effectively in Tamil Nadu and Centre is also aware of this.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (MADRAS NORTH): I said that it was a Centrally sponsored scheme, but doctors are being appointed by the State Government. Efficient doctors never used to go to the ESI hospitals. That is the problem being faced by the ESI subscribers. So, I said that the hon. Minister should oversee and find out a proper mechanism to solve all these problems. I never said that the Central Government should intervene in the affairs of the State Government. That is not my intention. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme; that scheme should be implemented; and when it is implemented, the benefits of such a scheme should reach the subscribers. That is my intention and that is why, I made that statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Maybe, the ESI doctors are not allowed to practice privately. It must be the case that the ESI doctors are not allowed to do private practice.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI: I have to elaborate, I may have to take an hour. I did not want to do that and that is why, I made a submission to the hon. Minister to kindly look into that and work out a mechanism to avoid all these things.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: *Even then what is the need and necessity to impress upon the Centre to monitor the functioning of ESI in Tamil Nadu.*

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (SRIPERUMBUDUR): As a member of the ESI Committee, I complained to the hon. Minister several times, stating that in the ESI hospitals, everyone, including doctors and other staff are getting bribes to sanction leave and other things. I myself knew, as a member of the ESI Committee. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: We are not expecting any garland from you.

.....*In fact it is only during the previous regime led by their leader Dr. Karunanidhi, there were certain lacunae. In the last two years under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi, ESI scheme is functioning efficiently in Tamil Nadu.*

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR): Followers of the same leader keep arguing over an issue. It seems we are discussing Tamil Nadu.

[English]

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: I am just concluding my speech. Please do not interrupt.

.....* I would like to refer to what was stated by my esteemed colleague from Kerala, Shri Jose. He stated that ESI is being run by the States and monitored by the Centre and there is a need to entrust it fully with the State Governments. I heartily support the view expressed by him.

Finally I would like to draw the attention of this Government to a vast workforce that exists in this country. Considering their large number more funds ought to have been allotted to the Union Ministry of Labour. Stating that the funds allocated for this Ministry are inadequate let me conclude my speech.*

SHRI ANADI SAHU (BERHAMPUR, ORISSA): Thank you Chairman, Sir I stand here in support of the Grant for the Ministry of Labour. I crave your indulgence to start from the last sentence of Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar's speech. He had said that the hon. Minister should put on sack clothes and ashes and go away. He had said something like that. I think he would be better advised to note that it has been abstinence that has been the hallmark of the traditional culture of this country, as you may call it broadly, the *Hindutva*. The hon. Member comes from the South and I would like to tell him what Shankracharya has said:

'Kopin Vantah Khalubhagya Vantah.'

"You put on only a loin cloth and abstain from greed and everything, including malice towards others."

He is a very good speaker. No doubt, he gave a brilliant speech but it was a cynical approach to things that could have been told in a different manner altogether.

Sir, I would like to invite attention to some of the statistics which he had given. He chose it in a better manner in the sense that he decided to harp upon those points which are conducive to his speech and he did not go into the other aspects of the statistics that had been given to him. Or, he had the due diligence in going into the statistics. I thank him for the due diligence he has shown.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when he spoke about the employment potential that has been created - hon. Prime Minister had told that in one year 75 lakh and in another year about 80 lakh employment potential had been created - there was derisive laughter in him, in the Congress Party as well as in the Leftist Group. That is not proper at all. I would invite his attention to today's Starred Question to this. There was a beautiful mention about the types of potential or the types of employment which have been created.

..... Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

..... Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

There are two things, *Swarna Jayanti Gram Swa-Rozgar Yojana* and the *Sampurn Gramin Rozgar Yojana.* Are they not creating employment? Kindly think of it, are they not creating employment for the people? What does it say? During 2000-01 to 2002-03, 23 lakh *Swa-Rozgaris* were created. Under SGRY 51.07 lakh mandays of employment were created. This was in the year 2002-03. In the previous two years 9414.67 lakh mandays of employment were created. Take the average for the three years. I know, he also has the skill in going into the average of employment potential that is created every year. Let there be no derisive laughter. It is a fact. He himself, his own friends, did not dispute the fact also. It is on record as to how the employment potential has been created from year to year.

Now Sir, I would invite his attention to the total employment potential that has been created. In 1993-94, it was 37.4 crore and in 1999-2000, it was 39.7 crore. I did not get the other statistics. So far as employment in the organised sector is concerned, it was 2.7 crore in 1993-94 and, it has gone up to 2.8 crore in 1999-2000. So far as employment in the unorganised sector is concerned, in 1993-94 - he was harping on 1993-94, that is why, I am also harping on that year it was 34.7 crore and in 1999-2000, it has gone up to 36.9 crore. I am not going into other statistics.

Sir, you are aware that this Government under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has amended the Constitution to ensure that there is compulsory education for the children between the age group of 6 and 14 years. There is universal elementary education, and added to it is *Sarva-Siksha Abhiyan.* Why has it been created? It has been created to ensure that there is no child labour, and to ensure that the country's population of 19.2 crore - 19.2 crore are children in the age group of 6 to 14 years - do not go for forced labour. They should get education. Once you think of education, they would not go for work at all. Think of the girl child. What has been done? It has been ensured during the last three to four years that no children in the age group of 6 to 14 years, particularly relating to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should drop out of the schools.

Sir, as you know, in the unorganised sector women and girl child go for work. That is being prevented. You are quite aware that in the agriculture sector, there has been a revolution and mechanised farming has come in. Lots of incentives are being given for agriculture itself. We know that in the agriculture sector, mechanisation has taken over from the manual labour work itself.

Now either the Congress or the Leftist Groups have been crying hoarse about the rights of the labour, difficulties of the labour, and the things that have to be done. I was Superintendent of Police from 1978 to 1985. In 1978, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was being murderously attacked by a group of leftists at Cuttack. I got a beauty spot on my chin. My whole chin was completely disrupted, and a friend of mine who was a Collector, had a brutal assault on him. The Leftist labour group had organised that sort of work. Can they deny it? I have seen the activities of INTUC and AITUC during my service as SP, DIG, and IG. They have exploited the labour force. I am not accusing anyone as such. But my experience has been that the labour force has been exploited for personal gains. Even now there is a person in the Port Trust who is the President of the Port Trust Labour Union. He has constructed a palatial building. As an under training officer, I have seen them as beggars. But now I see them as quite rich people. How do they get it? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): How many SPs have constructed the palatial buildings? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANADI SAHU: Please do not disturb me. Sir, I am not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, your Party will have a chance to reply. He has freedom of expression in this Parliament.

SHRI ANADI SAHU: Shri Basu, please do not be impatient. You will have the time to return back. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member has the freedom to express his views. He is free to express his views.

19.00 hrs.

This is not the way to block the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you immediately retaliating like that? He has made a statement and you can repudiate that when you get your chance to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Many IPS officers also have built palatial buildings. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: When he is referring to this trade unions, you are talking about IPS officers.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: How can he blame the trade unions? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is his view. It is guaranteed under the Constitution that he has the freedom to express his views. You cannot obstruct him from expressing his views. He cannot express his views only to suit your convenience. He has the freedom to express his views.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANADI SAHU: Sir, when he gets his chance, he also can make accusations and I am prepared to accept that. But they should have patience.

Sir, now let us look at the Constitution of India. Labour and other welfare measures relating to labour are in the Concurrent List. That is at serial number 24 of the Indian Constitution. The States also have got equal responsibility to see that labour is protected in all respects. The Centre also has a responsibility in this regard. Shri Sahib Singh Verma, as the Minister in charge of Labour, has been doing a lot of good things. Seminars are being held, funds are being provided and the State Labour Ministers are being called to Delhi and other places for a dialogue and with the help of a dialogue itself many things are being done.

Sir, let us take the case of child labour. What has been done during the last three years? It has been the persistent effort of the Central Government to see that children are not exploited. But today you go to any place, like in a *dhaba*, you would find children working in such places. The Government of India now has made it a point to provide 75 per cent of the funds to the NGOs to ensure that children are not compelled to work in unhygienic conditions. They are made to work in *bidi* factories and carpet making factories. They have to be rehabilitated. But for that, mere making of laws will not solve the problem. It is a question of involvement of the society. It is a question of involvement of the people who are working in the social sector. Therefore, 75 per cent of the funds are being provided by the Central Government to the NGOs for taking up these type of works and to ensure that education takes off in a better manner so that children are not made to work. Things are being done.

Sir, in my State, many people are becoming migrant labour. They are going either to Gujarat or to Arunachal Pradesh. They are being engaged in ship-wrecking industry. This ship-wrecking exercise is a very dangerous thing. A lot of people are working in this ship-wrecking industry and after two to three years they come back with a disease called Tuberculosis.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: That should be stopped.

