

LOK SABHA DEBATES
ELEVENTH SERIES (Vol. IV. No. 14)
JULY, 30, 1996
SECOND SESSION



ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Tuesday, July 30, 1996/Sravana 8, 1918 (Saka).

<u>Col./Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
43/2	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
43/12 43/15(from below)	Shri Mohd. Maqbool Dar	Shri Mohd. Maqbool Dar
49/19(from below)	Shrimati Jaywanti Navinchandra Mehta	Shrimati Jayawant Navinchandra Mehta
139/13(from below)	Shri Dharma Biksham	Shri B. Dharma Biksham
28/1(from below)	86.85	86.65
50/15	59.4245	59.4275

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, July 30, 1996/Śravana 8, 1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it is with deep sorrow that I rise to inform the House that the great freedom fighter Aruna Asaf Ali passed away on the 29th of July, 1996 around 4 p.m. in the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi, at the age of 87 years.

Aruna Asaf Ali represented the radical face of India's freedom movement. She was an staunch socialist who believed in the establishment of an equitable economic order and a fair deal for the working class; a Corporator, who demonstrated that the system best administered is best; a journalist of rare objectivity; an activist who steered the movement for empowerment of women; and a secularist in profession and practice. She symbolised the composite culture of India. In her demise, the nation has lost one of the greatest Indian women of the century. We will miss her when we celebrate fifty years of our independence.

I am sure the House will join me in paying homage to the departed colossus that Aruna Asaf Ali was.

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

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while*

11.02 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE : SITTING OF
LOK SABHA

MR. SPEAKER : In the meeting of the Leaders of all Political Parties it was decided that the House adjourn for the day. But since the Railway Budget has to be passed and Electoral Reforms Bill has to be passed, it was decided that we will resume our sitting at six o'clock.

So, the House stands adjourned to meet again today at 6.00 p.m.

11.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eighteen
of the Clock*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Milk Production

*261. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement and production of milk during each of the last three years. State-wise;

(b) the per capita availability of milk at present. State-wise;

(c) whether the milk production is sufficient in the country;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to increase the milk production and check increasing prices of the milk in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). State-wise information of milk production, requirement of milk and per capita availability of milk is given in Statement.

(c) Milk Production at present is not sufficient to meet the recommended nutritional requirement of 220 gm. per head per day.

(d) Main reason are as under :

- (i) low productivity of indigenous breeds.
- (ii) increase in human population.
- (iii) inadequate animal health care facilities.
- (iv) inadequate availability of green fodder and concentrates.

(e) Concerted efforts have been made to increase milk production in the the country. Various programmes in this regard are as under :

1. Genetic improvement of nationally important cattle breeds by selective breeding in their hometracts and upgrading in other selected areas.
2. Cross-breedings of non-descript cattle with exotic dairy breeds;
3. Genetic improvement of important buffalo breeds by selective breeding and upgrading of non-descript buffaloes in other areas;
4. Development of feed and fodder resources;

5. Organisation of effective animal health service to support the production programme;
6. Implementation of Operation Flood Programme; and
7. Integrated dairy development for non operational, hilly and backward areas.
8. Technology Mission on Dairy Development.

The price of milk depends upon demand and supply position. In order to maintain an increased supply of liquid milk of desired quality to the general public, the Government of India has issued Milk and Milk Product Order, on 9th June, 1992. The order seeks to regulate the production, supply and distribution of Milk and Milk Products throughout the country.

STATEMENT

State/UT	Milk production ('000 MT/Year)			Milk Requirement ('000 MT/Year)			PCA (gm/day)
	93-94 (Prov)	94-95 (Prov)	95-96 (Anti)	93-94 (Prov)	94-95 (Prov)	95-96 (Anti)	95-96 (Anti)
Andhra Pradesh	3766	4221	4250	5592	5687	5782	162
Arunachal Pradesh	21	22	23	74	76	78	65
Assam	675	699	855	1905	1946	1986	95
Bihar	3215	3250	3500	7343	7502	7660	101
Goa	33	33	34	99	101	103	73
Gujarat	3935	3650	3750	3476	3537	3598	229
Haryana	3850	4062	4100	1400	1429	1458	618
Himachal Pradesh	654	655	676	436	444	453	329
J and K	780	780	810	657	672	687	259
Karnataka	2736	3003	3260	3761	3817	3872	185
Kerala	2001	2118	2246	2423	2457	2490	198
Madhya Pradesh	4975	5160	5270	5601	5711	5820	199
Maharashtra	4250	4811	5150	6668	6799	6931	163
Manipur	84	111	125	157	160	164	168
Meghalaya	53	54	60	151	155	158	83
Mizoram	9	14	16	60	62	64	55
Nagaland	45		45	105	109	112	88
Orissa	565	585	620	2667	2715	2764	49
Punjab	5970	6215	6700	1693	1716	1741	847
Rajasthan	4958	4850	5200	3736	3813	3890	294
Sikkim	30	32	35	35	37	38	204
Tamil Nadu	3524	3694	3831	4603	4648	4691	180
Tripura	35	38	39	235	240	246	35
Uttar Pradesh	10991	11321	11900	11699	11903	12105	216
West Bengal	3095	3240	3500	5715	5812	5907	130
A and N Islands	25	25	26	25	26	27	215
Chandigarh	38	39	41	58	60	63	143
Dadra and N. Haveli	7	4	4	12	12	13	70
Daman and Diu	1	1	1	9	9	9	25
Delhi	251	257	277	828	858	888	69
Lakshadweep	1	1	1	4	4	5	54
Pondicherry	32	31	29	68	70	71	90
Total	60605	62976	66374	71295	72588	73874	197

Anti : Anticipated

P C A : Per Capita Availability of Milk in the State

[English]

Neem Based Pesticides

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

(a) whether pests and vectors resistant to pesticides have been effectively controlled by the Neem-based pesticides; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to promote the Neem-based pesticides and to popularise organic farming?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Neem based insecticides have been found to be effective against some insect pests and vectors of Agricultural importance including those that have developed resistance to commonly used chemical pesticides.

(b) Major steps taken in this regard are as under :

1. Simplification of registration procedures for promotion of neem based pesticide formulations;
2. Commercialisation of neem based pesticide formulations during the period of provisional registration. 35 commercial formulations of neem based pesticides are already registered for use in the country;
3. Inclusion of neem based pesticides under the overall ambit of IPM; and
4. Promoting the use of biopesticides, bio-fertilizers and organic manures including neemcake.

[Translation]

Research and Development under White Revolution

*263. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether stress has been laid on the research and development work for the last many decades under the White Revolution in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of institutions engaged in the research and development work;

(c) the average amount being spent annually on all such institutions;

(d) whether these institutions have achieved success in the development of milch cattle in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the future plan of action in this regard; and

(f) the present percentage of the developed livestock to the total livestock in the country?

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

(b) During the past decades considerable efforts has been directed towards the research and development for dairy development in the country. Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) alongwith State Animal Husbandry Departments, State Agricultural Universities (SAU), Non-Government Organisations and farmers organisation have been involved in the research and development work related to programmes addressing the problems for enhancing milk production. The ICAR through its four major institutions, namely, National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal, Central Institute for Research on Buffalo (CIRB), Hissar, Project Directorate on Cattle (PDC), Meerut and Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar have directed their efforts on various research aspects of dairy development. Major development programme was through Operational Flood - I, II and III and Technology Mission in Dairy Development.

(c) The amount being spent annually for Dairying by the Ministry of Agriculture was Rs. 362.91 crores during 1995-96.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) These Institutions have achieved success in the development of a number of new/improved cattle dairy breeds viz., Karan Fries, Karan Swiss, Frieswal and Sunandni. A number of cross-bred genotypes produced from various exotic breeds are under performance testing and breed formation. In addition non-descript buffaloes are being upgraded with breeds like Murrah, Nili-Ravi, Surti and other dairy buffalo breeds. Future plans include use of high potential pure-bred and cross bred cattle germ-plasm fodder development, nutrition improvement and application of modern bio-technologies for augmenting production and reproduction.

(f) About 10% of the country's cattle population (about 18 million) are cross-breeds.

[English]

Regularisation of Forest Land

*264. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

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

(a) the area of forest land on which encroachments for cultivation etc. have been regularised till date. State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose not to regularise such encroachments in future so as to check depletion of the forest cover; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) A statement showing State-wise forest area diverted under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for regularisation of encroachments is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). As per the existing guidelines of the Ministry, encroachments after 24.10.1980 are not eligible for regularisation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

STATEMENT

S. Name of the State/UT No.	Forest area diverted
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,367.00 ha.
2. Gujarat	10,900.47 ha.
3. Karnataka	14,848.83 ha.
4. Kerala	28,588.159 ha.
5. Madhya Pradesh	1.03 lakhs ha.

Fishing Harbours

*265. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish more fishing harbours along the west coast of Arabian sea in view of the serious difficulties faced by the fishermen for want of the berthing places for their fishing vessels;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered or considering to open fishing harbours at Thenkapattanam and Colachel in the west coast of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) One major fishing harbour thirteen minor fishing harbours and seventy seven fish landing centres have been completed with assistance from Government of India on the west coast of India One more major fishing harbour, nine minor fishing harbours and ten fish landing centres have been sanctioned for construction on the west coast of India for providing landing and berthing facilities to fishing vessels.

(b) and (c). At the suggestion of the Government of Tamil Nadu a pre-feasibility study has been completed

and it has been decided to carry out detailed techno-economic feasibility investigation during January - February, 1997 for Colachel fishing harbour. The Government of Tamil Nadu has also recently proposed that a fish landing centre should be developed at Thenkapattanam.

Konkan Railway Corporation

*266. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation in Goa has strictly abided by the recommendations of the Oza Committee regarding construction of railway bridges, overbridges, culverts etc. along the Konkan Railway route in Goa;

(b) whether the KRC has followed the norm of consulting experts and local self body chiefs like Sarpanchs while laying the tracks;

(c) if so, the reasons for sinking of mud embankments along the track at Cortalim village in Mormugao, Goa; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard indicating the structure proposed to be constructed to prevent the cracking and sinking of the mud embankments?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Sinking of the embankment was due to underlying layer of soft marine clay for a depth of 9 to 11 metres.

(d) Suitably designed sand drains under the embankments with suitably designed buttressed banks are being provided to prevent sinkage. Further, where the sinkage of the embankment and the consequent heaving up on either side would affect the natural drainage of the area, Konkan Railway has proposed replacing the banks with viaducts Railway Bridge culverts etc. for a length of about 320 metres.

Infiltrations

*267. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is continuous infiltration of foreigners from Pakistan in the Kutch region of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of these infiltrations during the last three years along with the number of persons arrested and deported so far; and

(c) the remedial measure taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the complete stoppage of these infiltrators?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). The detail are as under :

Year	Total number of foreigners		
	Apprehended by BSF	Pushed back	Handed over to police for action under the law
1994	39	6	33
1995	45	1	44
1996 (upto June)	165	2	163

(c) Following steps have been taken :

- (i) Border partolling has been intesified by providing camels and tractors and nakas have been increased.
- (ii) OP Towers have been erected.
- (iii) Binoculars, goggles, twin telescopes, night vision devices and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (iv) Boats/Motor boats have been provided for patrolling riverline areas.
- (v) Intelligence set up of the BSF has been geared up for keeping close surveillance on the border.

Recommendations of Human Rights Commission

*268. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has cautioned the Government that the delay in tackling human rights violation could lead to revival of militancy and terrorism in Punjab and J&K;

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

(c) whether the Commission has made recommendations on the human rights issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have examined these recommendations; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) In the report of its visit to Punjab in April 1994, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has inter-alia, mentioned that a large number of delegations that met the Commission were of the opinion that terrorism had only been contained and not totally eliminated. According to them,

apart from the work done by the security forces or the police, the issues which were highlighted by the terrorists in the initial years of the movement need to be tackled without further loss of time. Based on this, the Commission has expressed opinion that delay in tackling of these issues could be a factor in any possible revial of militancy and terrorism in the State. This report of the NHRC has been sent to the State Govt. for appropriate follow-up action. The Commission has not made any observations like these in respect of J&K.

(c) to (f). The NHRC has made several recommendations on issues of human rights through its Annual Reports. The first two Annual Reports of the Commission for 1993-94 and 1994-95 were examined by the Government and laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament alongwith memoranda of action taken by the Govt. on each recommendation. The Annual Report for 1995-96 has also been submitted by the Commission. The recommendations of the Commission contained in this report are under examination. This Annual Report, alongwith a memorandum of action taken on each recommendation will be laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament during the current Session.

Drug Price Control

*269. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the major drugs exempted from the price control in the latest 'Drug Price Control Order';

(b) whether the curtailing of list of the controlled drugs has led to a sharp increase in the prices of a number of medicines; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the list in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) Selection of drugs for price control has been done on the basis of the criteria, as laid down in the 'Modifications in the Drug Policy, 1986'. On the basis of data for the year 1989-90 Drugs, with a turnover of Rs. 400 lakhs or more, having Market Competition and drugs with a turnover of Rs. 100 lakhs or above but below Rs. 400 lakhs, having monopoly situation have, therefore, not come under price control.

(b) Against 142 drugs in price control under DPCO'87, presently there are 76 drugs in price control under DPCO'95, however, these 76 drugs include 21 drugs which were having very high turnover but were outside price control earlier. Studies conducted from time to time after coming into force of DPCO, 1995 indicate that increase of medicine prices is generally not across the board and abnormal. There is also decrease in prices in some cases.

(c) Reconsideration is dependent upon availability of updated data as provided for in para 22.7.2 (v) of 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986'.

Custodial Deaths in Delhi

*270. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI PINAKI MISRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Custodial deaths shoot up in Delhi" which appeared in the "Indian Express", dated May 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of deaths occurred in police custody during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, till date Union-territory-wise; and

(c) the main reasons for the increasingly high custodial deaths in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is given below :

S. Union Territory No.	Deaths which occurred in police custody			
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (upto 30.6.96)
1. Delhi*	2	2	5	-
2. Pondicherry	1	-	-	-
3. A and N Islands	-	-	-	-
4. Chandigarh	-	-	-	-
5. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-
6. Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-
7. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-

*Note : As reported by the Delhi Police

(c) Deaths in police custody are always unfortunate. However, it is encouraging to note that no such death has occurred in any of the Union Territories during the current year.

[Translation]

Firing Incidents on Indo-Pak Border

*271. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian soldiers/citizens killed in firing on the Indo-Pak border during the last three months;

(b) the number of incidents of firing, which took place on the Indo-Pak border; and

(c) the Aompensation/financial assistance provided to the dependants of the victims of the firing?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c). During the last three months, there has been no firing on the Indo-Pak border, adjoining the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab but on International Border (IB) of J and K/Line of Control (LC) Pakistani troops have fired on 1017 occasions in which eight Army personnel and five civilians were killed. The personnel are being paid compensation/financial assistance as per scales laid down by Ministry of Defence/Army Authorities. The kinds of civilians have been/are being paid ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1.00 lakh.

[English]

Commercialisation of the Surplus Railway Land

*272. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had taken steps to commercialise surplus land of the Railway;

(b) if so, the total surplus land with the Railway in every State; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the commercialisation process especially in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) There is no surplus land with the Railways. The vacant Railway land is required by the Railway for its own development, expansion and for construction of Offices and Quarters for Railway Employees.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

[Translation]

Social Forestry Projects

*273. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

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

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from some State Governments seeking World Bank assistance for the social forestry projects during the last three years.

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the assistance sought in each case;

(c) the details of the projects have been approved/rejected by the World Bank; and

(d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). Comprehensive forestry projects received from State Governments of Andhra

Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala have been posed to World Bank during the last three years for providing financial assistance. The forestry projects of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have been launched with World Bank assistance from 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively. About 80% of the project cost is eligible for World Bank assistance. Forestry projects from Uttar Pradesh and Kerala have been Pre-appraised by a World Bank team during this year and these projects are likely to be launched during 1997-98. The details of the projects are enclosed as statement.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of The Project	Project Cost (Rs. in Cr.)	Project Period	Launch Year
1.	Andhra Pradesh	353.92	6 Years	1994-95
2.	Madhya Pradesh	245.94	4 Years	1995-96
3.	Uttar Pradesh	204.00	4 Years	1997-98 (Proposed)
4.	Kerala	179.68	4 Years	1997-98 (Proposed)

Development of Agriculture

*274. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored new schemes being implemented and proposed to be implemented in U.P. for the development of agriculture during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the details of the achievements made thereunder during the said period; and

(c) the amount allocated and spent on those schemes so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) (a) to (c) New Centrally Sponsored Schemes Implemented in Uttar Pradesh during 1995-96

The following new schemes have been implemented in Uttar Pradesh during 1995-96

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount Released during 1995-96 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System.	810.29

1	2	3
2.	Integrated Seed Development for remote/not easily accessible areas.	13.02
3.	Streamlining of certified Seed Production of Identified Important Vegetable crops	8.64
Total		831.95

The above schemes are likely to be continued during 1996-97 also for which release of funds would be made on receipt of proposal from the State Government

There is no proposal under consideration at present to start any other new scheme during 1996-97.

Since the above schemes were started only in 1995-96 it is too early to assess the achievement at this stage

[English]

Oilseeds Output

*275. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Council for Applied Economic Research has warned that the self-sufficiency achieved under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds could be jeopardised unless Research and Development programmes was launched to raise the oilseeds output.

(b) if so, the main reasons put forward by the NCAER in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have examined the study report of the NCAER; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) (a) to (d) Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses (TMOP) has neither assigned any study to National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on oilseeds nor has the NCAER conducted any specific project on the oilseeds. However, a paper published in the Political and Economic Weekly of March 30, 1996 written by authors working in the NCAER has come to the notice of the Government. The authors have inter-alia suggested Research and Development to augment yield of oilseeds as also upgrade the technology of processing including exploring the possibility of introducing new oil crops that can give a higher quantity of oil per unit of land, for example, oilpalm

The authors have mentioned that primarily increase in oilseeds production is due to the increase in area and higher relative prices for oilseeds.

The Government do not entirely agree with the opinion of the authors because productivity of oilseeds has increased from 570 kgs./ha. in 1985-86 to 848 kgs./ha. in 1994-95 and as such the oilseeds production has gone up on account of increase in area, higher productivity on account of Research and Development efforts and remunerative prices to the farmers.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research as a part of this R and D programme has already launched All India Coordinated Research Projects on Oilseeds and evolved better varieties of seeds and better production technology. The Government has promoted R and D in the post harvest and processing technologies through the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The Government is also promoting oil palm cultivation in the country.

Review of TADA Cases

*276. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission and the National Minorities Commission recommended to review the TADA cases in their respective reports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has not specifically recommended to the Central Government to review TADA cases. However, the Commission has been reviewing the position with regard to TADA cases since 1995-96 with representatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the State governments. In its Annual Report for 1995-96, the Commission has urged that the Review Committees set up in individual states should meet regularly as has been directed by the Supreme Court. The National Commission for Minorities has, however, not made any recommendation regarding reviewing of TADA cases, although in June 1994 it had recommended repeal of TADA Act.

(c) Apart from periodic review of TADA cases by the Central Review Committee and the State Review Committees, Central Government has issued instructions to the State Governments/UTs from time to time that adequate and immediate steps must be taken for early completion of investigation and prosecution of the TADA cases and they should give strict instructions to their prosecution branches not to obtain adjournment in such cases. As regards cases which are at trial stage, they have been advised to take measures to facilitate speedy trial. The Central Government is closely monitoring the

progress in these respects.

Konkan Railway Project

*277. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the schedule of the Konkan Railway Project as originally conceived/approved and the cost estimates thereof;

(b) whether the schedule for completion of the project has been badly delayed, leading to the huge cost over-runs;

(c) whether several tunnels and portions of this Railway line have caved in, resulting in huge loss of the human lives and money;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The Konkan Railway project as originally conceived was to be completed in a period of 5 years viz. by Oct'95. The cost of the projects as sanctioned was Rs. 1043 crs. at 1989-90 price level.

(b) Due to agitation in Goa, and unexpected geological and other technical problem as well as financial constraints, the project is slightly delayed, and it is expected to be completed by Oct'96 for goods traffic and Dec'96 for passenger traffic.

(c) and (d). There were a few cases of tunnel collapses and failure of cutting slopes/embankments. However, considering the adverse soil conditions in which these tunnels and cuttings/embankments are made and the heavy intensity of rain fall in the area, such failures could not be avoided. The total number of casualties on account of tunnel collapses was 19. All these deceased men were belonging to tunnel contractors and necessary exgratia payment and compensation has been arranged in all cases and employment to one dependent of each deceased person has been offered by KRCL.

(e) The project is nearing completion and is expected to be commissioned for goods traffic by Oct'96 and passenger traffic by Dec'96.

National Watershed Development Projects

*278. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of National Watershed Development Projects during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of States where the projects are not working satisfactory; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A four tier monitoring and review mechanism has been provided in the project for reviewing the implementation of the project at national, state, district and block levels. Recently a detailed review of the project was undertaken in the meeting of National Watershed Development Policy and Implementation Committee, the apex body on 18th July, 1996 and two days National Workshop held on 18th and 19th July, 1996.

(b) and (c). These reviews have indicated that the States/UTs where the performance is found to be less than satisfactory on an overall basis are Assam, Bihar, Goa, Arunachal Pradesh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Based on the periodical intensive review of the performance of these States, concerns have been communicated from time to time to the States by the Central Government to remedy the situation. As a result of these initiatives, the performance in many of the earlier slow-performing States has begun to show distinct improvement.

Private Sector in Afforestation Programmes

*279. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allot forest land to private sector for promoting the afforestation programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No forest land is proposed to be allotted to private sector for promoting the afforestation programmes.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Encroachments on Railway Land

*280. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total land of the Railways encroached upon by the people;

(b) whether the Railways have filed cases against the encroachers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) About 2500 Hectares of Railways land is under encroachment.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 35963 cases have been filed under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

[English]

Territory of Darjeeling

2058. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the G.N.L.F. of late has been raising the issue of taking steps for the constitutional incorporation of the territory of Darjeeling;

(b) if so, the stand of the Central Government regarding this issue;

(c) whether the Government have communicated their view to the G.N.L.F.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Shri Subash Ghisingh, as President of the Gorkha National Liberation Front, had filed a Writ Petition in the Supreme Court seeking directions to the Government of India to formally absorb the territories of Darjeeling including Kalimpong, Assam Dooars and Bengal Dooars, in the Union of India through a Parliamentary legislation. The Supreme Court had dismissed the Petition.

(b) These are integral part of India.

(c) to (e). In a meeting held on 5.3.1992, Shri Ghisingh, President of the Gorkha National Liberation Front, was apprised of the correct position of the issue by the Home Minister.

Unreserved Coaches in Long Distance Trains

2059. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the railway journey undertaken by a large number of labourers from Purnia Division of Bihar to Delhi, Punjab and various other parts of the country;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the difficulties being faced by these labourers due to the negligent number of unreserved coaches in the long distance trains;

(c) whether Government propose to take steps for providing relief to these poor labourers by increasing the number of unreserved coaches in these long distance trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir, a large number of labourers from North Bihar are known to travel to Delhi, Punjab and various other parts of the country.

(b) At Present 3-5 Second class unreserved coaches in addition to two second class passenger-cum-luggage vans are available on these long distance trains.

(c) to (e). During rush periods like holidays/marriage/festivals/sowing/harvesting Railways arrange special trains and augmentation of train facilities keeping in view the traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource availability, is a continuous process. Accordingly, during this summer, 21 Specials were run between Jammu and Barauni, 15 between Amritsar and Barauni and 16 between Delhi-Muzaffarpur/Barauni.

During 1995-96, 5209/5210 Amritsar-Barauni fully unreserved Jansewa Express was introduced and its frequency is proposed to be increased from biweekly to triweekly during 1996-97.

[English]

Lottery Business

2060. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sought information from the States regarding the ban on lottery business by them;

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

(c) whether the courts have passed orders to revive lottery business in some States, and

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

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

(b) A statement indicating the position obtaining in various States/UTs is enclosed

(c) and (d). The High Courts of Delhi and Rajasthan have recently passed orders that the State Governments can not ban the sale of lotteries which are run by other

States. The follow up action in this regard is to be taken by the concerned State/UT Governments.

STATEMENT

Information available with the Ministry of Home Affairs as on 30.6.1996.

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Position Regarding Ban on Lotteries
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Ban on operation of all lotteries.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Information not received.
3.	Assam	No Ban on lotteries run by other States.
4.	Bihar	Information not received.
5.	Goa	No ban on sale of other State Lotteries.
6.	Gujarat	No ban on Lotteries run by other States.
7.	Haryana	Ban on Private Lotteries.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	No ban on Lotteries run by other States.
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	No ban on sale of Lotteries.
10.	Karnataka	Ban on single Digit and Instant Lotteries.
11.	Kerala	No ban on other States Lotteries.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Information not received.
13.	Maharashtra	Ban on Lotteries run by other States except Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Kerala, and Karnataka.
14.	Manipur	Information not received.
15.	Meghalaya	No ban on Sale of Lotteries.
16.	Mizoram	No ban on Sale of Lotteries.
17.	Nagaland	Information not received.
18.	Orissa	No ban on Lotteries run by other States.
19.	Punjab	Information not received.
20.	Rajasthan	The State Government has banned the Lotteries of other States which are not directly run by the State Government.

1	2	3
21. Sikkim	:	The State has banned the sale of single digit and private lotteries.
22. Tamil Nadu	:	No ban on Lotteries run by other States.
23. Tripura	:	Information not received.
24. Uttar Pradesh	:	No ban on lotteries run by other States.
25. West Bengal	:	Information not received.
26. Andaman & Nicobar	:	Ban on Private lotteries.
27. Chandigarh	:	Information not received.
28. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	:	Information not received.
29. Daman and Diu	:	Information not received.
30. Delhi	:	No ban on-sale of lotteries run by other States.
31. Lakshadweep	:	Information not received.
32. Pondicherry	:	No ban has been imposed on sale of Lotteries.

Remunerative Prices of Jute

2061. SHRI PR. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jute farmers are getting the remunerative price of Jute in Assam, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern U.P.;

(b) whether the jute farmers are losing interest in the jute cultivation;

(c) whether this has resulted in the ruin of the traditional jute industry;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any study about it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Jute Commissioner of India has reported that the farmers are getting fairly good prices of raw jute in Assam, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern U.P.

(b) No, Sir. The jute farmers are not losing interest in jute cultivation. Decline in area under jute during 1992-93 to 1995-96 seasons happened mostly due to

effect of adverse weather and not due to unremunerative prices.

(c) No, Sir. The overall availability of jute in the country has more or less matched the requirement of jute industry in recent years except that normal working has been hampered to some extent during April-July, 1996, due to mis-match between supply and demand on account of short crop in 1995-96 season. No problem is, however, foreseen for normal working of jute industry on account of raw material shortage in the current year in view of a very good crop expected this year.

(d) and (e). A High Powered Committee on Jute Sector under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textile) was set up by the Government in July, 1992. The Committee submitted its report in November, 1992. Another High Powered Committee under Chairmanship of a Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles examined the working of the Jute Corporation of India and submitted its recommendations. The Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) have prepared a study 'Future of Jute in India'. A report was also submitted in June, 1995 by the Task Force on Jute set up by the Ministry of Agriculture. In addition to the above a broad based committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles) examined a variety of issues pertaining to the Jute Sector and submitted its report in November, 1995.

NABARD

2062. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development is not able to grant new credit to the tune of Rs. 225 to 250 crore to Gujarat for Kharif crops because of the Gujarat Government not agreeing for default guarantee; and

(b) the measures the Government intend to take to help the farmers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The NABARD has intimated that the Gujarat State Cooperative Bank has submitted credit limit application for sanction of Short Term (Seasonal Agricultural Operation) limit for 1996-97 on behalf of affiliated District Central Cooperative Banks which are eligible for credit limits. As all these applications have been preferred under Section 21(1)(i)/21(3)(b) of NABARD Act, 1981 (for which Government guarantee is not required) the problem of Government guarantee coming in the way of credit flow for disbursement of loans during Kharif, 1996

does not arise. The likely amount to be sanctioned to the Distt. Central Cooperative Banks in Gujarat is Rs. 257.00 crores.

Worli-Bandra Freeway

2063. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of Worli-Bandra Freeway in Maharashtra has been accorded clearance by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been sought from Bombay Metropolitan Region Development Authority.

Frequency of Rajdhani Express

2064. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a heavy demand for extension of the New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express from Weekly to tri-weekly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Some representations have been received in this regard.

(b) Increase in frequency of 2421/2422 New Delhi-Bhubaneswar (via Howrah) Rajdhani Express is being examined and action as found feasible and justified will be taken.

Environmental Clubs

2065. SHRI MAULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for the setting up of the Environmental Clubs in schools and colleges and environment Protection committees at the Districts and State Levels;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of these projects and the extent of central aid sought by the State; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Kerala State Government has submitted a proposal titled, "Promotion of environmental awareness and participation of people in Kerala" for environmental clubs, district environment protection committees, resource materials, audiovisual vans, mobile laboratories, setting up of a permanent stall on environment at the Science and Technology Museum, Formation of State and District Crisis Groups and of a State Environment Protection Committee at a total cost of Rs.1.61 crores for the first year and a recurring annual grant of Rs.61.50 lakhs. They have sought Central assistance for the whole amount. The cost of setting up of Environmental clubs and Environmental protection Committees is Rs.58.84 lakhs for the first year and recurring annual grant of Rs.48.84 lakhs for the subsequent years.

(c) The State Government has been given the guidelines of the schemes for Eco-club and Paryavaran Vahinis of this Ministry and requested to revise their proposal accordingly. As regards the State Level Environmental protection Committee, they have been informed that there is no provision for support for such committees.

Delicensing of Dairy Sector

2066. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delicensing of Dairy Sector was done despite strong opposition from the National Dairy Development Board; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Level Crossings

2067. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of manned unmanned Railway crossings in the country, zone-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the number of unmanned level crossings to be converted into manned during the year 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Number of

level crossings (manned and unmanned) in the country
is 40848. zone-wise and State-wise break-up is as
under :

ZONE-WISE :

S.No.	Railway	Manned	Unmanned	Total
1.	Central	1788	1688	= 3476
2.	Eastern	1275	1026	= 2301
3.	Northern	3218	4483	= 7701
4.	North Eastern	1515	3267	= 4782
5.	Northeast Frontier	656	1699	= 2355
6.	Southern	2194	2570	= 4764
7.	South Central	1469	2108	= 3577
8.	South Eastern	1029	3720	= 4749
9.	Western	3012	4131	= 7143
Grand Total		16156	24692	= 40848

STATE-WISE :

1.	Assam	380	1045	=	1425
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1152	1610	=	2762
3.	Bihar	1337	2062	=	3399
4.	Delhi	62	7	=	69
5.	Gujarat	1477	2948	=	4425
6.	Haryana	550	520	=	1070
7.	Himachal Pradesh	42	293	=	335
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	16	36	=	52
9.	Karnataka	670	1059	=	1729
10.	Kerala	414	231	=	645
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1229	1810	=	3039
12.	Maharashtra	1139	1650	=	2789
13.	Manipur	1	1	=	2
14.	Mizoram	1	1	=	2
15.	Orissa	262	1137	=	1399
16.	Punjab	769	1056	=	1825
17.	Rajasthan	1435	2268	=	3703
18.	Tamil Nadu	1257	1572	=	2829
19.	Tipura	1	37	=	38
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2842	3727	=	6569
21.	West Bengal	1089	1608	=	2697
22.	Chandigarh	6	2	=	8
23.	Pondicherry	9	9	=	18
24.	Goa	14	2	=	16
25.	Nagaland	2	1	=	3
Grand Total		16156	24692	=	40848

(b) Sensitive unmanned level crossings will be, on planned basis, after due prioritisation, converted into manned level crossings with the help of the State Govts. who have to invest the initial capital cost.

Doubling of Railway Line in Ratlam Division

2068. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the doubling of broad gauge railway line in Ratlam Division during each of the last five years upto March, 1996 alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(b) the position regarding the gauge conversion work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The position of sections doubled alongwith expenditure incurred on doubling works in the last five years on Ratlam Division is as follows:-

Year	Section	Kms	Expenditure (in Crs)
91-92	Nil	-	17.53
92-93	Mahil Bridge	1.50	7.70
93-94	Shujalpur-Kalapipal & Bolai-Akodia	11.59 11.79	10.63
94-95	Nil	-	4.01
95-96	Bairagarh-Bakanian Bhaunri-Phanda Anas Bridge	16.12 1.50	6.75
Total		52.50	46.62

(b) The Gauge Conversion work from Nimach to Ratlam (135.35kms) is in progress and is likely to be completed in 9th Plan.

The survey for Gauge Conversion from Ratlam to Khandwa is in progress. Besides this, survey report of Gauge Conversion from Ajmer to Chittaurgarh has been received and is under consideration of the Ministry.

Funds for Soil Conservation

2069. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount provided during 1994-95 and 1995-96 by the Soil Conservation Department to each district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the details of work undertaken for the purpose project-wise

(c) whether the payment have been made to labourers; and

(d) if not, the time by which the same is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The total district-wise amount provided by the State Government for soil conservation activities is given in Statement enclosed.

(b) The major activities being undertaken under various soil conservation programmes included erection of contour vegetative bunds, contour graded bounds, development of pasture, horticulture, afforestation, creation of water harvesting structures and treatment of drainage lines. These activities are aimed at restoring ecological balance in the degraded and fragile ecosystems, and promoting diversified farming system to enhance economic level of farmers and village communities on sustainable basis.

(c) There is reportedly no complaint regarding non-payment to the labourers.

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

STATEMENT

		(Rs. in lakh)
S.No	Name of District	Amount Allocated
1	2	3
1.	Meerut	-
2.	Bulandshahar	22.12
3.	Ghaziabad	16.97
4.	Muzaffarnagar	-
5.	Saharanpur	7.70
6.	Haridwar	-
7.	Bareilly	3.00
8.	Badaun	30.70
9.	Shahjahanpur	13.00
10.	Rampur	-
11.	Pilibhit	-
12.	Muradabad	-
13.	Bijnaur	-
14.	Agra	92.12
15.	Firozabad	13.24
16.	Aligarh	10.80
17.	Mathura	-
18.	Mainpuri	13.02
19.	Atah	3.00
20.	Farukhabad	14.66
21.	Etawah	51.09
22.	Kanpur (Nagar)	-
23.	Kanpur (Dehat)	86.85

1	2	3
24.	Jhansi	134.50
25.	Jalaun	147.84
26.	Lalitpur	188.25
27.	Banda	117.31
28.	Hamirpur	58.84
29.	Mahoba	35.20
30.	Allahabad	56.37
31.	Pratapgarh	179.24
32.	Fatehpur	77.04
33.	Sonbhadra	426.22
34.	Mirzapur	25.17
35.	Lucknow	121.67
36.	Unnao	121.31
37.	Sitapur	286.28
38.	Lakhimpur	233.14
39.	Raibareilly	89.76
40.	Hardoi	43.00
41.	Sultanpur	272.99
42.	Faizabad	16.75
43.	Gonda	192.99
44.	Baharaich	234.80
45.	Barabanki	315.80
46.	Bhadoi	105.54
47.	Varanasi	16.75
48.	Gazipur	3.00
49.	Jaunpur	425.93
50.	Gorakhpur	-
51.	Maharajganj	117.66
52.	Maun	13.81
53.	Basti	-
54.	Ballia	107.26
55.	Sidharthnagar	111.01
56.	Deoria	109.70
57.	Azamgarh	112.55
58.	Uttarkashi	42.28
59.	Tihri	137.05
60.	Dehradun	38.36
61.	Almora	121.68
62.	Nainital	78.91
63.	Pithoragarh	99.81
64.	Pauri	153.66
65.	Chamoli	110.66
Grand Total		5657.86

Goods Traffic on Quilon-Madras Meter Gauge Line

2070. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to cancel goods- traffic on the Quilon-Madras Meter gauge line;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railway authorities have received any Memorandum from traders of this area for reconsidering the decisions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No. Sir.

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

Railway Over-bridges

2071. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Railway Over-bridges sanctioned for construction during the last three years. State-wise;

(b) the number out of them constructed;

(c) the number of Railway Over-bridges under construction. State-wise; and

(d) the total estimated cost of construction of all the Railway Over-bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 32.

State	No. of Road over-bridges sanctioned in last three years
Madhya Pradesh	2
Haryana	2
Tamil Nadu	1
Maharashtra	8
Bihar	1
Uttar Pradesh	5
Andhra Pradesh	5
Punjab	1
Nagaland	1
Karnataka	3
West Bengal	1
Gujarat	2
Total	32

(b) Nil.

(c) and (d). 89.

State-wise break-up is as under :

Andhra Pradesh	-	17
Bihar	-	3
Gujarat	-	5
Haryana	-	6
Karnataka	-	5
Kerala	-	1
Madhya Pradesh	-	16
Maharashtra	-	12
Nagaland	-	1
Orissa	-	3
Punjab	-	2
Rajasthan	-	2
Tamil Nadu	-	3
Uttar Pradesh	-	8
West Bengal	-	5
Total	=	89

The sanctioned cost of construction of 89 Road over/Under bridges is Rs.375 crores.

Allotment of Forest Land

2072. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the forest land in Delhi had been allotted to private persons/industrial houses for afforestation on lease/agreement in the past;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether those persons/industrial houses have constructed boundary walls around those lands;

(d) whether the same is permissible under the rules; and

(e) if not, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to get the boundary walls removed forthwith or the terminate the lease/agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Rail Line from Barwadih to Chirimiri

2073. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of laying rail line from Barwadih in Bihar to Chirimiri in Madhya Pradesh was commenced during the British regime;

(b) if so, the amount spent thereon by the Government so far;

(c) whether the rail line remains to be constructed from Barwadih to Bishrampur since the rail line between Bishrampur to Chirimiri has already been constructed;

(d) whether the Government propose to restart the construction of this closed rail line;

(e) if so, the time by which construction work is likely to be started; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Details are not available.

(c) to (e). A traffic survey for restoration of this line has been sanctioned. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Kuriyarkutty Karappara Project

2074. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded Environmental and forestry clearance to Kuriyarkutty Karappara project of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of Kerala had submitted the modified Kuriyarkutty Karappara multipurpose project in October, 1990 for environmental clearance without incorporating the Environmental Management Plan. Partial information was submitted in November 1992. Additional information sought from the State Government in January 1993 is still awaited.