SHRI ANADI SAHU : They are going to Arunachal Pradesh for work and because of the climatic conditions there, these people come back with a disease called pulmonary pneumonia. But still they have to go to such places in search of work because they are not getting any work in their place. Labours migrate from other States like Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. People from Bihar go to Punjab in search of work and they even go to States like Jammu and Kashmir in search of work. In order to see that these people do not migrate as labours, you would kindly appreciate, three years back the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee stated that whatever money is being provided to the Panchayats, 20 per cent extra fund would be provided to prevent people from becoming migrant labours. To elaborate, if one thousand tonnes was being given, then now 200 tonnes would be given so that people will have work under the JRY and they would stay at their own place. That is what is required when we think of welfare of the people and the welfare of the labour force. This is most important that people stay at their own place and earn their livelihood and live happily instead of going from place to place in search of their livelihood. Many of my friends might not be aware of such facts.

In the KBK, because of acute drought conditions, many new factors have come up.

Employment generation has gone down this year because of the drought situation in the country. About sixteen States are drought-prone. In spite of that employment has been generated and people have been given work.

Take the case of Self Help Group for Women. That is also employment. Women in the rural areas are getting employment. Self Help Groups are being created; Rs.4000 to Rs.5000 is being given to them to start their work. The District Industry Centre and the Industrial Promotion Officers of the blocks help them. That is also employment to see that women are not employed and they get extra money to see that the children of the house get some nourishment.

So, let us not think that things have not improved at all. Things have improved. There are certain lacunae here and there like the Employees' State Insurance Scheme. They are not getting a proper treatment or proper compensation. That is the most important thing. Employees' State Insurance Scheme is almost a failure everywhere. It requires to be looked into in a proper manner. The EPF also is being mismanaged. That also requires to be looked into.

The most important thing is the contractual labour. I am afraid that the law of contractual labour has not been properly looked into whether by the States or by the Centre. Let us make a didactic approach to it and see that under the contractual law persons who are employed for certain things

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

are not easily pushed off. Now things are going that way and everyone who is being engaged is pushed off also. The practice of hire and fire is coming now. For that, I would request the hon. Minister to give a deep look into the matter to ensure that the contractual labour is not left in the lurch.

With these words, I conclude and support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: May I just put one request to the hon Member? The Swarna Jayanti Swarozgar Yojana and other programmes are dealt with by the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development. I urge him to please read the reports of this Standing Committee. He will discover how completely inadequate they are. One figure he gave us was of 24 lakh employees. But, under the BPL there are thirty crore people. This is just a token programme. It is not contributing to employment generation where it is most required.

SHRI ANADI SAHU: He is confused between the BPL, the SJRY and the employment potential. These are two different aspects. I would also request him to go through the entire Annual Reports of all the developmental departments that are involved in this.

19.07 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (RAJGARH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I associate myself with whatever has been stated by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and the other Members of our party. I would like to ask a question to hon. Sahuji. He stated just now that the figures given by Shri Mani Shankar are not correct. If it's so, he should clarify it and the hon. Minister should respond. During his statement as to what are the reasons, due to which our ranking slipped down from 115 in the year 2002 to 124 this year as published in the Human Development Report of 2002. If these figures are incorrect what are the reasons thereof, we want a reply from the hon. Minister. Sri Lanka is placed at 79th position. Indonesia is ahead of us. Due to the erroneous policies of the Government our rank has slipped down to the 124th position and we are competing with the countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister made a statement. Even the Members did mention that nearly one crore people will be employed every year. Going by the 55th report of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) the rate of employment came down from 27 per cent in 1999-2000 to 1.07 per cent. If these figures are false, I would like to know whether the Economic Survey prosecuted and published by the Government is correct or incorrect? These figures appeared in the economic survey published by the Government. This cannot be incorrect. This apart, there is a contradiction. The hon. Prime Minister's statement does not match with the Economic Survey Report. It is beyond comprehension. We hold the P.M. in high esteem. We do not know whether Economic Survey Report or the statement made by the Prime Minister in the House deserves to be considered as authentic one because there is a stark contradiction between two.

Only 8 to 9 per cent of the labourers are employed in the organised sector and the remaining 92 per cent are in the unorganised sector. You have just stated in your speech that unemployment is on the rise because we have not taken proper care of the unorganised sector. In the existing scenario a huge mass of people are engaged in agriculture and allied areas of the life. Agriculture is in a bad shape. I would like to give the example of Madhya Pradesh. We were the largest producer of Soyabean in the country but it's due to the wrong policies of the Government that the farmers producing Soyabean are suffering. Soyabean factories have been sealed up. There has been an increase in unemployment because so much Soyabean oil was imported. As a result, the Soyabean industry and the farmers associated with this industry are faced with the problem of subsistence. We admit that we have signed the WTO agreement, but you can enhance the duty on those agriculture goods which you are importing. You are importing milk from Holland, what will be the fate of the cattle breeders of our country? Recently, we have heard that you are going to import rice form Thailand. Majority of the people of our country eat rice, what will be the fate of paddy growers? As a result of it the problem of unemployment will increase.

Recently, discussion was going on in the House regarding Employment Assurance Scheme. It was said that the results of the scheme are very good. I would like to inform you that under Employment Assurance Scheme a target of creation of 259 million working days was fixed during the year 2000-2001 but the achievement was confined to 218 million working days only. Next year, the government enhanced the target, but it could not achieve the target of the last year. But the target for the next year was enhanced to 399 million working days. During the year 2002 the achievement was 260 million working days. When the government could not achieve the targets in two years, it did not fix the targets for the third year. Because the government was aware of the fact that no achievement would be made. Then, the achievement was reduced from 260 million working days to 209 million working days. Sahu ji, please see the data. The Pradhan Mantri Gramin Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) is about micro enterprises. Under this

scheme the target fixed was 0.22 million during the year 2000-2001 and the achievement remained 0.19, million. Next year, a target of 0.22 million was fixed and the achievement remained 0.15 million. Third year, the same target of 0.22 million was fixed by the government and the achievement remained 0.04 million. The achievement is continuously reducing from 0.19 million and now it has reached 0.04 million. If we discuss about the PMRY, you have fixed a target of creation of 0.30 million working days under this scheme. I mean to say that you could not achieve the target any year which you fixed under this scheme. Therefore, to hide this fact, by integrating all the schemes, you have introduced the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Rojgar Yojana. We will also see the result of this scheme next year.

In the schemes such as the SGRY, the SGSY and the PSGY you have imposed a condition that the state governments will have to give their share and then the Central Government would give its share. You know that there are some poor states like Bihar in our country. Time and again flood takes place in Bihar. Drought situation is continuing in Rajasthan for the last five years. Madhya Pradesh is bearing the brunt of such drought this year as it has not witnessed in the last 150 years. There are other states like Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra on which you have imposed a condition to deposit their respective shares which is 25-30 percent of the total amount earmarked for the scheme. How can the states deposit the said amount. Therefore, you should make these schemes 100 percent centrally sponsored schemes. Until we make efforts to uplift the backward states, we cannot make our country rich and prosperous.

You have constituted a special group. That group has also given their suggestions but discussion has not been held on their suggestions. The hon. Minister is not present in the House. But I would like that policy be formulated after having a discussion on the recommendations of the special group and they mention it in their speech. The recommendation of the special group is

[English]

formation of schemes on pension and unemployment benefit for the unorganised sector workers.

[Translation]

You should formulate schemes for the unorganised sector workers.

You have introduced a cluster scheme. Quality locks are manufactured in Aligarh. You organised the workers of lock manufacturing units of Aligarh and introduced cluster development scheme for them. It is good but you did not introduce any cluster development scheme in other backward states. You have not introduced such scheme in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. You are not even mentioning the name of Chhattisgarh. While going through the report of various schemes, it is found that Raipur has been shown as a part of Madhya Pradesh in some of them. Whereas it is the capital of Chhattisgarh. When you are not in a position to show Chhattisgarh as a separate state in your schemes, what will you do for the welfare of the tribals of Chhattisgarh? I fail to understand it.

You have introduced National Child Labour Project Scheme for the liberation of child labourers. Madhya Pradesh, U.P. and Maharashtra are three such states where the maximum number of child labourers are found. Very less allocation has been made in the budget for the said scheme. There is need to increase the number of vocational schools opened for imparting vocational training to them. Until vocational education is imparted to them their future would remain in dark.

I would like to tell about budgetary allocation. Hearing of Lok Adalats - it is very important issue. Lok Adalat is such an adalat in which the labourers settle their disputes. When the contractors do not make their payment, then people take recourse to the Lok Adalat. You gave allocated only Rs. 12 lakh for the Lok-Adalats, which is very meagre. The allocation should be enhanced. Very little amount of grant has been provided to the states under the Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour Scheme. Last year a grant of Rs. 4 crore was provided under this scheme, this year it has been reduced to Rs. 2.78 crore. It means you would like that bonded labourers should not be rehabilitated.

Housing Scheme has been introduced for the welfare of Bidi workers. Its budget has also been reduced. You know that there are crores of Bidi workers in the country. The budget of Rs. 10.88 crore has been reduced to Rs. 3 crore.

A provision of token in budget has been made for the welfare of mining labours. ITI's have been opened for women. You talk about women reservation and also talk about empowerment of women but a provision of token budget has been made for ITI's opened for the women.