Similarly in respect of diversion of forest land under the forest (conservation) Act, 1980, certain clarifications pertaining to the command area of the project and on involvement of wildlife sanctuary area in the Project have been sought in April, 1996. The reply of the State Government is still awaited.

[Translation]

Facilities to Tourists visiting Shirdi

2075. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has provided some facilities to the tourists visiting International pilgrimage 'Shirdi' falling in Kopergaon Parliamentary Constituency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the facility includes the reservation quota in the Karnataka and Jhelum Express trains passing through Kopergaon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which this quota can be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railway Out Agency is functioning at Shirdi with facility for issuing unreserved and reserved tickets.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) *Quota allotted at Shirdi Out Agency :*

- (1) 2627 Dn. SBC-NDLS Karnataka Express 4 sleeper berths (w.e.f. 11.8.96)
- (2) 2628 Up NDLS-SBC Karnataka Express 6 sleeper berths
- (3) 1077 Dn. PA-JAT Jhelum Express 4 sleeper berths.

Quota allotted at Kopergaon Station :

- (1) 2627 SBC-NDLS Karnataka Express 4 sleeper berths (w.e.f. 11.8.96)
- (2) 2628 NDLS-SBC Karnataka Express 2 sleeper berths & 2 AC 2 tier berths
- (3) 1077 PA-JAT Jhelum Express 4 sleeper berths.

Quota of Shirdi Out Agency and Kopergaon Station by 2627 Dn. SBC-NDLS Karnataka Express has recently been allotted

[English]

Import of Banned Drugs

2076 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drugs banned by WHO are being manufactured and used in India

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not banning the use to such drugs in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) As per the available information (upto 22.12.1995), World Health Organisation has so far reported the withdrawal of 44 drugs in some countries. Out of these 44 drugs, 26 drugs were never approved for marketing in India. Of the remaining 11 drugs were banned and 7 drugs were allowed for continued

marketing in the country with 'caution' by the Drugs Controller of India in consultation with experts and expert bodies like ICMR.

Broad Gauge Line from Lumding to Dibrugarh

2077. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in regard to the completion of the broad gauge line from Lumding to Dibrugarh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Gauge Conversion work from Lumding to Dibrugarh is going on in full swing. As per revised target schedule the work is planned to be completed in Phases as under :-

Section	Kms.	Target
Lumding-Dimapur	69	Completed
Dimapur-Furkating	70	completed
Furkating-Mariani	38	95-96
Furkating-Mariani (Loop)	86	97-98
Mariani-Tinsukia- Lekhapani	155	96-97
Tinsukia-Dibrugarh	48	96-97

Rice Research Centre

2078. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foundation stone of a Rice Research Centre in Barpeta district of Assam has been laid;

(b) if so, progress of construction carried, so far;

(c) whether a large number of peasants had to be evicted from the area for construction of the Research Centre; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for their rehabilitation/

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

(b) Construction not yet started as the land for the Centre has not yet been transferred by the State Government.

(c) Nor, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

[Translation]

Broad Gauge Line between Nanded-Kagiguda

2079. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed all the factors regarding the conversion of Nanded-Kagiguda railway line into Broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the time by which the gauge conversion work would be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The work is included in the first phase of the Action Plan under Project Unigauge and will be taken up in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[English]

Vacancies of Safaiwalas

2080. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vacancies of safaiwalas in Ratlam Division of Western Railway, Department-wise; and

(b) the time by which these vacancies are proposed to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Stoppage at Sehore Railway Station

2081. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the trains running between Indore and Bhopal have no stoppage at Sehore which is a district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide halt at Sehore Station of atleast those trains which are halting at Shujalpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Rail Line from Jakhim to Gadhava

2082. SHRI VERENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Eastern Railway to lay new Rail line from Jakhim to Gadhava via Aurangabad; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not making any provisions for the said Railway line in the Budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) constraint of resources.

Dowry Deaths

2083. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of dowry deaths and harassment cases registered during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the number of guilty persons arrested and convicted; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to curb such evils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) A statement containing the requisite information is enclosed.

(b) and (c). 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects. Hence, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime including the crime relating to 'Dowry deaths', etc., is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has, from time to time, been writing to the State Governments regarding the preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures to be taken in connection with the atrocities on women.

STATEMENT

Incidents of Dowry Deaths & Torture (Cruelty by Husband and his Relatives during 1994 and 1995)

(State and UT-wise)

S.No.	State/UT	Dowry Deaths*		Torture*	
		1994	1995	1994	1995
1	2	3	4	5	6
States :					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	396	492	2295	2365
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	3	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	13	5	293	100
4.	Bihar	296	103	483	178
5.	Goa	0	5	16	13
6.	Gujarat	105	61	1563	1926
7.	Haryana	191	191	351	391
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	140	200
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0	11	11
10.	Karnataka	170	273	1159	1499
11.	Kerala	9	17	550	681
12.	Madhya Pradesh	354	446	1815	2060
13.	Maharashtra	519	502	7105	8208
14.	Manipur	0	0	1	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	0	0	1	1
17.	Nagaland	2	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	169	140	361	346
19.	Punjab	117	134	87	119
20.	Rajasthan	298	262	2277	2673
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	83	75	247	294
23.	Tripura	6	4	45	57
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1977	1889	3943	3227
25.	West Bengal	85	95	3037	3319
Total (States)		4797	4659	25783	27669

Union Territories :

26.	A&N Island	1	0	3	2
27.	Chandigarh	3	1	14	17
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	7	4
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	132	148	136	101
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	4	3	3	1
Total		140	152	163	125
Total (All India)		4935	4811	25946	27794

*1995 - Figures are provisional

Ticket Windows at Thane

2084. SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal or providing additional tickets windows on the east side of the Thane Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work relating to remodelling to Thane Station has been sanctioned in the Works programme for 1995-96 under which a provision has been made for providing additional booking window on the east side of the station.

(c) Does not arise.

Electrification of Railway Line

2085. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of rail line that has been electrified so far in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the length of rail line that remains to be electrified with details thereof, location-wise; and

(c) the time by which the pending electrification job of rail line is likely to be completed, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Out of 3952 Route kilometre of Broad Gauge track in Andhra Pradesh, 1570 Route Kilometre (RKM) have been electrified upto 31.3.1996.

(b) and (c). As regards the balance broad gauge track, the position is as under :

1. The electrification of the section Bhimadolu-Rajahmundry (72 RKM) and Samalkot-Anakapaile (107 RKM) forming par of the Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam section (sanctioned for electrification) is planned to be completed by 31.3.1997, the balance portions in the section having been electrified prior to 31.3.1996.

Refugees from Bangladesh

2086. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering the question of granting citizenship to the Chakmas as well as Hajong refugees who came from Bangladesh before March 1971;

(b) if so, the number of these refugees who came India; and

(c) the final decision likely to be taken on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The Supreme Court of India vide its judgement dated 9.1.1996, in a public interest petition, has directed, inter alia, that the applications made for registration as citizens of India by Chakmas under section 5 of the Citizenship Act shall be entered in the register maintained for the purpose and shall be forwarded by the Collector or the DC, with or without enquiry, as the case may be, to the Central Government for its consideration in accordance with law. No such application/recommendation has been received by the Central Government so far. The State Government has filed a petition in the Supreme Court Seeking a review of its judgement dated 9.1.1996.

Following large scale communal violence in the erstwhile East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), Chakma/Hajong refugees numbering 14,888 were settled in Arunachal Pradesh between 1964 and 1969.

Chief Ministers' Conference on IPC

2087. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

SHRI RAM SAGAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Conference of the Chief Ministers held on November 13, 1992 had recommended the amendment to the CRPC, IPC and Evidence Act to explore methods for speedy trials in courts, to explore alternatives to prisons, reduction in overcrowding in jails by streamlining the bail provisions etc;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken on these recommendations; and

(c) if not, the use of such conferences especially if their recommendation are not implemented?

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

(b) The code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 9th May, 1994.

(c) Does not arise

[Translation]

BSF Planes

2088. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flights operated by the BSF planes in Rajasthan during 1994, 1995, 1996; and

(b) the details of the persons on board of these planes, the dates of journeys and the purpose of travelling etc ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) the requisite information is as follows -

1994	-	44
1995	-	39
1996	-	11
(upto June, 1996)		

(b) The aircrafts available with the Border Security Force are utilised for operational requirements of the Central Para Military Forces. These aircrafts are also used for official commitments of Ministers and Officials in the Ministry of Home Affairs. At times, these aircrafts are also made available to other Ministers/VIPs for

official use. The list of such Ministers/VIPs who used these aircrafts for visit to Rajasthan during 1994, 1995 and 1996 (upto June, 1996) is given in the statement.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Date of Journey	Person on Board
1994		
1.	13-01-1994	Bangladesh Delegation led by Shri M. Anwar Hussain, DG. Bangladesh Rifles.
2.	04-03-1994	Parliamentary Delegations with MOS (Revenue).
3.	30-08-1994	Shri Balram Singh Yadav, Minister of State (Mines).
4.	21-09-1994	British Delegation led by Rt. Hon. Betty Boothroyd, Speaker of House of Commons.
5.	24-09-1994	Director (IB).
6.	03-12-1994	Shri A.L. Marima, Deputy President of Tanzania.
1995:		
1.	14-02-1995	Delegation led by the Chairman, Pay Commission.
2.	05-04-1995	Russian delegation led by Col Gen. A.S. Nikilaev.
3.	29-06-1995	Bangladesh delegation led by Major General E.A. Chowdhury, DG. BDR.
4.	24-09-1995	Shri Buta Singh, Minister of Civil Supplies.
5.	28-09-1995	Shri Roumen Gechev, Dy. PM of Bulgaria.
6.	30-10-1995	Indo German Consultative Group
1996:		
1.	09-02-1996	Flight diverted to Jaipur due to bad weather in Delhi (Aircraft being brought back from Hyderabad after repairs).

Election in Uttar Pradesh

2089. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :
DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have held consultation

with the Election Commission regarding holding of elections to Uttar Pradesh Assembly;

(b) if so, the views expressed by Election Commission and the time by which the elections are likely to be held;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred by the Government on these elections;

(d) the expenditure which would have been incurred if the elections were held simultaneously with the General Elections; and

(e) the advantages derived by putting extra burden on the exchequer by delinking it from the General Elections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a), (b) and (e). The Government has held consultations with the Election Commission of India regarding holding of Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh. A decision in the matter will be taken in due course after consideration in relevant factors such as availability of Central forces. Also, on the examination of these very factors, it was felt necessary to delink the Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh from the General Elections held earlier this year.

(c) and (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Crossing of Cease Fire Line

2090. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons belonging to Uri and Karan from Baramulla and Kupwara districts who crossed the cease fire line and camped in refugee camps in the so called Azad Kashmir;

(b) whether the Government give them permission to come back to their home land; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). As a part of its sponsorship and continuing aid to and abetment of large scale secessionist and terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan had tried to lure, and even force a large number of Kashmiri youths to go across the border/LOC, and reinfiltate them after indoctrination, training and provision of sophisticated weaponry. It is, however, not possible to indicate precisely the number of such persons, belonging to the areas mentioned, who may have gone across the LOC and are in camps in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. Such citizens of the country, as and when they may return, are being dealt with as per the due process of law.

Agenda Paper on Centre-State Relations

2091. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJAPYEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any 'agenda paper' on Centre-State relations to meet the legitimate aspirations of the States;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring it up for discussion with various political parties; and

(c) whether Government will also consider eliciting public opinion on the aforesaid 'agenda paper'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MODH. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). No such agenda paper has been prepared. It may, however, be mentioned that the Inter-State Council is, at present, considering the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations. The Sub-Committee constituted by the Inter-State Council has so far considered 190 out of 247 recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission. The Government proposes to appoint a High Level Committee to review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.

[Translation]

Unearthing of LPG Gang

2092. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have unearthed a gang earning crores of rupees in the name of providing gas connections and distribution dealerships;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested and the action taken against them; and

(c) the steps taken to check such illegal activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MODH. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). As per provisions contained in the Seventh Schedule to the constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and, therefore, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime, including the crime relation to 'illegal activities in LPG Gas', is primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

Seizures of Wildlife Products

2093. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some skins and other wildlife products were recently seized at Kishanganj Railway Station in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received such reports from other States during the last one year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against the culprits and to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The staff of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Delhi seized a consignment of 11 leopard skins at Kishan Ganj Railway Station on April 3, 1996. The consignment had originated from Behampur, Orissa but it did not have any address of the consignor of consignee. The case has been taken up with the Railway authorities as well as Wildlife authorities in Orissa.

(c) and (d). This Ministry does not collate and compile the details of seizures of wildlife parts and products made by all the States. However, details of important seizures, as reported by some of the States in the last one year as well as seizure made through the Regional Deputy Directors of Wildlife of this Ministry located at Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Madras are given in the statement enclosed. Action against the offenders in these cases is taken under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Customs Act, 1962 and other related laws.

(e) The steps taken to control smuggling of wildlife products includes :

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 441 wildlife sanctuaries and 80 national parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.
- (iv) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination committee consisting of representative of all major enforcement organisations such as: Customs, Revenue intelligence, CBI, Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.
- (v) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies in February and November, 1995.

- (vi) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies if necessary, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.
- (vii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild fauna and flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.
- (viii) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.
- (ix) A committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.
- (x) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation has been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

STATEMENT

1. (i) On 4.5.95 the Uttar Pradesh Forest Authorities had seized 3 leopard skins from Haridwar range and one person was arrested.
- (ii) On 28.6.95, 2 leopard skins and 5 Kg. leopard bones were recovered in Mohand Forest Range of Rajaji National Park from two persons.
- (iii) On 6.7.95 one leopard skin was recovered from 2 persons in Shyampur Forest Range near Haridwar.
2. On 12.6.1995 police seized two rhino horns weighing 432 gms. and 225gms. respectively alongwith on Maruti Van and two bags from Siliguri (West Bengal). 5 persons were arrested in this connection. This Ministry has referred the case to Central Bureau of Investigation for further investigation because of certain international ramifications of this case.
3. On 22.8.95 a raid was carried out jointly by Northern regional Office, New Delhi with the Help of Divisional Director, Varanasi Forest Division in Varanasi and the following items were seized-One tiger skin, one leopard skin, 21 black buck skins and 2 pairs of black buck antlers. The owner of the said establishment was arrested.
4. On 9.10.95 Northern Regional Office, New Delhi and Director, WWF/Traffic India jointly

carried out an operation in Agra (UP) and seized one tiger skin, one leopard skin and 10 kg. of tiger and 5 kg. of leopard bones. One person was arrested in this connection.

On 10.10.95 the above team carried out another operation at Swaimadhapur (Rajasthan) and succeeded in seizing 4 fresh leopard skins, 9.5 kg. of leopard bones and about 30-40 claws of tiger. One person was arrested in this connection.

5. On 7.11.95 consignment containing two tiger skins which was being transported by a truck No. HA-38-7457 belonging to NITCO Transport Co. was seized in Jammu. Further investigation in the matter revealed that the addresses of the consignor and the consignee were false.
6. On 13.11.95, 10 nos. of leopard skins were seized by the J&K Police at Leh airport. The Consignment was booked at Delhi Through a courier agency NITCO Air Express by one Noor Mohd. of Majnu ka Tila. The addresses of the consignor and the consignee turned out to be false as in the previous cases.
7. A raid was conducted on 23.12.95 by officers of Northern Regional Office, New Delhi at a residential premises in Lajpat Nagar area in South Delhi and 172 shahtoosh shawls valued at about 1 crore were seized. One person was arrested in the connection.
8. On 20.1.96 the officers of Western Regional Office, Bombay carried out a raid at Wadsa and seized 1 panther skin. Three persons were arrested in this connection. On the same day, another raid was conducted in Brahmapuri town of Chandrapur District and seized one tiger skin. One person was arrested in this connection. On 21.1.96 the above team carried out another raid at Nagpur Railway Station and a private building in Vardhaman Nagar, Nagpur and seized three panther skin at Railway Station and two panther skins in the Vardhaman Nagar, Nagpur and two persons were arrested in this connection.
9. On 14.3.96 the officials of Wildlife Department of Delhi seized large number of wild animal skin at Old Delhi Railway Station. The details of the Seized animals are as below:

Civet skin	703 nos.
Jackal skin	230 nos.
Common Fox skins	87 nos.
Desert Cat skin	1 no.
Jungle Cat skin	84 nos.

Inquiry into the matter revealed that the consignment was booked from Dabra in Madhya Pradesh. The consignment had no address on it either of the consigner or of the consignee. The matter has been taken up with the Railway Authorities and the Wildlife Authorities, Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Intensive Cotton Development Programme

2094. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where the Intensive Cotton Development programme has been undertaken;

(b) the details of the areas brought under the programme in those States during the Eighth Five Year Plan so far, State-wise;

(c) the Central assistance extended to those States to increase areas under the programme during the said period, till date State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the financial assistance proposed to be given during the current financial year for implementation of the said programme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The names of the States implementing the Centrally Sponsored scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). During Eighth Five Year Plan the Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented in 43 (forty three) identified districts in the above mentioned States; selected on the basis of having potential for increasing productivity and production of cotton. State-wise details are given in statement-I. For increasing production and productivity of cotton, funds released to various States under the ICDP scheme during first four years of Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-93 to 1995-96) are given in statement-II)

(d) The Statewise details proposed to under the Scheme during current year i.e. 1996-97 are as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Outlay (GOI Share)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	177.75
2	Gujarat	84.36
3	Haryana	97.45
4	Karnataka	58.99
5	Madhya Pradesh	69.11

1	2	3
6.	Maharashtra	325.54
7.	Orissa	15.79
8.	Punjab	304.57
9.	Rajasthan	128.21
10.	Tamil Nadu	187.61
11.	Uttar Pradesh	10.62

STATEMENT-I

List of Districts under Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) for training & Demonstrations.

State	Districts
1	2
1. Punjab	1. Bhatinda 2. Faridkot 3. Ferozpur 4. Sangrur
2. Haryana	1. Hissar 2. Sirsa
3. Rajasthan	1. Sriganganagar
4. Madhya Pradesh	1. Khandwa 2. Khargone (Khargona) 3. Dhar
5. Gujarat	1. Baroda 2. Surendranagar 3. Broach (Bharuch) 4. Sabrakantha 5. Ahmedabad 6. Rajkot 7. Mehsana
6. Maharashtra	1. Akhola 2. Dhule 3. Yeotmal 4. Amravati 5. Parbasni 6. Nanded 7. Jalgaon 8. Jalna 9. Aurangabad 10. Buldhana 11. Wardha 12. Nagpur
7. Andhra Pradesh	1. Guntur 2. Prakasam 3. Kurnool 4. Adilabad
8. Karnataka	1. Dharwad 2. Raichur 3. Bellary 4. Bijapur 5. Balgaum

1	2
9. Tamil Nadu	1. Madurai 2. Tirunelveli 3. Ramanathpuram

1	2
10. Orissa	1. Kanadut
11. Uttar Pradesh	1. Aligarh
Total 43 Districts.	

STATEMENT-II

State-wise and year-wise details of funds released under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) from 1992-93 to 1995-96 (Central share)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	1992-93 Amount released	1993-94 Amount released	1994-95 Amount released	1995-96 Amount released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	196.55	NR	NR	NR
2.	Gujrat	102.555	45.65	11.65	59.50
3.	Haryana	102.39	58.71	31.919	79.50
4.	Karnataka	45.348	24.86	59.4245	46.90
5.	Madhya Pradesh	55.725	20.33	NR	29.90
6.	Maharashtra	174.47	71.58	81.96	313.93
7.	Orissa	2.95	3.48	3.1405	11.0
8.	Punjab	109.80	151.15	227.775	163.0
9.	Rajasthan	90.535	88.35	69.4125	108.40
10.	Tamil Nadu	73.652	200.06	300.94	176.60
11.	Uttar Pradesh	7.71	1.73	1.7735	8.00
Total		961.685	665.90	1088.00	996.73

NR-Not Released

Sarkaria Commission

2095 SHRIMATI JAYWANTI NAVINCHANDRA
MEHTA :
SHRI E. AHAMED :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to evolve new federal structure by granting more financial powers and autonomy to the States as recommended by the Sarkaria Commission;

(b) whether Government had placed 247 recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission before the inter State Council on 10th October, 1990.

(c) the number of recommendations accepted and implemented by the Government, so far and the reasons for delay in implementing the remaining recommendations.

(d) the total expenditure incurred on the Commission and also on the Inter State Council till now; and

(e) the necessity for setting up the Commission

especially if its recommendations are not acted upon sincerely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e). In the first meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 10th October, 1990, it was decided to constitute a Sub-Committee to examine the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission and submit its report for the consideration of the Council. The Sub-Committee has so far met six times and considered 190 out of 247 recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission. Details in this regard are given below:-

Number of Recommendations considered by the Sub-Committee:-

(i) Accepted with/without modifications	155
(ii) Not accepted	24
(iii) On which no consensus has been reached	11
(iv) Partially considered	1
(v) Yet to be finalised	56

247

The recommendations yet to be finalised are those contained in Chapter VI (emergency Provisions) and Chapter X (Financial Relations) of the report of the Commission.

The Government intends to pursue a two track policy. On the first track, the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on which there is already a broad consensus are proposed to be implemented through legislation and administrative action as appropriate. On the second track, the Government proposes to appoint a High Level Committee to review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission and look into the vital question of devolution of financial powers from the Central Government to the State Governments.

(d) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Rubberwood

2096. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether shrinking cover in the country has led to the shortage of timber;

(b) whether this has shifted the focus on rubberwood plantation; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of rubberwood in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir. According to the State of Forest Report, 1993, the total forest cover of the country as per 1993 assessment has increased by 925 sq. km. in comparison to 1991 assessment.

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

[Translation]

Beef Trade

2097. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that illegal beef trade is going on in Dehradun and Gonda, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the beef is also being sold illegally in hotels in the State; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the owners of the said hotels and to check the illegal beef trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c). Information from the Government of Uttar Pradesh is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

New Bogies

2098. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some requests for providing some bogies in different classes from Sangli, Kolhapur and Miraj on the newly introduced trains between Pune and Howrah and also between Pune and Ahmedabad, have been received in February, 96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action on these requests has since been taken; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Some representations for providing through coaches/direct train services from Kolhapur to Calcutta, Varanasi and Ahmedabad etc. to serve the public of Miraj, Sangli and Satara areas, have been received during February/March '96.

(c) and (d). Examined but have not been found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Bangladeshi Refugees

2099. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bangladeshi refugees mushrooming around the Connaught Place area;

(b) whether some of these have been found involved in the Drug trafficking and other crimes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to deport them, and

(e) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented?

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

Dog in Passenger Coach

2100. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Dog in passenger coach holds up train" which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated July 8, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the case;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty persons; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such cases in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One RPF sniffer dog named 'Julie' with two handlers were to travel from Lucknow to Delhi in order to undergo a refresher course at Breeding-cum-Training Centre, Delhi. As per the provisions of Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986, Schedule VII (Special Passes), RPF dogs are entitled for 1st Class Pass alongwith handlers and a Special Duty for 1st Class was issued for the dog with handlers. The Head Reservation-cum-Enquiry Clerk who was approached for reservation, issued a confirmed journey-cum-reservation ticket for the dog as well as two handlers in 2nd AC Class by train No. 4229 (Lucknow Mail) of 6.7.96. When the dog and handlers entered the coach, the passengers objected to the RPF handlers carrying a dog in the compartment. The Additional DRM/Lucknow who was travelling by the same train intervened in the matter and on his insistence, the dog handlers with dog got down from the train. The train suffered a 15 minutes extra detention as a result of this incident.

(c) A joint enquiry by Division Security Commissioner and Divisional Commercial Manager/Lucknow was conducted. During the enquiry it was found that carrying of dog in AC 2 tier is prohibited and Head Reservation-cum-Enquiry Clerk had violated the Rules in Booking berths in the names of the dog and two handlers. He was placed under suspension and a chargesheet is being issued to him for having acted in contravention of relevant Rules of IRCA Coaching Tariff. Chargesheets have also been issued to the RPF dog handlers under Rule 158 of RPF Rules, 1987 for having got reservation done in a class not entitled to and having entered into unnecessary arguments with passengers who were justified in objecting to carrying dog in AC II tier compartment. The ASI Incharge of the dog squad has also been taken up departmentally for slack supervision.

(d) Instructions have been issued to the Officers Incharge of dog squad to ensure that the dog should not be allowed to be carried in AC 2 tier, AC Chair Car, or other prohibited classes in future.

Expansions of Railways in Bundelkhand Region

2101. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to expand railways in the Bundelkhand region;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time earmarked for the implementation of this scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for a new BG line from Lalitpur-Khajuraho-Satna, Mahoba-Khajuraho and Rewa-Sidhi-Singrauli (491 kms.) has been taken up.

Further consideration of the proposal will be possible, once the survey report becomes available.

(c) Does not arise.

Ramjanam Bhoomi

2102. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to refer the Ramjanam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue to the Supreme Court under Article 136(2) of the Constitution;

(b) if so, whether the elections to the State Assembly of U.P. will be held on receipt of verdict from the Supreme Court before October 1996; and

(c) if not, whether the elections to the State Assembly would be postponed till then?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) One of the points of the 'Common Minimum Programme' announced by the Government is to refer the contentious issue of Babri Masjid-Ram Janma Bhoomi to the Supreme Court under Article 138 (2) of the Constitution.

(b) and (c). The timings of the elections to the State Assembly in UP and the reference to the Supreme Court under Article 138(2) of the Constitution are separate issues and are not linked.

Encroachment on Railway Land

2103. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is large scale encroachment of hutment dwellers on the Railway land especially near the tracks;

(b) if so, the details of this encroachment, Zone-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to remove the encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Zone-wise encroachment as on 1.4.96 is given below :

Railway	Number of Encroachments
C R	26974
E R	12715
N R	34289
NER	10867
NFR	33645
S R	3018
SCR	9057
SER	19301
W R	14141
Total	164007

Out of these, 30,601 are along the track in safety zone, i.e. within 15m (50 feet) from the centre of nearest track.

(c) Removal of encroachments from Railway land is undertaken as per the provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 regularly. So far, 35,963 cases have been filed under this Act.

Auto-rickshaw Drivers

2104. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Auto Rickshaw drivers need to be disciplined," says H.C. Judge" appearing in the "Times of India", dated July 15, 1996; and

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

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

(b) The Bhartiya Tipahiya Chalak Sangh has filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court against the pre-paid taxi/TSRs scheme introduced by the Delhi Traffic

Police. According to the news item, the Hon'ble Judge did not grant any interim stay in favour of the petitioners while observing that the autorickshaw drivers needed to be disciplined. The case has been fixed for hearing on 26-09-1996.

Crisis in FACT

2105. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL :

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

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

(a) whether the Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Limited (Alwaye) is facing any crisis due to the import of Caprolactam;

(b) the latest position regarding the quantum of domestic production of Caprolactam; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the customs duty on Ammonia imported for use in the production of Caprolactam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). There are only two indigenous manufacturers of Caprolactam, viz., Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) and Gujarat State Fertilizer Company Limited (GSFC). The production of caprolactam during 1995-96 and the projections for 1996-97 are as under :

	Installed Capacity	Production 1995-96	1996-97 ('000 MT)	
			1996-97 (April-June, 96) Actual	(Projected)
FACT	50.0	47.1	5.3	41.0
GSFC	70.0	65.7	19.4	70.0
TOTAL	120.0	112.8	24.7	111.0

The reduction of Customs duty from 45 to 30% as proposed in the Budget for 1996-97, is likely to create a stiffer competition from imports for the indigenous caprolactam industry.

(c) There is no such proposal to reduce the customs duty on ammonia for use in caprolactam.

Sal Wood Forest

2106. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA :

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

(a) the total area of Sal Wood forest in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether area of Sal Wood is gradually dwindling due to felling of trees;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have taken any special measures to take up plantation of Sal Wood plantation in the new areas;

(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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) According to the State of Forest Report, 1993, the total forest cover of the country as per 1993 assessment is 6,40,107 sq. km. However, the specie-wise assessment of the forest area is not undertaken by the Forest Survey of India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Diesel Loco Shed

2107. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railway Board is contemplating on the scheme of constructing Diesel Loco Shed in Barauni Garhara; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Train Services in Gujarat

2108. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rail facilities are lacking in Gujarat especially in its tribal areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government propose to reintroduce Ankleshwar-Rajipla, Kaishamba-Umarpada, Chota-Udaipur-Baroda train services in these areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed for improving train services in the tribal areas of the State during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. The rail kms in Gujarat per lakh of population is 12.89 as compared to all India average of 7.41 kms.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Improvements/introduction of train services including in tribal areas is a continuous process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and resources availability. Additional train services proposed in Gujarat are as follows :

After Gauge Conversion of the Delhi-Ahmedabad route, BG services will be provided on Ahmedabad-Jaipur-Delhi and Ahmedabad-Jodhpur-Bikaner sections. Other facilities include (i) Anand-Godhra MEMU service, (ii) Ahmedabad-Mehasana-Abu Road DMU/Push Pull service, (iii) Mehasana-Taranga Hill Rail bus service (iv) Increase in frequency of 6045/6046 Madras-Ahmedabad Navjeevan Express from six days a week to daily and 8403/8404 Puri-Ahmedabad from weekly to tri-weekly

Electrification of Bhagalpur-Kiul Rail Line

2109. SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for electrification of Bhagalpur-Kiul Rail line is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the electrification work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Fish Farmers Development Agencies

2110. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether fish farmers development agencies in Assam are not working properly particularly in the Southern Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether about thirty five thousands families of fishermen in Southern Assam are facing acute problem of earning because of gradual dwindling of the catches; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to improve upon the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) 23 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) including those of Southern Assam in the districts of Cachar, Karimganj, and Hailakandi are functioning properly, as reported by the Government of Assam.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) There is no report of dwindling of fish catch in the State and no fishermen's family is found to be facing acute problem of earning. In fact fish production has gone up from 151,646 metric tonnes in 1993-94 to 153,209 metric tonnes in 1994-95 and 155,065 metric tonnes in 1995-96.

(d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Stoppage at Bayana

2111. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation to provide stoppage of Paschim Express at Bayana (Rajasthan); and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but no found justified.

[English]

Derailment of Gorakhpur-Hatia Express

2112. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gorakhpur-Hatia Express, (5078 Dn.) derailed on May 20, 1996 at Dumari-Juara Halt, wherein thirteen compartments were slipped away from the track;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry was conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the defaulters; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The accident is being enquired into by a committee of officers, and the report of enquiry committee is awaited.

[Translation]

Security to Former Ministers/MPs

2113. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of former Ministers/MPs provided with security arrangements by the Government at their residences;

(b) the monthly expenditure being incurred on this;

(c) whether the security is being withdrawn from them;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether they would be required to contribute half of the expenditure being incurred on their security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) At present, 61 ex-Ministers/ex-MPs are being provided security by the Government.

(b) The monthly expenditure being incurred on their security by Delhi Police is about Rs. 17 lakhs per month.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) and (e). A review of the security of ex-Ministers/ex-MPs was made in June, 96 and the security wherever considered necessary has already been withdrawn. A review of security is done from time to time.

(f) No, Sir.

Hazardous Incidents

2114. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of hazardous incidents increased due to the increase in the chemical industries in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the recurrence of these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) As per information made available by the Chief Inspector of Factories, National Capital Territory of Delhi, no increasing trend is discernable in respect of major incidents in the last three years in chemical industries in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps required for prevention of accidents due to the handling of hazardous chemicals have been

laid down in the relevant sections of the Factories Act, 1948, as amended in 1987 and the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 notified with a view to prevent accidents and minimise effects of accidents and minimise effects of accidents both on man and the environment. A yearly inspection of the industries by the State Inspectorate of Factories, conduct of mock drill of the On-site Emergency Plan every six months and submission of the report of the trial by the occupier are mandatory. Preparation of safety reports and conduct of periodic safety audit is also laid down in the rules. A comprehensive guide to the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 and a Manual on Emergency Preparedness for Chemical Hazards have been brought out to facilitate better compliance by the concerned industries and the regulatory agencies.

Amendments to the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, enhancing the scope by way of redefining hazardous chemicals based on UN definition, is under discussion. A set of rules entitled "Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 has been finalised. These rules envisage a 4 tier system for management of chemical accidents in the country.

Pollution by Power Plants

2115. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ash emitted by the power plants in Delhi and nearby areas is polluting the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent such pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). All the three power plants located in Delhi are meeting the prescribed stack emission standards in respect of the particulates except Unit No. 5 of I.P. Power Station.

(c) The measures taken by the Government to control pollution include the following :

(i) The power plants have been advised by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee to use washed coal to minimise the problems posed by high ash content coal.

(ii) The Delhi Pollution Control Committee has also advised the power stations to instal continuous stack monitoring system.

(iii) The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions to all the three power

stations under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 on 15th April, 1996 for preparing ash management plan, providing of interlocking arrangements for electrostatic precipitators and boilers, monitoring of particulate emissions etc.

Train between Moradabad and Mumbai

2116. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new superfast train between Moradabad and Mumbai via Bareilly;

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

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

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

[English]

Krishi Vigyan Kendra

2117. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bihar Government has submitted a proposal to establish a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at S.M. Farm, Marhowrah, Saran;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering the sanction the same in the current financial year; and

(d) if not, the reasons and justification therefor?

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

(b) A proposal from Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar vide letter No. 4/Baithek/02/95/1080/Agri./Patna, dated the 2nd February 1996 for establishment of a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Seed Multiplication Farm (S.M. Farm), Marhowrah, Saran was received on 19th February, 1996 and acknowledge vide Council letter No. 4(46)/92-AE-1, Dated 23rd February, 1996.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The matter for allocation of funds for establishment of new Krishi Vigyan Kendras was taken up with the Planning Commission and in view of the financial constraints, no funds could be made available. The Council, therefore, is not in a position to consider the new proposal.

[Translation]

Rail Line between Bhatinda and Kandla

2118. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying rail line between Bhatinda and Kandla; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Study for provision of a BG rail route from Bhatinda to Kandla was conducted in 1989-90. Based on this study, the work was included in the budget 1990-91. The work consisted of gauge conversion of Lalgah-Bikaner-Merta Road-Jodhpur-Samdari-Bhildi, Patna-Chanasma-Pechraji and Viramgam and new line from Bhildi to Patan. Later, when gauge conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad was started in 1992-93, it was decided to provide Kandla-Bhatinda BG rail route via Viramgam-Mehesana-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Bhatinda. Work on Lalgah-Bikaner-Merta Road-Jodhpur has been completed and work on Jodhpur-Luni-Samdari-Bhildi-Mahesana-Viramgam is in progress and is targetted for completion within this financial year. With the completion of this work, there will be direct rail line from Bhatinda to Kandla.

[English]

Area Under Oilseeds

2119. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the areas under the oilseeds cultivation in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction; and

(c) the target sets and achievements made in this regard during the Eighth Five year Plan?

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

(b) Based on the information supplied by Govt. of Orissa, the area increase programme have been planned under groundnut through crop substitution in Kharif, Rabi and summer season (irrigated conditions in command areas) under soyabean in Kharif and under mustard in Rabi season. The area increase programme are basically based on crop substitution, inter cropping, multiple cropping and replacement of uneconomic crops.

(c) The area targets and achievements are as under:

Area in 000 ha.		
Year	Target	Achievement
1	2	3
1992-93	1251	1092
1993-94	1220	1116

1	2	3
1994-95	1242	1121
1995-96	1290	1146
1996-97	1378	Sowing in progress

Conversion of Metre Gauge into Broad Gauge

2120. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the broad gauge conversion of Dindigul to Trichi is likely to be completed; and

(b) the total allocation of funds for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) By March '98 as per present indications.

(b) Rs. 15.41 crores till 1996-97.

Modernisation of Nagpur Railway Station

2121. SHRI BANWARJ LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plans for the modernisation of the Nagpur Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the rush of passengers have increased manifold during the past few years at Nagpur railway station; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide basic minimum facilities at the Nagpur Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A work comprising widening of platforms, provision of additional retiring rooms, provision of escalators, extension of platform shelter, augmentation of toilet facilities, enlargement and improvement of circulating area etc. has been sanctioned this year at an estimated cost of Rs. 335.50 lakh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Malpe Fishing Harbour-II

2122. SHRI OSCAR FARNANDES : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka for clearance of the Malpe Fishing Harbour-II in the State;

(b) whether it has been approved and sanctioned;

(c) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be constructed; and

(d) the cost involved in construction of the Project?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Malpe Stage-II fishing harbour is scheduled to be completed within four years from the date of administrative approval viz. 19th February, 1996.

(d) The project has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 1196.70 lakhs out of which Government of India's 50% share is Rs. 598.35 lakhs.

Renaming of Railway Station

2123. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received proposal to change the name of Shyam Bazar Metro Railway Station to "Hemant Basu Metro Railway Station";

(b) whether the West Bengal Assembly has also sent proposal to this effect;

(c) if so, the time by which the name would be changed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The Chief Minister of West Bengal had written to the Minister of Railways in this connection. The matter was examined. The proposal is not in conformity with the existing guidelines on the subject.

Norms for Bestowing Awards

2124. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a Committee to review the norms for bestowing Padma Vibhushan and Padam Shri Awards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar Committee are also to be constituted at the States level; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The Government has already constituted a High Level Review Committee to go into guidelines for the

Padma Awards and certain other aspects. The composition of the Committee is as under :

Chairman

1. Vice-President of India.

Members

2. Cabinet Secretary

3. Attorney-General of India

4. Home Secretary

5. Foreign Secretary

6. Secretary to the President

7. Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha

8. Prof. U.R. Anantha Murthy, President, Sahitya Akademi.

9. Prof. (Miss) A.S. Desai, Chairperson, UGC.

10. Prof. M.Y. Gaudri, Vice-Chancellor, Kashmir University.

11. Prof. Yashpal, National Research Professor.

The terms of reference of the High Level Review Committee are as follows :

(i) to review the existing guidelines and to fix the criteria for the selection of persons for the Padma Awards (criteria which will enhance respect for the Padma Awards);

(ii) to lay down restrictions on the number of Awards to be given and to ensure that the number is not so high as to dilute the value of the Awards; and

(iii) to decide whether the Awards should be given every year.