We hear that government is doing a lot for the development of the North-East. What have you done there? A provision of token budget has been made for the up-gradation of one hundred ITI's and training programmes. I would like to talk about Jammu and Kashmir. The hon. Prime Minister visited Jammu and Kashmir recently. ITI is such an institute where the youths get vocational training and after

[Shri Lakshman Singh]

getting vocational training they can start their own work. By doing so they will not follow the path of terrorism. A provision of token budget has been made for ITI's of Jammu and Kashmir. You have provided a token budget. A scheme has been introduced for the welfare of scavengers. They will have to leave their traditional work and they would be employed in some other work. It is a very good scheme. But the scavengers who have left their traditional work, today they are unemployed. Today, they are roaming like unorganised labours. The government should formulate a scheme to provide jobs to them.

Some schemes for the welfare of Bidi workers of Madhya Pradesh are under consideration of the government. The government of Madhya Pradesh have submitted these schemes for consideration. I would like to inform you in this regard that the government should reconsider the present concession of Central Excise duty being provided for 'Khuli Bidi' and mini cigarettes and the government should do away with this concession. By doing so lakhs of bidi workers and cigarette workers would also get benefited. There is no representation of largest bidi manufacturing states in the Central Advisory Committee constituted under Bidi Committee Welfare Fund Act. There is no representation of bidi manufacturing states in the advisory committee. Please increase the number of members of the Committee. Lastly, I would like to say that Employee State Insurance Corporation runs one hospital in each state. We call it model hospital. The government of Madhya Pradesh have submitted a proposal to the Union government for developing ESIC Hospital, Indore into a model hospital. It would be beneficial for the labourers of Indore. Thank you.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The State Government utilizes the amount allocated by the Central government. If you do not achieve the target then who is responsible for it? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: We have not failed in achieving the targets. You should get further information in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Then what is the utility of allocating the amount again? Do you have no responsibility? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: I am saying something, you are saying something else. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour has been going on for a long time. I would not like to speak about the organised labours but the Labour Minister should take care of the unorganized sector as it has just been stated that 92% labourers are unorganised - whether they are agricultural labourers or the labourers working in small scale industries or the persons working in cinema halls and in the countryside or Talukas. Most of the unorganised labourers are agricultural labourers. There have been a number of legislations in the country but no legislation has so far been passed in the interest of the labourers working in unorganized sector and agriculture. I can say it confidently that the situation of agricultural labourers is utterly horrible today. In agricultural sector either the Minimum Wages Act is not enforced or even if it is implemented, no record is maintained thereof. A farmer invests Rs. 10 thousand, 15 thousand or 20 thousand in his fields but there is no record thererof. It is also not certain as to for how many hours he has to work. In urban areas the period of duty is 8-10 hours but the labourers are compelled to work for 12 or 14 hours or even longer than that. There is no provision for medical facility, medical leave, bonus, pension etc. for unorganised labourers. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Labour Minister to pay attention to the plight of the unorganized labourers. The hon'ble Minister of Labour Shri Sahib Singhji is himself a son of a farmer and he understands their plight better. If we have to develop our country and make it progress we need to focus on unorganized labourers who constitute 92% of the total 40 crore labourers. The Government have promised to provide one crore jobs every year. I have the data from the Ministry of Labour. I have the figurers of employment in public sector from 1998-2001. The Government have provided employment to 32.53 million persons in 1998, 33.13 in 1999, 32.73 in 2000 and 32.61 million in 2001. We find from the above that employment has been decreasing every year, while we have promised employment to one crore people every year. I have got the figures in millions from the states too. Employment has been provided to 74.58 persons in 1998,74.58 in 1999, 74.60 in 2000 and 74.25 in 2001. It shows that the number of jobs has been declining. The pace of employment in local bodies has been satisfactory. In the quasi-Government Sector, it was 5.14 million in 2000 but now it has become 5.02 million. It shows that the employment has decreased. The status-quo continues in the sectors of mining, manufacturing, power, water, construction, whole-sale, retail, transport, storage, finance and communication. It shows that we have not been able to keep the promise of providing jobs. All these figures are before me.

Secondly, there is the issue of employment opportunities in unorganized sector. It is satisfactory in private sector, but it has been declining day by day in the public sector. Something needs to be done in this regard by the Government. Labourers in the unorganized sector toil day and night but there is no law to protect them till now. The condition of agricultural

labourers is very miserable and they are not even registered. If we are to make India progress and develop it, we shall have to give protection to the workers in the unorganized sector. The Ministry of Labour is required to frame a legislation to ensure justice to them.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Thank you, hon Chairman, Sir. I must thank you as you have given me the opportunity to express my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour.

Sir, the Demands for Grants seems to be ritual. It is nothing new and I am of the view that it has failed to work out the primacy. In this august House, several hon. Members have spoken about the major chunk of the working force, that is unorganised workers, who are working in agriculture, and other unorganised sectors also.

Sir, it has failed to address the growing problem of unemployment. Just I got the opportunity to listen to the speeches made by hon. Members here. Esteemed Member, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, even hon. Member, Shri Suresh Jadhav have pointed out the figures of the growing unemployment here. While we are talking about the problems of unemployment, some hon. Members have responded to it in terms of generating mandays, generating working days. Esteemed and veteran Member, Shri Anadi Sahu has addressed the problem of unemployment in terms of creating mandays. He has just answered here citing the examples of *Swarozgar Swarnajayanti Rozgar Yojana* that is construction of national highways, *Pradhanmantri Swarozgar Yojana* and so on and so forth. Undoubtedly, lakhs and lakhs working days, mandays have been created. But creating mandays, providing mandays does not equate to providing employment. Providing work to a worker for one day does not mean providing employment for unemployed youths for ever. So creating or generating working days does not mean generating employment.

What was the answer in regard to employment? The other day in this august House, the hon. Prime Minister spoke about the *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna* and the National Highway's construction. The machinery is working. Thousands and thousands of agricultural labourers used to notice the work of the machinery. May I refer to one National Highway, that is NH 60, from Kharagpur to Balasore, which is now under construction? Only 7,000 agricultural workers have been provided with jobs. The main work is done by the machinery. So, the problem is that nowadays, the Government's policy is mainly capital-intensive, not labour-intensive. That is why, there are unorganised workers; crores and crores of unemployed youth are left out of jobs. It has been failed to address the growing problems of the unemployed youth. Sir, 75 or 80 lakh are the working days; not employment, but they are working days. So, they have confused it. It has failed to address the problem of job security.

The hon. Labour Minister is aware of the fact that in all sectors, the working people are more or less in a hopeless condition. If we talk about the engineering sector, if we talk about the textile sector, if we talk about the jute industry, in every organised sector the working class are in a hopeless condition but the Labour Policy does not reflect it. They failed to respond to this problem. This is my view.

The Ministry of Labour has issued a notification for re-constructing a Central Board of Trustees, that is CBT of Employees' Provident Fund but the representatives of all the recognised Central Trade Unions have not yet been inducted. Even the representatives of AITUC and CITU have not been inducted. It was the norm that the concerned Trade Union would, select and send the name for induction. Now, the new norms have been introduced. They were asked to send the panel and not the name. The concerned Trade Union has no right to choose their representative. This is happening. I think, the hon. Labour Minister will consider it. They have sent the name. I think, they would induct them.

Sir, attempt has been made to open up the Provident Fund deposits of Rs. 1.5 lakh crore to share market. What is happening? Attempts are being made to reduce the existing rate of interest of 9.5 per cent to 8 per cent. Reducing 1.5 per cent would cost a loss of about Rs. 2,000 crore per year to the subscribers. On the contrary, under the head 'Advertisement and Publicity', a sum of Rs. 107.53 crore has been allocated. Under the Chairmanship of Shri Ravindra Verma, the National Commission on Labour's Report had been made. My point is that this should be discussed in Parliament itself.

It is a voluminous document. There are 1751 pages and many things have been dealt with in this document. Our main Labour Policy is going to be changed. So, that should be discussed in the Parliament itself, but nothing has been done so far. The amendment to the Industrial Disputes Act, Minimum Wage Act, Payment of Bonus Act, Equal Remuneration Act, workers' participation in management and amendment to the Central Labour Act, all these should be discussed in-depth in this Parliament itself.

Lastly, I would request the hon. Minister, through you, that since the unemployment problem is a very pretty serious

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

problem, a full-fledged discussion should be held here. Sometimes, the Minister used to ask us what is the alternative. That should be discussed. If we get an opportunity to have a fullfledged discussion in this House itself, definitely we are ready to propose our suggestions so that these genuine problems can be discussed here.

With these words, I have expressed all my views.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All names of the Members on the list of the party have come to an end. Now the Hon'ble Minister will speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my name was there. Since the time of the proceeding of the House has been extended upto 8.30 O'clock and I have been sitting here to speak, give me the chance.

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY (ASANSOL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have also given my name.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, all of you will be given two minutes each.