No proposal to set up similar Committees at the State level is under consideration.

Standards for Cattle Feed

2125. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Indian Standards provide mixing of slaughter house waste, Bone meat, fish meal in Cattle feeds;

(b) if so, whether any objections have been raised by some voluntary organisations to delete the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Provisions do exist in the Indian standards viz.

1. IS 2052 : 1979 Compounded feeds for cattle and
2. IS 5560 : 1970 Compounded feeds for young stock.

regarding the use of the ingredients of animal origin like fish meal, meat meal, blood meal etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Shri Laxmi Narain Modi, Managing Trustee, Bharatiya Cattle Resources Development Foundation has sent letters recently regarding deletion of the ingredients of animal origin from the cattle feed standards referred to above in view of the possibility of resulting in mad cow disease and other harmful effect on animals.

(d) The matter is under examination by the Government.

[Translation]

Train from Dehradun to Kathgodam

2126. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not introducing a direct train service from Dehradun to Kathgodam, inspite of existing of broad gauge track there; and

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce a direct train service on this route keeping in view the convenience of the people and necessity for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Introduction of a direct train between Dehradun and Kathgodam is presently not feasible due to lack of traffic justification and operational/resourse constraints.

Women Cell in Police Stations

2127. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether women cells have been constituted in all the Police Stations of each district in order to stop atrocities on women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the districts where such cells have not been constituted?

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

[English]

Alleged Irregularities in NAFED

2128. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received

complaints regarding the alleged financial irregularities in NAFED;

(b) whether preliminary inquiries has substantiated the allegations; and

(c) if so, name of the agency being entrusted with the further probe and action taken in the matter?

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

(b) and (c). The complaints received have been examined and it has been decided to entrust the enquiry to the Financial Adviser, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to probe into the alleged irregularities.

[Translation]

Development of Jamalpur Railway Factory

2129. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop one of the oldest Factory at Jamalpur, Eastern Railway which is in a pitiable condition;

(b) whether in the past about twenty two thousand persons worked here and training was also provided from special category to third category and many Members of Railway Board were trained here; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to develop this factory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The work of Jamalpur workshop modernisation is in progress at an anticipated cost of Rs. 9.62 crores. An outlay of Rs. 2.85 crores has been proposed during 1996-97.

[English]

Gauge Conversion between Hotgi and Bijapur

2130. SHRI B.R. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of gauge conversion work between Hotgi-Bijapur;

(b) whether sufficient funds have been provided for the project;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the conversion work between Bijapur Gadag would be taken up immediately; and

(f) if so, the tune of funds to be provided by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The progress on this project is 87%. It is targetted to be completed within this financial year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Rs. 25.00 crores.

(d) The work will be completed within this financial year.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Will be decided and indicated in the Railway Budget for 1997-98.

Integrated Watershed Management

2131. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers" scheme has been implemented in different States;

(b) if so, the details and names of the States where the schemes has already been implemented; and

(c) the Central assistance given to each State under the scheme during each of the last three years and the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers is being implemented in eight States. The State-wise Yearwise details of Central assistance released in the last three years and the amount utilised so far are given in the Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing State-wise release during last three Years and amount utilised so far under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchment of Flood prone Rivers

Rupees in lakh

S.No.	Name of State	Release			Amount utilised so far (1993-94 to 1995-96)
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
1.	Bihar	303.00	Nil	Nil	188.88
2.	Haryana	17.00	90.00	138.00	197.98
3.	Himachal Pradesh	386.00	307.50	219.00	926.44
4.	Madhya Pradesh	340.00	469.00	230.00	950.24
5.	Punjab	Nil	50.00	50.00	50.00
6.	Rajasthan	622.00	719.00	957.00	2202.99
7.	Uttar Pradesh	930.00	1251.50	1445.00	3301.48
8.	West Bengal	92.00	103.00	101.00	215.64
	Headquarters	10.00	10.00	10.00	30.00
	Total	2700.00	3000.00	3150.00	8063.65

[Translation]

New Railway Lines in Bihar

2132. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for laying new railway lines in Bihar during the Ninth Five Year Plan is under consideration of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details have not yet been finalised.

[English]

Rail Link of Tourist Places of Orissa

2133. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the tourist and pilgrim places of Orissa are connected by rail;

(b) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to link Jaipur Road and Jaipur town with the Railway network and make Jaipur-Road a junction under the Southern-Eastern Railway Zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The following new lines are being constructed for Orissa to connect various places of tourist and pilgrims' interest :

- (i) Talcher to Sambalpur
- (ii) Daitari to Banspani
- (iii) Khurda Road to Bolangir
- (iv) Paradeep to Haridaspur
- (v) Lanjigarh to Junagarh Road.

(c) There is no proposal to link Jaipur Road to Jaipur Town by Rail at present.

[Translation]

Cow Shelters

2134. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented any scheme for development of the cow shelter in U.P.:

(b) whether an grant/financial assistance is being provided by the Government to the Gaushala Samities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) There is no scheme for development of cow shelters. However, under the "National Bull Production Programme" a Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been launched in the 8th Five Year Plan for strengthening the State Cattle Breeding Farms and selected Gaushalas for the production and testing of breeding bulls of important indigenous breeds of cattle.

(b) Yes, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 80 lakhs for 10 Gaushalas was released to the U.P. Govt. during 1995-96.

(c) Details of Gaushalas are given in Statement attached.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

	Name and Location of Gaushala Breed-Haryana Cows	Breedable Female	Youngstock produced		Land available in acres	
			Female calves	Bull calves	Cultivable	Irrigated
1.	Rameshwar, Branch of Kashi Jivdaya Vistarini Gaushala, Varanasi	125	75	25	55	55
2.	Sri Krishen Gaushala, Ghaziabad	102	32	14	71 acre (303 Bighas, Details awaited.	
3.	Panchayati Gaushala Vrindaban, Mathura	70	35	4	150	150
4.	Sri Mad Bhallabh Gaushala, Gukul, Mathura	60	31	5	100	100
5.	Pinjrapole Gaushala Padrana, Deoria	52	38	10	100	100
6.	Gopal Gaushala, Meerut	52	26	9	68	40
7.	Hasanand Gaushala Mathura	40	30	10	140	80
8.	Nai Mandi Gaushala, Muzaffarnagar	32	28	20	138	138
9.	Shri Panchayati Gaushala, Hapur, Ghaziabad	52	8	7	230	9605
10.	Bavan Bigha Branch of Kashi Jivdaya Vistarini Gaushala, Dist. Varanasi	35	8	6	60	—
		626	311	106	—	—

[English]

Train between Kanyakumari to New Delhi

2135. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a direct train between Kanyakumari to New Delhi via Madurai;

(b) if so, the proposed date of its introduction and details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Paradeep Phosphates Limited

2136. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Paradeep Phosphates Limited could not utilise its 50% production capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned financial assistance to modernise this unit for increasing its production capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). The capacity utilisation of Paradeep Phosphate Limited (PPL) for the last five years is given below :

Year	%age capacity utilisation
1991-92	89.1
1992-93	72.7
1993-94	53.5
1994-95	97.9
1995-96	85.2

After decontrol of phosphatic fertilizer in August, 1992, the prices of phosphatic fertilizers in the open market went up sharply, leading to decline in consumption, and ultimately their production. Hence, the capacity utilisation went down in 1993-94, but improved in the subsequent years.

(c) and (d). The details of the financial assistance provided by the Government to PPL through budgetary support in the form of plan-loan, to enable the company to meet its capital requirement of funds for carrying out

renewals/replacement in the plant, during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (BE) are given below :

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1994-95	6.00
1995-96	16.00
1996-97 (BE)	16.00

Fly-Overs at Siliguri

2137. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people of Siliguri have demanded the construction of two railway fly-overs in and around the city; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Representations have been received from representatives of people for construction of Road Over Bridges at Mahabirasthan near Siliguri Town and at Siliguri Junction. However, State Government has not been able to finalise the alignment of Road Over bridge at Siliguri Town on account of difficulty of removal of encroachments and land acquisition for the construction of approaches. No proposal has been made by State Government for Road Over Bridge at Siliguri Junction.

New Railway Line from Nalgonda to Macherla

2138. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh had proposed to the Union Government for laying of new Railway line from Nalgonda to Macherla via Nagarjuna Sagar;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the proposal;

(c) if so, the time by which the final approval would be given by the Government in the matter; and

(d) if not, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It has not been found possible to consider construction of this line at this stage, due to acute constraint of resources.

Mobilisation of Funds by Railways

2139. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of capital mobilised by the Railways

through Railway Bonds in the years 1995-96 and in the current year; and

(b) the targets had been fixed for the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. (IRFC), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railways is mobilising capital through bonds. During the year 1995-96, the amount of capital mobilised by IRFC is Rs. 520.23 crore. In addition, the Corporation also mobilised US \$ 70 million through External Commercial Borrowing.

For the current year, IRFC has commenced mobilisation of funds and is in the market for the first tranche of Rs. 400 crore through private placement which has started on 5th July, 1996.

(b) The targets fixed for 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as under :

1995-96 : Rs. 1350 crore excluding Rs. 900 crore by way of Build Operate Lease and Transfer (BOLT) and Own Your Wagon schemes from Rs. 2250 crore shown in Explanatory Memorandum to Railway Budget.

1996-97 : Rs. 1850 crore including External Commercial borrowing.

Subsidy for Crops

2140. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide subsidy on growing bajra, maize and some other crops;

(b) if so, the names of crops on which subsidy is proposed to be provided; and

(c) the amount of the subsidy proposed to be provided for growing those crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The on-going Centrally Sponsored Schemes on Integrated Cereals Development Programme with a cropping systems approach provide for financial assistance with a view to increase the production and productivity of Bajra, Jowar, small millets and other cereal crops namely, maize, wheat and rice. Incentives are provided for certified seeds, farm implements and front-line demonstration on crop production technology, Integrated Pest Management etc.

(c) The thrust of the Programme for the crops mentioned in the reply to parts (a) and (b) above is transfer of technology and increasing production and productivity. The expenditure on major components of the schemes is shared between Government of India

and the States on 75:25 basis. The Central funds allocated for the year 1996-97 for the Programme is about Rs. 86 crores.

[Translation]

Development of Sarguja

2141. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps for the development and to increase production of Sarguja in view of the great demand of oil derived from Sarguja in the foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Assam and Manipur for the development of Niger (Sarguja) cultivation in the country for increasing its production and the productivity. Under the Programme, assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds, distribution of minikits, Rhizobium culture, Gypsum/pyrites, improved farm implements etc. In addition, front-line and general demonstrations are conducted on farmers' fields to transfer the production technology.

Besides National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD Board) has also started the programmes for promoting niger cultivation in non-traditional areas of Assam and Maharashtra from 1993-94.

[English]

Computerisation of Railway Services

2142. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which computerisation has been introduced in the Railways, especially in Kerala.

(b) whether the Government propose to extend computerisation in other parts of Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Computerisation has been introduced in such railway services as passenger reservations, issue of unreserved tickets, and answering on telephone of enquiries concerning reservation status and train arrivals/departures. Computerised reservation services have been provided at all stations having a workload of 300

or more transactions per day and at certain satellite locations. These include 12 stations and one satellite location in Kerala. Computerised issue of unreserved tickets has been introduced at 55 important stations including six in Kerala and a beginning has been made with the installation of Interactive Voice Response System for answering telephonic enquiries relating to reservation status and for those relating to train arrival/ departure at a few stations.

(b) and (c). Expansion of computerised service is a continuing process. In the Annual Plan for 1996-97 it is proposed to provide computerised reservation facilities at Alleppey station and computerise issue of unreserved tickets at Quilon, Chengannur, Kottayam, Ernakulam North Alwaye, Trichur, Guruvayoor, Shoranur, Tirur and Tellicherry.

Looting in Trains

2143. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trains carrying foodgrains looted during the last two years; and

(b) the steps being taken to avert such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The number of trains carrying foodgrains looted during the last two years is as under :

Year	Number of trains looted
1994-95	3
1995-96	10

(b) The following steps are being taken to avoid such incidents :

1. Escorting of trains carrying foodgrains over vulnerable sections as far as possible
2. Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other affected areas/sections.
3. Joint checking at interchange points to take stock of the condition of the wagons/seals carrying foodgrains.
4. RPF armed pickets are posted/deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible.
5. Based on criminal intelligence, raids and searches are conducted on the dens of criminals/receivers of stolen property in order to bring them to book
6. Close coordination between RPF, GRP and local police is maintained at various levels to apprehend criminals and receivers of stolen property.

[Translation]

Plantation along Rivers

2144. DR SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for plantation of trees along the rivers to prevent soil erosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years, river-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). Under the National River Conservation Plan, Yamuna Action Plan and Gomati Action Plan, provisions have been kept for afforestation at the banks of the rivers in towns covered under these Action Plans. The Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) on afforestation are under formulation in the concerned State Governments. So far, no expenditure has been incurred on afforestation under the River Action Plans

Electrification of Rail Line

2145. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the work of electrification of rail line between Badkakana and Dehri-on-Sone of Bihar is likely to be completed.

(b) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the estimated cost of this project in the beginning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Section Dehri-on-Sone to Son Nagar is already electrified. Electrification work of rail line between Son Nagar and Barkakana is in progress and is likely to be completed by March '98

(b) Rs. 180 crore approximately.

(c) Rs. 103 crore approximately at 1991 price level.

[English]

Corrosive Gases Emission

2146. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the concentration of gases such as sulphur dioxide, oxides of Nitrogen and Carbon di-oxide in Guwahati;

(b) the procedure being followed to determine the safety levels of the air pollutants in Guwahati;

(c) the contributions to these corrosive gases by the Noonmati oil refinery; and

(d) the pollution control technology, if any, proposed to be adopted to minimise the level of corrosive gases emission from the Noonmati oil refinery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The ambient concentrations of sulphurdioxide and oxides of Nitrogen in Guwahati were found below 10 microgram per cubic meter and 40 microgram per cubic meter respectively, which are much below the prescribed standards. Carbondioxide is not a criteria pollutant and as such is not being monitored.

(b) Actual air quality monitoring is done to determine the prevailing levels of specified pollutants.

(c) The refinery is complying with the prescribed emission standards. The ambient air quality data near the refinery is well below the prescribed standards.

(d) Adequate pollution control measures have already been provided by the refinery and as such no additional measures appear to be necessary.

Supply of Wagons

2147. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was shortfall in providing the wagons to the Ratlam and Vadodara Divisions of the Western Railway during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the quantum of loss suffered by Railways as a result thereof; and

(c) the action being taken to meet the said requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : and (b). The wagons loaded in Ratlam and Vadodara Divisions of Western Railway during 1994-95 and 1995-96 as compared to the valid indents registered and also the indents outstanding at the close of the year are furnished below :

Division	Total valid indents during the year	Loading in wagons during the year	Indents outstanding at the close of the year
Ratlam			
1994-95	120066	107759	12307
1995-96	87766	81171	6596
Vadodara			
1994-95	700499	680178	20321
1995-96	736048	693379	42669

(c) Western Railway has taken steps to clear the outstanding indents. Consequently, as on 26.7.1996 there are no indents pending in Ratlam Division and pending indents in Vadodara Division have come down to 33244.

Railway Over-Bridges

2148. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway over-bridges under construction, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(b) the time by which these over-bridges would be completed indicating the estimated cost of each of them;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sent a new proposal for construction of the over-bridges during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(c) and (d). On cost sharing basis.

Road Over Bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 175 at KM 505/12-13 at Nimbola on Bhusaval - Khandwa Section.

It has been included in Railways' Works Programme 1996-97 and will be taken as sanctioned on passing of Railway Budget.

(ii) Road over bridge at Chuchiapara - Bilaspur in lieu of 'A' class level crossing. Included in Railways' Works Programme 1996-97 and would be treated as sanctioned after passing Railway Budget 1996-97 by Parliament.

(iii) Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 23A at KM 1048/4-5 at Sagar on Bina - Katni Section.

Work is under consideration for inclusion in Railways Works Programme 1997-98.

On 'Deposit' terms :

(i) Road over bridge at Maihar at KM 1142/14-15 in Jabulpore - Allahabad Section.

General Arrangement Drawing submitted to P.W.D., Madhya Pradesh in Aug. '94. Approval of P.W.D. not yet received inspite of reminders from Railways.

(ii) Road over bridge at Habibganj at KM 829/6-8 on Itarsi - Bhopal Section.

State Govt. has not yet deposited plan and estimate charges inspite of reminders from Railways.

STATEMENT

Railway	State	Details of Work	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Probable date of completion
1	2	3	4	5
Central	Madhya Pradesh	Road over bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No. 1 and 225 near Itarsi	490.00	Dec '96
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 232-A at Hoshangabad	377.00	30.6.97
		Road over bridge at Kandwa	381.00	-do-
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 186-A at Satna-Kotwali	525.00	Not Fixed
		Road over bridge in place of level crossing No. 425 at Birlanagar	525.0	June '97
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 575 at Ballabgarh	462.00	Not yet fixed
	Haryana	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 578 at Faridabad	448.00	Work commissioned
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 577-A at Faridabad	425.00	Not yet fixed
		Road over bridge in lieu of Level crossing No. 107 at Borkhedi	351.00	31.12.97
	Madhya Pradesh	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 256 at Betul	200.00	Dec '97
	Maharashtra	Road over bridge in lieu of LC No. 39-A at Dehere	93.00	Not yet fixed
		Widening of Road under bridge at Dhaund	270.00	31.12.97
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 10B at Badlapur	365.00	Not yet fixed
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 41E at Kalyan	320.00	Dec '97
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 20 at Mulund	354.00	Dec '97
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 113 at Butibori	356.00	Dec '97
	Madhya Pradesh	Road over bridge at Daridh in lieu of level crossing No. 59-A	265.00	Not yet fixed
Eastern	Bihar	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 49 at Arrah	224.00	Not yet fixed
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 14-A at Parasnath	258.00	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
Eastern	Bihar	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 70 at Fatuah	316.00	Not yet fixed
	-do-	Road over bridge at Yarpur	131.00	-do-
	West Bengal	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 100 at Panagarh	414.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 1 at Liluah	875.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing at Km. 9/13-14 between Sheoraphuli and Tarakeshwar	102.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 3 at lake gardens	1175.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 3 at Bondel Gate	1006.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 34-B at Sultanpur	262.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 12 at Subedarganj	438.00	Dec. 96
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 279-B at Bilraya-panvari	413.00	Not yet fixed
Nothern	Uttar Pradesh	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 34-B at Sultanpur	262.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 12 at Subedarganj	438.00	Dec. 96
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 279-B at Bilraya-Panvari	413.00	Not yet fixed
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 29 at Etawah	619.00	March. 97
	-do-	Road over bridge at Jeonathpur	100.00	Dec. 96
	-do-	Road over bridge Partapur in lieu of level crossing No. 21-A	692.00	Not yet fixed.
	Punjab	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. A-2 at Ludhiana	960.00	-do-
	Haryana	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 32-B at Mandi Dabwali	845.00	-do-
	-do-	Road over bridge at Kohand (Panipat)	431.00	Dec. 96
North Eastern	Uttar Pradesh	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 2-A at Sikatia crossing on Mau-Indara Road	784.00	Dec. 96
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 6 near Eye Hospital, Kanpur	1077.00	Not yet fixed
	-do-	Road over bridge in lieu of crossing No. 31-A at Ballia	867.00	Dec. 96

1	2	3	4	5
N.F. Railway	Nagaland	Road over bridge - Dimapur in lieu of Level Crossing No. ST/57 at Km. 260/3-4	1203.00	Not yet fixed
	Assam	Bongaigaon Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level Crossing SK/49 at Km. 143/10-11.	314.00	Not yet fixed
Southern	Karnataka	Road over bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No. 12 at Channasandra-Yelahanka	409.00	31-3-97
	Tamil Nadu	Road over bridge at Dindigul at Km. 431/1-2	374.00	31.12.96
	Tamil Nadu	Road over bridge at Madras Beach-Royapuram in lieu of Level Crossing No. 3	318.00	Sept. '97
	Tamil Nadu	Road over bridge on Ukkadam bypass Road in lieu of Level Crossing No. 20	230.00	Not yet fixed
	Kerala	Road over bridge on link Road on National Highway - 47-A	750.00	Dec. '97
	Karnataka	Road over bridge at Hebbal	444.00	Not yet fixed
	Karnataka	Road over bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No. 832-A on National Highway-4 near Krishnarajapuram-Bangalore	4200.00	Not yet fixed
South Central	Andhra Pradesh	Road over bridge in lieu of B' class level crossing at Palakollu-Garintada.	464.00	Target date not yet fixed.
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 314 at Ajit Singh Nagar	578.00	-do-
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 488 at Unakapalli - Tadi.	909.00	-do-
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 492 between Thadi-Duvvada.	708.00	-do-
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 244 at Cheerala	444.00	-do-
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 2 at Jamai Osmania.	150.00	-do-
		Road over bridge at Vikarabad in lieu of level crossing No. 17	86.00	-do-
		Road over bridge an Gudur in lieu of level crossing No. 100	25.00	Dec. 96
		Road over bridge at Shivarampalli	41.00	-do-
		Road over bridge at Nizamabad	32.00	-do-
		Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 234 on Timapur - Shadnagar.	248.00	Target date not yet fixed.

1	2	3	4	5
South Central	Andhra Pradesh	Road over bridge near Mehboobnagar.	294.00	Target date not yet fixed
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 252 at Ramakrishnapuram gate.	555.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 55 on Mancherial - Peddampet	418.00	-do-
	"	Widening of road under bridge (Oilphant bridge) Secunderabad.	450.00	-do-
	"	Widening of Road under bridge No. 251 at Rail Nilayam in Secunderabad.	410.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 30-B Zahirabad.	338.00	-do-
	Karnataka	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 110 at Bellary.	193.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 85 at Hospet.	212.00	-do-
	Andhra Pradesh	Road over bridge at Vishakhapatnam	932.00	-do-
South Eastern	Madhya Pradesh	Road over bridge at Bhilai Power House	600.00	Not yet fixed
	"	Road over bridge at Chakradharpur	201.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge at Bargarh	160.00	-do-
	Orissa	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing at Rayagada	525.00	Dec. 96
	"	Road over bridge at Bargarh	148.00	Not yet fixed
	"	Road over bridge at Kesinger at Km. 216.135.	171.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge at Titlagarh	353.00	-do-
Western	Maharashtra	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 31 at Kandivili	1861.00	Not yet fixed
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 21 at Santacruz-Villeparle	2635.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 33 at Borivili	1857.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 22 at Villeparle Road	566.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 120-A at Nardhana	710.00	-do-
	Gujarat	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 11 at Sabarmati-Gandhigram	147.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 179-C at Baruch	275.00	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
	Gujarat	Road over bridge at Vapi in lieu of level crossing No. 80	726.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 146 at Surat	564.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 20-B on Sant Road-Piplod	150.00	-do-
Western	Rajasthan	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 107 at Ringus	258.00	Not yet fixed
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 238 at Sear	258.00	-do-
	Madhya Pradesh	Road over bridge in lieu of Ratlam	381.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 246-A at Indore	736.00	-do-
	"	Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 1 at Nagda	310.00	-do-

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

2149. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

DR. G.L. KANALJIA :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to increase production of the cotton in the country;

(b) the total production of cotton during 1995-96, State-wise;

(c) the target of cotton production fixed for each State during 1996-97;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any new scheme especially to promote the production of coloured cotton; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) To increase the production and productivity of cotton in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented in 11 (Eleven) major Cotton growing States namely; Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh; on 75:25

sharing basis between Government of India and implementing States. The important components under the scheme include assistance to farmers on breeder and certified seeds, field demonstrations on production technology including Integrated Pest Management, Supply of equipment farmers' training etc.

(b) The total estimated production of cotton in different States during 1995-96 is given below :

S.No.	State	Estimated production of cotton ('000 bales of 170 kg. each)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2081
2.	Assam	1
3.	Gujarat	2300
4.	Haryana	1100
5.	Karnataka	969
6.	Kerala	19
7.	Madhya Pradesh	406
8.	Maharashtra	2565
9.	Orissa	9
10.	Punjab	1936
11.	Rajasthan	1007
12.	Tamil Nadu	611
13.	U.P.	15
14.	Others	12
	All India	13031

(c) The State-wise target of cotton production for 1996-97 is given below :

S.No.	State	Production Target (Lakh bales on 170 kg. each)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17.50
2.	Gujarat	22.50
3.	Haryana	16.00
4.	Karnataka	10.50
5.	Madhya Pradesh	5.00
6.	Maharashtra	25.00
7.	Orissa	0.20
8.	Punjab	22.50
9.	Rajasthan	13.00
10.	Tamil Nadu	7.00
11.	U.P.	0.40
12.	Others	0.40
All India		140.00

(d) and (e). No new scheme has been formulated to promote production of coloured cotton. Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently launched a network programme of research for Development of naturally Coloured cotton.

[English]

Amendment in IPC and Cr. P.C.

2150. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to amend Cr. P.C. and I.P.C.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time which they would be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994, which proposes to amend various provisions of Cr. P.C. and IPC was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 9th May, 1994. The Bill was subsequently referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs which considered the Bill and submitted its report.

Cotton Prices

2151. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations from farmers of the North India for announcement of procurement prices of cotton in April in place of November every year;

(b) if so, the reasons put forward by the farmers in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c). No representation has been received by the Agriculture Ministry from the farmers of North India for announcement of procurement prices of cotton in April in place of November every year. However, the Government tries to announce the minimum support price of cotton well in time before the start of the sowing season.

[Translation]

Milch Cattle

2152. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ascertained the number of milch cattle;

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

(c) the average yield of a milch cattle;

(d) whether the production of milk per animal is less in the country as compared to the average milk production per animal in the world;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is given at Statement - I enclosed.

(c) to (e). The information is given at in Statement - II. The productivity of milch cattle in India is less than that of the average of the world.

(f) All efforts are being made to increase the productivity by implementing various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes and adopting new technologies.

STATEMENT - I

Number of Milch Cattle
(As per 1987 Livestock Census)

S.No.	States/UTs	(in thousand number)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2738
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	76

1	2	3
3.	Assam	1969
4.	Bihar	4718
5.	Goa	29
6.	Gujarat	1673
7.	Haryana	603
8.	Himachal Pradesh	622
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	850
10.	Karnataka	3246
11.	Kerala	1547
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8548
13.	Maharashtra	5164
14.	Manipur	153
15.	Meghalaya	147
16.	Mizoram	17
17.	Nagaland	58
18.	Orissa	3889
19.	Punjab	1002
20.	Rajasthan	4001
21.	Sikkim	47
22.	Tamil Nadu	2810
23.	Tripura	247
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6159
25.	West Bengal	5690
26.	A and N Islands	14
27.	Chandigarh	3
28.	Dadra and N. Haveli	12
29.	Delhi	21
30.	Lakshadweep	...
31.	Pondicherry	34
Total		56087

STATEMENT - II

Productivity of Milk - 1993

S No.	Country	Milk yield Cattle per year (Kgs. per animal)
1	2	3
1.	India	987
2.	Canada	5938
3.	Mexico	1182
4.	U.S.A.	7038
5.	Brazil	784
6.	Bangla Desh	206
7.	Pakistan	893

1	2	3
8.	China	1541
9.	France	5289
10.	Germany	5237
11.	U.K.	5462
12.	Russian Fed.	2294
13.	Turkey	1476
14.	Australia	4451
15.	New Zealand	2986
World		2038

Source : FAO Year Book - Production (Vol. 48), 1994.

Rail Projects

2153. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Railway projects relating to construction work were commissioned during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether most of the projects are running behind their targeted time and their cost have overrun;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the names of those projects; and

(d) the number of projects to be undertaken this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(d) 8 new projects are proposed to be undertaken this year.

Fertilizers to Farmers

2154. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great resentment among the farmers in several States for not getting fertilizers in time and the resultant adverse affect on the agricultural production.

(b) if so, the names of States from where reports have been received by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of action taken by the Government to provide the fertilizers to the farmers timely?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). At present, urea is the only fertilizer which is under

statutory price control and for which allocation is made to State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and Tea Board (North-East). The availability of urea in the country during current Kharif 1996 season, so far, has been satisfactory and no reports of shortages of urea have been received from any State except from Jammu and Kashmir. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir approached this Department for supply of urea on priority to the State on the 17th July, 1996.

(c) To provide urea to the farmers on time, the Government of India monitors supplies of urea to each State on a regular basis. Two rakes of urea have been despatched to Jammu and Kashmir; one on 18th and the other on 23rd July, 1996 to improve its availability in the State.

[English]

Violation of Environmental Laws

2155. SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

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

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from the States for violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act 1986 in setting up of the developmental projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the programme evolved by the Government to preserve the environment without affecting the developmental activities.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Broad Gauge Link between Bhuj to Gandhidham

2156. SHRI PS. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Bhuj with Gandhidham or broad gauge rail line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the construction is likely to be taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work is already included in the budget.

(c) The work will be taken up shortly and completed in 1997-98 as per present indications.

Rail Link to State Capitals

2157. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any policy of the Government to connect all the State Capitals with the railway lines;

(b) whether any survey has been undertaken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In this direction, construction of Kumarghat-Agartala new line has already been included in Budget 96-97 for connecting Agartala - the Capital of Tripura. Updating survey from Harmuti to Itanagar-the capital of Arunachal Pradesh, and for Diphu to Karong, as the first phase of the line to Imphal-the capital of Manipur have also been included in the Budget.

Sugarcane Production

2158. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SOHAN BEER :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a glut of sugarcane production this year;

(b) if so, the comparative cane production figures during the earlier two years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether farmers are suffering due to delay in lifting of sugarcane by the sugar mills; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to obviate sufferings of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The production of sugarcane increased sharply from 229.66 million tonnes in 1993-94 to 271.23 million tonnes in 1994-95 and is likely to be 267.38 million tonnes during 1995-96. A statement showing state-wise production of sugarcane during these three years is enclosed.

(c) and (d). The sugar mills, in the sugar season 1995-96 have crushed far more cane than any of the

previous years. Upto 31.5.1996 nearly 1505 lakh tonnes of sugarcane had been crushed as against nearly 1476 lakh tonnes crushed for the whole year in the previous season 1994-95, which was a record production year till then. Even after 31.5.1996 many sugar mills were continuing their crushing operation.

In order to enable the sugar factories to crush the available cane and to improve the liquidity of sugar mills, the Government have taken various measures like grant of incentives for late crushing, creation of buffer stocks and permission for export of sugar. Reserve Bank of India has also given more relaxation to sugar factories for availing of higher credit limits against sugar stocks.

STATEMENT

Sugarcane Production in India

(In thousand tonnes)

State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (Advance)
Andhra Pradesh	13474.2	15991.2	14349
Assam	1373.9	1505.0	1514
Bihar	4397.9	5667.3	5667
Goa	71.4	53.7	
Gujarat	10232.0	10785.0	9800
Haryana	6420.0	7010.0	7500
Himachal Pradesh	26.1	26.1	26
Jammu & Kashmir	11.2	11.2	10
Karnataka	26602.9	30325.1	27560
Kerala	447.9	448.8	500
Madhya Pradesh	1084.0	1511.0	2000
Maharashtra	27891.5	44260.3	44280
Manipur	58.8	58.8	
Meghalaya	2.3	2.1	
Mizoram	5.7	7.6	
Nagaland	193.4	125.0	
Orissa	781.0	1198.6	1199
Punjab	4710.0	5156.0	9180
Rajasthan	1020.0	986.9	958
Tamil Nadu	25991.8	35236.0	28400
Tripura	72.2	72.2	
Uttar Pradesh	104081.6	109907.7	112839
West Bengal	542.4	648.9	1052
A and N Islands	4.4	4.4	
Pondicherry	162.7	225.8	550*
All India	229659.3	271228.7	267384

Note : * = Others

[Translation]

Greater Nainital Lake Region Integrated Project

2159. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

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

(a) whether the Government have received an amended proposal for Greater Nainital Lake Region Integrated Project for grant of the financial assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have submitted a proposal for the conservation of Nainital Lake at an estimated cost of Rs. 40.25 crores under the proposed National Lake Conservation Plan. The proposal includes schemes for catchment area conservation, collection and disposal of city sewage, solid waste management, silting and face lifting of the lake, limnological studies and public awareness.

(c) Considering the nature and scope of the proposed project, it has been recommended for support under bilateral assistance programme.

Suspension of Trains

2160. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that train service has been discontinued on Bhagalpur-Mandar hill rail line in Bihar due to the damage caused by floods at many places to the said rail line in September last; and

(b) if so, the position of repair work of the said rail line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Train services on the section have been resorted from 1-7-96.

[English]

Allotment of Stalls

2161. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the number of Snack bars/Tea/Book Stalls allotted by Government during the last three years;

(b) the quota of women entrepreneurs in such allotments, year-wise; and

(c) the procedure being followed for the allotment of such stalls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c). As per Catering Policy, allotment of catering/vending contracts is made by the Zonal Railways by inviting applications through press advertisement. Applications so received are screened by a Screening Committee and contract awarded to the most suitable applicant on merits. Women entrepreneurs are eligible to apply for such contracts but no quota has been stipulated.

Fishing Harbours

2162. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fishing harbours aided, developed and managed by the Central Government in Kerala;

(b) the details of the progress made for the development of Munambham fishing harbour of the Ernakulam District; and

(c) the amount spent of this harbour so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) One major fishery harbour, Cochin Stage-I in Kerala has been completed and its Stage-II is nearing completion for which 100% funds are provided by Government of India to Cochin Port Trust.

Four minor fishing harbours and twenty fish landing centres have been completed and six minor fishing harbours and two fish landing centres have been sanctioned by Government of India. The major fishery harbour at Cochin is managed by Cochin Port Trust under the Government of India and the other minor harbours and fish landing centres are managed by the State Government.

(b) For the development of Munambham fishery harbour, initial works of land acquisition, bridges, security-room are almost completed; main works of breakwaters, reclamation, quay wall, auction hall are at an advanced stage of construction; other small works of canteen, provision-store etc. are at various stages of progress

(c) An amount of Rs. 954.83 lakh is spent upto May, 1996 on Munambham fishery harbour.

Delhi State

2163. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give full Statehood status to Delhi;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The question of an appropriate structure for the administration of the National Capital was considered by the Committee on Reorganisation of Delhi set-up, commonly known as the Balakrishnan Committee. After a thorough consideration of the matter, the Committee concluded that it would not be in the national interest and in the interest of Delhi itself to restructure the set-up in Delhi as a full-fledged constituent State of the Union. In view of this recommendation and since the Central Government has to discharge special responsibilities in relation to the National Capital, it was not considered feasible in the larger national interest to grant Delhi a full-fledged Statehood.

As a result of the Constitution (69th Amendment) Act, 1991 and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991, Delhi has got a Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers responsible to it. No proposal to change the existing set-up is under consideration.

Funds for Soil Conservation

2164. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Assam for the Centrally sponsored scheme of soil conservation during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount actually utilised by the State Government;

(c) the reasons for not utilisation of the full amount by the State Government; and

(d) the progress made so far in the implementation of soil conservation scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The amount allocated to State of Assam under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Soil conservation and

its utilisation during each of last three years is as indicated below :

(Rs. in Lakh)			
	Year	Allocation	Utilisation
Schemes of Deptt.	1993-94	460.0	349.3
of Agri. Coopn.	1994-95	785.0	459.8
	1995-96	535.0	511.9
Schemes of M/o	1993-94	119.8	112.8
Environment	1994-95	122.0	142.3
and Forests	1995-96	224.0	135.0

Under the schemes of Ministry of Environment and Forest, funds upto 20% can be used for soil and moisture conservation components.

(c) The low utilization is due to non release of funds by the State Government to the implementing agencies.

(d) Under the scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects, so far an area of 13800 ha. has been treated. Under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas, major items of works taken up so far include drainage line treatment, contour vegetative hedges, crop demonstration, agro-forestry, dry land horticulture and household production systems. Under the two schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forest namely Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project and Area-oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project, an area of 8900 ha. has been treated so far.

National Coastal Management Authority

2165. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up the National Coastal Management Authority to oversee the functioning of State Coastal Management Authorities to protect the Coastal line of the country;

(b) if so, the terms of reference, jurisdiction and powers thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also monitoring the implementation of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification of 1991;

(d) if so, whether any violation of the aforesaid notification has been noticed by the Government, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Government of State or Union Territory and such other authorities at the State or Union Territory levels, as may be designated for this purpose, shall be responsible for monitoring and enforcement of the provisions of this notification within their respective jurisdictions.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration have been asked to submit report.

Condition of Tihar Jail

2166. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether unhygienic conditions, poor medical facilities, serving of bad food, improper lavatory block, congestion in wards and so on are prevailing in the Tihar Jail, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to improve the pitiable condition prevailing there;

(c) whether the jail manual was written about a century back and the same has become totally redundant in the present day environment.

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend the jail manual of all the jails in the country including the Tihar Jail, and

(e) if so, the time by which the same would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of Delhi has taken numerous measures inmates to provide better living conditions to the inmates of the Tihar Jail. Food in the jail is cooked in hygienic conditions. Canteen facilities are available to the prisoners. They are provided with seasonal clothing and bedding. The jail has also a Cable TV network. Every newly admitted prisoner is medically examined. Specialists from DDU Hospital and other hospitals visit the jail. A caring unit under one Assistant Superintendent of Jail has been assigned the duty of helping and guiding the prisoners when they are taken to various hospitals outside the jail for treatment. Prisoners who are drug addicts, are treated at the Drug De-addiction Centre called 'Ashiana'. Post de-addiction care is provided by another Centre called 'Aasra'. Ward Panchayats have been activated to identify depressed/ill prisoners needing special psychiatric/medical attention. To reduce overcrowding, a new jail (Jail no. 5) has been opened recently.

(c) No, Sir. The Delhi Jail Manual was introduced in the year 1988.

(d) and (e). A core group constituted in pursuance of the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission has deliberated on the issue of drafting a blue print for prison reforms to form the basis for a Model Prison Manual. The drafting of such a Manual, however, is a longdrawn process, as it involves wideranging consultations with criminal justice functionaries, prison administrators, experts, human rights experts, etc.