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion on the Demands of grants of the Ministry of Labour is going on. Funds have been sought from the Ministry in the Budget but I would like to ask as to what the Government are going to do and what agreements will it have next year? We have not been able to find anything. What is the outcome of the efforts made by the Ministry of Labour last year? The constitutional machinery remains in operation. For example there are about 6000 complaints out of which 5000 are cases of failures. The owners do not agree and those are referred to the Tribunal. If someone wins the case, the owners do not implement the verdict. We approach the Ministry of Labour but we come to know that the owners have moved the Supreme Court. The machinery is defunct. I just tell it for instance that our 6-7 unions of coal industry went on strike, an agreement was reached with the central labour commissioner that the case would be implemented in 3-4 months. But 8-9 months have passed since then but it has not been implemented so far. The Ministry of Labour should take action in this regard. Similarly, there was the case of Dugdha Washery of Dhanbad which was referred to the tribunal and they won it. But the dispute between the worker and the owner is not settled. What are the reasons that they are not settled. The owners say that this sort of law will not do.

The way fertilizer industries were closed down, an approval is required after their closure. Sometimes they do seek but sometimes they don't. In this way, the owners or promoters have been neglecting the Ministry of Labour. Why are they doing so? We know about a case or two. The Union of Burne Standard Refractors Group approached the Ministry of Labour and asked it whether it had given approval for the industries which have been closed. There was no hearing for three-four months. Labour union was not heard. But later on it was learnt that approval had been given. The recommendations of the Labour Commission are being talked about but they are not succeeding. Therefore, we would like to say that there are the contract labourers be they in organized industry or ancillary one, out 70% are contract workers. Those who work in perennial nature of job and who should have been made permanent have not been made permanent because the Labour Advisory Board does not function. Be it states or the Centre, nobody works.

At last I would like to request the Hon. Minister to invite leaders of all the trade unions and evolve a consensus. All the recommendations have come from the owners. If it does not happen, there would be a nation-wide strike on the 21st. All the trade unions, federations etc. will be on strike. We caution the hon. Minister that he should invite all from the Trade Unions, Federations and evolve a consensus and make good legislations for unorganised labourers. With this, I conclude my speech.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (MALEGAON): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me opportunity to speak. Everybody says that the country should be like the Great Himalayas but only the labour power can make country great. I would like to say that the future of the workers is bleak and the country's future also does not hold out much hope. There is a need to make efforts in the direction.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mani Shankar, mentioned so many good things in his speech. Today the country is facing severe problem of unemployment. The Government of India is going to impose duty on powerlooms due to which one crore people would be losing their jobs. All the powerlooms have been closed since 1 April and one crore persons have lost their jobs. There are almost 3 crore people who are dependent on these one crore persons. The issue of unemployment of 4 crore persons has arisen. The Government should pay immediate attention towards this.

There is a Miko Company in my constituency where a worker died which led to a conflict and the owner suspended eight workers. It has been six months since that incident took place. I have written to the Speaker and the Hon. Minister but the company is not reinstating them because it is a foreign company. Therefore, it is requested that attention should be paid to the workers, be it a bidi worker, agricultural labourer

or labourer from organised or unorganised sector. I thank you for giving me opportunity to speak and I conclude with these words.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to place my views.

Let me concentrate my discussion only on two aspects, that is, unemployment and labour reforms.

Taking the labour reforms first, the Second Labour Commission has submitted its report long time back. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Labour what are all the labour laws that we are going to implement to protect the unprotected and unorganised labour sector that forms about 80 to 95 per cent of the labour force. That is a pointed question that I want to ask the hon. Minister.

Secondly, now the globalisation and privatisation are taking place even in the smallest percentage of the employment. The World Bank and the IMF and all external-funding agencies are totally forgetting about the labour force. If there is no chance of our country, India, coming out of the unemployment problem, then how is the Tenth Five-Year Plan going to create 20 million jobs? I would like to have a pointed reply for my pointed questions. Is it not true that in the present Budget the hon. Minister of Finance has recently submitted that the capital receipts are Rs. 1,84,860 crore? But what is the capital expenditure? It is only Rs. 72,568 crore. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, kindly lend your ears. It is a very important point. I repeat it again for you. In the present Budget, the hon. Minister of Finance has submitted recently that the capital receipts are Rs. 1,84,860 crore. But what is the capital expenditure? It is only Rs. 72,568 crore. The net saving is Rs.1,12,292 crore. This is meant for creating the economic activities and creating jobs. I would like to know whether the Government has addressed and utilised this saving for the problem that our great nation is going to face in future. Where are we taking the younger generation and the adolescents of the future of our great country? We fail to understand and we fail to formulate the policies for the future India.

Sir, the unorganised sector is the most sufferer. The Second Labour Commission Report has strongly recommended that eight to nine per cent of the organised sector force are enjoying the labour laws and 90 to 91 per cent of the unorganised sector is not being addressed to. The Labour Commission has come out with a very good study. I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister and all the Cabinet Ministers in this regard. The House should be taken into confidence. It is not the individual problem; it is our problem, our nation's problem and our future India's problem. We are talking about the youth and also the adolescents. We are not utilising them in a proper way and we have to face the penalty for that. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I want only one minute more.

I have covered the second aspect and now I come to the first aspect. There is not only the regional imbalance within India but there is also labour imbalance within the State, that is, the unemployment rate. Kerala tops the list with unemployment rate of 20.9 per cent - in spite of the literacy rate being more - followed by West Bengal 14.9 per cent. In Tamil Nadu, the rate is 11.78 per cent, under the leadership of hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. She is doing the women empowerment by creating jobs with the self-help groups by giving more funds.

Sir, I recall that during the year 2001, the International Women's year, the Finance Ministry has earmarked a sum of Rs. 25,000 crore for a five-year period for the empowerment of women. Have we addressed to this or have we taken stock of this or have we followed any monitoring mechanism to see as to what extent that money is being properly utilised? Has the empowerment of women been done properly? Have we ever audited it? Have we ever taken stock as to what is the Budget allocation and what is the purpose for which we have allocated the money and whether we have a result-oriented programme? We should have a result-oriented approach.

India is rural India and 75 per cent are the agricultural labourers and 95 per cent of them are in the unorganised sector. May I place before this august House a proposal that we should come out with a comprehensive policy from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and the self-help groups and also the Ministry of Labour as well as the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission which should be taken into confidence? I submit that without agriculture there is no possibility for us to come out of the unemployment problem.

In Tamil Nadu, our hon. Chief Minister has advised all the Members of Parliament to have a discussion with the District Collectors to know as to what is the production of agricultural produce, horticultural produce and also the production from the hilly region and based on that we propose to have a food park in every district headquarters so that the small and marginal farmers and all those in the agricultural sector will be oriented; there will be self-employment and also empowerment of women; and also the export-oriented industries in the field of food processing will come up. In that way, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has set up three food parks by which the small and marginal farmers are empowered.

[Dr. V. Saroja]

Now I request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to have food parks in every district headquarters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Saroja, please conclude your speech. Shri Basu Deb Acharia is to speak now.

DR. V. SAROJA: Sir, please give me one minute. I want to conclude my speech.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is earmarking Rs.10 crore for every food park out of which an amount of Rs. four crore is the subsidy by which the labour-oriented processing can be done with the agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)* Please give me a minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please take your seat. I have told you to conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise some important points.

DR. V. SAROJA: Sir, please give me one minute.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. V. Saroja, please conclude. Your speech is not being recorded. Shri Basu Deb Acharia has started his speech. I request you to take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I thank you for this opportunity. There are a number of labour laws today in our country. Many of these laws are being violated. The Payment of Wages Act is also being violated. Even the workers of the public sector are not getting their wages for months together. Hon. Member Shri Deve Gowda has referred to jute workers of NJMC. There are workers under the National Projects Construction Corporation who have not received their salary even for twelve months in spite of having the Payment of Wages Act in our country.

Sir, today the total statutory dues of the workers is about Rs. 2,000 crore which include gratuity, P.F. and arrears of salary. They are not getting their statutory dues for months together. Some workers have retired and some of the workers have died also. Hon. Member Shri Deve Gowda has referred to the Ashok Hotel, Bangalore. I have also received a fax message from the workers' union and I was requested to raise it on the floor of the House. The agreement which was there when that hotel was disinvested has been violated and some 150 workers have been retrenched although there was an agreement that none of the workers would be retrenched. The Ministry of Labour has been helpless in this respect.

20.00 hrs.

Sir, we saw in the newspapers statement made by the Labour Minister about participation of workers in the management. In 1990, a Bill was introduced in this very House when National Front Government was there. That Bill has not been enacted and the concept of participation of workers in the management, which is also there in the Directive Principles of State Policy, has not been implemented. I do not know how the Minister has made a statement asking them to take initiative for workers' participation in the management.

In the Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour, in regard to legislation for agriculture workers, it is mentioned that there are 12 crore agriculture workers, but there is no law to regulate the welfare of the agriculture workers. There has been a demand that a comprehensive law should be enacted for the welfare of agriculture workers. It has been stated in the Annual Report that as there has not been any consensus, there cannot be any time frame for enactment for agriculture labourers. There is a law for other sections of workers, but the workers, whose number is about 12 crore, do not get minimum wages. Their service is not protected. ...*(Interruptions)* These 12 crore landless labourers constitute 29 per cent of the total workforce. They do not get minimum wages and they do not get job even for 100 days in a year. Though there is a demand, the Government is not bringing forward a comprehensive legislation for agriculture labourers. I would urge upon the hon. Minister that when he replies, he may also tell when a comprehensive legislation for the protection of rights of crores of agriculture labourers would be brought before the House so that their rights can be protected.

In the State of West Bengal, Provident Fund for agriculture labourers has been introduced. The same can be introduced in other States also. A model Act can be enacted by the Central Government.

Now, I come to the problems faced by beedi workers. There are about four crore beedi workers. These beedi workers also do not get minimum wages.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Are there four crore beedi workers?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: How many?

* Not Recorded.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: There are 40 lakh beedi workers.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Okay. Forty lakh beedi workers are there. There is a Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. This Fund comes from the cess which is levied on per thousand beedis manufactured. Previously, it was only 50 paise. Now, it has been increased to two rupees. In the year 2002-2003, up to November, the total collection was Rs. 62.54 crore, but the expenditure was Rs. 31.28 crore. There are four hospitals and there are some dispensaries for beedi workers. These beedi workers suffer from tuberculosis. In my district Purulia, a hospital was sanctioned for the beedi workers and that hospital is for the beedi workers of three districts- Purulia, Bankura and Midnapore.

Sir, although the hospital was sanctioned two years back, the land has also been made available by the State Government, and the fund is available for the construction of a hospital for the beedi workers who suffer from tuberculosis. it has not been allocated.

For the contract workers, there is a law, that is, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970, but this Act is also being violated. The Coal Minister is here. In Mahanadi Coalfields, there are 20,000 contract workers, but none of these workers is paid as per section 20 of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970. I would request the Coal Minister to find out why the contract workers of Mahanadi Coalfields do not get the wages as per the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970.

This Act is also being violated in the Railways. Railways engage thousands of contract workers. I know about the workers who were engaged in the perennial nature of jobs, that is, coal and ash-handling workers. When steam locos were phased out, these workers, who were engaged in perennial nature of jobs, lost their jobs. Today these workers are out of job. The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970 has been violated by the Railways and even by some public sector undertakings. However, the Ministry of Labour is quite helpless. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Please talk about cigarette workers now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I am speaking about beedi workers not cigarette workers.

[English]

The abolition of contract labour system, when it is referred to the Central Contract Labour Welfare Board, it takes about two to three years to take a decision. I know about a number of cases that have been referred to the Central Contract Labour Welfare Board. It takes about two to three years. That should also be expedited. Even when this Board takes a favourable decision, that is also not being implemented by the Department. That should also be looked into.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI, SOUTH CENTRAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Shivsena, I oppose the report submitted by National Labour Commission. I want to state a few facts. The 97 per cent losses that the industries suffer are due to mismanagement and only 3 per cent losses are due to workers. The workers are so suppressed that they are not paid their dues even. Thousands of such cases have been registered against the owners but the workers do not get their dues. Workers have been opting for VRS since 1993-94 and vacancies are not filled up. Who is responsible for additional load falling on the workers, we should also discuss this since we are discussing on labour. Many workers are facing problems due to closure of industries. We discuss the issue of farmers committing suicide but workers also commit suicide. What is the arrangement for them? Workers commit suicide as they do not get their dues.

[English]

The Government should set up some emergency machinery to make immediate arrangements for payment of legal dues to the workers.

[Translation]

National reforms carried out in China were mentioned right now. I want to say that land is very cheap in China. In China the rate is 55 rupees per square meter while here one has to pay 200 rupees per square feet. Similarly interest rate for small scale industries is 2 to 3 percent in China while here it is 3 to 17 per cent. How can we compete with them? In the field of power supply, down time due to power in China is zero. While here it is 1.2 per cent.

The Government says that they are concerned about the labourers. I would like to say that the attitude needs to be changed. You belong to an agrarian family, we are proud of you. When you took charge of this Ministry, you at least thought about consulting the union. I want to thank you for bringing the policy. Excise duty has been increased right now. There are around 35 thousand workers engaged in the garments industry in Mumbai while there are almost 60 lakh workers all over the country who are facing problem due to increase in excise duty. Various categories of workers like helpers and

[Shri Mohan Rawale]

those who manufacture buttons are related with this industry. 60 lakh workers are dependent on this industry. If you increase the excise duty then it would affect more than 3.5 crore families. Please withdraw 10% excise duty which you have imposed on powerlooms and garments.

There are several mills in my area. You are going to modernize mills and as a part of this programme you are going to offer VRS to the workers. We welcome this step but the workers are not getting the money under VRS. The workers have lost their faith that is why they are ready to leave their jobs. But they are not getting money under VRS. I request you to raise the issue with Finance Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister and make efforts to ensure that the workers get their money as early as possible.

Our honourable leader referred to BPCL and HPCL. The workers are against the disinvestment of BPCL and HPCL. We also oppose this move. Please oppose the proposed disinvestment of HPCL and BPCL by the Government, people all over the country would welcome this step.

I also would like to say that you want to move ahead but at whose cost, that you have to consider this also. The country may prosper but the people would be suffering a lot. I request you not to do so. I thank you for giving me opportunity to speak.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank the august House that the Ministry of Labour has been chosen for detailed discussions on the supplementary demands. I am also happy that more than two dozens of members of the House have expressed their views. It also reveals the sense of responsibility of the House about labourers of the country. Being an important part of production labour plays a vital role in production and activities related thereto and thereby the country gets a solid base for economy.

Sir, I was constantly listening to the views of honourable members. I would like to reply to the points raised during this discussion. Before I start I would like to submit also that a detailed discussion was held by the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare for the Demands for Grants, 2003-04 and the performance Budget, 2002-03 and the Committee have taken detailed evidence of officers of the Ministry. The report of the Committee has already been presented to the House for consideration.

I would like to assure here that the Committee has made many recommendations and observations and the Ministry of Labour will try its best to take appropriate action for implementation of these recommendations and observations of the Committee.

As honourable members know that for the year 2002-2003, the Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Labour was Rs. 998.13 crores and out of it the Plan (Estimates) was Rs. 148.59 crore and Non-Plan (Estimates) was Rs. 849.54 crores which was reduced to Rs. 882.79 crores at revised Estimates level and out of it plan expenditure remained Rs. 125 crores and Non-Planned was Rs. 757.79 crores. Against this the last estimates during 2002-03 is Rs. 893 crores and out of it Rs. 120 crores are for plan expenditure and Rs. 733 crores are for non-plan expenditure. So almost 96 percent of all allocated funds are under the revised Estimates. Now many honourable members had inter-alia discussed under utilisation of funds. I would like to say in this regard that it was the first year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, and therefore, so many schemes which were going on for last many years, did not get approval. Its main reason was failure to get approval of the new schemes. Honourable Members know it very well that work force of this country is more than 40 crores. Honourable members have rightly stated that around 95 per cent workforce of 40 crores work in unorganised sector and only 7 per cent workforce work in organised sector. It is also true that the working people of organised sector get social security someway or the other but working people of unorganised sector do not get any social security. We have set up some welfare funds somewhere, and it has been made for Bidi workers or wine workers. But most of them are still without social security. It is true that 23 crores out of 37 crores workforce of the country work in agriculture sector and workforce of agriculture sector hardly get any benefit like social security and minimum wages. It is true that the Central Government makes a number of laws - some laws have been made by the State Governments. Overall around two hundred and fifty laws are related with labour. But now implementation and enforcement of almost all laws are done by the State Governments. We have to depend on them. The Central Government have controls over certain selected institutions related with the Central Government and rest of the institutions are governed through state Government. It is also true that there are many problems in organised sector also. Around two lakh and fifty thousand industries have been closed after the agreement with WTO was signed. A large number of labourers became jobless and there so many other reasons. But before coming to that I would like to say that it is really very sad that on the one hand we do not provide social security to the people working in unorgansied sector and on the other hand, minimum wages are given to them after great struggle and that too in few cases. The honourable members had expressed concern in this regard and asked that as to what we are going to do for the unorganised sector. For the kind information of the House I would like to state that the labour commission has also

discussed in this. It has also been discussed as to how to bring about modernisation in this sector.

I would also like to inform the august House that fourteen days are left for this Budget session and we shall introduce a Bill in the House. If permitted, those 37 crores people of the country will get social security, who were denied hitherto even after fifty five years of the independence. Very ordinary people are included in it. For example, porters, labourers, vendors, rickshaw puller, panwalla, tea sellers and marginal farmers are among them. Therefore there are four lakhs small coolies working at railway station. I asked the coolies working at railway station as to where they lived. They replied that they lived at railway station and if it was too cold, they requested someone to allow them to in the trains which stopped there for right. They added that they get up hearing the sound of incoming train to get their place of work. They run with baggage. Their whole life passes like that. We must provide them social security. Today we see that those 37 crore people have apprehension what to talk about their self-respect, they don't even have their self-confidence. They have developed a sense of insecurity about their future. They are afraid that if they died, no body would look after their family. So we want to introduce a law, a bill during this session which will ensure them social security, medical facilities. The members of their family would get financial help and pension if a worker dies. We are going to provide this type of arrangement in it. But it depends largely on this factor as to which type of people of the society and voluntary organisations come to extend their helping hands. There is an institution called Sewa wherein more than one lakh ladies provide social security to such workers. This time this organisation does not get any assistance from the Government. If such type of a large number of organisations come forward, it would be a very important thing and social security could be provided to 37 crores people. Through this bill or law we would be able to do this job.