Smuggling of Sandalwood

2167. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Police had unearthed the smuggling of Sandalwood worth lakhs of rupees.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether further enquiry was conducted in the matter:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to check the smuggling of sandalwood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. On 10th July 1996, one consignment of 1110 kilogram of sandalwood was caught by the Delhi Police and the case was registered at Desh Bandhu Gupta Road Police Station. The case has been challaned in the Court.

(e) The various steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of sandalwood are :

(1) The export of sandalwood has been banned in any form but excluding :

(i) Finished and polished handicraft products of sandalwood

(ii) Machine finished sandalwood products, and

(iii) Those forms of sandalwood as specified, and subject to the conditions laid down in Public Notice No. 75 dated 8.12.1995 as amended, and Public Notice No. 77 dated 1.1.1996 as amended by the Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

2. The sandalwood producing States have taken up stringent measures to check the illicit fellings, transportation and possession of sandalwood.

Prison Act of 1894

2168. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prison Act of 1894 is still in force in the country;

(b) whether Government have still to evolve guidelines for prison management and update of jail system; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to amend this outdated act?

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

(b) and (c) The Central Government, State Governments and various organisations are presently interacting on the possible content of a Bill to cover changes on various aspects of the prison administration.

President's Medal

2169. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investiture ceremony is held every year to confer the President's Medal for rendering distinguished service by the Prime Minister.

(b) if so, the number of cases in which invitations were not sent to the persons who were for the investiture ceremony during the last two years and the reasons therefor.

(c) whether the medals are sent to those recipients who are not invited to the investiture ceremony; and

(d) if so, the number of such cases and through whom these medals were sent during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). No. Investiture Ceremony is held at the National level to confer President's Police Medal for distinguished service. The medals are sent to the concerned CPOs/ State Governments for presenting them to the recipients in the way considered appropriate by them.

[Translation]

Production of Fertilizers

2170. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) the details of total quantity of fertilizers produced by each unit of the National Fertilizer Limited during the last three years, year-wise.

(b) whether the Government propose to augment the production capacity of those units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) The details of unit-wise and year-wise total quantity of fertilizer produced by each unit of M/s. National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) during the last three years are given below :

Name of the Unit	Product	Production (000 MT)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Nangal-I	Can	266.2	206.7	186.5
Nangal-II	Urea	351.1	375.5	372.4
Bhatinda	Urea	511.6	530.3	531.1
Panipat	Urea	516.4	455.0	532.8
Vijaipur	Urea	878.3	819.7	857.9

(b) and (c). As per Industrial Policy statement issued by the Government on 24.7.1991, no industrial licence is required for setting up a fertilizer plant. However, Public Sector/Cooperative Units have to obtain Government's approval for incurring capital expenditure over and above the delegated financial powers. The National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) is currently implementing the Vijaipur Expansion Project and Nangal De-bottlenecking project. It is envisaged that these projects when commissioned, will add 7.26 lakh MTPA and 2.14 lakh MTPA of urea, respectively. A proposal for expansion of Panipat unit so as to add additional urea production capacity of 7.26 lakh MTPA is under consideration. The details of these projects are as follows :

Project	Estimated Capital cost (In Crore)	Installed Capacity of Urea in lakh MTPA	Zero date	Expected date of commissioning
Vijaipur Expansion Project	Rs. 987.30	7.26	30.09.1993	01.01.1997
Nangal De-bottlenecking	Rs. 50.00	2.14	It is not possible to indicate the zero date and date of commissioning of this project since the agreement with the turn key contractor is yet to be signed.	
Panipat Expansion Project	Rs. 1274.92	7.26	First stage clearance has been granted.	

Sports Complex

2171. SHRI PR. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of construction of sports complex

at Bamangachhi near Howrah in the Eastern Railway; and

(b) the estimated cost of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The part estimate for preliminary works is being sanctioned. Tenders have been invited for consultancy services and are under process of finalisation.

(b) Rs. 8.95 crores.

[Translation]

Doubling of Gaziabad-Moradabad Railway Line

2172. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of doubling Gaziabad-Moradabad Railway line in the Northern railway is under consideration of the Government;

(b) whether suggestions from M.Ps and other individuals have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Based on the study made by the Northern Railway, it has been decided to double the Ghaziabad-Moradabad line. In the first phase patch doubling of Ghaziabad-Hapur section (36.97 Kms.) has been sanctioned and the work has been started.

Law and Order in Uttar Pradesh

2173. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :
DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the law and order situation in some districts of Uttar Pradesh has deteriorated in the recent months.

(b) if so, the number of persons killed and kidnapped in these districts during the last three months; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government against the guilty persons?

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

[English]

Karnataka-Maharashtra Boundry Dispute

2174. SHRI RAM NAIK :

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the border areas of Karnataka and Maharashtra have not been developed due to the non-settlement of Karnataka-Maharashtra boundry dispute;

(b) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to resolve the Karnataka-Maharashtra boundry dispute by convening the meetings of the Chief Ministers of both the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) There is nothing to suggest that the border areas of Karnataka and Maharashtra have not been developed due to non-settlement of the Karnataka-Maharashtra boundry dispute;

(b) and (c). The Government of India has, in the past, convened meetings with the concerned State Chief Ministers.

The Government of India is of the view that the dispute has to be resolved primarily by the State Governments concerned through discussions and mutual accommodation. The Government of India would be glad to render necessary assistance to the State Governments in this regard.

[Translation]

Engines of Superfast Trains

1275. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether engines of superfast trains were imported in the past;

(b) if so, the number thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated a scheme to introduce some superfast trains in the future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No locos were imported in the past specifically for superfast trains. However, 10 Nos. 3-Phase drive AC electric locos have been imported in 1995 and 1996 which are suitable for high speed trains.

(c) and (d). Introduction of passenger trains including superfast services is a continuous process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource availability.

Fire Safety on Dhanbad Railway Line

2176. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether danger has arisen to the Dhanbad-Pathardih railway line connecting the Eastern Railway with South-Eastern Railway due to the Fire prevailing in the under-ground mines for some years;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have taken any action to check the fire and save the Railway line; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) M/s Bharat Cooking Coal Ltd., (BCCL) have been advised to fill up the trench near the track at Km. 11/13-14 which had been dug quite sometime back with earth/sand and to use water for restricting the spread of the fire. This work has been taken up by M/s BCCI from 9.7.96. As an additional precautionary measure the speed restriction of 20 kmph has been imposed between Lodhna-Pathardih stations. At other points M/s BCCL have already taken remedial measures of digging the trenches and filling the same with sand and earth. This has proved effective in containing the fire and there is no immediate danger to the track.

[English]

Decontrol of Molasses Price

2177. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister for CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that alcohol based chemicals industries are incurring losses on account of decontrol of the price of molasses and alcohol;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some State Governments have introduced partial decontrol to assist the concerned industries; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). No complaints/representation about incurring losses by Alcohol Based Chemical Industries has been received in the recent past.

(c) and (d). Some State Governments have retained control on molasses and alcohol under existing State

Laws, the validity of some of the State Laws in regard to control of molasses have been challenged by some of the sugar mills in the Hon'ble Supreme Court by filing S.L.P. Further action by the Central Government will depend on the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Fertilizers to Farmers

2178. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the existing policy of Government 60 per cent fertilizers are being provided to the farmers by the Government agencies and 40 per cent by Private agencies; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing the said policy in letter and spirit in Jammu and Kashmir State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. Allocations of fertilizers, which are under statutory price control, are made as per the requirement of the State irrespective of the fact that a supplier is in cooperative, public or private sector.

(b) Does not arise.

Trafficking of Girls

2179. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned "Cross border trafficking of girls still on the rise" which appeared in the 'Pioneer', dated May 27, 1996.

(b) whether the Government have unearthed any rampant trafficking of young girls from across the borders.

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to check this evil?

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

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Funds for Afforestation

2180. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds earmarked for afforestation

during each of the last three years and for 1996-97, till date, State-wise; and

(b) the actual amount spent by each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Stoppage at New Coochbehar

2181. SHRI AMAR RAY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received a number of request for providing stoppage of all the trains at Coochbehar especially of the Guwahati-Calcutta Express.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether any action has been taken on these requests so far.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Only 2423/2424 Rajdhani Express and 3045/3046 Howrah-Guwahati-Saraighat Express are not stopping at New Coochbehar.

(c) to (e). These requests have been examined, but not found justified keeping in view the importance of these services.

Mangalore-Mumbai Rail Link

2182. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the total amount spent so far on the Konkan Railway Project, providing rail link between Mangalore to Mumbai.

(b) the time by which the work is scheduled to the completed

(c) the places where the work has already been completed under the said project; and

(d) the amount spent during 1995-96 on the said project and the amount required to complete the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Rs. 2063.52 crores.

(b) By December, 1996.

(c) the following sections of the Konkan Railway have already been completed and opened for passenger traffic :-

Section	Kms.
(i) Roha-Veer	48
(ii) Veer-Khed	52
(iii) Khed-Chiplun	30
(iv) Kundapur-Udupi	32
(v) Udupi-Mangaloe	68
Total	230

(d) The total expenditure of the project during 1995-96 is Rs. 368.04 crores on works side and the amount required to complete the project is approximately Rs. 300 crores.

Agricultural Production

2183. SHRI PINAKI MISRA :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the percentage of increase in agricultural production is in proportion to population growth during 1991 to 1995;

(b) if so, the figures thereof during the said period State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to maintain parity?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The percentage increase in agricultural production during 1991 to 1995 is higher than proportionate increase in population during the same period at the all India level.

(b) The State-wise annual percentage increase in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from agriculture and population growth for the period 1991-92 to 1994-95 is shown in the statement-I enclosed

(c) Various developmental programmes are being implemented for increasing the production and productivity of various commodities like rice, wheat, coarse cereals, cotton, jute & mesta, sugarcane, milk, eggs, etc. at the rate which would be higher than the rate of growth of population and also sufficient enough to meet the increasing demand due to rise in per capita income.

STATEMENT

Rate of Growth for the period 1991 to 1995

(per cent per annum)

States	Gross Domestic Product from Agriculture	Population
Andhra Pradesh	1.14	1.57
Assam	(-) 1.02	2.02
Bihar	(-) 0.56	2.15
Gujrat	12.31	1.90
Haryana	3.44	2.35
Himachal Pradesh	0.21	1.87
Jammu & Kashmir	N.A.	N.A.
Karnataka	3.50	1.75
Kerala	3.98	1.16
Madhya Pradesh	5.04	2.19
Maharashtra	10.46	1.77
Orissa	0.41	1.60
Punjab	2.58	1.87
Rajasthan	6.60	2.47
Tamilnadu	5.37	1.17
Uttar Pradesh	0.93	2.42
West Bengal	N.A.	1.76
All-India	3.95	1.94

N.A. : Not available

Accident at Erode

2184. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that accidents in Erode Sector took place frequently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of accidents in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) There has been one accident at Erode during the period April-June, 1996. In this accident, 57 tank wagons of a goods train derailed on 14.6.1996 due to the loss of control by the driver on a falling gradient. The Driver of the Train, Assistance Driver and the Guard have been held responsible and placed under suspension.

(c) The steps taken to check the accidents are as under :-

1. The work of track circulating has been accelerated on the trunk routes and important main lines.
2. Upgradation of track structure has been done by using heavier rails and concrete sleepers.
3. The track is maintained by Tie tamping and ballast cleaning machines. Track is also now being laid with track renewal trains and portal cranes.
4. For monitoring of the track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscilograph cars and portable accelerometers are being progressively used.
5. Maintenance facilities for Coaches and Wagons have been modernised.
6. To prevent cases of cold breakage of axle ROH Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for timely detection of cases of flaws developing in the axiles.
7. Training facilities for drivers, guards and other staff connected with train operation have been modernised. Drivers are being trained on simulators.
8. Performance of the staff is constantly monitored. The staff whose knowledge of rules is found deficient are counselled and are sent for refresher training.

Mother Dairy Vegetable and Fruit Stalls

2185 SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

(a) the objectives of Mother Dairy Vegetable and Fruit Stalls and the extent to which the same have been achieved;

(b) whether the quality of the fruits and vegetables sold by them is of poor quality and the rates are higher in comparison to the open market;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken and proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the services by these outlets?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The project aims at linking fruit and vegetable growers or rural areas with consumers in the urban areas. Under the Project growers associations in rural areas have been established, a central distribution facility and about

200 retail outlets in Delhi have been set up to achieve the above objective.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Train between Dehradun and Ramnagar

2186. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether there is no direct rail service between Dehradun and Ramnagar;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to introduce direct rail service on this route; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Losses Incurred by D.M.S.

2187 SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) whether Delhi Milk Scheme has been running in loss for the last many years;

(b) if so, the details of the loss suffered by the Delhi Milk Scheme during each of the last five years, till date; and

(c) the effective steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down the said loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The budgetary support provided to Delhi Milk Scheme, for its operations, during each of last five years is as under :-

Year	Budgetary Support
1991-92	Rs 44.50 Crores
1992-93	Rs 27.86 Crores
1993-94	Rs 9.70 Crores
1994-95	Rs 4.64 Crores
1995-96	Rs 45.15 Crores

(c) The loss is on account of the sale price of DMS milk being below the cost of production.

[English]

Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering

2188. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the Number of persons received training from Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET), Kochi during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total allocation made by the Union Government to this Institute during the said period; and

(c) the other places where such Institute is located in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The number of persons who received training from Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET) during the last three years is as under:-

S. No.	Year	No. of persons who received training			
		Kochi	Madras	Vishakha-patnam	Total
1.	1993-94	142	126	93	361
2.	1994-95	151	90	50	291
3.	1995-96	133	88	61	282

(b) The total budget allocation made by the Union Government for the Institute during the last three years is as under:

S.No.	Year	Total Budget allocation (Rupees in Lakhs)
1.	1993-94	410.00
2.	1994-95	717.00
3.	1995-96	663.00

(c) The Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training has its headquarters at Cochin (Kochi) and units at Vishakhapatnam and Madras.

Jalna-Khamgaon Railway Line

2189. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jalna-Khamgaon Railway line in Maharashtra is being delayed in spite of technical clearance given by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for immediate completion of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. It is not a sanctioned project.

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

Printing of Railway Tickets in Regional Language

2190. SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether card tickets and seasons tickets for sub-urban and main line passengers of the Central Railway are not printed in Marathi alongwith English and Hindi; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Card Tickets for suburban and Mail Line passengers of Central Railway are printed in Marathi alongwith Hindi and English. However, Seasons tickets on Central Railway are printed in Hindi and English only. Due to limitation of space, it is not possible to print all the particulars in trilingual form on the Season Tickets without compressing material drastically. This would render the printed matter the illegible and is, therefore, not desirable.

Halt-Stations for Rajdhani Express

2191. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a Rajdhani Express has been operating from New Delhi via Madras-Bangalore-Hyderabad;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the said Rajdhani Express has a very few halts on its route whereby it fails to accommodate current rush of passengers at all the major railway stations;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to provide the train with a few more halts at the major stations with a view to solve the travelling needs of the public; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the halts so needed are likely to be provided by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Weekly Rajdhani Expresses/Special are running between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Madras via Vijayawada, Hazrat Nizamuddin and Trivandrum via Madras and Hazrat Nizamuddin and Bangalore via Secunderabad with minimum intermediate stoppages.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Bio-Diversity Commission

2192. SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up an independent Bio-diversity Commission.

(b) if so, the purpose behind setting up such Commission; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPTAIN JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Drug Units

2193. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of multinational drug manufacturing units in India with a turnover of more than one hundred crores as on March 12, 1996;

(b) the number of Indian drug manufacturing units having a turnover of more than fifty crores as on the said date; and

(c) the number of applications for new proposals from the Indian and Foreign companies on the desk for clearance before the Drug authority as on March 31, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). As per available information the number of multinational drug manufacturing units in India having turnover of more than 100 crores is eighteen, while the number of Indian drug manufacturing units with a turnover of more than 50 crores is forty-eight.

(c) No such proposal is pending in the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

[Translation]

Railway Claim Tribunals

2194. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH .
SHRIMATI SHEELA GUATAM .

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of railway claims tribunals has been reduced, resulting in difficulties for the people.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) the region-wise details of the tribunals functioning before the curtailment; and

(d) the place where these tribunals have been closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Jobs by Tibetan Refugees

2195. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tibetan refugees have captured major part of the good jobs in Darjeeling manipulating the official records and presenting themselves as the local tribals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints of manipulating the official records by them;

(d) if so, the action taken against the erring persons;

(e) whether the resentment among the local inhabitants have been noticed by the Government; and

(f) if so, the steps the Government propose to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes Sir, there is some ethnic tension recently.

(f) Situation is under watch.

[Translation]

Fare Structure of Suburban Trains

2196. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the many anomalies existing in the fare structure of the suburban trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to remove the existing anomalies in the fare structure of the suburban trains in the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). There is no separate fare structure for Suburban trains. The fare structure of IInd Class (Ordinary) is uniformly applicable to both suburban and Non-Suburban Sections. At certain distances in the fare table the increase in fares is not gradual mainly due to abolition of fares in fractions of a rupee and exemptions granted

from fare increase for specific distances in certain years. With the fares for IInd class (ordinary) remaining unchanged for the last 3 years, the existing position will continue until the fares are suitably revised.

[English]

Funds for Agriculture Sector

2197. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to each State for the development of Agriculture during the last year and current financial year;

(b) the funds actually utilized by each State during the said period;

(c) whether some State Governments have sought more funds for the purpose during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Looting of Bus

2198. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Nainital bound Delhi bus was looted near Mussoorie;

(b) if so, the details of amount looted from the passengers

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard;

(d) the number of buses looted in Uttar Pradesh during 1995 and upto July 1996, and

(e) the action taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

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

[English]

IFFCO

2199. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether IFFCO has purchased sub standard MOP from IPL of the Russian origin at \$ 126 C&F with letter of credit;

(b) whether IFFCO had ignored Jordan MOP of better grade which was available at the same price without letter of credit;

(c) whether IFFCO had a stock of 90 thousand tons at Kandla plant;

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing sub-standard material of Russian make;

(e) whether IFFCO had claimed penalty in the past as per F.C.O. on Russian material on particle size of MOP; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not claiming penalty on particle size this time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) In September '95, IFFCO signed a contract with IPL for the purchase of MOP with an option to source it from any of the producers, namely, Jordan, Israel, Russia and Germany at the Rupee equivalent of US \$ 126 per metric tonne on C&F basis without any letter of credit and with 180 days credit. The quality of Russian MOP supplied by IPL against this contract, was of the requisite standard prescribed for its use in the manufacture of complex fertilizers.

(b) IFFCO had not received any specific offer for supply of MOP from Jordan.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. At the time of contracting, IFFCO had a stock of only 25,000 MTs of MOP which was not adequate.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) In April '95, the Government of India clarified that the MOP used for production of complex fertilizers does not fall within the scope of Fertilizers (Control) Order, 1985. As a consequence, the material supplied by IPL under this contract and used by IFFCO for the manufacture of complex fertilizers did not attract penalty on account of particle size deviations.

Vohra Committee Report

2200. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vohra Committee Report has been submitted to the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). Vohra Committee was set up under Shri N.N. Vohra, Ex-Home Secretary and comprising Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (RAW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as its Members, to take stock of all available information about the activities and links for crime syndicates/Mafia Organisations which had developed links with and were being protected by Government functionaries and political personalities. The Report of the Vohra Committee was placed before the Parliament on 1.8.1995 on which there was full scale debate in the Parliament. The Vohra Committee report had recommended setting up of a Nodal Agency at the level of Home Secretary. The Government had accordingly set up a Nodal Agency on 2nd August, 1995 with the Home Secretary as the Chairman and Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (RAW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as members. The Nodal Agency has started functioning and has held seven meetings since it set up. The Nodal Agency in its meetings generally reviews the information available with the different agencies, relating to the activities of major crime syndicates and the course of action to be taken by the field formations. The Question of inter-agency coordination and inter-agency support in the pursuit of cases as per law is considered and appropriate decisions taken with regard to requirements of such support and cooperation. In the interest of better inter-Departmental coordination, the Nodal Agency was reconstituted with effect from 5.1.1996 with Cabinet Secretary assuming charge as Chairman of the Nodal Agency and with Home Secretary, Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (RAW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as Members.

[Translation]

Conversion into Broad Gauge Line

2201. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which all the meter gauge railway lines are likely to be converted into broad gauge under the present Unigauge Policy of the Government; and

(b) the time by which North-Eastern Railway propose to convert the present meter gauge Railway line between Samastipur and Khagaria into broad gauge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) All MG lines are not proposed to be converted.

(b) There is no proposal for conversion of this line at present.

[English]

Dissection of Animals in Schools

2202. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have appointed a Committee for control and supervision of experiments on animals under the prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960;

(b) whether the Committee has suggested that dissection of animals in schools should be stopped; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A draft Notification of intent making necessary amendments in the "Experiments on Animals (Control & Supervisions) Rules 1968" has been issued seeking the suggestions/objections from the public. Central/State Govt. Departments and other interested parties. Government will take the decision after considering the views of all the parties involved in the matter.

[Translation]

Production Cost of Fertilizers

2203. SHRI SOHANBEER : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of production of fertilizers has increased during the year 1996-97 as compared to that of 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of fertilizer producing units have been getting sick despite the financial assistance being provided by the Government

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

(e) The efforts being made to revitalise these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). There is likely to be some increase in the cost of production of various fertilizers during 1996-97 mainly on account of increase in the price of various petroleum products and increase in the rates of railway freight.

(c) to (e). Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) are two fertilizer producing public sector undertakings (PSUs) which had been declared as sick companies by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in November, 1992 in accordance with the provisions of the Sick Industries Companies (Special Provision) Act 1985. In its efforts to rehabilitate these companies, the Government has approved in principle the revival packages which envisage the revamp of Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher units of FCI and Drugapur, Barauni and Namrup units of HFC entailing a fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 Crores (Rs.1736.20 crores for FCI and Rs. 464.93 crores for HFC) apart from capital restructuring and other financial reliefs to these undertakings. An expert Group has been constituted to reformulate the revival packages from the stand point of funding by the Financial Institutions (FIs). Pending a final implementation of the revival packages, the Government has been providing budgetary support to these undertakings, to the extent possible, to sustain production in their functional units. During 1995-96, budgetary support of Rs. 108.60 crores to HFC and Rs. 217.60 crores to FCI was provided.

[English]

Cotton Development Board

2204. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up a Cotton Development Board for research and other promotional activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Road Over Bridge Project

2205. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a budgetary support was made in the railway budgets during 1987 to 1989 for 'Road Over Bridge' project at Liluah-Howrah Division;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in executing the same, and

(c) the role to be played by the Railways and State Government in the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Work included in Railway's Works Programme 1988-89.

(b) Delay is due to change in approved alignment and General Arrangement Drawing by State Govt on account of inability to remove High Tension Cables

(c) Works of construction of Road Over Bridges in replacement of Level crossings are proposed by State Governments giving priorities. Such of those proposals for which State Governments completes the preliminary prerequisites are included in Railway's Works programme. Cost of the work is shared by the Railway and State Governments as per laid down rules. Railways carry out construction of the bridge, the portion over Railway tracks, and the State Governments the construction of approaches.

[Translation]

Conversion of Kathgodam-Bareilly-Mathura-Agra Rail Line

2206. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the work of conversion of Kathgodam-Bareilly-Mathura-Agra meter gauge line into broad gauge is likely to be started;

(b) whether some suggestions have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) In the 9th Five Year Plan period.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This work is included in the first phase of the action plan and is planned to be taken up in the 9th Plan period.

[English]

Indoor Air Pollution

2207. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the quantum of the indoor air pollution is ten times higher than outdoor air pollution;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any research in this regard;

(c) if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the government to check such pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The nature and magnitude of the indoor air pollution would depend upon the number of occupants and their activities, ventilations system, nature and quality of fuel used for cooking and heating purposes, impact of outdoor pollution etc.

According to the indoor air quality survey conducted by the American Society for Heating, Refrigeration and

Airconditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) - India Chapter covering various establishments in dense and select areas of Delhi using carbon dioxide as the measurable variable, the indoor levels of carbon dioxide encountered were two to three times higher than the levels outside.

(d) The steps taken to check indoor and outdoor pollution include the following :

1. The Government is implementing two Central sector schemes, namely, National Programme on Improved Chulha and National Project on Biogas Development which caters to family-size biogas plants. The Government is also providing subsidy and other incentives for promotion of these devices in the rural areas with the objective to reduce/eliminate level of smoke in/from the indoor environment.
2. Ambient air quality standards have been prescribed for major pollutants for the different areas.
3. Emission standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
4. Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
5. Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
6. Environmental clearance based on impact assessment and associated studies has been made compulsory for major specific projects.
7. Vehicular emission standards have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.
8. Unleaded petrol with catalytic converter fitted vehicles has been introduced in four metropolitan cities to begin with.

Reservation Counters for Ladies

2208. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of stations between Ahmedabad and Bombay where separate Reservation Counters have not been provided for the ladies, and

(b) the time by which such a facility is likely to be provided for convenience of the ladies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Separate reservation counters for ladies can be earmarked at only those reservation offices which have been computerised and where adequate number of reservation counters and demand justifying earmarking

of one full counter exist. Between Ahmedabad and Mumbai there are 7 stations namely Mumbai Central, Churchgate, Andheri, Borivli, Surat, Ahmedabad and Vadodara where computerised reservation facility is available and the ladies in these centres can seek reservation from the supervisory counters. In addition, instructions have been issued to the Western Railway to open separate counters for ladies at Ahmedabad, Mumbai Central, Surat and Churchgate.

Environment Friendly Chemicals

2209. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have embarked upon preparation of a list of environment friendly chemicals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Government have not embarked upon preparation of a list of environment friendly chemicals but have launched a scheme in 1991 for labelling products including certain chemicals which are environment friendly. The label is known as "Eco Mark". The objective was to encourage production and consumption of products which met stipulated environmental criteria along with quality requirements of the Bureau of India Standards.

Under the Eco Mark scheme, the Government have so far evolved and notified final criteria for the following categories of products:

1. Toilet Soaps
2. Detergents
3. Paper
4. Architectural Paints
5. Laundry Soaps
6. Food Items Part-I (edible oils, tea and coffee)
7. Food Items Part-II (beverages, infant food, processed food, and vegetable products)
8. Lubricating Oils
9. Packaging Part-I (paper boards and plastic excluding laminates)
10. Packaging Part-II (laminates and products thereof)
11. Automotive Lead Acid Batteries
12. Electric and Electronic Goods
13. Food Additives
14. Wood Substitutes
15. Dry Cell Batteries

16. Cosmetics
17. Aerosol propellants
18. Plastic Products

The Government is providing publicity to promote the scheme.

Research for Agricultural Production

2210. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the research being conducted by our agricultural universities so as to get a better yield from the crops in the country; and

(b) the additional quantity of the foodgrains likely to be produced in the country by the end of 1996 as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Agricultural Universities are pursuing location specific, need based and problem oriented research in the field of Agriculture for generation of varietal and crop management technologies for different agro-ecological situations. The main areas of research are :

1. Evolution of High yielding variety/hybrids in all agri-horticultural crops for irrigated and rainfed ecologies including breeder seed production.
2. Optimization of package of cultivation practices for maximization of yield.
3. Development of productive and economically sustainable Cropping Systems.
4. Appropriate plant protection measures with emphasis on integrated pest management.
5. Soils and Agronomy. Agro-forestry.

(b) According to the all India estimates of foodgrains production, the target for 1995-96 is 192.00 million tonnes.

Eco-Development Project

2211. SHRI S.D. N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a project for Eco-Development of seven sites including the Nagarhole National Park has been posed to the World Bank for assistance under the Global Environment Facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating amount of assistance expected for the each site;

(c) whether the World Bank has not approved the above project and desired to talk to the local tribals launching agitation, before clearing the proposed project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The objective of the Project is to conserve bio-diversity in seven major protected areas by increasing the collaboration between local people and Government managers and decreasing the negative interaction. The total project cost is estimated at US \$ 67 million, of which, US \$ 20 million would come from a Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant, and US \$ 28 million from an International Development Association (IDA) credit. Out of the balance of US \$ 19 million, the share of Government of India and the State Governments will be US \$ 15 million and that of the beneficiaries in the form of labour, will be US \$ 4 million. The expected amount for each of the seven sites to be spent over 5 years is as under:-

S. No.	Name of the site/State	Amount (In million US \$)
1.	Palamau - Bihar	7.93
2.	Gir - Gujarat	7.36
3.	Nagarhole - Karnataka	8.57
4.	Periyar - Kerala	8.74
5.	Pench - Madhya Pradesh	5.86
6.	Ranthambhore - Rajasthan	8.39
7.	Buxa - West. Bengal	7.44

(c) No, Sir. The Project has been negotiated with the World bank. The World Bank has not expressed their intentions to have a dialogue directly with the tribals.

(d) Does not arise.

Accident near Varanasi

2212. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a passenger train rammed into a tractor-trolley carrying a wedding party on May 26, 1996 on a railway crossing near Varanasi.

(b) if so, the number of casualties involved therein;

(c) whether the Government propose to launch a comprehensive scheme for manning and mechanising all the level crossings in the country within a specified time frame; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) In this accident, 21 occupants of tractor trolley were killed and 3 injured.

(c) and (d). it has been decided that no new unmanned level crossing will be added and the sensitive unmanned level crossings will be, on a planned basis.

after due prioritisation, converted into manned level crossings with the help of the State Governments who have to invest the initial capital cost.

Survey of New Broad-Gauge Line

2213. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the survey regarding gauge

conversion made by the 'RITES' and other Departments of the Ministry during the last three years:

(b) the action proposed to be taken by the Government on the report of the said survey; and

(c) the details of the survey proposed to be made during 1996-97 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The details of surveys regarding Gauge Conversion made by the RITES and other Departments of the Ministry of Railways during the last three years are as under :-

S.No.	Name of the Survey	Railway/ Zone	Cost of Survey (in thousands of Rs.)	Position
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Updating survey for conversion of Miraj-Latur MG line into BG	Central	1.00	Project approved. Work since taken up.
2.	Reconnaissance Engg. & Traffic Survey for conversion of Gwalior-Shivpurkalan	-do-	20.00	Survey in progress.
3.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Survey for Conversion of Shantipur-Nabadwip Ghat MG section into BG	Eastern	1.10	Survey Report received. Project shelved.
4.	Preliminary Engg. -cum- Traffic Survey for the Gauge Conversion of Kanpur-Kashganj section and extension of new BG line from Kashganj to Aligarh and Kasganj to Etah	North Eastern	52.31	Survey report under examination of Planning Commission.
5.	Updating Gauge Convesion from MG to BG of Gorakhpur-Nautanwa and construction of Nautanwa-Sonauli BG line	-do-	7.00	Survey report under examination.
6.	Updating survey for new BG line from Sonauli to Bhariahawan	-do-	3.38	Survey report received. Project shelved.
7.	Gauge Conversion from Daraunda to Maharajganj MG line to BG and provision for a new BG line from Maharajganj to Masrakh	-do-	2.52	-do-
8.	Gauge Conversion of Mansi-Farbesganj	-do-	10.00	Mansi-Saharsa (Phase-I) of the project sanctioned.
9.	Reconnaissance preliminary Engg.-Cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Mansi-Saharsa- Vanmankhi-Katihar	-do-	5.25	Survey in progress.
10.	Survey for Gauge Conversion Between Dhubri-Fakiragram	North East Frontier	60	Survey report under Examination in consultation with Railway
11.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Jalpaiguri - Siliguri	-do-	15	Project shelved

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Yellahanka and Bangarpet	Southern	4.50	Project sanctioned.
13.	Economic study of MG suburban system for conversion into BG-Madras Beach to Tambaram	-do-	6.24	Survey in progress.
14.	Techno-economic survey for conversion of Villupuram-Thanjavur via Cuddalore	-do-	5.76	Survey just sanctioned.
15.	Preliminary Engg. -com-Traffic Survey for conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia-Chandafort MG line to BG	South Eastern	20.00	Project Sanctioned.
16.	Final Location Survey for conversion of MG line between Rupsa and Bangiposi	-do-	5.00	-do-
17.	Updating of preliminary engg-cum-traffic survey for Gauge conversion of Raipur-Rajim-Dhamtari MG line to BG.	-do-	2.19	Project shelved.
18.	Updating of survey for conversion of Ranchi-Lohardaga and extension to Tori	-do-	3.39	Survey in progress.
19.	Survey for Conversion of line between Agra and Bandikui	Western	3.70	Project sanctioned.
20.	Survey for conversion of line between Gandhidham and Bhuj	-do-	1.45	-do-
21.	Survey for conversion of line between Ajmer-Chittorgarh	-do-	4.65	Project under consideration of Planning Commission.
22.	Reconnaissance preliminary engg.-cum-traffic survey for conversion of Bhavnagar-Surendranagar MG line into BG and extension of converted line from Bhavnagar to Pipavav via Alang	-do-	10.00	Survey in progress.
23.	Conversion of existing MG line into BG between Mhow and Ratlam	-do-	2.80	Survey in progress
24.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Rewari-Riguns-Phalera	-do-	6.25	-do-
25.	Preliminary Engg-cum-Survey for conversion of MG line from Naupada-Gunupur and extension to Singhapuram Road.	-do-	8.70	Survey report under appraisal.
26.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey of Gauge Conversion of Purna-Akola-Khandwa section	South Central	11.49	Survey in progress.

(c) The details of the surveys proposed to be taken up during 96-97 are as under :

S No	Name of the Survey	Railway	Cost of Survey (in thousands)
1	2	3	4
1.	Reconnaissance Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for Gauge Conversion of Pachora-Jamner section (56 Kms.) from NG to BG and extension upto Ajanta Caves by construction of a 5 Kms. long new BG rail line.	Central	1.83

1	2	3	4
2.	Traffic Survey for Gauge Conversion of Pulgaon-Arvi (29Kms.) from NG to BG with extension by construction of a new BG line from Arvi to Amla.	Central	1.00
3.	Traffic survey for gauge conversion of Pipar Road Bilara	Northern	50
4.	Traffic Survey for Gauge Conversion of Bareilly-Bhojipura, Pilibhit-Tanakpur and Bhojipura-Lalkuan sections.	North Eastern	1.00
5.	Updating of survey for conversion of Darbhanga-Raxaul-Narkatiaganj (191 kms.)	-do-	5.73
6.	Updating of survey for Gauge Conversion of Darbhanga-Sakri-Jaynagar (68 kms.)	-do-	2.4
7.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for Gauge Conversion of Sakri-Jhanjharpur-Laukahabazar (72 Kms.)	-do-	2.16
8.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for Gauge Conversion of Sakri-Nirmali (57 Kms.)	-do-	1.70
9.	Techno-Economic survey for Gauge Conversion of Rangia-Bhalukpong (169 Kms.)	North East Frontier	5.07
10.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Bankura Damodar River Railway to B.G. and its extension to Tarakeswar, Bardhaman and Durgapur.	South Eastern	7.50
11.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Bhuj-Naliya section (105) Kms.	Western	3.15
12.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Bharuch-Samni-Jambusar-Vishwamitri (95.54 Kms.)	-do-	2.87
13.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Samni-Dahej (40 Kms.)	-do-	1.20
14.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Jambusar-Kavi (26 Kms.)	-do-	78
15.	Survey for Gauge Conversion of Bhadran-Bochasam-Petlad-Nadiad (59 Kms.)	-do-	1.77
16.	Preliminary Engg.-cum-Traffic Survey for Gauge Conversion between Miyagam Karjan-Doboi-Sambiliya NG to BG.	-do-	2.37

Harassment by Home Guard

2214. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Home Guard personnel posted with the Traffic Police in Delhi often seize driving licences of the persons driving two-wheeler scooters and cars for the violation of traffic rules even when no police inspector is there to challan them;

(b) whether the affected persons wait for hours together for the police inspector to come and collect fine on the spot;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid harassment to the people in such situations;

(d) whether the Government propose to empower these Home Guard personnel to challan and collect fine from the traffic violators to avoid harassment and delay to these persons; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir. The Home Guards assist the Traffic Police in regulating the traffic. They are not empowered to seize licences, etc.

(b) No, Sir. A person violating the traffic rules is stopped when at least the Zonal Officer is present on the spot to collect fine.

(c) The Home Guards as well as the Traffic Police personnel are briefed regularly to ensure that no

harassment is caused to commuters. If any complaint of harassment comes to notice, suitable action is taken against the erring Home Guards/Police personnel.

(d) and (e). No proposal to empower the Home Guards to challan and collect fine is under consideration. As per Motor Vehicle Rules, only Traffic personnel, not below the rank of Sub-Inspector, are empowered to challan and compound fine from persons who violate the traffic rules.

[Translation]

Passenger Amenities

2215. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passenger amenities are lacking at the railway stations in Delhi;

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

(c) the quantum of funds sanctioned during the last three years for providing passengers amenities at various railway stations in Delhi; and

(d) the details of the facilities likely to be provided by Railway administration in Delhi in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 1993-94 : Rs. 740.34 lakh;
1994-95 : Rs. 1159.70 lakh;
1995-96 : Rs. 2144.11 lakh.

(d) Provision/augmentation of amenities at railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken wherever so warranted due to growth in traffic, depending on the availability of funds. Stations in Delhi area are provided with amenities commensurate with the level of traffic handled at present. Major works pertaining to provision of second entry at Delhi Jn. and Hazrat Nizamuddin, widening and improvement to the existing entry and circulating area at Hazrat Nizamuddin have already been taken up.

[English]

Integrated Fisheries Project

2216. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of fish processed and marketed through Integrated Fisheries Project (IFP), Kochi during each of the last three years till date;

(b) whether any foreign assistance is being received for this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The quantity processed and marketed by the Integrated Fisheries Project, Kochi during the last three years till date is as under :

S.No.	Year	Quantity Processed (MT)	Quantity Marketed (MT)
1.	1993-94	238.3	121.1
2.	1994-95	304.5	183.8
3.	1995-96	227.0	147.0
4.	1996-97	29.7	28.7
(Upto June, 1996)			

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Gir Lions

2217. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Sanctuary becomes a trap for the lion" appearing in the Indian Express dated June 11, 1996;

(b) if so, the latest assessment about the number of lions in the Sasan Gir Forest Sanctuary and their number in 1991;

(c) the reasons for the fast dwindling population of the lions in the sanctuary; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for better preservation and promotion of the wildlife in the Sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per latest assessment of 1995 the lion population in Gir Sanctuary and National park was 304. The corresponding figure for the previous census done in 1990 was 284.