Now Shri Mani Shankar Aiyarji raised a very important issue pertaining to the second biggest problem of our country. We should think about those people who are doing petty jobs. Those people do not get any social security. Their children work. No parent wants that his children should work in hazardous industries or factories. No parent wants to put their children in danger but poverty is also an evil. Poverty compels them to send their children in factories. So lip-service done will not bring about any result. It is true that it is a black spot on our country that children work in such factories. But poverty and helplessness are the main reasons our Prime Minister has launched many schemes to do away with it. He has done so many things to help such families. We will punish those persons who make children work in such 13 industries and 57 processes. It has provided so in this budget to abolish child labour. But as I have stated that the enforcement is being done through states and now we are running 4000 schools. Earlier children admitted to these schools used to be paid two rupees and fifty paise for having food. Now we are going to raise it to five rupees from this year. Earlier the amount involved therein was Rs. 249 crore.

During this tenth five year plan we are providing Rs. 602 crores so that 2000 more schools could be set up for them. So far we used to run them in hundred districts where there was too much child labour. Now we will run it in 150 districts. We are selecting fifty more districts. We would spend Rs. 2 crores where child labour exists. We will extend them and will also provide vocational training to the child labourers. We will run various schemes of this kind to save these children from such works.

You are very well aware that our HRD Ministry has got a bill passed so that right of elementary education is extended to all. They could also get education. For that we will make arrangements. Their families are very poor and we will also help them. We have made enough provisions in the budget to ensure that the child labourers goes to school to get education. We have formulated a scheme with the objective that by the year 2007 all the children below 14 years of age working in the hazardous industries are liberated from there. We will create a condition where they could earn their livelihood.

We have made several arrangements for the labourers. Many states had been pointing out that women are not permitted to work at night in several industries. By imposing certain conditions we have permitted the women. Deve Gowdaji had raised a basic question. It is correct that there is unemployment but what is the reason behind it? In several newspapers it is said that there are 10 crore labourers in our country. What is the basic reason behind it? The way we are indulging in mechanisation, liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation is responsible for it. Are these things which are taking place are proper? Whether all these things needs to be checked? What should we do? What sort of policy we should formulate? This House is competent to discuss such matters. I think that this is such an important topic that it would not be enough even if it is discussed not only one, two or four days but even on Saturday and Sunday. Now a days we are competing with the other nations of the world. Today, it is an era of competition. After signing the WTO the whole world is our market. How we will send our goods in the market of the whole world. How will we produce our commodities. The controls which we will remove from them. Where we will reduce or impose custom and excise duties. These are lot of things which require a detailed discussion in the whole House. We

[Dr. Sahib Singh Verma]

remain discussing matters. I have talked with all the trade unions. I have not left even a single union of the country with which I have not talked at length for hours. We want to talk with all and sundry. We do not want to enact laws sitting at our homes. We do not want to do rationalisation of law by sitting in our homes. Only our NDA partners are not enough. All the parties will have to sit and work together on this issue. The hon'ble Prime Minister has also said that we will have to make unanimity with all the parties. Labour reforms do not mean that we will permit the system of hire and fire or will harass the labourers. Rather labour reform means creating an atmosphere in the country where there is a trust between the worker and the owner. At the same time an atmosphere should be created in which investment could take place. Those who scare to invest should get an atmosphere for investment. If the House wished we could create such an atmosphere. Mr. Chairman, Sir, only enactment of law will not do. The most important thing is that how much the laws are being enforced. As the Minister of Labour I am sorry to say that as far as the enforcement of labour law is concerned we are lacking too much. No single person or state is responsible for it. We have to work together. We have to recognise those things which are pragmatic and needed to be incorporated in the laws and which is needed for the country. If we will continue to think that class struggle, rich and poor are likely to persist and the unions will also continue to exist. Then there will be disputes among unions as well. Today we have to create an atmosphere in which we can step forward jointly with one another with full confidence. Today, this is the requirement of the country.

Today this is a small issue, but our Government intends to discuss it at length to reach at a concrete decision. Whatever the House will desire, we are prepared to take a decision with an open mind and heart. We are prepared for a change. We are not talking with a closed mind.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we claim several times that we will achieve eight percent growth rate. But people say that eight per cent growth rate is impossible to be achieved. If it is difficult to be achieved we will make efforts for it. We will create such an atmosphere and formulate such rules as to achieve it. Nothing is impossible in this world. The US President Mr. Kannedy had once said that they had to go into the space. We have to land on the moon. At that time there was no talk or scheme for that but such a scheme was formulated and they landed on the moon. If we make a determination there is nothing which we can not achieve. If we want to develop this country then we will have to achieve an eight per cent growth-rate. It does not matter to whom the credit goes for that achievement. The credit should go to the country. If the country becomes powerful then we will automatically become strong. All this will happen only with the concurrence of all our friends in this House. Therefore, I want to make a submission that a decision is required to be reached at after a detailed discussion. Much is required to be done in the areas of irrigation, agriculture, forestry, animal-husbandry, small and marginal industries, communication, technology and tourism. If we will discuss all these things then all the unemployed people of this country would be able to get an employment.

Hon'ble Deve Gowdaji has rightly said that such problems existed in jute mills. I convened two months ago a meeting of all the officers. Agreement on some matters have been reached at. If the agreement reached at is implemented it would solve the problem of arrears alongwith other problems. A few cases have come to my notice where those people who have purchased hotel or any other thing after disinvestment ask their employees firstly with affection to opt for VRS. If they do not opt for VRS they transfer them to Guwahati or any other distant place where they have got another company and ask them to go over there. They ask them to go to Assam or Siligudi or Kerala. They give them options of posting for such places as force them to resign under compulsion and leave the job. Such situations are being created. We have constituted a committee to solve this problem. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: In the Centaur Hotel they are not paying even 60-70 thousand rupees.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: We have constituted a Committee. We have earmarked two-three industries to the Committee which have been disinvested such as BALCO and Modern Food Industry. In that Committee employees, employers and all other people have been included. These people will go there to oversee the circumstances in depth and will give suggestions. Then we will work on those suggestions. I want to assure the House about this.

Sir, it is true that there is seven per cent unskilled force in our country. Whereas in the developed countries the skilled force accounts for seven-eight per cent. We need to enhance the skilled force for the development of the country. Keeping in view this fact we have set up about one thousand ITI 's. These have been set up in the private sector as well. In the schools and colleges where education is imparted in only one shift, arrangements have been made to run these Institutes in the second shift.

Even such were the trades which were no longer required but we had been imparting training. We have discontinued those trades and 23 new trades have been included to those trades which are in demand. Training in this direction will be imparted and it will be beneficial. We have generously opened more and more ITI's in private sector. Such arrangements have also been made that industries which

desire to run ITI's linked with their industries are being permitted to do so, so that the work of skilled development can be accelerated.

Besides this, I am telling this with a sense of pride that the officers of my Ministry have assiduously evolved a system which could prevent the strike. It could have caused a great deal of difficulty to lacs of people. Strike was to be held in the Coal India. Indefinite strike was to be held at major ports, the CPWD and in the Airlines. Our officers and the Chief Labour Commissioner went there and avoided those strikes. The Secretary of Labour and the Chief Labour Commissioner talked to them day in and day out and worked very hard. The persons who have worked with them have appreciated their work. There were around 11 thousand disputes in the industries, they resolved them. Similarly they are trying to resolve other disputes also.

The Hon'ble Members have referred to ESI hospitals and EPF in the House. It is true that there are difficulties at some places in running tne E.S.I hospitals the way they are supposed to. At some places the State Governments are running the hospitals smoothly but at some other places they are not able to do so. We build the hospitals, provide machinery and make other arrangements, the State Government are responsible only for running them. It is their responsibility to ensure availability of doctors and other Para Military Medical Staff and some of the State Governments do not show much interest as their situation is not good. After one year we again decided to set up model hospitals equipped with all facilities in the states and bear all the expenses and hand over the built hospitals to the States. Shri Lakshman singh has spoken about Indore. I myself had visited Indore a few days ago. I had taken a round of the T.B. hospital and the main hospital there. We are having the shortfalls removed there. As far as the question of setting up a model hospital in concerned, the State Government have asked to set up Model hospitals at Nagda. The work regarding building a model hospital there is about to begin. I would like to inform that we have been running about 141 hospitals and providing those facilities to approximately one lac families.

The facilities provided there are in no way less than those provided through any other system of hospitals and the number of beneficiaries is also larger than that in our ESI system of hospital. The hon'ble Member Shri Basudeb Achariaji has pointed out that cess is charged from the people in unorganized sector.