(c) and (d). There is no decline in the population of wild cats in Gir as is evident from the above figures. The State Wildlife Authorities are undertaking all necessary protection, conservation and habitat improvement activities for the development of the Gir Sanctuary and National Park and its wildlife. In addition, this Ministry is also providing financial assistance to the State for

the development of Gir and for ecodevelopment in its vicinity. The funds provided so far during the VIII plan are as follows :

Name of Scheme	Rs. in lakhs
(i) Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	17.10
(ii) Eco-development around National Parks and Sanctury.	16.480

[Translation]

Building for Cooperative Banks

2218. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Cooperative Banks in Uttar Pradesh not housed in Government buildings; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to provide Government buildings to Zila Sahakari Banks particularly in Lalitpur District and also to ensure that there is no violation of the agreements already signed between the landlords and these banks?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and a Statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Smuggling of Wildlife Articles

2219. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that wildlife articles are being smuggled out from the country, particularly from Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh to China, Nepal and other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the smuggling of wildlife articles.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of wildlife articles being smuggled out of the country which were seized in the last 1 year by the Regional Deputy Directors of Wildlife of this Ministry located at Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Madras, are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The action taken to check the smuggling of wildlife articles include :

(i) Hunting of wild animals included in

Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.

(ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.

(iii) A network of 441 wildlife sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.

(iv) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination Committee consisting of representative of all major enforcement organisations such as: Customs, Revenue intelligence, CBI, Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

(v) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies in February and November, 1995.

(vi) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies if necessary, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.

(vii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.

(viii) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

(ix) A Committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.

(x) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

STATEMENT

List of Seizures made by Regional Dy. Directors of Wildlife located at Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Madras during last one Year

S.No.	Item seized	
1.	Wild animal skins	252 kg
2.	Lizard skin	1
3.	Crocodile skin	5
4.	Gharial skin	1
5.	Squirrel skin	2
6.	Zebra skin (finished)	2
7.	Monitor lizard skin	2
8.	Hid of Elk deer	1
9.	Fur items of fox and jackal	448
10.	Horn of wild animals	6
11.	Deer skin article	1
12.	Deer antler/article made therefrom	25.7 Kg + 21517
13.	Porcupine quilts	2750 gms
14.	Mongoose hair article	28.16 kg + 3712
15.	Wild bird feathers	7.395 kg.
16.	Peacock Tail Feather	11.2 kg. + 3905
17.	Fur	2016 kg.
18.	Ivory article	11.14 kg.+ 34 nos
19.	Dolphin Jaw bone	1
20.	Preserved butterfly	267

Productivity of Livestock and Dairying

2220. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :
SHRI DHARMA BIKSHAM :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) the steps/schemes taken by the Government for increasing the productivity of the livestock and dairying during the last three years. State-wise;

(b) the achievements made during the said period. State-wise;

(c) the assistance provided by the Government for this purpose during the said period;

(d) the steps taken to transfer the new technologies developed by ICAR and other research institutes to livestock and dairy sectors and also to develop the

requisite infrastructure to achieve the desired objectives; and

(e) the schemes prepared in this regard for the Ninth Five Year Plan, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Besides the State Governments programmes, the Government of India has been implementing various schemes for increasing the production and productivity of the Livestock and Dairying. A list of such schemes is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) The assistance provided by the Government of India to the States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the years 1993-94 to 1995-96 is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(d) The new technologies developed by ICAR are being transferred through Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Trainer's Training Centres, Lab to Land programmes and Operational Research Projects of various Institutes. The infrastructures required for the transfer of Technologies appropriately have been strengthened.

(e) The Scheme proposals for the 9th Plan are under consideration.

STATEMENT-I*List of Centrally Sponsored Schemes***A. Animal Husbandry**

1. Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.
2. Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development.
3. National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.
4. Assistance to States for Central of Animal Diseases.
5. Professional Efficiency Development
6. Assistance to States for improvement of abattoirs/ Establishment of carcass utilisation centres and Primary Flaying Units.
7. Integrated Sample Survey for Estimation of Major Livestock Production in the State/UTs and Strengthening of animal husbandry statistics cell at Headquarters.
8. National Bull Production Programme.
9. National Ram/Buck Production Programme and Programme for Rabbit Development.
10. Development of Pack Animals.
11. Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development.

List of Central Sector Schemes :

A. Animal Husbandry

1. Animal Husbandry Extension Programme.

B. Dairy Development

1. Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non-operation Flood, hilly and backward areas.

STATEMENT-II

Funds released to the States/UTs under various schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	Funds released during		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	275.34	139.39	627.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	141.41	502.96	85.62
3.	Assam	158.63	478.67	24.97
4.	Bihar	93.32	152.92	238.61
5.	Goa	14.44	12.26	15.47
6.	Gujarat	591.75	475.70	594.00
7.	Haryana	391.07	48.08	358.44
8.	Himachal Pradesh	103.95	142.26	102.02
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	92.76	358.14	300.65
10.	Karnataka	168.38	257.43	243.10
11.	Kerala	191.26	375.08	471.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	417.23	597.48	531.91
13.	Maharashtra	102.30	312.95	358.38
14.	Manipur	68.60	125.80	102.69
15.	Meghalaya	31.09	99.15	115.48
16.	Mizoram	143.30	201.29	252.14
17.	Nagaland	115.68	202.08	11.63
18.	Orissa	256.52	459.94	714.82
19.	Punjab	95.90	251.67	184.40
20.	Rajasthan	87.39	109.44	73.66
21.	Sikkim	197.74	232.90	16.75
22.	Tamil Nadu	302.50	388.27	236.30
23.	Tripura	105.84	256.12	136.23
24.	Uttar Pradesh	604.76	663.88	893.11
25.	West Bengal	183.50	547.25	620.15
Total States		4934.66	7391.11	7310.15

Union Territories

1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8.65	9.52	104.40
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1	2	3	4	5
2.	Chandigarh	8.41	7.40	7.55
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.40	2.05	1.53
4.	Daman and Diu	1.00	0.90	-
5.	Delhi	64.24	142.49	51.77
6.	Lakshadweep	5.47	3.60	23.05
7.	Pondicherry	17.13	19.95	22.64
Total : UTs		107.30	185.91	210.94
Grand Total		5041.96	7577.02	7521.09

Intrusion of Militants

2221. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any information regarding intrusion of militants in Groups from the border of J and K, Punjab and Rajasthan who planned to strike in the metro cities of these States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive measures taken/proposed to be taken to check the intrusion completely and protect the life and property of innocent and peaceful citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Information has been received by the Government that Pak ISI and leaders of Sikh and Kashmiri militants have been trying to send militants in groups of two or three mostly accompanied by trans-border smugglers so that they indulge in terrorist action including bomb explosions in important cities. This information has been revealed by terrorists/Pak national arrested by security agencies.

(c) Government has taken following steps to check infiltration of militants from across the border

(i) Border fencing/flood lighting has been/is being erected.

(ii) State police authorities and para-military Forces of the terrorist affected States have been sensitised about various aspects and threats from across the border

(iii) Border patrolling has been intensified with help of jeeps and motor cycles and nakas have been increased.

(iv) Additional battalions have been sanctioned in order to reduce the gaps between the BOPs and OP Tower have been erected for better surveillance.

(v) Binoculars, goggles, twin telescopes, night vision devices and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.

- (vi) Boats/Motor boats have been provided for patrolling riverine areas.
- (vii) Border roads/tracks are being constructed/developed for vehicular patrolling.
- (viii) The intelligence set up has been geared up for keeping close surveillance on the border.

Cooperative Dairies

2222. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has blamed the Government for the huge losses incurred by the dairy economy in the State;

(b) if so, whether the cooperative dairies throughout the country have been running in losses since 1992;

(c) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation (APSDDC) has also incurred heavy losses;

(d) if so, the main reasons for heavy losses incurred by the cooperative dairies; and

(e) the concrete programme being considered by the Union Government to improve the dairy economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Only small proportion of the cooperative dairies in the country are running on losses.

(c) and (d). The Andhra Pradesh Dairy Development Cooperative Federation is incurring losses. The main reasons for the losses are carry over of losses incurred by the State Dairy Corporation from which units were transferred to the cooperative federation, inadequate margin of sale prices over procurement prices and excessive staff costs.

(e) The Government of India has formulated a scheme for rehabilitation of dairy cooperatives.

[Translation]

Bomb Blast

2223. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons involved in the recent bomb explosions at Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi, have been arrested;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the arrested persons have confessed about the involvement of Pakistan in the bomb explosion.

(d) if so, whether the Government have lodged protest with the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Eight persons have been arrested by the Delhi Police in this connection. These are (i) Farookh Ahmed Khan, (ii) Smt. Farida @ Behnji, (iii) Mirza Iftiqar Hussain @ Saba, (iv) Mohd. Naushad, (v) Mohd. Ali Bhatt @ Killey, (vi) Mirza Nissar Hussain, (vii) Latif Ahmed Waza and (viii) Sayed Maqbool Shah.

(c) The interrogation of the arrested persons reveals that the man behind the sinister plan to cause bomb blasts in various town in the country is based in Pakistan. He was provided RDX for explosions by Pak ISI.

(d) and (e). The Government of Pakistan is aware of the views of the Government of India regarding Pakistan's continued involvement in terrorist activities. The Government of India has on several occasions urged Pakistan to stop forthwith its support to terrorist activities. Pakistan has denied the allegation of its involvement in the Lajpat Nagar Bomb blast case.

[English]

Supply of Milk

2224. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of demand and supply of milk at present in Delhi;

(b) whether Delhi is having sufficient supply of milk to meet the demand;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Demand for liquid milk in Delhi is estimated at about 25 lakh litres per day, out of which the Mother Dairy and the DMS together supply approximately 11.50 lakh litres. The rest of the demand is met by organised private dairies and the unorganised sector.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagaland

2225. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nationalist Socialist Council of

Nagaland (NSCN) has intensified its subversive activities on Assam border:

(b) whether its cadres are receiving training in bordering countries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) According to information available, the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) has increasingly been indulging in violent activities including bordering districts of Assam with Nagaland.

(b) The cadres of the NSCN have been getting training in some neighbouring countries.

(c) The insurgency situation in the North-East region is under constant watch and close review. The NSCN stands declared as an 'unlawful organisation' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. Besides induction of additional units of the Central Para Military Forces and the Army, the most seriously affected areas have been notified as "Disturbed Areas". Intelligence machinery has been strengthened. Assistance has been provided for the modernisation of the State Police machinery in the region. Some diplomatic initiatives have also been taken. The Government is determined to take all necessary measures to counter terrorism.

Global Environment Fund

2226. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a regional office of Global Environment Fund. (GEF) in India for monitoring CEF aided programmes in the South Asian Regions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sick Fertilizer Units

2227. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to rejuvenate the sick fertilizer units; and

(b) the number of such fertilizer units proposed to be revived alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). The Government had approved, in principle, the revival packages for two sick fertilizer producing public undertakings, namely Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) in April, 1995, which envisage limited revamp of the Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup Units of HFC and the Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher Units of FCI entailing a fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 crore (Rs. 464.93 crore for HFC and Rs. 1736.20 crore for FCI), apart from the capital restructuring and financial reliefs to these undertakings. The funding arrangements, for these packages could not be tied-up. An expert group has been constituted to reformulate the revival package from the standpoint of funding by the Financial Institutions.

[English]

Chamundi Safari

2228. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought any financial assistance from the Union Government for establishment of Chamundi Safari on the Chamundi Hills near Mysore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). No proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka for the establishment of Chamundi Safari on the Chamundi Hills. However, the priority of the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) is to improve the management and health care of animals in existing zoos. Due to resource constraints, the CZA does not support projects for new safari parks at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Doubling of Kayamkulam-Quilon Broad Gauge line

2229. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the doubling of Kayamkulam-Quilon broad gauge line has been completed; and

(b) if so, the total amount of money allocated for this purpose indicating the money spent out so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : Yes, Sir

(b) Rs. 56.48 crores.

Funding for Terrorism Activities

2230. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Exposed: Militant Money-Go-Round" appearing in the "Blitz", dated June 1, 1996;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to curb the activities of terrorists and traitors?

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

(b) and (c). The Government are seized of reports of various secessionist leaders and organisations in Jammu and Kashmir having received large sums of money from diverse channels and sources in contravention of the law. Notices have been issued to 42 individuals and 21 organisations under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act. (FCRA). Action on these notices, as well as for violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) is being pursued vigorously by the concerned agencies. It will not be in the interest of the ongoing inquiries/investigations to disclose more details at this stage.

Poaching of Gir Lions

2231. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to rampant illegal poaching of the lions in the Gir forest.

(b) the cases of poaching of lions from Gir forest reserves which came to light during 1994, 1995 and 1996 so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to effectively prevent such poaching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). There is no rampant poaching of lions in the Gir forests of Gujarat. The cases of lion poaching detected in the last 3 years is as under :

1994-95	-	Nil	•
1995-96	-	2	
1996-97	-	3 (upto June, 1996)	

(c) The State Government have reported that necessary steps have been taken to strengthen the

existing protection and conservation measures for Gir lions. These include : Strengthening enforcement system, including wireless network ; implementing eco-development programme; developing habitat for wildlife; and deploying additional manpower to strengthen the protection measures.

Besides, in the poaching cases mentioned above, 13 persons were arrested, 3 guns were seized, 3 forest officials suspended, and a complaint filed in the Court of Law.

[Translation]

Illegal Occupation of Seats

2232. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the gang involved in occupying seats in the unreserved coaches and selling the same to the passengers at Delhi railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have arrested some persons in this connection; and

(d) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Incidents of cornering of seats in unreserved compartments have been detected in Delhi area during the preventive checks conducted by the railway. During the last three years, 93 licensed porters have been taken up for cornering of seats and 288 anti-social elements indulging in this apprehended and prosecuted under the relevant sections of the Railway Act, 1989.

[English]

Offices of NAFED/NCCF

2233. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to open offices of NAFED and NCCF in the backward areas of the country during 1996-97 to provide marketing support to these areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. NAFED operates through its member societies i.e. State Cooperative Marketing Federations and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Societies all over the country besides its own branches at State Head-

quarters, major terminal markets and port towns. The NCCF carries out its activities through 19 branches in different parts of the country.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts in IVRI

2234. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts lying vacant in the Indian Veterinary Research Institute Izzatnagar, category-wise;

(b) whether such vacancies are adversely affecting the functioning and progress of the institute; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Government to fill those posts?

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

Scientists	---
Technical	157
Administrative	88
Auxiliary	16
Supporting	193
Total :	454

(b) No, Sir. We are running the Institute with the existing staff without its functioning and progress being adversely affected. Due to austerity measures, some of the posts have not been filled. Vacancies are filled only when absolutely necessary on functional basis.

(c) The posts required are filled on need basis.

Facilities on Railway Stations

2235 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the names of Railway Stations in Gujarat where facilities like waiting room, restaurant, drinking water, lavatory, retiring room and shed on the platforms are not available;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard and if so, the number of such cases reported to the Railway Advisory Committee;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide these facilities at these Railway Stations during the current financial year, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Facilities such as waiting rooms, drinking water and lavatories are provided at all stations. Amenities such as refreshment rooms, retiring rooms, sheds on platforms etc. are provided as per norms, based on the volume of traffic handled at a particular station and the number of long distance trains stopping, originating and terminating at the station. Therefore, the availability of amenities at all stations will not be uniform. Important stations and stations with a large volume of traffic are provided with all amenities whereas smaller stations with a relatively meagre volume of traffic are not provided the same quantum of amenities.

However, as a continuous process, the Railways conduct surveys to ascertain the adequacy of amenities at every station and the deficiencies, wherever noticed, are made good by including suitable works in the Railways Annual Works Programmes.

While framing the proposals for provision/ augmentation of amenities, the suggestions made by the various Consultative Committees are kept in view.

The Ministry of Railways, however, do not maintain this information State-wise.

Intrusion of Bangladeshis

2236 SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there has been a continuous infusion of Bangladeshis in the country;

(b) if so, the name of State along with their number where they have settled;

(c) whether this intrusion is going on in collusion with the officers of the Border Security Force; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government for checking their illegal entry?

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

(b) It is difficult to estimate the exact number of infiltrators from Bangladesh because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population because of ethnic and linguistic similarities. According to available information, they are mostly concentrated in the North-East, West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi.

(c) and (d) Action is taken to ensure that the Border Security Force personnel maintain a high standard of rectitude and integrity. The Government has taken several measures for prevention of infiltration from Bangladesh. These include, inter alia, construction of roads/fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh Border.

intensification of patrolling, including riverine patrolling, by the Border Security Force and implementation of the Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners (PIF) and Mobile Task Force (MTF) schemes.

[English]

Transporters Racket

2237. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "A racket worth crores", appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated the April 13, 1996;

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

(c) the effective steps taken to check the thriving racket against the Traffic Police/Transporters in the Capital?

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

(b) and (c). According to the Delhi Police, no such organised racket has come to notice. Regular checking are conducted, inter-alia, by the Vigilance staff and action is taken against officials found involved in corrupt practices.

Settlement of Dues by Railways

2238. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending final settlement of the dues of the retired/deceased Railway employees for more than three months particularly the cases of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees in Ratlam Division of the Western Railway;

(b) the reasons for the delay in settlement of these cases

(c) whether the responsibility for delay in settlement has been fixed; and

(d) the steps taken to make payment in all these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Fake Notes

2239. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has

been drawn to the news-item captioned "ISI opens a new front with fake notes", appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated May 19, 1994;

(b) if so, whether Border Security Force recovered a significant number of counterfeit notes in April, 1996 from Jatha of pilgrims when they surrendered Pakistan currency before crossing the border;

(c) whether in April, 1996 Gujarat Police Crime Branch had also seized fake currency amounting to Rs. 35,000 from the narcotics smuggler;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to the whole issue; and

(e) the concrete steps being taken to check the circulation of fake notes in the country by militant outfits and smugglers with a view to destabilising the Indian economy?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) According to information received from the Government of Gujarat, 351 forged Indian currency notes of Rs. 100/- denomination amounting to Rs. 35,100/- were seized by the police in Kutch District on April 9 and 12, 1996.

(d) and (e). The State Governments/UT Administrations have been instructed to tighten the machinery to tackle the problem of counterfeiting of Indian currency. The RBI issues press releases from time to time to enable the public to distinguish between genuine and fake currency notes. The CBI has also created a Special Unit for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes. The Border Security Force has alerted its forward troops to be more vigilant.

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

2240. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). In response to the demand raised in Parliament, the Press and the travelling public for bringing about qualitative improvement in railway catering services, it is proposed to set up the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation. The objective is to upgrade and professionalise the catering

services through franchising the existing contract managed facilities and to provide the development of tourism related infrastructure.

The proposal has been examined at the inter-Ministerial level and is now being submitted for approval of the Central Government.

[Translation]

Assistance for Pollution Control

2241. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Canadian agency has offered to provide financial and technical assistance for the pollution control in Indian industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed in this regard by the agency; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Canada on 10th October, 1994 for a project called CII—Environmental Management Project to enhance India's capacity to promote environmentally sound industrial development. Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is extending a grant assistance of Canadian \$7 millions for the Project. The project is being implemented through Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). The objectives of the project are to promote environmentally sound industrial development and application of appropriate environmental policies for industry to raise environmental awareness and interest in eco-efficiency in Indian industry in adopting eco-efficient measures and to promote Indo-Canadian Technology Cooperation in energy and water management. The project also envisages conducting training in Industrial Pollution Prevention and training sessions for Pollution Control Board Inspectors. The term of the MoU is upto 31st December, 2001.

Terrorist Activities

2242. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of serious criminal cases have been registered in many States against Daya Singh Lahoria Deputy Chief of Khalistan Liberation Force and a dreaded terrorist;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

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

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Efforts have been made for seeking extradition of Daya Singh Lahoria through Interpol Wing of CBI. As a result, the judge of the District-Court of Northern District of Texas (USA), has passed orders for his extradition and that of his wife. A requisition for their formal extradition to India is being sent by Ministry of External Affairs on the request of Interpol Wing of CBI.

STATEMENT

As per records available, Daya Singh Lahoria is involved in the following cases :

1. Case FIR No. 84/95, dt. February 25, 1995, 307/364 IPC, 3/4/5 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Malviya Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
2. Case FIR No. 57/95, dt. February 17, 1995, U/S 365 IPC, PS Ashok Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
3. Case FIR No. 219/94, dt. April 19, 1994, U/S 364 IPC, PS Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh).
4. Case FIR No. 316/93, dt. September 11, 1993, U/s 302/307/323/326/427/435/120-B IPC, 3/4/5 TADA (Prevention) Act, 4/5 Explosives Act, PS Connaught Place, New Delhi.
5. Case FIR No. 150/93, dt. March 10, 1993, U/S 302/364/35/34 IPC read with 25/27/54/59 Arms Act, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Srinivasपुरi, New Delhi.
6. CBI Case RC 6(S)/92 SIU-V-CBI, New Delhi, dt. August 5, 92 U/s 120 B IPC read with Section 3 and 5 of TADA (Prevention) Act and 25 Arms Act and 5 and 6 Explosive Substances Act.
7. Case FIR No. 291/91, dt. October 9, 1991, U/S 365/368/120-B IPC, 3 and 4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Lodhi Colony, New Delhi.
8. Case FIR No. 81 dt. 1.5.1988 U/s 307/34 IPC 25 Arms Act, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Sadar Patiala (Punjab).
9. Case FIR No. 34, dt. 5.5.1987 U/s 392 IPC, 25 Arms Act, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS City Khanna (Punjab).
10. Case FIR No. 25, dt. 22.1.1988 U/s 302/307/34 IPC, PS Kotwali, Barnala (Punjab).
11. Case FIR No. 109, dt. 27.11.87 U/s 380/457 IPC, PS Raikot, District Jagraon (Panjab).

12. Case FIR No. 23. dt. 18.2.1988 U/s 302/148/149 IPC, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act. and 25 Arms Act. PS Raikot. Distt. Jagraon (Punjab).
13. Case FIR No. 27. dt. 19.3.1988 U/s 302/307/34 IPC 25/27 Arms Act. 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act. PS Raikot. Distt. Jagraon (Punjab).
14. CBI Case No. RC 5(S)/92-SIU-V U/S 120 B r/w Section 365 IPC and U/s 3(3) TADA (Prevention) Act 1987 and U/s 25 Arms Act. 59
15. Case FIR No. 403. dt. 12.9.95 of Hare Street Police Station. Calcutta. U/s 467/468/471/420/120 B. IPC.

Fake Shares

2243. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have registered any case of fake shares during the last two years.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the companies to which these shares relate to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government does not compile statistics relating to registration of cases pertaining to fake shares

Reservation for Other Backward Classes

2244. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :
SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of reserved posts for "Other Backward Classes" lying vacant in the Indian Railways category wise;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to fill up these reserved posts;

(c) if so, the time by which vacancies could be filled up; and

(d) the reasons for keeping these posts vacant so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Traitors

2245. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accused in the country against whom the cases of treason are pending;

(b) the number of cases in which the proceedings have been started; and

(c) the number of Indian and the foreigners among them?

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

[English]

Conference of Chief Ministers

2246. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he convened a Conference of the Chief Ministers of States earlier this month;

(b) if so, the various decisions taken at the Conference; and

(c) the follow-up action being taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment had convened a Conference of Chief Ministers on Basic Minimum Services in New Delhi on 4th-5th July, 1996.

(b) 1. The Conference recommended the adoption of the following objectives with an all out effort for their attainment by 2000 AD :

(i) 100% coverage of provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas.

(ii) 100% coverage of primary health service facilities in rural and urban areas.

(iii) Universalisation of primary education.

(iv) Provision of Public Housing Assistance to all shelterless poor families.

(v) Extension of Mid-day-Meal programme in primary schools to all rural blocks and urban slums and disadvantaged sections.

(vi) Provision of connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations.

(vii) Streamlining of the Public Distribution System with focus upon the poor.

2. Within these broad objectives agreed upon between the Centre and the States, the transfer of the Central share of funds be done with flexibilities given to the States in implementation, suiting local conditions and emphasis on involvement of people through elected Panchayats and municipalities.
3. In order to reflect appropriately the national priorities and to concentrate efforts and resources on these priorities, the Conference suggested the streamlining of Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
4. All Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to the seven Basic Minimum Services should be continued. Within those Basic Minimum Services, an all out effort should be made to secure (a) 100% coverage in provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas, (b) 100% coverage of primary health service facilities in rural and urban areas and (c) universalisation of primary education, within the next 2-3 years. However, the States which have achieved satisfactory results in these areas can choose for their priority attention other components of the seven Basic Minimum Services suited to their requirements for full coverage in the next 2-3 years.
5. In the determination of allocation for these Basic Minimum Services by the States and the Centre, the special needs of the States below national average may be taken into consideration.
6. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the area of urban and rural poverty alleviation and employment, development of desert and drought-prone areas, nutrition, and for the Welfare of SCs/STs/minorities and disabled persons of our society, should be continued as such and States be given greater involvement/freedom in the implementation of these programmes.
7. Provisions available under Centrally Sponsored Schemes other than those mentioned at S.No. 4 and 6 above, should be pooled and basic State entitlement ratios should be worked out on the basis of allocations, made to the States in 1995-96. The States should be free to select for implementation, from the list of these Centrally Sponsored Schemes circulated by the Centre, suiting their needs for using their annual entitlement.
8. The States annual entitlement under all Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be increased by 15-20% every year.

9. The Department of Programme Implementation in the Union Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation would work out the details of these revisions in the guidelines and procedures in consultation with the relevant Central Ministries and a group of Chief Ministers. This exercise may be completed within the one month so that the revisions and changes would be available during this year itself.
10. The Conference recommended regular Central and State joint monitoring and reviews of these programmes.

(c) The concerned Ministries/Department in the Government of India and all the State/UT Governments have been requested to process these recommendations expeditiously. The State/UT Governments have also been requested to identify a nodal Department for processing these recommendations so that the Department of Programme Implementation in the Union Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation could correspond with them.

Land Scam

2247. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned, 'Officer in land scam bailed out', appearing in the Pioneer, New Delhi July 15; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The news item relates to action against two IAS Officers who were posted in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu earlier.

Election in Jammu and Kashmir

2248. DR Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at all party meetings convened recently by the Prime Minister, it was unanimously decided that the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir should be completed in September this year;

(b) whether the representatives of the State Government/Parties were consulted before arriving at the said conclusion; and

(c) the reaction of the Jammu and Kashmir Government and election commission to the unanimous recommendations of all parties meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). An all party meeting was taken by the Prime Minister

with leaders of various political parties on 8th July, 1996 to discuss issues related to conduct of the assembly Elections in J and K. During the meeting, there was a consensus that the Assembly elections in the State should be held at the earliest preferably by September, 1996. Earlier the Prime Minister, during his visit to J and K on July 6, 1996 also had discussions with representatives of political parties in the State, where also there was a similar consensus. The Government are in agreement with this view. The matter has since been taken up with the Election Commission for finalising the exact dates for the Assembly Elections.

[Translation]

Indo-Tibetan Border Police

2249. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police;

(b) whether the ITBP has to discharge the duty of safeguarding the borders in the most adverse geographical conditions;

(c) whether the Government propose to arm the ITBP with the latest weapons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Total strength of Indo-Tibetan Border Police is 30,366.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). ITBP Units have been armed with modern weapons including the undermentioned weapons :

7.62	SLR
7.62	IMG
7.62	MMG
7.62	Sniper Rifle Styer
9 MM	Carbine
9 MM	Pistol
AK-47	Rifle
7.62	SLR GF Rifle
51	MM Mortar
81	MM Mortar

[English]

Fertilizer Industries in Orissa

2250. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fertilizer industries in Orissa running with the assistance of Government;

(b) the number of sick industries out of them; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to revitalise these sick industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) There are two fertilizer plants in Central public sector in Orissa viz. (1) Talcher Plant of FCI, and (2) Rourkela Fertilizer Plant of SAIL.

(b) and (c). The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI), which has its coal-based unit at Talcher in Orissa, has been declared as sick by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The revival package for FCI, approved in principle, by the Government envisages fresh investment of Rs. 1736.20 crore, including Rs. 523 crore for front and change from coal to naphtha for Talcher unit.

With a view to minimising the requirement of budgetary support, it has been decided to reformulate the revival package from the standpoint of the Financial Institutions. The final revival package would also require approval of BIFR, which is a quasi-judicial authority. Government has been providing budgetary support to the extent possible, to sustain production at operational plants, including Talcher unit.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Saving-cum-relief Scheme

1. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have withdrawn their contribution of Rs. 360.00 per person per annum to the 'Saving Cum relief Scheme' for fishermen in Kerala, which was in force since 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Instructions were issued to discontinue the Saving-cum-Relief component of the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme with effect from 1.4.96 as it was considered that alternative employment opportunities available to fishermen during the monsoon period are a better form of assistance than an outright grant of Rs.720 per annum, shared equally by the Central and State Governments. However the department is reconsidering this.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY GIVEN TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2795 DATED 22.8.95 REGARDING RAILWAY BRIDGES.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Sir, in reply to part (a) of the Unstarred

Question No.2795 asked by S/Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria & Ram Pujan Patel in the Lok Sabha on 22.8.95 regarding Railway Bridges, it was informed:

(a) 483. State-wise information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

It is regretted that the information given was not correct as Railways construct bridges of following types :-

- (a) Road over/Road under bridges constructed for passing road traffic.
- (b) Railway bridges provided on new lines/doublings and additional sidings
- (c) Railway bridges constructed on replacement account either due to gauge conversion or on condition basis

It is presumed that the question is meant for construction of Road over bridge. Statistical data/inventory of bridges is maintained by Zonal Railways. Certain Zonal Railways while furnishing the reply included Railway's own bridges i.e. other than Road over/under bridges. However, now while compiling State-wise position of Road over/under bridges constructed during 92-93 to 94-95, it is seen that total number of bridges (Road over/under bridges) constructed are 48 instead of 483.

The correct reply should have been as under :-

(a) 48. State-wise information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Reasons for delay :

The information was to be collected from different Zonal Railways. The Zonal Railways do not keep such data State-wise. Instead Zonal-wise data is maintained. The total number of bridges on Railways was given and an assurance was also given to furnish data State-wise. Collection of data State-wise took time.

While compiling the data State-wise, it is noticed that the figure already furnished includes some bridges other than Road over/Road under bridges. Scrutiny of figures and setting right the number took some time as back references to the Zonal Railways had to be made which took time causing delay in furnishing the correcting statement.

The mistake thus occurred has been circumstantial and committed inadvertently. All efforts will be made to avoid such occurrence in future.

18.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past
Eighteen of the clock*

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

The detailed Demands for Grants of Ministry of Defence for the year 1996-97 and the Defence Services estimates for the year 1996-97

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 1996-97. (Hindi and English Versions)

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-197/96]

- (2) A copy of the Defence Services Estimates for the year 1996-97 (Hindi and English Versions)

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-198/96]

[English]

The detailed Demands for Grants (Vol.I) of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs (U.T. without Legislature) for the year 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : I beg to lay -

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Vol.I) (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-199/96]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Vol.II) (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Unions Territories without Legislature) for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-200/96]

The Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D KHALAP) : On behalf of Shri Bolla Bulli Ramiah, I beg to lay a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-201/96]

The Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 1996-97.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : I beg to lay a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 1996-97

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-204/96]

The Annual Assessment Report on the Programme and its implementation for spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for official purpose of the Union for the year 1994-95

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : On behalf of Shri Mohd. Maqbool Dar, I beg to lay-

A copy of the Annual Assessment Report (Hindi and English versions) on the programme and its implementation for accelerating the spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for the various official purposes of the Union for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-205/96]

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order. Kindly look at Article 105 of the Constitution of India. Article 105 guarantees freedom of speech to every Member of this House subject to your permission and the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business. The other day, with your permission, I raised the matter concerning the right of the Members and the manner in which we voted Shri H.D. Deve Gowda's Government on the direction of the President and at that time also you presided in the House which was questioned by somebody in the Allahabad High Court. We raised this issue in the House. Today in the *Times of India*, the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association has the impertinence to say that several Members of Parliament... (Interruptions). The submissions made by the Leader of the Opposition and many other hon. Members.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : In spite of that, it amounts to insult to the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : We will discuss this matter. I will try to find the time for discussion. At that time, you can bring up this matter. Every day something or the other comes in the newspapers. There is no end to it.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : It is going on every day. We are not doing it.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : I have a very small clarification to seek from the hon. Prime Minister. Yesterday, at Patna, the hon. Agriculture Minister had given a statement that anybody who died during the floods would get Rs.50,000 and every farmers would get Rs. 5,000 per acre wherever the flood has affected. I would like to know whether it is applicable only to Bihar or to all over the country because it has not been given to Rajasthan and it has not been given to other parts of the country. Is it only for Bihar?

MR. SPEAKER : I don not think I can allow that now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be applicable to the entire country. I want to submit to the Hon. Prime Minister through you that in spite of the submission of the whole accounts by the Rajasthan Government, the payment has not been made as yet.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is a very important thing. You give Rs.5000 to a farmer in Bihar and do not give to a farmer in Rajasthan, do not give to a farmer in Uttar Pradesh. It is not possible. Meghalaya is also affected ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important matter. This is the position in respect of the whole country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think I can allow Zero Hour now. I cannot allow it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, you may kindly issue clear directions to the Government that money will be given on equal basis to all persons dying account of floods in the entire country. No discrimination will be allowed to be made against any State in this matter.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The money is released from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think that such things can confine only to a particular State. I do not think, the Prime Minister means it only for a particular State.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : He is ready to react ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Sir, the Prime Minister is present here. He should explain the position. Prime Minister is the head of the Government. He should state the facts.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The Government should say something on that.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE-Contd.

[English]

The Annual Report and Annual Review of the working of the Veterinary Council of India for the year 1994-95 alongwith the statement showing reasons for delay in laying the papers.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Veterinary Council of India (Registration) Amendment Regulations 1995 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notification No. GSR 778 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 1995 under sub-section (3) of section 66 of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-202/96]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-203/96]

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona to speak.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : I have not been given the statement from the Secretariat.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We can take up Matters Under Rule 377 later on.

MR. SPEAKER : He has got the statement.

18.08 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Provide financial assistance to cotton mills in Kanpur to make them viable**

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, non-provision of money for reviving sick

public sector industrial establishments in the Union Budget for 1995-96 has caused grave frustration and a situation of uncertainty in the entire country particularly the industrial town of Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh having several such sick industries. It appears that the Tannery and Footwear Corporation, textile mills of the National Textile Corporation, mills under the British India Corporation, Scooters India Limited and the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation, which have been entrusted to the B.I.F.R. and suffering from grave financial crisis, have been left to their fate to face natural death. Many concrete proposals had been made several times for the rejuvenation of the B.I.C. but no serious thought has been given to them so far.

Kanpur, which was recognised some time back as industrial capital of the country has now become a cemetery of industries and thousands of labourers have been rendered unemployed and made to suffer starvation. Some time ago the Government had announced a scheme worth 2005 crores of rupees for revival of sick textile mills. But no work has yet been started thereon, although one year has since elapsed. TAFCO has been entrusted to B.I.F.R. without conducting tripartite negotiations. In fact this unit, which has 85% workers belonging to minorities and scheduled castes, could be turned into a profit earning unit by providing it some financial assistance.

I, therefore urge upon the Union Government to provide some financial help to TAFCO, N.T.C. and B.I.C. mills in Kanpur and restart them, so that a large scale unemployment of workers can be stopped and the likelihood of labour unrest avoided.

- (ii) **Need to Sanction adequate Funds for maintenance of National Highway between Birmitrapur and Banarpal in Orissa**

[English]

KUMARI FIRIDA TOPNO (Sundergarh) : Mr. Speaker, I draw the kind attention of the Government on the precarious conditions of the National Highway running from Birmitrapur to Banarpal in Orissa. The Highway is the shortest link way between the Industrial Steel City Rourkela and the State Capital Bhubaneswar. But the Highway is not being properly maintained. The Highway runs through most backward part of my district. Though the area is rich in mineral resources with largest deposit of Iron Ore, Industrial Houses are not attracted to set-up industries due to precarious conditions of the Highway area in spite of our liberalization policy. Improvement of this National Highway is, therefore, prerequisite to attract Industrial Houses to set-up industries in this most under-developed area.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to sanction adequate funds for the improvement of this Highway at an early date.

(iii) Need for setting up of a low power T.V. transmitter at Manathody in Wyanad district of Kerala

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (Cannanor) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when fast and vast developments are being made by Doordarshan in the media sector and television facilities are being reached to almost every nook and corner of the country, Wyanad District which is one of the most Backward districts in Kerala with highest tribal population, has been sadly neglected. However, the then hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting had given some hope to the people of this area when he assured them last year that a low power T.V. transmitter would soon be set up at Manathody in Wyanad District, Kerala. But since no progress is seen to be made towards realization of this project, the people of this area are getting agitated and disillusioned.

I, therefore, earnestly request the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting to initiate early steps for setting up a Low Power T.V. Transmitter at Manathody, Wyanad District, Kerala.

(iv) Need to amend the Constitution to ensure Right of Employment as Fundamental Right

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the article 16 of part III of the constitution governs and stands guarantee of equal opportunity in matters of public employment for the citizens of India. The article 39(a) of the constitution states *inter alia* that "The State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the citizen, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood." But after 49 years of Independence, we find millions of unemployed youths in our country.

In order to implement the Directive Principles of the Constitution, as provided in article 39(a) and to achieve the goal of the much acclaimed of Poverty Elimination Programme, it has become extremely necessary to make suitable amendment in the part III of the Constitution to ensure 'Right of Employment' as fundamental right.

This is a demand of millions of youths from all over India.

I, therefore, request to the Central Government to take some necessary action in the matter.

(v) Need for construction of A fly-over across the Rail Gate in Tuni, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA (Kakinada) : Sir, Tuni in Andhra Pradesh is one of the important towns. It is surrounded by large number of backward villages. The town which is commercially active, attracts large number of floating population daily. Unfortunately, smooth flow of traffic in this town is hampered due to a rail line

which divides the town and a Gate on this line for almost 14 hours in a day is closed resulting in frequent traffic jams. The villagers who bring their agricultural products like fruits, vegetables etc., to the local market are put to a lot of inconvenience due to closure of this rail gate. Further, nearby there is a sugar factory which transports its product to the town daily by trucks/tractors. The closure of this rail gate for most part of the time daily, has become an irritant for public. Here, I would like to mention that Tuni Railway Station is on the trunk route leading to Calcutta and many super fast/express/goods trains pass through this town.

With a view to help the public, I request the hon. Railway Minister to consider construction of a fly-over bridge across this rail gate in Tuni at an early date. In the meantime, a survey can be made by rail authorities to assess the hardships of the public etc.

18.14½ hrs.

RESOLUTIONS RE: NOMINATION TO PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE RATE OF DIVIDEND PAYABLE BY INDIAN RAILWAYS TO GENERAL REVENUES

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Paswanji, to move the Resolution.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:-

"That this House do resolve that a Parliamentary Committee consisting of twelve members of this House to be nominated by the Speaker, be appointed to review the Rate of Dividend which is at present payable by the Indian Railways to the General Revenues as well as other ancillary matter in connection with Railway Finance vis-a-vis General Finance and to make recommendations thereon."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do resolve that a Parliamentary Committee consisting of twelve members of this House to be nominated by the Speaker, be appointed to review the Rate of Dividend which is at present payable by the Indian Railways to the General Revenues as well as other ancillary matter in connection with Railway Finance vis-a-vis General Finance and to make recommendations thereon."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution :-

"That this House do recommend to the Rajya Sabha to agree to associate six Members from Rajya Sabha with the Parliamentary Committee to review the Rate of Dividend which is at present payable by the Indian Railways to the General Revenues as well as other ancilliary matters in connection with Railway Finance vis-a-vis the General Finance and to make recommendations thereon, and to communicate the names of the Members so appointed to this House"

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do recommend to the Rajya Sabha to agree to associate six Members from Rajya Sabha with the Parliamentary Committee to review the Rate of Dividend which is at present payable by the Indian Railways to the General Revenues as well as other ancilliary matters in connection with Railway Finance vis-a-vis the General Finance and to make recommendations thereon, and to communicate the names of the Members so appointed to this House."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Speaker, I am on a point of order the list of Business made available to us today contains items Nos. 11 and 12 as discussion of first and second phases of the Railway Budget. I have grave objection to the supplementary list of Business supplied to us just now. I want to quote the 1st para to Rule 31 in relation to the list of Business.

[English]

"(1) A List of Business for the day shall be prepared by the Secretary-General, and a copy thereof shall be made available for the use of every member.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in these rules, no business not included in the list of Business for the day shall be transacted at any sitting without the permission of the Speaker."

[Translation]

I have great objection to it because the Government has been toying with all Rules and Constitution. It is a serious matter. When it is a settled thing that a Bill is to be introduced after discussion on the Railway Budget,

and the Contingent Bill will be brought. Why such a thing has not been mentioned in this list of Business. This list of Business was first printed on the 26th, and again reprinted on the 29th, a copy of which received by us yesterday. This thing has not been given even in that. But, when Vote on Account on Railways was to be taken up, at that time, the items of the Contingent Bill was taken up in the list of Business I fail to understand how this Govt. has been functioning. Grants are to be got approved. If the Appropriation Bill does not come here and after passage by this House is not sent to the Rajya Sabha, how the money will be available and how will the Constitution work. This is the first occasion when the Bill is being discussed first, and Vote on Account is being taken up prior to the General Budget. Some changes are being made daily. We extended our cooperation to the Govt. at 10 O'clock in the night and started that if your requirement is urgent we shall make arrangement. But this type of thing is nothing sort of playing with the Rules, and a stern warning.

[English]

will have to be issued to the Government that they should not play with the Rules like this and try to use your authority unnecessarily?

[Translation]

You should exercise your right only when it is absolutely necessary. What was there which was to know earlier? As such, in accordance with the Rules and the constitution, contingent notice of Bill should have come. It is not that it arose all of a sudden. It has to come. It was circulated among us, and we received it two days back, but it was not included in the list of Business. And, therefore, I feel that it is a serious matter. You should not provide such relaxation to the Government you should reprimand issue warning, do what you deem proper even some instructions to the Government are necessary to be issued. Changes are being made constantly in the list of Business since the last week in such a way that it has become difficult to discern which Bill will come and when. In this background I am opposing it. Government should first give its explanation about it, then you may say something about it and then the Minister of Railways may be asked to reply to the debate on the Railway Budget in the House. I have to make this submission to you.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think the hon. Member's notice is technically correct. The point which the hon. Member has raised is technically correct. I am told that the printed copies of the Appropriation Bill were not received on time. Therefore, there was delay. I agree with you that the Speaker should not all the time exercise his authority. I would like to make it very clear. So, in future, I think we should be much more careful on that

18.22 hrs.

**RAILWAY BUDGET - GENERAL
DISCUSSION -Contd.**

AND

**RAILWAY BUDGET - DEMANDS
FOR GRANTS**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up further general discussion on the Budget Railways for 1996-97 and discussion and voting on Demand for Grants (Railways) for 1996-97.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 16."

Voted by Lok Sabha

*Demands for Grants on Account (Railways)
for 1996-97*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand of Grants on Account voted by the House (inclusive of the amounts already voted by Lok Sabha on 11th March, 1996)
1	2	3
1.	Railways Board	11,52,44,000
2.	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	59,90,04,000
3.	General Superintendence and Services of Railways	414,00,74,000
4.	Repairs & Maintenance of Permanent Way & Works	853,68,07,000
5.	Repairs & Maintenance of Motive Power	594,71,90,000
6.	Repairs & Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	884,72,16,000
7.	Repairs & Maintenance of Plant & Equipment	454,44,55,000
8.	Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment	729,80,31,000
9.	Operating Expenses-Traffic	1682,74,99,000
10.	Operating Expenses-Fuel	2001,80,42,000

1	2	3
11.	Staff Welfare & Amenities	333,56,76,000
12.	Miscellaneous Working Expenses	427,26,42,000
13.	Provident Funds, Pension & other retirement benefits	1180,98,20,000
14.	Appropriation to Funds	3538,00,00,000
15.	Dividend to General Revenues Repayment of Loans taken from General Revenues and Amortization of Over-Capitalization	12,76,16,000
16.	Assets -Acquisition, Construction and Replacement	
	Revenue	22,50,00,000
	Other Expenditure	
	Capital	4050,95,18,000
	Railway Funds	2365,95,32,000
	Total	19619,33,72,000

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Members present in the House, whose cut motions to the Demand for Grants in respect of Railways for 1996-97 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. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

[Translation]

VĀIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Time Tables of Railways have always been changed on 1st April and 1st October. But they are changing the Railways Time Table from 1st August. You did change the Railway Time Table but it is available at Railways stalls...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not go back to the debate.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Time Table has not been changed at Railway station nor is there any intimation about it, as a result of which Railways passengers have been made to suffer and run from pillar to post. I request you that alongwith the reply, Railway Time Table should also be made available. Railway Time Table should be available at Railway Stations also for which necessary arrangements should be made soon.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank all those members who took part in the debate on the Railway Budget. This discussion...(Interruptions) It is sufficient.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE (Bilaspur) : Before reply is given, I want to submit...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : What does he want to say before the reply? Some thing can be said after the reply is given.

MR. SPEAKER : Let the reply be given first.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : What has the Minister and the Government to say about it?

AN HON. MEMBER : It may be assured that it will be covered in the reply.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have already discussed it with you. What for all this is being done?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude to all those members who have participated in the Railway Budget. This discussion was a historic one, in which 111 Hon. Members took part. All previous records have been broken in terms of time taken also. Members gave their valuable suggestions during 23 hours debate held on the Railway Budget.

Action is being taken on all the points raised by the Members. I assure the Hon. Members that I shall soon implement all which impossible from the point of view of administration, efficiency and finance. About the suggestions which are not possible to be implemented, I shall inform the Members about the difficulties coming in the way of their implementation.

I am grateful to the Hon. Prime Minister Shri H.D. Deve Gowdaji for not only adding in the National Budget the new Railway line from Udhampur to Baramula via Srinagar, but also for making announcement regarding allocation of rupees fifty crores during this financial year. This Railway line will fulfill the aspirations of the people of not only Jammu and Kashmir but it will also prove to be useful for strengthening national unity and integrity.

Hon. Members from Kerala have complained about slow progress of the work of doubling of the Railway track there, and have suggested for speedy undertaking of the work of Kuttipuram - Shoranur Railway line. I have decided to accord high priority to the programme of doubling of railway tracks and the work of doubling to Kuttipuram - Shoranur track will be completed by March 1999. Members from Kerala were unanimous on the doubling of Kuttipuram -Shoranur Railway track. I had assured that this work would be taken up soon ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

You have understood this now. So, that work would also be taken up.

[Translation]

Some Hon. Members have urged upon speeding up the work of doubling of the track of Kollun - Tiruvananthpuram line. I got the matter examined the

State Govt. has yet to allot land for this work. The Railways are prepared to undertake this work. I assure the Hon. members that if land is made available soon by the State Govt. this work of doubling to track will be completed by March 1998.

Some Hon. Members have demanded gauge conversion of Kollum - Virudhnagar - Tirunelveli and Tiruchandur and survey of a new railway line from Tellicherry to Mysore via Najunguda, Vynad and Vadagara. I have passed orders for immediate start of the survey work. I want to assure that all new survey works in Kerala, including the one our friend mentioned just now regarding the survey work of Nagungudavia Vanad - Vadagara: priority would be given

Mr. Speaker Sir, Hon. Members from the Himachal Pradesh have demanded restarting of the work on the Nangal Dam - Talwara project, which had been stopped. As I told in my speech on the Railway Budget, that the work was stopped because the land for the railway line was not being given free of cost by the State Govt. of Himachal Pradesh. On their request we have reduced our demand for land. I told about this matter yesterday with the State Chief Minister. He has agreed to provide Govt. land free of cost for this line. So, I have ordered that the work should soon be started again. The work will start after the land is acquired for the railway line. Survey on the Bhanapali-Bilaspur line has already been completed. Railway authorities are holding discussions with the State Govt. and cement factories about distribution of the cost of the projects. Agreeing to the demands of the Hon. Members I have passed orders for conducting survey work on Pathankot - Jogendernagar - Kangra Valley 164 kilometer gauge conversion and further broad gauge line from Bajnath to Bhanupali via Mandi and Bilaspur. Further action will be taken only after the survey report is received by us.

Hon. Members from Punjab have made a unanimous demand for a new railway line from Ludhiana to Chandigarh, during the pre-Budget discussion. This demand was further repeated during the discussion on the Railway Budget in the House. Survey for this line was conducted during 1973. Then it was found unprofitable. The members have stated that huge development has since taken place in that part during all these years after 1973. Honouring their wishes, I have ordered that the survey work done in 1973 should soon be updated. I have also decided that in respect of new railway lines from Patiala to Jakhal - Narwana and Abohar to Fazilka, survey work should be done on priority basis by November 1996.

Having regard to the wishes of the Hon. Members from Haryana, I have decided for conducting survey work on the proposed new railway lines from Chandigarh to Dehradun via Jagadhari and from Sirsa to Hissar via Fatehabad and Agroha. I have ordered for early evaluation of the project report on Rewari-Rohatak Railway Line, so that it may be submitted to the Planning Commission within a month.

Several reports have been received about insufficient railway infrastructure in the Poorvachal. Having regard to it, I have decided to conduct survey work for new railway lines from Kursela to Saharsa via Biharijanj, Bamakli to Kishanganj, Nirmali to Saharsa and Madhepura to Jogbani via Triveniganj.

Keeping in mind the aspirations of the people of Jharkhand area, I have decided for conducting survey for new railway lines-Kodarma-Hajaribagh-Garbar Raj, Dehri on Sone to Badwadeeh, Chunar to Sasa Ram. Survey for Dumka - Vaidyanath Dham line was conducted long back. So we have decided to update it. Survey will also be conducted for Badwadeeh - Chirmari line also.

Hon. Members from Gujarat had a detailed discussion about development of railway infrastructure there and concern was expressed about hardships being faced due to lack of railway facilities in tribal areas. Stress was laid in the regard on restarting the work on the line from Chhota Udaipur to Bodali. Having due regard to their wishes, I have passed orders for undertaking this work proposed by them for restarting Chhota Udaipur to Bodali railway line soon.

I have decided that work on Kapadvanj - Modasa new railway line project should be completed speedily and according to the need the financial allocation for this project has been enhanced during this year. I also decided for surveying gauge conversion works of Palanpur - Bhildi - Gandhidham and Alang - Bhavnagar - Surendranagar Railway lines, orders for surveying new lines from Anand to Godhara via Dakora and from Baroda to Bhavnagar via Vasad and Tarapur New railway lines have also been given by me survey for doubling Surat - Bhusaral line has already been started and it will be given priority.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Hon. members from Orissa raised their demand for speeding up the gauge conversion of Rupasi-Bangariposi line during discussion on the Railway Budget. This work has been included in the Budget and it will be undertaken after due formalities are completed other thing have been met with and financial arrangements made for it. I want to assure the Hon. Members that soon after the approval is accorded by the Cabinet Committee on economic matters, work on this line will be started. Priority in being given to the completion of work on Talcher - Sambalpur rail line and it is going to be completed by December, 1997. Survey report regarding Talchar - Sukinda Road rail line has been received and it will be sent to the Planning Commission after evaluation of the project report. Complaint was made regarding allocation of less funds during the year for Haridaspur - Paradip and Khurda Road -Bolangir project. In this connection I want to tell the Hon. members that work can be started only after final location survey and land acquisition proceedings are completed. For the reasons more money could not be spent during the year. But if more money is needed, I shall make necessary arrangements therefor.

In Andhra Pradesh, priority is being accorded to Katpadi - Pakala - Tirupati railway gauge conversion ...*(Interruptions)* track will be laid first, then the train will run...*(Interruptions)*. This work will be completed by next year giving it top priority. Financial difficulty will not come in the way. Gauge conversion work on Mehboobnagar - Dronachalam is already being undertaken and the work on the main bridges is also in progress this project will be completed by December, 1997.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, having regard to the desire of Hon. Members from Karnataka, from Dharwar ...*(Interruptions)* Which has already been done, about which mention was made in Budget speech ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet) : The Hon. Members from Andhra Pradesh who had met, were assured that survey had been done and that would be included.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : That assurance still stands...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to the hon. Minister, he is responding and, I think, he is responding well.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : In Uttar Pradesh, priority is being accorded to the work of doubling the railway lines- Ghaziabad-Moradabad and Meerut-Muradnagar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

They have their own problems. Everything cannot be included in one Budget...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Ghaziabad-Moradabad and Meerut-Muradnagar lines are being doubled on priority basis in U.P. and the work of doubling the Gouda-Budhal line has been taken in hand...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : Sir, you were reading the paragraph on Karnataka and you stopped in-between... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : In Karnataka, survey work for new rail lines from Dharwad to Belgaon via Kittur and Sogal, is being undertaken, taking into consideration the demand from the Hon. member from that State.

Bridge construction work on the Saryu river in Ayodhya is being given priority, necessary funds have been provided to the State Govt. for acquiring land for,

the purpose and that work is in progress. Work will be started soon after the acquired land is made available to us and soon the bridge will be constructed. I have also decided to complete soon the work of gauge conversion of the line from Gorakhpur to Chhitoni.

Survey work for new line from Lalitpur to Singrauli is in progress and its report is likely to be available by 31.8.96. After its scrutiny survey report will be sent to the Planning Commission for their approval...*(Interruptions)* It is in detail...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If every body stands up like this then there would be no end to it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Talks have been held with all the hon. Members, who were sitting on Dharna. We have told them, they have agreed, report will come...*(Interruptions)*. Please listen about Uttar Pradesh, then you many speak...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. That is not the way. He has answered it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Hon. members from Uttar Pradesh had emphasized upon the rail gauge conversion of Mathura - Kasganj - Kanpur rail line. Having regard to the desire of members we have agreed to it and orders for starting the work are being issued. This work will prove to be very significant from the angle of traffic on this line.

Having consideration for the demand from Hon. members of Rajasthan, I have ordered that the work of updating survey of the new line from Doongarpur to Ratlam via Banswara should be undertaken immediately...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not Question hour

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : We have accepted rail gauge conversion of Ajmer, Chittorgarh, Udaipur. Orders are being issued to start work on its first phase between Udaipur and Mavali...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer). Hon. Minister should clearly state about the rail line from Ajmer to Chittorgarh. Survey was done earlier also.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : We have passed orders regarding the work, not regarding survey...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, please do not disturb like this. It is not correct. Mr. Minister, you please carry on.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I shall real again. Please listen that we are working. We have accepted gauge conversion programme of Ajmer, Chittorgarh, Udaipur and orders are under issue for starting work on its first phase between Udaipur and Mavali.

The Hon. Member from Sikkim demanded relinkage of the broken railway system there. Having regard to the expectations of the people of the State...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you please sit down. Do not behave like this here. I am standing and now you please sit down. You will not get your things done if you interrupt like this. This House belongs to everybody, to the whole country. The Minister is responding to the debate very positively. You should be grateful.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Later on we shall see. Otherwise you would not be able to hear him.

(Interruptions)

Cut Motions (Token)

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Sir, I beg to move

[Translation]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100"

[Need to change Izzatnagar railway coach repair unit into a coach manufacturing factory, North-Eastern Railway.] (61)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100"

[Need to make provision of funds for the modernisation of Bareilly Junction railway station Northern Railway.] (62)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100"

[Need to give priority to gauge conversion of Bareilly-Pilibhit railway line.] (63)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100"

[Need for gauge conversion of Lalkuan-Bareilly-Mathura-Agra line.] (64)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to run an inter-city train between Bareilly and Delhi.] (65)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to run a Superfast train on Delhi-Bareilly-Lucknow line.] (66)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to attach an additional chair car coach in all trains for the convenience of daily commuters.] (67)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to attach a pantry car on all trains of Northern Railway running on Jammu Tawi-Amritsar route.] (68)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to run the proposed Delhi-Lucknow-Patna Shatabdi Express via Bareilly.] (69)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to run Sadbhavana Express via Bareilly.] (70)

"That the demand under the head railway board be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to change the name of Dibnapur Railway station (North-Eastern) Railway to Ram-Dham station.] (71)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to provide halts of Kisan and Janata Express (Northern Railway) at Clutterbuckganj-Nagaria Sadat and Bhitaura Railway Station] (72)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to develop Chanati Railway Station (Northern Railway) into Bareilly Cantt. railway station.] (73)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need for electrification of Delhi-Bareilly-Lucknow railway line.] (74)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Sir, I bet to move :

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to provide stoppage for all Mail/

Express trains at Govindpuri Station in Kanpur.] (110)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to improve passenger amenities at Kanpur Central station.] (111)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to improve security arrangement at Kanpur Central station.] (112)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to run New Delhi-Lucknow Shatabdi Express from Lucknow in the morning instead of evening] (113)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to advance departure time of Prayagraj Express from Allahabad by half an hour.] (114)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to delay the departure time of Prayagraj Express from New Delhi by one hour.] (115)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to reserve one second AC Coach out of three in Prayagraj Express for Kanpur to meet heavy traffic demand] (116)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to double the reservation quota for Kanpur Central station in all trains and in all classes.] (117)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to increase emergency reservation quota at Kanpur Central and provision of the same in all important trains.] (118)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to provide atleast six city railway booking agencies at Kanpur to cater for the need of its huge area and population] (119)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to provide PCO facility at all platforms at Kanpur Central.] (120)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Railway Board' be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to accomodate all vendors who are next of kin of decease vendors but have not been provided stalls so far at Kanpur Central.] (121)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - Traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct a fly-over on Kanpur-Allahabad highway near Central Ordnance Depot in Kanpur.] (122)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct a fly-over near Hallet Hospital in Kanpur.] (123)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to upgrade Govindpuri Station to share the increase traffic load at Kanpur Central Station.] (124)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to upgrade cleaning and maintenance yard at Kanpur Central to cater for new trains to begin from Kanpur.] (125)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to expand Kanpur Central station to cope with increased traffic load.] (126)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attach second class reserved coaches from Kanpur in trains to Jammu-Tawi.] (127)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a direct train from Kanpur to Madras to cope with the huge traffic to south.] (128)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a direct train from Kanpur to Dehradun via Lucknow, Moradabad and Haridwar.] (129)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a passenger train between Gorakhpur and Jaipur via Sawai Madhopur - Nivai.] (130)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce an express train between Howrah and Jaipur via Sawai Madhopur -Navai.] (131)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attach pantry car in Taj Express leaving Nizamuddin station.] (132)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Operating Expenses - traffic' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to double the track between Kanpur and Jhansi for Up and Dn trains.] (133)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Miscellaneous Working Expenses' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide education and medical facilities to vendors and their families.] (134)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Miscellaneous Working Expenses' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase selling commission to Banta vendors.] (135)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Miscellaneous Working Expenses' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve hygienic conditions of stalls at all railway stations.] (136)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Miscellaneous Working Expenses' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve sanitation conditions at Kanpur Central Station.] (137)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Miscellaneous Working Expenses' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve quality of food and catering services in trains.] (138)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Miscellaneous Working Expenses' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the standard of maintenance of passenger coaches in the trains.] (139)

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a railway line from Daurala to Hastinapur on Northern Railway by constructing new Railway line.] (160)

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to connect Hazipur-Saugauli, via Lalganj-Baishali-Kesria-Arera with rail line] (242)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to repair rake handling siding of Motihari railway station] (243)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to modernise Motihari railway station] (244)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide computerised reservation facility at Motihari railway station] (245)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve condition of Muzaffarpur railway canteen.] (246)

"That the Demand under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an overbridge between Balwa chowk and District School at Motihari railway station] (247)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert the Bandikui-Agra railway line into broad gauge line.] (319)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide cellular phone to railway guards to prevent accidents.] (320)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run shuttle trains between Bandikui and Ringus to streamline commuter traffic in Jaipur] (321)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run a train between Ajmer-Delhi via Haridwar Rishikesh linking Haridwar and Pushkar] (322)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a halt to the passenger train running between Kota and Jaipur at Chaksu.] (323)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to extend the Kota-Jaipur train upto Indore.] (324)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to boost exports from the Export House at Jaipur.] (325)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to Provide more containers and rationalising their freight structure vis-a-vis road transport] (326)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for early departure of Inter-city train originating from Jaipur in the morning to arrive early in Delhi.] (327)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to change the name of Inter-city Express to Gulabi Nagar Express (Pink City Express) or Sant Jhulelal Express.] (328)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to grant 50 per cent concession in railway fare to senior citizens on the pattern of air fare.] (329)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to further extend the Chittaurgarh-Udaipur Broad gauge line.] (330)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to start an over night passenger train between Ajmer-Delhi on 13 Up/14 Dn meter gauge line.] (331)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attach 2 or 3 coaches in Mussorie Express and Puja Express from Jaipur for Haridwar.] (332)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take up the work relating to conversion of Ajmer Ahmedabad line into broad gauge line at an early date.] (333)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run a Rajdhani Express for Delhi via Ahmedabad and Jaipur.] (334)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a halt for 2956/2955 Bombay Jaipur train at Durgapur railway station.] (335)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a halt of 2414/2413 Puja Express at Gandhinagar railway station] (336)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to remove the distance restriction on concession given to senior citizens.] (548)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a direct train between Jaipur and Haridwar] (549)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a weely train between Jaipur and Trivandrum.] (550)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce an over-night passenger train between Ajmer and Delhi on metre gauge line.] (551)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attach 2-3 direct coaches from Jaipur to Haridwar in Pooja Express.] (552)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to start conversion of Jaipur-Ahmedabad metre gauge railway line into broad gauge.] (553)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run one of the two mail express trains running between Jaipur and Ahmedabad from Jaipur to Ahmedabad via Vododara] (554)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run the over-night Jaipur-Ahmedabad Express train via Palanpur and Abu-Road.] (555)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run one of the Rajdhani Express running between Delhi and Mumbai via Ahmedabad and Jaipur.] (556)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide 50% concession to all journalists in AC second class.] (557)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to extend senior citizen travel concession to persons of 60 years and to increase travel concession for them from 25% to 50%] (558)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open more computerised ticket windows at Jaipur railway station.] (559)

"That the Demand Under the 'Head Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase number of passenger trains between Jaipur and Rewari and to allow monthly season ticket holders in all trains.] (560)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide stoppage of August Kranti Rajdhani Express at Ratlam Station of Western Railway.] (337)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to maintain status quo in respect of facility of Chetak passenger train at Ratlam-Neemuch section and reservation facility at Jawra, Mandsaur and Neemuch stations.] (338)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase reservation quota in Meenakshi Express at Jawra station on the

Ratlam Division of Western Railway keeping in view its religious and historical importance.] (339)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide stoppage facility at Jamunia Kalan Railway station of Ratlam section of Western Railway and to reintroduce two trains from Ajmer and Ratlam which were discontinued earlier.] (340)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to restructure Railway Board in view of the constant expansion of railways and with a view to streamlining Railway Administration.] (341)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open new Regional Zonal Offices including One in Ratlam in view of the expansion of Railway Network.] (342)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for early completion of broad gauge conversion work of Neemuch-Tatlam railway line.] (343)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for early construction of over bridges at Ratlam, Jawra, Mandsaur and Neemuch Railway Stations.] (344)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to extend platform sheds at Mandsaur, Jawra, Neemuch, Shamgarh and Garoth stations in Ratlam and Kota Divisions of Western Railway for the convenience of passengers.] (345)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide stoppage of Inter-City Express (Nizamuddin-Indore) at Suwasara in Kota Division of Western Railway for convenience of passengers and also to increase the Rail Revenue.] (346)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide stoppage of Jaipur (Durgapur) Mumbai passenger train at Shamgarh Station in Kota Division of Western Railway for convenience of passengers and also to increase the Rail Revenue.] (347)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide stoppage of proposed Jaipur-Madras train at Shamgarh station for the convenience of passengers.] (348)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to replace the old steam engines by diesel engines of several passenger trains running on Mahu-Chittorgarh Section of Western Railway.] (349)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce shuttle or Inter-City passenger trains Mahu-Ratlam and Tatlam-Neemuch Section.] (350)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to start computerised reservation at Neemuch station of Western Railway.] (351)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a train between Neemuch and Delhi via Kota on broad gauge line in Western Railway.] (352)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to renovate the 1st and 2nd class waiting rooms of Jawra, Neemuch and Mandsaur stations in Ratlam Division in Western Railway.] (353)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide reservation from Delhi to Ratlam in II general and IIAC class in the Mumbai-Jammu Tavi and Ahmedabad-Jammu Tavi trains.] (354)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide accommodation facilities to the Railway Employees at Mandsaur, Jawra and Neemuch in Western Railway.] (355)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to renovate the railway road leading to Jawra, Malhargarh Railway stations (Western Railway.) (356)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide proper facilities for loading and unloading of goods at Jawra, Mandsaur and Neemuch.] (357)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase the number of general bogies in every passenger train for the convenience of passengers.] (358)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide MST Coach for daily passengers.] (359)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to re-introduce 111-112 Ratlam-Bhopal night train in Western Railway.] (360)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a passenger train on Khandwa-Ajmer Section of Western Railway for the convenience of the passengers.] (361)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attach five more bogies in the Meenakshi Express running on Ratlam-Ajmer Section of Western Railway for the convenience of the passengers.] (362)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make adequate lighting

arrangements at Mandsaur, Neemuch, Jawra station of Ratlam-Division and Raigarh station of Kota Division in Western Railway.] (363)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open water huts at Mandsaur, Neemuch and Jawra stations of Western Railway keeping in view the continuous shortage of water supply.] (364)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to Modernise and provide latest medical facilities to the railway hospital in Ratlam Division of Western Railway.] (365)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide educational facilities to the children of guards, conductors and Ticket Inspectors in the Western Railway.] (366)

SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide modern facilities at Karimganj station in Assam.] (388)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to modernise the Badarpur Railway Junction.] (389)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to lay new rail lines in Karimganj.] (390)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide amenities at Ailakandi railway station.] (391)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for the modernisation of Atakhil railway junction.] (392)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct new rail line upto Dulavchadha railway station. Ranpur.] (393)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check large scale theft in passenger trains.] (412)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve cleanliness in the passenger trains of Western Railways.] (413)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take measures to improve cleanliness at main platform of Kota junction in Western Railway.] (414)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve catering service in the Western Railway, particularly the quality of food supplied from Shyamgarh.] (415)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make provision for reserving seats in August Kranti Express and making reservation for Mumbai from Kota junction of Western Railway.] (416)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide modern amenities at Dakanya Talav station of Kota in Western Railways.] (417)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run an Express train between Kota and Bina.] (418)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert one of the trains : Kota-

Bhopal, Kota-Damoh or Kota-Bina into an Express train.] (419)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an over-bridge via Malgodawn at Kota for the convenience of Railway employees.] (420)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an overbridge on Kota-Rangpur road at the earliest.] (421)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an overbridge near Gudli on Kota-Keshoraiparan road at the earliest.] (422)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a stoppage of local trains running between Kota and Agra at old Rainagar railway station so that pilgrims going to Kamaleshwar Mahadev may get transportation.] (423)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a halt of Avadh Express at Darah station in Kota district of Western Railways.] (424)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a halt of Dehradun Express at Kapasan station in Bundi district of Western Railway.] (425)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide halt of Jaipur Super Fast and Avadh Express at Keshoraiparan pilgrimage in Bundi district of Western Railway.] (426)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for expansion of railway yard and wagon repairing factory at Kota.] (427)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to stop theft of tons of iron from railway yard and wagon repairing factory. Kota.] (428)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to stop harassment of passengers from Delhi and Mumbai by police at Mathura and Ratlam stations of Western Railway.] (429)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Demand Under the Head 'General Superintendence and Services on Railways' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make railway more efficient, effective and profit earning undertaking.] (488)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'General Superintendence and Services on Railways' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check incidents of thefts and snatching in trains.] (489)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'General Superintendence and Services on Railways' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make railway services more useful for public and maintain security-protection in trains and to observe punctuality and regularity in Railways.] (491)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'General Superintendence and Services on Railways' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for proper maintenance of retiring rooms, water huts and public conveniences at railway stations.] (492)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'General Superintendence and Services on Railways' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make all round development of Beawar, Kishangarh, Naseerabad, Vijaynagar stations and expand their platforms according to the need of broad gauge trains.] (493)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Repairs and Maintenance of 'Motive Power' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make adequate arrangements for maintenance of diesel engines at Loco

factory at Ajmer and diesel engine factory at Abu Road.] (494)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Repairs and Maintenance of 'Carriages and Wagons' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to undertake repair and maintenance work of coach and wagons at Loco and Carriage factories of Ajmer at a large scale.] (495)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Repairs and Maintenance of 'Carriages and Wagons' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to start work after provision of rail lines at Loco and Carriage factory, Ajmer according to the broad gauge line requirements.] (496)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Repairs and Maintenance of 'Carriages and Wagons' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to start manufacturing of railway coaches at Ajmer Loco and Carriage factories.] (497)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Repairs and Maintenance of 'Carriages and Wagons' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to modernise Ajmer Loco and Carriage factories according to the need of broad gauge lines.] (498)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Repairs and Maintenance of 'Carriages and Wagons' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to dispose of railway scrap and waste lying at Loco and Carriage factories, Ajmer and different stations.] (499)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for timely maintenance, Painting and repairing of railway coaches and wagons.] (500)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide adequate number of wagons at Beawar, Kishangarh, Ajmer and Bhilwara stations for loading and unloading of goods.] (501)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to extend Puja Express (Jammu tavi-Jaipur) upto Ajmer.] (502)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a night train on broad gauge between Delhi and Ajmer immediately.] (503)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce inter-city trains between Ajmer and Delhi and Ajmer and Jaipur.] (504)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a new train Tirthyatra Express on broad gauge between Ajmer and Hardwar via Delhi.] (505)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce Swarn Express on broad gauge between Ajmer and Amritsar.] (506)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to start two trips of recently introduced Ajmer-Jaipur link Express and to make arrangement of booking of tickets at Ajmer itself for the passengers of this train tending to undertake onward journey.] (507)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a Shuttle train on broad gauge line between Ajmer-Phulera-Jaipur for the convenience of rural and general passengers.] (508)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to extend Rewari-Jaipur-Phulera train upto Ajmer.] (509)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce a daily train between Jaipur and Madras.] (510)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run Ahmedabad-Agra Fort train on Ahmedabad-Ajmer-Jaipur metre gauge line.] (511)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need early conversion of Bandikui-Agra fort metre gauge line into broad gauge.] (512)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert playground of Loco and Carriage Factory, Ajmer into a well equipped ultra modern stadium.] (513)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make Railway Board more efficient.] (514)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide jobs to the children/dependents of Railway employees who died in harness on humanitarian grounds.] (515)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide better railway service and facilities to the passengers and observance of punctuality.] (516)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide railway wagons in time according to the requirement.] (517)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to stop incidents of travelling without tickets and theft on trains.] (518)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for open Railway Zonal Headquarter at Ajmer.] (519)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reconstitute Ajmer railway division.] (520)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to develop Railway Bisit Institute, Ajmer as a welfare centre.] (521)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Railway Board' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for expansion of Ajmer railway hospital and also to provide C.T. scan facility there.] (522)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run Ajmer-Delhi-Bareilly weekly train daily.] (523)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase speed of Chetak Express running between Delhi-Ajmer-Udaipur.] (524)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to restore Shatabadi Express between Delhi-Ajmer via Jaipur at the earliest.] (525)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to restore Ajmer Kachiguda Meenakshi Express.] (526)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to run Garib Nawaj Express/Link Express on Udaipur-Ajmer-Phulera-Reengus-Rewari metre gauge line.] (527)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Operating Expenses-Traffic' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to restore Jodhpur Mail between Sarai Rohilla, Delhi and Jodhpur via Ajmer as earlier and also to attach a 1st Class coach to this train.] (528)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert Ajmer, Aburoad-Mehsana metre gauge line into broad gauge without further delay.] (529)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert Ajmer-Bhilwara-Chittorgarh-Udaipur metre gauge line into broad gauge line.] (530)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to lay new railway line between Ajmer and Pushkar.] (531)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert Rewari-Ringus-Phulera metre gauge line into broad gauge line.] (532)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert Ajmer-Khandwa-Purna

metre gauge line into broad gauge line.] (533)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert Marwarh Junction-Jodhpur and Marwarh junctions Udaipur metre gauge line into broad gauge line.] (534)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to double Delhi-Ajmer-Ahmedabad broad gauge line.] (535)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to conduct a survey for laying a new railway line via Ajmer-Naseerabad-Kekadi-Dewali-Kota.] (536)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to conduct a survey for laying a new railway line via Ajmer-Kishangarh-Rupangarh-Parbatar-Makrana.] (537)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to conduct survey and for laying a new railway line via Medta-Pushkar-Ajmer.] (538)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to conduct a survey for laying a new railway line via Ajmer-Naseerabad-Masooda-Ramgarh-Bandnor-Bhim-Devgarh.] (539)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide facilities like halt, shunting and cleaning etc. trains of gauge at Ajmer railway station.] (540)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an overbridge near station on Kishangarh Madanganj-Makrana road.] (541)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase height and width of 100 years old Martindal bridge near Kesharganj Ajmer on Ajmer-Aburoad railway line.] (542)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an overbridge near carriage factory on Ajmer-Aburoad and Ajmer-Chittorgarh railway line.] (543)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct an overbridge or a subway at Mill road Beawar on Beawar-Marwarh Junction road.] (544)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct overbridges at Gulabbari crossing between Madar and Ajmer and between Madar-Tabiji at Srinagar road, Ajmer.] (545)

"That the Demand Under the Head 'Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement' be Reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to convert Madar-Tabiji railway bypass metre gauge line into broad gauge line.] (546)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : The Hon. Member from Sikkim has demanded that the broken rail system there should be re-established. Keeping in view the aspirations of the people of that State we have decided that survey should be done immediately.

I have decided to start survey work for new narrow gauge rail line in Andaman-Nicobar islands and that further steps be taken after survey work is completed. I have also decided to present one Toy Train as a gift to those islands as a gesture of our goodwill to the people there.

Hon. Members have demanded during the debate on Railway Budget, for effecting improvement in the condition of railway coaches and new rail services in their respective areas. It is known to all that there is constant shortage of rail coaches and locomotives and it is not possible to meet the entire demand. For that reason old coaches also have to be used. So far as the question of improving the condition of rail coaches in

the existing trains is concerned, vigorous efforts are being made in that direction. For improving their condition, the system of inspection is being strengthened and special attention is being paid to their maintenance work. I hope that there would be gradual reduction in complaints on that score...*(Interruptions)*

Question of stadium of West Bengal was raised in the debate. All the needful has been done including the allocation of necessary funds...*(Interruptions)*. We shall discuss it later on...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : You had a talk, what happened to that?...*(Interruptions)* What happened to the new railway line? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It is under examination...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : You had committed...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : We are considering all that. *(Interruptions)* You give disappointing judgement so soon. Please listen first to what I say...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : What happened to your commitment made in the Committee?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : In regard to starting new railway trains I would say that despite shortage of rail wagons and locomotives etc. We having regard to the demand of people, decided to start following new railway trains :

Diesel Push Pull Service between Delhi and Rohtak. An EMU Service will be started between Mathura and Delhi to meet the demand of daily commuters, heavy traffic of Mathura and Palwal.

A railway train is running twice in a week between Bangalore and Mumbai via Hubli after completion of track conversion between Bangloare and Miraj...*(Interruptions)* Please listen me first. On the demand of Hon. Members, this train service is going to be made a daily service.

Considering the demand of the Hon. Members from Kerala, it has been decided that after the completion of Konkan Railway, Rajdhani Express train will be operated once in a week between New Delhi and Trivandrum Via Madgaon/Mangalore, which would link Goa with Delhi. With its introduction, separate Rajdhani Express trains will be available for Madras and Tiruvananthapuram.

I had stated in my budget speech that after suspending Rampur Hat-Wardhaman passenger train, Howrah-Bolpur-Rampur Hat Express train will be started. But some Hon. Members urged that Rampur Hat-Wardhaman passenger train should also be continued. Having regard to their desire I decided not to suspend that train.

A new railway train is being introduced between Jodhpur and Jaisalmer, which will start in the evening to

reach its destination the next morning. It will result in development of tourism.