Now, we have put in place a system that no separate hospitals of labour department will run. The dispensaries, hospitals of ESI wherever they were functioning will now be taken over by the ESI and the places where they are not to be opened, those people will be covered by the entire ESI system so that they can get all the facilities of ESI available in the model hospitals at State level. You had demanded to set up a hospital. We will set up an ESI hospital there so as to have all the facilities of the ESI therein. In this way we have decided to spend Rs. 200 crores on building those 16 model hospitals which we propose to set up. We can open more model hospitals later on in the larger states if required where the strength of labour force in greater. We have thought about such a plan.

There was another point about the EPF. You might be aware that the hon'ble President had launched Unicard. We have decided to allot a Uni card to the labour force on which work has already been started. That Unicard will remain with them for whole of their life irrespective of the fact as to wherever they work- whether in Kashmir or at Kanya Kumari, once it comes into the social security net, and wherever one's money is once deposited, it will be applicable everywhere. The number will remain the same and the money will remain in one's account. A scheme has been launched by carrying out many business processings there. A very big head quarters is being set up for the entire country wherein accounts of all the three crores of subscribers and their families will be kept. In this way I understand that there was a lot of corruption in the payment of claims. Account slips did not reach there and there had been many difficulties. We have issued almost cent per cent pending account slips at all places till last March, 31. Wherever there are some shortcomings these also are going to be removed. Earlier, it took months of time. As soon as we introduce it, a worker will be able to enquire about his balance lying in his account even over telephone. Now we take 30 days to do this. After the task of business processing in completed, their claims will be settled only in two days' time. It will leave no scope for corruption. Corruption will be uprooted by the system. Corruption will not be wiped out by certain individuals. If we bring about some changes in our system, corruption may come to end. If a worker is assured that he will get money in two days, whom will he give money and why? We have promised for the first time to the subscribers of the EPF that we will provide built houses to those who wanted. We have talked to the State Governments in this connection. We can allot plots also as well as provide built houses to them. We are having full cooperation from the State Governments. We have decided to provide built houses to those who have demanded among around three and half crores of subscribers with the cooperation of the State Governments. For instance, we are building 10 thousand houses which will form a very big colony at Sholapur for the Bidi workers, Mine workers, the people covered under the welfare fund. Likewise, who requires house in any part of the country even if he wants it in a village we will provide them

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built houses. You have stated that we have curtailed funds for this. We have not done so. If required, we will release more funds. Earlier, we used to give them subsidy of the order of Rs. 20 thousand. Now we are going to give more than that. We shall make a declaration of that here when it is cleared by the Ministry of Finance. We shall help in the provision of assistance to the workers living in the vicinity of the BPL. Under the Ambedkar Yojna, the Balmiki Awaas Yojna and Indira Awaas Yojna also. We have planned an ambitious target of providing about one lac houses every year to the Bidi workers, mines worker, other workers and the people working with welfare funds. We have decided to constitute a task force to determine the availability of land, allottees and place of aliotment. The task force will visit every state. We shall build houses in every state as per requirement. The day before yesterday I had talked to the Chief Minister of Orissa. He is also willing to do it.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister has stated for the first time that the poor hawkers who sit on footpath have also the right to work and opt for the work of their choice. If some one wants to become a hawker as he has no other option because of unemployment, why should he not be allowed to work as a hawker. Certain place should be fixed for them. A national policy is being worked out in this regard. The draft of which has already been issued and it has been circulated in the Ministry. When the draft is approved, the number of hawkers working in the country will be ascertained. About two lakh hawkers work in Delhi itself.

A national policy will be formulated for all such hawkers across the country, all of them will be given protection. The issue of agricultural labourers has been raised here. It's a fact that these have been adopted. Many of the states advanced their views that it would not be proper to make laws for them. This will give rise to social conflicts. The Government is to present bill for the agricultural labourers engaged in the organised sector. The agricultural labourers are being included therein. There won't be a separate legislation for them. We have a bill for unorganized sectors and they will be covered within its ambit. All these provisions will be made therein.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was argued that minimum wages are not implemented here. They are in immediate need of Bread, board and clothing. It's no use to have tension this way? Provisions will have to be made for their health-care and education keeping in view all these elements and the price-rise of that state. It's a fact that there is a need to search out some scientific methods. Its practical aspect needs to be considered. Simply the point of affordability won't serve the purpose. There are several other things which are being kept in view.

Mr. Chairman Sir, it was asked here as to whether there is a proposal to make laws on Contract Labourers. There would be a thorough discussion on this issue as it is under consideration. What are the things in which labourers are not subjected to exploitation. It is what that incentivise the employers and encourage them to run their industries. Now the point in question is that out of large no. of unemployed persons, a few are such as are ready to do any type of work. A few of them are dying for want of food. A few days earlier, I happened to visit a village and witnessed that there were 70 youths in that village who had attained the age of 30 years and some of them were unemployed for the fast 25 years. It is not for the first time. They have been unemployed for 18 years, 12 years and so on. Nobody comes forward to marry them. He is not married lest the subsequent life is full of social tension. It would be therefore an ideal proposition to put a suitable system in place by implementing labour laws. New industries are not being set up now, then what to do? If new industries are set up, new policies can be made and some new systems can be devised to provide the unemployed with employment. If we continue to cling to idealism, we won't be able to generate employment for people nor would be able to set up new industries. The existing circumstances do not give much unrest. I can say with confidence that we need to boost it. This reason is not due to unrest nor because of the element of the falling rate of unemployment. People are being terminated from their services. New industries are not being set up. It opens up a room for great deal of unrest, then it occurs to us that they are being thrown out when we demand it. They remain silent. They don't make hue and cry. Hence, the thing which is needed is that, if a person is given job three days a week, he is prepared to do it and if he gets one day's job then again he is ready to take up the job. They do not leave bread and board or clothings to wear. Therefore, it is better if we sit down together and discuss the ways and means to evolve a strategy to provide jobs to the unemployed people.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Hon'ble Minister, may I know as to how much more time would you take?

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it will be concluded in five minutes. If you permit, I can speak even for an hour.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Devegowdaji had raised an issue as to what should be done to generate jobs for every individual. There was a time when Mahatma Gandhi had advocated for cottage industries to generate employment for everybody. Such cottage industries may serve the objective. This needs to be taken care of. It is a fact that work is being carried out on the roads. My colleague said that the work is being executed with Machines. Since the work is slated to be

accomplished fast so the work will have to be executed with machines. Thousands of kilometers of roads have to be made. That too, of world standard. We have to take care of the norms laid down by the world bank. This has to be adhered to. If we want the standards to be met with the use of machines. Just can't allow it to be done manually or else this won't be possible. The only empirical way out is to execute some of the work manually and the some with the employment of machines. Thus, a proper balance can be struck.

We can also have a system in place through which we can generate employment for more and more people and certain jobs to the manual labourers. This is what we need to do now. In the reports submitted by all Committees- the reports of S.P. Gupta Committee, Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia Committee were also submitted. A new report of Singh's Committee was also submitted in this way. In almost all the reports it has been mentioned that we will have to encourage more and more manually - oriented jobs if we wish to generate employment for more and more people. As I said we will discuss that issue in detail and some more novel ideas may come and we will deliberate on them also. This is also important that we have to create such kind of jobs which are important in the global or world market also. Handicrafts has its world market. But we have to see as to how we develop it and how we ensure the greater involvement of more and more people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was talking of participation of workers in the management. It is a fact in this connection that a bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in 1990. It was much talked. Thereafter it was referred to the standing committee, then it came back. Subsequently, In 2002 we took a cabinet decision for making amendments in the Industrial dispute Act. One was of Tata's also and many systems of similar kind are being run. The point is how to ensure participation of workers in the management at the shop level, establishment level, corporate level. What steps we need to take to bring the owner and the worker close to each other. And if there is any scope for profit showing it will bring them even much closer. What system can we evolve therefore, is the point for which efforts are underway. A final decision is yet to be taken in this regard. The important thing in this connection is that if a worker dies in any of industries set up by us and being run across the country, we have taken a decision to clear his accounts within thirty days. At times, we send even our officers or some other persons to go to the site of accident for on the spot assessment. This is our standing orders in this regard. In case for pension is admissible, it is given within thirty days. If some amount is to be shelled from ESI or some other assistance is to be given, if some financial aid is to be given; it is given within a period of thirty days. Whatever claim is made it is being decided within thirty days. We are doing very fast. Its report is being submitted every month. I myself am monitoring this. All these things are being undertaken by us.

One more issue was raised that the workers going abroad are on many occasions are deceived by the agents. On many occasions, they are allowed and on other occasions they are charging money in excess. Many incidences of the similar kind come to the forefront. It has rightly been said in the House that the Chinese don't sent their people to the Middle East. Then why do our people go there? But it is altogether a different issue. We had introduced a bill in parliament for them. It has been referred to the standing Committee to look into the matter and suggest means to provide social security to the workers going abroad by setting up an export promotion council. How to provide social security to the members of their family. This is all being looked into. We are making improvements on this count. I have talked to all of agents and the officers working throughout the country. Many factors have been responsible for corruption. Due to this corrupt people have been making black money.