A direct railway train is going to be started from Madras to Pondicherry. It has been decided in the interest of passengers convenience to extend the Pondicherry-Tiruvannamalai passenger railway train upto Tirupati, which will start in the evening and reach in the morning.

A broad gauge shuttle service between Ajmer and Jaipur is being introduced to meet heavy rush of daily commuters.

Having regard to the need of hill areas of Uttar Pradesh, a link Express train will be run from Kotdwar to Najibabad, which will enable linkage with Mussoorie Express. It will facilitate direct train service between Delhi and Kotdwar and would evade waiting period at Najibabad.

An additional Ramnagar-Moradabad shuttle service will be started, apart from Ramnagar-Moradabad sector link Express train mentioned in the budget speech.

With a view to providing service between Delhi and Degana, an additional passenger between Ratangarh and Degana will be started, which will be linked with Shekhawati Link Express train. This will result in evading unnecessary waiting at Ratangarh.

Mainline Electrical Multiple Unit (MEMU) service on Vijaiwada-Guntur-Tennali sector on the South-Central Railway will start functioning on or before 1 September, 1996.

On the demand of Hon. Members, the Shimla mail service between Kaika and Amritsar which was discontinued some years back will again be started.

Hon. Members from Punjab made a special demand that the train running between Amritsar and Mumbai should be named as "Golden Temple". Giving due weightage to the feelings of the Hon. Members, it is decided that in future the name of the Frontier Mail be changed to 'Golden Temple Mail'. Is it ok? Now you may greet it with clapping.

The Hon. Members demanded increase in frequency of Rajdhani trains between Bhubaneswar and Bangalore. The main reason for not meeting this demand is the shortage of wagons in Rajdhani trains. Even then having due regard to the sentiments of the Hon. Members, I have issued orders that more and more wagons of Rajdhani trains be manufactured during 1996-97 to make up the shortage of coaches to some extent. After availability of more such coaches during the current financial year the Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express and Nizamuddin Sikandrabad-Bangalore Rajdhani Express will be run twice instead of once in a week. Now you should clap. You were agitating

then...*(Interruptions)* All have moved cut motions on Bihar.

Hon. Members from Mumbai demanded during the discussion the facility of reservation for ladies given recently in suburban trains should be continued. I, therefore, decided to extend the time of reservation in 1st class for ladies upto 9 P.M., which was earlier from 6 A.M. to 8 P.M. in sub-urban trains on the Western and Central Railways.

Radhahi service between Delhi and Ahmedabad will be introduced once in a week after conversion of entire Delhi-Ahmedabad track.

Hon. Members mentioned during the discussion on Railway Budget about great hardships being caused due to shortage of unreserved passenger compartments in trains for second class travellers and they experience difficulties in getting a seat in long-distance trains. I, therefore, issued directions for making provision of atleast two unreserved second class compartments in long-distance trains in future...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

At least two coaches will be attached in every train.

[Translation]

Hon. Members have demanded AC facility in every mail express train. So I decided to increase production of such coaches in a planned manner and in every long distance mail express train running during night one AC two-tier or three-tier compartment will be attached.

Hon. Members have specifically stressed upon the need to improve the condition of coaches in trains running in backward and tribal areas. I want to say one thing in this regard for your serious consideration.

What is happening is that gauge conversion work has been going on very speedily for the past few years and by to date 21000 kilometer meter gauge and narrow gauge conversion programme has been indicated in the Action plan for its completion during the Ninth Plan period. Now, if it is placed in Action plan more than 8000 kilometers cannot come in it. Then 13000 kilometer meter gauge and narrow gauge conversion work remaining in balance. This is in the areas which are backward areas, desert areas and which fall in Bihar and Bengal and in southern parts of the country. Thus 13000 kilometer remaining in balance will have to face a natural death. Meter gauge coach manufacture work has been stopped for the last three years. So biggest problem before us is whether we shall allow meter gauge to die like this. Hon'ble Members have a complaint about lack of bath rooms in trains, broken windows etc. All our railway coaches are Coverage. Manufacture of meter gauge coaches has been stopped, so we should think over it, and when there is need I

shall discuss about it with Hon. Members. The Britishers had left 54,000 kilometer railway live while leaving India. We have added 8000 km. rail line. But in 13000 rail live of meter gauge and narrow gauge is discontinued, none can stop spread of dissatisfaction among people in those areas. On one hand the railways are making efforts to enhance main sources of income and to check deficit in the working of railways. So the railways should adopt profitable schemes, and passenger traffic is even otherwise unprofitable, and more so in backward areas it is more unprofitable. So I have brought the actual position to the notice of Hon. Members for consideration.

Mobile staircases will be provided at Vijaywada Rly. station, for which necessary financial allocation has been made. In addition, to it, one computerised reservation centre will soon be set up in the city at Bainj circle.

Hon. Members from Mumbai have alleged discrimination against Mumbai saying that only Rs. 29.25 crore have been allocated for Mumbai under the Mumbai Metropolitan Project for the year 1996-97, which is not the correct position. I may inform the Hon. Members that apart from this allocation of Rs. 29.25 crores made under Mumbai Metropolitan Project Rs. 49 crores under the Central Railway and Rs. 16 crores under the Western Railway have been provided for Mumbai. Thus under the MTP Plan Head, there is provision of Rs. 94.25 crores for Mumbai for this year, which is half of Rs. 190 crores under this year's MTP Plan Head. I may inform the Hon. Members further that it does not include the provision of Rs. 100 crores to be spent by SIDCO. I personally went to Bombay. There is great demand to enhance peak period sub-urban rail services. But an account of operational problems, line capacity and terminal difficulties, it is not possible to augment these services. Hence, it is decided that at the most, 8-coach local trains should be allowed to contain 12 coaches. So, the number of present 104 trains having 12 coaches each have been increased to 445 each having 12 coaches. In addition, more coaches will be attached to the trains as the Central and Western Railways. After Belapur-Panvel railway line work is completed, more trains will be run in that area, and the number of local trains between Belapur and Andheri is going to be increased from four to sixteen. Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal-Bandra local train will be extended upto Andheri during the current financial year. The number of Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal - Andheri local trains will be increased from 20 to 66. To meet the long standing demand of Karjat-Khapoli section, its electrification work is being speeded up. Thereafter after completion of electrification work direct EMU service will be operated from Khapoli to Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal.

For providing facilities in rail services, computerisation of reservation of passenger tickets occupies an important place. For this purpose, computers have been installed at all important big stations. Decision has been taken to extend this facility to Guwahati, Shillong, Aizol, Itanagar, Kohima, Agartala, Gangtok and Imphal also, and necessary steps are being taken in that regard.

Computerisation done at Patna train, Patna South and Mahendraghat is being extended to Patna Sahib and Rajendra Nagar area also for reservation of railway tickets for passengers.

We are establishing contacts with universities to obtain suitable places, where we may be able to install computers for the facility of railway passengers to get their railway tickets reserved. This will be benefit to students as also the public.

Like Andman-Nicobar islands facility of reservations going to be provided in Lakshadweep also.

Hon. Members have greatly stressed upon the need of improving the catering services in the railway trains and concern has been expressed at poor quality of food being served in trains. Presently, departmental catering system and private catering contractor system are both functioning at railways for providing catering service to the railway passengers. I have no hesitation to say that there is utmost need of improving the catering services in railway trains and stations. So we have decided to review the working of private contractors in this direction. With a view to bringing professionalism in railway catering, we are going to set up one Indian Railways catering and tourism corporation. It is hoped that this step will result in uplifting the standard of catering etc. in railways for the benefit of passengers.

Hon. Members have complained during the discussion on the Railway Budget that T.T.E. is not always available in railway coaches. The Railway Administration has, therefore, decided that one T.T.E. will be kept in every second class coach.

19.00 hrs.

Some Hon. Members have given vent to their anguish over railway accidents. As the Hon. Members are aware, safety is the foremost thing for us in the operation of railway services. In spite of effecting various improvements in the direction of providing safety measures, it is unfortunate that railway accidents occur. Human failure is the main cause for most of the railway accidents. As I mentioned in my Budget speech, special steps are being taken in this direction. I have also decided that not only the concerned employees will be taken to task and action taken against them but even the higher officers will be held responsible and action

will be taken against them also for railway accidents. In addition, more plan allocation for safety works has been decided to be made for signal and telecommunication system, which also will improve safety arrangements and result in reduction in the number of accidents in future.

Hon. members have expressed grave concern over the danger of sinking of railway line from Dhanbad to Pathradih due to fire calamity in underground coal mines. As per the report of B.C.C.L. there is no danger to the railway line. But, I have directed that an expert committee be set up to find out full facts and make suggestions for its solution, which shall submit its report to the Ministry within one month.

After gauge conversion it is necessary to make Hubli Workshop fit and suitable for doing P.O.H. of passenger coaches of broad gauge lines. So it is decided to provide Rs. crore more for this purpose, so that this work may be completed soon.

Mr. Speaker, the House is aware that many gauge conversion works have been accomplished in Poorvanchal. Keeping that in view a project of setting up a diesel loco shed at Samastipur at an estimated cost of about 15 crores has been sanctioned. Its capacity will be to handle maintenance and repair of 50 locomotives. Construction of this locoshed will be started during this year.

Hon. Members raised the point of construction of railway over bridges in their respective areas.

PFOF RASA SINGH RAWAT : Ajmer has the biggest workshop of the railways. What efforts are being made to re-model it to meet the requirements of broad gauge?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I shall get it examined and consider over it. Hon. Members have demanded construction of over-bridges in their respective areas. I want to inform the Hon. Members about it...*(Interruptions)* Please listen first.

SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL : Nothing has been told about Gamalpur as also about bridge at Mungher.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : My own house falls in Gamalpur. What are you telling me?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen first.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Please do not talk about Bihar in this phase. That is in next phase. About construction of railway over-bridges, I may tell the Hon. Members that under the existing arrangement, the proposals come from State Governments with 50% partnership in expenditure for construction of railway over bridges at level-crossings having heavy rush. The Railway Administration has already approved such

earlier received proposals and delay in execution of work is mostly due to slackness on part of State Governments. There are several such over-bridges, where the railway administration has completed its work, but the State Government has still to complete its part of the work for constructing roads on both sides, as a result of which the public is unable to make use of the constructed railway over-bridges. Even then, I want to assure the Hon. Members that whatever proposals they may have for railway over-bridges in future, they should get the same submitted by the State Government. On receipt of proposals from States, positive action will soon be taken by Railway Ministry. I again assure this House that when 50% share of the cost of the work is received from the State Government, the entire work of the railway over-bridge will be completed by us within one year. You may give us the list of such proposals and the 50% share of the cost should be sent by the respective State Government. They say that they will spend the money first, but they do not spend money first. We shall do our part of the duty after share of the cost is received from the State Government by the Railway Administration.

Some Hon. Members have complained that Koilwar over-bridges is very old, nearly 100 year old and it is in a dilapidated condition. I got it examined. It was found that the bridge is safe. Necessary arrangements for the maintenance and upkeep of the bridge will be made in due course of time.

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Our State is under President's rule. Why are you making step-motherly treatment?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Our friend recently mentioned about Ajmer workshop.

[English]

It is already in the printed book. The total cost is Rs. 5.65 crore. An allotment of Rs. 3.44 crore has been made in 1996-97.

[Translation]

Ajmer workshop's cost is Rs. 5.65 crore. You will be happy to note that Rs. 3.44 crore has been given during this year. I assure the Hon. Members that I shall try to do the utmost within the limited sources available with me. I am also concerned, rather more, as you are. Presently I am Minister, but before it I was in the opposition. None is permanent here...*(Interruptions)*. Mungher bridge's cost is Rs. 2000 crore. Where from the money needed will come? But it is time that about Mungher bridge, right from Pt. Jawaharlal Lal Nehru, from Smt. Indira Gandhi, all the Prime Ministers went there and made announcements. I also made an announcement. But how can one hundred year old bridge be replaced all at once?

[English]

I am coming to every important point. Please listen.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMANANDA MANDAL : Please tell something about Jamalpur Railway workshop.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Mandal, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : That Railway workshop will not be allowed to close down.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Mandal, please look at the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to give you any chance.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What kind of a Member are you?

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMANANDA MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, just now reply has been given.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister shall not reply to a Member who is asking questions without the permission of the Chair

[Translation]

You will be given the chance after the reply is given

[English]

I shall give you a chance to ask supplementary question. The Minister has also agreed to it.

[Translation]

Please listen. Thereafter ask the question you want to put. I shall allow you.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, for Jamalpur Railway workshop he has not done anything... (Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record. Whatever Mr. Mandal has said, will not go on record. This is not the way to behave.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If Members behave like this, they will be wasting their time only. I will allow you to ask

* Not Recorded

supplementary. What else do you want? The Minister is also willing to answer.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Hon. Members cooperation and partnership is very much expected for ensuring up-keep of railways, sanitation of railway stations and their proper functioning. For this purpose I have decided to constitute station supervision committees. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say again in this regard that we have many committees of zonal and divisional levels. But many complaints are received in spite of that, and the complaints are undoubtedly genuine. It is a matter of concern to me as well as to the entire House how to keep the things in order. If the Hon. Members are prepared, as I want to inform you after taking a decision, but I am not in a position to take a decision, many senior members are present here, eminent parliamentarians are sitting and many eminent personalities are present here, on such, I cannot order all, but if the Hon. Members are agreeable, all the members may be appointed chairman of all the station supervision committees falling within their respective constituencies, so that they may be able to look after all the problems. As these matters presently under the change of officers, they may convene or not convene a meeting at their choice, and therefore all such things arise.

[English]

This is my suggestion. Let it be discussed in the Advisory committee.

[Translation]

I shall place this issue in the meeting of the Advisory committee. Mr. Speaker, several Hon. Members participating in the discussion on the Railway Budget demanded regularisation of casual labourers. I want to assure them that I shall fully safeguard their interests, and more than 56 thousand casual labourers will be regularised during 1997-98.

During the Railway Budget discussions some Hon. Members expressed concern over filling up of the reserved vacancies under promotional quota by treating them as unreserved and in violation of all rules and regulations and by reporting to direct recruitment and that the railways are not adhering to the directions issued for the reservation of operational and technical categories of posts. I have pleasure to inform the Hon. Members that in Railways there are 25% employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but in certain categories their number is less specially in the matter of tribals. I want to tell the Hon. Members that I have passed orders for putting a ban on direct recruitment and also on reservation of the reservation quota by promotion.

My, Speaker, as I told in my budget speech, more than 9000 posts of constables in R.P.F. in the railways will soon be filled up. Special consideration will be shown to the candidates of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, minorities women and backward classes in this recruitment drive. This recruitment will be held in all the State capitals in the North-East of the country.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : This recruitment should also be held in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : When you do the recruitment for RPF in the North-Eastern States, please have the conditions of measurement and physical requirements on the basis of local police standards, because if you want a policeman of 5'8" in Nagaland he may not be available. So for the RPF recruitment standards of local police be taken into consideration in those States. You have to give that concession otherwise there would be no use of this.

MR. SPEAKER : You mean to say that they are available only for Speakership.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to Shri Rajesh Pilotji for saying a correct thing. Our areas in the country have various geographical situations, where there is natural height, there is relaxation. I shall send a note to the Govt. of India that relaxation should be made in respect of such areas. This is a matter which concerns the Railway Ministry and the Government has to take a decision in this regard. So, a decision will be taken and a proposal regarding relaxation will be put up.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi) : What will be done for our Chhota Nagpur area?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Whatever will be done will include Chhota Nagpur area also.

I have passed orders for doing recruitment in Jammu - Kashmir and Ladakh areas also, so that people from those areas may conveniently reach recruitment centres without facing any difficulty. Hon. Members, during the pre-budget discussion and debate on budget, had made several suggestions regarding privatisation for augmenting resources of railways. Railways will have to attract bigger financial institutions, industrial establishments, capital investment and leasing companies etc. towards Indian railways with a view to enlarging its base by inviting private capital investment in it. But for small works, privatisation will not be in the interest of workers. So, I have decided not to resort to privatisation for smaller jobs like sanitation, up keep of railways, etc. In future, railways will handle such jobs

themselves. What is there in sweeping and scavenging work, for which these items should be given on contract? Contractors should do other works like construction of Bridge at Patna....(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, at the time of independence, 80% of the entire traffic transport was borne by Indian railways, which has since reduced to only 40%. Its main cause is more development of road transport and less expenditure made on railway infrastructure. Railways are being looked at from a fresh angle now in every country of the world. In India also several committees have recommended that railways is the best source in so far as environment, transport, cost and energy aspects are concerned. Hence more attention should be paid to railways in the interest of industrial and economic progress of the nation. For this purpose, State Governments are also expected to play their due role by treating expansion of railways as a part of rural development and by expending railways in rural areas, and with this view they should think over spending a part of the funds allocated for rural development towards railways expansion programme. In addition, if the State Government provides land for railway line or other railway works free of cost, the railway industry will have to spend less to that extent on new railway lines, doubling of railway tracks and gauge conversion etc. programmes.

Some Hon. Members have expressed concern over less provision made by railways and some plan heads like new railway lines, gauge conversion, doubling of railway tracks, signal and telecommunication system. I want to tell in this connection that during this year Rs. 219 crore have been given for new railway lines, which is more than the annual provisions made during the last four years. For gauge conversion also, Rs. 1000 crore are being given for the last two years. During this year also Rs. 1000 crore have been provided for gauge conversion. For doubling of railway tracks Rs. 300 crore have been provided during the year. Same amount of Rs. 300 crore was provided for doubling of tracks last year also. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Shri Paswanji, you have reduced it in real terms because of price rise. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I do realise that. What can I do?

[Translation]

About one thousand crore rupees for wagons, please listen further. Keeping railway safety in mind, for signal and tele-communication head the budget provision has been enhanced upto Rs. 296 crore as against the past years provision for the same head

being Rs. 285 crore, which is more than the last years' allocations it is the largest amount during the past five years provided under this head.

I also want to inform the Hon. Members that the demand for railway wagons and coaches has been speedily increasing, and keeping this increased demand in view Rs. 3805 crores have been provided during 1996-97 for this purpose. Which is nearly 1000 crore rupees more than the provision made under this head during the last year. As the production of railways rolling stock had come down during the last three years, and it was a matter of concern for us, so we had to work within that limited source. We have not reduced the provision of money under other items. We have given special consideration to the rolling stock. I hope the Hon. Members will agree to it. In spite of that, we have not effected any cut in the allocations for new railway lines, gauge conversion works etc.

During the debate on railway budget, some Hon. Members had stated that there will be no effect on railway travellers by keeping 200 kilometer distance in sleeper class exempt from increase in railway fare, on the ground that nobody travels in sleeper class up to a distance of 200 kilometers. I may inform the House that nearly 37 lakh passengers travel in sleeper class upto 200 kilometer distance every year. So the exemption provided will benefit them all...*(Interruptions)*

Hon. Members have criticised the increase in parcel rates on bananas etc. I, therefore, decided not to increase the parcel rates on bananas and betel leaves like other fruits and vegetables.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with these words, I present the Demands for Grants pertaining to the year 1996-97 before the House.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you a chance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : He has taken West Bengal for granted...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Vajpayee. I will give you a chance.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an important issue. During the discussion on the Railway budget many hon. Members had demanded formation of a zonal Headquarter at Bilaspur, which is a divisional headquarter at present, a profit-earning division, and situated at an important central place. Wide spread

demand is being made outside also in this regard. Hon. Prime Minister is also present here, and I feel that there should not be any objection to making Bilaspur a Zonal Headquarter of the Railway. I wish that the Railway Minister should make an announcement in this regard here after consulting the Prime Minister.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will reply after him.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, he has not said anything about any project in West Bengal. The train services in one section had been stopped since March, 1996. He has not assured that those train services would be restored. About Bankura-Damodar River Railway, he has not stated that the train services along with the staff there would be restored. He has not assured that.

The next thing is that there are a number of running staff in the Eastern Railway and in other Railways. They have been dismissed from service in 1981 because of the Supreme Court's order.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not enter into a debate. You ask questions.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The services of the running staff of Eastern Railways had been terminated in 1981 and they have not yet got back their status. He has not said anything about this. He has also not said about the restoration of recognition to the RPF Association which it was demanding from the House. The Railway Protection Force had its Association. That right should be restored with the unanimous approval of the House. He has not said anything about that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : Sir, we requested the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb the Minister now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. You cannot stand when I am standing. Please sit down. Why do you not listen to me?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I fully appreciate the concern and the sentiments of all the hon. Members. I am also a Member of Parliament. I know the importance...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, everybody, everyone of us...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : While appreciating the sentiments of all the hon. Members, we should also appreciate the constraints under which the Minister of Railways has to function. That also has to be kept in mind. He has given his reply. I think, he has fairly and positively responded to the demands of the hon. Members.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know that you are not satisfied. If you want to get...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : All of us have come here from one or the other part of the country. The Hon. Minister should have consideration for the feelings of all the Members... (Interruptions). Hon. Minister has ignored Himachal Pradesh totally in his reply to the debate on railway budget. I am a representative from that State. No money has been announced for any project for that State... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : My only plea is that if you want to get more information from the hon. Minister, then you should ask questions and clarifications one by one. If all of you are standing together, you will not get any answer. You are wasting the time of the House. Therefore, you should have some patience.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, we will walk out from the House if nothing is done for West Bengal... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You do whatever you want. I will sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, you have identified me ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, you cannot talk to the officers like this. Shri Jena, please tell your Members about this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : A great injustice has been done to the State of West Bengal... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh requested... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You people go on speaking. All may speak together.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, the Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh met the hon. Railway Minister and requested him for three or four services. But he has not mentioned anything about those. One was the restoration of the Janata Express from Madras to Bombay. He has restored the Janata Express from Delhi to Calcutta but he has not restored the Janata Express from Madras to Bombay. He has left it in the lurch. We wanted a superfast train from Delhi to Visakhapatnam but that also he has not mentioned in his reply. The third demand was about the extension of suburban services from Madras to Nellore, but that also he has not mentioned. I request the Minister to say that he will at least consider these demands.

We are thankful to him for increasing the frequency of the Rajdhani Express via Secunderabad. We wanted a separate Rajdhani Express but anyway he has met our demand half way.

These three demands, I request him to at least consider them.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL (Beed) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this railway budget, Maharashtra State has been kept outside the ring. Railway Minister considers only Mumbai as Maharashtra. What about our backward area ... (Interruptions) I come from that area, where if train has to be seen, it can be seen only in books. That area is totally devoid of railway. We have to go to some other village for seeing a railway line or train. You have not even mentioned the name of that area in your speech.

Last year a provision of one crore rupees was made. Thereafter the then Railway Minister Shri Kalmadiji had inaugurated a railway Station. But, still nothing has been done. Even survey has not been done. There is no provision in the budget. You should meet our demand for Parli-Ahmednagar-Beed railway line. Freedom fighters belonging to our area have started an agitation. They had earlier started agitation for independence and now they are compelled to start agitation even for a railway line. I request the Minister, through you, to reconsider over the matter for providing there a railway line.

SHRI SURESH R JADAV (Parbhani) : During my speech on the railway budget I had given detailed information to the Railway Minister in regard to Marathwada division. Estimated cost of Amravati - Narkhed railway line is Rs. 182 crore, but only three crore rupees have been provided during the year. For Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli-Bajinath new railway line, only one lakh rupees have been earmarked during this year against its estimated cost of 353 crore rupees.

Secondly, gauge conversion work of Miraje Latur section will cost 310 crore rupees, but only Rs. 10 crore have been provided during this year. Gauge conversion work of Dond-Bhigwan is there, for that less money has been provided for doubling of railway line. In Maharashtra State, Marathwada division is a backward area. The Railway Minister should State why he is ignoring Marathwada.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know, this has been the practice that even after the reply of the hon. Railway Minister every year this happens. It should not be treated as a mere chauvinistic or partisan approach. The Members of Parliament from West Bengal have been fully cooperating with the hon. Railway Minister, both in attending his meeting called at Delhi - when he had gone to other places to meet the Members - and in all other matters. I specially appreciate his concern for the Eastern and the North-Eastern India. We had expected that many many pending projects in West Bengal would at least be attempted to be expedited.

It seems that our quietness or silence has been interpreted to be our weakness or the weakness of our case...*(Interruptions)* I hope the hon. Minister of Railways will kindly look into it once more about some of the projects of West Bengal. We are not wary of any other State of our country getting a railway line. We always support everybody else. We are not trying to minimise. But, Sir, we believe in balanced development of the country. The railway network is very important. We have been showing how many projects have been left incomplete. There are many districts and towns in West Bengal which have no railway connection...*(Interruptions)* North Bengal, which is the most important area of our country, both from commercial and strategic point of view, is most ill-served so far as the Railway is concerned...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, these are the matters which should have been at least referred to by the hon. Minister.

He has our affection...*(Interruptions)* I request him to please use it for the people there also. Let that affection be not misused. Let our silent cooperation be not treated as giving up our rights...*(Interruptions)* If necessary he shall have to change it.

Therefore, I am earnestly requesting the hon. Minister of Railways to please look into it. We are prepared to cooperate. Let him draw the priorities. We shall fully accept whatever he does...*(Interruptions)*

Since the hon. Prime Minister is here, I am sure that he will feel the intensity of the feelings of the Members here who have stood up to voice their grievances...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had invited the attention of the Hon. Railway Minister to certain points in the meeting of Jammu - Kashmir M.P.s held with him. I again want to bring to his notice two-three important points and hope that he will throw light on them in his reply.

The first point is that he had agreed that survey for new railway line from Jammu and to Poorvanchal upto Rajouri will be got done. Both are border districts and adjoin the territory of Pakistan. All the members of Parliament had demanded this railway line. Hence, it should be taken up immediately.

Secondly, a rail coach factory should be set up in Jammu, so that people there may be able to get employment.

Thirdly, there is single railway line from Jalandhar to Jammu. It should be doubled for speedy transportation.

Fourthly, a passenger train should be introduced from Jammu to Hardwar. In this regard all M.P.s from the northern parts of the country, Panjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh have made persistent demand. Hence a passenger train between Jammu and Hardwar should be run soon.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall request the Minister, through you, to express his views on these points. I am going to send these points in writing to the Hon. Railway Minister.

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the work of gauge conversion between Madras and Dindigul is in progress. The hon. Minister has promised that this scheme work will be completed before 1997-98. This scheme consists of two phases - Madras to Trichy and Trichy to Dindigul. For Trichy to Dindigul the hon. Minister has provided only two crores of rupees in this year...*(Interruptions)* To complete the project Rs. 80 crore are required...*(Interruptions)* In this year only two crores of rupees are provided. We want more funds so that this is completed before 1997-98...*(Interruptions)* Nobody hears. They are all talking...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can speak. Only your speech is going on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is going on record. What others are saying is not going on record.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Sir, the hon. Minister has provided only Rs. 2 crore this year...*(Interruptions)*

The hon. Minister has sanctioned only two crores of rupees in this year to complete the project. The hon. Minister has promised that the work will be completed

by 1997-98. I want that a sum of Rs. 50 crore at least may be given for this project in this year...*(Interruptions)*. I want a categorical reply from the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the amount of Rs. 2 crore is very unreasonable...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind). Mr. Speaker. Sir, No time limit has been laid down for spending money earmarked for Guna - Itawa rail line, as to within what period it would be completed. Secondly, We had demanded in pre-budget discussion, to provide a halt or stoppage of Pathankot Express and Malwa Express trains at Sonagir, which is the greatest pilgrim centre of jain community in India, but the Minister has not replied to it.

Similarly, the Minister has not given any reply in regard to providing stoppage of Lashkar Express, Southern Express, Ujjain-Dehradun Express, Samta Express, Jhelum Express, Punjab Mail, Chambal Express etc. railway trains for which agitation is being launched in Datiya, Basai and Dabra.

The Minister has also not replied to the demand for stoppage of Taj Express running between Delhi and Gwalior, at Datiya and Dabra by extending the train upto Jhansi, I therefore, request you to direct the Railway Minister to meet my demands...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am rising to ask a question in this House, after a gap of six years' period. Railway Minister's job is very onerous and I feel that he has made efforts to accomplish it in a good way. He has stated in his speech that narrow gauge and meter gauge railway line is 21,000 kilometers long and 8000 km. is being converted into broadgauge and perhaps he will not be able to cover the remaining 13000 kms. So, he is going to undertake production of railway wagons and coaches. I feel that whatever he has thought about it is right and it is farsightedness. But one thing arises out of it, about which I would like to know the details from the Govt. It is this that the earlier previous Govt. had decided to replace the existing narrow and meter gauge rail lines by having a uni-gauge broad gauge line in the entire country. It is not that taking a decision only to unigauge the railways is not vital in our country. But it is also important to think about road transport, railway waterways, airways by having a 25 year plan in regard to total transportation in the country. I want to know from the Hon. Railway Minister whether he has thought differently to deviating from the previous Govt's. devision of having unigauge railway system throughout. It this centention is correct, whether it will be in our interest? In my opinion it will not be useful. I would like the Hon Minister to explain it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the former Hon. Speaker Shri Shivraj Patil ji for providing me an opportunity through his question to clear the misunderstanding that could arise in his mind from my speech. In fact, I had stated that in the Action plan 13000 kilometer railway lines could not be included and remained outside it. When the Action plan could not cover 13000 km its broadgauge cannot be achieved. Meter gauge cannot be converted into broadgauge, narrow gauge also cannot be converted into broadgauge, and for development of metergauge and narrow gauge left behind in distant areas, into broadgauge, there is no planning. Planning has been done only in respect of that which is important from the point of view of Railways. The distance of that 13,000 kms. is not covered in the plan, for which it has been stated that it would meet its natural death.

[English]

That shall be withered away. That is the word

[Translation]

In such a situation I think that for the area from which we have come to this House, meter gauge occupies an important place, somewhere narrow gauge is very important. If there is a plan to convert meter gauge into broadgauge, it will be very well. But, I think it is not proper to leave it for natural death or for construction on a five star hotel on the ramnants of the cottages built there. So, I stated that either there should be a plan for development of 13000 kms in to broad gauge, which is not possible. For that reason that 13000 kms. remaining as Metergauge, and during the last three years no coach has been produced for Meter gauge, nor any order has been, placed for it. The result is that on demand, the old coaches are attached to the trains getting their denting, painting etc. Once a big accident took place in Kursela, a dust-storm arose and an old coach was thrown in water. These are such type of coaches and they have a definite life time. So I stated that we should not allow the Meter gauge to die, but we shall improve their condition...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir) : Mr Speaker all the Hon. Members from Orissa were on picketing and some suggestions were made to the Minister...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Sir, the Minister is not listening. What can I do?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER I will give you a chance

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : 16 Hon. Members from Orissa were on picketing. They were also invited by the

Minister and a meeting was held and discussions held with them. Whatever was provided there, nothing and of that has been reflected in the reply given today...*(Interruptions)* The area, which is called backward area, has been visited by the ex-Prime Ministers Shri Vajpayee ji and Shri Chandra Shekharji, Indira ji, Rajiv Gandhi ji, and Narsimharao ji, who prepared a V.K. plan after visiting that place. One train is operating in Kalahandi-Koraput-Bolangir area. We had demanded for its extension upto Koraput, as it would cover all the backward districts. But, even that has not been done. New train was demanded, which too has not been given. Even doubling of the railway line, demanded, was not accepted. Bolangir-Khurda line was demanded. But, despite the promise made, it was not fulfilled...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have told...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Demand has been made from all the corners for computerised station in Sambalpur division. But that also has not been agreed to...*(Interruptions)* So, it is my request that in the backward area, where five ex-Prime Ministers went, railway line should be extended as demanded. If that demand is not acceded to, all the Hon. Members from Orissa shall walk out from the House and shall not attend the meetings of the House...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Sir, I want some reply from the hon. Minister of Railways...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Sir, we have given certain suggestions concerning Marthwada, Vidarbha and the entire Maharashtra, but not a single point has been taken cognizance of by the hon. Minister of Railways. It appears to me that he is deliberately ignoring the State of Maharashtra. This is our basic cause and for that we have been shouting. We participated in the discussion by sitting throughout the night and despite having explained the position, the hon. Minister of Railways has not taken cognizance of our problems. What provision he has made for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the entire Maharashtra?

When Shri Shivraj Patil got up, I thought he was specifically going to ask that question concerning the entire State of Maharashtra. I understand that narrow gauge railway line is there in Vidarbha and Maharashtra, but he asked a general question. My question pertains to the entire State of Maharashtra and I would like to know what provisions the hon. Minister of Railways has made because they are collecting the maximum revenue from the city of Mumbai. The entire State of Maharashtra has been ignored. It is a deliberate move that he has made. Let the hon. Minister of Railways stand up and

say that it is not so, and tell us about what provision he has made for us. He should clarify the position before the House so that we can take our stand accordingly...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, let the hon. Minister of Railways reply to this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister will reply.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT - (Balaghat) : In this budget, Madhya Pradesh has been ignored very badly...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is replying. Please, listen to him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, ...*(Interruptions)*. I am speaking please listen to me first...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (Thane) : Sir, my demand was a small demand. A goods train is running from Kalwa Turbha-New Mumbai. I demanded that a passenger service is needed on the same line, but the hon. Minister of Railways has not touched that area at all...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to the hon. Minister's reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Sir, my constituency is without a single train.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, I will reply to the questions pertaining to the States of West Bengal, Maharashtra, Orissa and Maharashtra. I will give the reply concerning these four States...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We have already spent 24 hours or more than 24 hours by this time. Please listen to him. We cannot resume another debate and it is not possible. It appears that we will have to have another half-a-dozen Railway Budgets because everybody has to be satisfied. Let us be patient. Whatever is possible, the Minister will try to reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways should reply to the question raised by Shri Somnath Chatterjee...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, I think, they are not interested in listening to my reply. They are only interested in speaking. They do not want to hear me.

[Translation]

Please sit down...(Interruptions). Why do you not listen? Please, listen for a minute...(Interruptions) You please continue...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : The load in the Jamalpur Workshop has come down from 22 thousand to 10 thousand. Please make efforts to enhance its load and make a provision in the budget for also for setting up a bridge over the Ganges between Manghyr and Khagaria...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Why do you not hear me?...(Interruptions) They are only interested in speaking ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, railway this budget has already been presented in the House. Hon. Members during 23 hours debate on it have raised their respective problems. Out of them whatever was possible for us to do, we have done the maximum after going into all those problems and making provision in the budget accordingly. In addition to it...(Interruptions) What did not happen in Orissa? Your zonal office has been converted into Headquarter. I told you the other day that in every State we have tried to do one main thing for that State.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : We are asking Statewise, you have shown utter disregard to Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Please listen. Why do you not listen? See, he is not listening.

Hon. Members may see the railway budget threadbare. It within the limited resources available with us anybody can show that there is less provision in this budget and less development works done in comparison to any other railway budget. I am prepared for any punishment. I know all members of the Parliament, we have been M.Ps. Every M.P. has difficulties to face and they are responsible to the people. It is their duty to place people's demands here. But in every state as I told, main things...(Interruptions) All M.Ps are sitting here and I have with me any earlier speech as well the present speech. Did we not do the work of linking of railway in Himachal Pradesh? Did we not do linkage work in Madhya Pradesh?...(Interruptions) listen please. Did we fail in providing linkage works in Uttar Pradesh? On that day we told about budget provision for extension of railway line from Kanpur via Mathura, Kasganj ... (Interruptions) So, friends from Vidarbha (Interruptions) listen please.

It is correct that this time we have paid more attention to backward areas to the extent of their

backwardness. About our friends from West Bengal and Vidarbha areas...(Interruptions) Listen Please. I cannot reply to all at once in regard to all. What are you saying. Then you speak, why are you making a mockery?

I was telling that I also move in the areas as much as over friends from Vidarbha and Marathwada more in their respective areas. I was thinking that if we had coaches with us, we would have run a Deeksha train from Nagpur direct to Bodhgaya, that was our idea. Whenever we get coaches, we shall run that train. But if I make early announcement, Hon. Members will catch hold of me, as they do in respect of announcements made, inaugurations done earlier, that the works have not been accomplished in what circumstances have we done the work of linking railway line from Chittorgarh to Udaipur demanded by Girija Vyas ji...(Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Your predecessor Kalmadi ji had inaugurated that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Please listen.

I do not want to blame any one. I am telling in what circumstances we are working. So, we are making all out efforts to honour the feelings of the Hon. members to the maximum possible extent. Therefore, I told you that I tried to contact all M.Ps belonging to all states, we are still meeting them. It is not that we shall not meet them again. It is not the last budget that is coming. I want to assure you that a supplementary budget will be presented some time afterwards. I had told in the beginning that the Railway Ministry is quite new to me. I became the minister only one and a half month before. During this short period whatever was possible, I tried to contact each M.P. before and after the presentation of the railway budget. Hon. members from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and all other States are our friends and colleagues, and I had met them all ... (Interruptions). I want to assure them, particularly from Vidarbha, Marathwada, Madhya Pradesh, Bengal, who have made many demands for railway facilities. We are not only considering them seriously, but also taking actions in that direction. I shall inform you after the action is taken. It is not a final effort. So, kindly support it, I shall take action thereon.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1996-97.

I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House unless any hon. Member wants any of his particular cut motion to be put separately.

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, do you want your cut motions to be put separately?

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Yes, Sir.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motion nos. 61 to 74 moved by Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want your cut motion to be put separately. Shri Amar Pal Singh?

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motion no. 160 moved by Shri Amar Pal Singh to the vote of the House.

The cut motion was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radha Mohan Singh, do you want your cut motion to be put separately?

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari) : Yes, Sir.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motion nos. 242 to 247 moved by Shri Radha Mohan Singh to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava. Do you want your cut motion to be put separately?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motion numbers 319 to 336 and 548 to 560 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the Vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey. Are you moving?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the cut motion Nos. 337 to 366...

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Cut motion No. 367 also, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : No, the cut motion No. 367 is not admitted.

I shall now put cut motion Nos. 337 to 366 moved by Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey to the Vote of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Sir, there is a cut motion on Bilaspur...*(Interruptions)*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Cut motion No. 367...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I insist on division. The hon. Minister did not say a word when I raised this question...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter has been raised by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji, so, I also want to say something on it respectfully. Two railway committees were constituted which are concerned with Jabalpur.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I am not talking about Jabalpur. There also it should remains...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : In this connection I had a talk with Hon. members of Parliament and leaders from Madhya Pradesh as also Chief Minister of the State, and Shri Arjun Singh and Shri Madhav Rao Scindia. Now this matter has been raised by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji and the hon. Member, Hon. Prime Minister is present here. Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, leader and Chief Minister of the State and we are prepared to sit and talk over this issue to see that what can be done in this regard. We shall discuss this matter.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Actually, cut motion No. 367 was received late. But I think the hon. Minister has answered it.

I shall now put cut motions Nos. 337 to 366 moved by Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey to the Vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Dwarka Nath Dass. Do you want your cut motions to be put separately?

SHRI DWARKA NATH DASS : I shall now put cut motions Nos. 388 to 393 moved by Shri Dwarka Nath Dass to the Vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Dau Dayal Joshi.

[Translation]

SHRI VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Yes, Sir. I want to make a submission. Replies to the cut motions were being given by the Hon. Minister. But that tradition was broken three years before. My request is that the Hon. Minister should reply to the cut motion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motions numbers 412 to 429 moved by Shri Dau Dayal Joshi to the Vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Rasa Singh Rawat.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Yes, Sir
... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier it was the practice that the Hon. Minister used to give the reply to the cut motion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motion Nos. 488 to 546 moved by Shri Rasa Singh Rawat to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put all other cut motions which have been moved together to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : For obvious reasons I have not moved any cut motions. But I declare to undertake fast unto death if a railway line from Tarakeshwar to Arambagh is not sanctioned.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1996-97 to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16."

The motion was adopted.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 3. BILL* 1996

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1996-97 for the purpose of Railways."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to

authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1996-97 for the purposes of Railways."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I introduce** the Bill.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1996-97 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1996-97 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The questions :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is that schedule stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question is that clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long title stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move

"That the Bill be passed"

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : I had given a notice on the Appropriation Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : What for is the notice?

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : I have an important question. Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country became independent on the 15th August, 1947. The Britishers went out, but the ownership of the railway train operating in Vidarbha area from Pulgaon, is with Keelik Nistan and Company. Very many years have since passed, but railway are still paying to the Company Rs.12 lakhs per year as lease, which is renewed every time.

Why this mark of the Britishers has so long been allowed to remain upto 1996? That train is called "Shakuntla Express." That has become a mockery. Kindly take a decision in that regard. That train has been operating there from the days of the British rule in India. That Company is being paid by the Railways Rs.12 lakhs every year. That lease is renewed after a period of ten years. Now it is the time of its renewal.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir I had a talk with him in this regard. I immediately called the officers and directed them to take necessary action in the matter. The Hon. member is aware that the action is being taken by us.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : It is a memento to of the British rule and a mark of slavery, which should be removed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think that he has replied to that. The question is .

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, this is for the information of the hon. Members. The dinner is ready in room No.70. It would be available, I am told, till about 10 p.m. This is also for the information of the members of the Press Gallery.

20.17 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL - CONTD.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We now move on to item No.13. I think that we have one more Member to speak. Shri Lodha, would you like to speak. If you conclude in five minutes' time, it would be very good.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the form in which the Representation of the People Bill has been brought forward in the House does not fulfill the need and the feelings of the nation for effecting reforms in the electoral system. The Bill contains less items and the specific items are not included in it which can reduce the election expenditure in the country, make the election process simple and take revolutionary steps for bringing changes in the election procedure. I want to say that utmost need in it was for state funding of elections and including in it certain specific election programmes, for example, election speeches of all candidates should be arranged at a common platform, which is missing in this Bill, although much has been talked about it earlier. The Govt. should provide such an opportunity to all recognised parties and bear its expenditure. That is also missing in the Bill. Non-inclusion of important provisions is indicative of the effort of the treasury benches to make publicity and propaganda that they have effected electoral reforms. But real reforms are totally absent. The most vital thing in the entire country at present causing concerns, is criminalisation of politics in the elections and criminal minded persons facing criminal cases get elected to legislative Assemblies and Parliament, on account of the lack of a suitable legislation in this regard, and column after column is written in respect of them in the news papers. 40-50-55 such persons are nirohed in cases under sections 302, 307 and 376 or similar type of other cases, for which our laws do not prescribe adequate punishment. If a person has been convicted under these sections for the crimes, Governor or President, in exercise of special powers vested in them, grant pardon to such criminals. On account of that they are free to fight election to Lok Sabha or other bodies. Persons convicted by courts and found guilty on the charge of murder and those who destroyed entire community or village, were given pardons and allowed to contest elections for Lok Sabha or State assemblies and they got elected to these bodies. The faith in M.Ps. which the people had earlier has since vanished. Today the need is to improve and brighten our image in the eyes of the people.

There should be a provision in the law that persons convicted in a case and given pardon by the President or the Governor, should thereafter be disqualified for contesting elections. A comprehensive Bill on electoral reforms is badly needed. Electoral reforms should not be made a source of publicity to mislead people, but in reality electoral reforms should be effected.

Public representatives after winning an elections have first of all to face accounts, which is essential for them. It is a matter of shame when they conceal truth and affix signatures or wrong accounts. If the Govt. undertakes main items of expenditure, true picture will be available. I request that all out electoral reforms

should be undertaken and for bringing revolutionary changes in election laws, a comprehensive bill should be brought forward. The present Bill is totally incomplete. So, I demand from the law Minister to come forward with a Comprehensive Bill

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the present Bill is of a very great importance. The democracies and parliamentary systems in different countries depend on the elections that take place there. Unless we have elections which are free from defects, the Parliamentary system or the Presidential system of the Democracy cannot function.

The Government has done well in moving this Bill and in trying to rectify some of the defects from which the election system in India is suffering. There are provisions in the Bill which try to remove the defects which have arisen out of the use of money power, muscle power and narrow ideologies. But the provisions are not sufficient. I am sure that the provisions are not going to remove those defects. In spite of the provisions in the Bill, the money power, the muscle power and the narrow ideologies will be used. The defects will be reduced maybe to a certain extent. We shall have to look at the electoral system that we follow in India from a very broad perspective and in a very comprehensive manner.

In the Ninth Lok Sabha this issue was discussed at a length. This issue was discussed for hours together. Then, a Committee was appointed to find out as to how those defects could be removed. That Committee had given its Report and the present Government has tried to act upon that report. The committee also could not find a solution which could have removed all the defects. After reading that Committee's Report, one gets an impression that that was a sort of compromise Report.

On certain points, certain suggestions given by certain parties and individuals were accepted. And on certain other points, suggestions given by certain parties and individuals were accepted. With all the good intentions, they could not arrive at a consensus which could have removed all the defects.

The present Bill also makes use of that Report. There is nothing wrong in making use of that Report because this Bill is going to help the electoral process in the country and to remove the mistakes to some extent. But there are some other very important issues apart from the money power and the muscles power and the narrow ideologies which are being used in the elections today in our country.

What are those issues? We have accepted the principle that every citizen in the country, who is of 18 years age, shall be allowed to vote. That is a kind of right given to him. It is not provided in the Constitution that he has a Fundamental Right to vote. And yet, it is

presumed that he has a right. That right is not a Fundamental Right. It is equal to Fundamental Right or as important as a Fundamental Right. Yet, we find that the right is given but all the voters do not vote in the elections. A person who gets only 30 per cent votes gets elected. That means, he does not represent the majority of the voters in the country leave aside the majority of the people.

Now this defect has to be done away with. How can this defect be done away with? That is really a question. If we study the Constitution and the electoral laws in different other countries, we will find that some of the countries have provided that the citizens have a right as well as a duty to vote. Voting is compulsory in those countries. Is it possible for us to consider this aspect? It is a very big issue. I realise it. Yet, if we do not accept this principle, the electoral system is not going to be free from the defects.

The winning candidate sometimes gets elected by getting less than 30 per cent votes. Now is it possible for us to have something in the law which really makes it representative of more than 50 per cent of the voters at least, if not the people? There are Constitutions and the electoral laws in the world which provide that a candidate, who gets more than 50 per cent of the votes, will be declared elected and not others. In France, the system is accepted. Even for the President's election, this system is accepted. In many other countries also this system is accepted. In Australia, they have made the voting compulsory. In France and Russia and many other countries, 50 per cent votes are necessary. Is it possible for us to examine this issue also to come to certain conclusions?

India is a very big country. It is a country having about 940 million people. One hon. Member of the Parliament represents about 10 to 15 lakhs of voters and not people. People will be more. He represents 1.5 million or even two million people. It is too big a number. In the United Kingdom, you will find that a Member of Parliament represents only 25,000 or 30,000 voters. Our House will be too big. It will be very difficult to manage. Even with this number, sometimes, the Presiding Officers are put to test to manage. Everybody is put to test to get the time to speak on the floor of the House. But the human ingenuity is not that weak. It should not be beyond human ingenuity to find a solution to this problem also.

And there are Constitutions in the world which have found a solution to this problem. They have large number representatives sitting and considering the broader outlines of the national policies, international policies, long-term policies and perspective plans and leave in details to be considered by others. Now, is it necessary for us all the time to follow and imitate what others have been doing in the Western countries? Is it not possible for us to invent a system in which an adequate number of representatives of people will be

sitting and considering the bigger issues? That is also a question to be considered by us.

I have just given a few suggestions. When a comprehensive discussion takes place on election reforms, they may be considered. Probably, the Government thinks that this kind of a Bill is necessary to overcome certain other urgent difficulties and they have come before the House with this Bill. This Bill can be passed and should be passed if it is necessary. But it should be realised by everybody in the House that this Bill does not purify the electoral system in the country. Much more comprehensive discussions and deliberations have to be done and a very comprehensive Bill has to be brought so that the electoral system can be made free from defect, the parliamentary system and democracy also can be made free from defect...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We have already spent almost four hours.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai-northwest) : But, Sir, I had given my name the other day.

MR. SPEAKER : It is enough.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, after giving my name, why should I not be given a chance to speak?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Under what rule is your point of order?

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Sir, under Article 370 of the Constitution of India, Jammu and Kashmir has got its own Representation of the People Act but this Bill is silent about the scope and jurisdiction so far as J & K is concerned. Since Jammu and Kashmir also, I would like to know on this point.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will answer this point.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Sir, I want your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will answer your point. That is my ruling.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Hon. Speaker Sir, before I moved this Bill in the House, there was a meeting of the Leaders of all political parties...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : So many other thing are there.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Time is not the factor. When we talk of the Bill, why should we take time into account? After all, it is a Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. You may speak now.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this Bill was circulated, one point was not taken into account. In this House of 540 Members, 287 Members are new Members. They have not seen the provisions of the Bill. This Bill was brought in the hastily and no one could apply their mind to it. No one has gone through the provisions of the Bill. This is very important because the time is very much limited. What had happened in the past was that there was no adequate time allowed for the members to study it.

Secondly, regarding this Bill, certain provisions have been made. Just now Shri Shivraj Patil said something about international provisions of other countries also. I would like to specifically mention here that most of the people of this country, even after 50 years of Independence, are illiterate. Unless we provide a symbol, they cannot franchise their votes. This is the present condition of our country. Keeping this particular situation in view, what is the use of just comparing our position with that of foreign countries? In foreign countries, there is 100 per cent literacy whereas only 40 per cent of our people are literate and most of our people are illiterate.

20.35 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair.)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (Aska) : But this is not true about Kerala.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : I am saying this in the context of the country as a whole and not in respect of Kerala alone. I am saying this about the whole country. This is the plight of the people in which our country is today. If you feel that there is cent per cent literacy in our country, then I have no remarks to offer on that.

Sir, after going through the various provisions of the Bill, I would like to make a mention about one or two provisions contained in this Bill. One is about the period of campaigning which has been reduced to 14 days from 20 days. The total number of voters in most of the constituencies in Maharashtra is not less than 15 lakhs. How would it be possible to cover the entire constituency in 14 days? How would it be possible to approach the voters within these fourteen days' time? It is a very important aspect. Moreover, in view of the Model code of conduct of the Election Commission and its strict compliance - only one or two cars are allowed for campaigning - how could a candidate reach out to the 18-20 lakh voter within these 14 days' time of campaigning? According to me, this stipulation of 14 days for campaigning is inadequate. For Assembly elections it is all right but for the parliamentary elections this period is inadequate...*(Interruptions)*

General elections are not held suddenly. In a sense, one can campaign everyday. In that sense one can undertake campaigning in his/her constituency all throughout the five years. There is no dispute about it. But one cannot take up campaigning for elections until they are declared as candidates. My feeling is that after the declaration of elections, this period of 14 days for campaigning is inadequate for Parliamentary elections.

Sir, the second point is about the provision which provides for an observer. This provision again leaves sufficient scope for litigations. In this country we put more emphasis on litigation than on solving the problems. Somebody always tries to find out one plea or the other to go to the Court and start a litigation. Somebody who gets elected also follows that. In case of a provision for observers this dispute would be there and the declaration of election results would get delayed.

Sir, we did not have sufficient time to go through the various provisions of the Bill but whatever I could understand from this provision which provides for an observer, I could say that this would not yield any result and would, perhaps, give rise to more and more complications and, maybe, there would be more difficulties in getting the results of the elections.

Sir, Section 33 provides for proposers to contesting candidates. The provision of one proposers for one candidate for the recognised political Parties has been continues. This section stipulates that the candidates who want to contest independently on at NIRDALIYA what we call it, would require ten proposers. I fail to understand as to why there should be a difference between candidates of recognised political Parties and independent candidates. If somebody wants to contest an election independently why should there be a necessity for ten proposers for him? That is ridiculous. Similar arrangements, as is applicable for candidates of recognised political Parties should be there for the independent candidates also. After all they have got the right to participate in the elections. One cannot say 'no'. Otherwise, you make a provision whereby independents would not be allowed to contest the elections at all... (Interruptions) For that purpose different provisions should be brought in and different norms should be introduced. If you ask for ten proposers, what difference does it make as far as parliamentary elections are concerned? They would bring ten proposers. Even if you ask 100 proposers, they would bring 100 persons. What is the difficulty in persuading the voters to propose somebody's name? My suggestion is that this provision is not effective, rather it is much defective.

Now, there is one more provision, section 33(7)(6) stipulates that one candidate could contest two constituencies. My only question is, why has this

provision been made? One candidate should contest from only one constituency. He/she should not contest from more than one constituency. That is my proposal.

Just to make one's position safe, one wants to contest from more than one constituency. Sometimes he gets elected from one constituency and sometimes from two constituencies. Then, he vacates from one seat, as a result of which a vacancy falls. The entire process then has to be undergone again to fill that vacancy. The entire nation is put to further unnecessary expenditure. This should not be allowed. My suggestion is that a person should not be allowed to contest from more than one constituency.

Under Section 34, Sub-Section 1 of 1951 Act, a provision of deposit is there. After all, it is the question of election to Parliament. Instead of depositing Rs.500, if you give Rs.5000 the amount is increased to what material effect does it have. This being a very prestigious election, I feel the amount should be more than Rs.5000. For general candidate that is Rs.10,000 minimum, so that one can bring some restriction.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please try to conclude.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : At least I should not be restrained from speaking on the provisions of the Bill. Sir, I can understand, if you restrict me for other matter. Anyway, if you insist, I will sit down Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : I was saying that it should be made Rs.10,000 or Rs.5000 so that the the candidate will think thousand times before filing nomination.

There is an amendment to Section 38, sub-section 2 of the 1951 Act. The amendment is for the recognised Party. This, I think is a wonderful suggestion that I have come across. Three different categories are there: recognised Political Party, registered Political Party and other candidates. So far as elections are concerned, I fail to understand as to why should there be any difference between the three. Why should we have one consideration for a recognised political Party and other consideration for a registered political Party? In this way, we are only dividing our people further. I do not know from where this suggestion had come. We are differentiating between the people and creating different classes. I feel, for all the three categories only one consideration is enough.

Section 127 of the 1951 Act deals with the offences and it says that the offences punishable under Sub-Section 1 shall be cognizable. All these provisions have been made. Feese instead of bringing piecemeal provisions in piecemeal one comprehensive Bill should be introduced before the House. If we bring a comprehensive Bill, it will have more effect. I would

request the Minister to apply his mind correctly and bring a comprehensive Bill. The provision of expenditure will also have to be taken into account. We will have to find out some remedy. We should take into consideration the past 15 years' experience. In this democracy, a lot of harassment has been caused to every candidate. Be it about the expenditure on vehicles, posters or anything else. The entire provision has been mis-represented here. This causing a tremendous amount of inconvenience to the candidates.

I have not gone through the entire discussion that has taken place but I have gone through the Bill. It is a very limited and restrictive Bill and not a comprehensive one. I have written one letter also for the disapproval of this Bill only because there was no time for the new members, like me, to go through it. In two days' time it was circulated and brought before the House for discussion and passing. I do not know what was the haste? On enquiry, I came to know that because of the elections in Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, this Bill was being introduced exclusively for these two States. The Government wants to pass this Bill very hurriedly. I would say that when you are making such amendments in the law, you should not keep in mind one or two States only. This should be amended keeping in view the interest of the entire nation concerned parties and election in general. For the interest of the whole democracy, I would also say that you should bring all the amendments at one time only and not in piecemeal.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before this Bill was introduced in the House, we talked to the leaders of various political parties represented in the House. Only when a certain consensus was arrived at on some provisions, this Bill was framed depending on those points and this Bill was introduced. During the debate in the House we found that, even after the first meeting wherein different issues were considered, certain Members wanted us to consider their viewpoints regarding some provisions. As a result, one more meeting was held today morning some provisions. As a result, one more meeting was held today morning to consider the new suggestions that came from the Members. It has now been agreed by all that barring one amendment, which I will be moving during the course of clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill, other amendments would not be considered at this stage.

At the outset only I had said that this is just one single step towards major electoral reforms, this is a beginning. More and more meetings would be held with the leaders of different political parties and that depending upon the consensus that we arrive at a comprehensive Bill would be brought forward for the consideration of the House. That promise remains. I

assure this House that this is only a beginning. One more attempt will definitely be made. We shall be taking into consideration the viewpoints of all political parties and as many Members of the House and possible and bringing a comprehensive Bill.

During this debate, once again, certain points have been brought forward. Today, hon. Member Shri Shivraj Patilji spoke about the need to reform the law in such a way that those candidates who do not get a minimum of 50 per cent of votes are not declared as elected. This is a good suggestion, but we have been going through this particular system for the last so many years. As he rightly said, different countries have different provisions. There is a system called the majoritarian system where one must get a minimum of 50 per cent of votes, and if one does not get it, a second round of voting is resorted to. We have seen President Yeltsin's election only a few days back. Then there is what is called the list system where political parties give a list of their members and depending upon the percentage of votes which they get, certain number of their members stand elected. We have to see whether we can adopt any one of these two systems or whether we have to mix our own system with these systems. It is a major decision on which we all have to deliberate very seriously before coming to a conclusion.

About defection also certain members spoke. There is a provision in the Constitution on defection... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppéy) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has promised that he will be bringing a comprehensive Bill and that is a good thing. I would request him that before a comprehensive Bill and that is a good thing. I would request him that before a comprehensive Bill is brought before the House, the draft Bill should be prepared in consultation with all the political parties and it should be circulated among all sections of the society, the experts, Press and the public.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Member for his suggestion. What he is suggesting is already resorted to by us. We have tabulated the suggestions of different Committees - the Goswami Committee, the Standing Committee as well as the Election Commission - and all of them have been published in the form a booklet which will be supplied to the Members.

Sir, about defection also, a proposal was put forward. As an hon. Member rightly said, split has not been defined and as a result, a number of aberrations have taken place. Everybody has spoken about money power and muscle power. We have taken the first step towards that direction. State funding is an important issue about which we have to deliberate and take a decision. About

reservation for women - these were the points raised during the debate and that is why I am touching them - we have promised that a Bill would be coming before this House at an opportune time.

As to whether voting should be made mandatory, once again it is a very important issue and we cannot reply to it offhand. About the 14 days time limit and the provision regarding ten proposers, which hon. Member Shri Sarpotdar referred to, I may inform the House that this is also a step taken to see that we do not encourage non-serious candidates from contesting elections.

You are aware that hundreds of candidates have been contesting the elections. In Tamil Nadu there was a case where 1,033 contested the elections. How do you curb this menace? In fact, it has become a menace. The whole electoral system has been affected on account of this. So, certain steps have been taken. One is that independent candidates bring in at least ten proposals. Let them pay at least Rs.5,000 for the purpose of filing the security deposits. These are the provisions which have been made in this case to discourage the non-serious candidates from entering the election fray. The qualification of a candidate in a country like ours... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Now one voter can propose as many candidates as he may like. In other case like municipal or panchayat and other cases, you cannot propose names of more than the seats to be filled in. But under the existing law these 10 persons clause will not make much difference. These ten voters would stand in DC's office, any candidate may come there, they will propose the names of as many candidates as they may like. So, I will suggest... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I have taken note of your suggestions also.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : You should have meant that... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : This is not the end of the whole thing.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : That is all right.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : We are going ahead with a more comprehensive piece of legislation where we will take into consideration your viewpoints also.

Some hon. Members have suggested about qualifications to be prescribed for the members. I was saying that in a country like ours - as the hon. Member, Shri Sarpotdar has rightly said that illiteracy rate is so low and people can occupy any place without any educational qualification. Will this be a proper step? Anyhow, this is for the hon. Members to decide. About delimitation also, another hon. Member, Shri Shivraj Y. Patil spoke today that there is a seat for

30,000 voters. Certain seats have 20,000 or 30,000 voters; some other seat has about 25 lakh or 28 lakh voters. We are also aware of this. A constitutional amendment has already been moved, a Bill has been made for the purpose of empowering the delimitation of constituencies. Delimitation was frozen till the advent of the 21st Century. Therefore, for the last so many years delimitation has not taken place. It was, in fact, the duty of the Government, as per the provision, that after every census, we should have gone for delimitation. We have not done this for two censuses, namely 1981 census and 1991 census. So under this new Bill, a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, which has already been introduced in this House, this step has proposed to be taken.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : What about rotation?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : When we pass the Delimitation Act after amending the Constitution, the suggestion regarding rotation will also be taken into consideration. But that will once again require consensus among the hon. Members of this House.

Justice Lodha also spoke about criminals to be prevented from entering the election fray. Everybody feels so. But to what extent or what exactly should be the nature of the provision to be brought in? Conviction may be in one lower court and appeal may be pending. What can we do? The legal process takes so many years. The trial process that we have goes through or takes any number of years. These are all issues about which we have to think again, we have to meet again, we have to prepare a comprehensive Bill. A number of Committees in the past have made a number of suggestions. In fact, our archives are brimming with suggestions and reports and all these have to be properly gone into. Let us all cooperate to frame a comprehensive Electoral Reforms Bill which will really help in ushering in real democracy in our country.

Therefore, I request the hon. Members who have moved various amendments to this Bill to withdraw these amendments and to... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : When a comprehensive Bill will be brought forward by the Government hereafter? This Bill has been brought after several years. Now you tell when a comprehensive Bill containing all these provisions will be brought please forward in the House?

[English]

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : We have a lot of time during the intervening period that we have from 2nd August to 27th August. We shall meet one of these days during this period. Regarding the Rs. 5,000 or

Rs. 10,000 I have said already that I am bringing in an amendment for that purpose. That should satisfy your query. For the comprehensive Bill, I am saying that we have to meet once again.

After 2nd August and before 27th August, we will have one more meet.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it will be better if the Minister comes forward with a comprehensive Bill in the House containing an amendment regarding contest of a person on one seat ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Sir, I am saying that it is not so... (Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that there was an agreement on the issue of contest of a person at one seat. But, in your proposal there is a provision for contest of a person at two seats simultaneously. This sort of mistake needs to be rectified. You have written in it that for election as M.L.C. or for Rajya Sabha, one person can file papers for two seats. Generally it does not happen. Papers are filed for one only. As such, atleast this defect should be done away with. I think that you did not pay attention to it.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I shall tell you about it.

[English]

Sir, the provision is this. In fact I will read Article 154. It states :

Term of Office of Members of the Council of States-Subject to the provisions of Sub-Section 2 and 2A, the term of office of the Member of the Council of States other than a Member chosen to fill a casual vacancy shall be six years.

Sub-Article 2-Upon the first constitution of the Council of States President shall, after consultation with the Election Commission make, by order, such provision as he thinks fit for curtailing the term of office of some of the Members then chosen in order that, as nearly as may be one-third of the Members holding seats of each class shall retire in every second year thereafter.

Article 2A-In order that as nearly as may be one-third of the Members may retire on the second day of April, 1958 and on the expiration of every second year thereafter, President shall as soon as may be after the commencement of Constitution (Seventh)

Amendment Act, 1956. After consultation with the Election Commission make, by order, such provisions as he thinks fit in regard to the terms of office of the Members elected under Sub-Section 2 of Section 147".

The result of this provision has been that we have three categories of the Members of the Council. Three different Notifications are issued for these three different categories. On account of different situations arising in different parts of the country at various times-for example non-existence of the Assemblies, Councils etc. -these elections have sometimes overlapped. There have been cases, as I am informed, where elections of three different categories were held. The same date was notified by the Election Commission but three different notifications were issued thereby permitting a single Member to contest in these three different categories. This is the situation that has been prevailing so far as Council of States is concerned.

As regards the Legislative Council, there is also Article 156 which has also similar provision. So this aspect of providing in two places a Council is on account of this Constitutional provision.

I have not answered the question relating to Jammu and Kashmir. The elections to Jammu and Kashmir Assembly will be held very soon. We are taking separate steps by Presidential Order, to extend similar provisions in regard to Jammu and Kashmir also.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : What the hon. Minister has told is not the practice. Its procedure is quite different. It is a different matter if you make an amendment in it later on... (Interruptions)

PROF. OM PAL SINGH NIDAR (Jalesar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that this should be removed from it... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that if a person contests an election for a Municipal Committee and alongwith that he wants to contest election from the post-graduates constituency, in that case it is possible, but according to the amendment of Rajya Sabha that came recently, it is not possible. Although there are three different terms, but they start at one point of time. Term of all the three starts concurrently. As such, if the proposal of Shri Gangwar is accepted, that will be alright. Otherwise it will become a matter of laughing, because if a person wants to contest from two seats, he cannot contest. It is not possible. Therefore, it should be re-examined. It is not possible now.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH NIDAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, why is it not removed from the Bill? Why a show is being made?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : When a person cannot contest election from two seats, where is then the question of contesting an election from two seats?

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Then this clause becomes a mockery...*(Interruptions)*

21.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI MADHUAKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North West) : Then why should we keep this provision?

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : My submission is that if it appeals to you, you may amend it...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I have already assured the hon. Members that this provision had to be made on account of : (i) that there was fairly a good consensus among the Members and to (ii) that this is a particular situation...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, elections to Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha are held together. Our villagers still suffer from ignorance. They do not understand which ballot paper is for M.P. or which one is for M.L.A. They have to be told that the smaller ballot paper is for M.P....*(Interruptions)* There both ballot papers are given together. Please bring a reform in this procedure to ensure that ballot papers for M.P. and M.L.A. are separately...*(Interruptions)* In Haryana, both the ballot papers for M.P. and M.L.A. are given together. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Both the ballot papers are separate.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : During the recent elections, both the ballot papers were given together.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : One can understand giving of both together.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these should be given separately...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Sir, I would therefore, conclude by requesting the hon. Members that we take this Bill into consideration, pass it today, proceed further and wait for the day when we request you to come together for another meeting.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Sir, some of the amendments that have been moved are of a nature that could have been incorporated in the Act

For example, I moved an amendment saying that the new provisions introduced in the amended Bill relating to booth capturing should also be extended to capturing of counting halls. Even a logical extension of a provision of this nature has not been incorporated and only one amendment has been put forward.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I have promised the hon. Member that we will consider it in the next Bill.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : My point is, if the limited objective of the Bill is to weed out non-serious candidates, let there be one more election in U.P. and J&K under the existing laws. As we have had the elections under these laws in the entire country, heavens are not going to fall if we have one more such election. Some of these provisions introduced in the amendment may become irreversible. For example, reducing the campaign period to fourteen days is a very serious matter in places like North-East where in most parties the nominations are announced at the eleventh hour or the last day of filing of nomination. Then you hardly get fourteen days and you have to cover nine to ten constituencies with extensive and inaccessible difficult terrains.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Minister has taken note of your suggestion.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Sir, some of these suggestions do not appconle have been taken into account. Once, this goes through, it may become irreversible later on. So in a comprehensive legislation, when that is going to be introduced, these things may remain as they are. So my suggestion is that heavens are not going to fall if the legislation which is being introduced, in extreme haste, should not be passed in this manner. Let these two elections be held based on the existing provisions and then let us think about introducing a comprehensive Bill on a time bound basis, maybe in a period of one or two or three months. What are you going to lose? Heavens are not going to fall if we hold the elections in U.P. and J&K based on the existing legal provisions.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI (Karnal) : What is the difficulty in deleting not more than two? By looking at the stars we take a decision that at two places one can contest. Why should it not be 'more than one'? If there can be 'not more than two', there can be 'not more than three' and there can be 'not more than four', then why not only 'not more than one'? The basis logic is that a place whereform a person is to withdraw or a person has to give up his constituency that constituency remains unrepresented for months and months together and sometimes for more than a year. The amendment is very simple. Let us say, 'not more than one' instead of 'not more than two'. As per the provision, a person cannot stand in not more than two constituencies. I say,

you make it only one instead of two. Otherwise, what is the logic for having two and why not three or four. By looking at the stars, you will be taken the decision. The decision should be based on some logic. The logic is that there should not be any candidate who can contest in not more than one constituency. If you make it two, then why not three or four? The amendment does not require much change. You have only to substitute the word 'two' by the word 'one'. Kindly do that much at least.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thought that there was unanimity about contesting from one seat. I myself contested from two seats. Some other hon. Members also contested from two seats. After winning from one seat, resignation had to be tendered from the people of that seat, which was surrendered, felt very sad and they said that if one had not to stay there, why did he go there for contesting the seat. I told that it was not so. I was contesting from two seats in the interest of unity and integrity of the country. I think that Biju Babu will agree to it. Contest from two seats should not be necessary ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (Cuttack) : When the husband and wife are agreeable, what can the priest do? Both of us agree. One should contest on one seat. Even now I agree to it. I am lamenting over resigning from one seat.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : It should be not more than one... (Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : I agree that it should be not more than one. This should be amended immediately ... (Interruptions)

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Now we are left to the discretion of the Election Commission. Sometimes, it says: 'One counting only booth-wise'. In another election it again changes and says: 'First single count; first initial count by mixing and then total count'. Why are you leaving these things at the discretion of the Election Commission? Why can we not provide this here? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the comprehensive Bill comes, it may be included therein.

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : This is not given neither in the Act nor in the Rules. I have read it... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

That the Bill further to amend the

Representation of People Act, 1950, and the Representation of the People Act, 1951 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri George Fernandes, do you want to move your amendment?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : I insisted on the point of one member. Right from the morning it is being stated that it will be brought in the comprehensive Bill. Should we take that it will be brought in the next Bill?

[English]

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : It will be considered ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Not consider etc. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : The Government has agreed to put forward this issue in the second round of the discussion of the all-party meeting. The Government has no objection to this ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It will not be said that the Bill has been passed how can it be considered again... (Interruptions) This word will not come in it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister says that the Government will have no objection to this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : What are the difficulties?... (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : We have no objection to this. We have assured in the morning meeting that we would put forward this issue in the second round of the discussion with all the political parties because this was the mandate of all the political parties. But right now, we cannot take it up... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is an amendment moved by Mr. George. As such none else shall speak on it. Mr. George, are you moving it?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when it is an assurance from their side that it will be accepted...*(Interruptions)*

The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Now, there is only one amendment, which has been accepted by them. Except it, there will be verification about any other amendment later on. He has accepted about 10,000. Leaving it, there will be no discussion at present about any other amendment.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I take it that you are not moving the amendment.

The question is :

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA (Serumpore) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 2.-

after line 36, insert -

"(4) Observers shall have the power to re-allocate the polling personnel for conducting the election.

(5) Bogus voters shall be eliminated from the voters list after proper investigation." (41)

I thought that these observers could be given much more power. I have seen that in the Bill only a limited power is given to the observers. But the comprehensive idea should have been like this. Starting from the very beginning of the election process, the observers should have been given the power. So I have brought this amendment and since the Minister has said that a comprehensive Bill will come and at that time it will be properly considered, I withdraw this amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are withdrawing it. Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Shri Pradip Bhattacharaya be withdrawn?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 2, after line 31.-

insert "Provided that the Observer shall also have the power to direct the returning officer

for the constituency or for any of the constituencies for which he has been nominated, to stop the counting of votes and order recounting from the very beginning at any time before the declaration of results if in the opinion of the Observer capturing or coercive action in favour of a candidate has taken place in one or more counting halls." (55)

My amendment relates to empowering of the observer to take similar action as he would take in the case of booth capturing and in the case of capturing of counting hall also when counting takes place. On the understanding that a provision of this kind would be incorporated in the comprehensive legislation, which is to be brought forward in the House in due course, I am agreeable to withdraw my amendment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Shri Iswar Prasanna Hazarika be withdrawn?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA (Ujjain) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 2, line 19

after "officer of Government" insert-

"whose posting and place of appointment is at a place other than the place where he is posted as an observer" (65)

[Translation]

We want to speak in regard to the provision for punishment. But, if there is no fear, it will encourage the wrong system and tradition going on to continue in future also. So, the punishment should be two years in place of six months. I have such a feeling...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I have already given a comprehensive assurance.

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIA : When we intend to have electoral reforms there should be strong provisions. The hon. Minister has stated that he gives an assurance to do it. I, therefore, withdraw it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Dr. Satyanarayan Jatia be withdrawn?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 3. -

for Clause 5, substitute—

'5. In section 30 of the 1951-Act, in clause (d), after the words "twentieth day", the words", in the case of Lok Sabha election and fourteenth day in the case of Assembly election" shall be inserted.' (42)

Sir, I move this amendment because I feel that fourteen days for a Parliamentary constituency is quite inadequate. We are looking from the cost factor: the less number of days, the less expenditure. But many practical difficulties will come. As far as the sitting Members are concerned, it may be all right. But if a new Member has to contest, by the time the Parties announce the nominations and he goes and files the nomination, any by the time he sets up his machinery, seven or eight days will be lost.

The second difficulty will arise from the point of view of printing of ballot papers because the stipulation is that the ballot papers have to be printed in a Government Press. They have to be numbered, checked and bundled. They have to be despatched to the remote corners of the Parliamentary constituency, which are very wide everywhere and mistakes might be committed. Therefore I feel, it is not possible for the administrative machinery also to complete all these formalities within fourteen days because the polling staff will go at least two or three days earlier. That means virtually on the twelfth day, the ballot papers have to be despatched. Is it possible? Is the hon. Minister concerned with this aspect? He should discuss this matter with the Election Commission and other officials. I do not know as to what happened in the All-Party meeting. I personally feel that it is impossible to complete a campaign in fourteen days and to complete administrative arrangements in fourteen days.

My amendment is that this period of fourteen days should apply to the Assembly elections and for Parliamentary elections, this should be made twenty-one days.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Fourteen days period is the minimum period prescribed. The Election Commission may give an additional time.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Where is it written?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : It is there. This is the minimum period. If you read the main Section, you will find it.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : How will you decide about the number of days later on?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : There was a complaint here that in certain cases, some Members got even twenty-eight days and more because of staggering of the elections. But this is the minimum

prescribed period and there is a consensus on this issue.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Is it minimum?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Yes. There is a consensus on this issue that in order to reduce the election expenditure...

SHRI P. UPENDRA : It is all right. I have already explained about other difficulties also.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Your Party has vehemently supported it...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Where is it written minimum? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Kindly withdraw your amendment.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Can you read out that particular sentence where it is written, 'minimum'? I do not have the copy of the Bill with me.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : If you read Section 30 :

"As soon as the notification calling upon a constituency to elect a member or members is issued, the Election Commission shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint-

(d) the date or dates on which a poll shall, if necessary, be taken which or the first of which shall be a date not earlier than the twentieth day... which is now becoming fourteenth day, which shall be a date, let us read the amended section now, which shall be a date not earlier than the fourteenth day after the last date for the withdrawal of candidatures.

So, the minimum period prescribed is fourteen days, and it shall not be earlier than the fourteenth day.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : So, in view of the clarifications given by the hon. Minister, I withdraw my amendment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Shri P. Upendra be withdrawn?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Fernandes has already said he would not move his amendments.

The question is

That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 6 was added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister may move his amendment.

Amendment made :

Page 4,-

for line 16 to 19, - substitute -

"(1) A candidate shall not be deemed to be duly nominated for election from a constituency unless he deposits or causes to be deposited

(a) In the case of an election from a Parliamentary constituency, a sum of ten thousand rupees or where the candidate is a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe, a sum of five thousand rupees; and

(b) In the case of an election from an Assembly or Council constituency, a sum of five thousand rupees or where the candidate is a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe, a sum of two thousand five hundred rupees;" (82)

(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap)

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the amendment moved by me is similar to the proposal made by the Hon. Minister. I have also proposed Rs. 5000/- (five thousand rupees) in place of Rs. 10,000/- (ten thousand rupees) and for scheduled caste and scheduled tribe candidates Rs. 2500/- (two thousand and five hundred rupees) in place of Rs. 5000/- (five thousand rupees). I, therefore, withdraw my amendment, which is analogous to that of the Minister.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri George Fernandes has already said, he would not move his amendment.

The question is:

"That clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri G.M. Banatwalla - not present

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 5, line 3,-

after "recognised political party"

insert "registered political party" (39)

Sir, my amendment is with regard to registered political parties. This is a Bill which is totally adverse to the interests of the registered parties. Since the Government has given an assurance that a comprehensive Bill regarding all these matters will be put forth, I am withdrawing my amendment with the permission of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Tarit Baran Topdar - not present.

Shri Hannan Mollah - not present.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, since the Government has assured that the Government will be moving a comprehensive amendment after consultation with all the political parties, in view of that assurance of the Minister, I am not moving my amendment.

Amendment made

Page 5, line 33,-

for "and section 38," substitute "section 33 and 38." (83)

(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy - Absent.

The question is :

"That Clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 10 was added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clauses 11 to 17 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 11 to 17 were added to the Bill

Amendment made

Page 1, line 5, -

Omit "Second". (80)

(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That Clause 1 as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula and long title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the long title were added to the Bill.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned to meet again on July 31, 1996 at 11.00 A.M.

21.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, July 31, 1996/Sravana 9, 1918 (Saka)