We have made many changes in it in our meeting held two months earlier which has provided some relief. There is still quite a lot to be done. We have held as many tripartite dialogues as possible recently. We organised a two days national seminar on unorganised sector in which the states were invited. Indian Labour Conference has also discussed the issue and we are active in this direction. I do not say that I am satisfied with our efforts. But we are moving in that direction and I trust that we can bring significant changes and we will be able to create a good environment by imparting training to the labour force, providing them social security and amending the law in favour of unemployed persons. I have not been able to give more details but I will be obliged if the hon. Members would discuss issues related to my Ministry at any other time. With these words, I would like the approval of the House for the demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry of Labour.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I strongly object to the Minister having failed to even mention, let alone answer, any point that I have made. I have raised a very important matter relating to the Prime Minister misleading the House and I am astonished that the Minister has not answered it.

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mani Shankarji has praised the Sangh Parivar which has been the soft target of his party for levelling all kinds of charges. He has praised the Sangh

[Dr. Sahib Singh Verma]

Parivar that it is doing a good job and he has demanded that this should be done through Swadeshi Jagran. I thank him for this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I have not praised it. Please try to understand the difference between a reference and praise. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Please listen to me.

[English]

I must react to what you have said.

[Translation]

You have said that hon. Prime Minister has repeatedly said that we will create 10 million jobs. He has said so. In an unprecedented move a committee has been constituted for this purpose to submit a report for implementation. Hon. Prime Minister gets the credit for this and the Committee has submitted its report. Our Ministry is working in this direction and Planning Commission is also working on this report. I do not want to go into all this as the hon. Members would react that the hon. Prime Minister said this much of jobs would be created but it has not happened.

[English]

I do not want to go into that.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: In that case, I must leave the House. It is our duty to raise questions and if the Minister is unable to answer, then I do not think why we are wasting time for the last five hours. We have got a statement made by the Prime Minister attempting to show that hon. Leader of the Opposition did not state matter correctly. I have given all the facts and figures. They had four hours time. I do not see why he has not answered.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Please have patience. You are my good friend.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: You have already ended your speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): You please see what you have done. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: I want to say that we will work together and the growth rate would be one percent.

[English]

as usual we will contribute only to 30 million employment opportunities. Our 8% growth with emphasis on employment intensive sectors and programmes will yield 50 million employment opportunities, special emphasis on agriculture, irrigation, agro-forestry, small and medium enterprise, information, communication, technology and other services. It may also include tourism and important channels to rationalise hotels, entertainment tax, etc. If you do all that, we will be in a position to create at least 80 million jobs through this.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: He is referring to the future. I was referring to the past. The hon. Prime Minister has misled this House. This hon. Minister is unable to defend the hon. Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* This is absolutely shameful that the hon. Prime Minister gets up and says that the hon. Leader of the Opposition has taken things incorrectly and the Minister is unable to reply. It is our duty to ask questions and it is his duty to answer it. He is just unable to answer. He is reading out from the Tenth Five-Year Plan. We are talking about the past. I know where he is reading it from.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA): Hon. Prime Minister has not given a wrong statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Please clarify what the hon. Prime Minister has said. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Prime Minister has not given figures on its own. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Those figures were provided by the Planning Commission. These are the correct figures that the hon. Prime Minister has given. It is totally wrong to say that the hon. Prime Minister has misled the House.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I demand the Minister who is incharge of Planning to be brought before this House to answer the question that I have raised because it is a completely irresponsible of the Minister of Labour to put this on the Planning Commission. There is a concept of collective responsibility in our Constitution. If he is unable to answer, perhaps, then the hon. Prime Minister should come before us. We cannot run this House on this basis. We ask questions and then no answers are given.

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have said that if the House agrees we can have a detailed discussion and a comprehensive reply may be given but why are you leaving the House with your notebook. I am giving a reply. I am ready to discuss in detail. Why do you want to leave?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I raised the question five hours back, why could not he give an answer by consulting the Planning Commission during this time? It is an important subject. It concerns the Prime Minister and the Ministers are behaving irresponsibly that my question has not been replied to. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, specific answer has been given to the question raised by the hon. Member. I have told about 80 millions. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members have spoken, the hon. Minister has replied, what else you want.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Member Lakshman Singh has raised a question.

[English]

Allocation of money has been made for opening of ITIs in the North Eastern States. He said that we have not made much provision, but I would like to inform the hon. Member that the funds released in 2002-03 were Rs. 11.5 crore and the Budget provision for ITIs in the North Eastern States is Rs. 17 crore in 2003-2004. He also said that for the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the allocation is only Rs. 10,000, but I would like to inform him that the Budget provision in 2003-04 for Jammu and Kashmir is Rs. One crore. Then, the State Government is opening women ITIs in the private sector out of their own funds. We have 75 ITIs exclusively for women in the States and for general ITIs also we have made provision. We are very liberal in granting sanction of funds to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Demands for Grants have been circulated to us. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: With these words, I request the House to approve the demands for grants.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Chairman Sir, the hon. Minister has not told whether rate of interest on Provident Fund which is 9.5 percent will not be reduced further and secondly the employer does not deposit the share in the Provident Fund, like the Chairman of FICCI, Shri Muthaiya who is the member of API, what action will you take against such persons.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know what steps the hon. Minister is taking to ensure that the workers get their statutory dues which it has been stated amount to 2000 crore rupees?

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we will take legal action against guilty persons irrespective of his position, be it the Chairman of FICCI or anyone else and we will inform you.

Sir, as far as the rate of interest is concerned, I said it when it was being discussed to reduce the rate from 9½ per cent to 9 per cent and I still maintain that the return of 1 crore 40 lakh rupees which belongs to the workers will be invested in a very safe manner.

[English]

We invest funds in PSUs owned by the State Governments. We do not invest our funds in such institutions where there is any risk. We have given this task to the Funds and Investment Committee of the CVT and whatever decision they will take, we will implement. The Finance Ministry is not compelling us at all. I had a talk with the Finance Minister and he told me that whatever is sustainable, whatever return we get, we can give it and he has no objection to that. What can be better than this? He mentioned about CITU and other members of the CVT.

[Translation]

They said that we are not going to make them members. I would like to let them know that there is a provision for consultation in it. We asked them to give us only three names from their organisation. If they do not believe in their own members, what can I do about it. All organisations have given names. There are only two such unions which have not given names from their organisations. Send names to me in the morning, I shall have the orders issued by evening itself. We have retained vacancy for them. We could have given that vacancy to any central trade union, had we so wished but we have retained the vacancy for them. The day you give us names, we shall issue orders within two hours. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

It is only a consultation and it is not binding on us.

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why names of three members have been asked for?

21.00 hrs.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Please, say for once that interest rates will not be reduced. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Not even a single penny will be cut from the rate of interest and the return we get therefrom. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: One percent that has been reported. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: That is incorrect.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: For that we will appreciate you. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: As I have submitted that I want to seek approval of the House for the demands for grants of the Ministry of Labour, it is my request.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I would like to clarify it in the House that we are unanimous on some issues, but on some issues, particularly rate of interest we are not, for you have said that you will give interest on the basis of your return. You will have to pay the interest. You are paying today when your economy is showing improvement as a result of your this policy. Why the interest rate on Provident Fund of workers should come down? Why do you say that you will give interest as per your returns? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: I have not said it at all that we will reduce interest rate. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We would like you to say nothing like this. We want to know from you whether you will give interest as per your return. ...*(Interruptions)* Whether you will give the same rate of interest as you have been paying earlier and if not, then we will tell the people that economy you are running is not moving on right path which is why you are forced to pay reduced rate of interest. We would like to tell you in this House that if you do so we will oppose it. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: We have absolutely no intentions to reduce rate of interest. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Please, let us know whether you will given the same rate of interest as you have been giving so far and there will be no cut. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: I have categorically said it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOYAL: He has stated that we have no intention to reduce the rate of interest.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Okay, our problem has been solved.

[English]

We are thankful to the hon'ble Minister.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Sir, I have raised two issues. One was with regard to ITDC hotels where 125 workers are on hunger strike. This is contrary to the agreement that has been entered into between the Disinvestment Ministry and the person who has taken the hotel. Contrary to the agreement, these workers have been dismissed and no VRS has been given.

The other one is about the jute mill workers, who are struggling to get their wages. I would request the hon. Minister to look into this so that they get their dues.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: I have already mentioned about both the issues, but it was in Hindi. I had a meeting with the jute mill workers union about two months back. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: With NJMC!

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: With all of them. There was some agreement with regard to the payment of wages and other things. Today. I am not in a position to tell what is the latest position. I will be in a position to tell you in a day or two. That is about jute mill workers.

Secondly, about Ashok Hotels, I would say that if the agreement was that they will not be removed and that VRS would be given to them, and if they are removed without any VRS, then I will look into this matter. I will go into detail and if required I will call the concerned people who have purchased those hotels and will also let the hon. Member know by the end of the week.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A number of cut motions have been moved by Members to the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Labour. Shall I put all the cut motions together to the vote of the House or does any hon. Member want any particular cut motion to be put separately?

I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Demand for Grant relating to the Ministry of Labour to vote.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2004, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand No. 60 relating to the Ministry of Labour."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

21.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 23, 2003/Vaisakha 3, 1925 (Saka).

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